

The Green Street Messenger

monthly calendar & newsletter o



Green Street Monthly Meeting of Friends
45 West School House Lane
Philadelphia, PA 19144
267-285-0553

secretary@greenstreetfriendsmeeting.org

Philadelphia, PA 19144 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

June 2019

Sunday, 2nd	9:30 AM	Breakfast - Anne & Dan Hospitality - Peggy W. & Sheldon
Sunday, 9th	9:15 AM	Second Sunday Worship & Ministry
Sunday, 16th	Rise of Meeting Rise of Meeting 12:30 PM	Hospitality - Valery & Tracy Lunch - Afroza & Christopher Monthly Meeting for Business
Sunday, 23rd	9:15 AM Rise of Meeting	Friendly Bible Study Hospitality - JoAnn & Bill
Sunday, 30th	9:15 AM Rise of Meeting	5th Sunday Hospitality - Sharon M & Susan C.

July Worship with Germantown Friends Meeting (see below)

Minutes of Monthly Meeting for Business Held Fifth Month 19, 2019

At Green Street Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, held at 45 West School House Lane, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on Fifth Month 19, 2019:

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

19-05-01 JoAnn Seaver, Clerk, reviewed the agenda and Friends approved it with some adjustments.

19-05-02 Care and Counsel Committee Report, JoAnn Seaver reporting for Gabe Ehri, Clerk

JoAnn reported that the meeting has received a letter asking for membership in the Meeting from Michelle Schmitt.

Care and Counsel brought forward for approval transfer of membership for Mary Noland from Haddonfield Meeting (NJ). Mary is returning her membership to Green Street after a number of years away. Friends approved with great joy.

JoAnn Seaver, Bill Van Stone, and Ann Bayless will form a welcoming committee.

19-05-03 Nominating

Walter Hjelt Sullivan, Clerk, brought forward the following names for final approval after a second reading:

Selette James on the Budget Committee for a three year term (continuing) through 6/30/2022

Gabbrell James on Hospitality Committee the for a three year term (continuing) through 6/30/2022

Bill Van Stone on the Property Committee for a three year term (continuing) through 6/30/2022

Mary Nolan as convener of Hospitality Committee.

Jean Prestas for the QVS Support Committee for a three year term (continuing) through 6/30/2022

Friends approved these nominations.

Walter also brought forward the following names for a first reading:

For a three year term (continuing) on Hospitality Committee, Peggy Walters through 6/30/2022.

This nomination will lie over for a month. Friends with concerns about any of these nominations should speak privately with members of the Nominating Committee before the business meeting in April.

He reported that there both the Archivist and the Website working group need work but the committee is not ready to bring any recommendations forward at this time.

19-05-04 The work of Men Who Care,

Tracey Smith reported that she and Valerie Anderson have been carrying a leading to find ways to support the local Germantown community. In this work they have joined with Friends at Germantown Meeting, collaborating in particular with Anthony Stover and Tom Grabe. After doing some research, Anthony Stover reached out to one particular organization explore collaborative possibilities.

Men Who Care is a local group dedicated to working with members of the Germantown community who are under particular social stress. Now that this collaborative relationship has matured, Valerie invited Executive Director Clayton Justice and key volunteer Keith Paton to visit our Meeting and to give us a report of their work and share ways in which we might provide support or get involved.

Men Who Care are significantly involved in the schools, particularly Martin Luther King High School and Roosevelt Elementary School. Among other programs they work with the Student Advisory Committee (SAC) that includes moms who volunteer in the schools. Members of Green Street have raised funds that allow Men Who Care the opportunity to provide support services and opportunities to celebrate the volunteerism of SAC moms.

There is a significant need for more community volunteers to go into the schools and Men Who Care are looking to connect with community members who are willing and able to help. Friends who are interested may look at the Men Who Care website and contact either Tracey or Valerie.

Men Who Care are also involved in organizing the community to explore issues of gentrification in Germantown, gathering community members together to learn and to organize themselves to counter the efforts of outside developers whose projects do not meet the needs or support the vision of our Germantown community. They also offer a college scholarship program and a number of food and clothing programs to support families at risk.

Friend expressed great gratitude to Clayton and Keith for their work and the work of their organization as well as deep appreciation to Tracey and Valerie for their work and bringing this connection to our fuller attention.

19-05-05 Greene Street Friends School Update

Anne Bayless, Clerk of the School Committee/GSFS Trustees provided an update on enrollment, staffing and other developments.

The New Building:

School moved in to the new building in November. It's been in full use having hosted many school events including:

- PA CARES workshop, for GSFS parents on racial identity and equity
- Alumni Day
- Horizons Winter Party
- First Home Game in the history of GSFS
- Stay Woke Day – 70 students from other schools came to GSFS to attend workshops on racial identity and equity -- led by GSFS students
- Middle School Musical – “Newsies,”
- Philly Triple Threat – teaches basketball to neighborhood youth two evenings per week.

Governance

Focus on diversifying the board leadership to match school demographics:

- Number of Board Members – 19
- 10 out of 19 are Quaker
- 9 are women, 10 are men
- 9 are people of color, 10 are white
- Entering into a self-study next year in preparation for the 10 year accreditation by PAIS
- Leadership transition Anne Bayless to Chris Mohr

Program

- Spring Concert was held at the front of the Meeting House, 900 – 1000 people
- New program initiatives
- Faculty hiring Horizons will have four sections this year, 60 students from the John Wister School
- Quaker Ways Committee (what has it focused on and implemented?)

Admissions

Enrollment picture

- We expect the Lower School to be full
- Enrollment will likely be a new record
- We are currently about half students of color

Scholarships

- This year, GSFS provided \$750,000 in scholarships, 40% of our students receive financial aid
- Germantown Scholars is in its 3rd year. This is a full scholarship for graduates of the John Wister School, one graduate each year. Our first scholar will graduate this June and attend Carver Engineering and Science High School

Friends expressed gratitude to Anne for her four years of service as Clerk of the School Board.

19-05-06 Green Street Meeting's PYM Covenant.

JoAnn reported that the Yearly Meeting treasurer has inquired if there is an update on the status of our intention to pay the 2018-19 covenant. Jerry Williams, treasurer, reported that after initially

withholding our 2017-18 covenant, we did pay it earlier this year. At the same time, when we paid last year's covenant earlier this year, we deferred the decision on whether or not to pay this year's covenant. We did, however, put \$30,000 aside to pay it if we were so led. Now is time for us to decide how we feel about this topic.

Many Friends felt unprepared to work through the many issues related to this decision. Friends suggested that we put this agenda item first on our business agenda for the month of June. Some Friends asked if the Trustees and Budget Committee would bring a set of questions to business meeting in September where we can give input into the many related issues as part of developing our 2020 budget.

With that Friends agreed to do our homework, let the Meeting community know, and to look at the covenant question first thing in June.

19-05-07 Fees and Protocols for the use of Green Street Meeting House

The Kitchen and Meeting House Use Working Group has prepared a final draft of the documents to guide the use of our new kitchen by the Meeting, the School, affiliated groups and unaffiliated groups from the community. The hour being late, and people being tired, the Clerk suggested that Friends revisit issue in June. Friends were not quite ready to simply lay the issue over. The Kitchen Working Group reported that they feel complete in their work having submitted a set of documents which are a working guide that will need continual periodic review. The Working Group was laid down with thanks for their hard work.

Our Meeting secretary Ashanta, needs a support committee to advise her as she works with various groups wanting to use the Meetinghouse. The Working Group recommends that this advisory committee consist of one member each from Property Committee, Budget Committee, and Hospitality Committee. The Clerk hopes that Nominating Committee will be able to identify these people. In addition, the plan requires a group of people who are willing to be a presence in the Meetinghouse when an event is not sponsored by a member or committee in the Meeting or of the school. These positions will be compensated, but we do not have a process to recruit members to this group yet and the process of training them is not clear.

Friends agreed that there are still a number of issues that need our attention related to this issue and agreed to add it as a second item to the June business meeting agenda.

19-05-08 Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting's Minutes of April 28

Our time being over already, the Clerk laid over this issue to sometime in the future.

19-05-09 These minutes were approved.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm, agreeing to meet again at the appointed time on Sixth Month 16, 2019.

JoAnn Seaver, Clerk

Walter Hjelt Sullivan, Recording Clerk

Attenders:

JoAnn Seaver

Lori Sinitzky

Walter Sullivan
Bill Van Stone
Geniver M.
Anthony DiGiovanni
Jerry Williams
Margaret Walters
Ashanta W.
Mary Noland
Robin Mohr
Chris Mohr
Tracey Smith
Anne Bayless

Cayton Justie
Keith Pate
Bob Dockhorn
Laura Lanza
Sandra M. Rodriguez
Michelle Schmitt

Worship and Ministry will be held Sunday, June 9, 2019 at 7pm in the Social Room.

You are cordially invited to the wedding of Neal Fordham & Cornelia Kietzman. Saturday, June 22nd, 11am. Meeting for wedding, lunch, contra dancing and “funk” dancing.

During July, everyone meets at Germantown MM, right around the block, at 47 W. Coulter St. During August everyone comes here.

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

To get to Germantown MM, turn left out of the driveway, right at the light onto Germantown Ave. Then turn right at the next light, which is Coulter St. The entrance to Germantown MM will be on your right.

