

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89822318363?pwd=eU14UmRtWG9Sdk0xMTdEUktnemthUT09>

8:30-9:45 Concord Quarter Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

9:45 – 10:00 Break

10:00-11:00 Meeting for Worship; opening with the Godly Play story, “The Parable of the Good Samaritan”

11:00-11:30 Lunch Break

11:30- 1:00 Program with Dr. Jennifer Elam “Recognizing & Understanding Trauma”

# Concord Quarterly Meeting via Zoom

January 22, 2023 – Goshen

Minutes

## Opening Worship

The Clerk opened the Meeting with silent worship.

## Welcome to Newcomers

**Debbie Murray-Sheppard (Clerk)**

Debbie asked newcomers to Quarterly Meeting to introduce themselves. There were no newcomers. Debbie welcomed Gray Goodman from Delaware Valley Friends School who was present to give a report about the school.

## Monthly Meeting Count (Birmingham, Concord, Goshen, Middletown, West Chester, Westtown, Willistown, Wilmington)

**Debbie Murray-Sheppard**

Twenty-three people were present at the beginning of the meeting. All Meetings from the Quarter were represented.

## Approval of Agenda

**Debbie Murray-Sheppard**

The group approved the agenda as written, but later during the meeting added a report by Paula Kline from the Concord Quarter Climate Action Working Group.

## Approval of Minutes from October 23, 2022

**Debbie Murray-Sheppard**

The minutes from October were approved with some minor changes and will be resent to the Concord Quarter Coordinator for the record.

## Joys and Challenges Report: Wilmington (attached)

**Pam Cerchio**

Pam Cerchio from Wilmington Meeting gave their Joys and Challenges Report. Pam said the Meeting feels good about recently updating the programming space for the Meeting’s children and youth. She was happy to announce that Wilmington Friend’s Meeting has a new First Day School Coordinator. An ongoing challenge has been that a few people do much of the volunteer work for the Meeting.

A friend asked if Friends from Wilmington Friend’s Meeting worship with the preparative meeting at Appoquinimink. Pam affirmed that they do worship together at times. Pam explained that Appoquinimink Friend’s Meeting is open for worship for the first and third Sundays of the month during much of the year and everyone is invited to attend. Appoquinimink Friend’s Meeting is open less frequently during the summer months.

Wilmington Friend’s Meeting has been sharing clerking duties among three Friends. Someone asked about how sharing the clerking duties among three Friends has been working. Pam Cerchio, Evelyn Brownlee, and others who have served as co-clerks said that this arrangement has continued to work well. In answer to another question,

Pam reported that the co-clerks also sit on other Meeting committees. She said an additional benefit of having co-clerks is that experienced clerks can serve as mentors for younger members from the meeting. Friends accepted the report with gratitude and held Wilmington Meeting in the Light.

**Annual Report: Delaware Valley Friends School (attached)**

**Gray Goodman**

Gray Goodman gave the Delaware Valley Friends School Report. Enrollment at the school has increased. Two million dollars from the State of Pennsylvania will help with storm water management and updating the building. The school is doing a self-study in preparation for accreditation. The Care Committee continues to meet three times a year. Susan Brodesser, the clerk of the Care Committee, has helped with a training for student leaders in leading worship sharing groups. The school uses high school students as mentors for younger students. The students went to the United Nations and met with the FWCC Quaker United Nations Organization (QUNO).

A question was asked about morning meeting. Grey explained that the all the students meet together each morning with silent worship. Seniors sit on the facing benches and serve as models for the younger students.

Another question was asked about the school's current building. Gray explained that the Coltman family helped provide funding for the school's current building in memory of their daughter Pam who was killed in a car accident.

Susan Brodesser reminded that the Care Committee is open to anyone who is interested. The next Care Committee meeting is on May 4<sup>th</sup>. An announcement about the time and place for the meeting will come out with announcements from the Quarter. Friends accepted the report with gratitude and held the school in the Light.

**Treasurer's Report (attached)**

**Charles Spadoni**

Charles Spadoni reviewed the Treasurer's Report for July 1 - December 31, 2022. Charlie removed some investments from Friend's Fiduciary Short-term Fund due to stock market fluctuations. The funds have been placed in a CD and in a money market fund at the National Bank of Malvern.

All meetings from Concord Quarter have met their financial commitments to the Quarter for the year.

Because of changes in the stock market our investments are down. Paul Kaniefski from Birmingham Monthly Meeting and Tom Gilbert from Willistown Monthly Meeting are doing a friendly financial review.

Friends thanked Charlie for all his work on behalf of the Quarter.

**Nominating Committee Report**

**Rich Ailes**

Rich Ailes, the new clerk for the Nominating Committee, gave a report. The group is looking for a Clerk, an Assistant Clerk, and a Recording Secretary with terms beginning July 2023. Chris McKenney expressed how much he has enjoyed working with the Quarter and encouraged Friends to consider serving in one of these positions.

**Working Group on Aging Concerns (attached)**

**Evelyn Brownlee**

Evelyn Brownlee gave the report from the CQ Working Group on Aging Concerns. On February 9<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:30 PM PYM is sponsoring a workshop on Spiritually and Aging presented by ARCH of NYYM. The registration link is listed in the announcements. Evelyn encouraged Friends to attend the program and to share this information with their respective meetings.

**Coordinator Report (attached)**

**Bianca Santini-Dumas**

Bianca, Coordinator for Concord Quarter, gave an update of her activities since the last Quarterly Meeting.

**Sharing Around the Quarter:**

**Debbie Murray-Sheppard**

The Clerk asked Friends for news from the eight meetings in the Quarter. Debbie asked everyone in attendance to go back to their meetings to talk about the relevance of the Quarter and to get at least two people from each meeting to attend the Quarterly Planning Committee. The next meeting of the Planning Committee will be January 29<sup>th</sup> via Zoom at 1 PM.

**Climate Action Working Group**

**Paula Kline**

Concord Quarter Climate Action Working Group completed their work for this year and the full report is available on the Concord Quarter Website. For 2023 the group will look at land stewardship and building stewardship. The Climate Action Working Group is looking for members and a new coordinator as Paula will be stepping down as Coordinator.

**Reading of Minutes for Approval**

**Marty Boston (Recording Clerk)**

There were no items for approval today. Rich Ailes stepped forward as Nominating Committee Clerk.

**Second Count of Meetings in Attendance**

**Marty Boston (Recording Clerk)**

At the end of the Meeting, all meetings from the Quarter were represented.

**Next Quarterly Meeting: April 23, 2022, at West Chester Monthly Meeting. The Planning Committee will meet January 29<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 PM. Birmingham will be sharing Joys and Challenges.**

## Announcements of Upcoming Events

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

### Calendar of Events:

Jan 27-29, 2023	<b>Youth trip to Washington, D.C.</b> , grade 7-12 welcome. For more information: <a href="https://www.pym.org/event/youth-programs-trip-washington/">https://www.pym.org/event/youth-programs-trip-washington/</a>
Jan 29, 2023 1:00PM	<b>CQ Planning Committee via Zoom.</b> Open to all interested in the activities and workings of Concord Quarter. Contact the Coordinator with questions and for the Zoom link at <a href="mailto:concordquarter@pym.org">concordquarter@pym.org</a>
Feb 1 10:30AM-12:00PM	<b>CQ Working Group on Aging Concerns:</b> Open to anyone interested in aging concerns. For more info and to register email: <a href="mailto:concordquarter@pym.org">concordquarter@pym.org</a> or <a href="mailto:evelynlbrownlee@gmail.com">evelynlbrownlee@gmail.com</a>
Feb 4-5, 2023	<b>Winter Family Overnight:</b> Up through grade 6 welcome. For more information: <a href="https://www.pym.org/event/winter-family-overnight/">https://www.pym.org/event/winter-family-overnight/</a>

Feb 6 7:30PM- 9:00PM	<b>Pendle Hill Lecture:</b> The Battered Earth: Injury, Loss and Healing. Open to all; to register: <a href="https://pendlehill.org/events/the-battered-earth-injury-loss-and-healing/">https://pendlehill.org/events/the-battered-earth-injury-loss-and-healing/</a>
Feb 9 6:30PM- 8:30PM	<b>Spirituality and Aging Workshop with ARCH:</b> What is the Third Age for? What spiritual gifts do you want to nurture in this Third Age? For more information, please contact: Sheila Sorkin, Aging Support Coordinator, (215) 241-7068, <a href="mailto:ssorkin@pym.org">ssorkin@pym.org</a> and to register: <a href="https://www.pym.org/event/spirituality-and-aging-workshop-with-arch/">https://www.pym.org/event/spirituality-and-aging-workshop-with-arch/</a>
Feb 25 7:00PM- 9:00PM	<b>CQM Square Dance:</b> Willistown Monthly Meeting will host the return of Concord Quarterly Meeting Square Dance. Live Caller and Band! Intergenerational Fun for All. More information will be posted at <a href="http://www.concordquarter.org">www.concordquarter.org</a>

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](mailto:concordquarter@pym.org))

---

## REPORTS

---

# Delaware Valley Friends School Annual Report 1/22/2023

DVFriends is pleased to report back to Concord Quarterly Meeting the current state of affairs at our school as of January, 2023.

### General Enrollment/Growth Update

DVFriends now has enrolled 223 students in grades 1-12, which is the same number that we had in April of 2022 and remains an all-time high for the school. We currently have 134 students enrolled in Upper School, 56 enrolled in Middle School, and 33 enrolled in our Lower School. Our latest enrollment projections suggest that we will see modest growth in enrollment next year, with total enrollment likely still in the 220's. This pairs well with our existing space in our school, which is quite full.

### Master Planning Update

Last year we reported that we were entering the first phase of our master planning. We are now well into that campaign, Transforming Futures. In November 2022 we released to the community that DVFriends received a \$2.5 million dollar grant from the PA Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP). This is the largest grant awarded to DV in its history, and the grant will be used to fund our upcoming campus renovations, expansion, and stormwater management projects. DV has raised an additional 2.5 million dollars from donors, allowing us to meet our goal in moving forward with the first phase of the master planning process, which is expected to cost over 9 million dollars.

Phase 1 will include new stormwater management, which alone will cost over 2 million dollars but which will significantly help reduce stormwater runoff in the surrounding community. In addition, DV has plans for a new beautiful, centrally located and more accessible entrance, a few new classrooms including a new pottery and studio arts classroom, several new offices, a bigger and updated cafe with a full functioning kitchen (which currently does not exist), and a new patio outdoor space. These renovations are needed updates which will allow us to accommodate future increasing enrollment. It is indeed an exciting time for DV!

### **PAIS Self-Study Update**

This year, DV is undergoing its 10-year self-study process required by the Pennsylvania Association of Independent Schools (PAIS) for accreditation. This is an all-hands-on-deck process that will last all year, in preparation for a PAIS Visiting Team's arrival in February 2024. Many of our all-staff meetings have been dedicated to completing the self-study; the work is done in various ad-hoc committees that cover all aspects of the school (ex: Governance, Program, Mission, etc.). Of note to the Quarter: there is a section of the self-study that is dedicated specifically to examining how we live up to our mission as a Quaker school.

### **Care Committee Update**

The Care Committee continues to meet several times a year usually on Monday afternoons, mostly by Zoom. However, there is a plan for our next meeting to be hybrid (in person and via Zoom). This will happen on January 12th so that members of the Quarter may also attend DV's Meeting for Worship scheduled for that day. These care meetings are an important flow of information and dialogue between DVFriends and Concord Quarter.

### **Revised Quaker Life and Student Life Update**

This is the first year in the shift of our Board's Quaker Life Committee from essentially report-outs from our student government leaders to more of a focus on queries. Our high school leaders (referred to as Peer Connectors), with assistance from the faculty advisors Gray Goodman and Allison Gill, created and executed our first worship sharing of the year in December with a focus on gratitude. Many thanks to Susan Brodesser, who provided some training via Zoom for our student leaders in preparation for clerking the worship sharing groups. The worship sharing process and experience was successful for a number of reasons. First, since it has been several years since DV has held regular worship sharing (in no small part due to the pandemic), it was a win to bring this important practice back into the fold. Also, we now have a group of high school student leaders who are prepped to facilitate future worship sharing events. And this provided a time for some of our upper school leaders to connect with middle school students as clerks of their worship sharing events. Finally, it proved to be a meaningful experience for many of our students, who were sincere in sharing their thoughts on gratitude.

The high school co-clerks of Community Government continue to lead face-to-face daily Gathering and announcements for middle and high school students, joined on Thursdays by the lower school. During our community time, clubs and committees meet during middle and upper school. Eye to Eye, a mentoring program between Upper and Lower School students, is yet another way that we try to maintain community across all three school divisions. Student trips and social events are happening as they have in the past, with two notable weekend ski trips in the works. Overall, student life at DV is vibrant after a season heavily impacted by Covid

## **Wilmington Joys & Challenges Report 1/22/2023**

### **Joys:**

- Active First Day School, with new families taking part
- Hiring a new Religious Education Coordinator
- Completion of nursery renovations and FDS garden upgrades
- Reconnection with members who had been inactive for awhile
- More frequent visitors at meeting for worship
- Meeting's commitment to using \$100,000 to support our neighboring community. (Peace & Social Justice committee

working on a proposal for some of the funds)

- Adult FDS (recently renamed Quaker Conversations) monthly gatherings, which provide opportunity to explore Quakerism and get to know each other on a deeper spiritual level
- Revival of social time after worship, potlucks, and annual pancake breakfast
- Improvements in our technology in support of both in-person and Zoom worship. (We are grateful to be able to worship virtually with Friends from afar, as well as those nearby who are unable to come the meeting house.)

**Challenges:**

- Addressing the future of Appoquinimink Preparative Meeting in Odessa, which is under our care (An ad hoc committee is currently discussing areas such as low attendance, frequency of meetings for worship, creating a greater sense of community.)
- Getting the work of the Meeting done with a small number of active members, many of whom are older
- Mentoring younger members so they feel prepared to take on leadership roles
- Attracting younger and more diverse people to the meeting
- Rekindling our communication/interaction with Wilmington Friends School
- Addressing age gap in FDS (young elementary children/upper middle school kids. We want to keep older FDS kids involved)

**Joys/Challenges:**

- Continuing relationship with Family Promise and Emmanuel Dining Room/finding volunteers to do the work
- Committees continue to accomplish much/some committees have members who don't participate (people agree to serve but don't fulfill their responsibilities), so the work must be done by two or three

Prepared by Meeting Clerks: Debbie Fetzer, Evelyn Brownlee, Pam Cerchio

## **TREASURER'S REPORT 1/22/2023**

### **CONCORD QUARTERLY MEETING TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2023**

**Un-reviewed Financial Statements for the Second Quarter of the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023  
(Except As May Be Noted Below, Reported on A Cash Basis)**

#### **NOTES**

- In October 2022, \$11,679 in the Tuition Operating Fund was distributed to three Quaker Schools (Westtown, West Chester Friends and Wilmington Friends) in the form of grants for the benefit of 17 students. Each grant was for \$687.
- FFC TEF distributions are now being invested in a certificate of deposit, and the reserve fund is now being invested in a money market fund in each case to avoid capital losses.

#### **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

##### **INCOME STATEMENT**

**Revenues and Expenses Through the Second Quarter Ending December 31, 2022  
Versus Prior Year's Revenues and Expenses for the Second Quarter  
(numbers are redacted, contact the Coordinator for a full report)**

## BALANCE SHEET

### December 31, 2022 Balance Sheet Versus Prior Year's December 31 Balance Sheet (numbers are redacted, contact the Coordinator for a full report)

- There are no liabilities; however, \$6,490 has been reserved to make tuition assistance payments.

Note: Individual constituent monthly meeting December 31, 2022, Growth & Income Fund market value balances are available upon request.

Respectfully submitted,  
Charles B. Spadoni, Treasurer  
January 22, 2023

## Working Group on Aging Concerns Report 1/22/2023

The Working Group on Aging Concerns continues to meet monthly to discuss topics of interest to aging Friends and their families. Meetings are via Zoom technology.

The group discussed having a workshop on Spirituality and Aging. gathering ideas for speakers and topics to cover. However, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting has taken over the planning and a Spirituality and Aging Workshop, led by ARCH (New York Yearly Meeting) will be held virtually on February 9, 2023, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Additional information will be forthcoming from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

Evelyn Brownlee, Clerk WGAC

For more information, you can contact Bianca Santini-Dumas at [concordquarter@pym.org](mailto:concordquarter@pym.org) or the clerk, Evelyn Brownlee: [evelynbrownlee@gmail.com](mailto:evelynbrownlee@gmail.com) or visit <http://concordquarter.org/aging-concerns>

## Coordinator Report 10/23/2022

The 2022 Holiday season was full of events around the quarter. I was able to attend a few in person and via ZOOM.

Parent's Morning Off was a success. We had Joseph from West Chester MM/University join us again this year to lead the children's programming. Pizza Lunch was delivered, gingerbread houses were constructed, games were played and the cabin on Westtown's campus was filled with glee. I enjoyed having most of the children return for this event. It was the first time I experienced the effects of an annual event. I am concerned about the continuation of this event with the age limitations. I believe it would be beneficial to begin thinking of ways we can get the middle school aged youth involved and continue to hold space for those 'aging out'.

I have had the pleasure of working closely with the interim director, Kevin, of ARCH alongside Sheila from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting on the upcoming Spirituality and Aging workshop in February. I was

included in planning meetings for the program and promotion materials. I am looking forward to this event coming to fruition.

I was able to participate in the Threshing Session at West Chester about Religious Education & Outreach. Melinda and the PYM team shared useful information and resources. The conversations allowed me to better understand the needs of Monthly Meetings as they open their doors for newcomers. There were many discussions about education for non-quaker staff as well.

Social Media continues to provide consistent visibility for the Quarter. New YouTube videos are available and regular content is posted on Facebook. Efforts on outreach are a topic of interest as we work on building a Communications Committee for the Quarter. Collaboration on best practices and strategies for alternative applications are potential areas of growth.

January 22, 2022

Bianca Santini-Dumas - [concordquarter@pym.org](mailto:concordquarter@pym.org)