



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

**For updates and more information: [greenstreetfriendsmeeting.org](http://greenstreetfriendsmeeting.org)**

## **January 2019**

<b>Sunday, 6th</b>	9:30 AM	Breakfast - <b>Gabe &amp; Bonnie</b>
	Rise of Meeting	Website Working Group Meeting
	12:30 PM	Hospitality - <b>Sandra &amp; Charity</b>
		Care & Counsel Committee Meeting
<b>Sunday, 13th</b>	9:15AM	Second Sunday Worship & Ministry (see below)
	Rise of Meeting	Hospitality - <b>Mary Noland &amp; Gabbreell</b>
<b>Sunday, 20th</b>	Rise of Meeting	Lunch - <b>Peggy W. &amp; Shelton</b>
	12:30 PM	Monthly Meeting for Business
<b>Sunday, 27th</b>	9:15 AM	Friendly Bible Study
	Rise of Meeting	Hospitality - <b>Anthony &amp; Bethann</b>

## ***Draft Minutes of Monthly Meeting for Business Held Twelfth Month 09, 2018***

At Green Street Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, held at 45 West School House Lane, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on Twelfth Month 09, 2018:

Business Meeting convened at 12:45 pm in prayerful silence.

18-12-01 JoAnn Seaver, Clerk, reviewed the agenda and Friends approved.

18-12-02 Minute of Religious Service for Robin Mohr

Traci Hjelt Sullivan, Clerk of Worship and Ministry, distributed paper copies of the draft minute that had previously been sent out to the Meeting listserve. Friends took some time to read the minute.

Minute of Religious Service for Robin Mohr

Robin Mohr is an active and valued member of Green Street Monthly Meeting, which is a member of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). We celebrate that in addition to her involvement in the life of our meeting, Robin is also the professional Executive Secretary of Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) Section of the Americas. FWCC is a Quaker denominational body: the organization that fosters relationships among the various branches of the Quaker faith. As part of her work, Robin travels frequently throughout the Americas.

As a long-standing Quaker practice, we do not ordain ministers, but we do recognize gifts and faithfulness in religious service. We are grateful for the professional religious service that Robin performs to foster vitality and unity within our faith. We affirm her spiritual gifts of ministry and that the services she provides for FWCC would be performed by clergy with administrative positions in other denominations.

We bless Robin's work with FWCC, and are ready to provide spiritual support to her and her family as she is faithful to it.

JoAnn Seaver  
Clerk, Green Street Friends Meeting

Traci asked if there were any questions about the background information. There were none.

Traci asked for any comments on the wording. There were none.

Friends approved the minute.

Friends also acknowledged their deep appreciation for Robin and her faithful work for Friends.

18-12-03 Budget

David La Fontaine, Treasurer, distributed copies of the proposed budget for 2019 which was substantially the same as that which was reviewed in November.

Friends were reminded that end of year donations are very much needed.

Friends were advised that the Kitchen Use Working Group will be meeting later this month to review practices and policies for space use including those for possible use from outside groups that could generate some new income. Members of the committee are Jerry Williams, Gabbreell James, Chris Mohr, Maani Waldor, Sandra Rodriguez, Ryan Kimmet, and Margie Felton.

David reported that the budget includes the possibility of having a part-time custodian, though that position is still under consideration by the Property Committee.

One Friend asked about the status of contributions to others for this year. The Budget Committee has been delegated by the Meeting to prepare a list of organizations who will receive our contributions. They reported that they plan to give exactly the same contributions to the same organizations as last year. The budget committee plans to ask for new input from Meeting members next year when they discern a revised list based on the same general principles we have used for a couple of years. Friends accepted Budget Committee's decision for this year, but asked that they carefully review the list to make sure that all the organizations are still active and that, for future years, the Meeting be informed of the committee's recommendation in time to give input. Budget Committee agreed to bring their recommendation to the business Meeting each year in October.

David reviewed the bookkeeping for covering the construction costs to date on the Meeting room repairs and the kitchen and basement remodel. Some of that money has been pulled from the Meeting's Necessitous Cases Fund, which consists of the accumulated interest from the Trustees' Necessitous Cases Reserves. The portion coming from unrestricted Trustees' Reserves will decrease our interest income moving forward.

David reviewed the updated figures for balances in our various accounts which were not accurately reported last month. This updating identified a problem for the future funding of our remodeling project because the balance in the Necessitous Cases line item is about \$22,000 short of the amount that we had hoped to take out for this purpose. Budget Committee will revisit this question and find those monies from another source.

Friends approved the budget with deep gratitude to the Committee and particularly David for developing the report.

One Friend reported that the home-made platform traditionally used as a stage in the Meeting room may have gone missing and that there was some interested in replacing it with a much more utilitarian version, if possible, before the Christmas pageant performance next week. Friends entrusted Walter Hjelt Sullivan and JoAnn Seaver with researching whether one could be identified and delivered before next Sunday, whether one might be rented, or whether the play should go on firmly grounded on the new carpet alone. The Budget Committee noted that there was certainly about \$2,000 in the current budget that might be used for this purpose. Friends agreed.

#### 18-12-04 Use of the Social Room

JoAnn Seaver introduced the general topic of how we intend to use the Social Room and what furniture we would like to keep there.

JoAnn read a minute from Worship and Ministry Committee recommending that we dispose of the excess inherited benches in the Social Room.

Robin Mohr reported that the Property Committee met this morning. She informed the Meeting that the repair of the last set of original benches in the Meeting room has been delayed and that, temporarily, it would help to move some of the excess benches into the Meeting room to fill in the empty space there.

In response to a question from one member, Chris Mohr reported that he has consulted with Ed Marshall and the School does not have any attachment to keeping the benches that are currently in the Social Room.

A complicated conversation ensued. Friends were encouraged to focus first on developing a vision for the use of the Social Room and let the decision about the final disposition of the excess benches and what other furniture we might want to have follow from that vision.

Frank Perch reminded the Meeting that a number of years ago we established a working group to explore uses of the Social Room, its furniture, and decorations. He informed us that, at that time, the room was used much more and in more diverse ways by the School than by the Meeting.

Friends agreed to move a number of benches into the Meeting room, that we re-establish a working group to consider the uses of the Social Room and how we might like to equip it, that we consult with the School, and that we use this year to develop a long-term plan.

Friends asked the Property Committee to bring recommendations for a revived working group to our next business meeting in January.

Robin reported that the accumulation of things in the Jones Room awaits the installation of new shelving in the kitchen and the storage room. Some of that shelving has arrived and, if Friends were interested in helping to assemble them, that would be welcome.

#### 18-12-05 Reconsideration of Public Signage.

JoAnn brought back the conversation from last month about the wording on the banner hanging on the Meetinghouse. It was reported that Ed Marshall worked with members of the Meeting to finalize new wording including concerns about anti-Semitism. That new banner has been purchased and installed on the Meetinghouse at the School's expense.

There continues to be significant interest in developing a more permanent sign, jointly held by the Meeting and the School, which would allow for public messages about our faith and practice that could be seen more easily by those who pass by the property.

Worship and Ministry agreed to bring a recommendation to the January Meeting for Business suggesting a process for establishing a working group composed of members from both the Meeting and the School to continue work on this issue.

18-12-06 These minutes were approved.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm, agreeing to meet again at the appointed time on First Month 20, 2019.

JoAnn Seaver, Clerk

Walter Hjelt Sullivan, Recording Clerk

#### Attendees:

JoAnn Seaver, Sharon Mullally, Margie Felton, Frank Perch, Bill Van Stone, David La Fontaine, Paul Jablonski, Traci Hjelt Sullivan, Margaret J. Walters, Bob Dockhorn, Chris Mohr, Robin Mohr, Gabriel Ehri, Geniver Montalvo, Victoria Greene

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#### *Upcoming Events for F/friends*

**The Spirituality of Money** series is concluding with two sessions (Money as Investment and

Money as Accountability) on Saturday January 12. See a longer description of each session below.

[Please complete this RSVP Form](#) as soon as possible so that we can plan for you. And if you decide to attend at the last minute, please come even if you haven't RSVPed.

If you want to bring kids under 12, we need to hear by Sunday January 6. Teens 12 and older are encouraged to be full participants.

**The Retreat is from 9:15 to 3:30 pm at Green Street Meeting House. We hope everyone will attend the whole day -- but it is okay if you can only attend for the morning (9:15-12:15) or afternoon (1:15-3:30) session.** This is a community retreat for Green Street members and attenders -- it is not for friends and acquaintances who are interested in the topic. If you've only attended Green Street Meeting a couple times and you've been considering getting more involved, we'd love to have you attend!

A very simple lunch (vegan soup and bread) will be provided -- you are welcome to bring a potluck dish to add to the common table.

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### **EMIR MINISTRY SUPPORT GROUP by Chris Mohr**

About a year ago, Lola Georg and I organized the EMIR Ministry Support Group at Green Street Meeting. We support the work of the EMIR Healing Center in Germantown,

EMIR was founded by our member Victoria Greene. EMIR stands for "Every Murder is Real," and was named in honor of her son Emir, who was a victim of homicide. The center helps families survive and eventually heal from the pain of losing a loved one to homicide.

We decided to publicize the group again in case new people want to join, and also to let you know what help we'll be asking for in 2019. If you're interested, we usually meet in a group member's home on the **third Monday evening of the month at 7 pm**. Our next meeting will be Jan. 21, which is MLK Day. **Let me know if you're interested, even if you can't attend that meeting.**

Our group uses the Quaker Social Change Ministry model, developed by American Friends Service Committee (especially our member Lucy Duncan). In this model, a group of Quakers partner with a local organization led by people most impacted by a particular issue. The Quaker group covenants to follow their lead in deciding what to work on. The model also makes time for spiritual sharing, connection, and reflection, leading to deeper relationship, followership, and grounding of action.

Last year Victoria asked us to organize a drive to provide backpacks with school supplies to the children EMIR serves. So many of you helped, and it succeeded!! We plan to do that again next spring and summer. We may also be tapped for another major effort in fall 2019; stay tuned for details.

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We now have the opportunity as individuals to show our financial support of the Kelly Green Project and John B. Kelly School in Germantown. Kelly Green has created a [GoFundMe page](#) to raise money for this much needed project. Please take a look -- learn about what we've done already and our goals for the future, and contribute what you can.

<https://www.gofundme.com/from-gray-to-kelly-green>

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Now is the time for parents of kids going to a Friends school or college next year to start the application process for tuition assistance. **Deadline January 25, 2019**

Your GSMM Educational Assistance Committee's job is to provide financial assistance to members with pre-K to 8<sup>th</sup> grade children so that the family can afford to send their children to Greene Street Friends School (GSFS), with assistance from GSFS and the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's Tuition Aid program. In addition we can provide limited assistance for our members' children to attend other Friends schools, a college, or a school for special education.

Step 1: Except for college students, we require a completed Application Form from the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's (PYM's) Friends Education Fund. PYM offers Tuition Aid for Friends Children in Friends Schools. Families usually begin the application process in November. Please complete the PYM application form. Application forms and instructions are online at [www.FriendsEducationFund.org](http://www.FriendsEducationFund.org). Families with questions may contact Zachary Dutton, Associate Secretary for Program & Religious Life at 215-241-7008 or [zdutton@pym.org](mailto:zdutton@pym.org). To qualify for tuition aid from the Yearly Meeting, at least one parent needs to have become a GSF Meeting member by the September before the school year starts, a full year ahead.

Step 2: After completing the PYM application, families should send a letter or email addressed to our Educational Assistance Committee stating your request from the Meeting, including the name and email address of parent(s), the name and grade of each child applying in the 2019-2020 school year, and the name of the school they wish to attend. Please attach the PYM application form. To qualify for tuition aid from our Meeting, at least one parent needs to have become a Meeting member by the January prior to the September school year for which they are applying.

Step 3: Ensure that our Meeting's Educational Assistance Committee receives both the PYM form and your request by our January 25, 2019 deadline, and ensure that the forms to be signed by our Committee clerk arrive at your school before the school's deadline, often in early February. College students are expected to submit their requests for tuition aid and contact information themselves but do not need a PYM form. Colleges do not have to be Quaker affiliated. The deadline for our receiving all applications is January 25, 2019 at which time our Committee will decide how we will distribute available funds among applicants. Please send the PYM forms for membership verification to Bill Van Stone, the clerk of Green Street Meeting's Educational Assistance Committee, at [wvsvc@aol.com](mailto:wvsvc@aol.com) or 625 Burnham Road, Philadelphia, PA 19119, to arrive before Friday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019. If you have questions call Bill at 215 438 6106 or email him at [wvsvc@aol.com](mailto:wvsvc@aol.com).

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*From the Secretary's Desk;*

The past year has come with many challenges and upgrades for the Meeting. Since starting, there have been obstacles and hurdles as it relates to our phone and internet service. I've made many appointments with different service providers, came in on weekends and holidays to get the problems fixed, but unfortunately the problems were more complicated than expected or anticipated.

Nevertheless, a New Year brings New hope, New dreams, New expectations and New results.

The phone and internet service is expected to be up and running properly before January 31. Should anyone ever need to contact me, feel free to email anytime at [secretary@greenstreetfriendsmeeting.org](mailto:secretary@greenstreetfriendsmeeting.org).

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2018 Tax Acknowledgements are currently being prepared, any F(f)riends who will like a copy for their records, please email me. All documents will be mailed by January 31. 2019 (by request only).

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I also will like to thank everyone for the support shown for my cousin Gerald Burton during his time in Pittsburgh. Gerald has decided to return to Louisiana to further his education. He also is very grateful for the outpouring of Love from Green Street Monthly Meeting of Friends.

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I look forward to all the wonderful work and great things happening here at GSMM. It is my pleasure to work with you all.

Happy New Year.

Best,  
Ashanta Washington