

Midcoast Monthly Meeting for business

January 21, 2018.

Guy Marsden clerking, Ann Armstrong recording, Ann D Burt, Jean Crawford, Deborah Haviland, Gretchen Hull, Judith and Martin Imm, Mary Lord, Rachel Maguiness, Bruce and Sue Rockwood, Patty and Trudy Seybold, and Polly Ullin present. 15 attending.

Following a reading from the 1985 NEYM Faith and Practice, we began with open worship.

2018-01-1 We approved the **December 17, 2017 minutes**.

2018-01-2 The clerk has received the preliminary **statistical report** from Diane Kirkman. Since last year we have lost one member through withdrawal and gained four through transfer and reinstatement giving us a total of 45 members.

2018-01-3 Guy Marsden has committed himself to producing a new **meeting directory** with help of Friends. This task has not been undertaken since 2014.

2018-01-4 A **list of committee members** was circulated with some corrections offered. We noted that both Ministry and Counsel and Hospitality committees could use more members. There was a brief discussion of the practice of having only members of Friends meetings serve on Ministry and Counsel. Guy will bring and post the new list. Clerks of committees should be designated by next month.

2018-01-5 Bruce Rockwood read the **minute of appreciation for Jim Matlack** (appended) which was requested at the December business meeting. Friends approved the minute for this stalwart Friend.

2018-01-6 Mary Lord asked the meeting if **Ministry and Counsel** should be considering religious education. The meeting answered enthusiastically with many suggestions of possible programs including: Quakerism 101, using the QuakerSpeak short videos done by Friends Journal and available on YouTube.com, and using the library's new acquisitions as possible springboards for discussion.

Friends also mentioned practices of having a person designated as "Quaker in the corner" or "Friendly Ear" mentioned at the end of worship for newcomers or anyone with a concern.

As part of this discussion the **library committee** was requested to find some way of highlighting the new acquisitions, whether by display or by reviews sent to our e-news.

2018-01-7 Bruce Rockwood, **treasurer**, presented the current financial activity. This month has had debits of \$883.87 and credits of \$2415 with cash on hand as of 1/20/2018 of \$25,148.75. The December 31 balance of principle in NEYM pooled funds was \$146,853.74.

Patty Seybold presented the budget with year to date actuals and profit and loss statements.

We have not yet spent any of the Rachel Carey Harper grant although we have designated \$900 toward a matching grant request for People United Against Racism. The meeting encouraged the **Midcoast Outreach and Peace Center** committee to bring to the next business meeting the suggestions they have received this past year for how to use this money.

Bruce will be sending all contributors the annual notice of contributions made in the 2017 calendar year.

2018-01-8 The meeting approved the **Minute of Change of Officers** (appended) which lists those members that have check signing, access to financial accounts, and keys to safe deposit box.

2018-01-9 Sue Rockwood made a report for **MOPC** and her activities for the meeting this past month. She noted that we have been receiving favorable notice in local newspapers for Quaker involvement in working against racism and for poor people. The Diaper Bank gave out 11,130 diapers in 2017 and currently is well supplied for 2018. A volunteer is needed to assist in handing out diapers on Tuesdays from 9:30-11:00 at the Food Bank at the 2nd Congregational Church in Newcastle. Please contact Sue for training if you are interested.

Sue reported that we have enough paid rentals that we can comfortably have several groups meet in the meetinghouse free of charge. These groups include the Diaper Bank, Lincoln County Indivisible, Nonviolent Communication, and People United Against Racism.

Sue is currently working on a report to the Legacy Gift Fund on how MOPC has used their grant money.

2018-01-10 Rachel Maguiness reported that she had finally been able to attend a **CHIP** meeting. They are looking for more volunteers to collect and prepare firewood. She noted that the current firewood volunteers are all in their 80s. CHIP is also seeking hot water heaters and always needs more professional carpenters, electricians, etc willing to help with projects. Friends recommended that Rachel mention "Window Dressers", inserts to keep drafts out of houses, to CHIP.

2018-01-11 The meeting noted that we could use someone to continue Deb Haviland's project of writing **profiles of Friends** in the meeting.

2018-01-12 Announcements were made of: the next **Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting** is to be held in Belfast on February 3, 2018 with a program titled "Exploring Wabanaki Maine History"; **NEYM Living Faith Gathering** in Portland on April 14, 2018.

2018-01-13 Guy mentioned that the meeting seems to benefit from more interactive sharing. Currently the listening sessions on 4th Sundays provides deepening for the few who are able to attend. What other ways can we enrich our community with sharing?

The meeting closed with open worship.

Minute of Appreciation for James (Jim) Matlack's Service as Clerk of the Midcoast Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, Damariscotta, Maine, January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2017.

Continuing his many years of service in the spirit of Friends, Jim agreed to serve as clerk of our Meeting after David Cadbury stepped down at the end of 2014. Jim had in recent years represented our Meeting as a member of the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) Policy Committee – a role he continues to this day. His work was acknowledged, for example, in an address to the Annual Meeting of the FCNL on November 11, 2016 by Amelia Kegan: <https://www.fcnl.org/updates/when-the-impossible-becomes-possible-451>

Jim has continued to serve on behalf of our Meeting in a similar capacity in Maine with the Friends Committee on Maine Public Policy (FCMPP). He has been active in efforts of FCMPP in collaboration with Wabanaki Reach to have Maine redress its past and continuing failures to address the needs and rights of the Wabanaki and Penobscot peoples of Maine. See: <http://www.mainewabanakireach.org/> and <https://neym.org/news/maine-friends-work-wabanaki-tribes> In pursuit of justice for past mistakes of Friends in their relationship with Native peoples, Jim most recently led a discussion of Paula Palmer's video on Quaker Indian Boarding Schools after the social hour at our Meeting on December 3, 2017.

During his clerkship, Jim served as an ad hoc member of many of our committees, providing valuable service and support in particular to those of us involved with the Midcoast Outreach and Peace Center (MOPC) and by serving as interim treasurer of the Meeting in mid-2016, and continuing to attend Finance Committee meetings during his tenure as clerk.

Coastal Senior College invited Jim to share his experiences in Mississippi with our wider Midcoast community at a program MOPC co-hosted at the Meeting House on April 7, 2016, where he participated with University of Maine School of Law Professor Mel Zarr on the contemporary lessons for us all of 1964's Freedom Summer.

On Monday, January 16, 2017 Jim spoke movingly about these experiences during Freedom Summer in 1964 as part of the first local ecumenical program for Martin Luther King, Jr., day at the Second Congregational Church in Newcastle, representing our Meeting and giving local people an appreciation of what it means to be a Friend: <http://lenme.com/currentnews/interfaith-mlk-celebration-seeks-build-beloved-community/> Jim again participated in the January 15, 2018 program honoring the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday -- "Building the Beloved Community" -- as well.

Jim's prior service at the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) has continued to inform his many valuable contributions to our Meeting, and is reflected in his retirement biography, available at, <https://www.afsc.org/story/jim-matlack>, which emphasizes what we at Midcoast Friends Meeting have always seen in Jim, that he "has led

a long, fascinating life seeking to practice his Quaker values in everyday settings and in response to current-issue controversies."

In sum, James Matlack has been a true Quaker and weighty Friend for all seasons and his contribution and service to Friends ideals and our own Midcoast Friends Meeting are deeply appreciated and recognized. We hope he will continue to be part of our Meeting family for many years to come.

Adopted by the Midcoast Friends Monthly Meeting for Business, January 21, 2018.

BRUCE L. ROCKWOOD
Treasurer & Clerk of Finance Com
Midcoast Friends Meeting
P.O. Box 714
Damariscotta, ME 04543
January 21, 2018

Minute of Change of Financial Officers for Calendar Year 2018.

At the **Meetings for Business** of December 17, 2017 and January 21, 2018, both held at the Midcoast Friends Meeting House, P.O. Box 714, 77 Belvedere Road, Damariscotta, Maine 04543-0714, the Meeting took the following actions:

Guy Marsden was chosen as Clerk of the Meeting and Bruce L. Rockwood was chosen to continue serving as Treasurer of the Meeting and Clerk of the Finance Committee as of January 1, 2018.

Guy Marsden as Clerk of the Meeting and Bruce L. Rockwood, as Treasurer, will hold check writing authority for the Meeting with access to its financial records in paper and on-line. In addition Patricia Seybold as a member of the Finance Committee and Sunnyside Accounting, our accounting firm, will also have access to its financial records in paper and on-line with our account at our bank, TheFirst.

The Finance Committee and Treasurer will report periodically on the financial picture of the Meeting at Meeting for Business.

Guy Marsden and Bruce L. Rockwood will share authority over the safe deposit box of the Meeting at DB&T and its keys. Currently there are two keys to be held by Guy Marsden and Bruce L. Rockwood.

These actions are also recorded in the Minutes of the December 17, 2017 and January 21, 2018 Meetings for Business, and this Minute is proof of these actions to be provided to our bank as needed or required.

Bruce L. Rockwood
Treasurer, The Corporation of the Midcoast Friends Meeting

Guy Marsden
Clerk, The Corporation of the Midcoast Friends Meeting