

DVFS/Concord Quarter Care Committee Minutes, April 14, 2020 via ZOOM

Present: David Calamaro (DVFS Admin), Susan Brodesser (Birmingham Mtg, Clerk), Christa Harp (DVFS Trustee), Lynne Piersol (CQ Coordinator), Ginny Sutton (Westtown Mtg), Gray Goodman (DVFS Faculty)

Excused: Tom Ceresini (Middletown Mtg)

1. We started with worship.
2. How are Committee members faring during the pandemic?

DVFS Admin perspective: everyone is working very hard to pull together, taking care of selves and one another. DVFS is in a good place to offer education to students because of the systems already in place. Admin is encouraging self-care and care of students. Zoom is creating an electronic community for students and families. Teacher perspective: Teachers have learned how to do distance learning, and are doing lots of follow up with students. It is exhausting. Trustee perspective: Board is keeping up with Zoom meetings and working to support and express appreciation for staff and faculty.

What are students feeling? For some students, distance learning has extra benefits, with fewer in-person distractions. For others, it can be harder to keep up with assignments. Students appreciate that the schedule is designed with face to face time.

Ginny Sutton, a therapist, is using secure, HIPPA compliant software, but there are technology challenges in providing therapy remotely. She is seeing children who have suffered trauma from other counties, and experimenting with music and shorter sessions.

Concord Quarter Meetings are mostly having worship by Zoom. Westtown is trying out a virtual potluck. If the potluck goes well, Ginny will let DVFS know they could join in May. Some meetings also have mid-week worship and social times.

3. The proposed agenda was approved.
4. The minutes from the January 13, 2020 meeting were approved with minor corrections.
5. Review of school/Quarter interactions since last meeting:

Susan attended the February 7 meeting of the Quaker Life Committee. They broke into small groups and thought about what actions could be taken (such as community building, or having CQ explain meeting for business). No action has been taken since COVID 19 hit. The Committee is currently moving into a new leadership team and figuring out how to do that electronically. They also had 2 open forums for all students, although mostly high school attended, to talk about what was on their minds, including community, governance, making connections. Concord Quarter would be happy to be a resource.

Willistown Meeting, thanks to Steve Kupferschmid, did invite DVFS to a children's religious education earth day program and worship for April 19, but that won't be happening now since there are no in person gatherings. The Water Project/Wine to Water filter build project at January's Quarterly Meeting was of interest to some students, but no one actually attended that we know of.

-----Lynne will send Gray information about the Wine to Water filter program and West Chester Meeting's contact person for that, Erica Young.

DVFS is having Worship by Zoom at 1pm on Thursdays will invite Concord Quarter. Worship is going well; some students have spoken who are normally quiet.

-----David will send the link to the committee and Lynne can publicize it. There will probably be a different link for each worship.

6. The first annual Care Committee report was presented to QM in January and was well received.
7. Lynne continues to publicize Quarter events via the monthly Concord Quarter Announcements and Newsletters.
8. Service projects at Birmingham, Westtown, and Wilmington planned for May 19 will not now happen. Quarter members attending seniors' internship presentations likely to be postponed. DVFS is working on what to do with the student internships. It might still be possible to have Quarter members involved with the presentations, but the internships won't be the traditional ones.
9. Quaker Life Committee meetings - they are deciding how/when to do them.
10. Next meeting: Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 3:15.

We closed with some worship.

Minutes by Lynne Piersol