

Abington Quarterly Meeting for Business

Held at Horsham Monthly Meeting

Tenth Month 7th, 2018

Abington – 4: Byberry – 0: Gwynedd/Foulkeways- 10: Horsham – 16: Norristown – 0: Plymouth – 8: Richland – 0: Unami – 3: Upper Dublin – 1 : Children - 9

Betsy Lukshides welcomed Friends to Horsham.

Friends approved the agenda and the minutes from Eighth Month.

Bob Taylor is stepping down as president of Trustees. Tom Armstrong has volunteered to serve as president of Trustees. Tom was approved. Russ Bishop has offered to serve as vice-president. Friends approved.

Tom Armstrong presented the annual report of Trustees (attached). Dan Hazelton was approved for next year as Treasurer, Bob Rieff as assistant treasurer, and Karen Russell as secretary. The Trustees received their annual audit and were evaluated as “unqualified,” which means the audit passed. During the last Trustees meeting, Helen File was fondly remembered. The Trustees are working on by-laws and a conflict-of-interest policy.

Tom then presented the Abington Quarter treasurer’s report (attached). He mentioned that the Trustees discussed whether it would be a conflict of interest for him to serve as both quarter treasurer and president of Trustees. They determined that there was not a conflict of interest, but he invited members of the quarter to discuss the matter with him if they have concerns.

Dan Hazelton presented the treasurer’s report for the Trustees. The total value of funds is over \$9 million. There was a \$207,000 write-off of funds given to Home and Care to a person at Foulkeways. When that person died, with a note of intent to repay, the family insisted that there were no funds left in the estate. Dan mentioned that the Trustees continue to honor the quarter’s request to invest in the Friends Fiduciary Green Fund. A question was asked about whether the Green Fund has a lower yield than the normal Friends Fiduciary funds. The answer was that it yields one percent less than the equity funds.

Bonnie Miller, the new clerk of Home and Care, gave the report for Home and Care (attached). Al Hubbs will serve as new assistant clerk. Home and Care has been repaid a loan of \$289,700 with an additional \$500 in gratitude to Trustees for giving extended time to repay the loan. Home and Care reflected on the support they received from Helen File. The committee is almost finished with a new brochure. The committee struggles with the fact that there is insufficient housing for the intellectually challenged adult children of seniors who need to move into

retirement facilities. The executive committee recognizes the excellent work of Rebecca Cratin and recommends an hourly pay increase for Rebecca and a review of the federal gas mileage reimbursement. We were made aware of the original letter handwritten by Anna T. Jeanes in 1903 that endowed the Norristown Home with \$25000 for care of the aged and infirm. Serving as the beginning of funds for the Home & Care committee, other endowments have followed.

The quarter minuted their appreciation for the work that Nancy Gold did as clerk of Home and Care for the past six years.

The clerk read a minute of appreciation for Helen File (attached). Her memorial will be this Saturday at 10am, at Byberry Meeting.

Rebecca Cratin mentioned the fall newsletter of the quarter. It contains a nice article from *The Northeast Times* about Helen File and the history of Byberry Meeting.

Ruth Peterson mentioned the small size of Byberry, and Amelia said that Byberry could use help with office work. Byberry is creating a specific description of help needed.

Walt Singer, of Abington, presented about the work of FCNL and shared specifically about the work of Advocacy Teams. FCNL has expanded its full-time staff in the past two years from 45 to 60 people and has three full-time people working to establish volunteer advocacy teams across the country who are trained to lobby around one issue. A group at Abington went through the six-week training and has met several times with staff in Senator Casey's office and Brendan Boyles' office. They are working to set up a conference call with Senator Toomey. Dan Turner will post Walt's slide presentation on our website.

Ron Inskeep presented a minute of appreciation to recognize the 75th anniversary of FCNL (attached). Members endorsed the minute and will forward it to Quaker Life Council at PYM.

The meeting adjourned to join meeting for worship with Horsham.

At the reconvening of meeting, Friends considered revisions to the minute in support of Benjamin Lay that was approved by the quarter last year. Members of PYM suggested that "slave-owners" be replaced by "enslavers," and that there be a sentence stating, "Abington Monthly Meeting asks forgiveness" for its action against Benjamin Lay. Loretta Fox, who organized the original minute, sought advice from two outside experts on slavery, Benjamin Lay, and local history(attached). After consideration of these outside opinions and the suggestions of PYM, Abington Monthly Meeting decided to approve the original minute without changes. The quarter endorsed Abington's decision to maintain the original minute. This endorsement will be forwarded to Quaker Life Council.

Friends enjoyed a slide presentation about the 41st Junior Friends Conference and Middle School Friends Conference. (Karen's summary attached)

The meeting closed with a moment of worship.

Respectfully submitted,

Paige Menton

Clerk,

Amelia Diamond

ABINGTON QUARTERLY MEETING

Incorporated Trustees Annual Report

October 7, 2018

Continuing our regular practice, the Trustees met twice this past year, on the fourth Sunday of April and September at Foulkeways.

At our meeting on September 23 we received the Audit for our fiscal year ending June 30, 2018. Our Independent Auditors, “Bee, Bergvall and Company” issued a so-called “clean” opinion stating that our records “present fairly, in all material respects, the assets, liabilities and net assets” of the Trustees. The Trustees continue to prepare our statements using cash rather than accrual method of accounting, which we believe, is an appropriate measure of our condition. The sub-committee that received the Audit met separately with the Auditor without the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer present as is our practice to ask for comments about their records; we are glad to report that the Auditors had no issues to report. The Audit Partner in charge of the audit, Craig Burton, said that Daniel Hazleton and the new manager of the audit worked well together. Dan continues to be assisted by Robert Reiff who is Assistant Treasurer. We thank them both for their continued work on our behalf. In about a week we will receive the customary Management Letter from the Auditors, and we have been assured that there are no issues of note.

The Investment Committee continued the investments in Friends Fiduciary Consolidated Fund and Green Fund. We continued to recognize as a total return 4% of a trailing 12-quarter value as this smoothens distributions from these investments.

The Trustees received reports from the Home and Care Committee. We want to acknowledge

their attention to detail and outreach to members of Abington Quarterly Meeting. You may be aware that Nancy Gold has resigned as Clerk of the Home and Care Committee to be succeeded by co-Clerk Bonnie Miller. Rebecca Cratin, and the entire Home and Care Committee continue their important work. Smooth functioning continued between Home and Care and the Treasurer to help with the range of ways that Committee through Rebecca Cratin as Administrator is able to assist members of the Quarterly Meeting.

We passed a Minute of Appreciation for Helen File, a long-time member of the Trustees who had served faithfully in many leadership positions, and was a gentle presence in so many ways.

We continue to work on streamlining our Governing Documents and to bring them into compliance with current laws. Allowing some flexibility in the number and naming of Trustees is important as some Monthly Meetings have found it difficult to suggest names for Trustees.

The Nominating Committee suggested the following names for Officers for 2019:

Thomas Armstrong, President; Russell Bishop, Vice President and Clerk of the Investment Committee; Karen Russell, Secretary; Daniel Hazleton, Treasurer; and Robert Reiff, Assistant Treasurer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Taylor, President

Treasurer's Report for year July 1, 2017 through June 30. 2018

INCORPORATED TRUSTEES OF ABINGTON QUARTERLY MEETING OF FRIENDS

General Information - The Trustees have the responsibility for treasury and investment functions

related to the funds under their care. Decisions with respect to assistance from the following funds are

the responsibility of the Home and Care Committee in furtherance of the purposes of the funds:

General Fund for Aging, elderly members of the Quarter wherever residing; F. Palin Spruance Fund,

members entering or residing at Foulkeways; Enabling Fund, assistance to members and their dependents of all ages. Decisions concerning the use of the Abington Quarterly Meeting Fund are the

responsibility of Abington Quarterly Meeting.

Current Funds represent accumulating investment returns, interest and other income and returned

assistance, net of expenditure. Grants from current funds of the General Fund for Aging and Spruance

Fund are subject to Letters of Intent requiring the return of assistance received as preferred claims on

the estates of grantees, or their surviving spouses, to the extent of the net assets of their estates.

Under the Prescription Program, the obligation to return assistance is limited to 10% of the net assets

of the estates of those assisted. Assistance grants or portions of assistance grants, which cannot be

repaid are recognized as being uncollectable and are written off.

Endowment Funds represent gifts and bequests that require principal to be maintained in perpetuity, as

well as funds designated as endowment where principal may be used, but is being retained.

General Fund for Aging Trustees Designated Endowment Fund represents gifts and bequests without

restrictions on maintaining principal that will serve as endowment unless pressing needs make transfers from it to the Current Fund of the General Fund for Aging necessary and appropriate.

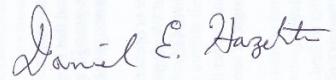
Abington Quarterly Meeting Fund - represents gifts and bequests given to Abington Quarterly Meeting

without restrictions on the use of the funds.

Determination of Investment Return. As permitted by 20 PA S 8113, the Trustees have adopted a total

return investment policy and annually determine the investment return designated for current operations to be transferred for spending from the Combined Investment Fund to related current funds.

For the year ended June 30, 2018, the return approved was 4.00% applied to the average quarterly market value of the Combined Investment Fund for the preceding three years.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel E. Hazelton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Daniel" on the first line and "E. Hazelton" on the second line.

Sep 23, 2018

Daniel E. Hazelton, Treasurer

Treasurer's Report for the Period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018
Incorporated Trustees of Abington Quarterly Meeting of Friends

| | | Audited | | | | |
|--|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | | General Fund for Aging | F. Palin Spruance Fund | Total Elderly Care Funds | Enabling Fund | Abington Quarterly Meeting Fund |
| Revenue | | | | | | |
| Investment income & interest | | \$262,571 | \$49,842 | \$312,413 | \$10,358 | \$9,847 |
| Contributions | | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Return of assistance | | \$13,967 | \$0 | \$13,967 | \$560 | \$0 |
| Excess of investment returns over amount defined as income | | \$200,086 | \$19,563 | \$219,650 | \$6,326 | \$9,100 |
| Total revenue | | \$476,624 | \$69,405 | \$546,030 | \$17,245 | \$18,947 |
| Expenditures | | | | | | |
| Assistance Grants | | \$63,704 | \$67,200 | \$130,904 | \$762 | \$0 |
| Operating expenses | | \$23,269 | \$0 | \$23,269 | \$36 | \$0 |
| Total Expenditures | | \$86,974 | \$67,200 | \$154,174 | \$799 | \$0 |
| Change in net assets - current funds | | | | | | |
| July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014 | | \$577,565 | \$41,965 | \$619,530 | \$12,878 | \$38,719 |
| July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015 | | \$78,663 | \$2,167 | \$80,831 | \$6,290 | (\$10,229) |
| July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016 | | \$264,606 | (\$38,823) | \$225,783 | (\$2,017) | (\$18,072) |
| July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017 | | \$360,915 | \$23,301 | \$384,216 | \$20,189 | \$22,664 |
| July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018 | | \$389,650 | \$2,205 | \$391,856 | \$16,446 | \$18,947 |

Fund Balances

| Current Funds | | Fund Balances | | | %chg | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|-------|-----------|-----------|--|
| June 30, 2014 | \$4,377,667 | \$518,465 | \$4,896,132 | 14.5% | \$131,913 | \$17,619 | |
| June 30, 2015 | \$4,456,330 | \$520,632 | \$4,976,962 | 1.7% | \$138,203 | \$4,887 | |
| June 30, 2016 | \$4,720,936 | \$481,809 | \$5,202,746 | 4.5% | \$136,187 | \$8,149 | |
| June 30, 2017 | \$5,081,851 | \$505,110 | \$5,586,961 | 7.4% | \$156,376 | \$5,702 | |
| June 30, 2018 | \$5,471,502 | \$507,315 | \$5,978,817 | 7.0% | \$172,822 | \$15,589 | |
| Funds acting as endowment | | | | | | | |
| June 30, 2014 | \$713,911 | | \$713,911 | 12.3% | | \$270,165 | |
| June 30, 2015 | \$712,296 | | \$712,296 | -0.2% | | \$272,668 | |
| June 30, 2016 | \$683,675 | | \$683,675 | -4.0% | | \$251,334 | |
| June 30, 2017 | \$744,170 | | \$744,170 | 8.8% | | \$276,445 | |
| June 30, 2018 | \$780,027 | | \$780,027 | 4.8% | | \$285,505 | |
| Endowment | | | | | | | |
| June 30, 2014 | \$1,305,511 | \$825,993 | \$2,131,504 | 12.3% | \$136,423 | | |
| June 30, 2015 | \$1,302,558 | \$824,125 | \$2,126,683 | -0.2% | \$136,115 | | |
| June 30, 2016 | \$1,250,220 | \$791,010 | \$2,041,230 | -4.0% | \$130,646 | | |
| June 30, 2017 | \$1,360,846 | \$861,003 | \$2,221,850 | 8.8% | \$142,206 | | |
| June 30, 2018 | \$1,426,416 | \$902,489 | \$2,328,905 | 4.8% | \$149,058 | | |

Letters of Intent Outstanding Balances

| | | | | %chg | # |
|--|-----------|-----------|-------------|--------|---------------|
| June 30, 2013 | \$720,095 | \$512,945 | \$1,233,040 | -9.7% | |
| June 30, 2014 | \$805,346 | \$567,945 | \$1,373,291 | 11.4% | |
| June 30, 2015 | \$874,568 | \$616,545 | \$1,491,113 | 8.6% | |
| June 30, 2016 | \$375,052 | \$680,445 | \$1,055,498 | -29.2% | |
| June 30, 2017 | \$666,985 | \$747,645 | \$1,414,630 | 34.0% | |
| June 30, 2018 | \$716,722 | \$607,645 | \$1,324,367 | -6.4% | 20 Active LOI |
| An F.Palin Spruance Assistance Grant account closed 6/28/2018 - \$207,200 written-off | | | | | |
| A \$289,700 swing loan granted April, 2017 was repaid August, 2018 - not included in this report | | | | | |

| Receipts and Disbursements | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|---|----------|----------|----------|
| | Year ended 6/30/18 | | | | | | | |
| | Unaudited | | | | | | | |
| | ACTUAL | | | | BUDGET | | | |
| Receipts | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 |
| Interest and dividends | \$48 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| MM contributions used for AQM | \$17,500 | \$17,500 | \$17,500 | \$17,500 | \$17,500 | \$17,500 | \$17,500 | \$17,500 |
| MM contributions used for PYM | \$101,093 | \$102,606 | \$100,216 | \$94,769 | | | | |
| AQM Grant for co-ordinator | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | | | | |
| Other contributions | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | | | | |
| Total receipts | \$118,641 | \$120,106 | \$117,716 | \$112,269 | \$17,500 | \$17,500 | \$17,500 | \$17,500 |
| Disbursements | | | | | | | | |
| Enabling Fund | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Insurance (AQM share) | \$626 | \$938 | \$827 | \$859 | \$1,100 | \$1,100 | \$900 | \$900 |
| JFC/MSFC support | \$11,270 | \$13,286 | \$12,134 | \$13,618 | \$18,000 | \$18,000 | \$15,800 | \$15,800 |
| Program | \$786 | \$755 | \$388 | \$394 | \$900 | \$900 | \$800 | \$800 |
| Co-ordinator | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$20,000 | \$20,000 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Total Disbursements for AQM | \$12,682 | \$14,979 | \$13,349 | \$14,871 | \$40,000 | \$40,000 | \$17,500 | \$17,500 |
| PYM assistance from meetings | \$101,093 | \$102,606 | \$100,216 | \$94,769 | | | | |
| Total Disbursements | \$113,775 | \$117,585 | \$113,565 | \$109,640 | \$40,000 | \$40,000 | \$17,500 | \$17,500 |
| Receipts less disbursements | \$4,866 | \$2,521 | \$4,151 | \$2,629 | (22,500) | (22,500) | 0 | 0 |
| Changes in Assets | | | | | | | | |
| | General Fund | JFC Scholarship | Total | | | | | |
| Balance July 1, 2017 | \$15,043 | \$2,388 | \$17,431 | | | | | |
| Receipts | \$112,269 | \$0 | \$112,269 | | | | | |
| Disbursements | \$109,640 | \$0 | \$109,640 | | | | | |
| Balance June 30, 2018* | \$17,671 | \$2,388 | \$20,059 | | *Balance reflects 2018 JFC/MSFC fees received after 6/30/18 | | | |
| Junior Friends/Middle School Friends Conference | | | | | | | | |
| Sources and Uses of Funds | | | | | | | | |
| Sources | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | | | | |
| Support by AQM | \$11,270 | \$13,286 | \$12,134 | \$13,618 | | | | |
| Conference fees* | \$15,230 | \$16,575 | \$18,271 | \$13,682 | | | | |
| Scholarship | \$0 | \$350 | \$0 | \$0 | | | | |
| AQM Fund Grant for JFC/MSFC | \$2,000 | \$2,000 | \$3,000 | \$3,000 | | | | |
| Total sources | \$28,500 | \$32,211 | \$33,405 | \$30,300 | | | | |
| Uses | | | | | | | | |
| Facilities rental* | \$9,951 | \$13,229 | \$15,993 | \$12,347 | *charges reflect change of location back to George School | | | |
| Payroll | \$13,725 | \$14,425 | \$14,371 | \$13,079 | | | | |
| Program/Supplies | \$3,791 | \$3,424 | \$1,949 | \$3,777 | | | | |
| Insurance (JFC/MSFC Share) | \$1,032 | \$1,133 | \$1,092 | \$1,096 | | | | |
| Total uses | \$28,500 | \$32,211 | \$33,405 | \$30,300 | | | | |
| Scholarship Fund Increase/Decrease | \$0 | \$75 | \$0 | \$0 | | | | |
| Surplus or (shortfall) | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | | | | |

| TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF June 30, 2018 | | | | |
|--|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| INCORPORATED TRUSTEES OF ABINGTON QUARTERLY MEETING OF FRIENDS | | | | |
| Statement of Cash and Cash Equivalents and Investments | | | | |
| Audited | | | | |
| | | | | |
| Current Funds | | | | |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents | General | F. Palin | Enabling | Combined |
| | Fund For | Spruance | Fund | Current |
| | Aging | Fund | Fund | Funds |
| Phoenixville Federal Savings - Interest Checking | | | \$ 35,197.55 | \$ 35,197.55 |
| Phoenixville Federal Savings - Money Market | | \$ 37,746.70 | | \$ 37,746.70 |
| QNB - Non profit checking | \$ 368,064.51 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 368,064.51 |
| Total Cash Equivalents | \$ 368,064.51 | \$ 37,746.70 | \$ 35,197.55 | \$ 441,000.76 |
| Investments | | | | |
| Friends Fiduciary Corporation Consolidated Fund | \$ 2,676,625.20 | \$ 251,934.33 | \$ 137,624.11 | \$ 3,066,183.64 |
| Friends Fiduciary Corporation Quaker Green Fund | \$ 2,427,584.67 | \$ 217,634.39 | \$ - | \$ 2,645,219.06 |
| Total Current Funds | \$ 5,472,274.38 | \$ 507,315.42 | \$ 172,821.66 | \$ 6,152,411.46 |
| Funds Serving as Endowment | | | | |
| Friends Fiduciary Corporation Consolidated Fund | \$ 780,026.92 | | | \$ 780,026.92 |
| Permanent Endowment Funds | | | | |
| Friends Fiduciary Corporation Consolidated Fund | \$ 1,426,416.14 | \$ 902,489.33 | \$ 149,057.84 | \$ 2,477,963.31 |
| | | | Endow | \$3,257,990.23 |
| | | | AQM Fund Endow | \$285,504.96 |
| | | | Total Endow | \$3,543,495.19 |
| Abington Quarterly Meeting Fund | | | | |
| Current Funds | | | | |
| QNB Non-profit checking | \$ 15,589.26 | | | |
| Total Current Funds | \$ 15,589.26 | | | |
| Funds Serving as Endowment | | | | |
| Friends Fiduciary Corporation Quaker Green Fund | \$ 285,504.96 | | | |
| | | | Current Funds | \$6,152,411.46 |
| | | | AQM Fund Funds | \$15,589.26 |
| | | | Total Current | \$6,168,000.72 |
| | | | Total All Funds | \$9,711,495.91 |
| | | | | |
| | | | Fiduciary | \$9,254,897.89 |
| | | | Banks | \$456,598.02 |
| | | | | \$9,711,495.91 |

Home and Care Committee Annual Report to Trustee's

We are pleased to report the repayment of an outstanding loan of \$289,700 with the couple added a generous donation of \$500 to the Trustee's in appreciation for the extension of time to repay the loan.

Nancy Gold will be stepping down as Clerk of HCC and Bonnie Miller will become Clerk. Al Hubbs (Gwynedd Meeting) will be Assistant Clerk.

There are several new members of the committee.

Eric Malm, Norristown Meeting will fill the seat of Bob Neff who is stepping down after faithfully serving the committee for many years

Barbara Zucker, Richland Meeting will join the committee as Tat Moyer reduces her attendance.

Kay Sackett Fitzgerald, Gwynedd Meeting joined HCC last winter and has become an active Member.

Additionally, we recognize the great loss of the wisdom and guidance received from Helen File of Byberry Meeting.

The committee is in the process of revising and reprinting our brochure after changes to our membership and officers.

We continue to visit and keep information on affordable living situations in local retirement facilities and HUD housing complexes.

We continue to struggle with our concern about the lack of affordable and supported housing for intellectually challenged adult children of members who need to move to a retirement facility. Work was done this summer to assist one such case without success. The Administrator will continue to pursue information about how to meet these needs.

The executive committee met with Rebecca Cratin Administrator of HCC for an annual job review. The executive committee recognizes that Rebecca is doing an exemplary job going above and beyond the job requirements. The executive committee recommends a 10% increase in salary from \$32.50 an hour to \$35.75 an hour (retroactive to October 1, 2017) with a review and update to the government gas mileage reimbursement rate which is currently 57.5 cents per mile.

Respectively submitted

Bonnie L. Miller

Clerk Home and Care Committee

Revised September 23, 2018

MINUTE OF APPRECIATION

HELEN J. FILE

It is with great sadness that we note the death of Helen File on September 2, 2018. Helen was a dedicated Friend who served Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and its members in many ways. Her incisive comments, wisdom, energy, wit, and guidance will be missed.

Helen served Byberry Monthly Meeting, Abington Quarterly Meeting Home & Care Committee,

Abington Quarterly Meeting Trustees, Friends Insurance Group. Always gracious, Helen faithfully coordinated activities at the Arch Street Meeting House for 27 years. When there was need for a well-seasoned answer, Helen was our source.

Preserving the legacy of several centuries of Friends, Helen was a dedicated record keeper. These she eagerly shared; giving us genealogical charts, historic anecdotes and a lively flow of Quaker wisdom on any subject we might name.

Helen's work ethic could not hide her gentle heart. One Friend wrote "Helen's heart was open and warm as she shared her concerns about individuals needing care." Even toward the end of her life Helen was openly concerned for her care givers, their many efforts to make her life comfortable.

Helen set high standards and she revealed a caring heart. We pray that we may live into the space she created.

Gwynedd Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

1101 DeKalb Pike

Gwynedd, PA 19454

(215) 699-3055

**Minute of Appreciation to Recognize the 75th Anniversary of
The Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL)**

Gwynedd Monthly Meeting would like to express its heartfelt appreciation for the 75 years of prayerful attention the Friends Committee on National Legislation has given to furthering Friends testimonies in national policy concerns. Since the beginning, staff and supporters around the country have lobbied Congress to advance the causes of peace and justice.

The organization was formed to advocate for legislation to provide constructive alternatives to military conscription and aid for the victims of war. Over the years, FCNL

has been instrumental in the movements to prevent genocide and atrocities against individuals, to stand against the threat and use of nuclear weapons and other forms of militarization, to offer a moral basis for federal budget decisions, and to build consensus on climate change.

We support the organization's future plans to widen the participation of young adults in its work and to offer space and time for people with differing viewpoints to discuss a way forward. As we all work to build "the world we seek," we will continue to look to our friends at FCNL to provide leadership, initiative and love for our neighbors, without exception.

Gwynedd Friends Meeting [Quaker] approved the above Minute on July 15, 2018.

Neil Trueblood, Clerk of the Meeting

Judy Inskeep, Clerk of Peace and Social Action Committee

office@gwyneddmeeting.org

From minutes of monthly meeting for worship to attend to business at Abington Monthly Meeting on September 9, 2018:

2018.09.09 Loretta Fox advised that although PYM endorsed AMM's minute for Benjamin Lay, PYM and the Quaker Life Council had a couple of suggestions for changes to the minute; specifically, they suggested changing the words "slave owners" to "enslavers" and further suggested AMM may like to include a request for forgiveness within the minute; Loretta sought the opinions of Marcus Rediker and Kelly Tillery regarding the suggested wording changes in the minute and their responses are included in Attachment 7 along with all of the aforementioned details; clerk George Schaefer and

Friends at AMM were appreciative of the thoughtful suggestions provided by PYM and Quaker Life Council; after discussion and discernment, Friends stood in unity and Approved the original version of the minute with no further changes.

[Attachment 7 on next page]

Attachment 7

Minute regarding former Abington Meeting member, Benjamin Lay

With Revisions Suggested by PYM in Red

Abington Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends recognizes Benjamin Lay's dedication to equality, and his willingness to repeatedly speak his messages of Truth to a society that was in denial about the evils of slavery. We acknowledge that Benjamin Lay used radical activism in his attempts to teach his peers to recognize the equality before God of all people, regardless of race or gender. He lived his life with integrity according to his Quaker beliefs, and he called others, especially **enslavers**, to accountability.

Benjamin Lay was written out of membership at Abington Monthly Meeting on the thirtieth day, eleventh month, 1737 (which by the Quaker calendar, while the Julian calendar was in use, would have been January 30, 1738), because his zealous actions were considered disruptive. It is now known that at least two of the Friends who led the discernment about writing Benjamin Lay out of membership in the Society of Friends were **enslavers** and were likely targeted by Benjamin Lay's anti-slavery activism. Benjamin Lay was disowned decades before Quakers were disowned for being **enslavers**. **Abington Monthly Meeting asks forgiveness for that action.**

We now recognize the truth behind Benjamin Lay's abolitionist efforts. Although we may not reinstate membership for someone who is deceased, we recognize Benjamin Lay as a Friend of the Truth and as being in unity with the spirit of our Abington Monthly Meeting.

*Brought forth and Approved by **Abington Monthly Meeting** on November 12, 2017*

*Endorsed by **Abington Quarterly Meeting** on February 4, 2018*

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting on July 14, 2018: "Benjamin Lay: After communicating further with Abington Monthly Meeting regarding their minute, Quaker Life Council endorses Abington Monthly Meeting's minute on Benjamin Lay. QLC recognizes Benjamin Lay as a Friend of the Truth and being in unity with the spirit of our Philadelphia Yearly Meeting."

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting on July 27, 2018, read this minute of unity into record as originally written. However, PYM recommended revisions to the above minute (changes indicated above in red) and asked that these revisions be taken back to Abington Monthly

Meeting for consideration. The recommendations are to avoid use of the word “slave-owners” which can been seen as dehumanizing, and for the monthly meeting to ask forgiveness for actions taken in the past.

(continued on next page)

In light of the PYM recommendation that Abington Meeting revise the minute of unity, Loretta Fox mentioned the recommendation regarding language to Marcus Rediker and Kelly Tillery for consideration as we approach and prepare for the installation of the historical marker for Benjamin Lay. Their responses were as follows:

Loretta,

While I appreciate the thoughts about the use of the word "slave", it is what they were called under law, custom and common usage at the time. I am uncomfortable using 21st century politically correct language to describe historical facts. Perhaps, Professor Rediker can weigh in here.

Best regards. Kelly

Dear Kelly and Loretta,

My understanding is that the African American community has objected to the use of the word "slave" and prefers the phrase "enslaved African." I respect that choice.

But it is a different matter when it comes to those who "owned" enslaved people. Even if it is not possible in some ultimate moral sense for one person to own another, it was, in historical terms, a reality, both legally, as Kelly says, and existentially. There is no getting around the word "slave" in our discussion of the past, nor should there be, for it is the root word of "slavery." Slave-owners DID define themselves by "owning" enslaved people.

Benjamin Lay used "slave-keeper," "slave-owner," and "slave trader," and so do I, as you will note, throughout my book. Never before, until the PYM directive, have I heard anyone suggest that to call someone a "slave-owner" is to demean the people who were enslaved. It is, in my view, quite the contrary, as Benjamin Lay showed: to call someone a "slave-keeper" was to issue a moral indictment -- and a necessary one.

This issue is complex and admits many different views. I respect the concerns behind the PYM request for different language and I will be curious to hear how the brothers and sisters of Abington Meeting respond.

Very best,
Marcus

Attachment 7

Minute regarding former Abington Meeting member, Benjamin Lay

With Revisions Suggested by PYM in Red

Abington Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends recognizes Benjamin Lay's dedication to equality, and his willingness to repeatedly speak his messages of Truth to a society that was in denial about the evils of slavery. We acknowledge that Benjamin Lay used radical activism in his attempts to teach his peers to recognize the equality before God of all people, regardless of race or gender. He lived his life with integrity according to his Quaker beliefs, and he called others, especially **enslavers**, to accountability.

Benjamin Lay was written out of membership at Abington Monthly Meeting on the thirtieth day, eleventh month, 1737 (which by the Quaker calendar, while the Julian calendar was in use, would have been January 30, 1738), because his zealous actions were considered disruptive. It is now known that at least two of the Friends who led the discernment about writing Benjamin Lay out of membership in the Society of Friends were **enslavers** and were likely targeted by Benjamin Lay's anti-slavery activism. Benjamin Lay was disowned decades before Quakers were disowned for being **enslavers**. **Abington Monthly Meeting asks forgiveness for that action.**

We now recognize the truth behind Benjamin Lay's abolitionist efforts. Although we may not reinstate membership for someone who is deceased, we recognize Benjamin Lay as a Friend of the Truth and as being in unity with the spirit of our Abington Monthly Meeting.

*Brought forth and Approved by **Abington Monthly Meeting** on November 12, 2017*

*Endorsed by **Abington Quarterly Meeting** on February 4, 2018*

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting on July 14, 2018: "Benjamin Lay: After communicating further with Abington Monthly Meeting regarding their minute, Quaker Life Council endorses Abington Monthly Meeting's minute on Benjamin Lay. QLC recognizes Benjamin Lay as a Friend of the Truth and being in unity with the spirit of our Philadelphia Yearly Meeting."

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting on July 27, 2018, read this minute of unity into record as originally written. However, PYM recommended revisions to the above minute (changes indicated above in red) and asked that these revisions be taken back to Abington Monthly

Meeting for consideration. The recommendations are to avoid use of the word “slave-owners” which can been seen as dehumanizing, and for the monthly meeting to ask forgiveness for actions taken in the past.

(continued on next page)

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Very best,
Marcus

Junior Friends Conference

Middle School Friends Conference

June 17-22, 2018

Ripples

The 41st conference week was held at the George School campus. The 26 Junior Friends Conference and 11 Middle School Friends Conference students contributed to creating community. This week has been designed for children of members and attenders of Abington Quarterly Meeting as an opportunity to live in a community of Friends. We welcomed families from Bucks and Radnor Quarters and hope to continue to grow to include more children from the region.

Our theme, Ripples, was explored in classes and evening activities. A single action, a stone dropped in a pond, a wind blowing through leaves, a smile to a passerby all have the power to create a ripple, an effect that can be seen on the surface, in the moment, and leave a longer lasting impact that may not immediately be discernable. We worked to create a Friendly intergenerational community of love and fun! We felt God's love surround us. Daily Meeting for Worship offered reflection time before an active day for both JFC and MSFC.

JFC students enjoyed classes in religion (explored ways that God shows us that we are loved), art (string paintings and tie dyed t-shirts), great outdoors (collected trash, assembled a tent, and explored the creek), SPICES (considered Friends testimonies), and sport/games (facilitated by our Faith and Leadership students) and pool time. Each day offered small group time for relaxing, playing games and making friends.

The MSFC students began their week together with a Meeting for Worship for Business to consider the ways they would live together in a community of Friends. The students participated in a ropes course in which individuals attempted to meet personal goals with group support. They took 132 items donated by staff and families and worked at Cradles to Crayons for several hours. The students created five challenging and fun games for the Junior Friends to play as teams. It was a huge success!

The Faith and Leadership program included sessions that allowed them to explore living their lives as

Friends. They also experienced a ropes course to build their team. They visited Pennsbury Manor to learn about William Penn and to volunteer in the “kitchen gardens.” The four students also provided program support and worked with JFC students for a part of each day.

The programs spent most evenings together. Activities included a camp fire, scavenger hunt, Capture the Flag, Cooperative Games and Talent Show. Caselli Jordan of City Love visited us one evening. He facilitated student composition of lyrics for a song with the chorus of “Mix those SPICES all together. The world needs Quakers to make it better. A Quaker did that! A Quaker did that!”

Throughout the week children asked questions, offered thoughtful statements, played with enthusiasm, created works of art, told silly jokes and sang! The counselors and staff provided loving care for the children. Their energy and enthusiasm keeps JFC and MSFC going. Most were once campers and delight in passing on the traditions of the programs while adapting and creating new ones.

We were blessed by visits from Alice and Richard Wetherill, Ruth Peterson, Bill Procyson, Aidan Sines and Ben Levan, Harry Leeser and Becca Bubb and daughters. We are appreciative to the representatives from Monthly Meetings who helped to connect with all eligible families. We are grateful for Abington Quarter’s financial and spiritual support.

With love,

Karen Shanoski

Director

Staff

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Dylan Jalowiec | SPICES Teacher |
| Jason Lauts | Art Teacher |
| Justin Lauts | Friendly Presence |
| Amelia Perkins | Faith and Leadership Coordinator |
| Theo Procyson | Religion Teacher |
| Stephanie Hunt Rushie | First Aid |

| | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Joe Schatz | MSFC Manager |
| Kelsey Schwarzenbach | Assistant MSFC Manager |
| Karen Shanoski | Director |
| Charlie Sines | Assistant Director |
| Evan Taylor | Great Outdoors |

Counselors

JFC

- Group 1: Elena Moreno, Sophie Perkins
- Group 2: Nia Lewis, Manya Mrosinski, Kenan Sayers
- Group 3: Cole Lewis, Zoë Rogers, Holli Sdao,

MSFC

- Alexa Doran, Andrew Dow

Faith and Leadership

- Sophie Dow, Rachael Ennis, Katie Riley, Leah Whalen