

Pending Minutes
Midcoast Monthly Meeting for Business
Fifth Month 17, 2009

Co-clerk Karen Cadbury opened the session with moments of silence. There were 20 present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved with one correction: the Meeting will send one autographed copy of Alice Lacy's new book to Sidwell Friends Middle School Library.

Committee Reports

Finance / Treasurer – Bill Spock reported the number of annual pledges has decreased. This year's pledge letter has been written. Paul Diamond presented the proposed budget for 2009-2010. The proposed goal for pledged contributions is \$14,000. Proposed committee budgets are generally lower. The Meeting hopes to approve a budget at the June session.

Meetinghouse & Grounds

Grounds Committee co-chairmen George Waldman and Bill Hallett presented a proposal that we replace the blueberries in the shade garden with more shade-loving plants; that we continue work sessions following monthly potluck lunches; that we forego a shed. George and Bill agreed to convene a meeting of the current Meetinghouse & Grounds Committee to discuss the future of meetinghouse care, as separate from grounds care, and bring a recommendation to the next business meeting.

Deb Haviland reported for the ad hoc committee for memorial stones (markers). The proposal covers material, sizes, costs, location of stones and source. The location would be to the left (could also be to the right) of the path leading to the memorial circle. The matter will be on the June agenda for possible approval. Eligibility was considered at an earlier business meeting.

Ministry & Counsel – Rachel McGuinness reported the committee hopes to act soon on a State of Society Report and several Memorial Minutes. It is important that we submit a State of Society Report to NEYM (New England Yearly Meeting) this year since we did not do so last year.

Peace & Social Concerns – The question of the committee's relationship to the Peace Center Steering Committee was discussed specifically the question of combining the two budgets, the two committees and the two meeting times. Should there be one committee which could set up sub-committees when appropriate? It was decided more discussion by people actively concerned is needed. Brewster Grace and Carmen Lavertu will convene such a discussion and bring a recommendation to the next meeting for business.

Religious Education – Rachel McGuinness and Karen Cadbury reported. Teachers are not committed to have religious education classes during the summer. There will be a sign-up

sheet posted for volunteers to companion children who come. The expected swing set is a basic model to which additions could be made in the future. Appreciation for the teachers and our gratitude was expressed.

Hospitality – Anne Spencer reported. The committee will now be responsible for supplies.

Peace Center Steering Committee – Brewster Grace and Linda Cote-Small reported on future plans. The meeting endorsed its plan, to be organized by the Peace Center, to have Richard Erstad of AFSC (American Friends Service Committee) speak here next Fall. While he also has vast experience on Haiti the committee will ask him to speak on Cuba. Other possible plans for the future include a four-week Earth Institute study group based on reading and an Alternatives to Violence Workshop here in September.

Old Business

Volunteer Closers of Meeting for Worship: June – Carmen Lavertu
July – Thomas Steele-Maley
August – Nancy Booth (to be confirmed)

Correspondence – A new draft chapter for the revised NEYM Faith & Practice has arrived. Friends are asked to review it.

Continuation of a concern raised at worship-sharing during the called meeting on a peace minute from NEYM: to increase Friends' awareness of what members/attenders are doing for peace in their own lives. This could be a starting point for collective energy for a corporate project. Possible formats are many including website, Newsletter, Friendly Eights or a combination.

The annual Meeting of the Corporation of Midcoast Monthly Meeting will be on the June agenda.

No further business coming before the Meeting it adjourned following moments of silence planning to meet next on Sunday, June 21. All are welcome. Please bring a bag lunch.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Cadbury, Co-clerk

Jean Crawford, Recording Clerk

Note: Karen will ask Guy Marsden to include directions to the Meetinghouse on the website. Our advertisement in the Friends Journal will include the website, beginning next year, and will not include directions to the Meetinghouse.