

MIDCOAST FRIENDS MEETING FOR BUSINESS

AUGUST 16, 2020

Friends gathered for an on-line Meeting with a Concern for Business. Clerk Guy Marsden opened the session after a period of silent worship. MINUTES of the July Meeting for Business were approved.

MEETING HOUSE AND GROUNDS After years of faithful work on the plantings around the Meeting House Nancy Holmes announced that volunteers were urgently needed to carry on the work. After discussion it was agreed that Nancy would continue the overall supervision of the plantings and related tasks but others must come forward to do the work in consultation and to join in planning the future management of the plantings. Friends are encouraged to join in this endeavor. Deep appreciation was expressed to Nancy Holmes for her service.

PASTORAL CARE Willow Rowntree reported on a new Book Group in formation. The first book for reading and reflection will be *The Truth is Marching On* by John Meacham which compiles writings by John Lewis. This book will be published soon. Some Friends have signed on to receive copies of the book when available from Owl and Turtle bookstore in Camden. The Book Group expects to meet by zoom on Friday, September 4th at 10 a.m. with following meetings on September 18th and October 2nd.

MINISTRY AND COUNSEL Jim Matlack noted that plans are in the works for a Memorial Service for Ann Armstrong involving Midcoast Friends Meeting and Manadnock Meeting in Massachusetts. Shared efforts to make arrangements for a mid-September event will go forward through Ministry and Counsel.

FINANCE Bruce Rockwood reported that Annual Pledge Forms have been circulated for contributions to be made in the current fiscal year. The meeting has been approved by state tax officials to be able to make tax-free purchases of meeting supplies. Barb Gibson reported that contributions have been coming in slowly but expenses have also been lessened by reduced use of the meeting house during the virus crisis and by Sue Rockwood declining her salary. Bruce noted that overall insurance coverage is also less costly this year.

Overall finances of the meeting are in sound condition.