

## Midcoast Monthly Meeting Minutes 17 December 2017

Present: Guy Marsden clerking, Ann Armstrong recording, Brewster Grace, Sue and Bruce Rockwood, Trudi and Patty Seybold, Deborah Haviland, Mary Lord, Daniel Hall, Polly Ulin, Bob Spencer, Ann D Burt, Nancy Holmes, Gretchen Hull.

Following a reading from the 1985 New England Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice, "No one wins or loses but truth prevails" we began with open worship.

2017-12-1 Mary Lord presented the second reading of the proposed list of officers. We approved Guy Marsden as clerk, Bruce Rockwood as treasurer, Ann Armstrong as recording clerk.

2017-12-2 We approved the minutes from 19 November 2017.

2017-12-3 Pastoral Care Committee announced another meeting for worship with Carolyn Miller to take place on December 19. They also mentioned that Jean Crawford had come through her knee surgery and hoped to be attending worship soon.

2017-12-4 Ann Armstrong, for hospitality, thanked the meeting for all who sign up, bring food, and clean up after meeting.

2017-12-5 House and Grounds reminded us to be sure, during winter, to close the doors between the meeting house sections when leaving the building.

2017-12-6 Bruce Rockwood presented the treasurer's report. Since last meeting for business we have received contributions of \$5080, spent \$1529, and have a balance of \$22,109 cash on hand.

Patty Seybold presented a "profit and loss" statement from June to November for the whole financial picture as well as a "budget vs actuals" statement for MOPC. She reported that the methods are in place and learning about the way to keep the accounts in good order continues,

2017-12-7 Ministry and Counsel asked the meeting to reflect on our three month experiment on holding the business meeting in the worship room. After various sentiments were expressed we approved continuing to hold business meeting in the worship room. Friends did request that we work on the seating arrangement and to be sure that the hearing assistance was turned on for worship and for worship for business.

2017-12-8 The meeting discussed the annual candle lighting ceremony which has taken place on a Sunday near the beginning of January for the past fifteen or so years. Various options were brought forth, including whether the ceremony should be part of the meeting for worship, at the end of worship, or after worship.

We decided that the ceremony will take place on January 7 and asked Ministry and Counsel to decide how and when it would take place that day. Ministry and Counsel would appreciate feedback both before and after that date.

2017-12-9 Sue Rockwood reported for Midcoast Outreach and Peace Center. The decorations in the meeting house are courtesy of Brewster Grace and the Nobelboro Preschool. Jim Matlack and Daniel Hall will be participating in the Martin Luther King Day activities being planned by People United Against Racism, more details on the activities will be available later. The Out Maine youth met here for a retreat last weekend and hope to do so again next year. Diaper Bank recipients are very grateful, they find out about the bank at the hospital when the babies are born or when families visit the food bank. The sitter has come weekly on Sunday and most weeks there has been at least one child here for her to care for while the parents attend meeting for worship.

2017-12-10 The clerk announced that the proposed discussion of the Minute on Criminal Justice Reform approved by Fresh Pond MM must be postponed until next month.

<https://Neym.org/news/fresh-pond-minute-addresses-criminal-Justice-reform>

2017-12-11 The clerk read a letter of appreciation and news from Karen and David Cadbury.

2017-12-12 Gretchen Hull has noted that Midcoast is about 50 years old. She asked that we do some research into the history of the meeting and plan a celebration. Gretchen, Ann D Burt, Ann Armstrong, and Deborah Haviland volunteered to help with research and planning.

2017-12-13 The meeting noted with appreciation that Daniel Hall has volunteered to be meeting archivist.

2017-12-14 The meeting approved a minute of appreciation for Jim Matlack's service to the meeting as presiding clerk. Jim was unable to clerk this final meeting of the year because of breaking his ankle Saturday.