

The Green Street Messenger
Green Street Monthly Meeting of Friends
45 West School House Lane
Philadelphia, PA 19144
267-285-0553
secretary@greenstreetfriendsmeeting.org

West Philadelphia Preparative Friends Meeting
4718 Windsor Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19143



Meeting for Worship

10:30 AM Via Zoom/83195217639

January 2021

Happy New Year Friends

Sunday, 3rd	10:30 AM	Via Zoom/83195217639
Sunday, 10th	10:30 AM	Via Zoom/83195217639
Sunday, 17th	10:30 AM 12:30 PM	Via Zoom/83195217639 Monthly Meeting for Business
Sunday, 24th	10:30 AM	Via Zoom/83195217639
Sunday, 31st	10:30 AM	Via Zoom/83195217639

Minutes of Green Street Monthly Meeting for Business Held Twelfth Month 20, 2020

Via Zoom, Green Street Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, held at 45 West School House Lane, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Present: Rachel Ellis Adams, Susan Christian, Sam Connel, Gabriel Ehri (clerk), Russ Endo, Lola Georg, Victoria Greene, Viv Hawkins (recorder), David La Fontaine, Sharon Mullally, Mike Kelley, Chris Mohr, Robin Mohr, Mary Noland, Frank Perch, Ruth Reber, JoAnn Seaver, Lori Sinitzky, Ellen Sleeter, Traci Hjelt Sullivan, Walter Hjelt Sullivan, Ashlynn Sylvain, William Van Stone, Amy Verstappen, Ashanta Washington, Jerry Williams

2020-12-1. The meeting opened with worship and reading of our query: How does this decision support Green Street Friends Meeting in its goal to transform into an actively anti-racist faith community?

2020-12-2. Request from Worship & Ministry Committee: affirm and consider approval of one-time funding in the amount of \$5,000 for Amy Verstappen's ministry within Global ARCH, which the meeting has taken under its care (see attachment A)

The meeting received the Request for Meeting Support for Ministry: Global ARCH from Worship and Ministry Committee. Lori Sinitzky, clerk of Worship and Ministry, said that the Global ARCH support committee recommends this award with support from Worship and Ministry and agreement from the Budget Committee. The meeting approved this one-time funding of \$5,000, to be used as set out in the report. The draft budget proposed includes this gift. The treasurer of Global ARCH and executive director expressed gratitude for the meeting's care and this funding.

2020-12-3. Brief report from Trustees on changes in income (see attachment B)

The meeting received the report entitled Discussion of Income from Trustees to Meeting (from the Budget Committee 11-12-2020 and Financial Overview of 2020 Capital Projects and Financing. Traci Hjelt Sullivan reported that we've spent \$1 million on the meetinghouse in recent years with little impact to our investment income, for 2021 it will decrease by \$5,000. Spending in 2021 will be lower since we will not be in the meetinghouse for several months. A Friend expressed the opportunity to dig deeper by offering more from our holdings to the community in various ways. In January, from meeting's reserve, additional

expenses for meetinghouse improvement will be paid off. 2021 expenses of \$28,000 are anticipated.

2020-12-4. Action Item: Consider approval of the meeting's 2021 Budget (Russ Endo and Jerry Williams, for Budget Committee) (see attachment C)

For the second reading of the budget, the meeting received two reports: Budget Comparison as of 12-2-20 and 2021 Budget (recommended) and the Budget Minutes Sunday December 6, 2020.

Jerry Williams, treasurer, projected \$48,000 from members is 23% of projected income. Utilities, property and office, and program are expected to be lower during a COVID-19 year. The final report for 2020 budget will be able to be prepared in March 2021 after we receive on-line contributions through Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's giving portal.

While we may not have unity around every line item in the budget, and we struggled again with the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting covenant given our commitment to becoming an anti-racist faith community, we have unity for the budget as a whole and it was approved as submitted.

We labored together about our relationship with Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and racial healing. We asked our clerk to continue to help us devise a process for January, in association with Care and Counsel and others, where appropriate. Friends wishing to assist the clerk with this are encouraged to email clerk in the coming days.

2020-12-5. Report from Germantown Mutual Aid (Susan Christian) (see attachment D)

The meeting received the Germantown Mutual Aid Fund Report to Green Street Monthly Meeting November 15, 2020. Susan Christian expressed gratitude for an additional \$3,000 grant from Green Street Friends Meeting, in addition to \$4,000 previously offered. A report from the Germantown Mutual Aid program was sent to the list in addition to this report.

Susan reported that \$25,000 was the initial goal which has increased by \$25,000 each quarter and is now \$100,000. 59 households have been served assisting with fewer evictions and cutoffs. More volunteers are needed to serve on the twice monthly application review panels; if interested, please contact Susan Christian to volunteer. 80% of the applicants are of African heritage. The pandemic has hampered relationship building, as might be possible in other times. Conversation ensued related to the differences and similarities between mutual aid and charity in community sharing.

2020-12-6. Nominating Committee Report (added at meeting with report to follow)

Walter Hjelt Sullivan, clerk of Nominating, gave a report from Nominating Committee.

David La Fontaine's nomination for Children and Youth Religious Education was offered as a first reading.

The full slate of nominees is stored on a Google document which is public to people with the link.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ubpGLaYak0npdj7qILGV7ycvDxgbsz8V?usp=sharing>

2020-12-7. The meeting closed with worship

News & Announcements

Please submit all news and announcements to the secretary by the 28th of each month.

Meeting for worship is at 10:30. All are welcome.