

Friendship Times
Friendship Friends Meeting

Calendar

Sat, Mar 28	Meeting workday 1-3 pm
Sun, Mar 29	9 am Extended Meeting for Worship 10:30 am Meeting for Worship
Sat, April 6	Query workshop beginning 8 am
Sun, April 5	9 am Worship and Ministry, Care and Counsel, Peace and Social Concerns Committees meet 10:30 am Meeting for Worship
Sat, April 11	Query workshop 10-12
Sun, April 12	10:30 am Meeting for Worship, a potluck meal follows, then Monthly Meeting for Business
Sun, April 19	9:15 am Forum on Cuba Libre 10:30 am Meeting for Worship
Tues, April 21	Deadline for March newsletter
Sun, April 26	9 a.m. Deepening the Life of the Meeting. 10:30 am Meeting for Worship
Sun, May 3	9 am Worship and Ministry, Care and Counsel, Peace and Social Concerns Committees meet 10:30 am Meeting for Worship

Weekly Meeting for Worship 10:30 am each First Day,. Child care available for Worship and Business Meetings., Midweek Meetings for Worship are held at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, in the Prayer Room, 7th floor Woolman Hall, Friends Homes Guilford.

In this Issue

In this issue, besides the usual business meeting minutes with a report from the Meetinghouse Planning Committee, you will find our monthly lesser known Quaker quotation, some pictures of last month's game night and several announcements of local events of interest.

From the Editor

My intention is to distribute the newsletter no later than the last Sunday of the month. Material should be submitted, preferably by email, no later than Tuesday, April 21. Besides announcements and publicity for events we welcome poems and other thoughts to go into the newsletter.

Month's Query

Query #4 Do we assume our rightful share of the expenses of the meeting? Do we regard our time, our talents, and our possessions as given us in trust, and do we use them freely for the needs of others?

April Birthday

Margot Josephine Logan
Morris, April 7th

Minutes

3rd Month Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

March 8, 2015

Meeting began with a brief period of silent worship.

1. Expansion of Medicaid Letter

- The Peace and Social Concerns Committee considered the request from Working America to sign on to an open letter to Governor Pat McCrory to expand Medicaid in North Carolina. They were in unity not to endorse the letter. Meeting for Business is in unity with this decision. The meeting also feels there is a need for further discernment about how to respond corporately to issues that arise in the political arena.

2. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report: Third Month Report for Second Month Income and Expenses in 2015

Income in February 2015 was \$3,082.00 to the General Fund and \$105.00 to the New Building Fund, and \$205.00 to the Emergency Assistance Fund.

Expenses in February totaled \$1,591.07. The main operating expenses were \$100 for Conference and Travel, \$78.00 for Religious Education, \$400 for Peace and Social Concerns, and \$239.43 for Supplies. No supporting contributions were paid in February. Meeting House expenses totaled \$362.37. In addition \$400 was paid from the Emergency Assistance fund.

Summary for February 2015

	Income	Expenses	Ending Balance
General Fund	\$3,082	\$1,191	\$13,334
New Building Fund	\$105	\$0	\$7,240
All Operating Funds	\$3,392	\$1,591	\$28,639

The Treasurer also received correspondence from Harriet Mitchell, Greensboro Urban Ministry, the Interactive Resource Center, Quaker House, and David and Mae Brown.

3. New Building Expenditures

The meeting received a request for an expenditure for the new meeting room, and realized there is not a formal procedure for dealing with these requests.

The Finance Committee is recommending that the line item in our annual budget for the "new building corporate contribution" be made available to the Meetinghouse Fundraising and Planning Committees to be spent without requiring additional authorization from the Meeting. Expenditures will be reported to Meeting for Business. At the end of the fiscal year, the balance in that line item would transfer to the New Building Fund.

Expenditures from the New Building Fund will be authorized by Meeting for Business.

- This process was approved.

4. Meetinghouse Planning Committee Report

An accurate, complete site survey

includes: (besides existing building and parking lot footprints):

--2' interval Contours and spot elevations at key locations

--Underground + above ground utilities, easements and right-of-ways (for example underground septic, water, etc)

--Building floor elevations (FFE) of the building at all doorways and the basement floor elevation.

--Existing inlet locations and elevations

--Existing tree locations and elevations

The benefits of this document are:

1. A critical, enduring document of the property that can be used for current, ongoing, and future building/planning projects, updated over time.

2. An accurate digital format drawing (in AutoCAD) to be utilized by civil engineers, architects, landscape architects and builders.

3. The City of Greensboro Technical Review Committee (TRC) requires an accurate contour survey/grading plan - if the project necessitates their review. It may go through TRC if the parking lot increases, if there are grading changes, or if built upon areas (BUA) added are greater than 3000sf. Currently we have 30 spaces in the existing large lot. If I understand correctly, one parking space is required per 20sf of meeting space which makes our need (with a new 1000sf building) more like 50 spaces. As we discussed, we may be able to do some begging off of this number using off-site parking, bike racks, reinforced turf overflow parking etc. At this point we don't know for certain we will be required to go through TRC - I'm unclear about the extent of the vision which you know more fully.

4. At this point, all potential ideas - whether architectural or landscape - require more extensive study in order to verify the next level of feasibility, to ensure the structure is buildable, to ensure universal access, to design

proper site drainage, for code compliance, for tree protection, for vegetative buffer compliance, to create meaningful (not merely piecemeal) landscape space for children's play area and other outdoor activities etc. A complete survey will allow the next steps for developing a Master Plan of the entire site in conjunction with further design of the new Meeting House structure itself. A measured Master Plan will reveal the opportunities and constraints for the new building and site - a critical next step to hinge this beautiful vision closer to reality.

5. Audit Committee Report

We met on Second Month 11, 2015 to check over the 2014 financial book of Friendship Meeting. Upon individual examination thereof, we mutually certify the great care taken with maintenance of Friendship's financial records. In our opinion, these accurately present the 2014 financial position of Friendship Friends Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends. We commend our new treasurer for his accurate and well-organized records.

The meeting requests that the name of this committee be changed to the Internal Review Committee. This change was approved and the Handbook Committee will make the appropriate changes.

6. Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee for 2015-2016 will be Bonnie Parsons, Jim Hood and Deborah Shaw. These names were approved.

7. Handbook Revision Consideration

- Care and Council has recommended some additional clarification to the Handbook regarding membership.

- Page 10: Sojourning members—Keep "Friends... meeting." Add the following at the

end of the current description: "Once the meeting has received a request for sojourning status and this request has been approved, within one month's time, Care and Counsel will appoint a Welcoming Committee of one or more members to meet with and welcome the new sojourning member. This meeting will provide an opportunity to have a discussion about the various aspects of Friendship Meeting, as well as its connection with North Carolina Yearly Meeting (Conservative). The new sojourning member will be given access (printed or electronic) to the Friendship Meeting Handbook, NCYMC Faith and Practice, and the handout for Piedmont Friends Fellowship. The Welcoming Committee will meet with the sojourning member after one year of membership for a time of reflection and discussion."

- Page 10 and 11: Transfer of membership—Keep "When... belong." Add the following at the end of the description: "Once the meeting has received a request for a transfer of membership to Friendship Meeting and this request has been approved, within one month's time, Care and Counsel will appoint a Welcoming Committee of one or more members to meet with and welcome the new member. This meeting will provide an opportunity to have a discussion about the various aspects of Friendship Meeting, and its connection with North Carolina Yearly Meeting (Conservative). The new member will be given access, printed or electronic, to the Friendship Meeting Handbook, NCYMC Faith and Practice, and the handout for Piedmont Friends Fellowship. The Welcoming Committee will meet with the new member after one year of membership for a time of reflection and discussion."

A concern was expressed that transferring and sojourning members should also have a Clearness Committee for membership.

The changes to the handbook were approved.

8. Membership Report

- At her request, Anne Marie Tabor will no longer be a sojourning member at Friendship Friends.

9. Final Affairs Forms

- Members are encouraged to fill out a Final Affairs form to be kept on file at the meetinghouse.

10. Travel Minutes

- The clerk read a request for travel minutes for Lloyd Lee Wilson.
- The request was approved.
- The clerk also read the travel minute for Deborah Shaw to Albuquerque Monthly Meeting for a retreat she led in the month of February, as well as their response.

The Broadmead Monthly Meeting will hold their annual retreat at Tiffin Franciscan Center, in Tiffin, Ohio. This retreat will occur in Ninth or Tenth month of this year. The topic is "Radical Hospitality" the Pendle Hill pamphlet, and have invited Lloyd Lee Wilson, as the author, to lead their retreat. Also, Community Friends Meeting in Cincinnati Ohio has asked Lloyd Lee to participate in a panel discussion on Ministry in Eighth Month of this year. Worship and Ministry of Friendship Friends Meeting have reviewed and approved way forward to make a formal request before the Monthly Meeting for two travel minutes be issued for Lloyd Lee Wilson. We find both of these requests and Lloyd Lee's discernment process to be in good order; and are encouraged to have members of our Meeting and Yearly Meeting visiting and worshipping with other Yearly Meetings.

11. Quaker House Report

Lynn and Steve Newsom continue to be pushing the boundaries of their limits, and loving doing it. Their three month report to the Board in January was filled with: attending workshops that help develop new ideas; participating on panels; developing a newsletter; researching funding resources; being involved in city committees and organizations that are akin to the Quaker House goals and to be move involved in local activities; awaken groups/individuals about the concerns vets and their families have, not only during their service but especially when they come home (moral injury concerns in particular); conducting a number of programs in Florida; enjoying discussions anywhere they go; doing house repair; playing piano at church; learning more about various topics connected to the military, wars, counter-recruitment, moral injury, and many more.

I encourage you to read the latest issue of News from the Home Front. Copies are on the table in the hallway.

12. Fellowship Room Arrangements

Darlene Stanley reported that Worship and Ministry has rearranged the fellowship room, as per concerns and suggestions from Meeting for Business in June 2013.

13. Meetinghouse Fundraising Committee

Kembra Howdeshell gave an update on the fundraising efforts and shared the amounts received and the amounts pledged. The fundraising thermometer will be on display in the fellowship room.

The meeting ended with a period of silent worship.

LESSER KNOWN QUOTATIONS

This will be the last month that you will see a lesser known quotation or two from early and more recent Friends that remind us of the Quaker message as it came to Friends in the seventeenth century and as it's lasted to today.

Selected by our member Patricia Loring, they are to stir your own reflection and meditation on what we are about at this time in our history.

Thus the state of having a concern has a foreground and a background. In the foreground is the special task, uniquely illuminated, toward which we feel a special yearning and care. This is the concern as we usually talk about it or present it to the Monthly Meeting. But in the background is a second level, or layer of universal concern for all the multitude of good things that need doing. Toward them all we feel kindly, but we are dismissed from active service in most of them.

And we have an easy mind in the presence of desperately real needs which are not our direct responsibility. We cannot die on every cross nor are we expected to.

Thomas R. Kelly: *A Testament of Devotion*, 1941.

Update to the directory

David Parsons's new email address
parsni@yahoo.com

Please mark your calendars for a **baby shower** for **Juliet Smith** on Saturday, April 25 at 11am. It will be a potluck brunch. Everyone is invited. I will be sending out a more detailed invitation later, but for now please save the date! Thanks,
Lori Fernald Khamala
Lorifk@gmail.com
[919-491-0039](tel:919-491-0039)

"Cuba Libre"

On April 19 at the 9:15 AM forum, Raleigh Bailey will make a slide presentation called "Cuba Libre," based on his seminar experience in Cuba with Witness for Peace late last November. While he would like to think that the seminar triggered the new and changing relationship between the US and Cuba, it was actually just fortuitous timing. The focus of the seminar was the impact of the US trade embargo on Cuba. For a more detailed report on the seminar, people can visit the Center for New North Carolinians website: <http://cnnc.uncg.edu/2015/02/cuba-libre/>. He promises that he will not read that report at the slide presentation.

On Being a Spiritual Nurturer, 2015 - 2017

Testing the Waters Retreat

At Jamestown Friends Meeting

April 18, 9 am - 3:30 pm

Program includes:

- Introduction to 'spiritual nurture' and how it serves Quaker meetings.
 - Reflection on spiritual disciplines, prayer, and cultivating the inward life.
 - Small group experience to practice close listening and mutual support.
 - Question & answer period about the program.
- Snacks, beverages, and light lunch provided.
Free-will donation (suggested \$25) gladly accepted to help defray expenses and the travel costs of the core teachers.

The program is also open to those from other faith traditions. Please consider sharing this information with all those who wish to deepen their spiritual lives.

Want more information?

Call Beckey Phipps, program coordinator, at [781-718-9928](tel:781-718-9928) or write to beckey@schoolofthespirit.org.

Visit our website and register in advance (helpful for retreat planning):

<http://schoolofthespirit.org/programs/on-being-a-spiritual-nurturer/>.

Each month our responses to the query of the month will appear in the newsletter. Since the first seven queries were only addressed this month you will find our responses to both queries one and two in the January newsletter

Query 3: Do we follow the teachings of Jesus and seek the inspiration of His Holy Spirit in our daily lives? Are love and unity maintained among us? Do we cultivate a forgiving spirit, and do we avoid and discourage needless and destructive criticism of others? When differences arise, do we endeavor promptly to resolve them in a spirit of love, honesty, and humility?

We see this query as a good reminder of our desired intentions. Our community is made up of members and attenders who strive to live conscientious and Spirit-led lives. Love and unity are characteristic of our corporate life. If differences arise we strive to face the challenge or the conflict honestly believing if demonstrating an effort, love and unity or a compromise with positive results, may be the final outcome. It is our hope that we can be inspired by God's leadings to reconcile and practice forgiveness arriving on the other side of conflict with humility and grace.

Pictures from March Game night at Friendship Meeting



Friendship Friends Meeting
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www.friendshipmeeting.org

Sidney Kitchens, Clerk
Stephen Holland, Treasurer
Claire Koster, Membership Recorder
Hannah Logan Morris, Recording Clerk

Neil Swenson, Co-Clerk
Ray Treadway, Assistant Treasurer
Hannah Morris, Asst Membership Recorder
Dave MacInnes, Newsletter Editor

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Address Correction Requested

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