

## MIDCOAST MONTHLY MEETING FOR BUSINESS OCTOBER 16, 2011

After a period of silent worship Clerk David Cadbury opened the meeting with twelve Friends present. Minutes of the September 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting for Business were approved with the addition of Karen Cadbury along with Mallory Waldman as coordinators of Friendly Eights.

Carmen Lavertu spoke about the Pre-Christmas event that the meeting has held for several years to raise funds for a worthy cause. The person who has displayed her handmade jewelry at this bazaar is not well and may not be able to take part this year. A brief general discussion about the staging of such a pre-Christmas bazaar followed. It was announced that funds from the previous year's event have not yet been allocated to a suitable recipient. In the end Carmen agreed to do further research prior to renewed discussion and planning at the next business meeting.

Meeting House and Grounds Committee Guy Marsden reported that he had cleaned the meeting house sign by the roadside and that he will soon install an improved solar-powered light for that sign. Guy also reviewed the new cabinets and dish washer installation in the kitchen. After discussion it was agreed that Guy would utilize two of the old cabinets with a wood sheet on top to create additional storage and work surface along the wall adjacent to the kitchen. Deep appreciation was expressed for Guy's valued work in these projects.

Finance Committee Martin Imm gave a brief verbal report. The meeting holds funds in its invested reserves along with current checking/cash accounts in excess of \$100,000. Twenty-one pledges have been received in the current budget cycle (out of a total of 39 pledges in the previous year) which promise to cover roughly 80% of the \$14,000 goal to be raised.

Quarterly Meeting Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting will be held at Midcoast Friends Meeting House on Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. Carmen Lavertu has been working on food, accommodation, and other logistical aspects of this gathering. Brewster Grace has taken the lead in arranging for an afternoon program. Unfortunately the AFSC staffer from Africa originally scheduled to speak is now unavailable. In his place Brewster will speak about Quaker work at the United Nations with special focus on the Middle East and Africa. After discussion about whether to invite others locally to attend this afternoon program, it was decided to refrain from such invitations but to see if a public event might be planned at which Brewster could present a similar overview of Quaker endeavors at the U.N.

New England Yearly Meeting It was noted that Midcoast Meeting does not currently send representatives to a range of Yearly Meeting committees and activities. No one attended Yearly Meeting this year. In discussion a number of factors were cited to explain the absence of active participation in NEYM endeavors. While recognizing the value that some have derived from such participation, it was decided not to press for volunteers to be designated as "representatives" to NEYM. Rather the meeting stands ready to provide support and encouragement to any members who feel called to engage with NEYM activities or to attend Yearly Meeting. Financial aid is available to offset travel costs for such participation.

After a period of silent worship the meeting was adjourned.

**NEXT MEETING: November 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Jim Matlack, Recording Clerk**