

Minutes

Midcoast Friends Meeting for Business, Damariscotta, Maine
Second Month 18, 2007

Clerk Pete Haviland opened the session with a reading and moments of silence. Thirteen members and attenders were present.

Minutes - There was discussion. Should the minutes be circulated in draft form? Should they be approved at a business meeting a month after the fact when some different people are present? It was **approved** that, **at the time an action is taken during a business meeting, the recording clerk will read a proposed minute for approval.** As soon as the minutes have been written up they will be posted on the bulletin board for all to peruse. The clerk read the minutes of the previous meeting. They were **approved** with a correction.

Treasurer's Report – Paul Diamond reported. Two bequests have been received from the estate of Charlotte Ritter. The clerk expressed the Meeting's gratitude. Pastoral Care will contact Rob Patterson to determine how best to express our appreciation. Thanks to interest from generous bequests and capital gifts over the last few years our finances are in satisfactory condition. Contribution income is slightly down. Expenses are on target.

Corporation Meeting – Please see separate minutes.

Ministry & Counsel – Linda Cote-Small reported. Coming events in the Winter/Spring Series were confirmed:

March 11, Second hour with Wendell Stephenson – “Brazil: A Brief Survey of Her Land, History & Culture”

March 25, 12:30 p.m. – “Workshop on Torture” by Carmen Lavertu (preceded by light lunch)

April 21, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. - Retreat, “The Testimonies – History & Relevance for Today”, a Traveling Ministry from NEYM co-led by Christopher & Jean McCandless

Assistance with the series from those not on Ministry & Counsel is needed. Claire Darrow offered overnight hospitality to the McCandlesses April 20 and 21. There is a limit of 30 people for this workshop. It is intended primarily for Friends. Outsiders will be welcome if spaces remain. A poetry workshop with Martin Steingesser has been tentatively scheduled for June 10. After June Ministry & Counsel plans to focus on spiritually oriented workshops. **There will be worship sharing at the beginning of the March meeting for business to contemplate the 2006 State of Society. There will be another worship sharing on this topic as a second hour on Sunday, April 1. It was decided that we will have memorial minutes for Jerry Wood and Lorraine Schmidt.** Deb Haviland and Ernie Foust will write the minute for Jerry. Claire Darrow and Nancy Booth will write one for Lorraine. **It was approved that monthly meeting will take responsibility for greeters and closers. The responsibility will be monthly rather than weekly.** March is already planned. Ernie Foust will be responsible for April, Paul

Diamond for May and Andy Burt for June. There will be an item in the Newsletter reminding Friends to sign up for greeting and closing. If a person cannot greet or close as planned he/she is responsible for finding a substitute. There will also be an item in the Newsletter reminding Friends that cell phones need to be kept a distance from the worship room.

Peace & Social Concerns – Ernie Foust reported. The committee is focusing on militarism. **Holly Baldwin will bring a Young Adult Friend from El Salvador, Raul Perez Chacon, to the Meeting on or around March 19 for an evening of supper, silent worship and conversation.**

Meetinghouse & Grounds – Claire Darrow reported. The committee hopes to have a group from the Lincoln County Jail to help again this Spring. **Dates were set for work hours for the next seven months: April 22, May 13, June 24, July none, August 5, September 9, and October 14.** Dick Harris will look into possible arrangements with a security business in case of need when the Meetinghouse is vacant.

Hospitality – Sign-ups are greatly appreciated. Have courage: keep them simple.

Library – There are some interesting new books.

Pastoral Care – Deb Haviland talked with Sally Wood. She will circulate her new e-mail address. Things are going well for Sally. The Meeting will send her a book in Jerry's memory.

Old Business – **The meeting approved that business meetings will be held on the third Sunday of the month year round.** We will evaluate in October.

No further business coming before the meeting, it was adjourned, planning to meet next on Sunday, March 18 following worship. Please bring a bag lunch. All are welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Haviland, Clerk

Jean Crawford, Recording Clerk