

Minutes
Midcoast Monthly Meeting
Damariscotta, Eleventh Month 15, 2009

Co-clerk Karen Cadbury opened the meeting. Mallory Waldman read some of the advices which were followed by moments of silence. There were 21 in attendance. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved

Treasurer's Report – Paul Diamond reported there was a false fire alarm recently. The incident pointed out the need for a lock box which has been ordered.

Meetinghouse and Grounds – Bill Hallett and George Waldman reported on efforts to improve the insulation of the basement, perhaps also the attic access space and the meetinghouse windows. The committee is working to regulate temperature in the all-purpose room: to this end the notice by the thermostat and wording in our rental forms will be clarified. The committee person responsible for a given month will supervise programming of the thermostat in advance of events.

Pastoral Care – Carmen Lavertu offered to write up Alice Lacy's concern regarding a recent experience she had in the hospital.

Gifts and Leadings – The committee submitted 7 recommendations. These will be submitted to the Newsletter and placed on the agenda for the December meeting for business. The recommendations include establishing a list of resource people from the meeting, who may not serve on committees, but would be available to meet specific tasks and responsibilities of the meeting.

Ministry and Counsel – Two requests for membership and two memorial minutes are in process. The committee will contact several members who have been inactive for some time, asking them to consider their status. Committee members who attended Quaker Quest recommended we invite the speaker to present to the meeting. Friends approved.

Peace Center – A recent gathering was held with representatives from 4 area congregations. The next step is to determine if there is interest in working collaboratively on a peace project.

Religious Education – Teachers have volunteered for all First Days of the school year, except the fifth weeks in some months, which will be met by rotating the responsibility. The theme this year is care of the earth.

Hospitality – Mallory Waldman will get 2 recycling bins to be placed under the serving table. Two Friendly Eights groups are meeting. Friends are reminded to label and date items they place in the refrigerator.

Old Business

Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting – Carmen Lavertu reported. We are asked to review the draft revision of New England Yearly Meeting Faith & Practice, which is in a notebook in the Library. Friends considered how to respond to the recent defeat of the same sex marriage referendum. Carmen will post the meeting's 1996 minute on this, and we will look at whether we wish to revise it to endorse same sex "marriages" rather than "civil unions." The matter was referred to Ministry & Counsel. The committee is asked to consider possible revision of the minute as well as wider circulation for the document that is finally produced.

New Business

December 13 will be the date for the meeting's Christmas Party. We will bring lightly used items for sale. Proceeds will be donated to a charitable organization in Haiti. George Waldman will get information on Partners In Health. We will also bring finger food.

January 3 will be the date for a New Year's Candle Lighting Service followed by a potluck. Friends will please bring candle holders.

No further business coming before the meeting, it was adjourned following moments of silence, planning to meet next on Sunday, December 20. Please bring a bag lunch.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Cadbury

Jean Crawford

Co-clerk

Recording Clerk