

Salem Quarterly Meeting
Minutes of the meeting held April 28, 2013
Fresh Pond Monthly Meeting, Cambridge, Massachusetts
Sarah Spencer, clerk – Emily Taber, recording clerk

13.4.1 Friends of Salem Quarter gathered in Worship. 19 Friends were in attendance.

13.4.2 Ralph Gentile (Lawrence), Treasurer, presented the 2013 Treasurer's Report for the year ending 31 March 2013. Friends accepted the report.

13.4.3. Friends reviewed and accepted the minutes from our October 2012 meeting.

13.4.4 The clerk presented the recommendations of the Funds Committee.

- Janet Hamilton and Beth Collea – City Missions (work project for Young Friends from Salem Quarterly Meeting (SQM) in Boston, summer 2013) \$500 (Moses Paige Fund)
- Nancy Shippen and Beth Collea – One Kid at a Time (supporting children of prison inmates attending Friends Camp, China, ME) \$1000 (Moses Paige Fund)

Friends **approved** the recommendations of the Funds Committee.

13.4.5 At our April 2012 business meeting, Friends requested that the Funds Committee create a clarifying minute on acceptable uses for the Moses Paige Fund and the Salem Quarter Fund (12.4.8). The clerk read a statement from the Funds Committee, announcing their intent to present a minute clarifying the purpose of the Moses Paige Fund and to provide additional approval criteria for the Moses Paige Fund and Salem Quarter Fund at our October business meeting. The Funds Committee requested the deferral of grant applications until new grant approval criteria are established. Fund requests will not be entertained in September, but the committee hopes to be able to receive funding requests in the spring, God willing. Need grants would continue, as they come from the Buffum, Breed & Boyce funds. Friends **approved**.

13.4.6 Ralph Gentile presented the budget for FY '14 (April '13-March '14). The proposed budget includes \$800 in the program line (a \$500 increase) for a potential increase in youth programs in the Quarterly Meeting (especially in light of the Funds committee's deferral of grant decisions, this will allow for the funding of a potential Junior High group within the quarter). Friends **approved** this budget.

13.4.7 Paul Wagoner, clerk of the Oversight Committee for the Ministry of Margaret Benefiel (Beacon Hill), presented a travel minute for Margaret Benefiel. Friends endorsed the minute and **approved** forwarding it to Permanent Board.

13.4.8 The clerk presented the report of the Nominating Committee.

- James Gray (Framingham), Assistant Clerk (until 2015)
- Judy Goldberger (Beacon Hill), Co-clerk of Ministry and Counsel (until 2014)
- Greg Williams (New Bedford), Quaker Studies Committee (until 2014)
- Carole Rein (North Shore) and Constance Bair-Thompson (Framingham), Quaker Studies Committee (until 2016)

Friends **approved** these nominations.

Friends also thank Ann Spires (Lawrence) for her six years of service on the Quaker Studies

Committee and Emily Neumann for her term of service on Nominating Committee.

13.4.9 Scott Hellen presented a minute from Amesbury Monthly Meeting responding to violence in American society. Amesbury Friends would like this to be a starting-off point for individual meetings to engage with the issue, but also an opportunity for some collective action, including perhaps sending the minute to Yearly Meeting. There is also an opportunity for engaging with this issue with legislators in the fall.

While there was energy surrounding the creation of a working group to respond to the issue of violence in American society which could reach out to meetings in the Quarter and report back in the fall regarding what work is being done, Friends felt that it was premature for the quarterly meeting to try to establish such a group. If people from other meetings are interested in coordinating with Friends at Amesbury they can contact Amesbury Meeting.

Friends felt that we should educate ourselves concerning this issue and **approved** recommending to the Ministry and Counsel Committee of Salem Quarterly Meeting that the theme for the next year's program be a *Quaker response to violence in American society*.

Friends thank Amesbury Meeting for bringing this topic to our attention. We and our meetings are encouraged to consider this issue further.

13.4.10 Friends heard the memorial minute for Proctor Houghton (Cambridge). Following the recommendation of Ministry and Counsel, Friends **approved** forwarding this minute to Permanent Board for consideration to be read at NEYM Sessions.

13.4.11 Judy Goldberger, co-clerk of SQM Ministry & Counsel, (Beacon Hill) presented a request from the Ministry and Counsel Committee for help from individuals in composing the quarter's annual State of the Society report. Elaine Stahlheber came forward to serve on the subcommittee. Judy also shared a proposal for a Pastoral Care Gathering for individuals doing pastoral care work at the monthly meeting level within the Quarter. M&C will contact pastoral care committees to determine interest in such a gathering.

13.4.12 Friends heard the memorial minute for Tim Nicholson (Cambridge). Following the recommendation of Ministry and Counsel, Friends **approved** forwarding this minute to Permanent Board for consideration to be read at NEYM Sessions.

13.4.13 Friends heard the Travel Minute for Will Taber (Fresh Pond). Friends thank Fresh Pond Meeting and Will for their faithfulness in this work.

Friends closed in grateful worship.

The next meeting of Salem Quarter, God willing, will take place at North Shore meeting in late July.

Friends in Attendance: Sarah Spencer, Emily Taber, Scott Hellen, Paul Wagoner, Lynn Taber, Will Taber, John Regan, Elaine Stahlheber, Holly Lapp, Judy Goldberger, Ian Harrington, Shearman Taber, James Gray, Katherine Fisher, Jonathan Vogel-Borne, Jay Weber, Cynthia Ganung, Martha McManamy, Ralph Gentile

Salem Quarterly Meeting Nominating Committee Report

28 April 2013 • **BOLD** names are for approval

* indicates empty slot – replacement needed

<u>Officers</u>		2 year terms	
Clerk	Sarah Spencer, Beacon Hill (BHFH)	Until 2014	Began 2010
Assistant Clerk**	James Gray, Framingham (FFM)	Until 2015	Begins 2013
Recording Clerk	Emily Taber,	Until 2014	Began 2012
*Treasurer	Ralph Gentile, Lawrence	Until 2014	Began 2012

<u>Salem Quarterly Meeting Ministry and Counsel - At Large</u>		2 year staggered terms	
Judy Goldberger, BHFH		Until 2014	Began 2009
Nancy Cirrilo, Friends Meeting at Cambridge (FMAC)		Until 2014	Began 2012

<u>Quarterly Meeting Funds Allocation Committee</u>		3 year staggered terms	
(QM clerk acts as ex-officio clerk of this committee.)			
Suzanna Schell, (BHFH)		Until 2014	Began 2011
Cathryn Oliva-Simmons, Fresh Pond (FP)		Until 2015	Begins 2012
Joan Baily, Amesbury (Ames)		Until 2015	Begins 2012
Holly Lapp, Cambridge (FmaC)		Until 2015	Begins 2012
Ralph Gantile (ex officio as Treasurer)			

<u>Beacon Hill Friends House Corporation (BHFH)</u>		3 year staggered terms	
(The BHFH Corporation meets once per year in June. SQM Appointees to the Corporation are asked to consider nomination to the BHFH Board of Managers.)			
Janice (Koch) Sifferlen, Lawrence (Law)		Until 2015	Began 2006
Regina McCarthy, Wellesley (WFM)		Until 2015	Begins 2012

<u>Quaker Studies Committee (QSC) (2-6 people)</u>		3 year staggered terms	
Greg Williams, BHFH (New Bedford)		Until 2013	Began 2007
Richard Lindo, Framingham (Fram)		Until 2015	Began 2012
Constance Bair-Thompson (Fram)		Until 2016	Begins 2013
Carole Rein (Northshore)		Until 2016	Begins 2013

<u>Representatives to MA Council of Churches annual meeting (January)</u>		2 year staggered terms	
Ed Mair (Ames)		Until 2014	Begins 2012
Ann Armstrong, Acton (Act)		Until 2013	Began 2007

<u>Nominating Committee, 2 year staggered terms</u>			
Ed Mair (Ames)	Until 2015	Began 2011	
Neil Blanchard, Fram	Until 2014	Began 2010	

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Positions Not Filled by SQ Nominating Committee

<u>List Serv Moderator</u>	Edith Maxwell, Ames	volunteer
<u>WebServant</u>	Sarah Spencer, BH	volunteer
<u>Quaker Studies Coordinator</u>	Sarah Spencer, BH	paid (named by QSC)
<u>BHFH Corporation – local members nominated by other bodies</u>		
	Margaret Benefiel, BH	BHFH Nom.
	Paul Wagoner, BH	BHFH Corp. Nom.
	Shearman Taber, BH	Clerk of Building Oversight
	Katherine Fisher BH	Clerk of Program Committee

The clerk serves ex officio on Funds Committee and Nominating Committee.

Officers and committee members are encouraged not to serve more than 6 years.

**Assistant clerk may be nominated as Clerk in 2014

FY 14 - Draft proposed budget

4/1/13 to 3/31/14

Estimated income through 3/31/14:
 \$6.00 per 100 shares, 95818 shares

\$5,749.08

FUNDS	BBB	MP	SQM	TOTALS
proportion of capital per fund	0.125	0.547	0.328	
income distribution over funds	\$718.64	\$3,144.75	\$1,885.70	
Residue from FY 13	553.7	\$1,403.13	\$365.99	
Projected funds available	\$1,272.34	\$4,547.88	\$2,251.69	\$8,071.91
 Budget				
<i>Expenses are drawn from funds</i>				
Quaker Studies	\$1,000.00		-\$1,000.00	
Pride	\$175.00		-\$175.00	
Program	\$800.00	-\$800.00		
Clerks' Expenses	\$100.00	-\$100.00		
Total Expenses	\$2,075.00	-\$900.00	-\$1,175.00	-\$2,075.00
 Available for Grants:	 \$1,272.34	 \$3,647.88	 \$1,076.69	 \$5,996.91

Funds Committee recommendations	Grants for approval, 4th mo. 2013			
		BBB	MP	SQM
Funds Available:		\$553.70	\$2,903.73	\$365.99
Requests:	Asked	Approved		
Support for a work project for Young Friends in the Boston area, organized through City Missions. From Janet Hamilton & Beth Collea	\$500.00	\$500.00	-\$500.00	
'One Kid at a Time' – funds to send children of Prisoners to Friends Camp, China Maine. From Nancy Shippen and Beth Collea	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	-\$1,000.00	
Funds Remaining:		\$553.70	\$1,403.73	\$365.99

Proposed Minute on Violence in American Society
Amesbury Friends Meeting
(Approved February 17, 2013)

For more than three centuries Quakers have believed in non-violence as a governing principle of society. This tenet is manifested in our Peace Testimony which prohibits members from participation in all forms of war. Non-violence in our lives and personal relations is also part of this commitment. This belief leads the Amesbury Friends Meeting to call for action in response to the recent shootings in Aurora and Newtown as well as in many other places.

We believe that all Americans, including gun owners, must work together to address the culture of violence. Although deaths by guns per capita are already significantly higher in the United States than in any other industrialized society, assault weapons with high capacity magazines are becoming more prevalent every day. Movies, video games, and much of the news media glorify shooting, bloodshed and brutality. Domestic violence and bullying in schools are far too frequent. The United States so far refuses to retreat from its role as the largest manufacturer and distributor of weapons in the world. And, for the past several decades, our country has been in a perpetual state of war.

We support reasonable gun control and the critical examination of the portrayal of violence and brutality in movies, video games, and the media. While we recognize that gun ownership is legitimate in the United States and that most gun owners use their guns safely and responsibly, we also are aware statistics show overwhelmingly that the greater the availability of guns in a society the more deaths by guns. Gun violence is, in our opinion, a public health hazard that should be approached in a manner similar to the hazards of motor vehicles and cigarettes. Cars and cigarettes are still available in society, but we have developed ways to regulate their use. In addition to effective gun control, we therefore support the implementation of gun buy-back programs like those that have been used in Australia and in many states and cities in the United States, including most recently Newburyport

We may agree that we need to diminish the kind of senseless violence that this country has experienced, but we do not necessarily agree on how to do so. We thus invite those holding different opinions to engage with us and each other in serious discussions about this violence. We need to listen respectfully, and thus to begin to gain an understanding of our differences. If we can learn from each other and identify the areas that we have in common, we will be better able to define the kind of peaceful society we want and the ways to achieve it.

Quakers historically have felt compelled to join others in peaceful resolution of the major moral challenges in American society, among them—the abolition of slavery, women's right to vote, and civil rights. It follows that we are now called to do whatever we can to diminish violence in America. Such an effort will necessarily involve our schools, the media, religious and political leaders, health-care professionals, gun owners, those who do not own guns and all others who care about the safety, the rights, and the freedom of our citizens.

We realize that the challenges are great and that it may take a long time, perhaps even generations, to achieve some of these goals. But it is essential that we begin together now as best we can. This effort is the least we owe to the memory of those twenty Newtown children and to all those who have similarly lost their lives.