

Minutes
Midcoast Monthly Meeting for Business
Damariscotta, Sixth Month 17, 2007

Clerk Peter Haviland opened the meeting with moments of silence. There were 17 Friends present.

We have received correspondence from Bethesda (MD) Meeting requesting **transfer of membership for Jim Matlack**. The meeting accepted this transfer with great pleasure.

The clerk read a report from the ad hoc committee on **Contributions to Local Organizations** (“Worthy Needs”). Serving on the committee were Todd Garth, Nancy Booth, and Linda Cote-Small. The meeting **approved** the recommendation for 2006-2007 granting a total of \$600. This includes \$400 to Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP) and \$200 to People to People. A gift had already been made to the Homeless Project. The meeting **approved** the recommendation for 2007-2008 granting a total of \$800. This includes \$400 to Community Housing Improvement Program, \$200 to Healthy Kids and \$200 to People to People. The meeting **approved** the treasurer’s recommendation that the donation to CHIP for 2007-2008 be made in two installments. No immediate action was taken on the committee’s recommendation that the meeting consider making a donation to Vesper Hill Children’s Chapel (location in Rockport of summer Friends’ worship group) as a separate donation, perhaps under the budget item Friends’ Contributions and Responsibilities. The clerk thanked the committee for its willingness to work.

Treasurer Paul Diamond reported that we finished the fiscal year approximately \$900 ahead of budget. This amount is being transferred to the reserve fund. Friends expressed appreciation for the recent “very good contribution letter”

Ministry & Counsel – The committee is short handed. If Friends have the opportunity to sit in on Ministry & Counsel meetings please do so.

Gifts & Leadings – There is a vacancy on this committee. It will soon be time to seek out gifts and leadings of volunteers for 2008.

Pastoral Care – We are missing **Gerard Geary** so far this summer. **Lee Coolidge** expects to move soon from the hospital to a nursing facility. **Henry Beerits** will be staying at Cove’s Edge and short visits are welcome. **Brewster Grace** is recuperating at home from recent surgery.

Peace & Social Concerns – Carmen Lavertu reported. The meeting **approved** the committee's recommendation that we co-sponsor with the Midcoast Unitarian-Universalist Church the screening of the film "**Ghosts of Abu Ghraib**" in October, giving Peace & Social Concerns freedom as to the way forward. The film is distributed by NRCAT (National Religious Coalition Against Torture). Many interesting ideas were raised, such as: Is it appropriate to show pictures of torture? There is a myth in the U. S. that good intelligence comes from torture.

The meeting also **approved** Peace & Social Concerns' recommendation that we schedule a summer gathering in a home setting to hear **Ernie Foust's story of his experience in World War II**. The date will be researched and set by Carmen and Pete. We will bring a picnic lunch to Nancy Booth's home following meeting for worship.

The clerk announced:

Midcoast Friends are invited to a potluck dinner sponsored by the Brunswick Friends on June 23 at 5:30 p.m. The occasion is a **gathering of friends to meet Dorothy Selebwa from Kakemega, Kenya**, and to hear her speak about the Friends AIDS Orphans Care Center, its successes, and its needs. Dorothy will also speak at the Camden Library on Thursday, July 5, at 6:30 p.m., and there will also be a dinner at Durham on Saturday, June 30, at 5:30 p.m.

We are encouraged to save Columbus Day Weekend for a **workshop, "Listening to the Spirit"**, facilitated by Deborah Fisch. The host is our quarter's most northerly monthly meeting, Cobscook, known for excellent planning and hospitality.

On July 1 there will be a **peace march** on President Bush's summer compound in Kennebunkport. This is when Russian President Putin will be visiting. Carmen Lavertu is organizing a carpool from the meeting.

Old Business: Deb Haviland reported that **Committee Day** at Salt Bay School on June 9 went very well with our meeting providing hospitality.

Responsibilities for opening and closing meeting for worship were assigned. Carmen Lavertu will be responsible for July with Jean Crawford assisting. Nancy Booth will be responsible for August. A volunteer is still needed to open and close meeting during September (perhaps a group of 3-4-5 Friends will cover the month?)

No further business coming before the meeting it was adjourned, planning to meet next on **July 15, 2007**. All are welcome. Please bring a bag lunch. No meeting for business is planned for August.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Haviland, Clerk

Jean Crawford, Recording Clerk