

**New York Quarterly Meeting, Religious Society of Friends
22nd of First Month 2012, 1:00pm
Brooklyn Monthly Meeting
Brooklyn, New York**

Attendance: Nancy Black (B), clerk; Nancy Britton (Mo), assistant clerk; Brooklyn Monthly Meeting (B) 26; Fifteenth St. Meeting (15th St.) 27; Flushing Monthly Meeting (F) 2; Manhattan Monthly Meeting (Ma) 0; Morningside Monthly Meeting (Mo) 11; Staten Island Executive Meeting (SI) 1; New York Quarterly Meeting (NYQM) 1; Friends Seminary (FS) 2. Total 71.

2012.01.01 We assemble and settle in to silent worship at 1:05 pm. Our clerk reads from Adlai Stevenson, quoted in Think on These Things: An Anthology of Inspirational Quotations, selected by Leonard S. Kenworthy, pp. 76:

“I believe in helping ourselves and others to see the possibilities in viewpoints other than one’s own, in encouraging the free interchange of ideas, in welcoming fresh approaches to the problems of life, in urging the fullest, the most vigorous use of critical self-examination. Thus we can learn to grow together, to unite in our common search for truth within a better and a happier world.”

2012.01.02 Our clerk welcomes us. Agenda sheets are picked up and the attendance sign-in sheet is circulated. The agenda is reviewed and our clerk reminds us of how we season our concerns before they are brought to the Quarterly Meeting; both through the monthly meetings and the NYQM's committees, honoring the two week window before placement on the agenda.

Our clerk asks us if we wish to place an item of concern arising within this window of two weeks on our agenda today.

Friends labor with the difficulties of the issue and wish to follow gospel order. Our clerk distributes the statement on the Martin Luther King Friend's Seminary concert for Friends to consider. Unity is not discerned on putting this item on the agenda today.

A Friends asks if the Property Task Group report is on the agenda. Our clerk clarifies that the revised reports asked for at the last meeting are now on line.

Friends express the concern that the Property Task Group work have a way forward. Our clerk challenges us to think of ways to move forward and this will be put on April's agenda.

Due to time constraints, the Relief Report is moved up.

Friends approve the agenda as it stands.

2012.01.03 The clerk makes the following announcements:

1. The phone number for the cemetery is changed to: 646.580.9147.
2. Bob Baldrige announces that on March 15th a book reading/signing of the soon-to-be released book "I Must Resist: Bayard Rustin's Life in Letters" will be held at 15th St. Meeting House, to honor their former member (now deceased), Bayard Rustin, who would have turned 100 on March 17, 2012. Bob Baldrige is coordinating the event and requires assistance with publicity, mailings and filming the event. He can be reached at quakerstory@yahoo.com.
3. Bo Lauder of Friends Seminary announces that Peace Week will be February 6-10; the theme is Peace Like a River: Water as Matter and Metaphor. A public lecture by the architect and designer of the 9/11 Memorial is open to the public on Thursday, February 9th at 7:00pm in the 15th St. Meeting House. Check the Friends Seminary website for details and RSVP.
4. Andy von Salis announces that on Tuesday, January 31st, a national lawsuit to limit genetically modified agriculture will be heard in Federal court in Manhattan. Friends from everywhere intend to hold a vigil at the courthouse.

2012.01.04 Andy von Salis reads the Brooklyn Monthly Meeting's report, submitted by Jim Morgan.

Friends accept the report as attached.

2012.01.05 Recording clerk, Nancy Britton, reads the Fifteenth Street Monthly Meeting report, submitted by JoAnne Daly, acting clerk.

With two corrections: 1) it is the James and Abigail Hopper Gibbons home and 2) the Zuccotti Park silent worship is from 2-3pm, not 3-4pm.

Friends accept the report as attached.

2012.01.06 Liz Di Giorgio reads the Flushing Monthly Meeting report, submitted by Tom English, co-clerk.

The report is accepted by Friends and it is attached.

2012.01.07 Manhattan Monthly Meeting's report was submitted by Gloria P. Thomson and read by Nancy Britton, recording clerk.

Friends accept the six month report. See attached report.

2012.01.08 Sally Campbell, clerk of Morningside Monthly Meeting, reads their report.

Friends accept the report. The report is attached.

2012.01.09 The Staten Island Executive Meeting report is read by Mary Eberhard Owen.

The attached report is accepted by Friends.

2012.01.10 Ted Eberhard of the Nominating Committee brings forward the nomination of George Fisher for a partial term as Trustee.

Our clerk steps aside and Mary Rusnak, clerk of the Trustees of the New York Quarterly Meeting Corporation, steps forward. Nancy Britton records for the Corporation.

At the Meeting of the Corporation of the New York Quarterly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends held in the Brooklyn Meetinghouse at 110 Schermerhorn Street, Brooklyn, New York at 2:15pm, January 22, 2012.

Having declared a quorum present, the president of the corporation as clerk, calls the meeting to order.

We have received the following nomination from the New York Quarterly Meeting to serve as Trustee to replace Jesse Peterson for a partial term ending 2012:

George Fisher, 15th Street Meeting.

Following discussion of the terms end date and report correction, the nomination is approved.

The Corporation is adjourned to meet again at our Annual Meeting in April, 2012.

Mary Rusnak steps aside and our clerk resumes the meeting.

2012.01.11 The Relief Committee report is read by Joyce Richardson, clerk.

Friends accept the report. The report is attached.

2012.01.12 Sally Campbell reads the Downtown Allowed Meeting Report laid over from the 10th month meeting.

After correcting two dates from 2010 to 2011, Friends accept the attached report.

2012.01.13 Returning to NYQM minute 2011.10.22, our clerk reopens discussion on approving hosting the NYYM Fall Sessions in 2014. Our clerk reads 15th St.'s minute of:

“2012.01.04 Friends hear the Feasibility Report and recommendations of the ad hoc committee on 15th St. MM possibly hosting Yearly Meeting Fall Sessions 2014. A copy of the report is appended to these minutes. Friends agree to host the Sessions, upon clarification from Brian Doherty, the attorney for the New York Quarterly Meeting, regarding the legality of the use of various spaces in the refinanced Friends Seminary buildings. We ask the ad hoc committee to report back as they proceed. John Edminster stands aside.”

Questions on the wheelchair accessibility of the space, the elevator use and the legal issues using Friends Seminary space are brought forth. Friends raise up concerns on the legal and contractual issues and the spiritual and worshipful use of the spaces. Friends hold the good order of honoring 15th St's on-going discernment process.

Our clerk suggests approving in principal the hosting of the 2014 NYYM Fall Sessions pending approval of 15th St. Meeting.

Friends approve.

2012.01.14 Lynn von Salis, clerk of Audit and Budget, reads the report and presents the budget.

Ministry and Counsel is requesting a higher amount for 2012 to fund the website project. This one-time cost raises the M&C budget from \$1,000 to \$5,000.

Friends approve the increase in M&C's budget. The 2012 budget is approved. The report is accepted and attached.

2012.01.15 Our clerk calls for a return to worship. Several Friends offer vocal ministry. A Friend speaking out of the silence affirms our testimony of equality and her opposition to anti-Semitism in any form. She wishes to be recorded as having said this and other Friends offer their support for her ministry.

Friends approve.

2012.01.16 Our meeting closes at 4:25pm when our clerk reminds us we will convene next on 15 of Fourth Month at 15th St.. She gently urges us to contribute to a bountiful potluck prior to our meeting.

Nancy Britton, recording clerk

Attachments:

clerk's opening reading
attendance
agenda
Brooklyn Monthly Meeting report
Fifteenth St. Monthly Meeting report
Flushing Monthly Meeting report
Morningside Monthly Meeting report
Staten Island Executive Meeting report
Downtown Allowed Meeting
Meeting of the Corporation report
Relief Committee report
Nominating Committee report
Care Relationship Committee report
Audit and Budget Committee report