

Frederick Friends Meeting
723 N. Market St., Frederick, MD 21701

Minutes from Eighth Month 2021
Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

Frederick Friends Meeting met for business at 9 a.m. on August 8, 2021. Some Friends were at the meeting house, and others participated through the Internet. This meeting was a replacement for the scheduled July meeting for business, which had been cancelled.

In attendance were Pat Beach, Tori Bolton, Annette Breiling, Jim Carpenter, Chris Elbich, Kathy Funkhouser, Nick Funkhouser, Carlotta Joyner, David Kunz, Julie Kunz, Susanna Laird, Ellen Lerner, Karen Lockett, Andrea Norouzi, Betsy Tobin, and Greg Tobin.

Meeting began with a moment of worship.

2021-08-01 Clerk's Mail – Kathy Funkhouser

Olivia Evans requests the transfer of her membership to Bethesda Friends Meeting. Frederick Friends Meeting (FFM) wishes Olivia well in her new Meeting. FFM **approved** this transfer.

2021-08-02 Trustees Report - Attached

We thank Greg Tobin for his dedicated service as Treasurer. We welcome Chris Elbich as our Meeting's new Treasurer. As Treasurer, Chris will be liaison between Trustees and Stewardship and Finance (S&F). The bylaws need to be publicly updated; this task is forwarded to Trustees. Meeting **accepted** this report with gratitude.

2021-08-03 Quarterly Budget Update – Stewardship and Finance, Chris Elbich, Report Attached

Financially we are in solid shape, especially due to our reserves, which have increased in value in recent years to more than \$157,000. Donations are lagging as it typical this time of year Please consider donating regularly. We thank Annette Breiling for her years of dedicated service to Stewardship and Finance Committee and Greg Tobin, who has served on the committee in his role as Treasurer. Meeting accepted this report.

A question arose regarding at what point we decide that we have enough reserves. Decisions about invested funds resides with Trustees. S & F will be in dialogue with Trustees about this issue.

2021-08-04 Peace and Social Concerns – Andrea Norouzi

Baltimore Yearly Meeting (BYM) requested minutes in support of the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Andrea brought the attached minute.

A concern about changing the tone of the minute was raised. Perhaps rather than focusing on the negative and catastrophic outcomes, we could focus on the benefits of eliminating nuclear weapons, a more spirit-led tone.

The minute and Letter to the Editor are sent back to P&SC. P&SC will bring both back to a future Meeting for Business.

Meeting appreciated Dat Duthinh's work in creating this Minute. Meeting supports the intent of the minute, requesting only the changes to creating a tone that reflects standing in our truth.

2021-08-05 – Mid-Week Meeting for Worship, Karen Lockett

Karen proposes creating a mid-week Meeting for Worship of some sort. Karen will take this to Ministry and Counsel.

2021-08-06 – Meeting Process

Meeting has fallen out of process as a result of fragmentation and challenging communications. A recent painful occurrence brought this to light once again. Each of us within Meeting has Spirit, love and commitment. Movement happens as a result of unified effort. We need to attend to our process so we are all rowing in unison.

Meeting closed with Worship.

Our next Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business will be on September 12, 2021. Our agenda will include the Property Committee Annual Report, a report on the BYM Annual Session, and the FAMA Representative report.

Kathy Funkhouser, *Clerk of Meeting* _____

Betsy Tobin, *Recording Clerk* _____

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Trustees' Annual Report
2. Second Quarter Financial Report
3. Requests from Peace and Social Concerns Committee about Nuclear Weapons

Attachment 1

2021 Trustee Report

The year of Covid has been an adventure to say the least. It has been beautiful to see how we all made adjustments to how we minister to one another as individuals and as a community. It is encouraging to see that more and more folks are feeling it safe to return to in person meeting for worship and to participate in face to face, distanced and masked, committee meetings.

Trustees were able to complete the following tasks this year:

- Reviewed leases and our insurance and child care policies.
- Accepted the memorial gift and approved sending the remainder of Betty Jo Burkett's gift to the mortgage balance/principal after property purchases were made.
- Approved sending suggested By-law changes that address the language and practice related to who may serve as clerks, treasurer and trustees to meeting for business. These changes involve allowing long time attenders *or* members to serve in these capacities. It also would make the change from 5 year terms to 3 year terms and allow 1 renewal for those serving as trustees. We hope that these suggested changes will help address the challenges faced in finding people to serve the meeting as clerks, treasurer and trustees.
- Accepted suggestions to coordinate and streamline the meeting calendars and meeting use protocol as we welcomed the new calendar keeper. We came to clarity that we will include Maryland's state recommendations for safety procedures in rental and meeting house use agreements.
- Decided to pursue finding a new renter for the third office space on the second floor.
- Approved paying for picnic tables with some of Jerry Kessler's donation money.
- We thanked Greg Tobin for his brilliant insights, commitment and service as a trustee and treasurer.
- We welcomed Chris Elbich as treasurer and liaison between Stewardship and Finance and the Trustees.

Humbly submitted by JoAnn Coates-Hunter, clerk
June 2021

2021 Second Quarter Financial Report

Frederick Friends Meeting

Bottom Line

Our income and spending are on track with our budget. We are even showing a surplus of \$756. This small surplus poses a significant risk for complacency, as does the reporting of it. The report could have avoided reporting the surplus in order to prevent complacency, but that would stand against Quaker principles. The report concludes that the best approach is to abide by Quaker principles and maintain our integrity to donate.

Contributions are slightly lower than expected for year to date, but this is likely due to a tendency to make donations at the end of the year. Please consider a weekly, biweekly, or monthly donation to help even our cash flow and prevent panic in December.

Committee spending as a whole is below expectations for this time of year. Some expenses do not hit the books until later in the year, so please keep spending in check.

Liquid Capital

Frederick Friends Meeting currently has over \$157k in accounts between PAX World Funds and Friends Fiduciary. We have over \$19k in cash reserves in our bank account. This liquid capital has shown an increasing trend in recent years.

Human Capital

The Stewardship and Finance Committee is grateful to Lisa Fowler for her dedicated and expert maintenance of the books. We are also grateful to Michele Hartley and Karen White for their continued, long-standing work on the committee.

Christopher Elbich has taken on the role of Treasurer. Gratitude to Greg Tobin for his years of service in the role.

Carlotta Joyner has taken on the role of clerk of the Stewardship and Finance Committee. Gratitude to Annette Breiling for her years of service on the committee.

Jerry Kessler Memorial Fund

The Stewardship and Finance Committee has recommended that a portion of the \$10k fund be used for the purchase of the new picnic tables. The Trustees have approved this recommendation. The cost of the picnic tables, \$2,129.90, was paid from the fund.

The Trustees will decide how to spend the balance of the fund. The Stewardship and Finance Committee recommends purchasing memorial plaques or some manner of printing his name to be associated with improvements made in his name. The committee assumes that use of this fund is appropriate for such plaques or memorialization. We assume that Property Committee will follow through with commemoration. We assume that the Trustees will follow through with communicating the use of funds to Jerry Kessler's executors.

Guy Burkett Memorial Fund

The complete fund of \$5,000 has been spent. Some items were purchased for landscaping. The remaining balance of \$4,019 was used to pay down the mortgage, at the request of Mary Jo Burkett. These figures are not reflected in the budget report, but the appropriate account transfers have been made.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Stewardship and Finance Committee,
Christopher Elbich, Treasurer

2021 Budget Report Frederick Friends Meeting

Jan-Jun

Category		Line# Item	Annual Budget	Actual	Budget discrepancy YTD
Income	Contributions	1 Member/attender	25,000	12,278	(222)
		2 Retreat/	50	0	(25)
		3 Meeting House Use	150	98	23
		4 Total Contributions	25,200	12,376	(224)
	Fund Raising	5 Smile Amazon	50	67	42
		6 Yard Sale	0	196	196
		7 Fund Raising - Other	0	25	25
		8 Total Fund Raising	50	288	263
	Books/	9 Books/	20	101	91
	Interest/Dividends	10 Interest/Dividends	50	6	(19)
	Rent	11 Office #1	5,844	2,922	0
		12 Office #2	11,400	5,296	(404)
		13 Third Floor Apt	8,400	4,200	0
		14 Internet	810	0	(405)
		15 Vacancy Allowance	(2,138)	0	1,069
		16 Total Rent	24,316	12,418	260
Total Income			49,636	25,188	370

Expense

	<u>17</u>	Fees	20	12	2
Administration	<u>18</u>	Supplies	100	11	(39)
		Total Administration	120	23	(37)
Apportionment	20	Apportionment	7,800	3,900	0
		Charitable Giving	1,500	0	(750)
Charitable Giving	21	Charitable Giving	1,500	0	(750)
Childcare	22	Childcare	50	0	(25)
Contingency	23	Contingency	2,856	0	(1,428)
	<u>24</u>	FAMA	90	0	(45)
		Warrington Quarter	16	15	7
	<u>25</u>	Warrington Quarter	16	15	7
	<u>26</u>	Adult Scholarships	1,000	0	(500)
Ministry & Counsel	<u>27</u>	Website	200	0	(100)
	<u>28</u>	Printing	50	0	(25)
	<u>29</u>	Other	500	0	(250)
	30	Total Ministry & Counsel	1,856	15	(913)
Nominating	31	Nominating	26	0	(13)
Peace & Social Concerns	32	Peace & Social Concerns	300	0	(150)
	<u>33</u>	Books	20	115	105
Program	<u>34</u>	Program - Other	100	80	30
	35	Total Program	120	195	135
	<u>36</u>	Housekeeping-	1,800	922	22
Property	<u>37</u>	Property - Other	8,000	5,246	1,246
	38	Total Property	9,800	6,167	1,267
	39	Religious Education	200	0	(100)
Religious Education	39	Religious Education	200	0	(100)
	40	Total Committees	12,300	6,378	228
Insurance	41	Insurance	3,550	4,103	2,328
Retreat-	42	Retreat-	50	0	(25)
Real Estate	43	Mortgage	7,754	3,877	(0)

	<u>44</u>	Property Taxes	2,026	0	(1,013)
		Total Real			
	<u>45</u>	Estate	9,780	3,877	(1,013)
Scholarships-camping	<u>46</u>	Scholarships-camping	4,800	4,800	0
	<u>47</u>	Fire Monitor	1,250	804	179
	<u>48</u>	Electric	1,500	343	(407)
	<u>49</u>	Gas	1,400	1,295	595
Utilities	<u>50</u>	Telephone	500	246	(4)
	<u>51</u>	Internet	1,080	332	(208)
	<u>52</u>	Water/Sewer	1,100	362	(188)
	<u>53</u>	Total Utilities	6,830	3,383	(32)
Total Expense			49,638	26,463	(756)
Net Income			(2)	(1,275)	1,126

Peace and Social Concerns Committee Proposals on the
United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

Peace and Social Concerns proposes that the Meeting approve (1) a letter to the editor and (2) a minute on the topic.

Proposed Letter to the Editor

Frederick Friends Meeting supports the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and calls on the United States to be a party to it.

The treaty [entered into force](#) on January 22, 2021 after it had been ratified by 50 nations making it legal by international law. According to the [United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs](#), as of July 27, 2021, the TPNW has 86 signatories.

Sadly, none of the nine nuclear-weapons nations are yet signatories to the treaty. The United States plans to spend up to \$1.5 trillion in the next 30 years (\$15.6 billion in fiscal year 2021) to overhaul its nuclear arsenal by rebuilding each leg of the nuclear triad and its accompanying infrastructure (<https://armscontrolcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/U.S.-Nuclear-Modernization-Costs-Constraints-update.pdf>).

We are deeply concerned about the catastrophic humanitarian consequences that would result from any use of nuclear weapons, and recognize the consequent need to completely eliminate such weapons, which remains the only way to guarantee that nuclear weapons are never used again under any circumstances. We are also mindful of the risks posed by the continued existence of nuclear weapons, including from any nuclear-weapon detonation by accident, miscalculation or design, and emphasize that these risks concern the security of all humanity, and that all nations share the responsibility to prevent any use of nuclear weapons.

Kathy Funkhouser and Betsy Tobin
Clerks, Frederick Friends Meeting

Proposed Minute

With the encouragement of Baltimore Yearly Meeting (3rd month 2021 interim meeting), and following its example, Frederick Friends Meeting offers this minute of support for the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (the text of the TPNW can be found at <https://undocs.org/A/CONF.229/2017/8>).

On 20 September 2017, the treaty was opened for signature. Following Article 15 of the treaty, it [entered into force](#) on 22 January 2021 after it had been ratified by 50 nations. After that date, nations that did not sign the treaty may only accede to it. According to the [United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs](https://www.un.org/disarmament/wmd/nuclear/tpnw/) (<https://www.un.org/disarmament/wmd/nuclear/tpnw/>), as of 27 July 2021, the TPNW has 86 signatories, including 55 parties. (53 nations have ratified it, and another 2 have acceded to it. When the treaty is not subject to ratification, acceptance or approval, "definitive signature" establishes the consent of the nation to be bound by the treaty. https://treaties.un.org/pages/Overview.aspx?path=overview/glossary/page1_en.xml.) Sadly, none of the nuclear-weapons nations are yet signatories to the treaty. The United States plans to spend up to \$1.5 trillion in the next thirty years (\$15.6 billion in fiscal year 2021) to overhaul its nuclear arsenal by rebuilding each leg of the nuclear triad and its accompanying infrastructure (<https://armscontrolcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/U.S.-Nuclear-Modernization-Costs-Constraints-update.pdf>).

Paraphrasing the Treaty, we are deeply concerned about the catastrophic humanitarian consequences that would result from any use of nuclear weapons, and recognize the consequent need to completely eliminate such weapons, which remains the only way to guarantee that nuclear weapons are never used again under any circumstances. We are also mindful of the risks posed by the continued existence of nuclear weapons, including from any nuclear-weapon detonation by accident, miscalculation or design, and emphasize that these risks concern the security of all humanity, and that all nations share the responsibility to prevent any use of nuclear weapons.

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