

Bellingham Friends Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
March 12, 2017
minutes Approved

Present: Nan Macy, Virginia Herrick, Lorina Hall, Don Vanvalkenburgh, Dusty Andersen, Joanne Cowan, Dave Hopkinson, Kristen McLewin, Susan Richardson (clerking), Lynne Lohr, Sharon Trent, Judy Hopkinson (recording clerk), Cheiron Moriya, Laurie Glenn, Allen Stockbridge, Don Reinke

The meeting opened with silent worship followed by review of the agenda.

2017.03.01 Ministry and Counsel (Report Attached)

2017.03.01. 1 Dusty Andersen was proposed and accepted for seasoning as a member of the nominating committee to serve through May 2019

2017.03.01.2 Meeting Retreat: The third weekend in Sept is an option for bringing Kathy and Bob Runyan for our retreat AND we would be able to share the cost with another meeting. Their presentation is called "Roots, Shoots, and Fruits".

- Discussion was brief and **Friend expressed support for the committee to ask the Runyans to lead our retreat.**
- **The Meeting felt that a one day retreat was preferable.**

2017.03.01.3 Inclusivity minute proposed by NPYM. (included in attached report)

Discussion: A Friend cautioned us about putting out a minute without being sufficiently educated regarding what it means to be inclusive. Another Friend felt it was aspirational rather than a reality for our meeting, but a good direction to work toward. In addition, this Friend reminded us that we had discussed this minute in October and there was some objection to the wording at that time.

It was suggested that we accept it for seasoning and work on rewording it as needed. Discussion ensued regarding what seasoning means and how long it takes and whether it would be referred to a committee.

The Meeting approved the minute for seasoning until after the Meeting has had sufficient education on the topic to enable discernment

An ad hoc committee was appointed: **Cheiron Moriya, Virginia Herrick, Kristen McLewin, and Nan Macy** agreed to serve on an ad hoc committee to review the minute and plan the Meeting's education on this topic.

2017.03.02 State of Society Report - Draft (attached) read by Joanne Cowan

A Friend asked how the process moves on from here. Joanne agreed to continue to take input. The clerk of SEC provided a suggested edit for the paragraph describing the work of that committee. A Friend asked that Children's Committee reference be described as Children's Program Committee.

The report was accepted for seasoning.

2017.03.03 Meeting House Process. (report attached) Larry T presented the attached document which was intended to summarize the experience of the Meeting and the intentions of the Meeting as discerned to date regarding our future meeting venue(s). It also covers work that has been done regarding specifications for land which might be

purchased to build a meeting, criteria for a rental space, and a job description for a meetinghouse scout and a meetinghouse committee. Larry asked that we focus on criteria for renting and criteria for buying raw land today.

2017.03.03.1 Discussion of criteria for rental space.

- A Friend asked that it be clarified that all floors of the space must be handicap accessible. The document will indicate general accessibility including all worship and meeting space.
- Nan M asked that transportation criteria be similar for both raw land and rental AND that it be clear that public transportation be available during meeting times.
- Dusty A recalled that when we met in Ferndale years ago we had higher attendance, and that perhaps we should consider other areas besides Bellingham or within 4 miles of Bellingham as listed in the criteria for purchase of raw land.
- Larry T reminded Friends that these are suggested criteria only and that scouts have discretion to suggest additional areas.
- A Friend expressed a desire that we be in a place where people can see us and find us and that being on a bus route might help with that.
- Several Friends expressed concern that the requirement for an acre of land in the criteria for purchase of raw land is perhaps excessive.

2017.03.03. 2 The Meeting accepted for seasoning the suggested Criteria for a Rental location with the changes suggested above.

2017.03.03.3 Discussion regarding suggested criteria for purchase of raw land

- Friends have already commented on the size of the lot, and consistency of wording of for transportation requirements.
- Another Friend asked about the cost of building. It was pointed out that building would not necessarily be immediate.
- A Friend pointed out that modular buildings can be purchased more reasonably than building in traditional buildings.
- Yurts were also suggested. It was noted that yurts and tents can be insulated, but they are not sound-proof. Another Friend felt that a Yurt was a great idea to start using the land before a building could be constructed.

2017.03.03.4 The Meeting accepted for seasoning the suggested criteria for purchase of raw land with the following edits

- In the section on transportation specify that the site should be visible and easy to find.
- after the description of uses: delete “more than 1 acre” and add “or near public space or park land”.

2017.03.03.4 The revised documents will be sent to Judy H and distributed to the MfWfB mailing list.

2017.03.03.5 Allen Stockbridge has prepared a document listing all the various buildings and sites that have been considered by the Scouts in the past.

2017.03.04 The Meeting minuted its appreciation to the ad hoc meetinghouse committee for preparation of this very helpful document on meetinghouse issues.

2017.03.05 SEC report (Report attached)

2017.03.06 Children's Program Committee (Report attached)

Friends were reminded to bring colored eggs for Easter and to be mindful of the content of foods that might cause allergic reactions in some of our children (see report for details). The Egg hunt will not be a second hour activity, but will be held during worship with egg salad for snack after meeting. **Friends who want to watch the egg hunt on Easter are encouraged to volunteer to help with the children that day.**

2017.03.07 Nominating Committee (Report Attached)

The Meeting accepted the nominating slate for seasoning.

It was noted that a meetinghouse committee will be nominated and presented for seasoning at the next meeting.

2017.03.08 The minutes for the Feb MfWfB were approved.

2017.03.09 Member Concerns

2017.03.09.1 Allen S asked whether the scouts should be actively looking for a new rental space. Friends felt that now that the criteria are more clear that search for a new location is appropriate, and Friends would like to move if we can find a new space. Another Friend expressed a desire to hear more about the ongoing search process.

2017.03.09.2 Friends discussed pros and cons of negotiating a renewed contract.

2017.03.09.3 A Friend asked whether Friends have to wait outside if they are late. It was clarified that late comers may wait outside and come in with the greeter or may go in quietly right away. **M&C will write a clarifying statement. The directions for the greeter are not clear on the topic of late entry into meeting for worship and M&C will deal with this.**

The meeting closed with silent worship at approximately 2 pm

Bellingham Friends Meeting

March 26 2017

Called Meeting for Business

Present: Dorrie Jordan, Lorina Hall, Jean Brechen, Wendy Goldstein, Don Goldstein, Lynne Lohr, Rachael Van Boven, Joanne Cowan, Larry Thompson, John Hatten, Dave Hopkinson Grace ___? , Kathy Finks, Susan Richardson, Allen Stockbridge, Mary Ann Percy, Virginia Herrick, Nan Macy, Don Lotz, Joan Lotz, Judy Hopkinson, Margie Fulton, Sue Cary, Wendy Courtemanche, Jim Gordon, Rob Dillard

2017.03C - 1

The Meeting approved Lynne Lohr as the recipient of the meetings scholarship for attendance at the 2017 FGC gathering.

**Bellingham Friends Meeting
Ministry and Counsel Report
March 12, 2017**

March query - From Faith & Practice (Pacific Yearly Meeting, p. 52), "How do we attend to the suffering of others in our local community, in our state and nation, and in our world community?"

1. Nominating Committee—We are working on nominating two additional members
2. Meetinghouse Scouts/Outcome of MH Second Hour discussion. M&C has been working on several Meetinghouse issues to bring before MfWfB. We sent out the two criteria (rental and purchase of raw land) and two job descriptions (Meetinghouse Scouts and Meetinghouse Committee).
3. We are working on the invitation to Bob & Kathy Runyan to come to Bellingham to present their Roots, Shoots and Fruits for a BFM Retreat. **The question will be brought to Meeting for Business.**
4. Clerk's correspondence:
 - a. NPYM Inclusivity Minute will be and considered for approval ²
 - b. Lopez MM Friend transfer requests. All three requests (Iris Graville, John Holding and Karen Gilbert) have been approved for transfer. ³
 - c. NPYM Visitor to NWYM 7/23-27, 2017 . Anyone interested in applying to attend NWYM as the NPYM visitor should contact someone from M&C for details.
 - d. We discussed how best to foster continued worship during Joys and Sorrows and smooth the transition to introductions and announcements. We are forwarding to OWC the suggestion that a line be added to the script of the Care of Meeting person that introductions will follow the sharing of Joys and Sorrows.
5. Second Hours dates and topics & OWC request for dates¹
 - March 5--Potluck
 - March 12--MFWFB
 - March 19--Worship Sharing:"What binds us as a community?"
 - March 26--SEC Video-"Every Row A Path," -- *looks at the experiences of several young female migrant workers and their families in Skagit County.*
 - April 2 - OWC request--see below ¹
 - April 9 - MFWFB
 - April 16 - Easter activities
 - April 23 - Quarterly Meeting (no second hour)
 - April 30
6. Next meeting is Tuesday, April 4 at Susan's.
7. Closing Worship

¹ *Outreach and Welcoming would like to request Second Hour time for a getting-acquainted activity on Sunday, April 2nd, following potluck. We plan to ask adult Friends, if able, to bring in a childhood photo of themselves, and for parents to bring in a baby photo(s) of their child(ren) if involved in the Meeting. The activity will challenge those who wish to try to guess the Friend in each photo, and also will give Friends an opportunity to share whatever they may remember of the circumstances of their own photo. This is publicized in advance so that Friends have a chance to track down and choose the photo(s) to bring in that morning.*

² Inclusivity Minute:

From: Ellen Simmons [mailto:ellenpsimmons@gmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, February 19, 2017 8:28 PM

To: quaker@kulshan.net

Subject: NPYM Inclusivity Minute

Dear John,

Last fall Otis Kenny, Clerk of the NPYM Coordinating Committee, sent each Meeting in NPYM a request to season a Minute on "Welcoming All Genders" or "Inclusivity Minute".

At the October 29th Coordinating Committee meeting, Multnomah Friends Meeting, as the originator of the Minute, was asked to take on the task of checking with each Meeting to find out where each is in the seasoning process.

Please let me know if Bellingham Friends Meeting has considered the Minute, or if it plans to do so later in the year. If your Meeting has approved a Minute can you please send me a copy?

Thank you,

Ellen Simmons, ad hoc Gender Concerns Committee

Multnomah Friends Meeting

Proposed Minute

North Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, an organization of unprogrammed Quaker meetings and worship groups in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming is an open and affirming faith community. We welcome all who come as religious seekers to share in worship and fully participate in the activities of our common life.

North Pacific Yearly Meeting understands that the Divine Source is leading our Meeting to honor the gender identity and expression of each person, as determined by that person. We affirm that gender expression and identity may be fluid and changeable. We recognize that when we embrace the Light within the full spectrum of gender identities in our Meeting, our worship deepens and our community is enriched.

As part of our evolving struggle to live our testimony of equality, North Pacific Yearly Meeting minutes our commitment to becoming an affirming, safe, and nurturing place for everyone to live fully that which the Spirit is leading them to be. We extend our loving care to people of all genders, including transgender, genderqueer, cisgender, gender non-conforming and intersex persons, their families and friends.

³ Request for Membership transfer:

Dear John and Bellingham Monthly Meeting,

I am writing to thank you all for accepting me as a member of your meeting, as an attender of Lopez Island Preparative Meeting. Becoming a member of your meeting as a new member of the Religious Society of Friends was a warm and loving experience and your meeting will always occupy a special place in my heart. I am now requesting the transfer of my membership from Bellingham Monthly Meeting to Lopez Island Friends Meeting.

It has been a pleasure to get to know some of you and I look forward to continuing the long and collaborative relationship our meetings have enjoyed.

I am looking forward also to becoming a member of our own Meeting on Lopez Island and appreciate your care in this whole process.

In gratitude and with love,

Karen Gilbert

State of Society, Bellingham Friends

Bellingham Friends Meeting is managing with agility and creativity and Meeting attendance is growing. Outreach and Welcoming Committee reported weekly adult attendance and children attending averages increased by 6% from last year.

Several operating changes occurred during the year: Lopez became an independent Meeting, no longer under our care. The Outreach and Welcoming Group became a committee of its own, no longer within M&C. Production of Metamorphosis, our hard copy newsletter, was laid down, with the continuation of our E-news newsletter, which has been a big success. Explorations Academy, the location where we currently meet, underwent a significant remodel. A document regarding clarification of our process of decision making and working with committees, after several years of development and seasoning, was accepted and approved because members had expressed concern about improving clarity of decision making.

Many activities and ongoing events continue to deepen our community: second hours on spiritual journeys; mid-week worship; monthly Spirit group, monthly Earthcare group, a retreat in June, an overnight camping trip in September. Friends continue to participate in community activities and Quaker groups: FCNL, QEW, Quaker Voice (formally FCWPP), Pendle Hill, FGC, as well as locally interfaith events.

Two Meeting outreach committees were very active. Outreach and Welcoming Committee brought and shared literature at three public city-wide events, and sponsored second-hours on “Quaker Ways”, the testimonies, discernment, and diversity among Friends.

The Social and Environmental Concerns Committee, given the current state of affairs in our nation, has attended several events honoring and supporting diversity and through its bringing our banner to various events, and by fund raising with concerns of the month. Despite experiencing quite a few changes in its composition, the SEC Committee remained very active, both in promoting education and information among members and in outreach to a wide variety of community groups.

Under the leadership of the Finance Committee, BFM once again met its budget. Saved funds, most set aside for a Meetinghouse, have grown substantially through investment with Friends Fiduciary Funds.

A pleasing development during the year was the reinvigoration of the children’s program under the stewardship of the Children’s Committee. The increased level of organization and member participation coincided with an increase in the number of children attending. This was a great joy to Bellingham Friends.

While our Meeting remains strong, the location for worship is an ongoing unresolved issue. Clarity about renting, building, buying hasn’t been reached. Development of a way forward includes discussion of an approved searching job description and a committee vs. an individual.

As our Meeting grows, it struggled on occasion with communicating with loving care. Feelings were hurt and trust challenged. M&C brought its attention to assist the healing and in listening with spirit and respect and not personalizing conflicts. There was an uncomfortable situation, but we knew it was not unprecedented, and while unfortunate, Friends understood there was an opportunity for learning how to listen better bring spirit more in our communications. BFM continues as a strong community and grows deeper every year.

Social and Environmental Concerns Committee
Report to Meeting for Worship for Business
March 12, 2017

Information items:

- SEC Committee compiled a 2016 state of the committee report, which is available to interested Friends.
- March Concern of the Month: Northwest Youth Services PAD program
NWYS collaborates with at-risk, runaway and homeless youth to foster self reliance. They are currently having a fund drive for their PAD program, which provides housing for 13-17 year olds for 21 days. Temporary housing at the PAD (Positive Adolescent Development) includes food, fun activities, and school enrollment services. While there, the teenagers work with a case manager to create a plan for stable housing. An anonymous donor has pledged matching funds up to \$17,000 for any donations for the PAD program through March 31, 2017.
- SEC Comm invites interested Friends to join us tomorrow/Monday, March 13, 6pm for a dinner and concert benefitting the Unist'ot'en Camp, with proceeds specifically going toward building a Healing Lodge there. The event, "Stop the Pipelines. Start the Music" will be at BUF, is sponsored by the Bellingham NODAPL Coalition, and will feature speakers from the Wet'suwet'en Nation. There is a \$20 recommended minimum donation but no one will be turned away. Reservations are required for dinner.
- On Sunday, March 26, SEC will sponsor a second hour featuring the short film, *Every Row a Path*, followed by a facilitated discussion. From the film's website: "In the berry fields of Washington State's Skagit Valley, migrant teenage girls struggle to balance family and school with back-breaking agricultural work. Statistically, they are destined to fail, but five young women are determined to beat those odds."
We invite Friends to join us.
- Next SEC meeting: Monday, April 3, 4-6pm at Joan's house

Proposes List of Bellingham Friends Officers & Committees for 2017-2018

Terms end on April 30 of year shown unless indicated otherwise.

Non-Committee Positions:

Clerk	John Hatten	2018
Associate Clerk	(vacancy)	
Recording Clerk	Judy Hopkinson	2018
Treasurer	Joanne Cowan	2018
Assistant Treasurer	(vacancy)	
Interfaith Coalition	Sharon Trent	2018
Librarian	Rachel Van Boven	2018
Hospitality Coordinator	Mark Hersh	2019
Archivist	(vacancy)	
Meetinghouse liaison	Dave Hopkinson	2019
Meetinghouse scout	(pending new committee)	
NPYM Coordinating Committee	Alice Robb	Sept 2018
PNQM Continuing Committee	Don Goldstein	July 2018
FCNL rep.	Karen Steen	2018
QEW rep.	Mary Ann Percy	2018
FGC rep.	Don Goldstein	2018
Western Friend	Joanne Cowan	2019
AFSC rep.	Lorina Hall	2018
Native American rep.	(vacancy)	
Key holders	Dusty Andersen	2019
	Wendy Goldstein	2018
	(vacancy)	2019
	Karen Steen	2018
Website manager	John Hatten	2018
E-news editor	Judy Hopkinson	2019
Phone messages	Don Goldstein	2019
Directory manager	Don Goldstein	2018
Mail collector	Joanne Cowan	2019

Committees:

Ministry and Counsel

Mary Ann Percy, co-clerk	2018
Susan Richardson, co-clerk	2018
John Hatten (ex officio)	2018
Larry Thompson	2018

Children's Program

Virginia Herrick, clerk	2018
Aurora Fox	2018
Kristen McLewin	2018
(vacancy)	2019

Finance

Allan Richardson, clerk	2018
Joanne Cowan, ex officio	2018

Larry Thompson	2018
Jessica Bee	2018

Nominating

Joanne Cowan, clerk	May 2019
Kristen McLewin	May 2017
Don Goldstein	May 2018
(vacancy)	May 2018
Dusty Andersen	May 2019

Outreach and Welcoming

Don Goldstein, clerk	2019
Dusty Andersen	2018
Wendy Goldstein	2018
Don Reinke	2019
(vacancy)	2019

Social and Environmental Concerns

Judy Hopkinson	2019
Joan Ofteness	2018
Nan Macy, clerk	2018
Wyoming McKenzie	2019

FGC Gathering Sponsored

Attender: Lynne Lohr Sept. 2017

Children's Program Committee Report
BFM, Meeting for Worship for Business
March 12, 2017

1. Easter Plans. Children's Program Committee is planning to hold our annual Easter Egg hunt, and asks Friends to bring colored eggs to hide. Some years, some Friends have brought Pysanky eggs, either new ones, or ones to donate from years past. Please feel free to do so, and let us know if you need equipment to make Pysanky eggs, as Sharon cannot make them this year because of her recent surgery, but does have the materials.

Other Friends have brought plastic eggs with treats in them, and we do have some plastic eggs in the CP cabinet. Since we have children in the program who have celiac disease and other food sensitivities, please stay tuned for information about what treats will work for ALL the kids. Many commercially available chocolates won't work, and many parents like to avoid pure-sugar treats, so please bear with us.

It is also very handy to have extra baskets with "Easter Grass" or other padding, in case some kids come without them. (We do have a couple in the CP cabinet.) Generally, we have been able to hide eggs outdoors. In case of inclement weather, we will hide them in the hallway and lobby area, and Children's Program Room, while the kids are waiting in the Commons.

Our intention is to have a few Friends (possibly Junior Friends) hide the eggs during the first 15-20 minutes of worship, while the younger kids hear a story, or work on a craft project. If you are interested in teaching a lesson, or in hiding eggs, please contact Virginia.

In past years, some Friends have brought ingredients (mayo, mustard, bread) to make egg salad sandwiches after the egg hunt, with some of the eggs. If we wish to do this this year, let's be sensitive and have some egg salad in bowls (no bread) and make sure the mayo we use has no dairy or gluten. We might also want to have some vegan finger food on hand, if someone is willing to make them.

2. Intergenerational Second Hour. We would like to request that Children's Program be put on the schedule for a second hour April 30, the fifth Sunday. This will be an intergenerational activity – fun for all ages! – but will also have a spiritual deepening aspect. Stay tuned for more tantalizing hints! 😊

3. Next Meeting. Children's Program committee will meet at 5:30 p.m. March 27. Please contact Kristen or Virginia if you would like to attend or have an idea or a concern relating to Children's Program.

CURRENT ISSUES RELATED TO A FUTURE MEETINGHOUSE FOR BELLINGHAM FRIENDS MEETING

FEBRUARY 18, 2017

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE:

Since 2015 the Bellingham Friends Meeting (BFM) has devoted considerable energy to questions related to where its worship and other activities should be conducted. In 2015, the Meeting seriously considered purchase of the Bell Tower Building as a new home, ultimately discerning that that such purpose was unlikely to achieve unity among Meeting members and attendees.

The purpose of this present document is to coherently summarize BFM activities, discernments where they exist, and work in progress since The Bell Tower discernment process up to the date of this writing. In doing this, the hope is to create a background report for ongoing use. A second purpose is to provide a foundation for use by BFM as it continues to find the Light around its questions of a Meetinghouse home.

TIME LINE

- January 2016 BFM offer for purchase of Bell Tower Building expires, formally ending consideration of this offer
- Spring/ Summer/ fall 2016 Meeting sponsors several Meeting wide activities designed to allow for reconciliation and healing following the Bell Tower process
- Summer 2016 Retreat at St Paul's Church is attended by more than 35 Friends who consider the question of future meetinghouse needs
- Fall 2016 Committee clerked by Virginia Herrick provides report to M & C about their process and findings including results from the St Paul's retreat. A key finding is that the Committee came to believe that there is BFM unity of desire to move to a new location for the Meeting. Criteria to describe such a location are not yet available.
- October 2016 BFM hosts second hour for 2 purposes: (a) to test whether the Meeting is in unity about moving to a new location. And (b) to develop criteria that future Meeting scouts might use in a search for a new rental location. At this meeting (which WAS NOT a M4W4B and therefore advisory only) there was a sense of unity around moving. Regarding criteria, Friends considered a lengthy list of rental criteria developed for discussion by Allen and Larry. Ultimately, advice was (a) use the criteria as advisory only/ "we'll know it when we see it", and (b) the longer list was pared down to 6 "top" criteria. The third sense to arise from this second hour was "BFM wishes to continue to explore thoughts and feelings about buying, owning or building a Meetinghouse."
- November/ December 2016 A small group of Friends, with Dave Hopkinson writing a memo to M & C, meets and suggests that BFM consider the option of purchasing land on which BFM may later "purpose-build" its Meetinghouse. This

idea was subsequently reviewed at a business meeting and the sense of the meeting was to add this as another idea for scouts to consider.

November/ December 2016 Nan Macy drafted a job description for Meetinghouse scout. This was reviewed and “tweaked” by M & C. Subsequently, the job description was accepted for seasoning (but as of this date not finally accepted) at a M4W4B in December

January 8, 2017 M4W4B discussed process issues related to a new Meetinghouse including how to keep members informed about the location prospects. An ad hoc Committee (Stockbridge, Hopkinson, Thompson) was asked to consider and make a recommendation as to whether the entire meetinghouse process should be guided by a committee.

Mid-January 2017 Ad hoc Committee recommends using a Committee and discusses roles, process, and composition for such a committee

STATUS OF MEETINGHOUSE ACTIVITY AS OF FEBRUARY 18, 2017

The points below summarize the sense of the Meeting as of this writing on key dimensions of the Meetinghouse question:

1. Decision to move: There is a sense of the Meeting that moving from Explorations is desirable provided that a suitable new location can be located by scouts and agreed upon by Meeting.
2. Meetinghouse Criteria: We need to have two sets of criteria for use by the scouts—(a) criteria for a new rental, and (b) criteria for land to purchase. The first criteria set exists in draft (see attachment #1) but needs one more final review in a M4W4B. A set of criteria for land purchase has been drafted (see attachment #2) but has had no meeting-wide review to date. This also needs scheduling at M4W4B.
3. Scout Job description: A draft job description has been accepted for seasoning but not yet finally agreed upon. The job description (see attachment #3) needs one more tweak and review, then to also return to M4W4B.
4. Committee Charter: There is a recommendation for a committee (see attachment #4) which has not been initially reviewed by Meeting or endorsed by M4W4B.
5. Appointment of Scouts and Committee: Nominees remain to be selected and appointed.

ATTACHMENT #1

MEETING CRITERIA FOR A RENTAL LOCATION

Purpose of these criteria

These criteria are intended to provide some guidance to scouts as they search for a suitable location for BFM. They are not intended to replace the judgement of the scouts or others who may, based on their experience suggest a location not necessarily meeting all these criteria. “If you see it, you may just know.” The criteria are intended and do reflect discussions in the broader BFM Meeting. Criteria are hoped to be useful for scouts in narrowing choices among many prospective locations.

KEY CRITERIA

1. Seating for 50+ people
2. Space available Sundays between 9AM and 2PM
3. Kitchen and seating area which may also be used for children’s program. Otherwise, dedicated space is needed for Children’s program
4. On or close to centrally located bus stop
5. Maximum outlay of Meeting funds for rent and utilities: \$1,000/ month (allowing for the possibility of subletting our rental space in one way or another, if only for public meetings during the week or in evenings).
6. Ground floor accessible “for people with mobility-related issues”

CRITERIA FOR PURCHASE OF RAW LAND FOR BFM

Purpose of these criteria

These criteria are intended to provide some guidance to scouts as they search for a suitable location for BFM. They are not intended to replace the judgement of the scouts or others who may, based on their experience suggest a location not necessarily meeting all these criteria. “If you see it, you may know it.” The criteria are intended and do reflect discussions in the broader BFM Meeting. Criteria are hoped to be useful for scouts in narrowing choices among the many prospective locations.

KEY CRITERIA FOR RAW LAND PURCHASE

1. Land is accessible to public transit
2. Lot is large enough to allow for construction as well as outdoor space for play and other uses (more than 1 acre)
3. Cost of the land is less than \$200,000
4. Lot is buildable (proper zoning and suitable site)
5. The site and streets nearby allow for conveniently parking up to 25 vehicles
6. Adding access to water, sewer, and power is feasible at a reasonable cost.
7. Prefer location within 4 miles of downtown Bellingham

ATTACHMENT #3

JOB DESCRIPTION FOR BFM MEETINGHOUSE SCOUTS

Purpose:

These positions are needed for as long as the Meeting is without a permanent home and whenever changes within the Meeting suggest that a new home would benefit the health and wellbeing of the Meeting. The Meetinghouse scouts are charged with finding space for the Meeting whether rented, leased to own, raw land for future building, purchased as an existing building, or donated. The Meeting will have at least one scout but will generally have 2 or possibly 3.

Description:

The Meeting is responsible for providing scouts with general oversight and guidance and will provide criteria, reviewed by all interested persons in the Meeting, which are intended to generally guide the scouts as they search for a suitable location. Criteria may change as members and attenders change, and the Meeting is responsible for communicating changes to the scouts.

Because of the importance of their mission, and because of the challenges of finding a Meetinghouse that sufficiently meets our needs, if, in the opinion of a Meetinghouse scout, a location is found that might be an interesting option for the Meeting to consider even though it doesn't meet minimum criteria, the Scout is welcome to suggest to the Meetinghouse Committee, and the Meetinghouse Committee to the full Meeting, that location.

Specific Responsibilities:

1. Keep a lookout for the types of properties for which the meeting is currently searching (rental or raw land purchase as of 2/17).
2. Keep a record of all properties which were visited and could possibly be suitable
3. Elicit and welcome input from members, attenders, and others in the community about Meetinghouse possibilities.
4. Be willing to serve on or meet as necessary with the Meetinghouse Committee in order to further the goal of locating a suitable property for the Meeting. Provide records of properties evaluated to the Committee.

5. Be aware of Meeting's current location criteria and evaluate all potential properties at least in light of these criteria.

ATTACHMENT #4

CHARTER FOR THE BFM MEETINGHOUSE COMMITTEE

Purpose:

For as long as the BFM Members shall desire, this Committee will oversee and coordinate matters pertaining to the Meeting's physical location and shall do so under the guidance of the entire Meeting. This includes liaison with the Meeting's landlord (through the Meetinghouse liaison), location of new properties which the Meeting may choose to explore for its use, discussion of the suitability of proposed new locations, and detailed evaluations of such locations. The Committee serves as a conduit between scouts and the Monthly Meeting and is intended to keep the Meeting as a whole well apprised of progress in achieving its mission.

Composition:

The Meetinghouse Committee will include at least 3 persons and at a minimum include at least:

- The person responsible for liaison with any landlord
- At least one of the scouts and may include all scouts
- An at-large individual appointed by the Meeting

The Meetinghouse Committee will generally add additional ad hoc members with expertise in fields such as real estate, property management, finance, business, law and other relevant disciplines if the Meeting determines that it wishes to have a detailed evaluation of a particular prospect property.

The members of the Meetinghouse Committee will be nominated by the Nominating Committee and shall be accepted at a scheduled M4W4B.

Specific Duties:

1. Keep the Meeting informed of progress in obtaining suitable properties by providing a report at each monthly business meeting.
2. Serve as a place for detailed discussion of any facility related matters that may pertain to BFM.
3. Provide a source for coordination among scouts and a venue for all scouts and committee members to share ideas about properties and discuss their suitability.
4. Oversee relations with any existing landlord

5. In the event of property ownership, assure smooth operation of same under the general direction of Meeting.
6. As described above under composition, the Committee may be expanded from time to time by adding ad hoc members to assist with evaluation of specific properties.

DRAFT