

MIDCOAST MONTHLY MEETING FOR BUSINESS
MAY 16, 2021

Friends gathered for a zoom Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business. Clerk Diane Dicranian opened the session with a period of silent worship.

2021-13

BUDGET Bruce Rockwood noted minor changes in the previous year's budget such as an increase of \$400 for Pastoral Care, reduced cost of electrical service due to the Solar Farm, and overpayment for heating oil which resulted in a credit for the following year. Needed repairs to the front porch ramp may be postponed due to the current high prices for wood. With such modifications the overall Budget for the coming fiscal year was approved.

2021-14

MINISTRY AND COUNSEL Jim Matlack reported on a joint decision with Pastoral Care to once again solicit from meeting members a form with medical and emergency contact information. This request will go out soon with return by surface mail to Jim Matlack to assure confidentiality.

2021-15

A new version of the annual State of Society Report was announced as follows.

A NEW STATE OF SOCIETY REPORT

Each year a State of Society report is prepared on Midcoast Meeting. It usually has included sections prepared by each of the committee clerks. This results in a rather book-keeperish tally of activities. This year a new approach will be taken.

On SUNDAY, MAY 23, we will conduct a Meeting-wide "State of the Spirit" exercise using four queries suggested by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting for spiritual assessment. We will hold the usual zoom silent worship on the 23rd but only for the first half hour. At 10:30 a.m. we will begin considering the queries each in turn with responses from within the group in the manner of worship-sharing for up to an additional hour. Afterward a report will be compiled with a summary of responses which will be sent in as this year's State of Society report.

All Friends are strongly encouraged to take part in this zoom session so as to develop the most accurate assessment of the spiritual condition of our Meeting and to provide guidance for future growth and development.

The four queries for consideration are:

- 1) How have we sustained our intention to be a shared spiritual community during the past year?
- 2) What have been the joys and learnings of this past year and where have we encountered

challenges?

- 3) How has our faith supported our social witness?
- 4) How have our community members supported one another?

2021-16

PASTORAL CARE Jean Crawford said that the committee carries on their usual business.

MOPC Sue Rockwood described the Diaper Bank's extension of service to Waldoboro. The Ecumenical Food Pantry may try to include a Medicine Cabinet. The weekly vigil for Black Lives Matter will soon switch to 5 p.m. on Mondays. 350.org will hold an outdoor event at the meeting house. Special arrangements will be made for cleaning the bathroom if any attenders need to use it. The door key is no longer kept on the front porch so that an accurate record can be kept of anyone who enters the building.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS Guy Marsden reported on repair of an electrical outlet. He also spoke of plans to paint the walls in the lobby area.

NEXT STEP COMMITTEE Sue Rockwood described efforts to arrange a zoom meeting with the New England Yearly Meeting representatives to Friends United boards for a discussion about procedures and attitudes within FUM with a special concern for hiring practices that bar GLBTQ persons. Meeting members are urged to send Sue relevant questions that should be raised in such a discussion. It seems likely that the desired consultation will not be possible until after NEYM Annual Sessions.

2021-17

The meeting warmly welcomed and approved of Polly Ulin's Transfer of Membership to Midcoast Meeting.

Submitted

James Matlack, Recording Clerk

Approved

Diane Dicranian, Clerk