**Concord Quarterly Meeting Planning Committee Minutes**

**July 24, 2022**

**2pm by Zoom**

**Present: Debbie Murray-Sheppard (Wilmington MM, Clerk), Charles Spadoni, (Treasurer, Birmingham MM), Christopher McKenney (Birmingham MM, Assistant Clerk), Marty Boston (Birmingham, Recording Clerk), Richard Ailes (Middletown MM), Steve Kupferschmid (Willistown MM)**

**No Representatives were present from:**

Concord, Goshen, West Chester, Westtown

**The Meeting opened with Worship.**

**The Minutes** from May 1, 2022 were approved with changes.

**The Agenda** for today, July 24, 2022, was approved with additional notes.

**Friends discussed the Hybrid Joint Quarterly Meeting at Westtown** on July 17, 2022. Friends gave thanks to Chris for stepping up and helping everything flow efficiently as Debbie had fallen ill the evening before. Deb Wood sent her notes to the group regarding the well-received edibles walk and positive feedback on the successful intergenerational event.

More feedback included that the ZOOM audio was heard clearly and the presentation was viewed completely. The meeting was recorded and has been posted on YouTube. Philadelphia Yearly Meeting asked that future children’s programing be highlighted on the flyer and given more time for registration. It was agreed to create a registration form for upcoming Quarterly Meetings that will include a question regarding the need for children’s programing regardless of details that may need more time to be coordinated.

 A concern was shared that a Friend in a wheelchair had trouble accessing the restroom. We will be more mindful of these needs in the future.

**Planning for Next Quarterly Meeting** was discussed. It is to be hosted by Middletown on October 23, 2022 in person and on ZOOM. Willistown and Westtown will report their Joys & Challenges.

Middletown Meeting has limited technology for convening a hybrid meeting, but are exploring upgrades which are expected to be in place by October. Debbie, Rich, Todd of West Chester and another Friend of Middletown will meet to discuss and plan for the technology needs for the October 23 quarterly meeting

The PYM First Contact Reconciliation Collaborative work will be presented by boone, a member of the collaborative. She will present on ZOOM.

Marty will help coordinate the opening of worship with either faith and play, or a story.

**Tentative Schedule (tentative, proposed):**

8:30am-9:45 am – Meeting for Business

9:45 – 10:00 am – Break

10:00 -11:00 am – Program

11:00am-11:10am – Faith and Play / Opener

11:10-12:00pm – Worship

12:00pm-1pm – Lunch

**Possible children’s programming:**

Middletown has refurbished the schoolhouse building next to the Meeting House. They would like to invite the PYM staff to join from 10am to 12pm and do a program. Bianca will coordinate the conversation. They suggest something on the topic of indigenous people.

Middletown will provide light refreshments and encourage brown bag lunch for those who want to stay.

**The Treasure Report:** Paul Kaniefski has agreed to be a part of the Friendly Audit Committee. Deb Wood was to contact Tom Gilbert. This can be conducted in October and will be deferred until then as Nominating Committee is not meeting in the summer.

One of the meetings has again failed to make a timely convenant payment.. The Clerk, accompanied by the CQM Treasure will request a meeting with the meeting’s Clerk and Treasurer.

**Newsletter Articles:**

The July 2022 Newsletter has received positive review. Rich would like to have more young people contribute.

Marty and Bianca will continue their process of interviewing students and graduates of Quaker Schools for a newsletter article. Ana Fahey was suggested as a potential interviewee

Bianca is working on the Clerks of the Quarter interviews and expects to have an article complete by September.

The lead article for October newsletter will be on the program planned by Middletown MM. The Delaware Art Museum currently has an exhibit of portraits of indigenous people in Delaware. Susana Davidson (a member of London Grove Monthly Meeting) was suggested as a resource. Debbie will send her contact information to Rich.

All articles must be submitted by the end of the 3rd week of September

**Notes from Melinda Wenner Bradley** were discussed in her absence. She would like to start, in the fall, doing a monthly intergenerational worship for the Quarter. Friends were receptive to the idea. Debbie will let Melinda know there is interest and planning can commence after annual sessions.

**Inreach:**

* The annual Brandywine River Tubing event will not be possible this year as renovations are continuing as a result of last fall’s flood.
* Last year’s Hayride was also rained out. Bianca will be contact Highland Orchards to book a date for the 2022 Hayride (October 22 was suggested). She will create a flyer and open registration.
* Parent’s Morning Off has been a continuing successful. r December 3, 2022 was suggested as a good date for this year. Bianca will confirm the space at Westtown and provide details for Friends to register.
* Square Dance at Willistown has also been a successful event. February 25, 2022 with a Snow date of March 4, 2022 were identified as target dates. Rich will get in touch with Pete Lane for music arrangement. Steve will confirm dates with Willistown. Bianca will distribute communication when all things are final.

**Outreach** efforts were discussed by Friends. Bianca reported that in order to Friends to ‘subscribe’ they must have a Gmail account. It was clarified that a subscription to the YouTube Channel does not create more spam in email folder. Bianca explained that subscriptions allow the page to be featured within the application itself. Promotion continues to attract and retain engaged followers.

**A Communications Overview Discussion** occurred in which it was decided to be a topic for next Quarterly Meeting. Friends would like to get more people involved and establish the committee. Bianca will reach out to each meeting to collect technology and/or communication leaders across the quarter. Each Friend in attendance agreed to personally invite people to join our next Planning Committee meeting.

**Next Quarterly Meeting: January 22, 2022 Host: Goshen J&C: Wilmington**

**Next Planning Meeting will be October 30, 2022 at 7PM and will again be by Zoom. Please note the time change.**

Birmingham has been engaged in records and archiving review. Their historical records are deposited with Friends Historical Library at Swarthmore. It was suggested a program/training to refresh Friends on this work might be useful to other meetings. A future article on record retention was also suggested.

**Upcoming Events and Dates to Calendar** Bianca Santini-Dumas

(all also on the CQ website calendar <http://concordquarter.org/quartercalendar/> )

**Jul 26-27**

**PYM Spiritual Formation Retreat**: This will help to ground and center participants in a deeper communion with Spirit while preparing individuals to participate, listen, and learn for the upcoming Annual Sessions week together. For more info and to register: <https://www.pym.org/event/spiritual-formation-retreat/>

**Jul 27-31**

**Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Annual Sessions**: Across the Generations, as we repair broken foundations unified in our beloved Quaker community. For more info and to register: <https://www.pym.org/event/annual-sessions-2022/>

**July 31 9:45am – 10:00am**

**Philadelphia Yearly Meeting All Together Worship** Join your fellow Monthly Meetings in an All Together Worship to close 2022 Annual Sessions. [All Together Worship at Annual Sessions · Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (pym.org)](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.pym.org%2Fevent%2Fall-together-worship%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cconcordquarter%40pym.org%7Cfd6348d378d445d2aa6508da64d10ee7%7Cbdb9059779bc47b8adec787f4e42aa8a%7C0%7C0%7C637933146333708559%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=yhJ3hnGPeOQE0SCbJJF%2BZKvbJuw6NFpOjJiWUTbthSQ%3D&reserved=0)

**Aug 3 10:30am**

**Concord Quarter Working Group on Aging Concerns:** Open to anyone interested in aging concerns. For more info and to register email: concordquarter@pym.org

Many other programs for children, youth, and young adults on the PYM calendar: <https://www.pym.org/calendar/>

**Unless otherwise noted, contact the Coordinator for the Zoom links (concordquarter@pym.org)**