

Midcoast Monthly Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business
May 19, 2019
Draft Minutes

Thirteen members and attenders were gathered when Clerk Guy Marsden opened the meeting with a period of **silent worship**, two more joined us.

Minutes from April 21, 2019 were approved with the following amendments:

The date has been corrected.

The second sentence of paragraph 2 under Pastoral Care should read “a small committee of 3 including the clerk of Pastoral Care”

also “Ministry and Counsel might have a role in *setting* these guidelines” should be amended to “a role in *reviewing* these guidelines.”

Ministry and Counsel:

David Cadbury’s memorial minute was read and approved. Suzanne Hallett will send it on to the Quarter. Friends thanked Suzy for such a well-written Minute.

Claire Darrow’s memorial was a moving and enlightening event. Friends were grateful to Deborah Haviland for planning with the family, Guy Marsden for managing the parking, and all those who participated. There were more than 80 present, filling all of our benches.

Guy distributed and read the newly added introductory paragraphs to our 2018 State of Society report which Guy and Polly Ulin composed from notes taken during a recent worship sharing. Friends approved.

Pastoral Care

Jean Crawford reported that Nancy Booth’s 97th birthday was celebrated yesterday with a number of Friends attending, and Nancy shared fond memories.

Jean also reported that Karen Cadbury has been told to rest for another 4 weeks, and so is housebound and would appreciate visits. Jean suggested she would offer to hold a satellite Meeting for Worship at her apartment.

Bob Spencer shared that his interest in near death experiences continues and he has found many descriptions of Light and encountering love that hearten him.

Finance Committee

Barb Gibson presented a draft budget in the form of a printout with Actuals FY2019, Budget FY2019, and Budget FY 2020 columns. Barb and treasurer Bruce Rockwood answered questions and reviewed items.

Changes agreed to on Barb’s sheet include (all in the Budget FY 2020 column):

Under Revenue: Transfer from Savings will read \$800 and Transfer from General Reserves will show \$3400.

Under Expenditures: Friends’ Responsibility & Contributions, the NEYM contribution will show \$1969.40 to reflect the 1.53% reduction in our contribution to reflect the decision taken at March business meeting not to contribute to FUM at this time out of concern for LGBTQ+ support concerns.

Under Hospitality: The sum of \$100 will be added, giving Hospitality a total budget of \$700.

Because of the added \$100 in hospitality and the change in our NEYM contribution, the Net Revenue line for the budget is adjusted to \$227.60.

Barb and Bruce proposed that they revisit the budget in December and adjust the budget generally and the emergency fund, especially, to reflect how things are at the fiscal midpoint. Friends approved the idea. Also, Friends agreed that private donations for the emergency fund from individuals would be accepted with “emergency fund” written on the memo line.

Discussion included the name and nature of the “emergency fund reserve” item in the proposed budget. Friends wondered if the fund would be a “reserve” in the sense that if not spent it would roll over to the next budget year, and whether it would be added to in each budget year as a cumulative item. Friends agreed that Ministry & Counsel and Pastoral Care will meet together and review the guidelines and consider these questions.

The proposed budget was **approved**.

Sue Rockwood reported for the Midcoast Outreach and Peace Center that she would be attending a training and information session on the religious response to the opioid addiction on Tuesday, and that the United Way of Bath was awarding the Ecumenical Diaper Bank a community builder award at its annual meeting on Thursday. Sue pointed out that there was a collection on the lobby table for the current diaper drive. Also, she welcomed help with food and setup for Saturday’s “Letting the Light Lead: Spirited Explorations of Racial Identity.” Because of these activities, she will be shortening her office hours this week, although Sue will be there on Wednesday to open the meetinghouse for Silence at 10 am.

Appreciation for **Brewster Grace’s** long-running support and many contributions to Midcoast Meeting were minuted as Friends noted with regret that he is moving out of our area. He will be missed.

The meeting closed with a period of **silent worship**.

Susan Rockwood, temporary recording clerk.