

Minutes
Warrington Quarterly Meeting
Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Nine hundred thirty-ninth meeting
Virtually, by Zoom
19 February 2023 - 1 pm EST

Participating:

Andy Hoover (Carlisle)
Betsy Tobin (Frederick)
Chris Fowler (Frederick)
Cynthia Timothy (York)
Darah Kehnemuyi (Shepherdstown)
Dave French (Menallen) - Recording Clerk
Donna Kolaetis (Menallen) - Clerk
Dorothy Shumway (York)
Joe Slenker (York)
Karrie Holt (York)
Lamar Matthew (York)

Meeting began at 1:10 pm with a moment of waiting worship.

Introductions. Meeting proceeded with individual announcements. Four York Meeting participants joined from the meetinghouse.

Reports.

Carlisle..... Andy read the attached report.
Frederick Betsy read the attached report.
Gettysburg Dave read the attached report.
Menallen Dave read the attached report.
Pipe Creek Dave read the attached report.
Shepherdstown..... Darah read the attached report.
Warrington..... Dave read the attached report.
York..... Dorothy read the attached report.

Upcoming Meetings

Meeting considered the idea, floated at the last meeting, that November and February meetings be held virtually, and May and August be held in person, with hybrid options based on the capabilities of the meeting.

Betsy offered Frederick as a meeting place in the near future, and noted that they are well-versed with their hybrid capabilities. Chris and Dorothy urged us to move toward meeting more regularly in person. Lamar promoted York meetinghouse as a host meeting. Dave expressed a desire for some virtual meetings both out of a concern for weather and for environmental responsibility. Andy asked whether any Friends present were concerned about a health risk with in-person meetings. Chris suggested that we might meet at a central location to reduce travel. Betsy pointed out that the internet is not carbon-neutral.

Meeting agreed, subject to change due to health risk, to meet in person for May, August, and November meetings (with a potential hybrid option), and February meeting virtually.

The 940th meeting of the quarter will be held in person, at the Frederick meetinghouse, on 21 May 2023. The clerk will coordinate with other meetings to determine the venue of future meetings.

Children's Programs

Shepherdstown and Frederick Meetings have active First Day school programs, but several meetings also have plans to host children that come. Most meetings have few if any families with children regularly attending. Friends shared experiences of being children participating in Meetings for Worship. Several asked what was the purpose of First Day school. Donna asked whether Quarterly Meeting would want to offer some sort of opportunities for children.

Meeting adjourned at 2:38 pm following a brief period of worship.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave French
Recording clerk
19 February 2023

**Report to Warrington Quarterly Meeting – Carlisle Quaker Meeting
February 19, 2023**

Carlisle Friends continue to hold meetings for worship in our meetinghouse every Sunday. Two Friends recently came down with COVID, but are doing well, thankfully. Our attendance runs between 12 and 20, and vocal ministry is rich. In December we held our annual Christmas worship, potluck, and coffeehouse after a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic. Friends were encouraged to test themselves for COVID before attending to reduce the collective risk to our aging members.

Our Faith into Action committee meets monthly. We are planning to provide and serve a meal on Good Friday at the local Salvation Army, which runs a program that feeds the homeless in Carlisle.

Submitted by Donald J. Kovacs, Meeting Clerk
quakerdoc07@aol.com

2023-02-19 Warrington Quarterly Meeting
Frederick Friends Meeting Report

Greetings Friends.

Frederick Friends Meeting (FFM) continues to worship in a hybrid format. We often have 20-25 Friends in the Meeting House with another 5-10 joining by Zoom. This format allows our community to stay connected with each other. We still have the occasional surprise of an accidental unmuting with background noise, but find our way back into grounded Worship.

Three Friends are participating in the New England Yearly Meeting Nurturing Faithfulness Program. They are sharing their emerging wisdom with FFM. As part of this, we have been experimenting with extended Worship. On days that nothing else is planned before our 10:30 Meeting for Worship, we open worship at 9:30. We have found this extended Worship to be deep, this extended Worship has deepened our regular Worship as well. We have had more visitors return as attenders during this time and wonder if there is a connection.

Nominating Committee is asking Friends to consider where their talents might best be used in support of Meeting. As is the case for many Meetings, we have more needs than we have volunteers to fill them. We continue to look at where we can streamline meeting our needs.

FFM is beginning to look at the queries from Baltimore Yearly Meeting in preparation for composing our Spiritual State of the Meeting Report. Those conversations begin today during potluck.

As always, we seek that of God within ourselves and in others.

In peace,
Betsy Tobin
Frederick Friends Meeting

Report from Gettysburg Meeting to Warrington Quarterly Meeting
February 2023

Since our last report, we have been blessed by a number of visitors, some attending regularly for a time. They included Gettysburg College students and staff, a community member, members of other Meetings, and a visiting relative. However, some of our regular members/attenders have opted not to join us on a weekly basis. On the other hand, one of our distant members has been attending more often, in person and on Zoom.

We were able to make our annual contributions to our regular 15 community, Quaker, and national organizations, as well as to continue support of the Refugee Resettlement Partnership, which now has two Afghan families settled in Gettysburg.

Having been the recipients of wonderful hospitality from Pipe Creek Meeting for Margaret Stambaugh's Memorial Meeting, a group of us went to Pipe Creek for their anniversary celebration.

At our February Meeting for Business, we wrote our Spiritual State of the Meeting, which follows:

In the last 3 years we have lost 3 very important contributing members of our Meeting (Dick Wood, Robert Trussell, and Margaret Stambaugh.) The remainder of Meeting has been very grateful for their continued presence despite our grieving. In Light of this, we still have a functioning Meeting with a strong spiritual presence. We contribute to each other and to the larger community. We have been a stop on their journey for a number of visitors, but we have been stressed by uneven attendance. We are committed to having a presence at Meeting every Sunday.

Sandy Moyer
Clerk

Menallen Monthly Meeting
Quarterly State of the Meeting Report
Quarter ending February 2023

Worship. Indoor worship continues at Menallen – 10:30 am each First day. Our clerk has been faithful in providing thoughtful queries for us to consider before Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business; all were held in good order.

We have found that we need to make major revisions to our 50-year-old by-laws, include provisions as to what constitutes a “quorum”.

Spiritual growth. Our spiritual formation study group continues following Meeting for Worship on first First days, with the exception of 1 January. Sessions continue to be well attended.

Buildings & grounds. Decluttering continues in the meetinghouse. More trees were removed from the east side of the burial ground, and Meeting has approved removal of the stumps so that the area can be graded and seeded for a lawn.

After some consideration, we did not reach unity to have the buggy shed dismantled.

New members. Ed and Fran Norton transferred their memberships from York Monthly Meeting. Lew Stratton transferred his membership from Middletown (Lima) Monthly Meeting (Philadelphia Yearly Meeting).

Passings. Fred Fisher passed away on 5 January 2023. A memorial service was held at the Gettysburg Recreation Park meeting hall on 29 January. Fred’s obituary is attached. Just prior to the memorial service, Peggy Fisher suffered a massive stroke. She passed away 6 February.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave French

19 February 2023

Warrington Quarterly Report, Pipe Creek Friends Meeting,

February, 2023

Hello Friends in Warrington Quarter, Pipe Creek Meeting has had several changes in the past quarter. The Meeting welcomed a new member Hiatt O'Connor and our Treasurer, TR Wailes stepped down after 10 years of service. Sandy Wright has been confirmed as our new Treasurer. A new Recorder , Laurel Hummel has been confirmed too.

The meeting held a celebration of life and remembrance meeting for Bob Gosnell. He had attended Pipe Creek and his friends and family said he had requested to have a ceremony here. He had a long history of work in recovery, and his recovery community held a Narcotics Anonymous meeting here, after his remembrance ceremony.

The Meeting chose to write the governor of Alabama protesting an execution that was not halted when it appeared it had gone wrong, as well as to speak out against the death penalty and the unequal way it is applied. Pipe Creek donated to the Equal Justice Initiative to provide legal help for death row prisoners.

Members support the local food bank at St. James Lutheran church and participated in helping with the annual parents and kids wrapping presents for each other. We continue to have monthly book groups that are well attended, and are currently reading Braiding Sweetgrass, by Robin Wall Kimmerer.

The Meeting is exploring two other concerns. The first is how best to support a negotiated end to the Ukraine war and anti-racist work within our community.

A long range planning committee has engaged the services of a retired preservation contractor to assess the condition of the Meeting house and prepare for its future survival.

It feels like we are reviving some of our hopes and energy after the covid shutdown and losses. The spiritual support within the meeting has deepened and help sustain us through recent hard times. May you find love and sustenance in your Quaker practice.

Anita Virkus , Co-Clerk Pipe Creek Friends Meeting

Shepherdstown Monthly Meeting
Report to Warrington Quarterly Meeting
First Quarter, February 2023

Greetings Friends from Shepherdstown Monthly Meeting,

We continue to meet every First Day, both in person and remotely through the internet. Our attendance is stable with a total of about twenty Friends and Attenders joined from time to time by visitors. Our First Day School continues to meet each First Day, and has several regular young Friends attending. We continue to meet at the old Shepherdstown Train Station.

Our financial condition is stable and we continue to contribute to Baltimore Yearly Meeting and to various causes and charities. We have also set up a figurative basket for donations to Casa Juan Diego project at the southern border of our country at the urging of a Member who has travelled and worked with them.

We continue to consider finding a permanent home for our Meeting. Our previous interest in an historical building in Shepherdstown was finally deemed unfeasible. Our Space Committee continues to explore short-term rental solutions as well as a more permanent space/ land. A suggestion to consider moving our Meeting to Martinsburg has also been raised. The Committee has asked Friends to provide more ideas and proposals.

We have spent the start of this year considering and actively discussing the new revisions to Faith and Practice suggested and received from Baltimore Yearly Meeting. We are pleased that the Faith description included a multifaceted and more varied description of beliefs. Our suggestions will be forwarded to Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

We have continued with our monthly Black Lives Matter protest in Martinsburg, WV, as well as Members' sporadic protests against Rockwool.

We have approved the formation of a Unity with Nature Committee upon the urging of a regular Attender. Six people have joined this new Committee which continues to meet regularly and also to advise Friends on local events related to the Committee's vision. We continue to have a concern over racism in our society, and continue our efforts against it.

It was suggested that we organize one or more "Friendly Eights" dinners and a Member has agreed to begin a chart for sign ups.

Respectfully and with Blessings,

Darah Kehnemuyi

Warrington Monthly Meeting
Religious Society of Friends
Wellsville, PA

February 14, 2022

Dear Friends,

Meetings for Worship are starting to be held, weather permitting, in good order. Queries 12, 1, and 2 have been read and considered. Attendance has varied, but generally has been good, considering continuing concerns about viruses.

We are looking at, and working on, our historic facilities. We have had fireplaces and chimneys cleaned, and talked with masons and other contractors about work on the Meetinghouse, the outbuilding, the cemetery fence, the woodlot, and the stone wall on our property.

As part of our overall peace & social concerns effort, and related to BYM Query 11 on education, we are continuing to work on making small grants/contributions to educators connected to our Meeting, we've identified 6, and a local pre-school.

We are also reviewing the proposed changes from BYM's Faith and Practice committee.

Faith Basehore, Barb Kitzmiller, and/or anyone in attendance may be considered our representative.

Sincerely,

Stan Jones, Clerk

YORK FRIENDS MEETING

FIRST QUARTER 2023

Friends at York have been blessed with several new regular attenders at Meeting for Worship. New people have contributed much to our Meeting, including bring children for a First Day School.

We continue to watch the Covid numbers for York County. When the rating is low, wearing masks is optional and we have a shared meal after Worship.

We had good attendance for singing carols on Christmas Eve 2022 and Meeting for Worship on Christmas Day.

At our last Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business, the Meeting approved proceeding with preliminary work to have a small auxiliary building placed on the grounds for a First Day School. We are currently developing a site plan to be submitted to the Historical Architectural Review Board. We hope to have the building ready by fall of 2013..

Our 9:30 sessions before Meeting for Worship are active and are as follows:

1st First Day – Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business, with a volunteer sitting at Head of Meeting.

2nd First Day – Singing and a writing table to send cards to Friends.

3rd First Day – Writing the Spiritual State of the Meeting. After it is completed that session will continue with discussing Quakerism.

4th First Day –Discussion on Racism and Social Justice. The attendees are currently reading **BRAIDING SWEETGRASS** by Robin Wall Kimmerer. In addition to the book, we are researching the history of Indigenous people who occupied the land on which our Meetinghouse sits.

With love and Peace to our Friends of Warrington Quarter.