

AT FIFTEENTH STREET MONTHLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, HELD IN THE MEETINGHOUSE AT 15 RUTHERFORD PLACE, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10003 ON JANUARY, 5, 1975.

The co-clerk reads queries 9,10, and 11. Friends consider them silently. The co-clerk reads in modified form three of the queries on business meetings used by Young Friends of North America. They are:

Queries

"Are we careful that space is left in our business meetings for ministry arising from the Spirit of God and that such leadings are not stifled by the spirit of busyness? Are we careful that offerings of information and procedural suggestions are concise and truly helpful to the Meeting?"

"Do we examine our language to avoid terminology which implies inferiority or superiority of one sex over another?"

"Do we seek, in our manner of expressing ourselves, to demonstrate sensitivity to one another?"

Friends comment on these queries and consider them quietly.

The co-clerk reads minutes #1 and #3 of the New York Quarterly Meeting held Twelfth month, 11, 1974. The effect of the latter minute is to establish our Meeting as the Fifteenth Street Monthly Meeting.

Monthly Mtg. Status.

1. Pending any reorganization which may later be adopted, the Monthly Meeting approves continuing all appointments of the former 15th Street Preparative Meeting.

Continue appointments.

The Meeting receives a minute from Peace and Social Concerns Committee with a supporting minute from the structure committee. The Peace and Social Concerns Committee Minute is: "The Committee recommends to Monthly Meeting the establishment of a Military Counseling Committee separate from itself. The committee also recommends that Joseph Levenson, Carol Jackson, and Jean B. Walling be members of the new committee. It expresses as a hope the wish that these Friends will report regularly to the Monthly Meeting about the activities of the military counselor, and any changes that may take place in the role of the new military counseling committee itself." Jean Baur Walling reports on the work of the Military counselor. The focus of military counseling has changed, so that more work is now done with veterans who have problems related to less-than-honorable discharges from the military. The need for counseling men & women inside the military also continues. In addition, the counselor does some counseling with deserters from the Armed Forces seeking alternatives to the clemency offered by the government.

Military Counseling

2. Friends establish a new committee of three people, separate from the Peace and Social Concerns Committee, to oversee the work of the military counselor. The committee is to report to the Meeting four times a year. The committee will prepare the military counseling budget and raise money for it. Friends express appreciation to Jean Baur Walling for her past work as a military counselor.

Mil. Counsel. Comm.

3. Friends appoint Joseph Levenson, Jean Baur Walling, and Carol Jackson to the committee.

Chris Hodge, the new military counselor, invites Friends to help pass out leaflets at Port Authority on January 19th 8-10 p.m.

The Meeting receives an interim report from Edward Hayes, clerk of the Structure Committee. The committee brings three proposals at this time:

"1. Does the Meeting wish to receive our final report at a regular business meeting or at a called business meeting? A called meeting would allow for more discussion of the report.

2. We support the recommendation of the Peace & Social Concerns Committee that the Meeting immediately create a separate committee of oversight for the military counseling program.

3. We recommend that the Meeting immediately create a five(5) member House Committee. After conferring with Edith Darlington, clerk of the Quarterly Property Committee, on this subject, we realize that the formation of such a committee is presently necessary. A description of the duties of a House Committee is attached. Please note that this committee will replace the present coffee hour committee. We recommend that the coffee hour committee continue, temporarily taking on the responsibilities of the proposed House Committee, until Nominating Committee can bring forth nominations for the House Committee to business meeting. Once these nominations are brought forth and approved, the coffee hour committee should be considered laid down.

4. Friends approve creation of a five member House Committee with the following functions: (See attached list of functions in Structure Report)

5. Friends approve giving the House Committee sufficient funds.

6. Friends recommend to the Nominating Committee that Stanley Rutz be on the House Committee.

7. Nominating Committee will bring names for the House Committee to the next business meeting.

8. Friends approve laying down of the present coffee- hour committee as soon as members are appointed to the House Committee.

9. The Structure Committee is asked to give another progress report to the Meeting in February. No decision is yet reached about the proper time for its final report.

10. The Meeting receives a letter from Dorothea C. Shipley, resigning from the Library Committee due to relocation. Friends accept the resignation with regret and with thanks for her past service.

11. The Nominating Committee nominates Barbara Dinhoff to the Library Committee for a term of one year. Friends approve. The Meeting receives a letter from Edward Hayes, acting clerk of the committee on Ministry and Oversight.

12. The Committee on Ministry and Oversight nominates Ruth Crump to the Nominating Committee. Friends approve.

13. The Committee on Ministry and Oversight requests that the Meeting hold vacant two other spots on the Nominating Committee. Friends approve.

14. Nominating Committee nominates the following Friends for appointment of Clearness and Oversight for Ralph Murphy and Richard Evans: William Bortz, Rachel DuBois, Margo Hagenhofer, Patricia Lyman, Gertrude Rinden, and Elaine Stevens. The Meeting approves these nominations.

Clearness
Comm.
R. Murphy
R. Evans

The Meeting receives a Letter from Edward Hayes informing Friends that the Committee on Ministry and Oversight has decided to assign a committee member to perform the functions of head of Meeting at the 9:45 a.m. First day Meeting.

M.&O.
appoints
Head of
Mtg.

The Meeting receives a report from Arthur B. Waring for the Committee on Clearness for Richard Evans with respect to jury service. The report is attached.

15. The Meeting lays down this committee, as it requests.

The minutes of the previous business meeting (of the former Preparative Meeting are read.)

THE MEETING CLOSSES WITH A PERIOD OF SILENCE AND RISES TO MEET AGAIN 2d MONTH 2, 1975. THERE ARE 42 MEMBERS AND ATTENDERS PRESENT.

Submitted by,

Peter Fingesten
Peter Fingesten
Clerk

Richard Evans
Richard Evans
Co-clerk

Structure
Comm. Interim
Report.

House Comm.
established

Coffee Hour
laid down

Structure
Comm. report
in Feb.

D. Shipley
resigns Lib.
comm.

B. Dinhoff
appt. Lib.
comm.

Ruth Crump
to Nom. Comm.

AT A PREPARATIVE MEETING OF FRIENDS HELD IN THE MEETINGHOUSE AT FIFTEENTH STREET, TWENTIETH MONTH FIRST, 1974.

After a moment of silence, queries 6, 7, and 8 are read. One Friend, commenting on query #6 expresses concern about what the meeting is doing for our children.

The assistant clerk reads a letter from Edward Hayes, acting clerk of the Committee on Ministry and Oversight. The letter recommends formation of a committee to review 15th Street Meeting's existing committee structure.

1974-102 Friends approve the formation of a committee to conduct a review of 15th Street Meeting's existing committee structure.

The Meeting appoints the following Friends to this committee:

Edward Hayes, Richard Evans, Arthur Waring, and Gertrude Rinden, and Ann Lowen, who is designated as convener.

Ann Lowen reports on the state of the treasury and meeting collections.

1974-103 Friends approve posting a notice on the bulletin board informing Friends and attenders of the address to which their contributions may be sent. John L.P. Maynard will prepare this notice in consultation with the Budget and Collection Committee.

1974-104 Friends refer to Budget & Collection Committee a request from Monthly Meeting Relief Committee that we consider budgeting money to transport elderly Friends to Meeting.

19 Elaine Stevens reports on the Meeting Thanksgiving dinner. Friends receive the report with appreciation.

The Meeting receives from Ralph Murphy and Richard Evans a letter concerning their plans to form an intentional Friends' community in New York.

1974-105 Friends approved in principle and stated that it would be desirable for the community to be closely related to the Meeting; that it be separate financially from the Meeting; that it stress simplicity and that it include older as well as younger people. Friends approve of setting up a clearness and oversight committee for this purpose. The Nominating committee is asked to bring names for this committee by the next business meeting. The following Friends are suggested for the Nominating Committee's consideration: Margo Hagenhofer, Rachel Du Bois, William Bortree, Elaine Stevens, Gertrude Rinden, and Patty Lyman.

1974-106 The co-clerk reads the following letter: "Ruth Imbesi and I of the Newsletter Committee for the last two years, recommend that the Newsletter Committee be laid down. The present system of a Ministry and Oversight calendar and special mailings seems an efficient and workable system. (signed) Richard Lenat. Friends approve.

1974- Friends approve

Friends approve of the following nominations:

1974-107 To the Committee on Ministry and Oversight for a term of 3 years, Ellen Lowry, Ruth Scott, Baldura Tatum.

1974-108 To the Committee on Budget and Collections for a term of 1 year: Ann Lowen, convener, Rufus Rorem; for a term of two years: Barbara Heizman, Joseph Levenson, Gerald Smith, Arthur Waring.

1974-109 To the Coffee Hour Committee for a term of one year: Carol Jackson, convener, Joseph Levenson, Stanley Rutz, Alice Sant'Andrea, Beatrice Williams.

1974-110 To Library Committee for a term of one year: Susan Day, convener, Ralph Murphy, Dorothea Shipley, Eda Smith, Marian Tracey, Susan Whealdon, and Jean Wightman.

1974-111 To the Greeting Committee for a term of one year: Eileen Waring, convener, Richard Cooper, Veida M. Greer, Ricardo Hoffman, Janice Koch, Ellen Lowry, Ralph Murphy, and Virginia Phillips.

1974-112 To the Toward Community Committee: for a term of one year: Mark Miller, convener, Madeline Dunlap (ex officio), Renee Harold, Joseph Levenson, Ralph Murphy, John Papas, Thomas Pudny, Joni Ross (ex officio), and Al Stewart.

1974-113 The Meeting receives a letter from Edward Hayes, the acting clerk of the Committee on Ministry and Oversight, asking whether the Meeting wishes to continue meeting for business directly after worship. After extended discussion, the Meeting approved continuing this practice until Third month, 1975. (Business meeting will take place the first Sunday of every month.) The Meeting will review this decision in Fourth Month, 1975.

The Meeting closes with a period of silent meditation and rises to meet again as the Fifteenth Street Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends at the appointed time and place.

There were 36 members and attenders present.

Peter Fingeston
Peter Fingeston, clerk

Richard Evans
Richard Evans, co-clerk