

**Fresh Pond Monthly Meeting**  
**Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business**  
**June 3, 2018**

Friends gathered in worship with an attention to business on June 3, 2018 at 11:35am. During opening worship, the clerk read an excerpt from Ursula K. Le Guin as spoken by the character Tehanu in "The Other Wind" (2001)

*"I think that when I die, I can breathe back the breath that made me live. I can give back to the world all that I didn't do. All that I might have and couldn't be. All the choices I didn't make. All the things I lost and spent and wasted. I can give them back to world. To the lives that haven't been lived yet."*

**Present:** Susan Zeichner, Callid Keefe-Perry, Lynn Taber, Beckey Phipps, Nancy Shippen, Will Taber, Paul Wagoner, Helen Bassett, Linda Agerbak, Cathryn Oliva-Simmons, Robert Dove McClellan, Kathleen Mcleod, Mary Hopkins, Kristina Keefe-Perry (pinch-hitting recorder), Phillip Veatch (clerk)

**1. Annual statistical report** - see attached

Our Meeting Recorder is Betsy Kantt. Gail Charpentier reported on Betsy's behalf the number of members and attenders in various age categories. The Statistical Report is compiled annually for the benefit of the Yearly Meeting. Contact information for new members is requested so that they can share news, announcements, and communications as well as track changes from year to year. This helps New England Yearly Meeting conduct support and outreach to Meetings.

**2. Financial Report** (see attached)

We receive this report Quarterly to keep us up to date on the financial health of Meeting. Will Taber reported on behalf of Meeting Treasurer, Brad Barber, who is away. Highlights include: net assets have increased steadily over the year and are \$1000 more than last year. This year we met our budget early; the surplus will be carried over to next year's budget. The report from the YM Pooled fund is not included but - will be in the September Financial Report.

**3. Cornerstones Proposal** - Spiritual Growth Committee

Spiritual Growth Clerk, Will Taber, presented that the committee is aware that Fourth Sundays have a full schedule with both Cornerstones and Women's Group at rise of meeting. As an alternative, the Committee proposes that Cornerstones occur on the second Sunday, typically our potluck Sunday, following the model we used in January, when we hosted Salem Quarter.

After some discussion Friends became clear that we will try to hold Cornerstones on Potluck Sunday, following the rise of Meeting. It was noted that this is an experiment and we may want to try it both before potluck setup and after setup, to see which provides us with the most settled container. Meeting will entrust the Spiritual Growth Committee with working out the timing and logistics. Spiritual Growth will bring a detailed plan to our Summer Meeting for Worship for Business. We plan to start this new schedule in September.

#### **4. Spring (2019) Retreat Update**

Last Month, at Meeting for Worship for the Purpose of Business, the Clerks asked about planning a Meeting retreat. Melody Brazo and Beckey Phipps stepped forward to take up this work. Specifically, they are interested in planning an overnight retreat: possibly on a Friday night and into Saturday. As it is not feasible to reserve a facility for the fall - the retreat is envisioned for Spring 2019. Along with this there is a hope to plan a social gathering, picnic, etc.. before the spring. This report was heard with gratitude, no action was taken.

#### **5. Inreach/Outreach Working Group Request (see attached)**

Mary Hopkins, co-clerk, brought a proposal from the Inreach / Outreach Working Group (see attached). The committee is wondering if there is enough interest to begin planning a non-overnight retreat and, in addition, can the Inreach/Outreach committee collaborate with other committees in planning this work?

There was much support for holding a half-day or full day retreat in the fall. It sounds as if it could be either a threshing session of potential proposals or a deep consideration of radical welcoming - which might require a longer period of time and an outside facilitator. Meeting invites the Inreach/Outreach Committee to begin planning and come back to the July 22 Business Meeting with a specific proposal.

In addition, the committee is encouraged to bring specific proposals, as they arise to Meeting for Worship for Business at any time.

In the spirit of information sharing - next Sunday, before potluck, Will Taber will conduct a tour of our facility focusing things we use: lights, heat, keys, etc.. Anyone who has a suggestion for the tour should reach out to Will Taber. All are welcomed!

#### **6. Summer Meeting for Business**

Meeting typically chooses a date for a consolidated summer Meeting for Worship for Business. The date of July 22nd is proposed as both clerks can be available at that time. Friends approved.

#### **7. Representatives to Summer Sessions of NEYM**

Historically we have have been asked to appoint representatives to Annual Sessions. This practice of asking for official meeting representatives has been laid down. Knowing that - we are appointing Callid Keefe-Perry, Mary Hopkins and Phil Veatch as representatives: to be especially on the lookout for any materials that get distributed to Meetings.

**8. Traveling minute endorsement**

Carried over to next Month

The meeting closed with worship at 1:05pm with the plan to meet again on July 22nd - God willing.

**Financial Report 2017-2018 FPMM  
6/1/17-5/31/18**

	<b>2017-18 budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>net for year</b>	
INCOME				
Pooled Funds income		73		March TBD
UNRESTRICTED				
Donations	\$30,199	30,639	-440	
Interest income		1		
<b>Total Unrestricted</b>		<b>30,713</b>		
RESTRICTED	<b>(carryover)</b>		<b>(w/ carryover)</b>	
Carey-Harper	\$2,000		2,000	Metrowest Worker
Helping Fund	\$100	100	200	
Helping Fund (carbon tax)	\$500	895	1,395	
Helping Fund (Puerto Rico)		2,220	2,220	
Keefe-Perry Ministry		1,000	1,000	
Pastoral Care	\$2,000		2,000	
Spiritual Seed Money	\$400	100	500	
Wooten Ministry		7,500	7,500	
<b>Total Restricted</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>11,815</b>	<b>16,815</b>	
<b>Total Income w/ carryover</b>		<b>47,528</b>		
EXPENSE				
UNRESTRICTED	<b>(budget)</b>		<b>(net)</b>	
Administrative	\$220	363	-143	Friends J 2x
Childcare	\$2,800	1,418	1,382	
Earth Care	\$300		300	
General Equalization	\$150	200	-50	

Hospitality	\$700	545	155	
Liability insurance	\$310	300	10	
MA Church	\$45	47	-2	
Ministry and Worship	\$200	90	110	
Misc	\$150	200	-50	Salem Quarter
NEYM	\$9,300	9,300	0	
NEYM Equal Fund	\$200	200	0	
Rent	\$13,524	13,524	0	
Retreat	\$300	100	200	
Spiritual growth 1/2 hour	\$200	204	-4	
Third Sunday	\$100	100	0	
<b>Total Unrestricted</b>	<b>\$28,499</b>	<b>26,591</b>	<b>1,908</b>	
RESTRICTED				
Carey-Harper		2,000		
Helping Fund (Quaker)	\$600	600		
Helping Fund (any organization)	\$600	800		
Helping Fund (carbon tax)		500		
Helping Fund (Puerto Rico)		2,220		
Keefe-Perry Ministry		1,000		
Spiritual seed money.	\$300			
Pastoral care	\$200			
Wooten Ministry		7,500		
<b>Total Restricted</b>	<b>\$1,700</b>	<b>14,620</b>		
(Unrestricted income-expense-restricted)		3,622		transfer '18-19
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$30,199</b>	<b>41,211</b>		

BALANCE SHEET				
ASSETS				
Cash (Cambridge Savings)		\$13,656		
Reserve 40% of budget (NEYM Pooled Funds)	12,080	13,131	6/1/2017 11,265	Transferred \$1000
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>26,787</b>		
Carey-Harper		0		
Helping Fund		0		
Helping Fund (carbon tax)		895		
Keefe-Perry Ministry		0		
Pastoral Care		2,200		
Rent		0		
Spiritual Seed Money		800		
Wooten Ministry		0		
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>3,895</b>		
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>22,892</b>		

checking act

donations

net assets

2/29/16	\$10,902	23,377	
5/31/16	\$8,625	27,001	19,243
8/31/16	\$9,151	4,917	8,060
11/30/16	\$10,593	10,661	12,753
2/26/17	\$17,943	28,945	20,729
5/31/17	\$13,247	30,523	21,312
8/31/17	\$11,226	3,565	7,122
11/30/17	\$14,966	11,660	14,519
2/28/18	\$17,754	27,565	19,140
5/31/18	\$13,655	30,639	22,892

Households contributed- 32 (approx 37 households total)  
Brad Barber, treasurer

Suggested donation FY17-18 \$811/adult member or attender/year depending on financial circumstances.

Send contributions to Brad Barber, FPMM, 74 Spy Pond Pkwy, Arlington, MA 02474

### **Minute from Outreach/Inreach Working Group June 2 2017**

The Inreach/Outreach Working Group continues to meet to determine next steps for strengthening Fresh Pond Meeting's sense of being a welcoming community. We intend to continue to consider specific actions to improve our meeting accessibility and outreach to newcomers as stated in our charge.

Our working group has had a growing sense that a wider exploration of hospitality and welcome for our meeting as a whole is a next step. Our discernment around small, individual concerns has consistently led us back to considering a wider conversation about the "culture of hospitality" for all attenders, former and new alike, in our Meeting community. We remind Friends that part of our charge (Approved Nov 2017) is *Remaining open and listening for areas of un-welcoming of which we may not yet be aware and bringing them to the attention of the wider meeting.*

Our recommendation is that this work needs space and time for reflection - and **we suggest this exploration take place as a facilitated conversation, perhaps during a half-day autumn retreat.** We recognize that this request may also require further seasoning from the Ministry and Worship and Spiritual Growth Committees - in scope, practical concerns, and content. We therefore are seeking approval to enter into planning conversations to explore the possibility of this subject of creating a culture of radical hospitality

for a possible retreat, with various committees as the meeting sees appropriate. We will then be more prepared to bring a specific proposal to the meeting in time for a planning a fall session.

### **Charge for the Ad-hoc committee on Inreach-Outreach:(approved November 2017)**

The Ad-Hoc Committee of Outreach and Welcome works to make the Meeting more inviting and accessible to all, especially newcomers and recent attenders. To that end the scope and work of the committee might include:

- Refining meeting procedures in order to make the processes of the Meeting more transparent to newcomers and attenders;
- Shepherding development of the website, seasoning and directing questions that need broader discernment to the Meeting as a whole;
- Developing and placing signage to make the Meeting more visible to car and foot traffic;
- Striving to make sure that all members, newcomers and attenders have full access to information about the life of the Meeting, its schedule, calendar of activities, and opportunities for service, either digitally or in print;
- Bringing proposals for “experiments in hospitality” to the Meeting for Worship for Business for discernment;

Identify issues that require whole Meeting involvement and clarification - especially around the following:

- **Accessibility:** both physical layout and cultural;
- **Language** endorsing our Open and Affirming position;
- **Published statements** of faith and practice related to “what we believe;”
- **Meeting presence and message coherence** on a variety of social media platforms;
- What falls under **password protection** on the website;

**Remaining opening and listening for areas of un-welcoming of which we may not yet be aware and bringing them to the attention of the wider meeting.**