

**New York Quarterly Meeting, Religious Society of Friends**  
**30<sup>th</sup> of Seventh Month 2011, 1:00pm**  
**Prospect Park, Brooklyn, New York**

**Attendance:** Nancy Black (B), clerk; Nancy Britton (Mo), assistant clerk. Brooklyn Monthly Meeting(B) 13, Fifteenth St. Meeting(15<sup>th</sup> St.) 9 ; Flushing Monthly Meeting(F) 1; Manhattan Monthly Meeting (Ma) 1; Morningside Monthly Meeting(Mo) 7; Staten Island Executive Meeting (SI) 0; ; New York Quarterly Meeting (NYQM) 1; Friends Seminary (FS) 3. Total 35.

**2011.07.01** The meeting gathers and we settle in to silent worship at 1:00 pm. From the silence our clerk reads from *Beyond Consensus*, by Barry Morely: "If the process by which we discover the sense of the meeting is to work, we must be willing to lay aside personal needs and grievances; we must be willing to reach beyond what you or I want. When I am able to set my ideas aside, and you are able to set your ideas aside, doors are opened which allow solutions to enter on a shaft of Light."

**2011.07.02** Agenda sheets are distributed and the attendance sign-in sheet is circulated. Our clerk reviews the agenda.

Friends approve.

**2011.07.03** The following announcements are made by our clerk:

15<sup>th</sup> St. is preparing a day-long commemoration of 9/11 on Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>  
Quaker's Testimony of Peace: Building a Community Compassion, non-violence and tolerance  
Schedule: 12:30 noon, communal potluck of sandwiches and snacks  
1:30 Peace vigil, film, messages, and art on fence banner, painting,  
worship sharing (children and adults),  
3:30-4pm gathered vigil of all in Meetinghouse courtyard  
5-6:30 service of song & scripture hosted by Manhattan Mennonite Fellowship

On Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> St. Monthly Meeting is opening the 15<sup>th</sup> St. Meeting House for contemplation and silent worship until 9pm

There will be two concerts of Danny Ashkenasi's "The Song of Job 9:11" under the care of 15th St. Meeting and New York Quarterly Meeting Ministry and Counsel to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the events of Sept. 11, 2001. The first will be Friday Sept. 9 at 8PM and the second will be Saturday Sept. 10 at 2PM. Everyone is welcome and admission is free.

**2011.07.04** Our clerk turns our attention to the unfinished business of minute 2011.04.14 on the Seeger Trusses Projects and reads the minute:

**2011.04.14** The proposal from the Trustees on the Seeger Trusses Project is read by Michael Schlegel. The Trustees of New York Quarterly Meeting are requesting a reallocation of \$50,000 in 2011 and \$50,000 in 2012 for the expenses involved in resolving the design of the trusses in the Seeger Center.

Matthew Annenberg reads the Friends School Committee proposal to us:

“Friends School Committee recommends that the \$100,000 which has been proposed by Trustees as a financial participation on the Seeger Center project be placed in a ‘Fund to Support Capital Improvements in the Shared Spaces’.”

Friends continue to labor with this proposal. Concerns are expressed on the intersection of money and property and our on-going spiritual manifestations in our schools. Clarification about using this allocation for historical shared spaces at 15 Rutherford Place is explored. Concerns on good order and Quaker process are raised up.

Our clerk asks for silent worship to allow us to consider ways to move forward. Friends speak to feeling the spirit moving among us and consider the Friends School Committee proposal to be a gift of the spirit.

Our clerk discerns that we are not in unity with supporting the Trustee’s proposal for the Seeger Trusses.

Friends propose that the same amounts, \$50,000 for each of two consecutive years, be added to the 2011 and 2012 capital budget for improvements in the shared spaces not currently budgeted at 15 Rutherford Place. We request the relevant NYQ Meeting’s committees to work with Friends Seminary School Committee in determining jointly the projects for which this money will be spent.

Friends approve the minute.

**2011.07.05** We break at 2:40pm to conduct the Meeting of the Corporation of New York Quarterly Meeting. Our clerk steps aside.

The called meeting of the corporation of the New York Quarterly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, is held at Prospect Park, Brooklyn New York, New York at 2:45 pm on Saturday, the 30th of July, 2011. Having declared a quorum present, MollyRusnak, acting as president, calls the meeting to order.

Trustees bring the following nominations laid over from the 4<sup>th</sup> month Quarterly meeting, for approval:

Michael Schlegel, Second Term to 2014

Kirk Smothers, Second Term to 2014

Lucy Sikes, Second Term to 2014

Friends approve the nominations and they are duly elected.

Molly Rusnak reads the report as attached. Friends hear the report and discussion follows. A Friend requests that a member of the 15th St. Property Committee be on the Trustee’s Liaison Group. Friends approve.

The meeting of the corporation is adjourned at 3:00pm.

**2011.07.06** Our clerk reads the request prepared by clerk, BenWarnke, asking that the Property Task Group be allowed to present their report at the tenth month Quarterly Meeting.

Friends approve this request.

Friends request that the report be posted on-line at least two weeks in advance of the next meeting

**2011.07.07** The letter for request for relief from service on the Property Task Group by Steven Monroe Smith is read by our clerk.

At his request, Friends approve his release.

Friends leave to the judgment of the Property task Group whether to replace him.

**2011.07.08** The 2011 Cemetery Committee report is summarized by Mary Doty.

Friends have a few questions and receive a clarification that the year's budget includes salaries.

Friends accept the report and can read the full report on-line. See attached report.

**2011.07.09** Jim Morgan reads the introduction and the budget portion of the annual Great Lakes (Africa) Education Committee report. Margaret Mulindi expresses to us the appreciation of the Davanga Monthly Meeting in Davanga, Kenya, for supporting all the progress they were able to make this year and shared pictures with us of the children and the construction for the new school classrooms. The report and website have further information on this project. Friends were pleased and had questions. The full report is attached and Friends are encouraged to read it, particularly the portion on the New York City Friends Schools collaboration.

Friends accept the report.

**2011.07.10** Ministry and Counsel's annual report is read by clerk Ed Elder. Friends accept the report. The report is attached.

**2011.07.11** The Nominating Committee clerk, Ted Ehrhardt, reads the current nominations for each committee for Friends to approve.

Brooklyn Friends School Committee: Dot Cates, 1<sup>st</sup> term, and Ninon Rogers, 3<sup>rd</sup> term  
Cemetery Committee: Seta Toroyan and Alice Pope both for partial terms ending in 2014  
Educational Fund: Caroline Lane for partial terms ending in 2014  
Friends Seminary School Committee: Carol Warner, 1<sup>st</sup> term  
Handbook Coordinator: Mary Eberhardt, 2<sup>nd</sup> term  
Ministry and Counsel Committee: Ed Elder, 2<sup>nd</sup> term

Andy Doan is released from the Friends Seminary School Committee.

Friends approve the nominations as each committee is read. The report is accepted and it is attached.

**2011.07.12** The request for endorsement of a letter regarding the deteriorating situation in Colombia is brought by Flushing Monthly Meeting and read by our clerk. Friends endorse the efforts of Flushing and encourage further seasoning of specifics of the letter. Friends hear the letter and it is attached.

**2011.07.13** The Nominating Committee proposes several changes. Friends approve all changes as proposed in the report. Friends accept the report as attached.

**2011.07.14** Brooklyn Monthly Meeting's report is read by Tom Rothchild. Friends accept the report as attached.

**2011.07.15** The report from Fifteenth Street is read by our clerk. The report is accepted and attached.

**2011.07.16** Flushing Monthly Meeting's report is read by Naomi Paz Greenberg. The report is accepted by Friends and is attached.

**2011.07.17** Manhattan Monthly Meeting does not have a report today and a report will be heard at the next Quarterly meeting in the tenth month.

**2011.07.18** Morningside Monthly Meeting's report is read by clerk, Sally Campbell.

Friends accept the report. The report and the Friday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011 event marking the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Attica are both attached.

**2011.07.19** The Staten Island Executive Meeting report is read by our clerk. She also reads an attached letter they have written and sent to Governor Cuomo on the closing of Arthur Kill Prison.

The report is accepted by Friends. The report and the Arthur Kill Prison closing letter are attached.

Friends approve endorsing this letter and request that the clerk send this letter to Governor Cuomo and Corrections Commissioner Brian Fisher. Our clerk will forward this to New York Yearly Meeting's Prisons Committee.

**2011.07.20** We settle into silence and our clerk closes by reading from *Faith and Practice* (NYYM), p. 36: "Our worship together gives us an opportunity to commune with God and one another. The life of Jesus with his disciples was such a fellowship. As he lived with them, so we can live with one another. As the spirit of love and truth grows among us, it will help us in times of trial to meet hostility with compassion and understanding and so hold us together precisely when we disagree."

Following a few more minutes of silence our meeting closes at 5:15pm.

**Attachments:**

clerk's opening reading

attendance

agenda

New York Quarterly Meeting Trustees Report

Great Lakes (Africa) Education Committee Report

Ministry and Counsel Report Nominating Committee's current roster

Flushing Monthly Meeting's letter to NY's US Representative and Senator

Nominating Committee Report

Brooklyn Monthly Meeting report

Fifteenth St. Monthly Meeting report

Flushing Monthly Meeting report

Morningside Monthly Meeting report

Staten Island Executive Meeting report

Staten Island Executive Meeting Arthur Kill Prison closing letter to Gov. Cuomo

clerk's closing reading