

Minutes  
Midcoast Monthly Meeting for Business  
Ninth Month 20, 2009

Co-clerk Deborah Haviland opened the session with a quote from Eleanor Roosevelt and moments of silence. Thirteen members and attenders were present.

Gratitudes were expressed, including appreciation for the volunteer who watched the children during a worship sharing time this morning.

Minutes of the July meeting for business were approved. Regarding the June minutes, previously approved, the co-clerk raised a question of wording in the paragraph on Pastoral Care. The wording will be changed to: “ The meeting agreed all members will be listed in a newly revised Directory. Some others will be asked if they wish to remain in the Directory.” The recording clerk will ask Guy Marsden to change the record on the website.

Finance Committee / Treasurer’s report – there was no report.

Committee Reports:

Ministry & Counsel – The proposed State of the Meeting Report for 2007-2008 was read aloud. Several editions, corrections and changes were suggested regarding Peace & Social Concerns, Friendly Eights, Meetinghouse & Grounds, the Newsletter and the website. Ministry and Counsel will amend this report and send it forward.

Meetinghouse & Grounds – There was no report. The meeting thanked this committee for the recent refurbishing of the driveway.

Peace Center – Brewster Grace reported. The War Is Not the Answer film series has been discontinued. The committee’s concern for militarism continues. The book study group continues to meet the second and fourth Sundays of the month, 8:30 a.m. The current book is *Right Relationship – Building a Whole Earth Economy*. The main project of the committee at present is Connection and Collaboration with Congregations. Area ministers have been invited to meet October 19 for discussion and planning. Another series, Menu for the Future, is being facilitated by Linda Cote-Small. This centers on a book on the food industry. See Linda to order books. The meeting approved the following minute: Friends considered a recommendation from the Peace Center Committee that the Peace & Social Concerns Committee be suspended at this time (not laid down). Gifts & Leadings will consider in the future whether an active Peace & Social Care Committee is appropriate. The Treasurer will continue to disburse Peace & Social Concerns funds as he sees fit. A Friend suggested including environmental efforts in a revised Peace Center name.

Religious Education – Rachel McGuinness reported the 2009-2010 program became active today. She expressed appreciation for Kate Nordstrom’s poster that complements the book Rachel used with the children today.

Hospitality – Anne Spencer reported on three areas. Friends are encouraged to sign up for Friendly Eights in the entry hall. Shall we continue buying fair trade coffee that is more expensive than the regular? The meeting decided we shall. The refrigerator has been smelling bad. Volunteers who contribute refreshments for coffee hours will please take leftovers home. The committee will write an item for the Newsletter on this and put a notice on the refrigerator.

Gifts & Leadings – Linda Cote-Small reported the worship sharing session we had today was the beginning of the committee’s planning process. Notes were taken and the committee will decide what was learned from the worship sharing. In its planning the committee may not solicit Friends for jobs *per se*. Rather it may focus on what the meeting wishes to focus on during the coming year.

Old Business: A stone in memory of Friend George Sparks is being prepared. Members of his family hope to be present for the laying of the stone. A new revised Directory is in process. Ideally there will be a single database and it will be recorded in more than one place.

New Business: Linda Cote-Small will facilitate a series on the Alternatives to Violence Project during October. Carmen Lavertu reported on New England Yearly Meeting sessions. The next theme will last for two years rather than one. Sabbath & Jubilee Year will be the next theme. Please see the Newsletter for explanations of these terms. Bible Half-hours were very well attended. Clerk Deborah will ask the treasurer to pay for audiotapes of these. Carmen attended the recent gathering of Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting and urges Friends to attend in the future. The Quarter has a vital young people’s program and intends to support it.

No further business coming before the meeting it was adjourned, following moments of silence, planning to meet next on October 18 at the rise of meeting for worship. All are welcome. Please bring a bag lunch.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Haviland, Co-clerk

Jean Crawford, Recording Clerk