

**Concord Quarterly Meeting Planning Committee Minutes DRAFT  
November 3, 2019, 1pm at The Hickman/Jeanes Building**

Present: Chris McKenney (B - Clerk), Lynne Piersol (Coordinator), Charlie Spadoni (B), Rich Ailes (M), Deb Lyons (WC), Chris Smith (WC), Steve Kupferschmid (Willis), Debbie Murray-Sheppard (Wilmington), Bruce Harrison (WT), Melinda Wenner Bradley (WC, PYM), Erica Young (WC), Marty Boston (B)

Excused: Julie Senko (B), Judy Reese (C), Deb Wood (WT), Bruce Harrison (WT)

Worship, and we held Deb Wood in the Light since her father died last week.

Approval of August 4, 2019 minutes. Approved

**Idea of creating a Youth Programming Group to help with QM** Melinda Wenner Bradley  
Here with two hats on and in between. Melinda has been involved with the last several QM with helping with a children's program (helped Goshen in January since they have no FDS). And helped in July. There seemed to be energy for a small group of people to get together to look at a year ahead of 4 Quarterly Meetings. All the meetings with FDS have now laid down FDS on Quarterly Meeting Sundays and we have committed to offering programming that includes the time period of Meeting for Business. Her idea is to create a group that would be separate from Planning Committee, including those planning for their meetings, but also others, and it would be helpful to those without a FDS. It could possibly include some older children (Birmingham has a Youth Committee), either on the core group or the particular QM Sunday. It could be a short term obligation – one year. Between now and January QM, this idea can be shared with meetings and it could be an agenda item at QM in January. **We agreed this sounded like an idea worth pursuing. Melinda and Lynne will come up with a written proposal to circulate. It could also be an article in the January newsletter. Lynne is planning to go to the PYM Religious Education Thread Gathering at Wilmington Meeting and perhaps CQ people could have lunch together.**

**Review QM at Westtown:** Chris McKenney +

A total of 37 adults signed in for all or part of the day (more were present for the program and elsewhere in the building). 13 children were there for all or part of the day, including Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. Ginny Sutton organized a children's program that was very well received. The DVFS presentation was a highlight, according to the evaluations. Goshen and Concord were not represented. Some Westtown students came for worship. The discussion of Peace and Social Concerns work went well, but it would have helped for people to know that was on the agenda ahead of time.

Suggestions from the evaluations: **We should have a few copies of the previous minutes available.**

**Also the Coordinator will send out the agenda and the previous minutes to everyone ahead of QM.**

Idea of having a query as part of the meeting for business part - an idea for sharing leadings, a way to wrap up the business part of the meeting, and chance for people to share. We can have it on the agenda, but if time runs short, we wouldn't use it.

## Planning of Quarterly Meeting at West Chester Meeting, January 26, 2020:

Business Agenda for January (not necessarily in this order...):

Lynne Piersol

**Joys and Challenges Report:** Goshen

**Bucks Quarter minute** (re: a Friends led protest over sale of guns). The Coordinator will send it out to meetings now for their consideration – the Clerk read it to Planning Committee and the Coordinator shared how it was presented at Continuing Sessions – there is a need to see what the energy is in the Yearly Meeting community for something like this.

**Idea of a Youth Programs at Quarterly Meeting Planning Group**

**Treasurer's Report**

**Friendly Audit report and Recommendations (retention of documents policy)**

**Care Committee and DVFS Annual Report**

**Working Group on Aging Concerns Update**

**Coordinator's Report**

**Other (State of the Quarter discussion?) see below**

**Program** – Erica Young presented an idea for the Water Program which came out of their Peace and Social Concerns Committee and a concern about clean accessible water. Melinda would develop youth program around this if approved. They have identified 2 organizations; the Water Project and Wine to Water (filters). WC has enough (\$1250) to buy 25 filter kits to build in their Peace and Social Concerns budget and these could be built at QM as a hands on activity. How might each meeting participate ahead of time? Another opportunity would be to raise money via the Water Challenge which would be raising funds for a particular Water Project. First Day Schools could choose to include the Water Challenge in their classes. There would be a FaceBook page for the particular water project. Individual meetings could also decide to participate and give money (\$1250 is the minimum to buy filter kits) for 25 more filters which could also be made at QM or to give smaller amounts to the Water Project. The filters are a very simple construction; even young children can help. A big impact is on girls who are at home getting water, not in school, as well as on health of community. The idea for the QM program will come to West Chester's Meeting for Business on November 10 at which the Coordinator will be present. If approved then there will be an article for newsletter, along with passing along the information to meetings (have the flyer early?) so they can decide what level of participation they can do. We could also have information at the RE Thread Gathering.

**Schedule** (idea from 2017) West Chester will decide the schedule

**8:00-8:15 Sign-In**

**8:15-9:15 Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (will be a very full agenda)**

**9:15-10:15 Program**

**10:15-10:30 Break**

**10:30-11:30 Worship**

**11:30-12:30 Lunch provided by West Chester Meeting**

**Children's programming (including child care):** would be available for the whole morning.

**Changing the Schedule for rotating Quarterly Meetings?** Birmingham cannot do summer Quarterly Meetings due to the proximity to their big fundraising event in early August. Willistown wishes it wasn't always hosting in the summer. What would happen if Willistown swapped with Goshen? Discussion postponed till next time since this wouldn't happen until 2021 if it happens.

**Possible Joint Quarterly Meeting with Western Quarter next spring:** There will be a joint Quarterly Meeting with Western Quarter on April 26, 2020 probably at Kennett Meeting. Birmingham Meeting, whose turn it normally would be, will help with food and other things as needed. Western's Coordinator (Deb Wood) and Youth Coordinator and Concord's Coordinator will work on this. The schedule might look different....

**Review and Updates on fellowship activities:**

Lynne Piersol

October 6	Hayride and campfire potluck - 37 people came of all ages and enjoyed the hayride, grilling by Bruce Harrison and s'mores over the fire. It was nearly rained out, but the rain held off. More would have come but it was still raining at their homes....
Nov 23	Parents' Morning Off, with Western Quarter – earlier this year because of a PYM RE thread gathering on Dec 7, and a Family Meetup at Birmingham on Dec 14. We might need another adult. Ginny Sutton was suggested.
Dec 14	PYM Family Meetup at Birmingham (PYM event, but in our Quarter)
Feb 22	Square Dance at Willistown, snow date is Feb 29. Band is all set. Need to contact the cloggers. Planning Cttee to provide snacks.

**Treasurer :** Friendly Audit Report Recommendations – The Clerk already gets copies of bank statements (a recommendation which we agree with). Financial records need to be retained for at least 7 years. Charlie, Rich, Lynne and Lynne's husband (a certified Apple Consultant with a concern for computer security), will consult about electronic storage of records and a retention policy. Charlie shared we may also need Workmen's Compensation.

**Concord Quarter Working Group on Aging Concerns :** Rich Ailes shared it is a vital working group. June Lunney is coming to next working group to educate the group on the trajectories of dying. The group is organizing a workshop on downsizing on November 16 with Carol Bernard.

**Newsletter Articles:** A DVFS student on governance, article from Erica Young on the water program, Melinda on the youth program group idea. Article about the auditing process by Charlie. Letter with the minute from Bucks County Quarter. Personal bio of Pat Myatt by Laurie Worth? Articles due 12/17.

**Report on Continuing Sessions?** Lynne Piersol shared about the work being done on the anti racism work at PYM and in the councils and the group of 14 volunteers who offered to help with this work at Annual Sessions. She also attended a Bridge Contacts meeting. Lynne will write up her summary and post on website.

**Outreach:** Lynne will be "boosting" an announcement of the Organized for Life workshop of November 16 on Facebook.

**In reach:** Lynne shared the news that PYM Continuing Sessions in the spring will be on March 28 at Westtown School, and the Coordinator will be out of town that weekend...A great opportunity, however, for people in the Quarter to attend.

**Update on Tom Brown Endowed Chair –** This item will be eliminated from future agendas since nothing has happened.

**Delaware Valley Friends School Care Committee**— November 14 is the date for worship and a tour at DVFS. Worship is at 10:05 – RSVP to Judy Sheridan at 610-640-4150 x2360, or email [Judy.sheridan@dvfs.org](mailto:Judy.sheridan@dvfs.org). Next Care Committee Meeting is January 13, 2020 and anyone is welcome.

**State of the Quarter report** - The group decided to have a smaller group come up with ideas for this. Debbie Murray-Sheppard and the Coordinator will talk and come up with something to present.

**Coordinator report from Quarterly Meeting** – there were no questions.

**Time and location for the next meeting** – Julie Senko let us know she cannot come most Sundays at 1pm but might be able to come later. We will meet February 2 at 1pm. at the Jeanes Building, unless Julie Senko can come at 3pm. Lynne will check with Julie.

Minutes by Lynne Piersol, Coordinator