

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



Meeting for Worship

10:30 AM Via Zoom/83195217639

March 2021

Sunday, 7th

10:30 AM

Via Zoom/83195217639

Sunday, 14th

10:30 AM

Via Zoom/83195217639

Sunday, 21st

10:30 AM
12:30 PM

Via Zoom/83195217639
Monthly Meeting for Business

Sunday, 28th

10:30 AM

Via Zoom/83195217639

Minutes of Green Street Monthly Meeting for Business Held Second Month 21, 2021

Held at Green Street Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, 45 West School House Lane, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Attendance: Viv Hawkins, Lola Georg, Russ Endo, Gabriel Ehri, Anne Bayless, David LaFontaine, JoAnn Seaver, William Van Stone, Laura Lanza, Sharyn Mead, Ellen Sleeter, Walter Sullivan, Traci Hjelt Sullivan, Jocelyn Banks, Frank Perch, Robin Mohr, Chris Mohr, Rachel Ellis Adams, Tracey Smith, Mary Noland, Sharon Mullally, Gabbreell James, Marille Thomas, Lucy Duncan, Ashanta Washington

Business meeting convened by Zoom at 12:30 pm with a short period of silent worship.

21-2-01 Gabriel Ehri, Clerk, reviewed the agenda and no item was added. He read the following query: How does this decision support Green Street Friends Meeting in its goal to transform into an actively anti-racist faith community?

21-2-02 Viv Hawkins reminded us of her Life Calls Ministry, and noted that 10 members of Green Street meeting are members supporting ministries in our Germantown community and that 7 members of our meeting are leaders in Quaker organizations. She reminded us that Quakers have abolished laity and take on opportunities to follow their leadings to serve. We also have the opportunity to accompany each other in our ministries. Viv's ministry is to create ways in which we can support each other in our ministries. She cited the example of New England Yearly Meeting which has dedicated funds to give grants to support Friends ministries. The clerk thanked Viv for her faithfulness and for placing this before the meeting.

20-2-03 For Care and Counsel Committee.

- Clerk Lola Georg announced the continuing of *Art Journaling* that takes place on Thursday nights at 7 PM by Zoom. Lola said that four more sessions remain. The concluding event will be a Labyrinth Walk on the day of the Equinox. She warmly invited friends to join in these gatherings for reflection and spiritual friendship. No talent or special equipment is required.

- **Lola then brought before the meeting the recommendation of the Care and Counsel committee and the clearness committee of Traci Hjelt Sullivan, Paul Jablonski and JoAnn Seaver, that Ashlynn Sylvain be**

accepted into membership. The meeting joyfully approved the recommendation and accepted Ashlyn Sylvain into membership of Green Street Meeting. The committee to plan a welcoming event for Ashlynn will be Traci Hjelt Sullivan, Walter Sullivan, Rachel Ellis Adams, and JoAnn Seaver.

- JoAnn Seaver then presented for Care and Counsel the proposal to build, install and maintain four display panels suggesting a colorful small village. The purpose of the installation would be to serve as an inviting community outreach. One panel will be unchanging and would replace the existing sign to provide signage to identify Green Street Meeting, times of meeting for worship and ways to contact us. The other three would contain inspirational messages and outward messages from our membership to passersby in the community. These panels would change displays periodically and would be designed to easily allow that to happen. The school and First Day Classes could also make use of the inward sides of the panels. A working group of four is available to create the ongoing displays and invited input from meeting members for content: JoAnn Seaver, Margaret Wood, Ellen Sleeter and Lanza.

After questions, suggestions as to proceeding and discussion, the working group was charged with proceeding with the building and installation of the permanent panel. Worship and Ministry Committee is asked to provide content for this panel. The Working Group would create a mock-up of the lettering, and this would be presented to the Meeting at our March Meeting for Business.

21-2-04 For Nominating Committee Walter Sullivan presented the slate of nominations and resignations for a first reading. The report follows.

Green Street Meeting Nominating Report

02/21/2021

Stepping down or terming out in a current position:

Hospitality Committee

Sandra Rodriguez

Liza Ewen

Property Committee

Robin Mohr

Meeting Treasurer

Jerry Williams

For a first reading in a new position for a two-year term:

Assistant Clerk

Cheryl McFadden, for a two-year term through 6/30/2023

Staff Supervisory Team

Cheryl McFadden, for a two-year term through 6/30/2023

Traci Hjelt Sullivan, for a two-year term through 6/30/2023

For a first reading in a new position, for a three-year term:

Librarian

Rachel Ellis Adams, for a three-year term through 6/30/2024

Property Committee

Ellen Sleeter, for a three-term through 6/30/2024

Rachel Ellis Adams, for a three-term through 6/30/2024

Children & Youth Religious Education

Robin Mohr, for a three-term through 6/30/2024

Michelle Schmitt, for a three-term through 6/30/2024

For a first reading in a continuing position, for a one-year term:

Trustees

Russell Endo, President, for a one-year term through 6/30/2022

David LaFontaine, Vice President, for a one-year term through
6/30/2022

Sharon Mullally, Secretary, for a one-year term through 6/30/2022

Traci Hjelt Sullivan, Treasurer, for a one-year term through
6/30/2022

Dan McDevitt, Assistant Secretary, for a one-year term through
6/30/2022

Gabbreell James, for a one-year term through 6/30/2022

For the meeting, the clerk warmly thanked Robin Mohr, Jerry Williams, Sandra Rodriguez and Lisa Ewen for their valuable service to the meeting. Walter Sullivan underlined how much can be learned from being treasurer of the meeting and urged Friends to imagine themselves in that role.

21-2-05 For the Trustees, Russel Endo and Traci Hjelt Sullivan presented the annual report from the Trustees including a report on their decision to dedicate 10% of our Reserves, amounting to about \$500,000, to invest in Social Impact Investing (SII). Russell explained that SII is meant to generate a positive, socially beneficial result with a financial return. SII contrasts with the usual stock market transactions that are often extractive of resources from poor and BIPOC communities. An example of this is high mortgage rates for members of disadvantaged communities. The intent is to provide money to do good work while expecting a lower return. The Trustees have made the choice to invest in the regional PhilaImpact Fund that is within The Reinvestment Fund. This investment will result in approximately \$6,700 less a year in income to the meeting than if the same money were invested in the socially responsible investments of Friends Fiduciary. .

Due to the strong performance of the stock market, the rest of our investments are maintaining value despite the money we have spent this year on renovations of the meetinghouse. The Trustees' job is to manage the meeting's reserves and to pass the income from those reserves to the meeting. They are appointed for one year terms.

Reparations provided by the meeting are a separate matter and are made by the decision of the meeting members. This distinction and others were addressed in the discussion. Friends reacted favorably toward the Trustees' decision.

The meeting closed at 3 PM after a brief period of worship.

Gabriel, Clerk
JoAnn Seaver, interim Recording Clerk

News & Announcements

Please submit all news and announcements to the secretary by the 28th of each month.

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