



First Day Meeting for Worship	10:30 AM
First Day School	10:30–11:15 AM
First Day Meeting for Worship at West Phila. Mtg.	10:30 AM
Wednesday morning Meeting for Worship	8:30–9:00 AM with GSFS

March 2019

Sunday, 3rd	9:30 AM	Breakfast - Bob D. & Geniver
	Rise of Meeting	Hospitality - Kathy A. & Lori S.
Sunday, 10th	9:15AM	Second Sunday Worship & Ministry
	Rise of Meeting	Hospitality - Rep Working Group
Sunday, 17th	Rise of Meeting	Lunch - Oliver & Stephanie
	12:30 PM	Monthly Meeting for Business
Sunday, 24th	9:15 AM	Friendly Bible Study
	Rise of Meeting	Hospitality - Viv & Lola
Sunday, 31st	9:15 AM	
	Rise of Meeting	Hospitality- Peggy W.

Green Street Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Minutes of the Meeting for Business, 17th 2nd Month, 2019 - DRAFT

At Green Street Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, held at 45 West School House Lane, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on Second Month 17, 2019.

Present: JoAnn Seaver, clerk; Chris Mohr, recording clerk; Valerie Anderson, Susan Christian, Sam Connell, Bob Dockhorn, Lola Georg, Viv Hawkins, Mike Kelley, L. Lanza, Robin Mohr, Geniver Montalvo, Frank Perch, Tracey Smith, Bill Van Stone, Traci Hjelt Sullivan, Walter Hjelt Sullivan, Peggy Walters, Jerry Williams, Margaret Wood

2019.02.01. The meeting **opened** at 12:35 pm with a time of waiting worship.

2019.02.02. Clerk JoAnn Seaver reviewed the agenda, and said Nominating would be moved later. **The agenda was approved as revised.**

2019.02.03. Care and Counsel.

Bill Van Stone presented for a second reading the application of **Ansel Schaefer Cohen** for membership in West Philly Preparative Meeting, under the care of Green Street Monthly Meeting. **Meeting approved Ansel Schaefer Cohen as a member.** Margaret Wood will communicate with West Philly Meeting about arrangements for a welcoming committee.

Susan Christian reported that Care and Counsel received a **membership request from Kenyatta James.** After a clearness process, the committee recommends he be approved for membership. This is the first reading, for second reading and action next month.

2019.02.04. Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting (PQM) Report.

Jerry Williams, PQM Representative, reported. He summarized the history of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM) Multicultural Audit Steering Committee, Green Street Meeting's October minute, and Friends General Conference's (FGC) institutional assessment on systemic racism. Subsequent to our minute, Germantown Monthly Meeting approved a minute recommending the Multicultural Audit Steering Committee be laid down, no further action be taken on the RFP and the lessons and framework of the FGC assessment be examined as a possible guide for PYM. Last month our meeting picked up some of Germantown's concerns and approved a new minute, also saying the steering committee should be laid down and that the "PYM work to identify the right relationship of Undoing Racism Group to the PYM structure to help carry this work forward." These minutes were taken to PQM's most recent business meeting. Some 12-14 Friends from our meeting were in attendance.

Jerry read PQM's draft minute, which will be considered for action at their April meeting for business. It calls for no further action be taken on the RFP, and the

Multicultural Audit Steering Committee to be laid down, and findings and recommendations from the FGC institutional assessment that are applicable to PYM be implemented.

Other Friends who attended the PQM business meeting reflected. There was then further discussion of the PYM audit process, and how it differs from, and does and does not relate to, the FGC assessment. If the audit steering committee is laid down, how do we make sure the work happens? It was suggested that the PYM community needs to be engaged with one another, and with the Undoing Racism Group, as well as other groups carrying on related work.

Meanwhile, what will Green Street Meeting do about undoing racism at Green Street? How will we let our Light shine and be a role model? The goal should be to attract new members, and that a purpose of the work be to become more diverse.

The clerk identified two issues from the discussion:

1. Our relationship to Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and the larger world of Quakerism; and
2. What can we do with our own members to become more diverse and welcoming?

Lola Georg and Chris Mohr volunteered to help lead a session to discuss the second issue. Traci Hjelt Sullivan offered to help the group get started with the tools used in the FGC assessment.

2019.02.05. Friends approved having a meeting on the second Sunday of March to look at the FGC assessment, and consider our own meeting's growth in members and diversity, and plan next steps.

2019.02.06. Friends approved the clerk writing a letter asking PYM Acting Clerk Chris Lucca to include the PQM minute on the Multicultural Audit be on the agenda for Continuing Sessions in March, and to advance the work of groups within PYM working on anti-racism.

2019.02.07. Minutes to this point were read, revised, and approved.

2019.02.08. Philabundance. Gabbreell James reported that she has been in contact with Emily Glick at Philabundance, who sent us their member manual for food distribution sites. Gabbreell will send the link by email for Friends to review. Philabundance membership is \$100 a year, plus there is a \$150 fee to be a food pantry. The clerk asked us to read the manual and bring questions to the March business meeting, and we will connect with Emily Glick again in April. Friends could also visit the Ujima Friends Peace Center in North Philadelphia if they'd like to see a site in action.

2019.02.09. Men Who Care of Germantown. Valerie Anderson reported that she and Tracey Smith, along with Tom Grabe and Anthony Stover of Germantown Meeting, have been supporting Men Who Care of Germantown, particularly Clayton Justice, in their work at Roosevelt Middle School. Recently, Green Street Meeting's spirituality of money series raised over \$400 and gave it to Men Who Care. Men Who Care wanted to support Ms. Glass at the school. A group of women help her in the classroom regularly, and she in turn wanted to honor and recognize those parents by taking them out to a play and dinner. Future plans at the school include parenting

classes.

2019.02.10. Morning with a Friend. JoAnn Seaver, reporting for Anne Bayless, Clerk of the School Committee/Trustees, announced that this fall we will bring back Morning with a Friend, during which Friends from our meeting visit classrooms at Greene Street Friends School for a morning. Friends shared about times they had participated in the past. The school staff is excited to know that we want to bring this back. They'd like a sense of the number of participants. **Let JoAnn or Anne Bayless know if you're interested.** JoAnn suggested it's one of the more joyful things we get to do.

2019.02.11. Nominating Committee. Walter Hjelt Sullivan said he had the first of a series of names to be presented over the next three months, with the goal of having the full slate approved by May.

He noted that Traci Hjelt-Sullivan will finish six years on Worship and Ministry committee, including much of that time as clerk or co-clerk. Friends thanked her for her service.

Names presented for first reading:

- **Clerk of Meeting:** JoAnn Seaver, one-year term (continuing) to 6/30/2020
- **Treasurer:** Jerry Williams, 3-year term to 6/30/2022
- **Co-Librarian:** Mary Noland, 3-year term to 6/30/2022
- **Budget Committee:** Russell Endo, 3-year term as Clerk (continuing) to 6/30/2022
- **Care and Counsel:** Gabe Ehri, 3-year term as Clerk (continuing) to 6/30/2022
- **Hospitality:** Peggy Worthington, 3-year term to 6/30/2022, and resigning as Clerk; Mary Noland, 3-year term to 6/30/2022
- **Worship and Ministry:** Michelle Schmitt, 3-year term to 6/30/2022
- **Trustees,** all for 1-year terms ending 6/30/2020: Russell Endo, Clerk (continuing); David La Fontaine, Assistant Clerk (continuing); Sharon Mullally, Secretary (continuing); Traci Hjelt Sullivan, Treasurer (continuing); Sandra Rodriguez; Gabbreell James; Dan McDevitt.

Walter said if Friends have concerns with any of the nominations, they should contact members of the Nominating Committee (Victoria Greene, Charity Marshall, and Walter) before the second reading next month.

It was pointed out that several years ago, the Meeting approved term limits of two three-year terms in a row, though there was some flexibility, especially with respect to Trustees. The Nominating Committee shares this concern, but approached this roster with more flexibility. Walter said next month's report will include the start date for positions, so that we have a clear picture of how long people have served.

2019.02.12. Minutes to this point were read, revised, and approved.

2019.02.13. Book Group. Robin Mohr reminded Friends of the announcement that a book group will read *Sing, Unburied, Sing* by Jesmyn West, and meet to discuss it on March 31. This is the One Book, One Philadelphia choice for this year. She suggested we post flyers in the neighborhood about it and, when asked, agreed to draft one.

2019.02.14. Meeting closed with a period of worship at 3 pm.

JoAnn Seaver, Clerk
Chris Mohr, Recording Clerk



Our Meetinghouse Renewal Campaign

Hands-on fundraising to renew our meetinghouse began in the Spring of 2018 and the work continues today. Our historic meetinghouse was built in 1876, with additions in 1877, 1901, and 1917. Despite ongoing stewardship, it is time to renew the life of this home of ours.

This hundred-year renewal is making us all feel good and we hope you will share that good feeling for being part of it. The old kitchen has been transformed. We can picture ourselves communally preparing our coffee hours, lunches and dinners with readily available equipment with lots of space bordered by gleaming walls and shelves. There are working areas not only for adults but for our children. Overhead, a smooth ceiling and recessed lights cover necessary pipes and rewiring.

We picture ourselves in the dining room, at last made accessible to all, surrounded by cheerful colors made brighter with new light fixtures for energy efficient lights and ingenious window treatment. And, a dream come true, we are able to hear each other since acoustic panels are part of the scheme.

We marvel at the repurposing and transformation of neglected spaces to create venting for the stove, separate storage rooms for the meeting and for the school, a cleanable floor extending the new colors of the dining room into formerly dark places, the latest in storage units reclaiming under stairs space.

Green Street Friends Meeting has at its heart being warmly welcoming. Now, our presentation matches our practice – thanks to F(f)riends like you.

Our dreams of renewal have been given form by the work of our Property Committee and our architect, Larry McEwen. Let us walk you through all that is planned.

Our aim is to present our meetinghouse as an open place for worship, welcome, and service. While the meeting is able to use some of its reserves—the legacy of generations past—to contribute substantially to the \$825,000 total cost of the project, our meeting community today has committed to raising \$225,000 in a special campaign. The meeting asks you to consider what resources you might share and asks for your gift.

There are several ways that you can contribute directly to Green Street Monthly Meeting's fundraiser to bring us to our goal beyond what our Trustees have allocated. Donations in any amount will assist Green Street Meeting. What matters most is that our meeting's Friends consider personally significant contributions to this once-in-a-generation opportunity to reinvigorate our community's physical space.

Our website contains a link for making donations, and the fundraiser brochure and pledge card are available in the office. To receive a copy, please contact our meetinghouse secretary, Ashanta Washington secretary@greenstreetfriendsmeeting.org or call (267) 285-0553. The pledge card shows you several options for making a gift. For more information,

or to make your recurring or one-time gift contact joann.seaver@verizon.net.

The good uses of Green Street's meetinghouse are many and cover generations—generations of members and attenders and their families, and generations of children in Greene Street Friends School who fill the dining room every school day and the meeting room on Wednesdays. The school uses the meetinghouse for occasions such as parent dinners, school trustee meetings and Martin Luther King Days of Service. The meetinghouse has held weddings—welcoming same sex marriages since the 90's, memorial services, workshops, committee meetings, coffee hours that last well into the afternoon, conferences, Monthly Meetings for Worship for Business, and a free series of Documentaries and Discussion for all-comers. It has been the spiritual home of our membership, creating a holy space for worship, searching, insight and support. It has helped us build a warm and vital community that is enlivened by our outreach into our Germantown community.

No gift is too small! Please join us in making the meetinghouse fundraiser a success.

|||||

2nd Sunday, March 10, 9:15 AM

Idea-Generating Meeting: What next steps can Greene Street Meeting take to unlearn systemic racism and to become more welcoming and inclusive?

Join us to look at the Friends General Conference institutional assessment of systemic racism within FGC (of which Green Street is a member, through Philadelphia Yearly Meeting), and consider how we could apply the tools and findings to our own monthly meeting. How can we become more of who God is calling us to be?

|||||

Book Club

On March 31, 2019 (Fifth First Day) after Hospitality at 12:30pm we will have a discussion of *Sing, Unburied, Sing* by Jesmyn Ward. This book is the One book, One Philadelphia selection for 2019. Robin Mohr has created a beautiful flyer inviting our neighbors to be with us for worship and the book discussion. Please come.

|||||

PHYM Young Friends Winter Gathering will be held Friday 2/8 7pm to Sunday 2/10 12pm. They are joining us for Worship and some will stay for hospitality

|||||

Save The Date:

April 28, 2019 will be our Circles of Care lunch, sponsored by Care & Counsel Committee.

Meeting for worship is at 10:30. All are welcome

