

## **Meeting For Worship with a Concern for Business • 2nd Month 8, 2009**

**Attending:** John Black Lee, Sean Higgins, Maribeth Becker, Patti Herman, Tim Connolly, Kim Tsocanos, Virginia Perry, Virginia Auster, Susan Telesco, Michel Loth, Woody Schempp (clerking), Laura Higgins (recording)

Meeting started with silent worship.

## **Mandala ceremony and filming in the meeting room**

Some television stations want to film. Although we have not allowed any Quaker worship to be filmed, the monks would appreciate filming, because it would promote their work.

**2009-02-01** The sense of the Meeting is that filming of the mandala ceremony is permissible.

## **Finance Committee**

The report will be presented when the Committee is present and can answer any questions.

## **Peace and Service**

This committee is planning on doing a silent auction on a quarterly basis with the proceeds going to designated work, such as Judy Meikle's HIP efforts.

## **State of the Meeting Report**

The report is not ready for approval by Meeting.

The report this year is based on the queries:

- Do we make ourselves available in a tender and caring way when we sense a need for assistance in time of trouble? Do we trust each other enough to make our needs known to someone in our meeting?
- Do we partake of the joy of the love of God and make our lives a celebration of the sharing of this love? Do our daily lives so demonstrate Friends' testimonies as to commend them to others?

## **Request for Use of Meeting House**

A good friend of Woody's, who was a Buddhist and was looking forward to the monks' visit, passed away this week. The monks will do a memorial service probably Sunday evening. There are no conflicts with use of the Meeting room during that time.

## **Reinforcing Late Comers Waiting in Foyer**

Meeting reminds Greeters and worshippers that waiting in the foyer until the children leave Meeting at 10:20 is the custom here at Wilton Meeting. Aside from adults settling in the silence, children will learn the discipline of silent worship prior to leaving for First Day School.

Greeters will close the Meeting room doors at 10:05 AM. However, one issue pointed out to Meeting is that Greeters are not showing up when assigned.

Therefore, no one can guide worshippers as to what is appropriate when they arrive.

## **Committee Functions**

A committee member shared that Ministry & Oversight has not yet met with the full membership.

Nominating needs to get working on committee appointments soon. Nominating needs to remind Friends of the responsibility involved.

Kim Tsochanos offered that when CFS committees met, they have a standing conference (freeconferencecall.com) number so people who cannot attend in person can still participate. Sean Higgins reinforced the call-in number concept, because he experienced success with that approach with Oakwood. He also suggested that people who cannot drive at night will be picked up and dropped off, as Ministry & Counsel did with Janet Kroll who did not own a car. He volunteered to serve on a small committee who might work with M&O to help them work out immediate issues.

John Lee suggested that when the Meeting is having a night meeting, Friends need to recognize and serve our senior citizens who need to rides provided.

Addressing the comment about newcomers, a Friend asked about the status of the Handbook, which is sadly out-of-date. M&O, which is having trouble meeting, would be saddled with yet another very large task.

**2009-02-02** Clerk (Woody) and Assistant Clerk (Sean) will contact each member of M&O individually to discuss the functioning of that committee.

## **Newsletter**

Jeff Menoher asked to be released from newsletter responsibility, because he has too many demands to be able to handle another responsibility.

John Lee suggested an editorial board format where this board would collect information from each of the committees, plus a short outreach section from Clerk. Having an editorial board may make it easier than one person collecting all the information.

An immediate "fix" for the newsletter will be posting Meeting for Business minutes on the Web site, sending them out on the listserv, and asking Marilyn Atkin to mail out hard copy to people without Internet access, as she did with the newsletter.

Virginia Perry suggested that we focus on Meeting as our family. Her family used to live in a community where many people were not only related, but went to Quaker Meeting together. If we view each other as cousins, maybe we would be more diligent about helping out at Meeting.

Meeting closed with silent worship.