

Morningside Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Worship With a Concern for Business
4/6/2014

Minutes

present: Elizabeth Horstman, David Fletcher, Jerry Reisig, Corona Macheimer, Charlene Ray, Vince Buscemi, Sally Campbell, Nancy Britton, Patricia Chernoff, Joyce Richardson, Robert Renwick, Dave Britton, Lee Rada (clerk)

Meeting begins at 1:00 pm with silent Worship. The clerk reads a passage from "Waiting for the Spirit" by Jerry Reisig, "Words of inclusion and exclusion" p. 6.

The agenda is reviewed.

20140406.01 Corona Macheimer presents the Peace and Social Concerns committee report (read by Sally Campbell). Instead of a regular meeting on 3/9/2014 P&SC held a program on Restorative Justice, with guest Jose Alfaro, MSW, from "Teachers Unite!" Jose led a discussion on using these practices in schools to replace over-reliance on suspensions. The FCNL annual priorities meeting was held as a called meeting on 3/30/2014. The categories with which Friends were in unity were:

1. the environment
2. civil rights
3. prisons
4. income inequality
5. money in politics

All priorities include concern for transparency and accountability. Friends accept the report, which is attached.

20140406.02 Jerry Reisig presents the Communications committee report. The committee met on 3/16 and 3/30, and determined specific menu choices and submenu pages for the new website. Static information will be prepared for the initial pages, with provision for content being added by Morningside Friends. Input to the website, including the calendar will be moderated prior to live posting. Login requirements will be limited to only specific items. The next meeting is scheduled for 4/20. The report is accepted and attached.

20140406.03 Friends agree to continue the Meeting's inclusion at no charge in the "Gay Yellow Pages."

20140406.04 Charlene Ray presents the Treasurer's report. The Meeting has received \$3,465 so far this year, and disbursed \$6,734, including our covenant contribution to Yearly Meeting and \$2,600 in P&SC contributions. Friends are reminded that contributions to the work of the Meeting may be made directly from their bank accounts. Friends approve the report, which is attached.

20140406.05 Nancy Britton presents the Ministry and Counsel committee report. The next meeting is scheduled for 5/1/2014 at 7:15 pm at Stephen McDonnell's office. The next welcoming breakfast is planned for 4/27 in the Riverside cafe at 9:30 am. The next two fourth Sunday topics will be on 4/29 with Larry White on incarceration, and on 5/25 worship sharing on Friends' experiences with witness. On 6/22 a picnic inside is planned. Bible study continues on second Sundays. M&C brings forward with approval Burr Eckstut's letter requesting membership for a first reading. The Prison Worship

Group reunion is scheduled here for 5/18 with a potluck to be provided. The New York Yearly Meeting Priorities Working Group letter is read, explaining their request for permission to publish their notes online. M&C has carefully considered this request and recommends that we not allow this raw data to be published online, suggesting that summaries be prepared instead, and asks the clerk to send a letter to the PWG explaining their reasons. The suggested letter is read. M&C has eleven clearness and support committees presently. Friends accept the report, which is attached.

20140406.06 The clerk reads a letter requesting membership in Morningside Monthly Meeting from Samuel Burr Eckstut, as a first reading.

20140406.07 Friends discuss the wording of the proposed letter to the PWG and approve the following statement:

Friends are concerned that abandoning a commitment to anonymity by making the confidential notes public raises problems with the integrity of future commitments to confidential discussions.

20140406.08 Friends approve David Fletcher for membership in Morningside Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends. The welcoming committee for David is Sally Campbell, Charlene Ray and Vince Buscemi.

Meeting ends at 2:20 pm with silent Worship.

In Friendship,
Dave Britton, recording clerk

Notes on Communications Committee Meeting March 30, 2014
9:30AM, Riverside Cafe

Notes on the meeting, plus some further thoughts from yours truly. As before, many of my “notes” are on the Excel “worksheet.”

Dave reports that he is setting up a cloud website for the committee to use, as we develop the Morningside website. He will give us info on how to use it when it’s ready.

Dave also reports that Diane Keefe suggested that Steve Davison, who is paid to manage the NYYM website might be willing to work with us on the NYQM website (and Morningside’s, since the two are linked) for extra money. Dave will pursue this.

Dave will inquire of Vonn whether DRUPAL can handle moderated postings—eg, the submission of postings to the site editor via the website (instead of email).

We also discussed eliminating the separate Quick Links feature and running most of the menu items down the left hand side of the page.

I have thought about this since the meeting, and think we should reconsider. If you want to see what it would be like, go to the DC website, which has been redesigned from the one we liked so much, and indeed now has most of the menu items running down the left hand side of the page, with the top horizontal menu reduced to Home/Directions/Contact/Donate.

I wonder why they did this, but in a way I’m glad, because it made me realize what I don’t like about this format. I find it less easy to use—less intuitive and, it seems to me, less “Friendly” to non-Quaker seekers—which is why I now think we shouldn’t do this either.

I also think we should retain the Quick Links feature in addition to the top menu. In my view Quick Links should include the following links (at least). These are what I think Morningsiders will want to have ready access to on a quick visit to the site (without having to wade through the drop down menus). Visitors will go to About Us to find basic info re childcare, handicapped accessibility, location, meeting times, etc. (This info will also be underneath the paragraph about worship on the home page).

Calendar (this would be removed from the top horizontal menu)
Announcements (Note contents of this on the DC page; it’s a sub menu for the calendar)
Officers and Committee Members
Member Log In
Member E-mail Post System
Current Photos

Another possibility would be to include a Welcome link at the top of the Quick Link column, which would include the directions, childcare info, etc. Redundancy, anyone? That way, could we avoid adding the word “Welcome” to the main text about “Our Worship” on the home page? I really like the simplicity of this aspect of the Washington format, which they haven’t changed.

The horizontal top menu would remain pretty much the same, except the calendar wouldn’t be part of it. (Dave, if we retain the Quick Link feature, can the drop down menus still appear to the left? Should they?)

Anyway, looking forward to discussing... The next meeting will be on April 20.

--Corona

P.S. On the “Worksheet”—Website02. Additions/changes made at the last meeting are in bold.

Here are some other things that have come to mind that should be included somewhere (where?): Spiritual Nurture Groups, Membership, Bible Study

Morningside Monthly Meeting
Treasurer's Report for March 2014

The Meeting has taken in \$3,465 this year, slightly ahead of the income for the same period last year, and \$3,269 less than \$6,734 disbursed. For the month of March, we received \$2,383 and expensed \$6,229, inclusive of \$3,613 in a covenant payment to the New York Yearly Meeting, \$2,600 for Peace & Social Concerns and \$16, in kind, for our monthly breakfast. Peace and Social Concerns contributions were \$400 to Friends General Conference, \$600 to Friends Committee on National Legislation, \$400 to the Bolivian Quaker Education Fund, \$600 to the Lambi Fund in Haiti and \$600 to the Urban Community Food Project (with \$300 designated as a honorarium).

We are scheduled to send \$400 to the Catholic Worker in April. Additionally, disbursements from our 2013 surplus are pending discernment.

A reminder: Contributions to the work of the meeting may be made directly from your bank; for information, please contact Charlene Ray, moneycoach@earthlink.net or leave a message at 212-757-3504.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Ray

Treasurer

April 5, 2014

Treasurer's Report: 2014		Actual					Budget	
		2013	Jan	Feb	Mar	YTD	% Spent	2014
Disbursements								
Fixed	NY Yearly Meeting	13,611.00			3,612.50	3,612.50	25.3%	14,300.00
Total Fixed		13,611.00			3,612.50	3,612.50	25.3%	14,300.00
Outreach	P&SC/FUN	10,850.00		100.00	2,600.00	2,700.00	22.2%	12,150.00
& Support	Misc. Contrib.	0.00				0.00	0.0%	300.00
	Scholarship/Relief	1,305.00				0.00	0.0%	2,000.00
Total Outreach		12,155.00	0.00	100.00	2,600.00	2,700.00	18.7%	14,450.00
Operating	Communications	295.29				0.00	0.0%	2,050.00
Expenses	1st Day/Childcare	61.94				0.00	0.0%	800.00
	Hospitality	683.91	200.00	124.92		324.92	46.4%	700.00
	Breakfast	354.80		31.57	16.00	47.57	6.3%	750.00
	Clerk/ M & C	106.50				0.00	0.0%	150.00
	Finance	211.95	31.77			31.77	10.6%	300.00
	Literature	152.15		17.00		17.00	5.7%	300.00
Total Operating Expenses		1,866.54	231.77	173.49	16.00	421.26	8.3%	5,050.00
Total Disbursements		27,632.54	231.77	273.49	6,228.50	6,733.76	19.9%	33,800.00
	In Kind Contributions/Disbursements		31.77	72.49	16.00			
Income								
	Contributions	37,483.90	447.77	631.49	2,381.00	3,460.26		34,000.00
	Interest	25.48	1.66	1.73	1.52	4.91		
Total Income		37,509.38	449.43	633.22	2,382.52	3,465.17	10.2%	34,000.00
Net Income		9,876.85	217.66	359.73	(3,845.98)	(3,268.59)		200.00
Assets								
Ending Bank Balance		39,898.14	40,129.56	40,504.29	36,648.31			
Cash Pam		15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00			
Hospitality Petty Cash		2.52	202.52	202.52	202.52			
Cash at Schwab		500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00			
Liabilities								
Crumlish Bequest		(1,000.00)	(1,000.00)	(1,000.00)	(1,000.00)			
Hope Lives for Lifers		(169.09)	(169.09)	(169.09)	(169.09)			
Huntington House		(775.88)	(672.64)	(672.64)	(672.64)			
From 2013		(8,465.65)	(8,465.65)	(8,465.65)	(8,465.65)			
Net Worth		30,005.04	30,539.70	30,914.43	27,058.45			

As of 12/31/13

Actual annual rent paid by NYQM is \$11,000, 1/2013-12/2015