

Virginia Beach Friends Meeting

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www.vbfriends.org

Virginia Beach Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
12/11/2016

Meeting opened with a period of silent worship with 17 persons present.

Query # 6: Do we endeavor by example and precept to cultivate in our children a sense of openness and expectancy about life, and to aid them in their growth in spiritual understanding and moral discernment? Do we share with them the faith that guides the practice of Friends, while encouraging them to develop their religious insights as the spirit of God may lead them?

Meeting united in the following response—We have a wonderful teaching opportunity to model the process of how one person reaches inside and brings forth their spiritual gifts towards meeting the complex challenges of modern life. When called upon for guidance by the younger generation, it may take courage to discover our own truth to share with them. The school is our largest outreach to children and it does teach our faith and practice. Our Meeting continues to maintain educational programs for children of all ages.

Nominating Committee—To maintain leadership sustainability as described in our long-range plan, Meeting approved the nomination of Jeannie Crawford as Assistant Clerk and Joanne Crass as Assistant Recording clerk. The clerks will



Weekly Events

- * First Day (Sunday), 10:30-11:30 am - Meeting for Worship.
- * First Day (Sunday), 10:30-11:30 am - First Day School - younger children join Meeting during or after Worship.
- * Fourth Day (Wednesday), 8:30-9:00 am Morning Worship.
- * Fourth Day (Wednesday), 7:00 pm Mid-Week Prayer.
- * Sixth Day (Friday) 9:00-9:30 am - School's Meeting for Worship. All are welcome, with special invitation to the School and Meeting Community. Meets weekly when school is in session.

Newsletter Submissions

To submit news, photos, articles, or original writing for the newsletter, please email Christen at christenhansel@cox.net.

develop job descriptions for these two new positions and evaluate their effectiveness in the year ahead.

Communications Committee—Meeting approved the Committee getting an ad-hoc subgroup to obtain another estimate for the sound system. Kathie Garner agreed to convene a group including Nancy Craft and Andy Young. Anyone else interested in this issue may contact Kathie. Continuing with the test phase of a Facebook page, as a social media outreach to folks in the general public, was approved.

School Committee—The Head Search Committee already has nearly twenty applications. Our mortgage will be paid off in less than a year! While enrollment is down, student retention has improved. In an effort to better expose our location, Meeting approved lighting maintained by the school for the sign out front on Laskin Rd.

Treasurer's Report—Income was \$2800 and expenses around \$1800, which brought the annual deficit down a thousand dollars. We approved adopting the budget submitted for 2017, and sending a seasonal message to all members and attenders appealing for year-end gifts that may have been overlooked.

Buildings & Grounds—Half of the lights in the meeting were replaced with LEDs in the last month. The work day was a big success, the next one will be held on 4/1/17. In following the long-range plan to accommodate more folks, a subcommittee will meet next month to develop ideas for expanding the after-worship hospitality space.

Peace & Social Justice—Committee members have been struggling in two 90 minute sessions with their responses to the November election. They feel there is a danger in succumbing to our fears and to a feeling of powerlessness. Approval was given to put up a board in the meeting room for people to stick post-it notes sharing their own personal concerns and the actions they will take. Threshing of post-election concerns for sharing Truth will continue in Committee next month. Bob Clapp's collection for Feeding America starts next week.



Monthly Events

* First First Day (first Sunday of each month), 9:00 am - Building & Grounds Committee meeting.

* Second First Day (second Sunday of each month), 8:30-10:15 am - Monthly Meeting for Worship with Attention To Business.

* Third First Day (third Sunday of each month), Noon - Peace & Social Justice Committee meeting.

* Third First Day (third Sunday of each month), 9 am - Adult First Day School

* Fourth First Day (fourth Sunday of each month), 9-10:15 am (library), and Noon-1 pm (Meetingroom) - Ministry and Oversight meeting.

* Fourth First Day (fourth Sunday of each month), Noon - Communications Committee meeting.

Ministers, Elders and Overseers—Development continued for the workshop on 1/20-21/17 about discernment and vocal ministry. Meeting approved Patrick Goold as an overseer.

Faith & Practice—Their report, posted on the website, was approved. New material for revision is now posted online. Their next meeting is the seventh of next month (01/07/17).

Closing Minute—No further business appearing, the Meeting closed with a brief period of silence.

Nancy Nixon, Clerk

Andrew Young, Recording Clerk for the day

Upcoming Events

[Christmas Eve - Singing and Caroling and Open Worship](#)

Date: Saturday December 24
Time: 7pm to Midnight
Location: Meetinghouse

2017 Dates

[VBFM Workshop](#)

Dates/Times: Friday night January 20
Saturday morning=>afternoon January 21
Location: VBFM Meeting House

[Coastal Friends Gathering](#)

Date: Saturday February 4
Time: 11 am, potluck follows

[Friends School Judeo-Christian Outreach Center Service \(JCOC\)](#)

Date: Wednesday February 8
Location: Judeo-Christian Outreach Center
Address: 1053 Virginia Beach Blvd.
Virginia Beach, VA 23451

[Friends School Judeo-Christian Outreach Center Service \(JCOC\)](#)

Date: Wednesday March 15
Location: Judeo-Christian Outreach Center
Address: 1053 Virginia Beach Blvd.
Virginia Beach, VA 23451

Query to Consider for January:

Peace Testimony

7. Do we endeavor to live in the life and power that takes away the occasion of all war, seeking to do our part in the work of reconciliation between individuals, groups, and nations? Do we faithfully maintain our testimony against nuclear and all other military preparations, the bearing of arms, and all participation in war?

Reminders

The purpose of this newsletter is to share the Monthly Meeting minutes with members, attenders and others interested in the Virginia Beach Monthly Meeting. The minutes represent the official view of the Meeting. Other articles relating to the Meeting are included on a space-available basis and reflect the views of the person submitting the information.

Materials for consideration at Monthly Meeting for Business should be sent to the Clerk, Recording Clerk, and vbfm.emailer@gmail.com no later than the Wednesday prior to Meeting for Business. Thank you, from our Communication Committee!!

Documents submitted for review and comment before being presented to MFB for approval can be found at:
<http://vbfriends.org/DocPa d/Review/ main.html>.