

Bucks Quarterly Meeting for Worship for The Purpose of Business
20th Day, Second Month, 2022
Hosted by Buckingham Friends Meeting (Held via Zoom)

Clerk: Leo Fitzpatrick (Wrightstown)

Recording Clerk: Terry M. Christensen (Newtown)

Friends gathered at 12:47 pm and settled into a period of worship.

Welcome – Leo Fitzpatrick

Review and Approval of Agenda – approved

Roll Call of Meetings: Bristol – 0; Buckingham – 3; Doylestown – 2; Fallsington – 6;
Lehigh Valley – 2; Makefield – 1; Middletown – 2; Newtown – 9; Plumstead – 1;
Quakertown – 4; Solebury – 1; Southampton – 5; Wrightstown – 2; Yardley – 3

Review and Approval of Minutes from 21st day, Eleventh Month, 2021 – approved

Stories of Vitality & Strength – Wrightstown – meeting members repaired/installed a paved sidewalk from handicap parking to the meetinghouse (a 3-year project), solar powered lighting for entry/parking lot has been installed; **Fallsington** – held a retreat focused on increasing membership, becoming more attractive to seekers; **Southampton** – newspaper article publicizing their vigil published; they are holding visioning sessions to make their property more attractive and conducive to spiritual community building; **Middletown** – Friend reports on Edward Hicks Day celebration (Apr 23rd), they are performing social justice work in opposition to a PENNDOT proposed interchange which would disrupt the work of local churches; **Bristol** – gets noticed in Times Publishing magazines for work supporting Afghan refugees; **Newtown** – members have traveled to Harrisburg with members from other churches in support of equitable funding for public schools, their Black Lives Matters vigil still continues, the meeting is reopening for hybrid worship; **Lehigh Valley** – traditionally they conduct a “Frugal Feast” every 5th First Day (money that would be spent on individual groceries is directed to local food bank) – they have very successfully continued it virtually over the last two years; 20 people attended their “Quakerism 101” Workshop **Doylestown** – 13 year old young Friend applies for regular membership; **Southampton** – they have a Friend collecting data on racial incidents at Neshaminy High School and supplying that data to racial justice commission; **Quakertown** – reopening next month, they have learned of new members moving into area.

Nominating Committee – Betsy Bayardi; requesting approval of **Bill Daly** as Bucks Quarter Clerk
- **Approved**

Minute of Appreciation for Leo Fitzpatrick (attached) – Bethann Morgan – accepted with gratitude.

Quarter Coordinator Report – Wendy Kane (full report attached) – Aspirations for in-person Quarterly Meeting delayed by Omicron variant; holiday season somewhat subdued; helps support Wrightstown as they select an interim clerk; assists Fallsington Meeting with meeting retreat ; visits meetings within Bucks Quarter weekly; has updated the Bucks Quarter Handbook, including job descriptions – print copy contains complete contact information for Friends serving in positions of leadership; attended climate change forum at Fallsington Meeting; is working at keeping website up to date as well as posting on social media; offered outreach card with local meeting contact information; is on the board at Mercer Street Friends and serves as volunteer there. A Friend asked if all meetings have requested cards; Buckingham Friend comments that we are blessed to have the services of a full-time coordinator; Wendy is working with Friends to see how we can continue to have activities that enable us to be in community.

Annual Report – Friends Camp Association – Scott Hoskins (full report attached) – Camp Onas opened in 2021 (after 2020 COVID hiatus), COVID mitigation policies resulted in no infections; Board proud of the way that Onas persevered in the last year in the face of financial pressures; Onas has need to replace some facilities – this work was begun in the fall; board reviewing the strategic plan with emphasis on facilities maintenance and increasing diversity among campers and staff; thanks Friends for support. Quakertown Friend asks how Camp Onas planning is to go forward in the face of the extant financial pressure (Onas expects increased enrollment and additional grant support.) It was suggested that someone should contact the Baltimore Yearly Meeting Camp System (Scott not aware of such contact, but it may have occurred). Friends Schools and Friends Camps may be source of future Friends. A Southampton Friend asked at what percentage capacity is Onas operating (80%). A Fallsington Friend expressed support for Holly's (Onas CEO) work in Friends Camp Association. A Friend asked if Onas publishes their needs on the website or can that be done via monthly meeting members who serve on the Onas Board (Not through website but Onas is in contact with monthly meetings in the Quarter).

Annual Report – Makefield Meeting – Jerry Taylor (full report attached) – Makefield Meeting was established in 1715; they are a small meeting with 6-8 members plus 2 young adults regularly in attendance; meeting for worship closes at 10:45, followed by afterthoughts, light refreshments, and then Adult Forum. Makefield's Adult Forum continues every Sunday that does not have a meeting for business; four members typically attend via Zoom because of health concerns; throughout 2021 Makefield Monthly Meeting met in person with doors and windows open and maintaining social distancing (this is possible because of their available space and small numbers.) They recently conducted a survey with the joint Makefield-Yardley Cemetery Committee to identify sunken graves and fallen headstones – these will be corrected this coming summer.

Proposal – “Party of Friends Position Papers” – Jerry Taylor – proposed establishment of Party of Friends that would discuss issues based on research conducted by Friends – could appeal to young adults. Groups could meet monthly or have a “UN day” type meeting (each monthly meeting would select issues and prepare to discuss them). Wendy will publish in Quakerphernalia to see if there is any interest within the Quarter for this proposal.

Treasurers Report – Ed Snyder (full report attached) – we are halfway through fiscal year and received a little under 50% in monthly meeting donations, though new donations have recently come in; expenses are running under budget; in general, we are in good shape.

Budget & Nominating Report – Presentation of preliminary 2022-23 budget – **Ed Snyder** – we will need an increase in the monthly meeting contributions this coming year; we will budget a 5% increase in the Coordinator’s salary to keep up with inflation; most items are running at the same cost; the Quarter has budgeted a 100% increase in donations (i.e., double the contribution) to Friends Village, Camp Onas, and Chandler Hall; projecting an increase in monthly meeting contributions; agreed to increase contribution to PYM by 5%. Preliminary budget will be sent to monthly meetings for their review and comments; a final budget will be presented at the May Quarterly Meeting.

Special Report – Confirming signatories for the bank – **Ed Snyder** – requested minute regarding authorized signatures – **approved.**

BREAK

Annual Report – Bucks Quarter Outreach Committee – **Doug Meaker** (full report attached) – COVID continues to impact the work of the committee; monthly meetings find both advantages and challenges to growing spiritual community currently. A Friend asked does Outreach have representation from all meetings at this time? Not at this time, but a Middletown Friend announced his recent appointment. The Committee continues to administer grants for outreach. A Friend asked if the grant application is available on the Quarter website – yes, it is. Southampton Friend expresses hope that Outreach and other committees will have in-person meetings soon.

Annual Report – Doylestown Meeting – **Liz Fritsch** (full report attached) – Doylestown continues discernment about the correct mix of technology/in-person meetings that fit their needs as spiritual community; they had an outdoor meeting on Christmas Eve with caroling; First Day school has gone well on Zoom and hopes to meet in person in the spring; variety of topics for adult discussion group; they have installed Wi-Fi for hybrid meetings for members/attenders who find it difficult to meet in person. Wrightstown Friends commends Doylestown work collecting and assembling historical minutes.

Annual Report – Quakertown Meeting – **Pat Stover** (full report attached) – COVID has been particularly challenging for Quakertown; there are no cell phone towers in the area; they have had a busy year with continued support for a food pantry and providing Christmas gifts for Mercer Street Friends preschool children. Will not meet in-person until COVID subsides or weather improves to the point of allowing open windows. Middletown Friend reports that Quakertown members have attended their virtual meetings for worship; Buckingham Friend reports the same.

Discussion – Holding hybrid Quarterly Meeting – WK frames and leads discussion.

SUMMARY: we want to move forward with this topic. Wendy Kane and Clerk Bill Daly will develop framework with an eye to having recommendations for next meeting for business.

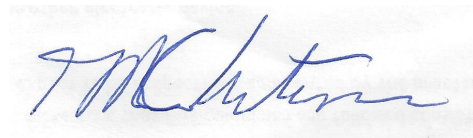
Announcements – Buckingham Friend plan to have a 300th (302nd actually) Birthday Celebration in June; Middletown Friends will be part of Edward Hicks Day in Langhorne on April 23rd (raindate April 24th); Southampton Friend reports Social Justice vigil continues; article in *Bucks County Courier Times* celebrates a marriage in the meeting. Lehigh Valley Friend offers support of Prayer and Light for peacemakers in Europe

Closing Worship – There being no further business, Friends settled into Silent Worship.

Adjournment – Clerk Leo Fitzpatrick adjourned the Meeting for Business at 3:32 PM

Next Quarterly Meeting – 15th Day, Fifth Month, 2022 under the care of Doylestown Meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Terry M. Christensen", is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Terry M. Christensen, Recording Clerk

Report of the Coordinator to Bucks Quarterly Meeting
February 20, 2022
Under the Care of Buckingham Monthly Meeting
Held Virtually via Zoom

At the end of our last Quarterly Meeting in November we were so hopeful that by this February Quarterly Meeting the pandemic would be winding down, we could once again meet in person, and that life would be returning to normal. Alas, we could not have predicted the emergence of the more contagious, but generally less virulent omicron variant of the COVID-19 virus, which has the ability to infect and sicken even fully vaccinated and boosted people. Meetinghouses that were previously open for in-person worship have once again closed and returned to virtual worship as they wait for the variant to run its course. While we know that this too shall pass, many Friends are suffering from “pandemic fatigue” and long to be in person with their beloved Quaker communities. Let us hope and pray that this spring will bring relief.

Inreach

Care of Meetings

This past quarter I have been able to share meetings for worship with most of the meetings in the quarter. I would like to note, that over the past few months having a zoom option has been very fortuitous for me, as twice I have been exposed to COVID and have had to self-quarantine for a short period of time – thankfully, I was not infected – and I was able to participate in worship safely without the possibility of infecting other Friends. My worship with Bristol Friends was memorable, as it was held in and among the furniture being stored for Bucks County Interfaith Coalition for Refugee Resettlement (BCICRR) in anticipation of furnishing one or two apartments for incoming Afghan refugees.

The holiday season was once again subdued throughout the Quarter as Christmas celebrations were downsized due to the omicron variant surge. Some meetings, like Doylestown and Wrightstown, held carol singing outdoors. Others – Southampton and Yardley – held their candlelight services indoors, masked and socially distant. Friends Village welcomed singers from around the Quarter to lead them in carols at both the Paxson and Styer campuses, but attendance was lower than past years; singing with a mask on is not easy. I attended as many holiday events as time allowed.

I was asked to attend Wrightstown Meeting’s January Nominating Committee meeting as they are trying to discern how to get more members to serve on committees. They agreed that having an outside observer look at their current committee structure was helpful, and are now looking at ways to streamline committee work. The meeting has identified an interim clerk to step in until their clerk returns from medical leave. The community has really come together to help fill that void.

Fallsington Friends asked me to host and facilitate a Membership Development retreat held in January on Zoom. Thirty-five Friends gathered in the afternoon to discern what they felt nurtured them at their

meeting, what they thought they could offer people who may be seeking a different spiritual home, and how their committees could help facilitate that outreach.

Miscellaneous Inreach

Clerk's meeting: The main topic discussed at the quarterly meeting of clerks was the ongoing surge in the omicron variant of the COVID-19 virus and how that has affected their meetings. Many have decided to halt in-person worship through February to allow this surge to pass; others remain open since they are able to be in-person yet socially distant. Friends continue to try to discern how to best integrate technology into their worship spaces for hybrid meetings and would like the quarter to provide guidance as needed. Those that are holding hybrid meetings are finding that they are in need of more tech-savvy volunteers.

Calendar & Appointments/Bucks Quarter Handbook - These two documents have been combined and renamed *The Bucks Quarterly Meeting Handbook*. The Coordinator has traditionally been responsible for the annual updates to the Calendar & Appointments book, but the Bucks Quarter Handbook, previously under the care of the Budget and Nominating Committee, has not been updated since 2009. By combining these two documents, the quarter will have annually updated information in a single document. The digital version will be available on the website, with periodic updates made as needed. The printed version will be sent to monthly meetings, and will have more complete contact information than the digital version.

Event Attendance

Within the Quarter:

- *Carol Singing* at both Friends Village campuses
- *Christmas Candlelight Services* at Yardley and Southampton Meetings
- *Fallsington Meeting Climate Change event* - held on December 9th, sponsored by Fallsington Meeting, Force for Good and Citizens Climate Lobby

Through Philadelphia Yearly Meeting:

- *Spiritual Formation Collaborative Meeting* - as their liaison from the PYM Program Committee
- *Quarterly Meeting Leadership* - organized by PYM Staff

Greater Quaker Community:

- *Edward Hicks Day Planning Committee* - under the sponsorship of Langhorne Council for the Arts; an April 23rd event is planned to celebrate the birthplace of primitive artist, Edward Hicks.

Outreach

Bucks Quarter Outreach Committee

Grants: Five \$500 outreach grants have been received and approved by the Outreach Committee. An application form is available on the website and the availability of these grants has been widely publicized through information sent to meeting clerks, and announcements in *Quakerphernalia* and on our website.

Outreach Postcard: I have reached out to monthly meetings to see if there is any interest in having personalized outreach cards printed with their monthly meeting specific contact information. Many felt

that this would be a great outreach for their meetings, especially as they re-open for in-person gatherings. Our graphic designer and I have been working on designing cards for each meeting that would be available for them to have printed; the Quarter has offered to absorb the cost.

Social Media: the Bucks Quarter website continues to be a wonderful resource for both inreach to our Quarter community and outreach to seekers. While it takes a great deal of time to keep the content fresh, interesting and up to date, I feel it is an important part of my job as Coordinator to be as proactive as possible with regard to the website; it is the way seekers find us, and provides a connection between all fourteen of our meetings. We are also in the process of putting together our first Quarter video that we anticipate posting to a new YouTube channel sometime in March. Our facebook page is a wonderful way for Friends to see what is happening around the Quarter and the Yearly Meeting.

Miscellaneous Outreach

PYM Outreach Grant to Quarters - Last fall, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting received a grant from the Thomas H. and Mary Williams Shoemaker Fund to support hybrid meetings and meeting outreach. A portion of the grant provides \$13,000 as financial support to PYM's quarterly meetings. Each of PYM's 13 quarterly meetings is eligible to apply for a \$1000 grant. I have been given authorization to apply for that grant and will do so in February. The plan is to use the grant to help defray the cost for hosting 100+ people on Zoom.

I continue to volunteer one day a week at the Mercer Street Friends Food bank assembling food packages for those in Mercer County who are experiencing food insecurity. The need for volunteers continues.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Kane
Coordinator, Bucks Quarterly Meeting

Camp Onas Report to Bucks Quarterly Meeting
February 20, 2022

Camp Onas was open this summer! Campers were excited to come to camp and staff looked forward to providing the best Camp Onas community experience possible.

Holly and Matt Hecht, Camp Directors, followed recommendations from the CDC and ACA (American Camp Association) to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 transmission. Parts of the many mitigation efforts included running at two thirds capacity in order to distance effectively, as well as campers observing 10 days of quarantine and prearrival testing before their camp session began. No cases developed as a result in the seven weeks of sessions. The Friends Camp Association Board and the Directors felt strongly that providing as many campers as allowed within those restrictions with a positive summer experience would be essential to the ongoing health of the camp community, campers, staff, and families alike, especially after the last sixteen months of quarantine and remote social interaction.

The 2021 Camp Onas summer sessions were a bright spot in a year filled with challenges. The Camp staff came together to create a complete and safe summer program, and the Board is proud of the way Onas persevered and even advanced amid uncertainty. Other sleep-over camps, facing the same adversities, reached out to Camp Onas for advice and techniques for implementing safe practices. We have a lot to celebrate, but being closed in 2020, and running at reduced capacity this summer took its toll on us.

Last spring, when the Directors and the Board resolved to run this year's summer program, we knew it would cost more to operate a reduced capacity Camp Onas than tuition could cover. But safely running this year's program was the most important thing we could do for the long term health of the Onas community, to say nothing of the well-being of the campers and staff who were looking forward to it. We made the decision to operate at a loss.

Long term planning can't stop, though, just because of the pandemic. The need to replace both crumbling 50-year-old Shower Houses meant that construction had to begin this fall in order to be completed by next summer. This project will have an enormously positive impact on Camp life, including replacing sorely outdated plumbing and allowing all people to have privacy while toileting and showering. While some funds have previously been set aside to launch this project, we are working on financing, and we still seek grants and dedicated donations.

The Board and the Camp staff are in the process of reconceiving our Strategic Plan for the next five years. We know that we cannot continue to defer maintenance, but recognize the challenges that an aging physical plant can cause. We continue to commit to increasing diversity of all kinds among campers, staff and Board, even as the pandemic has impacted many families' ability to pay the full costs. Therefore, the need for campership support grows even greater now than before. While the loyalty and generosity of Camp families, alumni and (f)Friends continue to make a difference, Onas also seeks donations from its wider community to help us weather the storm.

Before I finish, I want to express the gratitude of the Friends Camp Association Board as well as my own gratitude to those of this community who have already made gifts to Camp Onas. Thank you so much!

MAKEFIELD FRIENDS MEETING

OF THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS
877 Dolington Road, Newtown, PA 18940

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

February 20, 2022

To summarize our take of 2021, Makefield Monthly Meeting is aging. We are a small but active Meeting with 6-8 weekly attenders including two young(er) adults. Four members periodically attend adult forum via zoom due to health issues. This of concern as we care deeply about one another and miss their presence when they cannot attend in person.

Meeting starts sharply at 10 AM and after deep worship we close at 10:45 with a reading of the sentiment board and after thoughts. We have light refreshments followed by Adult Forum. Adult Forum topics have included mystical experiences, what Quakers believe, other faith traditions and practices and many others. They are presented by a volunteer and are invariable enlightening and often entertaining. Several times a year we use the Adult Forum time to watch music videos chosen by members and attenders. This is always a favorite.

We currently have 19 members, 2 attenders, and 3 children. We have no children attending Meeting.

Throughout 2021 we have held Meeting for Worship indoors with doors and windows open when seasonable. The space we have, along with our small numbers, allows us to social distance with masks. Adult Forum is held in person and by zoom. Some of us attend worship in person and then go home to join Adult Forum on zoom.

Our Care and Concerns committee continues to meet providing comfort and guidance.

Our young(er) attenders join in and are taking an active role in the Meeting including the role of recording clerk, serving on committees, and leading adult forums.

During the summer, we held a threshing session to determine our strengths and where we can contribute to the Meeting.

Major work projects were completed for the Meetinghouse and Caretaker House in 2020 so 2021 has been focused on humidity, moisture and structural issues for the Caretaker House. Our native plant gardens, installed in 2019 and 2020 are thriving.

A survey was conducted by the joint Makefield/Yardley Graveyard Committee to identify sunken graves and moved grave markers to be corrected in 2022.

Makefield Meeting continues to provide a strong spiritual connection for our members.

11:42 AM
01/29/22
Cash Basis

Bucks Quarterly Meeting of Friends
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2021

	<u>Dec 31, 21</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
First National Checking	64,081.53
Total Checking/Savings	<u>64,081.53</u>
Total Current Assets	64,081.53
Other Assets	
Friends Fiduciary Corporation	59,133.98
Total Other Assets	<u>59,133.98</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>123,215.51</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Kirkbride Estate	22,196.43
Unrestricted Net Assets	138,523.68
Net Income	<u>-37,504.60</u>
Total Equity	<u>123,215.51</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>123,215.51</u>

Bucks Quarterly Meeting of Friends
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
July through December 2021

	Jul - Dec 21	Budget	\$ Over Bud...	% of Bud...
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
Interest and dividends				
FFC	927.92	1,810.00	-882.08	51.3%
Total Interest and dividends	927.92	1,810.00	-882.08	51.3%
Monthly Meeting contributions				
Additional	200.00			
Pledged	98,737.35	276,540.00	-177,802.65	35.7%
Total Monthly Meeting contributions	98,937.35	276,540.00	-177,602.65	35.8%
Other contributions	600.00			
Quakerphernalia advertising	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00	0.0%
Total Income	100,465.27	279,850.00	-179,384.73	35.9%
Gross Profit	100,465.27	279,850.00	-179,384.73	35.9%
Expense				
Administrative				
Budget and Nominating Committee	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%
Clerks, treasurers, auditors	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
Total Administrative	0.00	150.00	-150.00	0.0%
Contributions				
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting	99,392.50	198,785.00	-99,392.50	50.0%
Total Contributions	99,392.50	198,785.00	-99,392.50	50.0%
Gifts/Donations				
Camp Onas	0.00	150.00	-150.00	0.0%
Chandler Hall	0.00	150.00	-150.00	0.0%
Friends Home and Village	0.00	150.00	-150.00	0.0%
Total Gifts/Donations	0.00	450.00	-450.00	0.0%
Programs, Activities, Outreach				
Operating	2,353.58	6,000.00	-3,646.42	39.2%
Other				
Advertising	1,500.00	2,200.00	-700.00	68.2%
Liability Insurance	0.00	940.00	-940.00	0.0%
Outreach Committee Activities	1,271.00	2,000.00	-729.00	63.6%
Programs for Peace	200.00	1,700.00	-1,500.00	11.8%
Quakerism Classes	0.00	500.00	-500.00	0.0%
Young Friends and Other (net)	0.00	350.00	-350.00	0.0%
Total Other	2,971.00	7,690.00	-4,719.00	38.6%
Personnel	32,819.52	66,775.00	-33,955.48	49.1%
Total Programs, Activities, Outreach	38,144.10	80,465.00	-42,320.90	47.4%
Total Expense	137,536.60	279,850.00	-142,313.40	49.1%
Net Ordinary Income	-37,071.33	0.00	-37,071.33	100.0%
Other Income/Expense				
Other Income				
Unrealized gain/loss (FFC)	2,066.73			
Total Other Income	2,066.73			
Other Expense				
Kirkbride expenses	2,500.00	7,000.00	-4,500.00	35.7%
Total Other Expense	2,500.00	7,000.00	-4,500.00	35.7%
Net Other Income	-433.27	-7,000.00	6,566.73	6.2%
Net Income	-37,504.60	-7,000.00	-30,504.60	535.8%

BUCKS QUARTERLY MEETING BUDGET FOR 2021-2022 F/Y

Last update 2/15/22

	Budget FY 21-22	Projected FY 21-22	Budget FY 22-23	Change from FY 21-22 budget
1 REVENUE				
2 Monthly Meeting "Pledged" Contributions	276,540	276,540	290,631	14,091
3 Additional Contributions				0
4 FFC Int & Dividend Income	1,810	1,850	1,850	40
5 Interest Income, other	0	0	0	0
6 Quakerphernalia Ads	1,500	1,000	1,000	(500)
7 Grant Income	0	0	0	0
8 Other contributions	0	0	0	0
9 Total Revenue	279,850	279,390	293,481	13,631
11 EXPENSES				
12 Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Contribution	198,785	213,785	208,724	9,939
14 BQM Administrative				
15 Clerks, Treasurers, Auditors	100	0	0	(100)
16 Budget & Nominating Committee	50	0	0	(50)
17 BQM Worship & Ministry (Piano tuning)	0	0	0	0
18 Total, Administrative	150	0	0	(150)
20 Programs, Activities, Outreach				
21 Program Administration (Coord)				
22 Personnel	66,775	67,053	70,006	3,231
23 Operating (postage, printing, phone)	6,000	5,000	6,000	0
24 Total, Program Admin.	72,775	72,053	76,006	3,231
26 Other: Programs, Activities, Outreach				
28 Programs for Peace - Peace Fair, Bethlehem walk	1,700	1,700	1,700	0
29 Outreach Committee Activities	2,000	2,000	2,000	0
30 Advertising	2,200	2,200	2,200	0
31 Liability Insurance	940	1,025	1,100	160
32 Quakerism Classes	500	0	500	0
33 Young Friends and Other Activities (net)	350	0	350	0
34 Total, Other Activities	7,690	6,925	7,850	160
36 Total, Programs, Activities, Outreach	80,465	78,978	83,856	3,391
38 Gifts/Donations				
39 Friends Home/Village	150	5,150	300	150
40 Camp Onas	150	5,150	300	150
41 Chandler Hall	150	5,150	300	150
42 Other Donations	0	0	0	0
43 Total, Gifts	450	15,450	900	450
45 Other Expenses				
Outreach Grants (funded by Kirkbride esta	7,000	7,000	7,000	0
46 Total Other Expenses	7,000	7,000	7,000	0
48 Total Expenses	286,850	315,213	300,481	13,631
50 REVENUE LESS EXPENSES	(7,000)	(35,823)	(7,000)	0

Minute regarding signatories for First National Bank of Newtown checking account

Bucks Quarterly Meeting of Friends, at its business meeting of February 20, 2022, hereby affirmed that the following officers are authorized signatories on checking account xx482 held at First National Bank of Newtown:

William Daly, Clerk

Edward Snyder, Treasurer

Jenna Schwoyer, Assistant Treasurer

Terry Christensen, Recording Clerk

Date

Bucks Quarterly Meeting
Outreach Committee
February 20, 2022

The operations and plans of the Outreach Committee have been affected by the COVID pandemic. We meet via ZOOM rather than face to face. We have fewer grant applications than anticipated; partly because Meetings have had hard time getting together and because they have been distracted by more urgent concerns. And the applications tend toward support of hybrid meetings, which are inreach as well as outreach.

The pandemic has had one positive effect as Meetings and members and, perhaps, inquirers have found that a ZOOM address for a Meeting for Worship works as well for some as a street address.

In addition to the new website which tells what we have been up to as well as where we are, we have developed a new card for distribution which gives some sense of what a Quaker is. We have also supported different venues, including the Peace Fair as they are opened.

We have approved 6 grants as authorized by Quarterly Meeting last year, with a seventh under way. We worked around meeting bimonthly by distributing grant applications by e-mail and approving those which had quick Committee approval (as all have, so far). Although we received fewer applications than I expected, I am happy to see that the proposed budget includes another \$7,000 from the Kirkbride bequest. Perhaps other Meetings will apply for the \$500 grants. Meetings that received grants this year may apply for another grant for the same or a different project. Meetings that received grants this year are reminded that we expect to hear how the grant was used and its effect as part of their Annual Report.

The new Bucks Quarter web page (designed with aid of Kirkbride money) has been up and running for over year. Friends should take time to visit it. Wendy Kane, our Coordinator, has made a great effort to keep it fresh and up to date, a very important aspect of any website and one we all need to support by passing on what is going on in our Meetings.

While the web page tells visitors where the Meetings are and their current activities, the Committee authorized the design of a new card telling something of what Quakers are like – we do not wear bonnets and go about in strange clothing. On the one side the card has information about the Quarter, a copy of Elias Hicks' painting of William Penn meeting with the Indians, and the words "You might be a Quaker if..." On the other side are nine examples of Quaker beliefs. The cards (not designed for mailing) are quite popular. The Committee authorized an initial printing of 500, which Wendy distributed quite quickly, so we authorized another 500. Meanwhile, some Meetings were asking if they could adapt the design with their own info. This is being done.

We have continued to support and provide a Quaker presence at

1. The Peace Fair
2. Historic Fallsington Day
3. Bristol Day
4. Yardley Flea Market

We are aware that we might not be best able to communicate with younger inquirers and that we need help. It was pointed out that this expertise need not come from a Committee member, that we could employ someone to help us that is what we plan to do. It is possible that doing so might cause us to exceed our budget.

One thing we did not do this year is provide a program of Quakerism in a Nutshell or Q101 or anything to assist new Quakers. One approach is to do as we have in the past: provide a one day intensive course. Another is to provide a series of talks on Quaker beliefs and practices. Each has its benefits; in the end, we may try both.

As clerk of this Committee I have tried to have at least one member from each Meeting. This is not always possible; so, to keep all the Meetings aware of our activities, I have put the Clerks of the Meeting on our distribution list.

I undertook to Clerk the Committee as long as we met by ZOOM or at Pennswood Village because it appeared that the Committee needed a Clerk. This is not a healthy state of affairs. The Committee ought to be able to get out to the Meetings.

Respectfully submitted, Douglas Meaker, Clerk

Doylestown Friends Meeting

2021 Annual Report

During the second year of the global pandemic, Doylestown Meeting continued to adapt to the challenges presented by these unprecedented times. With resolve, we came together as a community to support one another in worship, outreach, activism and spiritual growth. Major highlights from the year included:

Reopening (And Closing) Our Meetinghouse:

After nearly 18 months of closing our meetinghouse due to the pandemic, we opened our doors for in-person worship on August 1. Vaccinations were highly recommended and masks were required for those in attendance. The Property, Communications, and Ad-hoc Reopening Committees worked to make this reopening possible. The meetinghouse was then closed again in mid-October due to the rise of the delta variant. We offered Meeting For Worship on Zoom for the entire year, including a “hybrid worship” combining the Zoom and in-person meetings while the meetinghouse was open.

Walking Worship:

In conjunction with closing the meetinghouse in October, we started “Walking Worship.” For this unique worship experience, Friends gather in silent worship in the front yard of the meetinghouse each First Day. From there, we walk to a public labyrinth, just a block away. After walking the labyrinth in silence, we return to our meetinghouse. Friends have enjoyed this opportunity to worship in a new, COVID-safe way, and it has continued through the winter months. We also gathered for an outside Christmas program in the backyard of the meetinghouse in December, which included a bonfire and sing-a-long.

First Day School:

Our robust First Day School program continued this year. The majority of meetings were held monthly via Zoom, with our FDS coordinators dropping off supplies to children and their families to support monthly themes and activities. In addition to Zoom meetings, there were also some wonderful in-person activities, including an annual trash pick up and ice cream outing, Christmas caroling, and observing nature at Lake Galena.

Fourth Sunday Forums:

We continued our Fourth Sunday Forum collaboration among the Pastoral Concerns, Worship and Ministry, and Peace and Social Concerns Committees. These monthly forums took place via Zoom after Meeting For Worship and included topics such as: Mysticism and Everyday Miracles, Social Media and Quaker Life, Quaker Activism and Spirituality, and Poetry and Spirituality.

Stewardship Of Our Property:

In order to facilitate hybrid Meetings For Worship, we had WiFi installed at the meetinghouse. We hope to use this in the future for presentations and to enhance the First Day School curriculum. We also concluded a large waterproofing job for our basement.

Preserving Our Past:

A joint effort between our Historian and Communications Committee saw the archiving of the last 20 years of our Monthly Business Meeting minutes. We plan to submit these minutes to the Friends Historical Library at Swarthmore College.

QUAKERTOWN MONTHLY MEETING ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021

PRESENTED FEBRUARY 2022

Every meeting in the Quarter probably spent 2021 juggling the logistics of how to attend meeting for worship in their meetinghouses as safely as possible during the pandemic. Quakertown was no exception. Everyone wore masks and sat far apart. Some stayed home, went online and “zoomed” other meetings’ worship sessions. Our meetings for business seemed strained and conversations often did not “flow” as they normally did. Our efforts to study the queries in Faith and Practice were not inspiring. We did, however, recognize our local Food Pantry’s need for a consistent flow of donated food and money to supply the increased need in our community. All extra donations were directed to them.

We also, were able to continue our tradition of sending Christmas gifts and hand knitted hats and scarves to fifty 3-6 year old children at Mercer Street Friends school.

In October, a meeting attender organized a dedication ceremony for an historic marker that honors the Nixon burial grounds which Quakertown Meeting offered to non-Quakers in the 1700s. Franklin Township was instrumental in creating and placing the marker on the site. The marker also mentions the site across the street that was a former cemetery for enslaved Africans. The ceremony was well attended and afterwards refreshments were offered at the meetinghouse about two miles away. Everyone sat under the trees on the front lawn and enjoyed the beautiful weather and homemade cookies. An article about the ceremony with accompanying photographs was in the local paper.

In spite of pandemic restrictions with smaller attendance at meeting for worship and the strains of uneasy verbal communication, Quakertown did gain two new, wonderful members. Both of them have been attending and contributing their time to extra tasks. One is our lovely gardener.

This January we closed the meetinghouse for all of January and February because of concerns about the increased pandemic. We will reopen at the end of February when we can open windows. A good number of our members and attenders have been ZOOMING other Bucks Quarter meetings on the First Days when we are not gathering and are really enjoying your worship sessions. We will devote a special business meeting to hearing what they have learned and how we can benefit from their experience. So, thank you for your “unknown”, very welcomed contribution to our Quakertown Monthly Meeting.

Minute of Appreciation
For Leo Fitzpatrick
02.20.2022

Those gathered at Bucks Quarterly Meeting 20th day, 2nd Month, 2022 appreciate the dedicated work Leo Fitzpatrick has given in his service to our quarter as Clerk.

Leo stepped in with willingness to guide and be guided in the facilitation of our corporate work and witness. His careful, thoughtful way of helping Friends do the job of listening for Spirit's leading and supported us to act on those leadings and invest ourselves in our beloved community has been a wind that lifts us.
Thank you Leo.