

FIFTEENTH STREET MONTHLY MEETING
of the
RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

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Report to the New York Quarterly Meeting on first month 24, 2010
for eleventh and twelfth months 2009, and first month 2010.

Membership Additions: (1)

By Transfer: (2)

Carol Warner and her minor daughter Antonia Gialamas were approved for transfer from Rahway-Plainfield Friends Meeting to Fifteenth Street Friends Meeting on eleventh month 8, 2009, minute 2009.11.03.

By request: (1)

Julia Louise Tenzer Williams, age 4, at the request of her parents, Paul C. Williams and Livia J. Tenzer, and with the recommendation of the Pastoral Care Committee, was approved into membership, first month 10, 2010, minute 2010.01.02.

Worship: Fifteenth Street Friends Meeting met for worship on first days at 9:30 and 11:00 am on: eleventh month 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; twelfth month 6, 13, 20, 27, 2009; on first month 2, 10, 17, 24, and also on the 31st. Meeting for Healing was held on the third second day of each month, on 11/16 and 12/21 in the committee room, and on 1/18/2010 in a member's home. On twelfth month 24, 2009, there was a meeting for worship in the Meeting room, following carol singing with Stuyvesant Square Community Association in the park.

Business:

Meetings for worship with a concern for business were held on second first days, eleventh month 8 and twelfth month 13, 2009; first month 10, 2010.

Actions requiring NYQM approval: (1)

The following names are given to the Quarterly Meeting for consideration for possible appointment to a Property Task Force:

(From the 1/10/2010 Business Meeting)

Minute # 2010.01.05 Update on minute 2009.12.09 (Proposal for a Property Committee Task Force); Steve Smith is the nominee from 15th Street Property Committee. Maureen Healy is nominated from 15th Street Monthly Meeting as a whole. In the unfortunate event that Maureen is unable to serve, we ask that (15th Street) Nominating Committee produce a second name in time for Quarterly Meeting. These names will be forwarded to clerk of Quarterly Meeting. Friends approve.

(Background: From last report 10/25/09)

The Fifteenth Street Monthly Meeting, at the 10/11/2009 Business Meeting, passed the following minute in regards to property. We request that the Quarterly Meeting consider it:

2009.10.04 In response to a proposal from several Friends, we approve the following minute for forwarding to the New York Quarterly Meeting, and will also send copies to Friends Seminary and to the other monthly meetings in the Quarter.

"The Friends at 15th Street believe that the resolution of all significant property issues is a necessary prerequisite to approving the separate incorporation of Friends Seminary. In the interest of moving that larger

process forward, we request that the Quarterly Meeting authorize a Property Task Force to draft a proposal for the satisfactory distribution and use of all properties now owned by the Quarterly Meeting and used by the school. Membership in the Task Force should reflect input from the Friends Seminary Property Committee, the 15th Street Property Committee, and the Quarterly Meeting Audit & Budget Committee and Trustees. The proposal it develops should be subject to the approval of the Friends Seminary School Committee, 15th Street Monthly Meeting, and the New York Quarterly Meeting. Only after that approval has been secured would we support further consideration of a proposal for separate incorporation of Friends Seminary by the Quarterly Meeting. We also suggest that the task force complete their draft proposal by April 1, 2010. In presenting this proposal Friends recognize that separate incorporation is not a foreordained conclusion, and also that the property issues involved are of lesser importance than the ongoing spiritual relationship between the meeting and Friends Seminary. We look forward to that relationship continuing in the spiritual legacies of the meeting and the school, even after the separation, if it does occur.

Interesting Activities:

- At the 11/8/09 business meeting, Friends paused for pictures of ourselves on the occasion of Doris “Shammy” Shamleffer at her 89th birthday party being celebrated at Medford Lees, NJ. The pictures were sent electronically to the party along with our wishes for a Happy Birthday.
- Minute 2009.11.09 the 15th Street MM has a tradition of equality of Friends – Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Straight. The position of our meeting is clear, and is spoken to in the following minute in support of same sex marriage:
This meeting affirms the goodness of committed, loving relationships and offers recognition and support to those who share this ideal and desire to enter into such a relationship. By tradition, Fifteenth Street recognizes committed union in a celebration of marriage under the care of the Meeting. Loving care and consideration will be given to all couples in this process.
(December 2001)
Friends approve.
- On First Month 21, 2010, Fifteenth Street participated in the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity by hosting the neighborhood Ecumenical Prayer Service. The service incorporated periods of silent expectant worship, a reading of Luke 24:1-53, and prayers and hymns from the different churches.
- The Care Committee (FS/15th St) will hold an open meeting of the committee, open to all members of 15th Street and Manhattan Monthly Meetings, on first month 31, 2010, at 1 pm in the 15th Street Meeting room. There are two new members on the committee, one from 15th Street, Carol Warner, and one from Friends Seminary School Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Summar, clerk
first month 24, 2010