

Annapolis Friends Monthly Meeting (AFM)  
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MfW wAtB)  
6<sup>th</sup> Month, 5th Day, 2022  
(6/5/2022)  
Meeting Minutes – Approved

Note: The MfW wAtB was conducted from the meetinghouse in person and with participants using Zoom.

Present at the meetinghouse: Martha B. (clerk), Ellen M. (recording clerk), Marjorie K., Jeanne W., Canby R., Barb T., Amy N., Joe M., Sheila M., Karen C., Jen D-L., Sheryl G., Joan M., Dot W., Mary B., and Wes J., present on Zoom: Cairn K., Pat S., Lisa H., Jon H., Margaret C., Will C., Jack L., Ann R., Ria H., Christina F., Marcia O., Diane S., Martha L., Sky E., and Phil C.

9:00 am Opening: The clerk displayed the 6<sup>th</sup> month Baltimore Yearly Meeting queries while we settled into silent centering worship and as we considered the queries. We were greeted by the clerk and her expression of gratitude to be clerking in-person and to have some of our community online:

6<sup>th</sup> Month: HOME AND FAMILY

- Do you make your home a place of affection where God's presence is felt?
- Do you practice family prayer?
- Do you share your deepest beliefs and interests with all in the family?
- Do you grow together through sharing prosperity and adversity?
- Can you keep a sense of humor and avoid taking yourself too seriously?
- Do you establish family standards including the mutual obligations of children and adults?
- Are you as children learning to be accountable for your own actions?
- Do you as parents help your children to grow in independence and responsibility?
- Do you consider the needs of grandparents and older members of the family circle?

BYM Faith & Practice, 1988 (revised 2001)

The clerk reviewed guidance for MfW wAtB, including that we speak from Spirit and to the center of the room or to the clerk, not engaging in cross-talk. The agenda was displayed on the screen, followed by the AFM Anti-Racism Queries which the clerk read, so that we could use the queries to assist us with our decision-making efforts.

Agenda:

- 1) 5<sup>th</sup> Month Minutes: The draft minutes that were sent out via email prior to the meeting were not the most recent draft. The clerk asked that any further suggestions for changes to the draft meeting minutes be sent to her ([clerk@annapolisfriends.org](mailto:clerk@annapolisfriends.org)) as soon as possible. Rather than approving the 5<sup>th</sup> month minutes today, the clerk will circulate a revised version for review and both the 5<sup>th</sup> month and the 6<sup>th</sup> month meeting minutes will be brought forth for approval at the 7<sup>th</sup> month meeting (see attached).
  
- 2) Quaker Market Committee (QMC):
  - a) On behalf of QMC, Cairn read the final Quaker Market Committee report for the 6<sup>th</sup> month (see the attached full report). The Quaker Spring Market was held on May 7, 2022 with comparatively low attendance, but with a significant number of newcomers. The market raised \$5,910 that will be disbursed to the 2022 causes, including Afghan Women's funds, Chesapeake PC User's Group, UNICEF, WE ACT for Environmental Justice and the AFM Youth for their discernment process.
  
- 3) Transfer of Membership:
  - a) The clerk read the letter that came from Patuxent Friends Meeting with their commendation of a transfer of membership for H. Joseph Miller to AFM. Friends approved and warmly welcomed Joe to our AFM Community. Joe shared the history of when Patuxent was formed under the care of AFM, his involvement and his delight to be back with AFM.
  
- 4) Memorial Minute: On behalf of Pastoral Care, Barb read the memorial minute for Robert "Bob" Bruninga (see attached). A silent, grateful pause followed. Friends approved the minute.
  
- 5) Meetinghouse & Land (MH&L):
  - a) Dog Policy: On behalf of MH&L, Jeanne W. provided an update on the dog policy. The insurance policy could be cancelled if there is a policy to allow any other than Service Animals.
    - i) The definition of a service dog or animal is "a dog or animal of any kind that has been individually and officially trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability. The tasks performed by the dog/animal must be directly related to the person's need."
    - ii) It was noted that "comfort animals" are different than "service animals".
    - iii) It was suggested that signs be posted to inform those on the property of the parameters as set by our insurance policy. The service animal information will be added to the renter's contract.
  - b) Expenditure Requests:

- i) Driveway & Parking: Jeanne W. provided an update about the proposals received to repair our driveway and parking lot. MH&L requested approval of \$5,275.00 for Cromwell Paving which is a minority-owned business. Friends approved the expenditure. ii) Power washing of the pavement and bricks was completed for \$1,200 a few months ago and MH&L would like to add a sealing service for \$1,800. Questions arose about the sealing material, such as how long it is supposed to last; if the material is environmentally friendly; and how the vegetation that is now growing in the parking lot will be dealt with. Jeanne said that no herbicides will be used. The answers to the other questions about the materials will be provided later. Friends approved the expenditure.

6) Peace & Social Concerns (P&SC):

- a) Afghan Refugee Relocation Initiatives: Phil C. and Jo Anne S., provided an update on the move, paperwork and helpers/volunteers; and reported on the status of the letter of assurance. The move to the new 3-bedroom apartment on June 4, 2022 was completed by both AFM and Unitarian Universalist F/friends. The volunteers working on employment opportunities have identified some potential areas for job opportunities. The English language learning classes have started. There are other volunteer tasks that will be distributed on the AFM-Announce list with additional requests for helpers. The clerk thanked all the volunteers.
  - i) Our trustees wrote a letter of assurance and that commitment was enough for the landlord who did not require a co-signer. The Unitarians write the check for the monthly rent from funds that were independently raised through donations and will continue to do this for the first year. There is enough money in the account to cover this. The family will be taking over the rent payment as jobs are acquired.
- b) Maryland Healthcare Initiatives: P&SC requested approval from the Meeting to support a resolution on new Maryland healthcare initiatives as part of Healthcare for All (see the attached). AFM previously embraced support for Healthcare for All and it is hoped that AFM will continue to support their new initiatives. The new initiatives include automatically enrolling Maryland residents who are eligible for Medicaid and Affordable Care Act into a health insurance program and providing for social equity in that the automatic enrollment would not require any other effort on the part of those who may not be aware of these benefits. P&SC recommends that AFM sign the Healthcare for All Resolution. Friends were in unity.
  - i) It was noted that small employers and individuals cannot provide or sign-up for better insurance programs. Phil shared that it may be

too late for this legislation, but there will be changes made in the future that might include small employers.

- ii) A F/friend asked if there was any current legislation on this topic of automatic enrollment or any slated to be reviewed this year. The answer was that it is not currently on MD law and this topic of legislature is not slated by others yet this year.
- c) Reparations Working Group (a.k.a. Change Group): Phil provided an update as to the next steps described in the AFM minute on Retrospective & Restorative Justice, including discussion on the use of AFM funds to support the reparations. The group has started working on the recommended actions.
  - i) One action is to create a webpage to post resources on what individual friends can do. A recruit is being sought to be the webpage administrator.
  - ii) A second action is the creation of a reparations fund. Phil provided an update that P&SC/CG is interested in using the Founders Fund to support Friends testimonies in this way. No decision was requested today, but in the future, P&SC/CG expects to make a formal request to use these funds for reparations. P&SC/CG will be requesting that the Founders Fund be open to further improvement on that money, perhaps, with fundraising efforts. P&SC/CG has been discussing the purpose or use of the reparations money for education for African American and Indigenous people, including helping removing financial barriers for those becoming teachers.
    - (1) A request was made for P&SC news posts that the Communications Committee can put on the website. Please send newsy items to [communications@annapolisfriends.org](mailto:communications@annapolisfriends.org)
    - (2) The treasurer reminded the committee that they will need to think about and establish processes, update policies, and other details in order to use AFM funds.
    - (3) A Friend suggested that we have a designated Reparations Fund funded through the AFM budget (i.e., designated funds rather than restricted contributions).

#### 7) Updates and Silent Announcements:

- a) Path Forward (PF): On behalf of PF, the clerk reported on our progress towards in-person meetings and some areas of concern. The committee clerks' meeting was a good worship sharing opportunity and made it clear that it would be helpful for PF to meet in the next few months to support our efforts as we continue to move back together.
- b) BYM Young Friends: The Baltimore Yearly Meeting (BYM) Young Friends sent a request to use the AFM building and grounds for a gathering and camp-out on November 25 – 27. At this time, further AFM input is being

sought. We would like to move forward with this request asap and need to understand if there are any additional concerns to be considered.

- c) BYM Annual Session: The clerk encouraged people to register for the Annual Session and to attend at Hood College in Fredrick, MD. Fees are pay-as-led (pay more or less than the suggested cost based on your ability to pay). Given this new approach, AFM may wish to consider contributing our funds set aside for scholarships directly to the pay-as-led initiative.

Closing:

The MfW wAtB closed with a moment of silence, reflection and gratitude.

The recording clerk will send the draft meeting minutes to the AFM-Announce email list, so that Friends can review the draft minutes and provide feedback. The minutes will be brought forth for approval at the beginning of the next MfW wAtB on July 3, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen M., Recording Clerk [recording-clerk@annapolisfriends.org](mailto:recording-clerk@annapolisfriends.org)

ATTACHMENTS:

- MfW wAtB Meeting Minutes 5<sup>th</sup> Month Draft redistributed
- Quaker Market Committee Report, 6<sup>th</sup> Month – final
- Memorial Minute for Robert “Bob” Bruninga
- Health Care for All Resolution
- Healthcare for All Request

## Quaker Market Committee Report—6<sup>th</sup> month 2022

Annapolis Friends Meeting held its Quaker Spring Market on 7 May, 2022. The joy of being back together in person could hardly be dampened by the soggy weather or covid safety precautions (masks required indoors and food takeout only).

Thanks to generous AFM donors, we were able to offer Fran Palmeri's lovely notecards, olive oil from Bethlehem, granola from the Light House Bistro, pet toys made by Young Friends, assorted plants, delicious food, live music, and flea market treasures. Additional items such as berry bushes, barbecue sauces and hot sauces were all donated by Sean Sanders, a young man who, although not a member of our community, believes in what we do, and felt led to help our fundraising efforts, especially on behalf of Ukraine.

Although the total number of shoppers was a little on the low side (to be expected after a two-year hiatus in public Quaker Markets), there were a significant number of newcomers, drawn in by road signs, friends and neighbors. It is such a pleasure to explain to newcomers that most of our items are not priced, because we feel they know their finances better than we do, and therefore know what is a fair price for them to pay. That helps set the tone for newcomers to realize this is not your usual flea market!

Thanks to the generosity of donors (both in-kind and financial), shoppers, and those selling items for us at thrift shops and online, Quaker Spring Market 2022 raised a total of \$5,910 for disbursement to causes! The first \$250 will be allocated for Young Friends' discernment, with the remainder divided evenly among the following four causes, leading to an award of \$1,415 for each:

- Afghan Women's Fund (for their continuing work to empower women in Afghanistan)
- Chesapeake PC User's Group (to fund refurbishment of laptops and other electronic devices to be offered free of cost to Afghan refugees)
- UNICEF (for their work to aid children in Ukraine), and
- WE ACT for Environmental Justice (empowering and organizing lowincome people of color to build healthy communities for all).

Quaker Markets provide many opportunities to let our lives speak as Friends, as we simplify our lives by donating items we no longer need and work to connect those items with folks who do need them, discern causes that reflect community values including anti-racism and climate activism, model creative ways to limit single-use plastics, extend love and respect to all the shoppers who walk through our doors,

and leverage unsold items by working to connect them with causes such as Partners in Care, Books for International Goodwill, and Goodwill.

Quaker Markets happen, not through the work of one person, or even a very strong committee, but through the efforts and love of the Annapolis Friends Meeting community and beyond. Deep gratitude to all for the myriad of ways in which you showed your love and support for these Quaker Spring Market efforts.

Memorial Minute for BOB BRUNINGA  
April 27, 1948—February 7, 2022

Robert (Bob) Ervin Bruninga left us early this year after a long journey with sarcoma for over two years, followed by COVID 19. His deep concerns for the environment and for the future of our planet found a home in Annapolis Friends Meeting since 1985. He has left us tools and memories—our solar grid, EV chargers, windows in the hallway doors, upgraded heating and air conditioning systems. We delightedly watched his children, Bethanne and AJ, grow under the care of our Meeting. He even loaned us his wife, Elise, for four years to clerk our Meeting. Bob was a leading Light in our Meeting House and Lands Committee and in Climate Stewards. He often facilitated workshops on the environment and climate change for Baltimore Yearly Meeting Annual Sessions.

Born and raised in Alabama, Bob migrated our way, making his career with the US Navy, becoming a Commander and a Senior Research Engineer at the Naval Academy, where he founded the Small Satellite Program. His avocations were even more fascinating as a pioneer of digital amateur radio techniques and a renewable energy innovator and activist. His signature achievement, Automatic Position Reporting System (APRS), originally plotting positions of Navy ships for the Apple II platform, grew to a system employed by tens of thousands of international users. Turning to space, he designed the Crew Interface to enable school groups to talk with astronauts aboard the International Space Station via ham radio.

Bob modified a Chevy Volt with rooftop solar panels and built multiple solar arrays to power his home—one on a floating pier. He authored a book, *Smart Choices: Opportunities to Make Wise Decisions for a Sustainable Future*, to encourage people to switch to renewable energy sources.

Bob is survived by his wife of 37 years, Elise Albert, daughter Bethanne Bruninga-Socolar, her husband Jacob and daughter Isabelle Socolar, son Andrew John (A.J.) Bruninga, brother John and sister-in-law Kathy Bruninga, nephew Wil Bruninga, and brother-in-law Matthew McGough.

Bob Bruninga walked the earth with care and let his life speak. All who knew him were the better for this. We will miss him greatly.

5/1/2022

Annapolis Friends Meeting,  
Religious Society of Friends

## Health Care for All Resolution

**WHEREAS**, all Marylanders deserve access to high-quality, affordable health care;

**WHEREAS**, although Maryland has made substantial progress by expanding health care coverage to over 400,000 people under the Affordable Care Act, 6% of the state's population remains uninsured;

**WHEREAS**, when uninsured Marylanders need care, they tend to receive it in hospitals, the most expensive health care setting, and the resulting uncompensated care drives up premiums for everybody;

**WHEREAS**, more than 180,000 uninsured Marylanders qualify for Medicaid or federal help to buy private health insurance from Maryland Health Connection, the state's official health benefit exchange, but have not enrolled and many do not know they are eligible;

**WHEREAS**, auto-enrolling those who are financially eligible for free or very low-cost care plans would help protect their health and reduce uncompensated health care for everyone,

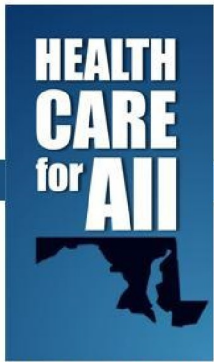
**WHEREAS**, available federal financial assistance through Maryland Health Connection is not always enough to make health coverage affordable for uninsured Marylanders,

**WHEREAS**, only 37% of small employers offer coverage to employees and employer cost is a major barrier,

**WHEREAS**, state subsidy pilots work. One such pilot made it easier for young adults to purchase private insurance through the Maryland Health Connection and resulted in almost 11,000 new enrollees,

**WHEREAS**, over 115,000 uninsured Marylanders, including children, are ineligible for Medicaid and private insurance from Maryland Health Connection because of immigration status despite contributing millions of dollars in taxes every year;





MARYLAND CITIZENS' HEALTH INITIATIVE

2600 ST. PAUL STREET BALTIMORE, MD 21218 P: (410)235-9000 F: (410)235-8963 WWW.HEALTHCAREFORALL.COM

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the undersigned organization supports:

- 1) Automatically enrolling all Marylanders eligible for free or very low-cost health care plans in health care coverage except for those who opt out,
- 2) Creating state-based individual and small employer subsidy programs to improve the affordability of private coverage to uninsured Marylanders, including through plans from Maryland Health Connection, and
- 3) Removing immigration status as a barrier to health coverage for Marylanders who would otherwise be eligible to enroll in Medicaid or private health plans from Maryland Health Connection.

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (o) \_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Representative of the Organization (Print Name): \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill the form out ONLINE at: [healthcareforall.com/resolution](http://healthcareforall.com/resolution) Or mail, fax, or email completed form to:

Maryland Citizens' Health Initiative, 2600 St. Paul St., Baltimore, MD 21218 Fax: 410-235-8963; Email: [stephanie@healthcareforall.com](mailto:stephanie@healthcareforall.com)

From: Nikki Richards <[nikkirichards1993@gmail.com](mailto:nikkirichards1993@gmail.com)>

Subject: MD Healthcare for All Resolution

Date: May 8, 2022 at 12:56:38 EDT

Hi Phil and Martha,

I hope you're both doing well. I'm reaching out to ask for your help in getting an item on the agenda for the next Annapolis Friends business meeting.

I'm working with Vinny DeMarco (Homewood Friends) on a new healthcare initiative seeking to make healthcare more affordable and accessible to Maryland citizens across the state. There are three main goals of our plan:

- 1. We will be advocating for a mechanism to automatically enroll all eligible Marylanders for free or very low-cost health care plans in health care coverage (while allowing those who want to opt out the ability to do that).

2. We aim to create state-based subsidy programs to improve the affordability of private coverage to uninsured Marylanders and small businesses who enroll through Maryland Health Connection.
3. We would eliminate immigration status as a factor in determining eligibility for health coverage for Marylanders who are eligible to enroll in Medicaid or private health plans from Maryland Health Connection.

We are hoping that Annapolis Friends Meeting will sign on to endorse our plan. [I'm linking you to our official resolution here](#), and also attaching it as a PDF.

BYM as a whole, as well as Annapolis Friends Meeting, have signed on to and supported multiple efforts of the MD Citizens Health initiative before, most recently the (successful!) effort to instill a prescription drug affordability board in the state. Here's hoping Friends will join us in continuing to make healthcare affordable to citizens of MD!

Talk soon and take care. Thanks for your help!