

Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting
Monthly Meeting for Business
20 January 2008

Philip Jones clerked the meeting for business, at which 78 Friends were present over the course of the meeting. The meeting began with a period of worship and reading of the query on integrity and simplicity. One Friend lifted up the challenge and richness of integrity in speech and the questions raised by the model of Martin Luther King, Jr.: Do we speak from facts? Are we in conversation with people? Do we love them enough?

Review of Minutes: The summary of the called meeting for business of 2 December was **approved as amended**, with the change of “once the Meeting decides to go ahead” to “if the Meeting decides to go ahead.” The minutes of the November meeting for business were **approved**.

Care & Counsel: Meg Mitchell, clerk, gave the second reading of Mary Day Kent’s membership application. **Meeting approved.** Phil Anthony, Storm Evans, and Roberta Foss will welcome Mary Day.

Meg gave the first reading of Kathy Miller’s membership application. Karen Cromley and Dan Evans met with Kathy as her clearness committee and reported back to Care & Counsel. Kathy’s parents were Friends, and at an earlier point in her life she was associated with Florida Avenue Meeting (DC) and worked with high school students there.

Magdalen Lawnton has applied for membership. She has attended Chestnut Hill Meeting for some time and has been reading Quaker materials as well. She served as a greeter at meeting for worship last week. Mickey Abraham, Eileen Flanagan, and Nell Kahil will be her clearness committee, with Nell serving as convener.

Ernest Cuff and Ellen Deacon have requested marriage under the care of Chestnut Hill Meeting. Meg Mitchell, Charlie and Shirley Philips, and Carla White will be their clearness committee, with Meg serving as convener. Meg noted that although the heavy agenda of meeting for business required efficiency in reporting, Care and Counsel brings forward reports on all these developments with much joy.

Worship & Ministry: Ruth Pauly, clerk, reported on the opportunities for worship that Worship & Ministry organized in preparation for the meetinghouse decision possibly to be made in meeting for business this month. Two of the early meetings for worship in January included worship sharing and attended specifically to the building process, and three potluck dinners in Friends’ homes were followed by worship and worship sharing. These gatherings were deep, helpful, and nourishing. One more dinner and meeting for worship will take place on 28 January.

Ruth summarized the annual report from Marcelle Martin and her oversight committee (Mickey Abraham, Nell Kahil, and Amey Hutchins), after directing Friends to the link to the full report sent out by e-mail prior to meeting for business. Since March, Marcelle has been working with Laura Melly and a Friend from New England Yearly Meeting to develop a new, year-long program for Friends following a leading or carrying a ministry, which will be co-sponsored by School of the Spirit and Pendle Hill and will begin at Pendle Hill in Fall 2008. Marcelle continues as the Quaker studies teacher at Pendle Hill, where in addition she has responsibilities for spiritual nurture of students, oversight of adjunct teachers, and care of Pendle Hill’s meeting for worship. She is currently working on a book on female mystics and meanwhile has two

articles forthcoming. Her committee reported that they meet and work in joy. Since the last report, Grace Moses regretfully decided that she could not continue on the committee, and the committee requested a new member. **Meeting approved the addition of Barbara Buonocore to Marcelle Martin's oversight committee.**

Hollister Knowlton's clearness committee recommended to Worship & Ministry that her proposed minute of religious service be forwarded to a clearness committee to test the Meeting's clearness. Jackie Fields and Jorge Arauz are prepared to serve on the clearness committee. Liz Robinson volunteered to join the committee as well.

Ruth gave the first reading of the following proposed minute of religious service for Eileen Flanagan:

Chestnut Hill Meeting recognizes that our member Eileen Flanagan carries an ongoing concern for helping people to trust God and to listen to God's guidance. For a number of years Eileen has faithfully served Friends in and beyond our meeting as well as persons of other faith backgrounds by facilitating retreats and workshops and by communicating with a wider audience in print and on-line.

Now as way opens for Eileen to engage in these activities more frequently, publicly, and intentionally, we unite in support of her leading to help Friends experience discernment directly in their lives and their meetings and develop the faith to follow the guidance they receive; and to introduce this elemental aspect of Quaker faith and practice to the world beyond the Society of Friends. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve the Society of Friends and to share Quaker experience with those outside the Society of Friends by supporting Eileen's work. Having received the blessing of her ministry among us, we will support her call to a wider ministry with prayer and the grounding and testing of ongoing oversight. We commend Eileen to all, in the hope that she will be kindly received wherever she serves.

The minute was distributed prior to meeting with a summary of the process to date. The minute will be brought to meeting for business for approval next month.

Announcements: Lyle Jenks, meeting secretary, gave a preview of the recorder's report, thanks to Roberta Foss: Chestnut Hill Meeting had a net gain of two adult members in 2007. He also drew Friends' attention to information available at the meetinghouse from Friends Music Camp and pamphlets from FWCC's Wider Quaker Fellowship, including "Connected to the Vine," by Deborah Saunders of Cropwell Meeting. He also noted that Pendle Hill has revived its lecture series, now on Tuesday evenings, and recommended Patricia McKernon Runkle's "Points on the Compass of Grief: Spiritual Lessons Learned in the Wilderness," coming up on February 12.

Personnel Committee: Phil Jones reported that Lyle Jenks has informed the committee that he intends to relocate soon to his home in the Finger Lakes area of New York. He has graciously agreed to stay on for a few months to help with a transition, but it is unlikely that a new meeting secretary will be in place when Lyle leaves. The Personnel Committee will be meeting soon to review the job description for the meeting secretary position.

Meetinghouse Process: Six middle school Friends joined meeting for business to be present for the beginning of the consideration of the meetinghouse issues. Phil Jones gave a brief history of

the 20-year conversation Chestnut Hill Meeting has had about the possibility of a new meetinghouse and outlined some of the major points for and against a new building. On one hand, many feel a need for more flexibility in the First Day School area and even in the worship room; it is impractical to renovate the current meetinghouse; the Meeting needs reliable access to the meetinghouse; and the Meeting owns land on the same block which would make it possible to solve these problems by building a new meetinghouse. On the other hand, a new building is inherently less environmentally sustainable; some feel that the Meeting's assets should be used for service, not for comfort or convenience; and some feel discomfort with the size of the proposed building project. The clerk stated that the day's goal was to reach unity either that we are ready for the Client Committee to work on developing a fuller design and the Fundraising Committee to begin fundraising, or that we are not continuing with the project. Failure to reach unity would require continued effort on this issue. He reminded Friends that we are all members of this community and all care deeply about it.

Early in the deliberation a Friend asked for a reminder of the principles for the building process on which Chestnut Hill Meeting united in 2005. These included reaching out to other groups, especially those not embraced by others; exercising responsible stewardship; making our testimonies manifest; finding common ground; and building partnerships. One Friend recalled the point in the Meeting's history when it had dwindling membership and considered laying itself down, but the few members risked participation in the Sanctuary movement, which drew new people to the Meeting. Friends expressed desires for the Meeting to take a risk, make a commitment, see itself in both old and new ways, and carry our witness more widely to the world by deciding to build a new meetinghouse. At this point the middle school Friends left.

Other Friends, while agreeing that the access problems of the current meetinghouse were important, shared grave concerns about pursuing growth ahead of other values, making the art of the new meetinghouse part of our identity, and neglecting our desperately needed work in the world while focusing on a building project. One spoke of feeling the presence of God more strongly in Friends' homes than in meetinghouses and asked Friends to remember that there are many ways to reach out apart from having a building.

The clerk, before calling for the Meeting to return to worship, read a minute proposed by the Fundraising Committee:

As members of the Meetinghouse Fundraising Committee and the Chestnut Hill Meeting Community, we are convinced that the time is right to move forward with a new meetinghouse. We therefore ask for a Meeting decision to commit to building a new meetinghouse and to move forward with the project by:

1. Constituting and empowering a campaign committee, of internal and external members, appointed by the clerk, to raise the \$3 million dollar goal to complete the building project.
2. Constituting and empowering a construction committee, appointed by the clerk, to develop a final design for the meetinghouse, for approval by the Meeting, and to complete the construction of the new meetinghouse.
3. Empowering the Finance Committee to decide the total funding of the building project, for approval by the Meeting, and oversee the use of funds through completion of the project.

4. Empowering an oversight committee, appointed by the clerk, to integrate the work of the Campaign, Construction and Finance Committees, to assure the completion of the project on time and within budget.

Before the Meeting settled into worship, a Friend suggested that the idea of a choice between a new meetinghouse and the Meeting's work was a false dichotomy and that instead a new meetinghouse might provide a platform for all our work without depriving the Meeting of its intimate feel, its identity as a dynamic community, or its other values. Out of the worship that followed came messages of love for the Chestnut Hill Meeting community. Some focused on a sense of joy and excitement, of an opportunity to shed more light. Friends held up visions of a new meetinghouse as an opportunity for the Meeting to care for itself so it could care for others; as a means for the community to be what it wants to be; as an opening to take stewardship seriously and think more of the future than of ourselves. Other Friends held up concerns for the community, asking for forgiveness from those who were opposed and feeling pain at the probability that any decision would cause hurt and loss.

Still other Friends gave messages on the decision-making process itself. One called on the Meeting to realize that it is never possible to avoid all problems and to commit ourselves to work on the problems of whatever choice we make, which will probably not be the problems we expect—but also to embrace the wonder and joy of that choice. Another acknowledged the competing demands placed on our imagination and consciences by this decision but suggested that the Meeting could both approve the minute and wholeheartedly endorse and address the concerns raised against it. Some Friends focused on the relationship and responsibilities of Friends of differing views towards each other. One pointed out that Friends have different perspectives on success, asking Friends in favor of a new meetinghouse to consider the risks of the change, the risks of success, and the difficulty of faithfulness, and asking Friends opposed to consider how they would address the fears of those in favor. Another lifted up the responsibilities of participating in Quaker decision-making, in which, even with a clear sense of the Meeting, those in unity with the sense of the Meeting still carry the weight of different views in the Meeting, and those with those different views carry the weight of the sense of the Meeting. A commitment to that process is a commitment to be spiritually led. One view of the Meeting is that its purpose is to nourish the spiritual life of individuals who then go out to change the world, to bring people to God and leave them there.

The clerk offered his sense of the sense of the Meeting for testing: the Meeting has considerable support and enthusiasm for moving ahead, but it is truly in unity on the importance of this community and its commitment not to sweep aside the environmental, spiritual, and financial concerns of those opposed. Most Friends agreed that this was the sense of the Meeting, although one Friend cautioned that building a new meetinghouse was not the only way to move ahead. Another Friend with deep concerns agreed that this was the sense of the Meeting and acknowledged the excitement of it but shared pain at having a different leading and at having environmental concerns not understood as social justice concerns. This Friend pleaded with the Meeting to follow George Fox's admonition and be careful not to build a steeplehouse, and to remember that every penny used for a new building could be used for others. Another Friend disagreed that there was a sense of the Meeting or that the Meeting was united in joy on building a meetinghouse, and cautioned Friends to be careful about defining progress and about choosing which paths—and which gods—we follow. Spiritual growth is also progress, and the struggle

that the Meeting has experienced is progress, and not time wasted. Another Friend feared that Friends did not understand that a new building could never be the right choice environmentally.

Other Friends acknowledged these concerns. One suggested that we would need them to keep us grounded as we proceed. Another reflected on the fine line between “getting carried away” and joy, which is grounded and happens in the face of the challenges found in every path and choice. The additional opportunities to worship leading up to meeting for business gave hope and raised a query: are we willing to seek transformation, to seek to change and grow in ways that are difficult?

The Meeting approved the minute, with Janet Boys, Chris Elbich, Hollister Knowlton, Ruth Pauly, Paul Ricker, and Liz Robinson standing aside. One Friend suggested that the Meeting was, through the worship opportunities and this meeting for business, drawing closer together but not yet in unity on either building or deciding not to build, and urged the Meeting not to exclude people by making the decision now but to seek a stronger unity. The clerk stated that he believed the sense of the Meeting was that the decision should not be postponed. Another Friend wanted to add that despite making this decision, we must keep challenging each other to be faithful, because the decision is not done at this moment. The clerk lifted up the number of people standing aside from this decision as a reminder that our greatest task is to tend to our community.

In response to a concern that the fundraising committee should not be authorized before the Meeting has developed the clarity on the relationship between the new meetinghouse and the Meeting’s values and work called for by the fundraising consultants, the clerk responded that the first task of the fundraising committee is to initiate the development of that clarity. Another Friend expressed excitement about raising money, in that it is about us being in community and sharing what we are passionate about with each other and the wider community.

One Friend, recalling the annual report on Marcelle Martin’s ministry earlier in the meeting for business, noted that Chestnut Hill Meeting has never been quick to recognize leadings. This Friend felt that the long effort to approve a minute of religious service for Marcelle had yielded bountiful fruit, because the community dealt with its differences, so Chestnut Hill Meeting could witness to living in community with difference.

Closing: Meeting for business closed with worship. One Friend offered a message about perspective on this decision, saying that in one sense the new building is just a building, but the community will continue, expressing love and respect for those who differ and gratitude for being in community with them. Another Friend, whose greatest concern throughout the years of considering a new building was for the well-being of our community, spoke of great joy in being faithful to where we think God is leading us individually, in being faithful when we’re uncertain, and in holding together. All things are possible with God and there is great joy in that.

Respectfully submitted,

Amey Hutchins, recording secretary

Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting
Monthly Meeting for Business
17 February 2008

Philip Jones clerked the meeting for business, at which 33 Friends were present. The meeting began with a period of worship and reading of the query on meeting for worship. Friends offered memories of their first encounters with meeting for worship or with Chestnut Hill Meeting. One Friend lifted up the need to be loving to newcomers who are learning Friends' manner of worship, recalling a message from the morning's meeting for worship emphasizing that the truly important things in life are mysteries to us. Another Friend reminded those gathered that all meetings, including meetings for business and committee meetings, are meetings for worship and we do best when we are not determined to speak or not to speak and are sensitive to Spirit rather than opinions. Other Friends lifted up concerns about the limited nature of the children's experience in the first 15 minutes of worship; about faithfulness and the times that we don't give the messages that are ours to give; and about how fears block worship and communication with God.

Review of Minutes: The clerk reported that Paul Ricker, who was at January's meeting for business but unable to be at February's, had sent in advance the correction that his name should be among those given in the January minutes as standing aside from the decision to build a new meetinghouse. With that change, the January minutes were **approved as amended**.

Care & Counsel: Meg Mitchell, clerk, gave the second reading of Kathy Miller's membership application. **Meeting approved.** Johanna Barbati, Thomas Taylor, and Jean Warrington will welcome Kathy.

For the first reading of Magdalen Lawnton's membership application, Mickey Abraham reported for the clearness committee (Mickey and Nell Kahil) that met with Magdalen. Magdalen has attended CHMM for eight months and has been reading Quaker history and *Faith and Practice*. She is familiar with Friends through the connections of her children and grandchildren to Quaker schools. Currently a member of Trinity Lutheran, Magdalen noted in the clearness committee meeting that the worship at CHMM calls to her. Nell added that Magdalen understands that she must resign from Trinity before the second reading of her membership application. Her family is supportive of this change. Nell and Mickey encouraged Magdalen to attend two meetings for business. She looks forward to serving on committees and as a greeter, which she has already done and enjoyed. Mickey and Nell recommended Magdalen.

Worship & Ministry: Amey Hutchins, member (with Shirley Philips and Carolyn Schodt) of the meeting's clearness committee to consider the proposed minute of religious service for Eileen Flanagan, gave the second reading of the minute:

Chestnut Hill Meeting recognizes that our member Eileen Flanagan carries an ongoing concern for helping people to trust God and to listen to God's guidance. For a number of years Eileen has faithfully served Friends in and beyond our meeting as well as persons of other faith backgrounds by facilitating retreats and workshops and by communicating with a wider audience in print and on-line.

Now as way opens for Eileen to engage in these activities more frequently, publicly, and intentionally, we unite in support of her leading to help Friends experience discernment directly in their lives and their meetings and develop the faith to follow the guidance they receive; and to introduce this elemental aspect of Quaker faith and practice to the world beyond the Society of Friends. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve the Society of Friends and to share Quaker experience with those outside the Society of Friends by supporting Eileen's work. Having received the blessing of her ministry among us, we will support her call to a wider ministry with prayer and the grounding and testing of ongoing oversight. We commend Eileen to all, in the hope that she will be kindly received wherever she serves.

Meeting approved, and also approved Christie Duncan-Tessmer, Nell Kahil, Signe Wilkinson, and Beth Zelasky to serve as an oversight committee for Eileen, with Nell to serve as convener of their first meeting. In response to a question about whether the committee had considered the value of having both men and women serve on such committees, Amey reported that Worship & Ministry did consider it valuable but had been unsuccessful in trying to do so.

Dylan Steinberg, member (with Milena Hynes, Marcelle Martin, and Carla White) of the meeting's clearness committee to consider the proposed minute of religious service for Laura Melly, read a report from that committee and gave the first reading of the minute:

Chestnut Hill Monthly Meeting recognizes a corporate ministry in religious education and nurturing faithfulness, in which many of our members are actively involved. We affirm and support our member Laura Melly in her call to this ministry of spiritual nurture within the Religious Society of Friends. Since the early 1990s Laura has been supporting both individuals and organizations. She is former director of the Friends Board Training and Support Project and has both taught and served as a consultant to students at Pendle Hill. She works with Friends General Conference's Traveling Ministries Program, and also responds to invitations from monthly meetings and other groups to lead workshops. In addition, she often supports other workshop leaders.

She is now embarking on a nationwide program sponsored by the School of the Spirit and co-sponsored by Pendle Hill to support and develop Friends called to public forms of ministry. This program draws upon our rich history of ministry and seeks to uphold and advance this tradition in a way that meets today's needs. Laura will be one of the instructors in the Way of Ministry program, which is scheduled to begin at Pendle Hill in Fall 2008-Spring 2009.

In all her endeavors, Laura brings a loving intelligence and patience. She has a gift for discerning needs and finding creative ways to meet them. She fosters connections between individuals and organizations that are constructive and enriching. We have experienced Laura's work among Friends as being guided by the Spirit and contributing to the vitality of our Society. We are grateful for her active participation in our meeting. As she travels among Friends, we send our blessings with her and commend her to your care.

The clerk announced that Ellen Deacon of Worship & Ministry was seeking volunteers to assist with a draft of the State of the Meeting report, which goes to the Worship & Ministry

Committees of Philadelphia Quarter and PYM every other year. Storm Evans and Carol Lanahan volunteered. Jorge Arauz offered to share a previous State of the Meeting report.

Client Committee: Signe Wilkinson reported that the Client Committee (Ron Celentano, Storm Evans, John Gallery, John Kahil, Daniel McDevitt, and Signe Wilkinson) is working on the meetinghouse design, project schedule, and coordination between James Bradberry and James Turrell. They are also thinking about possible collaborations with other users of the new building. James Bradberry's design schedule calls for the plan to be refined and accepted by early May. Signe emphasized that the design is continuing to change, as the one previously presented is too spread out and has raised concerns in its positioning of the building on the property, especially due to the impact of positioning on James Turrell's work. She distributed a sketch by John Gallery which maintained the square footage of the previous proposal but rearranged it more compactly, not as a proposal but to demonstrate the committee's current direction.

Campaign Committee: Jon Landau reported that the Campaign Committee (Christie Duncan-Tessmer, Diane Dunning, Jon Landau, Theresa McCooe, Christine Olinger, Charlie Philips, Shirley Philips, Carolyn Schodt, and Jean Warrington) is preparing to begin fundraising when the design is ready in May. They would welcome another committee member with a focus on "green" issues. The committee's goal is to raise \$3 million, which represents a commitment not to create an onerous financial burden for the future and to be able to afford to build an environmentally responsible building, and they want to raise those funds in a way that enhances rather than diminishes the program of the Meeting. Their short-term goals for the time before the presentation of the final design planned for early May are to contract Swenson & Associates to support the campaign; to hire a half-time campaign manager to handle coordination and administration; to select honorary chairs and advisors and add additional supporters from inside and outside CHMM to the committee; to form a 501(c)3 corporation to receive donations from foundations and individuals outside the Meeting; to work with the Meeting as a whole to articulate how the new meetinghouse is related to our identity and our work; and to refine the case statement and other materials for use in the campaign.

Some Friends were interested in the possibility of the Campaign Committee beginning fundraising within the Meeting even if the design was not completed in early May, but Jon did not think it was possible to make that decision yet. In response to another Friend expressing discomfort with hiring Swenson & Associates after they did the feasibility study, Jon explained that the committee had not assumed that Swenson would continue and had considered other possibilities, but they had been happy with Swenson's work and trusted in their integrity. Other Friends added that it would not be in Swenson's interest to have been misleading in the feasibility study and then take the job of supporting the campaign. Another Friend asked the committee to reconsider the term "honorary advisor" as not being in line with Quaker testimonies, and Jon agreed to take that concern back to the committee.

A Friend who was troubled by the absence from this discussion of two Friends who had stood aside from the decision to proceed with building the meetinghouse asked the clerk to read a letter which one of those Friends had sent in advance of meeting for business. The clerk read the letter, which expressed concerns about a less-than-full commitment to an environmentally responsible building; about the fiscal responsibility of the art installation; and about the reliability of the feasibility study, considering the small number of Friends surveyed. Friends expressed confusion about some of these points and a desire to address them at a time when the Friend who

wrote the letter could be present. Friends also expressed discomfort with the introduction of the letter into meeting for business. While one Friend lifted up the value of this and other communications outside of meeting for business for building and maintaining community, and another suggested that they were a sign that the Meeting is moving too quickly for people to be heard, others emphasized the need for us to work together in person in meeting for business.

Another Friend expressed sorrow about how the decision was made, asking how we could say we are in unity, given the number of Friends standing aside, and asking whether those Friends standing aside are “the tip of the iceberg.” This Friend also expressed concern about the effect of the artistic element on the process and priorities, and a desire to focus instead on what our community needs to function. Jean Warrington offered to interview on film those who are most in support of and in opposition to the meetinghouse, to allow them to be heard and to show the world who we are as 21st-century Quakers and how our community works. The clerk suggested that she work with him to develop a proposal. The clerk noted that the meetinghouse process is ongoing and that the community is under the weight of the concerns of those who stood aside. Friends called for more conversation, more listening, and more opportunities for worship together such as those offered by Worship & Ministry prior to the January meeting for business.

The assistant clerk suggested that meeting for business take some time to gather itself and hold the community in love and prayer. From the silence, one Friend lifted up the possibility of art as prayer and again recalling the message in worship that morning about art and the mysteries of life, noted that art brings forth awe. Another Friend expressed gratitude for the gift offered to the community by those Friends who stood aside yet still stay close to the Meeting. A third Friend noted that being in community is difficult, messy, and frustrating, but offered the reminder, “hold to that which is pure.” Another Friend shared that what is pure is what God asks each of us and our community: we are asked to be open and to hear. This Friend noted that if she had felt asked to stand in the way and had done it, that too would have been a gift to the Meeting.

Personnel Committee: Eileen Flanagan reviewed the history of developing a policy for CHMM on employees who are war tax resisters. The issue of the IRS’s levy on Lyle Jenks’s wages has been resolved and Lyle’s imminent departure means that the Meeting may not have to deal with this issue in the near future, but can still adopt a policy. When the first draft came to the November meeting for business, the Meeting’s major concern was lack of knowledge. Since then, Jorge Arauz offered a pamphlet discussion, the Forum Committee hosted war tax resister Priscilla Adams, and Lyle made information available. The policy that the Personnel Committee has developed states that CHMM will provide spiritual support to employees who have leadings to refuse to pay taxes used for military purposes but the Meeting will not violate the law itself by not withholding taxes from employees’ wages. Eileen clarified that CHMM has always complied with mandatory withholding and will continue to do so, and that CHMM’s actions towards the IRS when it tried to serve a notice of levy on Lyle would not have been different under this policy. One Friend asked if this policy would be more conservative than those of PYM and AFSC. Eileen explained that Personnel Committee felt they had taken a middle path and noted that PYM, which had a policy that called for taking more risk, is revising that policy following a loss in court to the IRS. Another Friend suggested that the sentence, “When a Meeting employee has made this witness, we will give the employee spiritual support without violating the law ourselves or risking the financial assets of the Meeting or its members,” be revised to “When a Meeting employee has made this witness, we will give the employee spiritual support. We will not violate the law ourselves... .” With this change, **Meeting approved the**

policy, with Thomas Taylor standing aside. Thomas suggested that if a meeting clearness committee united with the leading of an employee, the Meeting should take some risk. The clerk and assistant clerk stated that the policy represents the Meeting's current unity, which might change in the future; if this issue arises again, this policy will be our starting point. Another Friend urged that the Meeting take the occasion of Thomas standing aside as a call to deeper reflection and asked that time be set aside in the next meeting for business for discernment on taxes. The clerk asked this Friend to work with him on the best way to provide CHMM an opportunity for this discernment. Another Friend asked why Friends assume that we will not break the law.

Eileen then reported on the paid positions that will soon be open at CHMM. Lyle will be leaving the meeting secretary position at the end of March. Property Committee recommends that the janitorial work that Lyle took on in addition to the secretary position be separated out again. The secretary position will be for 12 hours a week, and the committee is looking for someone with good organizational and people skills and familiarity with Quakers. The fundraising committee has drawn up a description of the campaign coordinator position and is very open to the Meeting hiring someone from within the Meeting or known to people here. Anyone interested in that position should contact Laura Melly or Christine Olinger. Friends were hopeful that someone from within the Meeting might also fill the secretary position.

Treasurer's Report: Daniel Evans, treasurer, distributed a report of operating income and expenses for 2007 and proposed budget for 2008. He noted that the Meeting ended 2007 with a surplus, due both to expenses below budget and contributions above budget. Friends asked for the status of the Building Fund, which did not appear in this report. Dan noted that he would report on the status of the Building Fund and all other funds next month, but estimated the current level of the Building Fund at \$220,000 and confirmed that the salary of the campaign coordinator would be paid out of this fund.

Friends also had questions about donations that might be included in the Grants and Gifts line of the budget. There was widespread support for a suggestion that the Meeting use its operating funds to make contributions to major Quaker institutions and the Yarnall Fund for support of smaller organizations and also support for increasing grants and gifts in light of the 2007 surplus. **The Meeting approved the proposed budget for 2008 with the exception of the Grants and Gifts line,** which will be addressed next month.

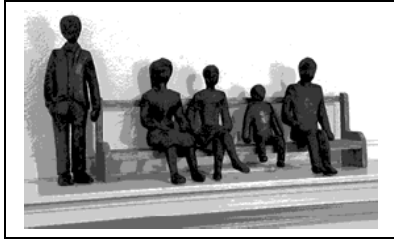
Ad-Hoc Technology Committee: Dan Evans reported that CHMM has a new domain name at chestnuthillquakers.org, and that e-mail addresses are being set up at that domain, such as info@chestnuthillquakers.org. Committee clerks interested in e-mail addresses for their committees may contact him.

NPIHN: Mickey Abraham reported that CHMM has been asked to provide the hosting for the NPIHN guests who will be staying at St. Paul's Episcopal Church the week from Sunday 27 April to Saturday 3 May. **Meeting approved.**

Clerk's Announcements: Links to images of James Turrell's work are available at the New Building Process section of the CHMM website. The CHMM Art Show is coming up in March; Johanna Barbaty has volunteered to help but needs additional volunteers.

Closing: Meeting for business closed with worship.

Amey Hutchins, recording secretary



CHESTNUT HILL FRIENDS MEETING

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Treasurer's Report of Operating Income and Expenses for 2007 and Proposed Operating Budget for 2008

Meeting for Business 2/17/2008

To Our Members and Attenders:

It is my pleasure to report that for the year 2007 the Meeting was both below budget in expenses and over budget in contributions, producing an operating surplus of \$21,800.

The increase in contributions is reassuring as we face the financial challenge of funding the construction of a new building, because it shows that the Meeting is healthy and vital financially as well as spiritually.

Attached is a report that shows the actual and budgeted income and expenses for 2007, the proposed budget for 2008, and the differences between them. This budget is being presented to you for your approval, for which I have the following comments:

Format

The most visible change in the budget is a reorganization of the chart of accounts so that related kinds of income and expense can be grouped and subtotaled in a more meaningful way. So, for example, contributions to the Meeting are in a group separate from investment income, and subtotaled separately. Similarly, compensation of paid personnel has been separated from expenses relating to the operation and maintenance of the meetinghouse, which have also been separated from administrative expenses, committee expenses, and grants by the Meeting. This produces a financial report that is somewhat easier to read and understand.

Generally speaking, the only differences are in the order and grouping, and a few changes in names, with very little change in substance because there is a one-to-one match between the old budget line items and the new budget line items, with only two minor exceptions:

1. For convenience in reporting, child care costs have been separated between compensation (which must be reported on a Form 1099-MISC for those receiving more than \$600) and expenses for child care supplies. There are therefore two line items, one for "Child Care Compensation" which is grouped with "Compensation and Benefits" and one for the child care committee, to cover supplies and other non-compensation costs.
2. What was previously called "dues and subscriptions," which was the costs of periodicals, has been combined with the budget for the Library Committee.

Expenses

The most significant changes in budgeted expenses can be summarized as follows:

1. There are several changes in the line items that relate to the meeting secretary, and there are several footnotes that explain where the budget numbers come from. The personnel committee has not yet made a final decision on how to replace Lyle Jenks, but it appears virtually certain that fewer hours will be required of the meeting secretary because the job description is changing. Last year's budget of 20 hours per week for the secretary included cleaning services that will probably be handled differently in the future. (See below.) The First Day School actually used very little of Lyle's time, but the administrative support of the Friends International Center at Ramallah took up more than 100 hours of Lyle's time (for which the meeting received "other income" of \$1,700). The attached budget is therefore based on the assumption that after April 1 the necessary hours will be reduced from more than 20 per week to only 12, but at a slightly higher hourly rate (\$14/hour instead of \$12/hour) because health insurance and FUM pension contributions will end. (They are included in the budget for only the first three months.)
2. Because a new secretary will most likely not be cleaning the meetinghouse, the property committee is now considering how that should be done in the future. Because of this uncertainty, the budget includes a 10% increase in possible future cleaning costs.

Incomes

On the income side:

1. The income from the use of the meetinghouse has been reduced because of concerns about the viability of one of our tenants.
2. Budgeted contributions have been adjusted to produce a balanced budget, the result of which is a decrease in budgeted contributions. There are lines at the end of the budget that show the number of member and attender households (125 and 37), the numbers contributing (79 and 37), and the average amounts contributed or to be contributed per person.

This somewhat leaner operating budget, with smaller budgeted contributions, is presented to the Meeting in the hope and expectation that our members and attenders will then be able to contribute more of their financial resources to the upcoming building campaign.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel B. Evans
Treasurer

Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting

FY 2008 Proposed Operating Budget and FY 2007 Operating Budget vs. Actual

	FY 2008					FY 2007		
	Proposed Budget	Increase (Decrease) over 2007 Actual		Increase (Decrease) over 2007 Budget		Actual	Budget	Variance
	\$\$	\$\$	%	\$\$	%	\$\$	\$\$	\$\$
Income								
4000 - Contributions								
4010 - Members	57,841	(8,941)	-13.4%	(3,202)	-5.2%	66,782	61,043	5,739
4020 - Attenders	6,800	(1,339)	-16.5%	(200)	-2.9%	8,139	7,000	1,139
4030 - Other Contributions	0	0	NA	0	NA	0	0	0
Subtotal 4000 - Contributions	64,641	(10,280)	-13.7%	(3,402)	-5.0%	74,921	68,043	6,878
4100 - Events & Activities								
4110 - P & S C Fundraising	0	(1,012)	-100.0%	0	NA	1,012	0	1,012
4120 - First Day School Fundraising	0	(100)	-100.0%	0	NA	100	0	100
4190 - Other Committee Fundraising	0	(109)	-100.0%	0	NA	109	0	109
Subtotal 4100 - Events & Activities	0	(1,221)	-100.0%	0	NA	1,221	0	1,221
4200 - Use of Meeting House	2,400	(1,479)	-38.1%	(1,100)	-31.4%	3,879	3,500	379
4300 - Investment Income								
4310 - Interest & Dividends	3,500	(1,416)	-28.8%	(500)	-12.5%	4,916	4,000	916
4340 - Gains/Losses Realized	0	(97)	-100.0%	0	NA	97	0	97
4350 - Gains/Losses Unrealized	0	(381)	-100.0%	0	NA	381	0	381
Subtotal 4300 - Investment Inc.	3,500	(1,894)	-35.1%	(500)	NA	5,394	4,000	1,394
4400 - Other Income/Gains	0	(1,700)	-100.0%	0	NA	1,700	0	1,700
Total Income	70,541	(16,574)	-19.0%	(5,002)	-6.6%	87,115	75,543	11,572
Expense								
7100 - Personnel Costs								
7120 - Meeting Secretary	9,102 ¹	(1,149)	-11.2%	(1,112)	-10.9%	10,250	10,214	36
7130 - Child Care Compensation	2,900	144	5.2%	0	0.0%	2,756	2,900	(144)
7140 - Payroll Tax	829 ^{1a}	45	5.7%	(148)	-15.1%	784	977	(193)
7150 - Workers' Compensation Ins.	280	2	0.7%	(5)	-1.8%	278	285	(7)
7160 - FUM Pension	158 ^{1b}	(355)	-69.3%	158	NA	513	0	513
7170 - Health Insurance	1,187 ²	(1,493)	-55.7%	(1,738)	-59.4%	2,680	2,925	(245)
Subtotal 7100 - Personnel Costs	14,455	(2,807)	-16.3%	(2,846)	-16.4%	17,262	17,301	(39)
7200 - Office and Administrative								
7210 - Office Supplies	550	(220)	-28.6%	250	83.3%	770	300	470
7220 - Telephone	900	47	5.6%	250	38.5%	853	650	203
7230 - Computer & Internet Exps	400	132	49.1%	(80)	-16.7%	268	480	(212)
7240 - Printing & Postage	2,600	25	1.0%	(400)	-13.3%	2,575	3,000	(425)
7250 - Legal and Professional	0	(395)	-100.0%	0	NA	395	0	395
7290 - Miscellaneous Expense	200	56	39.0%	0	0.0%	144	200	(56)
Subtotal 7200 - Office and Adm.	4,650	(354)	-7.1%	20	0.4%	5,004	4,630	374

	FY 2008					FY 2007				
	Proposed Budget	Increase (Decrease) over 2007 Actual		Increase (Decrease) over 2007 Budget		Actual	Budget	Variance		
7300 – Building & Grounds										
7310 - Electric	900	49	5.7%	50	5.9%	852	850	2		
7320 - Gas Heat	2,500	2	0.1%	(500)	-16.7%	2,498	3,000	(502)		
7330 - Water and Sewer	550	45	8.9%	0	0.0%	505	550	(45)		
7340 - Repairs and Replacement	6,000	(334)	-5.3%	(2,800)	-31.8%	6,334	8,800	(2,466)		
7350 - Property Insurance	2,200	119	5.7%	500	29.4%	2,081	1,700	381		
7360 - Housekeeping & Supplies	400	83	26.2%	100	33.3%	317	300	17		
7370 - Cleaning Services	2,200 ³	1,687	329.1%	200	10.0%	513	2,000	(1,487)		
7380 - City of Phila. Contrib	500	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	500	500	0		
7390 - New Property Maintenance Exps	1,600 ⁶	1,600	NA	(100)	-5.9%	0	1,700	(1,700)		
Subtotal 7300 – Building & Grounds	16,850	3,251	23.9%	(2,550)	-13.1%	13,599	19,400	(5,801)		
7400 - Committee Expenses										
7410 - Care and Counsel	100	55	122.2%	(150)	-60.0%	45	250	(205)		
7415 - Child Care	100	100	NA	100	NA	0	0	0		
7420 - Finance Committee	1,500 ⁵	1,500	NA	0	0.0%	0	1,500	(1,500)		
7425 - Forum Committee	250	53	26.8%	0	0.0%	197	250	(53)		
7430 - Hospitality Committee	100	50	100.2%	(300)	-75.0%	50	400	(350)		
7435 - Interfaith Hospitality	500	192	62.4%	(150)	-23.1%	308	650	(342)		
7440 - Library Com. (Subscriptions)	250	131	110.2%	(130)	-34.2%	119	380	(261)		
7450 - Outreach Committee	400 ⁶	336	529.8%	0	0.0%	64	400	(336)		
7455 - Peace & Social Concerns	250	19	8.2%	0	0.0%	231	250	(19)		
7460 - Property Committee	600 ⁶	600	NA	0	0.0%	0	600	(600)		
7465 - Religious Educ/1st Day	600	209	53.5%	(450)	-42.9%	391	1,050	(659)		
7475 - Worship & Ministry	400	240	150.0%	(200)	-33.3%	160	600	(440)		
Subtotal 7400 - Committee Expenses	5,050	3,485	222.8%	(1,280)	-20.2%	1,565	6,330	(4,765)		
7500 – Covenants and Contributions										
7510 - Yearly Meeting	24,786 ⁴	1,604	6.9%	1,604	6.9%	23,182	23,182	0		
7520 - Quarterly Meeting	1,250	50	4.2%	50	4.2%	1,200	1,200	0		
7530 - Grants and Gifts	3,500	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3,500	3,500	0		
Subtotal 7600 – Covenants and Contributions	29,536	1,654	0.0%	1,654	5.9%	27,882	27,882	0		
Total Expense	70,541	5,229	8.0%	(5,002)	-6.6%	65,312	75,543	(10,231)		
Net Income	0	(21,803)		0		21,803	0	21,803		
MEMBERS/Contributions (125)	79	732	(113)	-13.4%	(41)	-5.2%	79	845	773	73
ATTENDERS/Contributions (72)	37	184	(36)	-16.5%	(5)	-2.9%	37	220	189	31

Notes:

¹ \$12/hour for 87½ hrs/month for 3 months; 12 hrs/week for 9 months

^{1a} 8% of compensation (including 3/12ths cleaning)

^{1b} 5% of compensation (including cleaning) for 3 months

² Based on projected rates for FMHG-400 for three months

³ Additional compensation for Secretary for first 3 months

⁴ Reflects 5% increase for FYB 7/1/2008

⁵ Carryover of unpaid audit expense

⁶ As requested by committee clerk

Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting
Monthly Meeting for Business
16 March 2008

Philip Jones clerked the meeting for business, at which 35 Friends were present. The meeting began with a period of worship and reading of the query on meeting for business. The clerk described a request by a Friend for worship focusing on individual responses to war tax resistance, following CHMM's approval of a policy on employees who are war-tax resisters. One Friend expressed a desire for the courage to resist; others sought to broaden the question by asking what positive vision we could offer; whether we were addressing the roots of war by focusing on personal taxes rather than holding our political representatives accountable for the national budget and its heavy reliance on borrowed money; and whether this focus was a way of avoiding a more difficult question. Another group of Friends gave messages about this issue as an example of the Meeting's relationship to individual leadings. One reflected on the community's responsibilities of testing and discernment and, asking how the Meeting could not commit itself to a rightly-ordered leading, described the strength of the community as willingness to act as a community. Another suggested that war-tax resistance is a personal scruple that Meetings can recognize without uniting with and that each Friend must find and live into his or her own witness. A third noted that Friends meetings have long struggled with war-tax resistance but it has always remained an individual witness, and asked how the Meeting can support individuals and how Friends can keep building a society that takes away the occasion of war. The clerk observed that the Meeting should look for additional opportunities to consider this issue.

Review of Minutes: The February minutes were **approved**.

Worship & Ministry: Milena Hynes, member of Worship & Ministry and the Meeting's clearness committee to consider the proposed minute of religious service for Laura Melly, gave the second reading of the minute:

Chestnut Hill Monthly Meeting recognizes a corporate ministry in religious education and nurturing faithfulness, in which many of our members are actively involved. We affirm and support our member Laura Melly in her call to this ministry of spiritual nurture within the Religious Society of Friends. Since the early 1990s Laura has been supporting both individuals and organizations. She is former director of the Friends Board Training and Support Project and has both taught and served as a consultant to students at Pendle Hill. She works with Friends General Conference's Traveling Ministries Program, and also responds to invitations from monthly meetings and other groups to lead workshops. In addition, she often supports other workshop leaders.

She is now embarking on a nationwide program sponsored by the School of the Spirit and co-sponsored by Pendle Hill to support and develop Friends called to public forms of ministry. This program draws upon our rich history of ministry and seeks to uphold and advance this tradition in a way that meets today's needs. Laura will be one of the instructors in the Way of Ministry program, which is scheduled to begin at Pendle Hill in Fall 2008-Spring 2009.

In all her endeavors, Laura brings a loving intelligence and patience. She has a gift for discerning needs and finding creative ways to meet them. She fosters connections between individuals and organizations that are constructive and enriching. We have

experienced Laura's work among Friends as being guided by the Spirit and contributing to the vitality of our Society. We are grateful for her active participation in our meeting. As she travels among Friends, we send our blessings with her and commend her to your care.

Meeting approved, with one Friend asking Worship & Ministry to take up the question of how, beyond annual reports in meeting for business, to connect the Meeting with individuals carrying such minutes. **Meeting approved Theresa McCooe, Brie Radis, and Shelley Hedlund to serve on an anchoring committee for Laura.** Worship & Ministry may bring forward additional names in the future. A Friend noted that gender imbalance continues to be an issue on the oversight committees for individuals with minutes of religious service.

Care & Counsel: Meg Mitchell, clerk, gave the second reading of Magdalen Lawton's membership application and confirmed that Magdalen has resigned from Trinity Lutheran. **Meeting approved.** Mickey Abraham, Ellen Deacon, and Eileen Flanagan will welcome Magdalen.

Meg also reported from the clearness committee for the marriage of Ernest Cuff and Ellen Deacon. The other members of the committee were Charlie and Shirley Philips and Carla White. The committee reported that although Ernie and Ellen had formed a deep relationship quickly, they have tested that relationship; they are able to talk with each other and to disagree, and they are ready to face a variety of challenges. The committee recommended that the Meeting take this marriage under its care. **Meeting approved, and approved Dan and Storm Evans and Kathy Miller as the oversight committee for the marriage.** Ernie and Ellen are planning for a wedding on May 10.

Building Oversight Committee: Phil Jones reported that the committee has received its charge and begun meeting regularly. Members are Laura Melly, Nell Kahil, George Garrettson, Dylan Steinberg, Jean Warrington, Storm Evans and Phil Jones. A member of the committee added that the committee's charge includes facilitating communication and advised all CHMM committees that the Building Oversight Committee would soon be in touch to ask for responses to the question, what are your dreams for the next five years?

Client Committee: Storm Evans, convenor, reported that the Client Committee is meeting every couple of weeks. They are working to overcome the hurdles of geographic separation and busy schedules to improve the communication between James Bradberry and James Turrell. James Bradberry is beginning a new design phase, and the committee hopes a design will be ready for the Meeting to review in April, probably on a Saturday afternoon. In response to a question about whether Carol Franklin and Andropogon Associates are still involved, Storm noted that landscape planning has not been needed in this stage of planning, but they are still engaged.

One Friend asked about availability of a video about a Turrell skyspace in Yorkshire. Phil Jones responded that the video would be showing during the CHMM art show and that additional copies would be available.

Campaign Committee: Christie Duncan-Tessmer reported that the Campaign Committee is working with the Personnel Committee to interview candidates for the campaign coordinator position. They are also gathering other people to work on the campaign: committee members from both inside and outside CHMM; advisors, who are people outside the Meeting who have specialized information that will be useful for the campaign, such as expertise in green

construction; and two advisor chairs. James Turrell has agreed to be an advisor chair. A subcommittee is working to raise local awareness of James Turrell and his work. The committee has also adopted a policy of making childcare available for all committee meetings. Dan Evans, treasurer, added that a separate corporation to receive donations from foundations and individuals outside the Meeting has been formed, and he and Jon Landau are working on the application for 501(c)3 tax-exempt status for that corporation. One Friend expressed a concern about how much money will be spent on professional help for the campaign and whether it will have a negative impact on the responsibility for and commitment to the campaign felt by all members of the Meeting community.

Treasurer's Report: In response to the desire expressed at the February meeting for business for CHMM to increase its grants and gifts in 2008 and make gifts to major Quaker institutions out of operating funds, Dan Evans, treasurer, reported on the Finance Committee's recommendation for these gifts in 2008. He distributed a list of proposed contributions for 2008, which consisted of increased contributions to NPIHN, NIM, FCNL, FGC, FWCC, AFSC, *Friends Journal*, Fair Hill Burial Ground, and Stapeley of Germantown, and a new contribution to the Quaker Information Center, for a total increase of \$1,500 to the Grants and Gifts line of operating expenses over the amount presented last month. A member of the Finance Committee added that the effect of this recommendation was to raise both operating expenses and budgeted contributions income by \$1,500 for 2008. **Meeting approved.** One Friend applauded this move toward the Meeting giving gifts out of its present income rather than the money of previous generations. Dan confirmed that he would send out the checks quickly, since the end of the fiscal year is in sight for several of these organizations.

Dan also sought approval for a change in CHMM bank accounts. Currently the Meeting has a checking account and an investment account with PNC. However, Citizens Bank has a more convenient branch location, allows transfer of funds between accounts, and pays interest on its checking accounts. Finance Committee did look into credit unions and local banks as possibilities, but none offered comparable benefits. On behalf of the Finance Committee, Dan proposed the following minute:

The officers of the Meeting are authorized to open a new checking account and a new money market account with Citizens Bank, giving signature authority to the Clerk, Philip Jones; the Assistant Clerk, Eileen Flanagan; the Treasurer, Daniel Evans; and the clerk of the Finance Committee, Dona Garrettson; and with two signatures required for checks in excess of \$500.

Meeting approved. The PNC investment account, which contains Yarnall and Building Fund money, will remain at PNC.

Finally, Dan reported that Finance Committee has been working with the Building Oversight Committee on developing a construction budget and has responded to the annual PYM Financial Stewardship Survey on behalf of CHMM.

Nominating Committee: Dona Garrettson, clerk, presented the slate of membership for committees. She noted that Nominating Committee is still looking to add names for the Worship & Ministry (Friends serving on W&M must be members of a monthly meeting of the Religious Society of Friends), Religious Education, and Hospitality Committees. The Tuition Aid Committee, which disburses scholarship money for tuition at Friends schools and fees for Friends camps, needs one more person, who must be a CHMM member who does not have

children currently attending a Friends school. Finally Nominating Committee is still seeking an PYM Annual Fund representative for CHMM.

Questions about the Child Care Committee led to the description of its charge as serving as a point of contact for committees needing to arrange child care for events. The Nominating Committee slate listed the committee as consisting of representatives from Meeting for Business, Worship & Ministry, and Religious Education (still open). Friends felt that Forum Committee should also have a representative, as another committee regularly involved with events requiring childcare, and Mickey Abraham volunteered to serve as the Forum Committee representative.

Meeting approved the slate as a whole and minuted its thanks to Nominating Committee, particularly for bringing new people onto various committees.

Personnel Committee: Phil Jones reported on the paid positions that will soon be open at CHMM. The Campaign Committee is pleased with the pool of applicants for the campaign coordinator position. The secretary position has not been posted yet, but word is out informally. One Friend asked that the Personnel Committee add filing to the responsibilities listed in the secretary position description.

Interim Meeting: George Garrettson reported on the February meeting of Interim Meeting, which meets monthly to carry on the work of PYM between Annual Sessions. There was an update on preparations for Annual Sessions March 28-30, where the theme will be “How are We Doing on Peace?” This ties in with PYM’s plans for a major conference of the historic peace churches a year from now. Also, a committee working on restructuring Interim Meeting gave a report in which they proposed that Interim Meeting meet on Saturday during the day 4 or 5 times a year, rather than the current arrangement of meeting monthly on a weekday evening, in hopes of drawing younger Friends. The committee also is proposing to reduce the size of Interim Meeting, perhaps by moving to representation on the quarterly meeting rather than the monthly meeting level. The report, which will be discussed in April, will be available through the CHMM website. Finally, PYM held a threshing session on the future of the Burlington Meeting House, now in use as a conference center but not doing well financially, on March 9.

Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting: Phil Anthony reported that Frankford and Unity Meetings are continuing their discussions and he urged Friends to hold them in prayer. The financial records of Philadelphia Quarter are in good order, and most of the surplus that the Quarter had in the past has been spent. The Quarter’s budget for 2009 calls for approximately \$9,500 of income and \$10,000 of expenses, mostly for the support of organizations under the care of the Quarter. There will be a Philadelphia Quarter picnic this summer, probably in August, perhaps at Fair Hill Burial Ground. The next Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting will be at CHMM on June 1. Phil urged Chestnut Hill Friends to plan to come.

Announcements: Promotional materials on the “greening” of Friends Center are available at CHMM. Worship & Ministry is seeking volunteers to host one in another round of opportunities to eat together and hold the building process in the Light; if able to host, contact Ellen Deacon. Friends are invited to write in a memory book for Lyle Jenks, which will be in the gathering room. If interested in AVP training at the end of April, contact Jorge Arauz or Ruth Pauly. If able to bring fruit for lunch before Meeting for Business, contact Mickey Abraham or Nell Kahil. Property Committee expressed its thanks to those Friends who helped remove a downed tree as part of the March work day.

Closing: The Meeting minuted its appreciation to Lyle Jenks for his years of service as our secretary. We hold him in the Light as he prepares to move back to the Finger Lakes region of New York State, where he grew up. His contributions to the life of Chestnut Hill Meeting over his tenure are too numerous to mention; Lyle's exhaustive knowledge of Friends has helped to keep our community connected to the wider world of Friends.

Meeting for business closed with worship.

Amey Hutchins, recording secretary

Gifts from Operating Income

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Northwest Interfaith Hospitality Network	1,000	1,100
Neighborhood Interfaith Movement	600	700
Friends Committee on National Legislation	700	750
Friends General Conference	500	550
Friends World Committee for Consultation	400	450
American Friends Service Committee	300	350
Quaker Information Center		300
Friends Journal		300
Fair Hill Burial Ground		250
Stapely in Germantown		250
Total	<hr/> 3,500	5,000

Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting
Monthly Meeting for Business
20 April 2008

Philip Jones clerked the meeting for business, at which 31 Friends were present. The meeting began with a period of worship and reading of the query on spiritual nurture, ministry, and religious education.

Greening of Friends Center: Miriam Schaefer, member of Radnor Meeting and clerk of the Fundraising Committee for the green renovation of Friends Center, made a short presentation to inform Chestnut Hill Meeting about the project and to ask for financial support from CHMM and from individual Friends for this Quaker witness. The goal of the project is to make the building completely independent of fossil fuels by means such as a vegetative roof, solar panels, and geothermal wells. The original fundraising goal was \$2 million, but they have raised \$3.78 million and set a new goal of \$4 million. The campaign ends at the end of June. Miriam spoke of the power of offering a positive outreach and also noted that the green building project is fiscally responsible, as the project will pay for itself in 6 to 8 years, or even a shorter time as the price of oil rises.

In response to questions about the fundraising process, Miriam explained that most of the funds raised did not come from individual Friends, although there was one major gift from an individual. Funding sources included the Philadelphia Water Department, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, funds for historic preservation, and PYM funds. The equity partners who own the building (Central Philadelphia Monthly Meeting, AFSC, and PYM) raised \$5 million together apart from the campaign. The total cost of the project is \$12.5 million.

The clerk noted that as the CHMM budget for the coming year has already been approved, a one-time appropriation would be necessary for the Meeting to make a donation. A number of Friends spoke in support of making a donation as a Meeting, seeing a connection between the Friends Center project and the new meetinghouse project, and feeling excitement among Quakers both at CHMM and in the United States about the Friends Center project. One example of the Spirit moving at CHMM in connection to these issues is the recent decision to donate the proceedings of the tag sale to the Green Meetinghouse Fund of Quaker Earthcare Witness. Friends were also interested in encouraging individuals at CHMM to make their own donations, and Miriam confirmed that the Friends Center project tracks individual donations by monthly meeting.

Laura Melly and Kathy Miller volunteered to meet with the treasurer to bring a proposal for a CHMM donation to the May meeting for business.

Review of Minutes: The March minutes were **approved with the correction that the recommendation for 2008 grants and gifts in the treasurer's report was from the Finance Committee, not the treasurer.** Ellen Deacon informed the Meeting that although the minutes correctly report the information that was given in March about the plans for Ernie's and her wedding, the wedding is going to be rescheduled for a later date.

Care & Counsel: Dylan Steinberg brought forward the name of Thomas Taylor for a four-year term on the Nominating Committee. A new member of Nominating Committee is named by Care & Counsel for approval by Meeting for Business each year and in the fourth year clerks the committee. **Meeting approved Thomas Taylor to serve on Nominating Committee and minuted its thanks to outgoing clerk Dona Garrettson for her four years of service.** Dona thanked the other members of the committee.

Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting
Monthly Meeting for Business
20 April 2008

Peace & Social Concerns: Co-clerk Kathy Miller presented a report of the P&SC response to FCNL's annual request for input from monthly meetings on its legislative priorities. Overall, the priorities have changed little since last year, but those who met and reflected on the priorities urged FCNL to place more emphasis on the need for "an earth restored" and its impact on the other priorities; to include fair trade under the priority of "a society with equity and justice for all"; and to add sexism as one of the inequities FCNL is open to addressing as way opens.

Meeting approved the response to FCNL.

Campaign Committee: Jon Landau reported that he and the treasurer have set up a nonprofit corporation, named the Chestnut Hill Meeting Building Project Corporation, to be registered with the state and the federal government for the purpose of receiving tax-deductible donations from sources unable or unwilling to donate directly to CHMM as a religious organization, although it too can receive tax-deductible donations for the building. CHMM will appoint the board of directors, who will serve staggered terms, make decisions unanimously, and report their decisions to the Meeting. Friends expressed concerns about having two groups working in parallel and about the board of directors not clearly being identified as under the control of the Meeting. Jon emphasized that the purpose of the corporation is simply to receive donations; fundraising is the responsibility of the Campaign Committee. The corporation will cease to exist after the financing of the new meetinghouse is done. The treasurer agreed to make the articles of incorporation and the bylaws of the corporation available to the Meeting. **Meeting approved Daniel Evans to a term of 1 year, Jon Landau to a term of 2 years, and Shirley Philips to a term of 3 years on the board of directors.**

Christine Olinger presented a set of recommendations of campaign policies: that the standard pledge period be three years; that pledges not specifying the amount of a gift not be counted towards the campaign; that donors be recognized with some permanent display in alphabetical order without gift amounts; that CHMM conduct a combined appeal to members and attenders for the campaign and for operating expenses; that CHMM acquire a fund development database system; and that planned gifts or bequests not be actively sought for the campaign. Friends had several concerns. Some asked for more information about the idea of a combined appeal and how it would be conducted. Others were uneasy with the recommendation about donor recognition and asked if it was consistent with Quaker testimonies. While one Friend asked Friends to recognize that the committee was proposing a more egalitarian approach by not listing donors according to the size of their gifts, and another reminded Friends that this decision did not need to be made immediately and that it would be necessary to trust the committees, others questioned the source of this recommendation. Another concern was that the language of pledges was uncomfortably legalistic; a Friend with experience from other Quaker organizations suggested that the concept of commitment rather than pledge might work better, and Friends agreed. **With the change from pledge to commitment, Meeting approved the recommendations on commitment length, unspecified commitments, acquisition of a fund database system, and planned gifts. The Meeting asked the Campaign Committee to continue to work on the donor recognition and combined appeal recommendations.**

Christine then presented the "Bill of Rights" for donors that individuals soliciting gifts will follow. These are a set of principles concerning different types of information to which donors are entitled, confidentiality issues, and the nature of interactions between fundraisers and donors. The Campaign Committee adapted slightly the Bill of Rights from the Trust for Philanthropy of

Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting
Monthly Meeting for Business
20 April 2008

the American Association of Fund-Raising Counsel (AAFRC). The Campaign Committee took the right of donors to choose not to have their names shared with other organizations and replaced it with an assurance that donor names will not be shared. **One Friend, noting that a separate corporation had just been set up, asked the Campaign Committee to adjust this principle to make it clear that donor names may be shared between organizations within the Meeting. The Meeting also asked the Campaign Committee to rewrite a principle concerning donors' knowledge and expectations of a "governing board" to represent more accurately the context of a Quaker meeting.**

Client Committee: Storm Evans, convenor, reported that James Bradberry and James Turrell met in the last month. Signe Wilkinson was also present at that meeting and informed the Client Committee that it went well. The Client Committee has seen and responded to a preliminary design from James Bradberry based on the work done through last fall. Client Committee will see an updated version based on the meeting with James Turrell, which will then be presented to the Meeting on Tuesday 6 May at 7 p.m.

One Friend asked whether green construction was still a priority in the design. Storm responded that the design includes southerly exposure for passive solar heating, a vegetative roof, and multiple sources of natural light. Ron Celentano is helping to keep the Client Committee focused on these issues. Another Friend expressed concern about the sprawling nature of an earlier design and asked whether the planned meetinghouse is one story. Storm noted that at this point the design is more compact, no longer surrounding a courtyard, and is for a one-story building.

Coordinating Committee: Phil Jones explained that due to the increasing unease of Friends both at CHMM and elsewhere with the words "oversight" and "overseers," the former Building Oversight Committee is now the Coordinating Committee. Its role is to keep track of the work of the Client Committee and Campaign Committee and to keep CHMM informed.

Laura Melly announced that on Tuesday 13 May at 7 p.m., one week after the design presentation, Coordinating Committee will offer an opportunity for CHMM to come together and digest the presentation. The conversation will focus not only on the building but also on the Meeting community and its work, asking questions such as, what will be able to do? And who do we think we are and will be? Preliminary results from the survey will be shared. Friends are encouraged to respond to the survey as soon as possible, although the original deadline has passed. Nell Kahil reported that Jean Warrington, who as a former teacher and head of a preschool is uniquely suited to the consideration of the possibility of sharing our new building with a preschool program, is very excited about the conversations she has had with Abington Friends School about a potential preschool.

Announcements: George Garrettson announced that Friends Neighborhood Guild is in dire financial straits and is discussing laying itself down; he invited Friends who wish to help to contact him. Hollister Knowlton announced that Lutheran Family Services is looking for congregations to sponsor displaced Iraqi families and asked CHMM to consider this service. Hollister and Kathy Miller will provide more information for the newsletter. Dan Evans reported that Living Waters will no longer be renting the meetinghouse, partly due to their small numbers and their desire to find a location for a Sunday morning service. **The Meeting minuted its**

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appreciation to Living Waters for the long and friendly relationship between our communities and its regret at their departure.

Proposals for workshops for the 2008 PYM Residential Sessions (DeSales University, Center Valley, PA, July 30-August 3) are due May 7. The application form and guidelines are on the PYM website at <http://www.pym.org/pm/ann.php>.

Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting will meet at CHMM on Sunday 1 June. After meeting for worship, all Chestnut Hill Friends are invited to stay for lunch and the meeting for business of the Quarter. As the host meeting, CHMM will give a summary of its condition. Friends with items for the agenda should give them to Phil Anthony or George Garrettson.

Closing: Meeting for business closed with worship.

Amey Hutchins, recording secretary

Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting
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18 May 2008

Philip Jones clerked the meeting for business, at which 28 Friends were present. The meeting began with a period of worship and reading of the query on care of the Meeting community. One Friend, referring to a message about deep listening given earlier in meeting for worship, reflected on the ways in which e-mail is not suitable for dealing with conflict or listening deeply.

Review of Minutes: The April minutes were **approved**.

Care & Counsel: Clerk Meg Mitchell reminded Friends that some financial assistance for attending the residential sessions of PYM (July 30-August 3) is available from the Education Fund. Meg also read a letter from Brian Philips, son of Charles and Shirley Philips, in which Brian described exploring Quaker meetings in the DC area and asked to be transferred to Langley Hill Meeting (McLean,VA). **Meeting approved the application for transfer of Brian Philips.** Meg invited Friends who know Brian to assist C&C with the letter of transfer.

Peace & Social Concerns: Co-clerk Dion Lerman presented P&SC's recommendations for distribution of Yarnall grants. The P&SC members who worked on the recommendations were Dion, Stevik Kretzmann, and Jon Landau. More money was available to distribute than groups requested, so P&SC recommended that a few groups receive more than they requested and that two groups who had not applied also receive grants. The recommendation called for 11 grants ranging from \$350 to \$1,200, for a total of \$9,300. Friends expressed a concern about the appropriateness under the Yarnall guidelines of a grant to Live Oak Meeting (Houston, TX) supporting their construction of a First Day School building. Friends also felt uneasy about two grants that were recommended without applications and the substitution in meeting for business of one group whose application had been lost in place of one of the groups that had not applied. On the proposed grant to Live Oak Meeting, in addition to the question of its appropriateness, Friends expressed concern about the size of the grant (\$1,000) and about giving money to another Friends meeting to build a building. But other Friends were in favor of the grant, feeling that it was in the same vein as the donation of the tag sale proceeds to the Quaker Earthcare Witness Green Meetinghouse Fund, that our Meeting has a particular relationship with Live Oak Meeting, and that even in looking ahead to a time of intense fundraising we need to continue giving. One Friend urged the Meeting to spend more time on the issue rather than settling it quickly with Friends standing aside. **Meeting asked the Peace & Social Concerns Committee to make a revised recommendation at the June meeting for business.** In response to a question about how the Yarnall grants are publicized, Dion explained that the committee does not solicit applications, so publicity is limited to announcements after meeting for worship and in the newsletter. Another Friend, under the weight of the situation following the cyclone in Myanmar, acknowledged that aid efforts there were not within the scope of the Yarnall Fund grants but asked Friends to consider ways to help there.

Friends Center Campaign: Kathy Miller and Laura Melly served as the ad hoc committee charged with making a recommendation for a donation to the campaign for the green renovation of Friends Center, based on the sense of the meeting in April that CHMM wanted to support the campaign, and met with the treasurer. Kathy presented a recommendation that CHMM make a gift of \$10,000 from the principal of the Yarnall Fund, which would reduce the interest available for tuition assistance and P&SC grants by about \$500 per year. One Friend suggested that the Friends Center project did not rise to the level of CHMM's past substantial one-time gifts (Arch Street Meeting House, Burlington Meeting House Conference Center), but others felt that it was a lively, far-reaching witness by Quakers and that if this project represented values that are important to

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18 May 2008

CHMM, the Meeting should show its support. Other Friends called for CHMM to be generous at a time when it will need generosity; to consider a perhaps unhealthy attachment to principal; and to make this donation as one way of acknowledging that the Meeting is under the weight of the concerns of those who stood aside from deciding to build a new meetinghouse. The clerk asked the Meeting to turn to silent worship, out of which Friends gave messages encouraging Friends to disconnect this decision from our circumstances of planning a new building; calling for more seasoning; and lifting up the spirit of the Yarnall Fund as a source of support for leaps of faith and risk-taking. The clerk suggested that perhaps we were not in unity to move forward, but that assumption was questioned. One Friend who had raised earlier objections pointed that we should not assume that Friends had not shifted their positions during the course of the discussion. The clerk asked if there was unity to move forward, and **the Meeting approved the donation of \$10,000 from the principal of the Yarnall Fund.** Laura Melly will host a potluck on Saturday 31 May to give interested Friends a chance to learn more.

PYM Interim Meeting Governance: Jorge Aráuz, CHMM's alternate representative to Interim Meeting, summarized some of the important points in the Governance Project Group's recent recommendations to Interim Meeting. Interim Meeting gathers monthly to conduct the business of PYM between Annual Sessions. The Governance Project Group has proposed better preparation of representatives, building a culture of trust, having one person serve as clerk of both Annual Sessions and Interim Meeting (currently two positions held by two different people), meeting five or six times a year for a full day Saturday rather than monthly on a weeknight, and setting term limits for representatives. The Group's goals are to foster continuity between Annual Sessions and Interim Meeting, strengthen relationships between Interim Meeting and Monthly Meetings, and to expand the base of support of Interim Meeting in PYM. The Governance Project Group was formed in response to concerns about the contentiousness of Interim Meeting in past years and about its efficiency in handling ongoing business. There has been some concern about the process of distributing and approving the report: the Governance Project Group has emphasized that they want the proposal to be considered as a whole, which has made them seem unreceptive to feedback, though that may change. One Friend cautioned that the proposal blurs the distinction between Annual Sessions and Interim Meeting (renamed Continuing Sessions in the proposal) and described the strong and varied reactions to the proposal that a group of elders should be named for Continuing Sessions. Phil Anthony, CHMM representative to Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting, noted that the proposal is on the agenda for the next session of Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting, at CHMM on 1 June, and that Tom Armstrong, clerk of the Governance Project Group, might attend to discuss it. The clerk of CHMM encouraged Friends interested in further discussion of Interim Meeting and the proposal to contact Jorge or George Garrettson, CHMM's representative to Interim Meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Daniel Evans, treasurer, reported that he has filed an application for tax-exempt status for the nonprofit corporation set up by CHMM to receive donations for the building project. The 40-page application is available online; Dan is also willing to print out copies. Although CHMM is also a tax-exempt, nonprofit organization that can accept tax-deductible donations, the new corporation's purpose is to receive donations from individuals or organizations who will not donate to a religious organization.

Campaign Committee: Christine Oliger reported that the Meeting has hired Diane Dunning as the campaign manager. Christine also raised again the issue of donor recognition, which had been

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discussed last month and held over. She described research the committee had done on donor recognition by other Quaker organizations and recommended that at this time the Meeting approve the principle that there would be some permanent recognition of donors, leaving the questions of how and where to later in the campaign. Friends remained uneasy with the idea of permanent recognition visible in the new meetinghouse and continued to question its consistency with Quaker testimonies. Some Friends emphasized possible values of the recognition, such as egalitarianism in display, historical value, celebration of diversity of the people involved, and allowing donors to make the decision about recognition for themselves. One Friend asked if the Meeting understood that to decide against permanent recognition of donors would be to handicap the campaign committee. Another offered Bible stories that celebrated giving and cautioned against misunderstanding humility as hiding ourselves. Others expressed concerns about the idea of permanency, about ornamentation, about proximity of some display to the worship room, and about moving away from Quaker values and the teachings of Jesus. Many felt that examples of recognition from Quaker schools were not necessarily transferable to a meetinghouse. One Friend suggested that some Friends uncomfortable with the recommendation meet with the Campaign Committee to try to work out a solution. **The clerk asked the Campaign Committee to collect concrete examples of donor recognition in meetinghouses and asked for volunteers to discuss the issue with the Campaign Committee. Ellen Deacon volunteered.**

Client Committee: Storm Evans, clerk, reported on James Bradberry's presentation of a new design to the Meeting on Tuesday 6 May. Jean Warrington's video of the presentation, running approximately one hour, is available in the Meeting office. Storm described the reception of the design as favorable but including many concerns about environmental impact, the worship space, and the entrance into the building. The Client Committee had a meeting scheduled with James Bradberry on 19 May to discuss those concerns. Other focuses of the committee at the moment are gathering information about LEED certification and what professional assistance, in the form of a liaison between Meeting, architect, and building contractor, will be needed next. The committee is also arranging another meeting between James Bradberry and James Turrell. At the Coordinating Committee dinner on Tuesday 13 May, Signe Wilkinson collected input on what makes a building feel like a meetinghouse and examples of modern buildings with a sense of sacred space. Copies of notes from the 6 May meeting, 13 May meeting, and the input gathered by Signe at the 13 May meeting were available.

Many Friends felt as though concerns about the plans presented were not being given sufficient weight. One Friend with very strong feelings against the design had not felt free to express them at the 6 May meeting and said that the building gave no sense of welcome or Quaker tradition. A member of the Client Committee said that there were many things in the plan that were right functionally, but that it didn't excite or inspire. That Friend expressed serious concerns about James Bradberry's involvement in the project and about people with strong views not sharing them, and asked to sit down with concerned Friends and have more chances to listen. Another Friend shared a sense that the building committees are full of wonderful Friends who are pouring themselves into this effort but are too separate from the Friends with concerns and expressed a hope that James Bradberry would take more opportunities to listen to Friends with concerns. A Friend who had received the design more positively thought there was hope that James Turrell's contribution to the plan would bring inspiration to it. Another Friend described the 6 May meeting as having included a mix of enthusiasm, positive feeling, and dissatisfaction with aspects of the building and reminded

Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting
Monthly Meeting for Business
18 May 2008

Friends that this is a continuing process, slower and more painful than expected, but necessary for a good outcome. Storm summarized what she heard: the design is not ready yet and that the Meeting needs more chances to get together over this.

Coordinating Committee: Phil Jones explained that the Coordinating Committee had planned for a presentation on conversations with Abington Friends School about a satellite preschool in the new meetinghouse, but that presentation was predicated on adapting James Bradberry's basic design with significant modifications to create a larger First Day School/preschool area, and he understood that the Meeting was not ready to accept the basic design. So he invited Friends to reflect more abstractly on the role of a weekday tenant. The Meeting was very clear that a primary goal in planning for the new building is for it to be used throughout the week. Friends had many misgivings, however, about the heaviest use being by a single child care operation. Concerns included security requirements that would exclude the Meeting and other community groups from the preschool part of the building during the week; the cost of meeting the needs of a preschool; possible conflict between the First Day School and preschool programs due to two groups feeling ownership of the same space; and lack of sense of mission in primary partnership with a child care operation. More generally, Friends were concerned about changing the building plan to meet the needs of a particular tenant and about engaging in a relationship that is primarily a business proposition rather than a ministry or mission.

Friends interested in keeping the preschool option open encouraged the Meeting to think of this as a time when it was possible to enter into a deeper collaboration with a community partner than will be possible after the plans are completed; reminded the Meeting that the desire to share space with a preschool had been a crucial element in our discovery of the limits on accessibility of our own building; called for more contact between AFS and CHMM, either by having representatives of AFS come to meeting for business or by having a group from CHMM visit the AFS summer preschool program; and asked whether we should consider making these changes so as to have the flexibility to share with a child care program in the future, even if not this one.

Friends wanted more financial information, both about how much it would cost to adapt the plans and how much the changes would affect the cost of the new building. Adapting the plans would cost about \$5,400, which is not a large amount compared to the campaign as a whole, but one Friend was concerned that the current plan is within our resources and the adapted plan would not be. Another Friend felt that continued conversation with AFS was disingenuous and modifying the plans wasteful if the modified plan will not be financially feasible.

A member of the Coordinating Committee asked for volunteers for a group to work on the question of weekday tenants, including the AFS proposal and possibly other types of programs; Irene McHenry, Jean Warrington, Laura Melly and Storm Evans comprise that ad hoc group. One Friend expressed a sense that much of meeting for business had felt like wandering in the wilderness and that more clarity would be a sign of being guided, and asked if the Meeting was in harmony with Spirit. Another Friend lifted up the examples of Friends speaking their minds and hearts as a sign of a healthy meeting for business and offered thanks to the clerk.

Closing: Meeting for business closed with worship.

Amey Hutchins, recording secretary

Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting
Monthly Meeting for Business
28 June 2008

Philip Jones clerked a brief called meeting for business, at which 35 Friends were present. The clerk distributed a summary of the threshing session of 22 June about the possibility of partnering with Abington Friends School and tailoring the plans for a new building to their needs as a tenant. This possibility had raised concerns about the number of students and amount of space involved. A threshing session is not intended to lead to a decision, so the clerk called a meeting for business for the Meeting to seek unity in its way forward with regard to AFS. Friends had earlier requested more information from AFS, and the clerk sent a request for this information and had not received a response. He suggested that no response was expected that would affect the Meeting's decision, and Friends agreed. One Friend, who expressed gratitude for the work already done, reminded Friends to reach for unity and be grounded in listening for God's will, although there did seem to be unity on this issue. Another Friend suggested that the Meeting think not in terms of making a decision but being led. The Meeting was clear that it felt led to continue with plans for a new building that are not oriented to a single tenant.

Amey Hutchins, recording secretary

Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting Monthly Meeting for Business - 21 September 2008

Philip Jones clerked the meeting for business, at which 37 Friends were present. The meeting began with a period of worship and the reading of the Queries on Social Responsibility and Witness. Friends reflected on the queries in silence.

Review of June minutes: Jorge Aráuz, who was absent from the June meeting, clarified that he is still connected to the Friends Peace Teams. Another Friend said it would be helpful if future minutes included the dollar amounts of grants to organizations. **The minutes were approved. One Friend pointed out that there was also a called meeting for business in June and that these minutes were not included. The clerk said it was an oversight and that they would be brought for approval to the October business meeting.**

Care and Counsel: For the first reading of Abbe Forman's membership application, Mickey Abraham reported for the clearness committee (Mickey Abraham, Dylan Steinberg and Signe Wilkinson) that met with Abbey on August 4. Abbey had belonged to the LGBT synagogue, which merged with Rodeph Shalom. Abbe was spiritually unhappy and came to visit Chestnut Hill Meeting after meeting a Quaker whom she admired. She had "a real experience" during the silence and has felt at home and spiritually nurtured since attending CHM. Her partner, Shelly, is happy that Abbe has found something so fulfilling to her and finds that "Abbe is a better person for it." She already serves the meeting on the Peace and Social Concerns Committee and as the newsletter editor. The committee recommended Abbe for membership.

For the first reading of Daniel Heider's membership application, Dan Evans reported for the clearness committee (Dan Evans, George W. Garrison and Mindy LeMoine), which met on September 6. Dan was raised Episcopalian and learned about Quakers while attending Swarthmore College, where he began attending meeting for worship. Dan has attending meetings in Minnesota, Berkeley, and off and on at CHMM since moving to Philadelphia six years ago. He and his wife Rebecca have a two-year-old and are expecting a second child at the end of the month. Dan is already serving on the Religious Education committee. He has been to meetings for business, although not for three years, so the committee encouraged him to attend business meeting. The committee recommended Dan for membership.

Meg Mitchell, clerk of Care and Counsel, reported that Ginny Christensen has requested transfer of her membership from Media Monthly Meeting to Chestnut Hill. Sarah Whitman, Jude Brandt, and Mickey Abraham were recommended for the clearness committee. **The meeting approved.**

Meg also reported that Care and Counsel has been reaching out via telephone, mail, and email to members who have not been involved with the meeting to clarify their relationship with the meeting. In response, Claudia Brandenburg wrote from Vermont asking to be released from membership. **The meeting approved her release.**

Although Care and Counsel has narrowed down the list of inactive members, Meg reported that there were some people who did not respond to their attempts to contact them. These people were sent a final three written letters, the last one certified with signed return receipt requested. Everyone living locally was also called at the same time as the final letter. The following people did not respond in any way, **and the meeting agreed to release from membership Benjamin Newlin, J Emlen Myers, Flora Lee Loudon, Susan Bergin, and Claire Murphy.** Genevieve Whitford's name had been on the list, but she was not released from membership because the Campaign Committee hopes to contact her soon.

Meg also reminded Friends that Gihon Jordan's memorial is Saturday, Sept 27 at 2:30 at Germantown Meeting.

A Friend commended Care and Counsel for its work and lifted up the spiritual aspect of it. Friends reiterated that the importance of exploring issues like involvement in business meeting and what it means to become a Friend during clearness committees.

A Friend said that he was feeling uncomfortable with the earlier decision to delay sending a letter terminating membership to one Friend because the Campaign Committee was planning to contact her. A discussion ensued about the meeting's relationship with this member and the relationship between financial contribution and membership. The hope was expressed that the fund-raising approach could prompt an open conversation about the member's relationship with the meeting. Jon Landau, co-clerk of the Campaign Committee, agreed to keep that in mind. The clerk suggested that committees need to integrate their activities.

Worship and Ministry: Ellen Deacon presented the minute of religious service proposed for Hollister Knowlton. Hollister had a clearness committee herself, followed by a clearness committee without her to discern the meeting's relationship to her ministry. The minute states:

Chestnut Hill Monthly Meeting recognizes that our member, Hollister Knowlton, carries an ongoing concern for teaching and organizing Friends and others in order to create the potential for transformation and right relationship between humans and all of creation. We are very grateful for her modeling by lowering her personal, ecological footprint; her witness by encouraging, educating, and holding accountable the Meeting in its own discernment and stewardship practices; and her service on various Quaker and local environmental groups. We are uplifted by her fortitude and vision of and hope for recreating a sustainable human-Earth relationship: a blessed balm given the current confusion and dire outlooks about climate change. We support her call to minister to others, with prayer and by providing the grounding and testing of ongoing oversight. We commend Hollister to all, in the hope that she will be kindly received wherever she serves.

Friends suggested that the minute could also convey the spiritual aspect of this work with the addition of a word or two, and encouraged Hollister's committee to make that revision. **The meeting approved the minute and the creation of an anchoring committee comprised of Kathy Miller, Chris Elbich, and Cheryl Shipman.** Annually, Worship and Ministry will receive and relay to business meeting reports from Hollister's oversight committee. Contingent on the recommendation of this committee in its annual report, this minute of religious service shall renew yearly for a period of up to three years without further consideration by the business meeting. For renewal after three years, a new minute shall be presented to business meeting for approval that affirms and updates the sense of Hollister's service as being grounded in the life of our meeting.

Ellen reminded Friends that Worship and Ministry would be sponsoring a workshop on spiritual discernment to be led by Eileen Flanagan on Saturday, October 4 from 9-noon.

Ellen also reported that in June a group of teenagers from the Youth Arts Group in upstate New York stayed at the meetinghouse for two nights. The group left \$100 bills in contribution to the Meeting for their stay. Ellen proposed that we support their program by returning the contribution with additional money. She will draft a letter and collect funds.

Concern for Friends in the Caribbean and Bolivia: Jorge Aráuz asked for a period of silence for Friends to hold in the Light all of the people affected by the recent hurricanes. He reported that he has been receiving emails concerning Friends in Cuba. Although the Friends churches do not seem to have been heavily damaged, the sugar crop in Cuba is lost. Jamaica, the Dominican Republic, and Haiti were also hit, with death tolls particularly high in Haiti. Donating to help those in Cuba is particularly difficult because of the US embargo, so Friends in Cuba may be helped via Friends in Canada or the UK.

Organizations to which Friends could donate include: Global Giving, Save the Children, Doctors Without Borders, Oxfam, and AFSC, for Haiti. One Friend added that it is a good time for individuals to advocate to the US government to end or at least temporarily lift the restrictions to sending money to Cuba, which can't buy supplies for rebuilding because of the embargo. Information on how to contribute to various organizations doing relief work in the Caribbean will be included in the next e-mailed bulletin. If a committee feels so moved, it can follow up with a proposal.

Jorge also reminded the meeting that in June it approved funds for the Bolivia Education Fund, which helps students attend college. Two students, Rosemary Mamani and Gladys Nina Marco have begun their studies and express their gratitude. Sarah Whitman, who is working with the Middle School group, mentioned that she is looking for service opportunities that the middle schoolers could be actively involved with and asked for people to contact her with ideas.

Forum Committee: Betty Hartzell reported on the process of the Forum Committee, which usually meets in person twice per year. At their August meeting, they were in unity that their main function was to present topics of interest to the meeting, though they realized that much of their energy was going toward providing lunch before forums. Because there are other opportunities for Friends to share a meal, and because the length of lunch often makes it difficult to get people into the forum, the committee has decided to provide only beverages in the hopes that more people will be able to stay. Friends are encouraged to eat a large breakfast.

Client Committee: Storm Evans reported that the Client Committee worked over the summer on the design of the new meetinghouse. They are now working on a two-story design that will look more traditional, and intend to seek LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification (at least silver, hopefully platinum level certification). The committee has also changed its process after realizing that the meeting's feedback was not being incorporated into the architect's plans. John Gallery is now coordinating the work of Jim Bradberry, the architect, as well as Ron Celentano, environmental consultant; Carol Franklin, landscape architect; and James Turrell as skyspace artist. Storm reported that James Turrell seems to be re-energized by these changes. They hope to bring a new design to the November meeting for business.

Storm highlighted a few issues on the horizon: they have not examined the estimated cost of the new meetinghouse in over two years, nor since it became apparent that it would be two-story, so they are working on that. They are also working on a new contract with James Bradberry, since they did not originally expect the design process to take so long. (Storm's full report can be read here http://mysite.verizon.net/chestnuthillquakers/08_09_Client_Committee_Report.PDF .)

One Friend asked for clarification about whether John Gallery was still on the Client Committee. Storm explained that he was not, but that he continues to play a key role. Several Friends expressed excitement about the direction the process was heading, particularly the shift to a two-story, LEED certified building. We had a period of silence to acknowledge the importance of listening to the Spirit and each other.

Campaign Committee: Committee clerk Jon Landau reported that the Campaign Committee also met over the summer, and Diane Dunning has been working as Campaign Manager. They are trying a spiritual approach, using the book *fund-raising as a Form of Ministry*. They are now trying to bring more people into their efforts. They already have outside advisors in place: James Turrell, as lead advisor, as well as Gail Harrity, who is the CFO of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, and Ann Temkin, who is the head curator of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Jon reported that thanks to Dan Evans the meeting's tax-exempt status was also now in place, as well as our privacy statement. After some searching, they had decided on a campaign software program, E-Tapestry, which may be helpful to the meeting in other ways.

The committee has been trained on solicitation and has begun visiting and making requests of one another and are expanding to other committees. They do not want to begin fund-raising outside of the meeting until they have a building design in hand. The goal is to raise \$1.5 million from within the meeting, and \$1.5 from outside the meeting. They are working on a case statement and want to keep people aware of relevant trips and gatherings.

One Friend pointed out that the committees have been given much autonomy, and wanted to know how the meeting could get more information on developments like the new contract with Jim Bradberry. It was pointed out that some specifics, like the fund-raising policies, have already been approved by business meeting and are posted on the bulletin board. Other documents can be made available to anyone who wants them, including the contract and money received and spent. The clerk pointed out that the Coordinating Committee can play a role in keeping the meeting informed. A document will be forthcoming soon clarifying its role.

Capital Campaign Budget: Treasurer Dan Evans presented the Capital Campaign Budget for 2008-2010 (See <http://mysite.verizon.net/chestnuthillquakers/CampaignBudgetReport-080921.pdf>). He reminded the meeting that the \$3 million fund-raising goal included the costs of the campaign and added that \$3 million would not be the total cost of the building, as other funds would also be used. **The meeting approved the budget.**

Request for Traveling Minute for Carolyn Schodt: The clerk explained that Carolyn would be traveling to India for three weeks, along with meeting secretary Viv Hawkins and Friends Martha Kemper, and Gretchen Castle, and that a minute from the meeting would be useful. **The meeting approved the following minute:**

Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends minutes its support of Carolyn Schodt as she travels this November 2008 with the India Connections/Friends World Committee for Consultation—Asia West Pacific Section delegation sponsored by India Friends Working Group.

We of Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting send our warm greetings to you, through our member Carolyn Schodt, and lovingly commend her to you. We hope that you may append to this minute a few words of your time together.

We pray that, through the grace of God, this travel may encourage understanding and connections among Friends and all people of India and the neighboring regions.

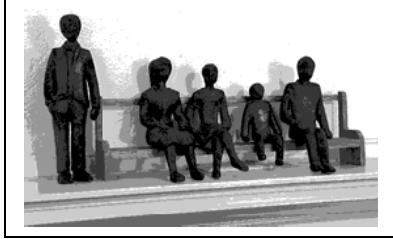
Carolyn shared that it was hoped that the trip would deepen the relationship between US and Indian Friends, support Indian Friends who don't have much access to information on Quakerism, and be a learning opportunity for the Friends from the US.

Outreach Committee Survey: Because of the late hour, Jean Warrington said she would not give her report, but explained that there was a group working on an outreach survey, and that they welcomed anyone's thoughts on outreach.

Clerk's Announcements: Phil Jones announced that he will not be available for a third year of service as clerk. He explained that he is currently spending much energy on the search for a new job. He also noted that the job of clerk has changed considerably due to the new building and that Nominating Committee was looking at how best to supervise the building project. Friends thanked Phil for his service and guidance in carrying the meeting to this point.

The meeting ended with silence.

Eileen Flanagan, acting recording clerk



CHESTNUT HILL FRIENDS MEETING

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To: Meeting for Business

From: Daniel B. Evans, Treasurer

Date: September 21, 2008

Re: Capital Campaign Budget for 2008-2010

The Finance Committee and Campaign Committee ask the Meeting to approve the attached three year budget for the \$3,000,000 capital campaign for the new meetinghouse.

Background

At a called meeting for business on December 2, 2007, the Meeting received a feasibility study from the Campaign Committee's consultants, Edward F. Swenson & Associates, for a capital campaign with a goal of raising \$3,000,000 for the new building. It was also reported that the cost of the campaign would be approximately \$200,000, and a break-down of those costs was included in the feasibility study as Appendix E.

At the January 20, 2008, meeting for business, the Meeting approved minutes constituting and empowering a campaign committee to raise the \$3 million dollar goal to complete the building project, and (among other things) empowering the Finance Committee to decide the total funding of the building project, for approval by the Meeting.

The campaign committee has begun its work, but a budget for the committee capital campaign has not yet been approved by the Meeting, and so the Finance and Campaign Committees are now asking for approval of the attached three-year budget.

The attached budget is based on the same costs recommended in Appendix E to the feasibility study, and those costs are divided among the three years the campaign is expected to last. The attached budget is also essentially the same budget that was submitted to the Internal Revenue Service as part of the application for exempt status for the separate fundraising corporation.

**Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting
Building Campaign Budget**

	2008	2009	2010	Totals
Revenues				
Contributions from members of CHMM	376,250	752,500	501,250	1,630,000
Contributions from others	311,250	622,500	436,250	1,370,000
Investment Income	500	600	400	1,500
Total	688,000	1,375,600	937,900	3,001,500
Expenses				
Campaign Manager compensation	18,750	25,000	25,000	68,750
Payroll taxes and employment costs	1,500	2,000	2,000	5,500
Consultants	18,000	31,200	31,200	80,400
Fund-raising materials and events	10,000	5,000	10,000	25,000
Office and administrative costs	5,000	5,000	5,000	15,000
Miscellaneous expenses/contingencies	1,600	1,500	1,500	4,600
Total	54,850	69,700	74,700	199,250
 Net Income/Gain	 633,150	 1,305,900	 863,200	 2,802,250
 Cumulative Income/Gain	 633,150	 1,939,050	 2,802,250	

Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting
Monthly Meeting for Business
19 October 2008

Eileen Flanagan clerked the meeting for business, at which 27 Friends were present. The meeting began with a period of worship and reading of the queries on peace. Friends reflected on the present as a time of opportunity for change and witness; on the deep challenge of loving those near at hand who see things differently; and on the relation of what goes on in our own hearts and minds to peace.

Review of Minutes: The minutes from September's meeting for business were **approved with one change**, that the reference in the Campaign Committee report to the tax-exempt status of the Meeting should instead state that the new corporation formed for fundraising purposes received 501(c)3 status. It was also noted that the minutes accurately reported incorrect information given at meeting for business: the Campaign Committee has selected GiftWorks as their campaign software, not eTapestry. The minutes from the called meeting for business of 28 June 2008 were **approved as submitted**.

Nominating Committee: Eileen Flanagan and Jean Warrington left the room and Nominating Clerk Shirley Philips clerked the following discussion. She brought forward the names of Jean Warrington to succeed Phil Jones as clerk and Eileen Flanagan to continue as assistant clerk. She noted that Jean has background as a student in Quaker schools and as a head of a Montessori school and she emphasized Jean's dedication to building community and enthusiasm for serving as clerk. Friends **approved**. Many Friends had a concern that support for the clerk should be formalized through the creation of a support committee. From a few suggestions about how the committee might be formed, Meeting agreed that **Nominating Committee should consult with Jean about potential members of a support committee and do the work of recruiting members of the committee**, with one Friend recommending past clerks of Meeting as a good source of support. Another Friend reminded the group that every member of the Meeting needs to be a support for the clerk. When Jean and Eileen returned, Shirley expressed gratitude on behalf of the Meeting for their service and offered Nominating Committee's help to Jean in forming a support committee. Eileen resumed clerking the meeting for business.

Care & Counsel: Clerk Meg Mitchell reported that Elvira Brown, former member and secretary at Chestnut Hill Meeting, died on 23 September 2008. A memorial meeting for worship will be held at the Cathedral Village retirement community on Friday 28 November at 3 p.m.

Meg gave the second reading of Daniel Heider's application for membership. **Meeting approved**. Dan Evans and Kathy Miller will serve as Dan's welcoming committee. Meg gave the second reading of Abbe Forman's application for membership. **Meeting approved**. Ernie Cuff, Ellen Deacon, and Jeff Perkins will serve as Abbe's welcoming committee. Meg gave the first reading of Ginny Christensen's application to transfer her membership from Media Meeting to Chestnut Hill Meeting. Jude Brandt and Sarah Whitman met with Ginny as clearness committee. Meg read their report, which described Ginny's wide experience with Friends education, including work as a teacher, an administrator, and a board member and consultant for the Friends Council on Education; her past participation at Patuxent Preparative Meeting (Maryland), Guatemala City Meeting, and Media Meeting; her discovery of Chestnut Hill Meeting while seeking a Meeting not affiliated with a school and her feeling of being at home at CHMM. Her work often involves travel on the weekends, but she will attend whenever able and understands the responsibilities of membership. Friends asked that she introduce herself after Meeting between now and the second reading of her application for membership.

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Meg added to last month's report on Care & Counsel's outreach to inactive members that Nancy and Erhart Demand, who now live in Boston, had sent a letter asking to be released from membership. They noted that they continue to support a number of Quaker organizations.

Worship & Ministry: Eileen Flanagan gave a reminder that the Meeting had approved a minute of religious service for Hollister Knowlton in September, but had encouraged Hollister's anchoring committee to revise the minute slightly to convey the spiritual aspect of Hollister's work. Eileen read the revised minute with emphasis on the revisions in italics:

Chestnut Hill Monthly Meeting recognizes that our member, Hollister Knowlton, *clearly acting out of an ongoing leading from Spirit*, carries a *deep* concern for teaching and organizing Friends and others in order to create the potential for transformation *into* right relationship between humans and all of creation. We are very grateful for her modeling by lowering her personal, ecological footprint; her witness by encouraging, educating, and holding accountable the Meeting in its own discernment and stewardship practices; and her service on various Quaker and local environmental groups. We are uplifted by her fortitude and vision of and hope for recreating a sustainable human-Earth relationship: a blessed balm given the current confusion and dire outlooks about climate change. We support her call to minister to others, with prayer and by providing the grounding and testing of ongoing oversight. We commend Hollister to all, in the hope that she will be kindly received wherever she serves.

Ellen Deacon read a letter that she had drafted to send to Andres Chamorro, coordinator of the Youth Arts Group of Rural and Migrant Ministry (RMM), a group that used the meetinghouse over the summer. In it she expressed on behalf of the Meeting appreciation and enjoyment of their use of the meetinghouse; thanks for a donation; and hope for a continuing relationship and future visits. Ellen Deacon proposed that the Meeting return their donation, to which she had added a personal donation, together totaling \$140. She invited others to donate as well. In response to a question about whether the Meeting would be able to honor the invitation to the group to return, Ellen said that she, Ernie Cuff, and Kathy Miller were ready to host again in the future. **Meeting approved the letter to be signed and sent by Ellen and also approved the donation of \$140 plus whatever might be added by others at CHMM.**

Ellen and Eileen announced that they are planning a short series of opportunities to look at racism in our hearts and in our community. The first, titled *How Can We Be Made Whole?*, will take place on Saturday 6 December from 2-5p.m. at the meetinghouse. Another session early next year will bring Vanessa Julye to CHMM to discuss her new book *Fit for Freedom, Not for Friendship*, and a third session one or two months later will give an opportunity for CHMM to consider racism corporately.

Ruth Pauly announced that the next gathering on Worship, Ministry, and Eldering will take place at Chester Meeting on Saturday 22 November. Worship & Ministry is organizing carpools. Copies of the announcement of the event are available in the gathering room.

Phil Anthony announced that the PYM Meeting on Worship and Ministry will meet from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday 15 November at Chestnut Hill Meeting. The meeting is open not only to

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clerks of monthly meeting Worship & Ministry committees but to all with interests in or concerns for worship and ministry.

Coordinating Committee: Clerk Dylan Steinberg re-introduced the Coordinating Committee, which is becoming more active as it develops a new understanding of its own role and responsibilities. The other members of the committee are Storm Evans (Client Committee), George Garrettson, Phil Jones (Clerk of Meeting), Nell Kahil, Laura Melly, and Jean Warrington (Campaign Committee). The committee sees its role as facilitating communication between the building committees, the Meeting, and individuals who want input in the building process. The Coordinating Committee will work to distribute information from the building committees. This communication will not only happen in meeting for business, but also by e-mail and the CHMM newsletter, and perhaps through other channels as well. The Coordinating Committee will also serve as a gathering point for communication, especially about concerns, to the building committees, partly in hopes of relieving the burden on the clerk of Meeting.

Part of the committee's work of facilitating communication will involve figuring out the proper process for handling the many decisions that will need to be made. Dylan asked the Meeting to consider that not all of the decisions needed in the building process will be made in meeting for business. His hope is that the Meeting will find a balance where all trust that the building committees are seeking guidance from the Spirit and working with integrity, but do not feel disconnected from the building process. Well-defined, specific decisions such as wall color or kitchen layout are likely to happen in one of the building committees, and members of the community who have strong concerns should let the Coordinating Committee know so that they can be involved in the decisions that matter to them. Complex decisions such as the basic proposed design of the building, the use of union labor, or the balance between the desire for a certain level of LEED certification and the costs associated with the certification, will come to meeting for business to be decided, but the issues and framework of decisions will be presented by small groups who have seasoned them, so again individuals should make their concerns known to the Coordinating Committee so that they can be part of this seasoning process. Members of the community who do not have strong concerns but would like to help in some way are also invited to identify themselves. Friends can communicate with the Coordinating Committee by contacting any of its members or by sending e-mail to coordinating@chestnuthillquakers.org or coordinatingcom@chestnuthillquakers.org. A Friend pointed out that if Friends need to express themselves to the Coordinating Committee about the issues that matter to them, the Coordinating Committee needs to find ways of sharing information about which decisions are coming up and how Friends can be involved in those decisions.

One Friend asked how the Coordinating Committee would be deciding which decisions come to meeting for business. Dylan responded that the committee is discerning and seeking divine guidance, but it also needs guidance from the Meeting. Another Friend suggested that decisions that would have a major impact in areas of Quaker witness or Meeting finances would need to come to meeting for business. A third Friend asked the Meeting to consider how we take on material things without losing our link to Spirit and each other.

Reporting for the Client Committee, Dylan asked Friends to **save the date of Thursday 20 November at 6 p.m. for a possible presentation of the revised building design**, if architect

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James Bradberry is ready. If response to that presentation is favorable, there will be a meeting for business called on Sunday 14 December to approve the basic design and authorize the architect to begin work on a more detailed design. The called meeting for business will be at 9 a.m. to avoid displacing Forum. **[Editorial note: These meetings will not take place in November and December but will be scheduled at a later date.]**

Dylan reported for the Campaign Committee that they began their solicitation over the summer by speaking with members of the building committees, and those early conversations went well. They are now contacting the rest of the CHMM community, and they hope to have some numbers to report by the end of the year.

Christmas Breakfast: Eileen noted that one reason for scheduling the called meeting for business on the second Sunday of December is to leave the third Sunday open for Christmas breakfast. Last year Sarah Whitman supported the middle school Friends in hosting the Christmas Breakfast. She has not yet discerned with the older First Day School students whether they will do so again, but Friends who feel led to participate can contact Sarah. Viv Hawkins is going to go back through past minutes to find records of decisions made in meeting for business about the Christmas Breakfast, such as what decoration the Meeting decided was appropriate.

Announcements: The next session of Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting will take place Sunday 26 October at Frankford Meeting. The largest item on the agenda is the possible merging of Frankford Meeting and Unity Meeting.

Ellen Deacon has a report from the Ad-Hoc Quarterly Group on Friends Neighborhood Guild and would be glad to share it with interested Friends.

Closing: Meeting for business closed with worship.

Amey Hutchins, recording secretary

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Philip Jones clerked the meeting for business, at which 32 Friends were present. The meeting began with a period of worship and reading of the queries on outreach. One Friend raised a concern that Friends' outreach emphasizes the preservation of the Society of Friends rather than bringing people to God, which is true discipleship. Other Friends were struck by particular queries, such as one asking about awareness of needs of nearby Meetings and another asking about seizing opportunities to tell others about the Society of Friends. Another Friend urged all to seek ways in the midst of business after meeting for worship to provide entrance for newcomers into the community and its warmth.

Review of Minutes: The minutes from October's meeting for business were **approved with the anticipation of one change:** Ellen Deacon did not feel that the minutes accurately recorded the nature of the Meeting's donation to the Youth Arts Group of Rural and Migrant Ministry. Ellen agreed to work with the recording clerk on a revision.

Christmas Breakfast: Phil Jones provided some background: the Meeting has taken many approaches to the Christmas Breakfast over the years. Last year Sarah Whitman supported the middle school Friends in planning and providing the breakfast but is not willing to do so again. Phil then introduced Carla White, clerk of the Hospitality Committee, to make a proposal for this year. Carla reported that the Hospitality Committee is prepared to coordinate the breakfast this year and proposed that the breakfast take place on Sunday 14 December (the Hospitality Committee would not host its regular first Sunday community lunch following meeting for worship on the first Sunday of December). The Hospitality Committee also proposed that it be a potluck event and requested assistance with cleanup. Sarah Whitman, who was not present, in earlier conversations with Carla and Phil had proposed that the children and others could help with set-up and decoration on the afternoon of Saturday 13 December, and also recommended that the event not be a fundraiser. After some discussion about whether the event should be a breakfast or a lunch, the Meeting decided on breakfast, which would continue the Chestnut Hill tradition and preserve the regular Sunday schedule of worship, with early breakfasters able to join early meeting for worship if they choose. The Meeting **approved the proposal of a potluck breakfast before meeting for worship on Sunday 14 December, which will not be a fundraiser. Meeting also approved the plan for children to help with decoration.** Hospitality Committee will arrange the details, which will appear in the newsletter. The hymn-singers will plan some music for that Sunday.

Nominating Committee: Friends being nominated as officers of the Meeting for the coming year left the room. Shirley Philips reported that, with clerk and assistant clerk approved the previous month, all other officers were willing to continue for another year: Amey Hutchins as recording clerk; Daniel Evans as treasurer; Roberta Foss as recorder; George Garrettson as assistant recorder; and Abbe Forman as newsletter editor. Friends **approved.** After the nominated Friends returned, Shirley announced that Nominating Committee would bring the slate of committee nominations to meeting for business in March. She also announced that Nominating Committee and Outreach Committee would be collaborating on a "committee job fair" after meeting for worship on Sunday 4 January to inform new Friends and attenders about CHMM committees and encourage them to serve. One Friend advised Nominating Committee to announce the event at the end of meeting for worship in order to reach new members of the community. An announcement will also appear in the newsletter.

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Quarterly Meeting: George Garrettson, CHMM representative to Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting, reported that the conditions of Frankford Meeting and Unity Meeting have been a concern of the Quarter. Both are small meetings that would appreciate visitors. Frankford Meeting holds meeting for worship on Sundays at 10 a.m.; Unity Monthly Meeting holds meeting for worship on Fridays at 6:30 p.m. These Meetings are unlikely to merge but are struggling and in need of encouragement. A Friend recalled the queries that had opened the meeting for business, noted that Quarterly Meeting is not well attended, and invited Friends to consider attending as an opportunity to be aware of the condition of Philadelphia Quakers and get to know Friends from other Meetings. George also reported that Philadelphia Quarter will be selecting one delegate to attend PYM's ecumenical peace gathering scheduled for January 2009. Friends interested in filling this role or in recommending other Friends should speak to George or Phil Anthony, CHMM's other representative to the Quarter. Phil Anthony added that the officers of the Quarter will continue to serve for another year. He also can share a financial report for the Quarter with Friends.

Care & Counsel: Clerk Meg Mitchell reported that the wedding of Ernest Cuff and Ellen Deacon is scheduled for Saturday 3 January 2009 at 2 p.m.

Meg also reported that Edward Sargent has applied to transfer his membership from Central Philadelphia Monthly Meeting of Friends, and a letter of transfer has arrived. Dan Evans, Meg Mitchell, and John Roberts will serve as a clearness committee for Edward. **Meeting approved.** Meg gave the second reading of Ginny Christensen's application to transfer her membership from Media Meeting to Chestnut Hill Meeting. **Meeting approved.** Mickey Abraham, Amey Hutchins, Phil Jones, and Jean Warrington will serve as her welcoming committee. The clerk will inform Media Meeting of the approval of the transfer.

Coordinating Committee: Clerk Dylan Steinberg announced on behalf of the Client Committee that the presentation of the revised plans of the new meetinghouse by architect James Bradberry will not take place on 20 November as previously announced. Dylan asked Friends to **save the date of Thursday 18 December at 6 p.m. for this presentation**, beginning with a simple potluck dinner. This will be followed by another session in early January. If response to the revised plan is favorable, the Meeting will be asked at the January meeting for business to approve the basic design and authorize the architect to begin work on a more detailed design.

Dylan announced that detailed planning of the new kitchen will begin soon, so those who are interested in participating in that planning should contact him. He also informed the Meeting that Finance Committee would be discussing the relationship of Chestnut Hill Meeting, the 501(c)3 formed for fundraising purposes, and solicitation of gifts outside the Meeting in its upcoming meeting on Thursday 20 November, so Friends with concerns in that area should speak to a member of Finance Committee.

Prayer Vigils for Peace at Independence Mall: Jorge Aráuz reported on the vigils at Independence Mall that began in April 1999 and were taken under the care of Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting in January 2002. The Friends who participate have found the vigils to be an opportunity to witness to the spiritual character of peacemaking, to deepen their faith, and to engage with the people who encounter the vigil. Jorge invited Friends to join in the vigil on any

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Sunday. He submitted a written report to accompany the minutes. Friends thanked those who keep the vigil for their witness and thanked Jorge for reporting in meeting for business. Another Friend noted that over the years the participants in the vigil have developed a positive relationship with the staff of the National Park Service who work at Independence National Historical Park.

Worship & Ministry: Clerk Ruth Pauly informed Friends that Worship & Ministry is renewing its commitment to early meeting for worship on Sundays from 9 to 10 a.m. and reminded all of this additional opportunity for worship. She also reported that Worship & Ministry has decided not to take responsibility for laying a fire in the fireplace for meeting for worship, a service that Ernie Cuff provided last year but is unable to continue.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Dan Evans announced that a draft of the fall appeal letter would be discussed at the Finance Committee meeting on 20 November, and the letter will go out just before or after Thanksgiving. As of the end of October, donations from members and attenders are approximately \$10,000 less than last year. Between \$37,000 and \$38,000 in donations will be needed before the end of the year to meet the 2008 budget.

Also on the agenda for the Finance Committee meeting is a discussion of the respective fundraising responsibilities of CHMM and the 501(c)3 in relation to the new building. Chestnut Hill Meeting is exempt from Pennsylvania registration as a charitable organization if it solicits donations only from its own members. Dan will recommend to the Finance Committee that all funds from outside the Meeting community go through the 501(c)3.

PYM Meeting on Worship & Ministry: Phil Anthony reported that the PYM Meeting on Worship and Ministry met at CHMM on Saturday 15 November. The meeting gathered clerks of monthly meeting Worship & Ministry committees as well as others with interests in or concerns for worship and ministry. The group intends to meet twice yearly, at various monthly meetings. They minuted thanks for Chestnut Hill's hospitality and its warm, welcoming, worshipful space. Jorge Aráuz is a new member of the core group of the PYM Meeting on Worship & Ministry.

Announcements: Clerk Phil Jones made a number of announcements:

- Right Sharing of World Resources sent a letter of thanks for use of the meetinghouse during its board meeting, which took place October 16-18 in Philadelphia.
- The PYM Ministry for Racial Justice and Equality (http://www.pym.org/pym_wgs/racialjustice_wg.php) is seeking support from the monthly meetings of PYM and its members are willing to visit monthly meetings.
- The AFSC Middle Atlantic Region (<http://www.afsc.org/midatlantic/>), headquartered in Baltimore, has a new volunteer coordinator.
- PYM is seeking a Care and Aging Coordinator, a position for a licensed social worker who will report to CHMM member Christie Duncan-Tessmer in her role as PYM Associate Secretary for Program and Religious Life.
- Gwynedd Friends Coffeehouse (<http://www.gwyneddfriends.org/coffeehouse.htm>) offers music on 2nd Saturday evenings, with Cajun music coming up on Saturday 13 December.

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George Garrettson announced that more volunteer greeters are needed at the Arch Street Meeting House, especially for Saturdays 10 a.m.-1 p.m. or 1-4 p.m. If interested, contact Jay Worrall, Interpretation and Volunteer Coordinator (jayw@pym.org), or speak to George.

Phil Anthony announced that in 2009 PYM Interim Meeting's regular meeting time will shift to 2nd Saturdays. There may be a need for hospitality in Friends' homes the night before for Friends traveling from a distance. If interested, contact Phil.

Friends are encouraged to send announcements to Viv Hawkins, meeting secretary, at secretary@chestnuthillquakers.org, so that Viv can include them in the weekly e-mail bulletin.

Eileen Flanagan announced that Terrie Abraham, who works with our youngest children, has used the children's artwork to make calendars for 2009. The calendars will be for sale for \$10 and proceeds after expenses will go to the capital campaign for the new meetinghouse.

Farewell to the Clerk: The Meeting minuted its thanks to outgoing clerk Phil Jones. Phil responded that it had been a privilege to serve the Meeting again in this way, and that he was glad to hand it over to Jean Warrington.

Closing: Meeting for business closed with worship, in which thanks were also given for Ann Jones's support of the Meeting.

Amey Hutchins, recording secretary