

Annapolis Friends Monthly Meeting (AFM)  
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MfB)  
Ninth Month, First Day, 2024 (9/1/24)

Present were: Karen Cunyningham (clerk), Phil Caroom (recording clerk), Martha Baer, Mary Barbera, Jack Lahr, Nan & Sky Elsbree, Margaret Holmes, Martha Lurz, Kim Finch, Nancy Jo Steetle, Ben Killgore (operating OWL), Dot Walizer, Barbara Stavec, Kathy Trimmer, Dan Campbell, Joan Miller, Marcia Ormsby, Jack Hogsten, Sylvia Oliva, Alison Barrett, and Bonnie Peregoy; also, by Zoom, Barb Thomas, Susan and Tom Wolfe, Jean Christianson, Ted Riley, Pat Schenck and Judy Brown.

We met both in person and via Zoom, beginning with centering worship and screen-sharing of Baltimore Yearly Meeting's Faith and Practice queries on outreach and social order, and a review of our AFM anti-racist queries.

We reviewed minutes from our most recent MfB (7/7/24) which, due to a shortage of time, remained to be approved. Friends approved these minutes.

Our Clerk initially advised that the next Committee Clerks' meeting will be held on 10/13 and will pay special attention to how committee budgets fit into our overall Meeting budget.

For Stewardship and Finance Committee (S&F), Jack Lahr reported various items:

- 1) Meeting House and Land Committee (MHL) notified S&F of unexpectedly high expenses including higher than normal electric bills for our malfunctioning solar array. S&F recommends applying the entire 2023 budget surplus of \$5,200 to these costs. Friends approved.
- 2) The Treasurer's report, previously circulated in writing, indicates we are on track for our 2024 budget.
- 3) Committees are encouraged to submit their 2025 budget proposals to S&F the next month for inclusion in the first draft for our 2025 AFM annual budget.

For Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee (MPC), co-clerk Martha Baer began by thanking other committee members and welcoming co-clerk Barb Thomas who participated via Zoom while recovering from recent surgery. Various MPC items included:

-Kathy Trimmer and Dan Campbell have requested transfer of their membership from Westerly Monthly Meeting in Rhode Island to AFM. Friends joyfully approved; Kathy and Dan recalled their history with Quaker meetings and thanked Friends for their welcome.

-A draft for Memorial Minute as to Ria Hawkins was read. Friends approved this and thanked those who helped assemble it. One Friend noted that Ria's children have advised that it was the wish of Ria and Ted to have cremated remains interred in AFM's memorial garden; when the family is ready for this, AFM Friends will help with arrangements and, perhaps, another brief memorial on some date following the 10/6/24, 10 a.m., Memorial Service planned at the Collington senior community chapel.

- Martha offered a brief reminder to Friends as to AFM's Suffering & Individual Emergency (SIE) Fund and the Embraced Ministry (EM) funds. (Here are links to the two fund descriptions: [SIE](#) and [EM](#).)

-Highlighting opportunities for involvement in our Annapolis Friends spiritual community, Martha reminded us that two sessions of the group previously called "Friendly 8s" and now called "The Friendlies"-- now gather: 1) online on the 3rd Friday each month, and 2) another in-person gathering once per month. MPC would be happy to assist if there is interest in starting of another such group. Still more opportunities to interact with other AFM Friends also exist; MPC has prepared a list and interest form, copies of which were distributed at MfB and made available with the AFM announce notice of today's MFB. Other copies of the form also will be available if requested by email or via AFM's online calendar.]

For Peace and Social Concerns, Margaret Holmes reported:

- Upon completion of the recent PeaceWalk event that AFM co-sponsored with Veterans for Peace (VfP), VfP's coordinator handed a \$250 donation check for AFM. PSC Friends, based on our discussions and observations, felt that VfP has more fundraising difficulty than AFM and recommended that we re-donate the \$250 in funds back to VfP. One Friend also requested that we send this with a grateful thank you letter for the opportunity to work with VfP. Friends approved this plan and PSC agreed to draft this letter. Another Friend suggested that Friends may wish to send additional, individual donations.
- **As to Arundel Connecting Together (ACT),** Friends have been actively involved with this group since its founding in 2019 and, today, as a number of Friends continue active participation. Recently, ACT has asked AFM and other member groups for increased support. Considering whether to continue or expand AFM involvement, PSC asked permission for an ACT speaker to make a 15 minute presentation at the October 6 potluck to better inform Friends about the group and its current activities. Friends approved.

In the meantime, Margaret also relayed that this Tuesday, 9/3 at 7 pm, ACT has requested as many Friends as possible to attend a County Council meeting (44 Calvert St., Annapolis, Md. 21401) to support this year's re-introduced Housing Bill.

- Reporting on our postcarding progress, PSC again invited Friends to support this nonpartisan effort to support voting rights in the coming election in the State of Georgia. Of our 1,000 postcard goal, we now have fewer than 400 remaining to complete, gather and mail out no later than 9/30. Joan Miller also advised Friends that she, too, is doing postcarding at her home on Fridays from 1-4 with an option, alternately, to send partisan postcards for a U.S. Senate candidate.
- Finally, Margaret reminded us of the Listening session, tentatively titled "Reexamining Our Values And Our Uses Of Our Resources Of Time And Money" that will be held in the classroom on September 15 at 9:15. We noted that this, otherwise, might be a committee

meeting day; however Friends are encouraged to make an ad hoc schedule change for this important topic. Margaret noted the PSC committee is aware of Friends' strong feelings on this subject; she added that this 9/15 gather will not be a decision making session. PSC plans to share the feedback for this Session with other committees to consider.

- In response to a question from AFM's Treasurer, PSC committee co-clerks agreed that the committee will bring recommendations for Quaker Causes to MfB for decision by early November.

FOR Gifts and Leadings (G&L - formerly Nominating) Committee, Martha Baer reviewed last year's decision to combine Ministry and Worship (M&W) with Pastoral Care (PC) to make the unified MPC committee at least on a provisional basis. The committee recommends that this combined committee continue – so that G&L can look for members of one committee rather than two. Members of the combined MPC committee report that their collaborative committee roles work together well, although meetings are a little longer.

One Friend expressed the concern that the combination of these two important committees “isn't a good idea,” despite the overlap, historic and Yearly Meeting-level precedents since local meetings are more involved with individuals than with policies. She urged that the spiritual basis of Meeting underlies all our activities, adding “If we don't have enough people to perform these functions, maybe we should consider hiring a part time chaplain. Or, perhaps, we should cut other committees first.”

Our Clerk asked Friends to comment on how the combined committee arrangement has impacted others in the Meeting. One expressed the concern that the combined committee may be overburdened; another Friend opposed the idea of hiring an outside person for committees' work. Yet another Friend shared that she feels a “seamless connection” more in the combined committee's work. Another, who has participated with Pastoral Care (PC) previously, stated there can be a tendency to reduce the PC role; she suggested that more Friends should be recruited to the pastoral care function. A former PC clerk reported that she has not seen any less attention to committees' functions in the past year; but rather she has seen the increased collaboration, particularly on Meetings for Learning.

Barb Thomas, a co-clerk of the combined committee, noted how well the combined committee has worked with “huddles” focused on particular committee functions and new creative ways to recruit additional Friends to serve in “Second Circle” capacities. A combined committee member reported that there is more energy in the combined committee with incredible co-clerks and strong participants. If Friends are uncertain about continuing this, she suggested that the combined committee should be continued at least for another year. Another expressed great appreciation for the beautiful Meetings for Learning and the energetic work of the combined MPC committee's co-clerks and for Marcia's flower and Pastoral Care service.

For G&L, Martha Baer recognized that Friends had some concerns about permanent combination of the two committees, so she requested Friends' approval for an extension of the combination for another year and for Friends' additional input on these arrangements during the

course of the coming year. Friends approved another year's extension for the combined committee with ongoing input from Friends on these arrangements.

For G&L, Martha also invited Friends to confer with G&L committee members about possibly stretching themselves to join new committees. G&L also will offer a 9/29 brunch and recruitment program where each committee representative will offer brief recruitment pitches on behalf of each committee.

Friends thanked Ben Kilgore for his faithful IT efforts and for looking out for Friends online.

We concluded with brief centering silence.

*-These minutes respectfully submitted - P. Caroom, Recording Clerk*

**Annapolis Friends Meeting Treasurers' report, July 2024**

Operating Budget	2024 Budget	Activity through June 2024
<b>Income</b>		
Contributions	48,465	20,731
Rentals	15,000	9,910
Interest, Dividends	7,000	3,651
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>70,465</b>	<b>34,292</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Committee activities		
CREC	300	0
Communications	6,000	3,122
Library	400	45
Meetinghouse and Lands	28,000	16,698
Ministry and Pastoral Care	700	48
Outreach	1,800	1,158
Peace and Social Concerns	3,400	0
Quaker Market	550	243
Stewardship and Finance	1,150	1,007
Trustees	0	0
Independent Designated Funds	9,905	9,905
Quaker Causes	4,419	0
Apportionment	13,841	4,614
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>70,465</b>	<b>36,839</b>
<b>Net</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-2,547</b>

Notes:

Interest and Dividends does not include unrealized gains/losses  
 Ministry and Worship includes \$250 for Quaker Burial Ground  
 Outreach includes festival fees, internal expenses, \$100 GAIN dues  
 P&SC includes \$2,000 for Lighthouse and \$1,400 for 1/2 ACT membership

**Money in the bank (6/30/2024)**

Truist Checking	123,233 *
Truist Saving	47,643
Truist Certificate of Deposit	101,375
Friends Fiduciary Corp (FFC)	138,631
<b>Total</b>	<b>410,882</b>

\* \$60,000 to be moved to FFC

Internally designated Funds	2024 beginning balance	Activity through June 2024
<b>Peace and Social Concerns</b>		
Emergent Social Concerns	2,404	
Peace & Justice Center	2,928	
Retrospective and Restorative Justice	12,532	-7,000
<b>Meetinghouse and Land</b>		
Building Fund*	199,718	
Capital Improvement	30,130	2,400
Capital Replacement	47,047	
Memorial Garden	2,000	-585
<b>CREC</b>		
Young Friend's Opportunity	2,000	
Camping	2,500	-1,634
<b>Ministry and Pastoral Care</b>		
Embraced Ministry	2,000	
Suffering & Individual Emergency	5,000	
<b>Stewardship &amp; Finance</b>		
Adult Scholarship	2,500	-250
Committee Contingency (CCF)	10,000	-250
<b>Trustees</b>		
Founder's Fund	0	
<b>Total Designated Funds</b>	<b>320,759</b>	<b>2,400</b>

\*The Building Fund includes some donations restricted by the donor as well as funds internally designated by AFM.

Notes: CCF expenditure was to Maryland Peace Action Education Fund  
 Capital Improvement increase was from Quaker Market to address accessibility

**Internal AFM Balances (6/30/2024)**

Net operating budget	-2,547
Designated Funds	318,359
Short-term off-budget funds (such as QM)	250
2023 surplus	5,256
Undesignated	89,564
<b>Total</b>	<b>410,882</b>

**Evamaria (Ria) Hawkins**  
**1927 - 2024**  
**Memorial Minute from Annapolis Friends Meeting**

Evamaria (“Ria”) Hawkins passed away at age 96 on August 9, 2024, with loving family members at her side.

Ria was born in 1927 in Greifswald, Germany, as Evamaria Guillery to a Catholic family on her father's side, although they had become nominal Protestants. On her mother's side, the family was Jewish but also had become Protestant. In 1918, they had fled the Russian revolution to Latvia and then moved to Berlin, Germany. In Berlin, Ria's mother attended Quaker meeting. In 1938, the rise of the Nazi government forced Ria and her brother to travel, first to the Eerde school in Holland, then to England as refugees.

Oxford Friends meeting paid for Ria and her younger brother to attend Sibford Friends boarding school in Oxfordshire. At age 16, Ria joined the Society of Friends in England and has been an active Quaker ever since. Ria married a college classmate, Edward (“Ted”) Hawkins, at Brentford and Isleworth Meeting in London in 1952.

Early in their marriage, two work assignments took the young couple to Nigeria and Uganda; Ria often spoke of this time. The family moved to Bethesda Maryland in 1964 and Ted worked on Economic Development projects with the World Bank.

During the early 1970's Ria helped establish a group of women from Bethesda Friends meeting who volunteered in the Montgomery County Women's Detention center to provide a range of activities for the inmates. From 1976 to 1983 Ria volunteered teaching literacy in the local detention center; she also worked at the Literacy Council of Montgomery County, Maryland, in both administrative and tutor training programs. She used her earnings to repay Sibford Friends for her and her brother's education years before.

In 1983, Ted and Ria moved to Columbo, Sri Lanka, where Ted was the World Bank Resident Representative for three years. Upon return to Bethesda in 1993, Ted retired and with Ria enjoyed years of travel and family, particularly visits to see their grandchildren around the world. Ria also received a travel minute to offer Quaker education programs to other local meetings as to early Quaker John Naylor.

Ria and Ted had three children together - Christine Kranzler, Thomas Hawkins (Margaret), and M. Elizabeth Wunningham (Bruce); and, eventually, seven grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren, who were a constant joy to Ria.

In early 2000, Ria and Ted moved to the Collington Retirement Community where Ted served as a resident member of the board. In 2008, they transferred their membership from Bethesda Meeting to the closer Annapolis Meeting.

With Annapolis Friends, Ria was a cheery and helpful presence for many years, participating with Peace & Social Concerns Committee, Spiritual Friendships, Friendly 8s, and Quaker Market. A talented and creative potter, Ria generously donated pottery for Quaker Markets over the years. In 2023, she staffed a dedicated Holiday Market display of her beautiful work; shoppers clearly enjoyed connecting with Ria around her art.

Ria was very active in Collington with the Flower Arranging committee, pottery and gardening. In the last few years, Ria was delighted to see the Collington Quaker worship group grow in activity and spirituality.

After Ted's death in 2018 and during the COVID pandemic, Ria regularly continued with AFM activities via Zoom. In both our Thursday Spiritual Friendship group and Peace and Social Concerns Committee meetings, Friends enjoyed seeing Ria framed by her beautiful cardinal quilt as she modeled intelligence, grace and humor through her 90's. Ria shared her strong belief in divine assistance as evidenced in her own life and led Friends to consider their own lives in that light. She will be deeply missed.

**GREAT OPPORTUNITIES  
TO BECOME MORE ENGAGED WITH OTHERS  
AT Annapolis Friends Meeting**

Engaging with others in meaningful ways deepens our sense of community and spiritual connections. In addition to gathering for worship, we welcome you to explore ways to connect informally with others from our Meeting.

In most cases you do not need to sign up in advance. [See the AFM calendar for on-line links and contact information] But, if you'd like some support in making the connection or have questions, please contact us at [ministry-pastoralcare@annapolisfriends.org](mailto:ministry-pastoralcare@annapolisfriends.org) to let us know what your interests are or use the Pastoral Care mailbox in the AFM office to give this form to Martha Baer or Barb Thomas.

**1. Friendly Gatherings** - Get to know others in a fun and informal way while sharing food together in small groups. Family members who do not attend AFM worship are welcome as well. Currently we have one in-person dinner group and on online "Friendlies" group (eat while you meet). With enough interest, we could start a third. Please indicate your interest below including name and contact information.

Current in-person group: (typically meets monthly at mutually convenient weekend times) \_\_\_\_\_

Current on-line group (meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays @ 6 pm): \_\_\_\_\_

Join a newly forming group: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Spiritual Friendship Group** (on-line): We worship together and share personal reflections on our spiritual journey. Meets 2nd Thursdays from 4:00 to 5:30pm. See AFM calendar for link.

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**3. Welcome Light Wednesday** (on-line 7-8pm)

A period of 20 minutes of silence offers a rich beginning, followed by spiritual readings and listening to our spiritual journeys. Time will be given to be held in healing Light on request. See AFM calendar for link.

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**4. Friends Writing Together**—4th Sundays from 12:30-2:00 in person and online.

We write from prompts—a brief suggestion intended to elicit images, stories, and thoughts, which only you know, to which only you can give voice. Sharing aloud is optional. We do not critique this fresh writing, but offer what touched us. All are welcome; no previous writing experience needed.

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**5. Friendly Bible Study**—meets weekly several time a year online for six weeks or so. This is a unique approach to Bible study that focuses on a few verses a week, reading them aloud and encouraging discussion. Those with all levels of experience with reading the Bible are welcome. Dates for sessions are typically announced in advance via AFM-announcements but let us know if you are definitely interested in signing up when the time comes.

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**6. Book Discussion Group**, 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month from 7-8:30 pm, will be held in the AFM library with a Zoom option. Books are chosen by the group at each meeting. Contact [library@annapolisfriends.org](mailto:library@annapolisfriends.org) if you'd like to participate. All are welcome.

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**7. Need a "Buddy"; Be a "Buddy"**: A great way to connect one-on-one and have a F(f)riend to check in with regularly.

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**8. Volunteer Opportunities Galore**: Please indicate which you might be interested in so we can connect you with the appropriate people!

Gardening and work days at the Meetinghouse (typically 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays from 9-11): \_\_\_\_\_

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Pastoral care (e.g., visiting, sending cards, meals, transportation) for those in our Meeting needing extra care: \_\_\_\_\_

Teaching and activities for teens and children (on Sundays):

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Helping with set-up prior to and during our Quaker Markets (first Saturday of May and December): \_\_\_\_\_

Technology (e.g., help with Zoom) and social media (website, newsfeed, Facebook, etc.)

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Greeting and Outreach to Newcomers: \_\_\_\_\_

Working at Festivals in Quaker booth: \_\_\_\_\_

Welcoming new attendees: \_\_\_\_\_

Engaging in peace and social concerns projects: \_\_\_\_\_

Green Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Please elaborate, if you wish, to help us understand your specific interests and how you would like to be connected.