

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



First Day Meeting for Worship	10:30 AM
First Day School	10:30–11:15 AM
First Day Meeting for Worship at West Phila. Mtg.	10:30 PM
Wednesday morning Meeting for Worship	8:30–9:00 AM with GSFS
First Sunday evening Meeting for Worship	6:30–7:00 PM at Stapeley Hall

March 2020

Sunday, 1st	9:30 AM	Breakfast – Bob D. & Geniver M. Hospitality – Ellen Sleeter & Walter S.
Sunday, 8th (DST)	9:15 AM Rise of Meeting	Second Sunday Worship & Ministry Hospitality – Viv & Lola
Sunday, 15th	Rise of Meeting 12:30 PM	Lunch – Gabe E. Monthly Meeting for Business
Sunday, 22nd	9:15 AM Rise of Meeting	Friendly Bible Study Hospitality – Jerry W. & Mary N.
Sunday, 22nd	10:30 AM Rise of Meeting	5 th Sunday Hospitality – Cheryl M.

Monthly Meeting for Business Held Second Month 16, 2020

Present: Gabriel Ehri, Margaret Wood, Victoria Greene, Sam Connell, Mike Kalaz, Shani Taylor, Mary Noland, Paul Jablonski, Robin Mohr, Geniver Montalvo, Kathy Angell, Ellen Sleeter, Lola Georg, Walter Hjelt Sullivan, Bob Dockhorn, Charles Barker

Recording Clerk: Anthony DiGiovanni

Clerk: JoAnn Seaver

The Meeting began at 1:00 with a period of silent working

The clerk read the proposed agenda and it was approved.

Care and Counsel

Lola Georg reported on the outcomes of two recent clearness committees for membership. The first was for Karen Campbell, whose clearness committee consisted of Michelle Schmidt, Lori Sinitzky, JoAnn Seaver and Bill Van Stone. The second was Jocelyn Banks, whose clearness committee was Chris Mohr, Walter Hjelt Sullivan and Margaret Wood. The committees are clear in recommending Karen and Jocelyn for membership. As is the practice, this is a first reading for membership for these individuals, and approval will be sought at next month's business meeting. Friends with further questions or concerns can contact Lola or others on Care and Counsel prior to next business meeting.

Property Committee

Anthony DiGiovanni reported that the lead remediation for areas inside the Meetinghouse are complete. The front porch, including the columns, doors and window sills will be worked on in the upcoming weeks.

Announcements from the Clerk

JoAnn Seaver reported on a conversation with Anthony Stover, who serves as Clerk of the Quarter and also on the Quaker Life Counsel for PYM. Concern was expressed that there are not enough Friends participating in Quaker Life Counsel, and Green Street Friends are encouraged to get involved.

JoAnn reported that we received a letter from Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) asking for help in setting legislative priorities for the upcoming year. The deadline to submit is April. JoAnn feels FCNL is something we should hold and support. A Friend suggested scheduling a time for Green Street Friends to discuss and weigh in on the priorities. The second Sunday in March was set for this discussion.

Brainstorming session

JoAnn Seaver suggested the following process for this brainstorming session: Friends take a moment to discern whether they want to be in the a) care of visitors group or the b) outreach to local community group. After deciding, Friends can join one of the groups and discuss the following: What is our vision? What have we done? What else should we be doing? Point people? Costs for budgeting? How to hold ourselves accountable? JoAnn asked the two groups to spend 40 minutes discussing and then gather back as a whole to report.

After spending time apart, the groups came back together to report.

The group that discussed care of visitors opened by stating that we have a people shortage. There is room for improvement with our welcoming of new people. Nametags are important and we should make sure nametags are always available and greeters encourage people to use them.

We should work towards informing visitors what to expect. It would be helpful to have a card with what Meeting for Worship is about, including an order of worship. Worship and ministry will pick up this charge.

It would be helpful to have a brief announcement at the doors encouraging Friends to be respectful of entering the worship room if someone is giving a message.

We need to find a way to talk to people who leave the Meetinghouse at the rise of meeting. There is a need to balance being friendly and questioning without being overpowering and intimidating.

It is everyone's responsibility to speak with new attenders. We should extend invitations for hospitality hour and then talk with the visitors.

We should stress the importance of starting Meeting for Worship on-time.

The presence of greeters is important in welcoming people. It was thought that a welcoming committee should codify what greeters should be doing.

It was asked whether a care and counsel member should be assigned to newcomers to follow-up and check in.

It would be helpful to have pictures of more recent members.

The group that discussed outreach to the local community had the following questions and observations:

There is always a people shortage and GSMM seems to fall back to donations to local community groups. We need to figure out how to plug into the existing information webs in Germantown. We need to support small and black owned businesses in Germantown. We should continue having our members doing outreach in existing Germantown organizations.

Friends remarked on the challenge of existing silos in Germantown.

The group discussed various ideas like food giveaways and offering our kitchen and space to workshops for clerking and alternatives to violence.

It was felt that we should talk with other churches (like St. Vincents, First Presbyterian, GLEC, and James Memorial) who have long term and well used programs. Mary Noland, Ellen Sleeter and Shani Taylor will follow-up on this and report back

It was remarked that GSMM is not well known in the community. How do we let people know we are here?

We could serve breakfast here from our kitchen. A lot of people are hungry. Part of the reason kitchen was renovated was to serve the community. We could do something like little free library except for food.

The Meeting concluded at 2:45 after a period of silent worship.

News & Announcements

Volunteers Needed for Hospitality 2020

Please contact our clerk: Mary Noland, maryanoland@gmail.com for more information. Thank you!

Archives and Records: See attachment

A message from Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting: Please see attachment.

Book Discussion Group will meet, **Sunday, March 1, 2020** after hospitality. Harriet Tubman is the topic. Learn about her in any way you can, Trace and Valerie have done research and information can be forwarded if requested. Please submit all request to Mary Noland.

**DON'T FORGET TO MOVE YOUR CLOCKS 1 HOUR FORWARD
SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2020**

Join us during and following Coffee Hour **March 8, 2020** to join the discussion to offer priorities for the work of the Friends Committee on Legislation.

Documentaries and Discussions will hold its next documentary **Saturday, March 21, 2020**. Film: Priced Out

Friends, Green Street Friends Meeting will like to celebrate your birthday and/or Anniversary. Each month if you wish to have an announcement posted in the newsletter, please submit all request by the 21st of the month to secretary@greenstreetfriendsmeeting.org.

A note from the secretary's desk:

A special thanks to everyone for your thoughts and kind words at the birth of my son. My family and I are thankful!