

Bellingham Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
Approved Minutes
1-10-16

Present: Lorina Hall, Dorrie Jordan, John Hatten (clerking), Nan Macy, Virginia Herrick, Carole Teshima, Dusty Andersen, Lynn Lohr, Karen Steen, Sharon Trent, Judy Hopkinson (recording Clerk), Mark Hersh

2016.01.01 Friends approved the agenda for this meeting and the minutes from December MfWfB

2016.01.02 Ministry and Counsel Report (Attached)

2016.01.01 - Meeting gave final approval for a \$500 scholarship for Sara DeRoy to attend the Woodman Semester. She agreed to give a report to the meeting after her visit.

2016.01.02 - M&C asked that all committees prepare a report for the State of Society Report and send to John Hatten by Feb 5th.

2016.01.03 - Hospitality - Carole Teshima suggested that sign ups for kitchen be revised to allow two slots - Kitchen Set up and Kitchen Clean up. This would also allow newcomers to sign up without having to go through nominating. These could be done with a simple orientation rather than a long "training".

- A Friend pointed out that we have been asked not to use the stove without being trained by Explorations. Therefore people should be cautioned not to use the stove.
- Carole Teshima will write up a description of how to set up and clean up the kitchen for publication in the E-News.
- Another Friend pointed out that Key holders have a similar problem with a very long time commitment each day. This can be addressed by having key holders arrange to share the task
- Friends agreed that Carole Teshima will change the sign up sheet to include set up and clean up.

2016.01.04 Member Concern - Nan Macy asked whether anyone else in meeting is interested in engaging with other faith communities around racial discrimination and hate behaviors - She wondered whether Friends are interested in pro-actively engaging interfaith dialogue that is not Christo-centric. She recalls the existence of a Twig group that discussed religious tolerance.

- A Friend suggested we might consider a demonstration such as standing in silence if, for example, Donald Trump came to Bellingham
- The Clerk asked if anyone was familiar with "Twig"
- Virginia H. said that she will be going to businesses on behalf of the racial justice coalition
- Karen S said that a movement called "meet your neighbor" in Spokane reaches out to all religious communities and she offered to share the information with Nan and others
- Carole T suggested that the owner of Copy Source might be invited to give a second hour. Carole volunteered to join Virginia during her visit to Copy Source.
- It was suggested that this issue be taken to SEC which meets this Monday night at 6 pm

Meeting adjourned following silent worship

Ministry & Counsel Report to MfWfB

1. Advices and Queries – Use number one from Advices and Queries from the Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends in Britain: “Take heed, dear Friends, to the promptings of love and truth in your hearts. Trust them as the leading of God whose Light shows us our darkness and brings to us new life.”
2. (Action) The meeting has been seasoning Sara DeRoy's request for assistance with tuition to Woolman Semester School. Meeting is seasoning \$500 contribution from the Quaker Activity Fund. We ask that she give a report to the Meeting after the semester is over. M&C recommends approval.
3. (Information) Ministry and Counsel continues to hear from Friends that there are a wide variety of concerns and impressions regarding the outcome and/or the process of our consideration of the Bell Tower Studios building. We appreciate Friends' deep consideration of the dynamics of our Meeting's decision-making, and are holding us all in the Light. We look forward to a visit Jan. 31 from Iris Graville and Jerry Evergreen to facilitate a Meeting for Sharing. We do not yet know what form this meeting will take, but if Friends have thoughts or hopes about it, Dorrie or myself could communicate those to Iris and Jerry, as they are planning their offering to us. We are deeply grateful to them for being willing to perform this loving service for our Meeting, and hold us in the Light.
4. Second Hours:
 - Jan. 17 – Second Hour on Quaker worship. John Hatten will facilitate a discussion of “What are we doing during Meeting for Worship? What are we NOT doing? What IS Quaker worship? Why is the silence sacred?”
 - Jan. 24 – Potluck (in lieu of February Potluck)
 - Jan. 31 – Discussion of Meetinghouse decision making and a whole lot more, facilitated by Iris Graville and Jerry Evergreen. Iris has requested input from us but hasn't gotten back to us yet on what kind of input.
 - Feb. 7. -- State of Society brainstorming; John has agreed to facilitate this and write a first draft of our State of Society report.
 - Feb. 14 – MfWfB
 - Feb. 21 – Poetry sharing (OWG)
 - Feb. 28 -- open
 - Mar. 6 – celebration of Mary Ann's membership and Potluck
5. Next Meeting will be at 7 p.m. Feb. 1. Please contact Virginia if you would like to visit the committee meeting or have concerns for Ministry and Counsel to consider.