

**Minutes**  
Midcoast Friends Meeting  
Damariscotta, Eleventh Month 18, 2007

Clerk Peter Haviland opened the session with moments of silence. There were fourteen in attendance.

**Ministry & Counsel** – Linda Cote-Small reported. It is time for Friends to **review draft revisions** of various chapters of the new edition of NEYM (New England Yearly Meeting) *Faith and Practice*. “Quakerism 101”: A six-week course for adults is planned for next Fall. A **Memorial Minute for Jerry Wood**, written by Linda with input from Deb and Pete Haviland, was **APPROVED** with a minor correction.

The clerk read from a September communication from member Joann Tribby about giving up her membership. The clerk has responded in writing that she does not need to do this and anticipates a personal visit with Joann.

**Gifts & Leadings** – Deb Haviland reported **two areas that need help: the position of clerk and the committee of Ministry & Counsel.**

**Minute: During the Gifts & Leadings process we have been sensing an emerging energy within the meeting for proactive outreach to our broader community. In a time of deep personal sharing today we have recognized our need to allot this new energy carefully among our various committees and to be open to altering committee structure if appropriate. As questions remain we urge Gifts & Leadings to proceed, expecting that at the January meeting for business Friends will discuss appointment of a small ad hoc committee, representing standing committees, to prepare recommendations on this question for consideration by the meeting.**

**Hospitality** – Deb Haviland reported. **January 13** is the date for a **welcoming reception** at the rise of meeting for worship for our 2 new members, Brewster Grace and Jim Matlack. There is still a need for Friends to **sign up to bring simple refreshments** on a Sunday. Please see the list on the bulletin board.

**Andy Burt reported on conversations with members of the Midcoast Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Edgecomb. They are looking for a place to worship and have expressed interest in possibly sharing ours. The meeting asked Andy to ask the group for a specific proposal including willingness to alter their schedule.**

**Peace & Social Concerns** – Carmen Lavertu reported, raising the question of remuneration for Tom Jackson of Dover (NH) Monthly Meeting for showing his documentary “Out of Balance” on November 16. The decision was **referred** to the P&SC Committee. One possibility is that we will purchase Tom’s four documentaries for the meeting with the help of Library funds. Nancy Booth reported that **CHIP** (Coastal Housing Improvement Program) **needs financial support in the face of high heating fuel costs.**

Andy Burt raised the question of financial support for **Celebrate the Alternatives!** the holiday performance and alternative gift fair on **December 1** at Skidompha Library, featuring Essence of Inanna. Friends **APPROVED** a contribution of \$150.

**Religious Education** – Karen Cadbury reported that the committee is organizing coverage and teaching materials for 3 Sundays each month.

**Meetinghouse & Grounds** – Pete Haviland reported the outdoor lighting is complete. Controls are manual and are located in the closet of the social room. Andy Burt volunteered to get sand for use on the entryway during the Winter.

**New Business** – Deb Haviland announced we will have a **Christmas Fair** for the meeting on **December 9**. Sylvia Tavares and Jayne Dwyer will sell their wares. Friends are asked to bring used items in good condition for sale. Proceeds will benefit a cause/causes yet to be determined. Suggestions included FUM (Friends United Meeting) projects abroad and CHIP. A **New Year's Candle Lighting Service** will be held on Sunday, **December 30** during the usual worship hour. Friends are invited to **bring candles in holders** (please bring a few extra). We agreed to explain the different format of this special service in the Newsletter and as Friends settle at the time of worship. The greeter for that day will also let people know.

Report on VQM (Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting) – Carmen Lavertu reported. Feedback on the program we hosted was favorable.

No further business coming before the meeting it adjourned following a moment of silence, planning to **meet next on Sunday, December 16** at the rise of meeting for worship. All are welcome. **Please bring a Christmas snack to share.**

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Haviland, Clerk

Jean Crawford, Recording Clerk