

MEDFORD MONTHLY MEETING
14 Union Street, Medford NJ 08088
609-953-8914/info@medfordfriendsmeeting.org



NEWSLETTER 7th MONTH
Minutes for July 2016

Detailed calendar information can be found on our website
medfordfriendsmeeting.org



-UPCOMING EVENTS-

Sunday July 17th – Adult Education 8:45am

Sunday July 17th- Rise of Meeting-Rise of meeting on Sunday - Informational session on Heeding God's Call Memorial to the Lost with Brian Miller

Tuesday July 19th- Peace and Social, 7:15 pm at Medford Leas

Sunday July 24th- Property Meeting- Rise of Meeting

Sunday July 24th- Movie Night at Medford Leas 6pm

Sunday August 7th- Meeting for Business

7th Query Social Responsibility and Witness

How does our Meeting work:

- to overcome social, legal, economic, and political injustices, locally and in the wider world?

- for the funding of community services that does not rely on gaming income?

Does our Meeting serve the community through action on concerns for civic improvement? What actions are we taking to assure everyone equal access to education, health care, legal services, housing, and employment as well as equal opportunities in business and in the professions?

When a member has lifted up a concern, how does our Meeting respond?

Does our Meeting encourage those seeking clearness for their convictions of conscience to hold up such convictions with prayerful openness to the Light?

Am I mindful of how my lifestyle and my investments can contribute to the improvement of the human condition, or to the exploitation of others?

Am I open to seeking clearness on matters of conscience and to assisting others in doing so? How do I respond and support one who acts out of a clear leading when I am under the weight of another?

What am I doing to work for the betterment of my community to assure the maintenance of effective public services which do not rely on funding from gaming?

Do I fulfill my civic responsibilities when they do not conflict with divine leadings?



Medford Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business Minutes
Seventh Month, First Day, 2016
Clerk: Alice Andrews/ Recording Clerk: Sue Dietz

Opening Worship with consideration of the 7th Query – Social Responsibility and Witness

Sharings: social responsibility is the very fabric of Quaker values and Quaker life (although not always) – Quakers must be part of the world to fulfill our social responsibility and witness.

One member mentioned Dan Seeger who sued the Supreme Court and became the first CO not to believe in a Supreme being. Perseverance is an obligation – leadings cannot just be a statement. Our investments support socially responsible companies through Friends Fiduciary Fund. What does one do if the public transportation one uses is subsidized by gambling money? The political atmosphere is giving hate groups confidence so organizations such as the Poverty Law Center need support. The meeting and its members are “amazingly supportive” when a member has a leading. While sometimes our member/attenders differ sharply in their views upon a given topic, there is always respect of each other. One member spoke of admiration for Signe Wilkinson saying her political cartoons are right on the money. Noting a NY Times article about sponsoring Syrian refugees, Friends asked if this might be something Quakers could be doing. One member mentioned that Birmingham Meeting has sponsored Syrian refugees three times but it has to be done under the sponsorship of the main sponsorship groups like Catholic Charities or the Lutherans.

Reading of Minutes – May and June minutes were approved with no corrections.

Old Business:

Report of Quarterly Meeting – there were about 65 people in attendance - thank you was expressed to Nancy Raleigh for her organizing. Two groups met – Peace and Social and the Youth group (see attached report). Five people met for the Youth group and while there was some enthusiasm to get Quaker children in the Quarter together there was question about how to get people to volunteer.

There are very few families with First Day School age children in the Quarter. What does this say about the future of Quakerism?.

New Business:

Treasurers Report – Fred Melroy – Thankfully the market has recovered after the drop at the beginning of the week. While only 1/3 of meeting members have made contributions thus far, income and expenses are on target. It was noted that the Friends Fiduciary fund in which most of the meetings funds are invested is socially responsible.

Peace and Social Concerns: Linda Matlack – Peace and Social Concerns Committee brought forth the request for an informational meeting with Brian Miller (Heading the Call – Memorial to the Lost). It is hoped that the meeting will host this T-shirt installation noting the name and date of people killed by hand guns in Burlington County. The group will help us (with the help of other meetings) to coordinate the project. Cost is a \$250 to \$500 requested donation as well as the cost of the 50 t-shirts and PVC piping needed. The tentative date for the installation would be in conjunction with the International Day of Peace (September 21st.) Approval was given not only for the meeting with Brian Miller to learn more about the project, tentatively set for July 17th, but also for the project itself. There was some thought that other churches, Medford Leas, the Interfaith policy council etc. might want to be part of the project. The amount of our donation will be decided at a future meeting after we have more information.

Climate Change Group – Ruth Darlington - The Climate Control Group requested that the meeting endorse the upcoming March for Clean Energy Revolution (Faith Contingent) to be held in Philadelphia on July 24th. (See attached flyer.) Ruth explained that the immediate, practical goal is to push policy makers to stop funding new fossil fuel infrastructure and instead promote and fund a swift transition to renewables. New York Yearly Meeting amongst others have already signed. The request was approved.

Ministry and Council – Lynne Brick – Ministry brought forth for approval a suggestion for a meeting retreat day (either April 8th or 9th 2107) at Camp Ockanickon. It would cost approximately \$15.00 per person plus the cost

of additional staff for the rope course, etc. (\$20.00 per staff person). The intent of the retreat would be socializing, intergenerational activities, and spiritual enrichment. Young families would be encouraged to come. The proposal was approved for Sunday April 9th.

Announcements/Correspondence – A thank you letter from the Garden Project was read and the request for further donation would be forwarded to Peace and Social.

Announcements:

July 17 – Adult Education - 8:45 – Chapter 9 – The Heart of Christianity.

July 27-31 – PYM Annual Sessions at Muhlenberg College.

After a moment of silence meeting ended.



Outcome of a brief meeting at Haddonfield Quarter picnic June 26 to begin a conversation on these two concerns:

1. That children in meetings of Haddonfield Quarter do not know or interact with each other.
2. That our children would benefit from activities outside their own FDS, to feel integrated into a broader Quaker community and find a deepening understanding of Quakerism.

Various views were expressed:

- Collaboration among meetings in the quarter can be encouraged by sharing and collectively implementing ideas, events and/or activities involving children and families.
- It's difficult to know what resources might be available (even in the individual meetings) that might appeal to or be interesting to youth. Learning what older members have experienced could generate ideas for relevant activities or experiences.
- Activities for younger children might not be appropriate for older children and vice versa and would require dual planning.
 - Bringing meeting families together is important in the quarter.
- Meetings might consider creative ways in which their children's programs would profit from acting in concert with other meetings in the quarter.
- An alternate route to collaboration among meetings could be within the existing structure of First Day Schools. The FDS teachers present enjoyed knowing each other and talking together.
- Most agreed that ideas might be enthusiastically applauded within any given meeting but finding actual members to share in the planning and implementation was a more difficult task.
 - Helping others was considered an important factor in planning children's activities.
- A Membership Development grant from a PYM to assist with outreach to families and children is possible. (One attender offered both support and help with grant writing.) PYM also offers extensive support and resources to meetings in planning children's programs.

Meetings in the Haddonfield Quarter, members of the MM ad hoc committee, attenders on June 26, and quarter clerk, Rose Ketterer, will receive copies of these notes following our report to our meeting.

Attenders:

Carol Suplee, Nancy Raleigh, Medford

Suzanne Day, Westfield

Dayna Sharp, Haddonfield (wife of new Haddonfield Friends School head) daynasharp@gmail.com, 609-828-5011

Jill Rosvold, Westfield, jrroz@comcast.net, 865-764-6645

Linda Lotz, PYM, llotz25@hotmail, 856-979-4560

THE TIME FOR ACTION IS NOW!

**MARCH FOR A
CLEAN ENERGY
REVOLUTION**

SUNDAY, JULY 24, 2016

PHILADELPHIA CITY HALL - 12 PM

On the eve of the Democratic National Convention, thousands will march for action to prevent climate catastrophe and present these demands directly to current and future policy makers:

BAN FRACKING NOW

KEEP FOSSIL FUELS IN THE GROUND

STOP DIRTY ENERGY

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FOR ALL

JUST TRANSITION TO 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY

FOR MORE INFORMATION, TO SIGN UP OR TO GET MORE INVOLVED, CONTACT:

TEXT 'REVOLUTION' TO 69866 FOR UPDATES

CONVENED BY

CleanEnergyMarch.org





Understanding Our Christian Heritage

Adult Education

"Understanding our Christian Heritage,"

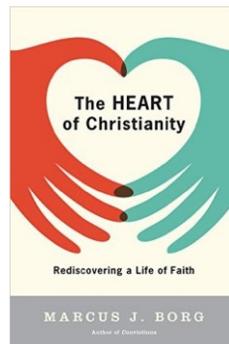
8:45am at Medford Meeting

Coffee will be available.

The group will generally meet every third Sunday of the month on the following dates: July 17,
Aug 21.

We will explore the book, "The Heart of Christianity" by Marcus Borg. We will meet for an hour discussion on the third Sunday of every month during the next year. The book presents a "new way of seeing Christianity" and promises to be a thought provoking discussion.

The cost of the book for participants is \$10.



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