

Minutes
Midcoast Monthly Meeting for Business
First Month 21, 2007

Clerk Pete Haviland opened the meeting with a reading and a moment of silence. Fifteen Friends were present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and **approved**. Minutes of the annual meeting of the corporation were **approved**.

Ministry & Counsel – Linda Cote-Small reported. The committee recommended approval of Brewster Grace’s request for **transfer of membership** from Geneva (Switzerland) Monthly Meeting to this meeting. Friends voiced **approval** and welcome to Brewster.

Confirmed **upcoming events** include:

January 28, Second hour conversation - **“The Sense of the Meeting”**
with Pete Haviland

January 30, 7 pm - **“Sustainable Living Workshop”** by Guy
Marsden (open to the public)

February 11, 12:30 pm - **“The True Cost of Food”**...and what we can
do about it” by Andy Burt (open to the public, light lunch
coordinated by the Hospitality Committee);

March 25, 12:30 pm - **“Workshop on Torture”** by Carmen Lavertu.

Tentatively scheduled for April 21, 9 am – 4 pm, a **retreat, “The Testimonies – History & Relevance for Today”**, a Traveling Ministry from NEYM (New England Yearly Meeting) co-led by Christopher & Jean McCandless (hospitality will be needed). Wendell Richardson’s second hour talk on **Brazil** has been postponed; a new date will be announced.

Feedback on the draft chapter on worship for the **revised NEYM Faith & Practice** is still welcome.

Peace & Social Concerns – Carmen Lavertu reported. The committee will assume the role of group steering committee for the proposed **Peace Center**. Other interested Friends will be encouraged to join. The next meeting will be February 4, 8:30 am. It is hoped that Ministry & Counsel will send a participating member from its programs group. The committee will gather information on other peace centers. It will generate publicity, including an invitation to other churches to become involved. Its topics will range beyond war resistance to positive steps toward peace, based on law, being taken around the world.

Gifts & Leadings – Carmen Lavertu reported. Friends are encouraged to volunteer to fill the **remaining slots** on Ministry & Counsel and Gifts & Leadings. Carmen will submit the roster for publication in the February *Newsletter*.

Religious Education – Sally Tukey reported. First Day School’s curriculum has been outlined through June. Topics include “What Is Meeting?”, “What Is Silence?”, and “Famous Quakers” (for which Friends should be prepared to volunteer in costume). Special programs will include an overnight at the meetinghouse (Friends are encouraged to chaperone) and an underground railroad activity at a local farm. Friends were pleased to hear that **First Day School will be held every week from now on.**

Hospitality – Deb Haviland reported. She and Pat Spock encourage Friends to sign up for contributions to the simple lunch before Andy Burt’s workshop on February 11.

Meetinghouse & Grounds – Steve Gorry reported. The committee will soon complete the railing along the front ramp. It will install a projector screen and screening shades in the Meeting Room. Following a recent breakdown the furnace was cleaned and members helped with general cleanup. Lighting in the parking lot will be further enhanced.

Pastoral Care – Maria Reardon is at home recovering from heart surgery. It is too soon for visits but cards are most welcome. Janice Rickermann is in New York State caring for her mother. She would enjoy hearing from us. Lee Coolidge is unable to be out and about. Friends are encouraged to offer assistance with driving and to send greetings.

Old Business - Ministry & Counsel members are considering their own readiness for membership. Then they will contact attenders who may be ready to apply for membership.

The schedule for business meetings during the period of Daylight Savings Time will be considered at the February business meeting. A report on the amount raised at the Christmas Party Sale was deferred.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

February 3 – Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting, Bar Harbor

February 10 – Friends Committee on Maine Public Policy meeting, Waterville

First weekend in May (tentative) – All Maine Gathering of Quarterly Meetings

June 9 – NEYM Committee Day, here

Letters of appreciation, as planned at the October business meeting and prepared by Rowan and Willow Rowntree, were read by the clerk and delivered to three members. Carmen Lavertu was thanked for her efforts to counter torture in the world. Andy Burt was thanked for her efforts to promote sustainable living. Gretchen Hull was thanked for her efforts to stand for peace in our wider community.

No further business coming before the meeting it was adjourned, planning to meet next on **February 18** at the rise of meeting for worship. All are welcome. Please bring a bag lunch.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Haviland, Clerk

Jean Crawford, Recording Clerk