

The Green Street Messenger



Green Street Monthly Meeting of Friends
45 West School House Lane
Philadelphia, PA 19144
267-285-0553
secretary@greenstreetfriendsmeeting.org

West Philadelphia Preparative Friends Meeting
4718 Windsor Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19143

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 PM
Wednesday morning Meeting for Worship	8:30–9:00 AM with GSFS
First Sunday evening Meeting for Worship	6:30–7:00 PM at Stapey Hall

For updates and more information: greenstreetfriendsmeeting.org

November 2017

Sunday, 5th	9:30 AM Rise of Meeting 12:30 PM	Breakfast with a Friend - Bob Dockhorn Coffee Hour—Lucy Duncan Care & Counsel Committee Meeting
Saturday, 11th	6:00 PM	Second Saturday Film & Discussion (See the About F/friends Section)
Sunday, 12th	9:15 AM Rise of Meeting	Second Sunday Worship & Ministry Continuing conversation of PYM Multi-Cultural Audit Goals Coffee Hour - Victoria Kong and Russ Endo
Saturday, 18th	6:00 PM	Thanksgiving Feast (See the About F/friends Section)
Sunday, 19th	Rise of Meeting 12:30	Lunch - Gabbreell James & Margie Felton Monthly Meeting for Business
Sunday, 26th	9:15 AM Rise of Meeting	Friendly Bible Study Coffee hour - VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Minutes of Monthly Meeting for Business Held Tenth Month 15, 2017

At Green Street Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, held at 45 West School House Lane, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on Tenth Month 15, 2017: Business Meeting convened at 12:30 PM in prayerful silence.

17-10-01 After a brief period of silent worship, the agenda was approved.

17-10-02 Walter Sullivan delivered the **Nominating Committee** Report.

Victoria Greene was approved to serve on Educational Assistance Committee.

Sophia Jarka-Sellers is being nominated for Worship and Ministry committee. This is a first time reading of her nomination and approval will be sought at next month's meeting.

Charlotte Anderson has requested to be released early from her service as clerk of Care and Counsel. This request was accepted and Gabe Ehri has agreed to replace Charlotte as clerk of Care and Counsel.

Progress is being made towards finding an Assistant Clerk. Nominating is currently seeking additional members of Care and Counsel.

17-10-03 Anne Bayless reported on the **Greene Street Friends School Board**

Joann Seaver, Anne Bayless and Ed Marshall meet as a triad with some regularity. The triad group believes there should be more structure to School Board reports to the Meeting and proposed the following: Anne will present at the Business Meeting following each Board meeting, with Ed providing a state of the school report once per year in November. That means for this year, Anne will present in October, December, March and May. The Meeting approved this frequency of reporting with the understanding that these reports will be brief.

Anne's report will mirror the reports given at School Board Meetings, with highlights provided to the Meeting. Enrollment is steady at 318 students with this being the second year of having two sections per grade. Class size ranges from 15-21 per class. 54% of students are white and 46% are students of color. 64 students reside in zip code 19144. There are two Germantown scholars and two Lenfest scholars. 44% of all students receive financial aid, and financial aid is 14% of the operating budget. Retention at the school has dropped a little to 84%, which is still a respectable number. Students have left for the suburbs and for financial reasons. The school provides a slight discount if families have more than 2 children in school.

Faculty salaries were a focus several years ago, with the school bringing up salaries to be more competitive in the independent school arena. The Meeting has a concern that faculty salaries are consistent with our values, allowing teachers to have a reasonable level of financial security...especially for teachers of color who more likely have student loans and other financial hardships.

The racial make-up of board is as follows: two African American Men, two African American Women, and one Japanese American Man out of 14 Board Members. More than 50% of Board Members are Quaker

The School's Capital Campaign has raised over \$5 million for new building. The School hired a professional several years ago to help get to that number.

A current goal is to have the new building open before the start of next school year. The project is behind schedule and the School's Owners Rep is being aggressive to try to get the project timing back on track.

Program highlights include: faculty professional development; racial affinity groups in middle school, currently in 7th and 8th grade; more lessons on gender and sexuality; discussion on how to have political conversations in the classroom; Horizons program ran this summer for its second year. The Horizons Program is an independent program housed in schools and addresses summer slide. There is academic and social/emotional curriculum, starting with a cohort of kindergarten children and keeping with that group through high school. The new director this year is Lehla Olson. She will be invited to present to the Meeting.

The School Board has been engaged in a process to enhance the mission statement. The Board will share the revised mission statement with the Meeting. Also, the Board is thinking about the next stage of strategic planning, i.e., where the school is going in the next 5-10 years? The Meeting will be invited to be part of this process.

A number of questions arose from the discussion that the Meeting would like Ed Marshall to address in November: 1) is there a racial breakdown of children not retained? 2) Will affinity groups be moved down from currently only 7th-8th grade to lower grades? 3) How many workers on the building are African American? 4) What is happening at faculty level to support conversations on race? Anne is aware that faculty has been going to a race institute and working with Allie Michaels.

17-10-04 Discussion and possible modification or approval of a Philadelphia Quarter Minute that was drafted in July at Annual Sessions and that will be discussed at the PQM meeting October 22 - JoAnn Seaver

The clerk distributed the Minute from Philadelphia Quarter and Friends read the minute in silence. The clerk asked if Friends have concerns with the language in the minute or any “stops”?

The Meeting heartily endorses the Minute as it is.

The Meeting agreed the language for number 8 should be stronger. Instead of, “Encourage production...”, change the language to “Produce and implement”, so the whole language for number 8 is “Produce and implement a bias-harassment resolution procedure for participants in PYM.” Also, the Meeting agrees this procedure needs to be documented and widely shared.

Gabrielle James has been asked to serve on the committee to initiate the institutional audit/assessment and has responded positively. We thank Gabbreell for this service. The work begins with development of the RFP and runs through supporting the chosen consultant in the beginning phases of the audit. Friends feel it is important that goals for the audit/assessment are developed during the RFP process, but that the selected consultant has the latitude to identify the scope of the audit may be in addition to the stated goals. It was noted it may be helpful for Gabbreell to have a support committee at some point because this is difficult work.

Friends agreed to meet at 9:15 AM on Sunday, October 29, for discussion of the goals for the institutional audit/assessment in an effort to aid Gabbreell in her service to PYM on this project. Traci Hjelt Sullivan will provide copies of FGC’s RFP.

The clerk will send out an email this week encouraging Friends to attend Quarterly Meeting at CPMM next Sunday, October 22.

17-10-05 Plans for attending the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Continuing Sessions November 4 - JoAnn Seaver

Many Friends of Color will not be able to attend Continuing Sessions on November 4, due to FGC's regional gathering for Friends of Color. Also, the Clerk and others will be in Washington, DC attending FCNL annual meeting lobbying days. The Meeting directed the Clerk to send a letter to the Clerk of PYM, the General Secretary, the Clerks of Councils, the Sessions Planning Committee and the Clerks of PQM.... Asking the date of Continuing Sessions be changed so many valued Friends are not excluded.

17-10-6 Christmas Play - JoAnn Seaver

A Christmas Play is planned for Sunday, December 17, a Seaver production that is sure to be participatory and irreverent as usual. The clerk requested that Friends respond positively to her requests for participation

In attendance: Frank Perch, Anne Bayless, Viv Hawkins, Lola George, Marille Heallis, Bill Van Stone, Walter Hjelt Sullivan, Victoria Greene, Bob Dockhorn, Gabbreell James, Mary Joy, Traci Hjelt Sullivan Susan Christian

Clerk: JoAnn Seaver

Recording Clerk: Anthony DiGiovanni

About our F/friends

(News and announcements of concern to the Meeting)

FGC Retreat for Friends of Color, November 3-5, Stony Point Retreat Center, Stony Point, NY
FGC's Ministry on Racism Program sponsors an opportunity for Friends of Color and their families to come together to build multigenerational community

PYM is covering \$150 pp of the cost of attendance by PYM Friends of Color. (PYM youth under 12 are free!) This Conference is a tremendous resource in our collective effort. Register through FGC to get to be eligible for financial support from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

Details: www.pym.org/event/2017-retreat-friends-color or Vanessa Juley, 215-561-1700, ext 3006, ministryonracism@fgcquaker.org

Continuing Sessions, Saturday, November 4th, 9:30AM - 3:00PM Arch Street Meeting House

This will be a day to gather all generations and across our diverse yearly meeting, to foster deep connections among Friends in our spiritual community, and come away with clarity, hope, and action. Registration appreciated: www.pym.org/continuing-sessions

Documentaries and Discussion Series, Saturday, November 11th, 6:00PM GSMM

13th

Filmmaker Ava DuVernay explores the history of racial inequality in the United States, focusing on the fact that the nation's prisons are disproportionately filled with African-Americans.

The discussion following the film will be lead by Dr. Ajima Olaghere, Assistant Professor in the Department of Criminal Justice at Temple University, and Ryan Carroll, whose has worked with helping returning citizens navigate the reentry employment process. *Free refreshments will be served from 5:30 PM. Free childcare and parking is available. The event itself is also free.*

Worship and Ministry Second Sunday, Sunday, November 12th, 9:15AM GSMM Social Room

We will continue consideration of possible goals of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Multi-Cultural Audit. We understand that the Committee charged with creating the RFP for the Audit has not yet begun its work, and so we will gather to consider constructive ideas that might help them in this RFP writing process.

Thanksgiving Feast, Saturday, November 18th, 6:00PM GSMM

Thanksgiving feast and everyone is invited to come and share with our Green Street family Dinner will begin at 6 PM. The Hospitality Committee is looking for volunteers to set-up at 4:30PM and also for cleanup following the dinner. A sign-up sheet for food and beverages will be emailed to everyone as well as posted in the kitchen.

Hospitality Request

Peggy Worthington reminds everyone the hospitality schedule for 2018 will be sent out soon and volunteers are needed for every Sunday from January through June.

Address Change

The Ehri family has a new address: 706 S. Mt Pleasant Road Philadelphia, PA 19119. Please make the change in your directory.



The Eleventh Query on Stewardship of Resources

Does our Meeting serve social and economic justice in its uses of property and money?

How does our Meeting engage its members in the support of the Meeting's work, its ministry, and the upkeep of its property?

How does our Meeting engage its members in the support of the quarterly and yearly meetings and other Quaker organizations?

To what extent does our Meeting rely on current members for financial support, and what role does endowment income serve? Does the Meeting consider carefully the appropriate role of invested funds?

Am I clear that I am the steward, not the owner, of property in my care?

Do I simplify my needs, making choices that balance self-sufficiency (to avoid unnecessary dependence on others) and fair sharing of resources? Do I make choices as a consumer that supports the equitable distribution of income?

Do my employment and other activities allow for use of time and energy in spiritual growth and in service to the Religious Society of Friends?

Do I contribute generously within my means to the funding of the work of Friends in my Meeting, in the yearly meeting, and in the wider world of Friends?



News and Announcements

Clerking Workshop with Arthur Larrabee, November 17-19th, Pendle Hill

For many years, Arthur has led incoming and seasoned clerks of monthly meetings and Quaker organizations in the art of clerking -- listening and guiding Quaker meetings for worship with attention to business towards a sense of the meeting. In addition to Arthur's excellent modeling of clerking skills, participants will gain insights from each other in this nuts-and-bolts workshop, as well as walk away with a volume of Arthur's accumulated written work on clerking. Registration and financial aid information available on Pendle Hill's website. <http://www.pendlehill.org>

Lucretia Mott Panel Presentation, Saturday, November 11th, 12:00-4:30PM, Arch Street Meeting House

“Lucretia Mott: Taking a Stand” will be the topic of a panel discussion. Panelists include co-editors of *Lucretia Mott Speaks: The Essential Speeches and Sermons*, Chris Densmore, Nancy Hewitt, Beverly Wilson Palmer and Carol Faulkner. The presentation is free and open to the public.

Extended Meeting for Worship, Saturday, December 2nd, 9:15 AM-3:15PM, Green Street Monthly Meeting

Need a spiritual boost? Feeling drained or weary? Try extended worship as way to feel spiritually renewed, and reconnected with the spirit of the Divine. Most newcomers to extended worship are surprised at how quickly time passes, and are surprised about how refreshed they feel. All are welcome.

Lola Georg, lolageorg@gmail.com

Additional Worship opportunities

Wednesday evenings at Arch Street Meeting - 6:00-6:45PM

First Sundays of the month at Stapley - 6:30PM