

Minutes

Midcoast Monthly Meeting for Business

Damariscotta, First Month 20, 2008

Clerk Deborah Haviland opened the meeting with a reading by Douglas Steere entitled "Visiting is a Ministry". Twelve Friends were present.

The meeting approved the following minute on the handling of recorded minutes: Ideally a business meeting will approve minutes of its entire session before adjournment of that session. We will try to approve the language of each decision at the time it is made. The recording clerk will continue to post minutes, once reviewed by the clerk, on the bulletin board. Highlights, rather than entire minutes, will continue to be published in the Newsletter. A note will be added at the end of the Highlights referring readers to the website for entire minutes. We will continue to post minutes on the website with a note that approval of the most recent minutes may be pending.

Minutes of the previous month's meeting were **approved** with minor revision of the minute on Meetinghouse and Grounds.

Gifts & Leadings – Carmen Lavertu reported. The final draft of the committee's roster of volunteers for 2008 was gratefully accepted and **approved**. The area of Outreach still needs clarification and will be placed on the agenda for February or March.

Meetinghouse & Grounds – Paul Diamond reported. The committee is gathering data regarding Andy Burt's proposal for increased use of solar energy for the meetinghouse. (A Friend has offered to make a generous financial contribution to the solar energy project.) The committee continues its effort to provide protection of the building from frozen pipes, smoke damage, etc. It invites feedback from Friends on ways to make the interior and exterior more attractive and, specifically, adaptable for children. It is hoped that the 2008 committee will obtain landscaping expertise from the membership and organize productive workdays.

Finance – Bill Spock and Paul Diamond reported. The Finance Committee recommends that the meeting develop principles for bequests and reserve funds. The committee will come back to meeting in the near future with proposals.

Ministry & Counsel – Linda Cote-Small reported. The first project of the 2008 committee will be organizing a Winter Series of events.

Peace & Social Concerns – Carmen Lavertu reported. The first undertaking of the 2008 committee will be to clarify responsibilities of this committee compared to those of Ministry & Counsel. There has been a suggestion that Lincoln Academy hold a film series at the meetinghouse. Another possible project concerns the manufacture and use of cluster bombs.

Religious Education – Sally Tukey reported. The 2008 committee will consider the possibility of further adapting part of the social room for First Day School. At present First Day School is offered 2 First Days a month. It is hoped this will increase to 4 First Days a month. Perhaps one of the additional days will be for childcare only, rather than a formal program, with Friends sign-

ing up for childcare responsibility.

Hospitality – Friends will please sign up to bring refreshments and, in general, support the efforts of this committee.

Library – Friends are invited to recommend new titles for the committee to acquire.

Follow Up: Report of Peace Center Meeting – Carmen Lavertu presented a written report. There has been high energy for jump-starting the center. Brewster Grace will clerk this committee. An urgent need for programs for children and youth was noted.

Old Business – Volunteers are needed for greeting worshipers and closing meeting for worship. Jean Crawford volunteered to be responsible for February, the Havilands are doing March, and Carmen Lavertu volunteered to be responsible for April. Friends will please sign up for months thereafter.

New Business – Communication between meetings for business and Newsletter editor Diane Kirkman was discussed. It is hoped that one or more people will volunteer to note upcoming events and get Friends to write paragraphs on items of interest for the Newsletter.

A potluck lunch will follow meeting for worship one Sunday a month through the month of June and perhaps longer. The purpose is to get to know each other better. The first potluck will take place on February 10 and we will ask the Hospitality Committee to set up. During March through June the potluck will take place on the first Sunday of the month.

A Friend suggested we have an item on the agenda called Gratefulness Expressed. This suggestion was followed by several spontaneous expressions of gratitude for recent experiences.

No further business coming before the meeting it adjourned following moments of silence, planning to meet next on Sunday, February 17 following meeting for worship. All are welcome. Please bring a bag lunch.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Haviland, Clerk

Jean Crawford, Recording Clerk