

**Bellingham Friends Meeting**  
**MfWfB April 10, 2016**  
**Approved Minutes**

**Present:** Sharon Trent, Mark Hersh, Larry Thompson, Virginia Herrick, John Hatten, Joanne Cowan, Karen Steen, Lynne Lohr, Dusty Andersen, Wendy Goldstein, Don Goldstein, Dorrie Jordan (Clerk), Judy Hopkinson (recording clerk), Stephanie Manzo.

Meeting opened after silent worship at 12:07. Virginia H read a passage from George Fox.

**2016.04.1 Minutes of the March business meeting were approved as amended.**

2016.04.2 Ministry and Counsel Report (Attached)

2016.04.2.1 Guidelines for Committees in Decision Making - document was read

- A Friend asked for confirmation that this document was a restatement of what we already do or should be doing.
- Virginia responded yes, and explained further that it was meant to help people understand.
- Another Friend said it would help avoid mistakes
- A Friend asked to add a phrase at the end of item 3 -“particularly for those concerns not appropriate for any specific committee”
- Another Friend had 5 concerns:
  1. point #6 spelling correction - made
  2. 1st footnote regarding the official name of the meeting. This Friend thought it was not accurate (never having seen any document with that name before) and seemed pompous. Another Friend liked it. Another Friend expressed appreciation for the historical reference.
    1. A decision was made to allow the editor to change the footnote to include reference to historical changes in the meaning of “Religious Society of Friends”.
  3. A couple of asterisks were in the wrong place
  4. This Friend asked that committees be allowed to form ad hoc subcommittees but not standing subcommittees without approval from MfWfB
  5. Clarification of “non-substantial” action- Friend suggested that if any member of the committee felt an action decision was “substantial”, then it should go to MfWfB.
    1. One friend had some concern about allowing committees to decide what is not “substantial”.
    2. Another Friend felt that it was a good idea to allow committee members to weigh in on what goes into the report, and that any committee member could add any item to the report.
- Another Friend asked at what threshold does a budget item become “substantial” in MfWfB and therefore require seasoning.
- Two Friends expressed a concern that all Friends should be welcome to speak to any item in a committee report at MfWfB, and that this should be included in these guidelines.
- Another Friend expressed a concern that committees can go “rogue”, and that there should be some system for “eldering” for committees. A Friend mentioned that Faith and Practice gives members of the meeting oversight function, and that this oversight is exercised at MfWfB.

- A Friend asked that there be structure provided about giving committee reports and that it include solicitation of comments and questions. Virginia H. will add this. Another Friend suggested that this guidance be combined with the earlier request that all Friends be welcome to comment on any item in a committee report.

- **This guideline will be revised in accord with the suggestions offered.**

2016.04.2.2 Meeting's Annual Retreat - M&C recommended we have our spring retreat in June, and asked whether anyone would be willing to work on planning a retreat in June.

- **Sharon, Virginia, and Joanne volunteered to be on this committee**
- A Friend asked that the question addressed be visioning the rationale for a new meetinghouse rather than details of a space.
- Friends generally supported that idea. A suggestion was made that the committee might ask for feedback during their planning process via posts in the e-news.

### **2016.04.2.03 The State of Society Report was approved.**

2016.04.02.04 - comments on remaining items in the M&C Report. Other than requests for clarification, joy was expressed regarding Kristen McLewin's letter requesting membership in the meeting.

2016.04.2.05 - M & C has received word that Outreach and Welcoming wants to become an independent committee, and it supports this change and looks forward to more specifics.

### **2016.04.3 Nominating Committee**

**2016.04.3.1 The nominating slate accepted for seasoning in March was approved.**

**2016.04.3.2 Meeting accepted for seasoning the following additions/changes to that report:**

- Librarian: Rachel VanBoven until 2018.
- Ministry and Counsel: Larry Thompson until 2018.
- Metamorphosis Editor: Betty McMahan - for a 1 year term with a revised job description to be forthcoming
- Remove Kristen McLewin from archivist position and add to Children's Program Committee for a two year term.

2016.04.4 - Finance Committee Report - balance sheet and 1st Quarter Report (attached)

2016.04.5 - Outreach and Welcoming Report (attached)

2016.04.5.1 Friends accepted for seasoning the proposal from OWG to post a photo gallery of Friends on the public portion of the Meeting's website.

2016.04.6 FCNL Report

Friends asked

- add: Discontinue Fossil Fuel Subsidies, promote use of alternative energy sources
- Repeal AUMF from 2001

- change 'Mental Health' to 'Behavioral Health'
- remove "for all" after education
- add "and addiction" to item 7
- Delete b under item 7 (redundant)
- add "support restorative justice"

**2016.04.6 The meeting approved the report for submission with noted changes.**

**2016.04.7** Quarterly Meeting - Don G. asked for an ad hoc planning committee for Quarterly Meeting session in spring 2017. He noted that a detailed planning guide is available and that some of the committee's work is needed by September this year.

- Lopez Island Friends Meeting is looking for two people to serve on this joint committee.
- We need 3 - 5 people. Don will be a member. Anyone interested can contact Don G.
- **This will go into the e-news**

## Ministry & Counsel Report, Meeting for Worship for Business, April 10

1. “Advices and Queries” of The Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain (Little Red Book) #18: “How can we make the meeting a community in which each person is accepted and nurtured, and strangers are welcome? Seek to know one another in the things which are eternal, bear the burden of each other's failings and pray for one another. As we enter with tender sympathy into the joys and sorrows of each other's lives, ready to give help and to receive it, our meeting can be a channel for God's love and forgiveness.”
2. Committee/Decision Making Draft. (Discussion)
3. Meetinghouse Discernment: (Discussion) At our second hour on Sunday (April 3), Friends seemed to have generally shifted to focus on moving forward, and assessing what we have learned from our experience, and seeking unity on the issues surrounding our Meeting place. John has posted to our website Dee Dee's notes from the two second hours facilitated by Iris and Jerry. Links will be posted in the e-news. M&C recommends to we have a retreat in late spring with a theme along the lines of, “Do we want a different Meetinghouse space to rent or own and what would that look like?”
4. State of Society Report: (Action) Recommend final approval following second month of seasoning
5. Second hours:
  - April 17: OWG Welcoming Activity and extended social time with potluck finger food
  - April 24: PNQM – Extended social time
  - May 1: Potluck
  - May 8: Mother's Day – Extended Social Time
  - May 15: MfWfB
  - May 22: Applying Quaker values to food choices, Lynne Lohr
  - May 29: Memorial day – no second hour
  - June 5: Welcoming activity/game followed by Potluck
6. Distractions in Worship. (Information) Ministry and Counsel invites Friends who have concerns regarding distractions during worship or second hours are invited to visit a M&C Meeting and hold this matter in the Light and labor with us about it.
7. Member concerns:
  - A. Aurora's clearness committee has been appointed, and will be meeting later this week.
  - B. Kristen McLewin's letter for membership

M&C's next meeting will be Thursday, May 5, 2016, at 7 p.m.

### **Nom Comm. Report for MfWfB - April 2016:**

The Report of March 13, 2016 has been seasoning and we request final acceptance.

We request the following additions/changes be accepted for seasoning at the April Meeting for Business.

- Librarian: Rachel VanBoven until 2018.
- Ministry and Counsel: Larry Thompson until 2018.
- Metamorphosis Editor: Betty McMahon - new schedule is every 2 months, job description will be updated.
- Remove Kristen McLewin from archivist position and add her to Children's Committee.

We also suggest that committees hold initial meetings with with new members and continuing members. This is a good time to review the committee job description.

Job descriptions are posted in Bellingham Friends' website in "About Us".

**Report from Outreach and Welcoming Group to Bellingham Friends Meeting MfWfB,  
April 10, 2016**

The Outreach and Welcoming Group would like to report on two actions:

1. At our last meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup>, we discussed the “all are welcome here” poster that had been brought to MfWfB on March 13<sup>th</sup> and referred to us for discernment. Since our outdoor sign already makes it clear that all are welcome to attend and/or join our Meeting, we felt that further action really fell more within the jurisdiction of the Social and Environmental Concerns Committee and we have therefore referred the matter back to that committee.
  
2. In January we were asked for discernment concerning the possibility of a large wall-mounted display for nametags and photographs of Meeting members and attenders. We discussed this matter in February and decided that there were too many logistical difficulties involved in maintaining such a display that it would be impractical even if Explorations Academy were willing to leave it more or less permanently mounted (and considerably more so if they were not willing). With input from John Hatten we discerned that a more practical way of making photos of Friends available to those joining us, whether newcomers or not, would be to have an online photo gallery posted on our website. Anyone could, of course, opt out of having their photo included. We are currently working on the logistics of creating such an online photo gallery.

Related action item: The online photo gallery could be posted in either the public or the private portion of the website. We recommend the public portion, since a major purpose of having the gallery is to help introduce newcomers to us visually as well as by name. However, some Friends may have privacy concerns and for that reason advocate for the gallery to be within the password-protected portion of the site. However, if the gallery is public any such Friends can always opt out of being included, or may opt to just have their names and not photos included.

--Don Goldstein, Clerk of Outreach and Welcoming Group, 4/7/16  
Other OWG members are Dusty Andersen, Wendy Goldstein, and Kathy Long

**Bellingham Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends**  
**Statement of Financial Activity**  
**YTD 2016**

	Jan - Mar 16	Budget	\$ Over Bu...	% of Budg...
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
<b>4000 · All Contributions</b>				
4010 · Contributions by Check	2,850.00	15,963.00	-13,113.00	17.9%
4015 · Contributions by Cash	143.00	400.00	-257.00	35.8%
4018 · Contributions in Kind	90.42	427.00	-336.58	21.2%
4000 · All Contributions - Other	40.00			
<b>Total 4000 · All Contributions</b>	<b>3,123.42</b>	<b>16,790.00</b>	<b>-13,666.58</b>	<b>18.6%</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>3,123.42</b>	<b>16,790.00</b>	<b>-13,666.58</b>	<b>18.6%</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
<b>5000 · Finance Committee</b>				
5011 · State Filing Fee	0.00	10.00	-10.00	0.0%
5020 · Equipment	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%
5030 · Liability Insurance	0.00	575.00	-575.00	0.0%
5040 · Rent	1,800.00	7,200.00	-5,400.00	25.0%
5060 · Supplies, Postage and Copying	9.80	30.00	-20.20	32.7%
5070 · Quarterly Meeting Assessment	0.00	80.00	-80.00	0.0%
5080 · Yearly Meeting Assessment	0.00	2,400.00	-2,400.00	0.0%
<b>Total 5000 · Finance Committee</b>	<b>1,809.80</b>	<b>10,345.00</b>	<b>-8,535.20</b>	<b>17.5%</b>
<b>5600 · Children's Program</b>				
5630 · Childcare	380.00	1,500.00	-1,120.00	25.3%
5650 · Supplies amd Materials	0.00	500.00	-500.00	0.0%
<b>Total 5600 · Children's Program</b>	<b>380.00</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>-1,620.00</b>	<b>19.0%</b>
<b>5700 · Communications</b>				
5710 · Advertising	0.00	70.00	-70.00	0.0%
5720 · Directory	0.00	80.00	-80.00	0.0%
5730 · Newsletter	12.35	80.00	-67.65	15.4%
5740 · P.O. Box	86.00	80.00	6.00	107.5%
5750 · Website/Other	0.00	30.00	-30.00	0.0%
<b>Total 5700 · Communications</b>	<b>98.35</b>	<b>340.00</b>	<b>-241.65</b>	<b>28.9%</b>
<b>6000 · Ministry and Counsel</b>				
6030 · Gifts	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%
6040 · Pamphlets and Subscriptions	0.00	125.00	-125.00	0.0%
6050 · Outreach and Welcoming	0.00	200.00	-200.00	0.0%
6060 · Retreats and Special Events	61.00	500.00	-439.00	12.2%
<b>Total 6000 · Ministry and Counsel</b>	<b>61.00</b>	<b>875.00</b>	<b>-814.00</b>	<b>7.0%</b>
<b>6500 · Other Committees</b>				
6510 · Hospitality	60.42	450.00	-389.58	13.4%
6520 · Library	22.00	150.00	-128.00	14.7%
6530 · Oversight for Lopez P.M.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
6540 · Social and Environmental Crns	0.00	140.00	-140.00	0.0%
<b>Total 6500 · Other Committees</b>	<b>82.42</b>	<b>740.00</b>	<b>-657.58</b>	<b>11.1%</b>
<b>6600 · Outreach and Support</b>				
6610 · AFSC	165.00	165.00	0.00	100.0%
6611 · FCNL	150.00	150.00	0.00	100.0%
6612 · FCWPP	0.00	150.00	-150.00	0.0%
6613 · FGC	100.00	100.00	0.00	100.0%
6614 · Interfaith Coalition	0.00	125.00	-125.00	0.0%
6617 · FWCC	0.00	125.00	-125.00	0.0%
6618 · Quaker Earthcare Witness	0.00	125.00	-125.00	0.0%
6620 · Right Sharing of World Reso...	0.00	125.00	-125.00	0.0%
6630 · Whatcom Peace and Justice	300.00	1,200.00	-900.00	25.0%
6640 · WA Coltn to Abolsh Death P...	0.00	75.00	-75.00	0.0%
6650 · W. WA FOR	75.00	50.00	25.00	150.0%
6690 · Belllghm Human Rights Festi...	100.00	100.00	0.00	100.0%
<b>Total 6600 · Outreach and Support</b>	<b>890.00</b>	<b>2,490.00</b>	<b>-1,600.00</b>	<b>35.7%</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>3,321.57</b>	<b>16,790.00</b>	<b>-13,468.43</b>	<b>19.8%</b>

## Bellingham Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

## Balance Sheet

As of March 31, 2016

04/05/16

Accrual Basis

	Mar 31, 16	Mar 31, 15	\$ Change
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
<b>Checking/Savings</b>			
1010 · WECU Checking	6,139.96	5,724.68	415.28
1020 · WECU Savings	10,539.69	10,500.09	39.60
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	16,679.65	16,224.77	454.88
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	16,679.65	16,224.77	454.88
<b>Other Assets</b>			
<b>1800 · Marketable Securities</b>			
1810 · Friends Fiduciary	149,232.02	154,641.10	-5,409.08
1820 · Scottrade	25,265.48	26,140.23	-874.75
<b>Total 1800 · Marketable Securities</b>	174,497.50	180,781.33	-6,283.83
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	174,497.50	180,781.33	-6,283.83
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>191,177.15</b>	<b>197,006.10</b>	<b>-5,828.95</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>			
<b>Equity</b>			
<b>3100 · Permanently Restricted</b>			
3110 · Meeting House Funds	88,018.63	87,043.63	975.00
3120 · Gathering Sponsorship	45,756.21	46,491.21	-735.00
<b>Total 3100 · Permanently Restrict...</b>	133,774.84	133,534.84	240.00
<b>3200 · Temporarily Restricted</b>			
3260 · Mutual Aid	10,215.05	10,215.05	0.00
3270 · Quaker Activity	9,212.04	10,212.04	-1,000.00
3280 · Meeting House	27,593.48	27,523.48	70.00
<b>Total 3200 · Temporarily Restrict...</b>	47,020.57	47,950.57	-930.00
<b>32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets</b>	-199.76	300.00	-499.76
<b>3500 · Unrestricted Assets</b>	11,613.88	11,313.88	300.00
<b>Net Income</b>	-1,032.38	3,906.81	-4,939.19
<b>Total Equity</b>	191,177.15	197,006.10	-5,828.95
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>191,177.15</b>	<b>197,006.10</b>	<b>-5,828.95</b>



	<u>Jan - Mar 16</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Bu...</u>	<u>% of Budg...</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	-198.15	0.00	-198.15	100.0%
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Other Income</b>				
<b>4060 · Change in Asset Value</b>				
4061 · FFC General Savings	-925.26			
4062 · FFC Gathering Fund	-226.60			
4063 · FFC Meeting House	-660.12			
4065 · Scottrade	320.75			
<b>Total 4060 · Change in Asset Value</b>	<u>-1,491.23</u>			
<b>8200 · Other Income</b>				
8230 · Received for FCWPP	0.00			
<b>Total 8200 · Other Income</b>	<u>0.00</u>			
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<u>-1,491.23</u>			
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<u>-1,491.23</u>			
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>-1,689.38</u></u>	<u><u>0.00</u></u>	<u><u>-1,689.38</u></u>	<u><u>100.0%</u></u>

