

Abington Quarterly Meeting for Business

Held via Zoom

Fifth Month, 3rd, 2020

41 in attendance

The meeting began with a few moments of worship.

Friends approved the minutes of Second Month.

Bonnie Miller (Plymouth) read a report from the Home and Care Committee asking that the Quarter approve the Abington Quarterly Meeting Fund making its funds available to the Home and Care Committee for hardships attenders may be facing during the Covid-19 crisis. Home and Care asks that the three-year attendance requirement for members to receive funds is being relaxed through December 31, 2020. AQMF grant proposal agrees to allow up to \$100,000 of its funds to be available to use for attenders for the next two years. Rebecca Cratin (Plymouth) clarified that the December 31 deadline will be extended if the situation warrants. She also said that if the AQMF minute is approved, she will be alerting all monthly meetings this week of the availability of these funds.

Rebecca explained how repayment of funds would work. If the recipient is a member over 62, they would sign a letter of intent and would not need to repay until death, when the repayment comes from the person's estate. If the person is a younger member, the person receives help through the Enabling Fund and is told to repay if able, but with no obligation. Any attenders who apply will be helped through the Abington Quarterly Meeting Fund and will not be required to repay. Any funds that they repay will be returned to the Abington Quarterly Meeting Fund.

Robert Reiff (Unami) explained the need to change the wording of the AQMF minute slightly in order to meet auditing requirements. Bob read the adjusted wording, and Friends approved the minute as read. (attached)

Joe Schatz (Plymouth) reported that JFC/MSFC will not be held this summer. They will hold a Zoom call on June 21 with the children who would have attended. They will also send a survey to families about how they would like the Quarter to connect children over the summer.

Karen Shanoski (Norristown) asked that the Quarter approve the renaming of the oversight committee for youth programs as the Abington Youth Programs Support Committee. Friends approved. Karen asked that the Quarter consider at a future gathering how we can more fully engage the Quarter's children.

Tom Peterson (Unami) reported from Nominating Committee that they are searching for a new clerk of the Quarter. Friends asked thus far have declined.

Friends left the business of the Quarter to participate in meeting for worship with Abington Monthly Meeting.

After worship, Kathleen Geist (Gwynedd) presented a minute from Gwynedd supporting the Eco Justice Collaborative Minute to address the climate crisis as one of PYM's top corporate witnesses. Friends endorsed the minute and the clerk will forward our approval to Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

Friends then gathered in extended worship.

Respectfully submitted,

Paige Menton

Recorder

Amelia Diamond

Clerk

Abington Quarterly Meeting Fund Committee Grant

The Abington Quarterly Meeting Fund Committee met recently, and was moved to respond to a Concern of the Home and Care Committee. Despite the considerable funds which they have available to assist members of our Quarter, they are not able to provide financial aid to attenders, since all of their assets are from restricted funds.

The money which the Abington Quarterly Meeting Fund administers is not restricted; but is Available for the good of the Quarter and its constituent Monthly Meetings. The committee is Able to distribute some or all of its funds, but needs a minute of approval to do so.

Minute of financial support of assistance for attenders –

The Abington Quarterly Meeting Fund (AQM Fund) committee recommends setting aside up to \$100,000.00 for the Home and Care (H&C) Committee to provide assistance to attenders of our monthly meetings and worship groups. H&C will follow their current processes and procedures to grant these funds and will provide the total grant amount to the AQM Fund committee twice a year. The AQM Fund committee will not participate in the decision of the use of these funds. Any monies returned under this program will be credited to the AQM Fund. The funds will be available for H&C use through 5/3/2022.

Abington Quarterly Meeting approved this grant at Meeting for Worship to Attend to Business,
May 3, 2020.

Amelia Diamond
Clerk, Abington Quarterly Meeting