

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

Newsletter

Eighth Month, 2020

Monthly Query: *How do I treat personal conflict as an opportunity for growth?*

Monthly Worship Tip from the M&W Committee: *Your silent prayer and openness to Spirit are themselves a form of ministry that enriches the Meeting community.*



NOTICE

All CHFM Quaker-related activities at the meetinghouse and in the school house have been canceled until later notice, pending reassessment.

The Building and Grounds committee has requested that those who rent on the premises find alternate options until we reopen.

Virtual Meetings

Meetings for Worship; Meetings for Worship with Attention to Business; and Weekly Forums:

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting has been using Zoom software as an online platform to hold Meetings for Worship; including meetings with attention to business, forums, social hours, and committee meetings. Friends are doing our best to sustain spiritual connections and support the life of the Meeting during the pandemic.

Ministry and Worship and the Zoom ad-hoc committee (zoom@chapelhillfriends.org) wish to make this experience as rich as possible. Even apart, we wish to come together in the Light. To aid this, we advise those attending of the following:

- On entering the Meeting for Worship via Zoom, everyone's microphone will be muted (you do not need to mute yourself on entry). We suggest remaining muted when not speaking to avoid background noise.
- If led to share vocal ministry, the "Unmute" button on the bottom left of the Zoom screen is pressed. When finished speaking, the "Mute" button may be pressed in the same location.
- We recognize you may need to move around and settle. If doing so Friends are asked to use the "Stop Video" option (bottom of screen next to Mute) – your name or profile picture will display until pressing "Start Video" again. This will minimize visual distraction for others,
- There is an option on the upper right of your Zoom screen to select "Speaker View" for a large window for the current speaker or "Gallery View" that shows small windows for all participants.

The Ministry & Worship Committee reminds Friends that our traditional Quaker practice in Meeting for Worship, in-person or online, is to refrain from sharing vocal ministry more than once in the hour to give others space for messages. Though it may be more challenging online, we strive to listen deeply in the silence and be open to the leadings of the Spirit that may move us to speak.

More information about Zoom is available on the Meeting's website:

<https://www.chapelhillfriends.org/zoom.html>

The link to Zoom for the Forum and Meeting for Worship is sent weekly via the listserv. If you wish to visit with us for the first time or are a regular attender but do not have access to the listserv please contact us at zoom@chapelhillfriends.org. Comments are warmly appreciated at the same email address. See you online!

Upcoming Zoom Forums

Online Social Event, Thursdays, 7pm

Chris Stanley shares with Friends:

As we have been doing recently, we will have a time to gather and touch base to see how everyone is doing. Last week, we looked at Catherine Alguire's garden during the call. Feel free to bring pictures of your garden or current project to share. There is no agenda and it is just a time to see a friendly face and say hello. Join us, if you are interested. - Chris

Parallel Meeting at Home, Sunday, 11am-12

Many of us on First Day are doing what one Friend called "simultaneous sitting" and could be called *ethereal* worship - that is, we are sitting in our own homes having worship between 11 and 12, calling to mind other Friends, but not taking part in any techno forum. We miss the benefit of wider ministry, but can add that angle in our own way. It can be quite magical.

QuakerCraft Online Game, Sundays

Sam Leeman-Munk shares with Friends:

Hi everybody,

This email is about a Minecraft server that Finn and Henry have set up for us.

It is a peaceful server with no player versus player and no monsters, so it is appropriate for young Quakers. The server is available 24/7, but we particularly encourage people to log in at the same time so we can play together. This event started April 19 and happens every Sunday between 1:30 and 3:30.

We are playing Minecraft: Java Edition

<https://www.minecraft.net/en-us/store/minecraft-java-edition>

An account costs about \$27, but anyone who identifies as a child may reach out to Finn James, Tom Munk and me to get an account. For best results, include all three of us on the email so we can work together.

Finn James runs the server, and once you have a screenname you can give it to him and he will give you access. For how to access the server, [click here](#).

<https://www.chapelhillfriends.org/assets/hospitality/quakercraft.htm>

DISCORD SERVER

We may be Quakers, but what fun is playing with friends if it's all in silence? I have set up a discord server for chatting while we play. This server will be your first lifeline when navigating the vibrant, potentially overwhelming world of MineCraft, so be sure to join!

<https://discord.gg/F2Jf9MQ>

For more detailed discord instructions, [click here](#) :

<https://www.chapelhillfriends.org/assets/hospitality/quakercraftDiscord.htm>

Sloth Radio Goes Online, Tuesdays and Thursdays

Kathleen McNeil shares with Friends:

Hi Friends/friends,

The First Day School Middle POD (the Sloths) will be sharing our Sloth Radio Hour every Tuesday and Thursday evening at 8PM. You don't need to be in the middle pod to join us. All are welcome. We are reading the first book of the Harry Potter series. We will read for 30-60 minutes depending on interest level. The program will continue to be on zoom at the same address.

[Zoom meeting link available]

(Virtual) Community Prayer - From Your Own Home, Wednesdays

JOIN US IN A TIME OF (VIRTUAL) COMMUNITY PRAYER - FROM YOUR OWN HOME- on Wednesday evenings from 7 PM-9PM. Join us any time between 7 PM and 9 PM, and stay as long - or as briefly - as you wish. Ministry and Worship Committee is sponsoring this time of prayer together. We view it as an opportunity to nurture our spiritual community while we are unable to gather in our usual Meetings for Worship.

Lynn and Matt Drake have volunteered to "clerk" the virtual gathering for prayer and healing. Let them know if you plan to participate, if you have questions, if you have names of people to pray for, suggested prayers, etc. Email: matthiascdrake@gmail.com or linda.drake100@gmail.com

Pendle Hill Daily Worship via Zoom, Daily

Pendle Hill Quaker Study, Retreat, and Conference Center is now opening their daily morning worship to everyone, by way of Zoom or phone. A lovely opportunity for gathered worship every morning. "A handful of Pendle Hill residents continue to gather daily in the Barn – from 8:30am to 9:10am Eastern Time – expanding the 90-year-long tradition of daily worship here on campus. Beginning the week of March 16, 2020, we started an experiment of opening the circle of worship to YOU in your home. You can join us here via Zoom."

<https://pendlehill.org/explore/worship/join-us-online-for-worship-in-the-barn/?bblinkid=210290749&bbemailid=19903873&bbejrid=1408822779>

Forum: Climate, Covid 19, and an Uprising Aug 2, 11:30am

Jeff Brown Shares with Friends:

Charlotte Friends Meeting invites Friends to join their Forum at 11:30 AM on August 2, featuring Shelley Tannenbaum, General Secretary of Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW) who will lead a discussion on the timely topic of "Climate, Covid 19, and an Uprising." Shelley is an environmental scientist with a focus on air quality and a member of the Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting, in the San Francisco area. For more information see the QEW website: <https://www.quakerearthcare.org/>. The Zoom meeting link will be furnished a few days before the event.

The End of the Quaker Handshake?

Betsy Brinson shares with Friends:

Dr. Anthony Fauci is not a Quaker, but he is someone to whom many Quakers and others look for guidance on such questions. It is his considered opinion that persons should not resume the practice of handshaking even after the pandemic is over.... Should Quakers follow Fauci's advice? If so, are there other methods of greeting that Quakers could adopt that would express the hearty, non-hierarchical, perhaps even sacramental communion of the handshake?

Learn more about the significance of the handshake in early Quaker history, and the contemporary debate over its survival in the post-pandemic world, in this QuakerSpeak interview with Stephen W. Angell. [Read Now!](#) Plus, [Stephen W. Angell talks with QuakerSpeak](#) about [The Quaker Handshake as a Sacramental Practice](#).

[QuakerSpeak](#) is a weekly video series in which Friends address core questions of our faith. Look for a new episode most Thursday afternoons.

Food Delivery to IFC while Meetinghouse is Closed

The meeting's IFC committee has devised a plan to make Friends' donations of food items to the IFC more convenient. You can find a [list of recommended food items](#) on the IFC website (and you can purchase food online). <http://www.ifcweb.org/features/321-response-to-covid-19-pandemic-and-current-needs>

1. Please bring food items to the meetinghouse porch on first and third Wednesdays of each month. Canned goods are to be placed in cardboard boxes labeled "IFC." Place bags of food in the plastic bin with a secure top. Members of the IFC committee will pick up the donations at 3:00 pm on first and third Wednesdays and deliver them to the Rosemary parking lot. This system will eliminate the need for individual Friends to drive to Rosemary street with food contributions, though you are still welcome to do that. The first day of food delivery to IFC from our meetinghouse porch will be Wednesday, June 17th.
2. Please do not leave food on the meetinghouse porch on days other than the designated delivery days - first and third Wednesdays. Bring your food donations prior to pick-up time of 3:00 pm.
3. From the IFC website, requested food contributions include pasta, spaghetti or pasta sauce, canned tuna or other meats, macaroni and cheese mixes, canned fruit, oatmeal, baking mixes (cornbread, muffins) and crackers (saltines and others). Other items would be welcomed as well. Link for pantry needs: <http://www.ifcweb.org/needs#pantry>

Questions? Contact Carolyn Stuart (919.929.2287 or stuartc@elon.edu)

News and ACTION ALERTS from FCNCL

Friends Committee on North Carolina Legislation (FCNCL) continues to grow in strength and numbers as we work to promote state legislation and practices that are consistent with Quaker values and testimonies. With racial, social, and economic inequities intensified by COVID-19 and disturbing incidents of police violence and racism, there has never been a more compelling time to take action in NC!

FCNCL was founded in Spring 2019 and advocates for policies that support people of all cultural, religious and racial backgrounds; marriage and gender equality; violence prevention; civil and voting rights for all citizens; access to quality education opportunities; quality healthcare for all; an equitable and humane criminal justice system; environmental stewardship; and opposition to all forms of torture and extreme rendition.*

We have issued three ACTION ALERTS this spring urging friends to speak out on Medicaid Expansion, and Improving Mail in Ballot Procedures. Currently, we are urging friends to write letters to the editor and/or advocate to their municipal governments regarding Action against police violence - PLEASE SEE www.fcnc.org for more details.

If you're not receiving our alerts, please join us by going to FCNCL.org and clicking on the SIGN UP link. You will find the alerts posted there along with lots of other information. Please LIKE us on Facebook and follow us to see alerts and other pertinent resources. We welcome your feedback, so please let us know what you think!

FCNCL has issued a minute on anti-racism which undergirds all of our work:

"Because FCNCL recognizes that systemic racism is a long standing and continuing problem, it has committed to continually work towards becoming an anti-racist faith organization. The FCNCL Minute on Anti-Racism includes the following statement: "We recognize that as individuals and Quakers we have too often been blind to our own failings and to the part we play in perpetuating structural and institutional racism. In committing to the work of becoming anti-racist, we know that confronting our failures will be difficult and painful. Guided by faith and grace, we are willing to accept this challenge and to do the necessary work. We see this work as essential if we are truly to live our Quaker testimonies and recognize that of God in everyone."

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting
Minutes of Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
9 am Sunday July 19, 2020
Clerk: Chris Stanley; Recording Clerk: Alice Carlton

Attendance: Chris Stanley, Alice Carlton, Jeff Brown, David Curtin, Monteze Snyder, Wendy Michener, Hank Elkins, Carolyn Stuart, Ben Ray, Matt Drake, Lynn Drake, Bob Durovich, Lois Ann Hobbs, Buzz Borschardt, Catherine Alguire, Kurt Hein, Gwen Hein, Tom Ludlow, Will J. M. King, Tom Munk, Faye Stanley, Asta Crowe, Simone Kershner, Dottie Heninger, Rufus King, Carolyn White, Leslie Rountree, Betsy Brinson, Curt Torell, John Hite, Ken Grogan, Jasmine McKewen, Sean Chen, Matilda Chen, Ann Miller, Julia Cleaver, Michael Jokinen, Emilie Condon, David Schneider, Max Drake, Leedom Lefferts, Annette Broadwell, Naveed Moeed, Lori Khamala, Julie Feickert, Madelyn Ashley, Tim Fogarty.

1. Opening worship and query

Query: How do my lifestyle choices affect the causes of justice and peace in our world?

2. Welcome, recognition of first-time attenders, review of agenda.

3. The minutes of our June 21,2020 Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MWAB) were approved as written.

4. Will King presented his letter of request for support as a conscientious objector. We welcomed it and appreciated the care and thought that went into it. We accepted his letter with gratitude. (Appendix 1.)

5. Carolyn Stuart, Clerk, presented the annual report for the Interfaith Council. We accepted the report with gratitude. (Appendix 2.)

6. Bob Durovich, Co-clerk, presented the annual report for the Building & Grounds (B&G) Committee. We accepted the report with gratitude. (Appendix 3.)

7. Asta Crowe, Clerk, presented the annual report of the Returning Citizens Financial Assistance Committee (ReCFAC). We accepted the report with gratitude. (Appendix 4.)

8. Wendy Michener, Peace & Justice Committee (P&J), presented a statement describing the commitment of our Meeting to fight racism. The committee is in unity with this statement and asks for approval to post it on our website and to submit it to various media outlets. A long discussion ensued. One Friend suggested adding our desire to bring about the beloved community. Another that this work can be joyful as well as hard. Others had editing suggestions which were referred back to the P&J Committee. Those with different word and phrase choices are invited to send them to P&J. The statement was returned to P&J for further editing.

9. Curt Torell, FCNL Advocacy Team, shared an update from our Forum with Rep. David Price. They contacted Price's office with three asks:

1. Prevent an unauthorized war with Iran AND Repeal the 2001 and 2002 AUMFs.2. Grant targeted sanction relief to Iran so they can purchase much needed COVID-19 medical supplies.3. Withdraw U.S. proxy support for Saudi war on Yemen AND Restore WHO and other funding for COVID-19 Relief

10. The next MWAB is set for August 16, 2020. It may be pushed until September if we lack sufficient business.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A. Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting (PFYM) Annual Sessions will be July 24-16, 2020 via Zoom. The link for registration was sent out via eNews. Friends are encouraged to attend. You must preregister to get the Zoom link.

B. Tuesday 7-8:30 pm there will be a Forum via Zoom on school resource officers. The link to preregister is on eNews. The forum is in preparation for the Thursday the School Board meeting.

C. Friends General Conference ministry on racism has a meeting for worship every Friday at noon. Check eNews for the link.

D. To send items for the weekly eNews, send an email to news@chapelhillfriends.org. Put “for eNews” in the subject line. Deadline is each Wednesday at midnight. For the monthly print newsletter, send an email to news@chapelhillfriends.org. Put “for Newsletter” in the subject line. Deadline is the last Sunday of the month.

11. Closing worship, virtual circle and preparation for Meeting for Worship.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1

19th July 2020

William J.M. King

To the Meeting and whomever else it may concern,

I am conscientiously opposed to participating in any and all war. This is not because I am opposed to any specific war, act of war, nation, or historical precedent, but because I am opposed, as I believe everyone should be, to injustice. To wage war is to kill, to mutilate, and to rob other people of their freedom. Those who make the decision to engage in war are never the same people who fight the war, or who pay the price. They are those who have been told to believe the people they are killing are somehow evil, somehow different than us. Both sides of every war do this because to confront the truth would be to confront the fact that in every circumstance, to wage war is to kill those who are innocent.

Not only is war a brutal and horrifying tactic, it is an ineffective one. Violence begets violence, not peace. In every example, waging war has resulted in escalated tensions that have caused more violence and death, not led to peace and better lives. I firmly believe that the way problems should be approached is diplomatically, without exception.

Overall, I fundamentally believe that war is a tool for the subjugation of peoples, and causes the death of the innocent. I believe that all people deserve the fundamental right of life, and that to engage in war with people is therefore to deprive them of their rights. The Roman theory on the ethics of war, *Jus ad bellum*, describes the intentions under which Romans believed war to be acceptable. The theory discusses the “just cause and right intention.” However, to me, review of the classical theory on conditions under which war is acceptable only strengthens my conviction that war is inherently unjust.

These are some of the moral and ethical reasons I am against war, but the convictions I feel to them are much deeper and more personal. Regardless of country, cause, or circumstance, I could never take the life of another person, especially in the case of war. To take a human life, under any circumstance, is antithetical to everything I have taught and every value that I hold. The people killed in war, regardless of their affiliation, position, or relation to the military, remain human, and their humanity is not diminished or excised by any such factor. I ask that the meeting accept this letter as demonstration of my conviction to peace and objection to war, and that I could not participate in war.

Will King

Interfaith Council Committee
Annual Report May, 2019 to May, 2020

The vision of the Interfaith Council is to work toward “a community where everyone’s basic needs are met, including dignified and affordable housing, an abundance of healthy food, and meaningful social connection.” The meeting’s Interfaith Council (IFC) committee supports the work of IFC, whose values we share, by promoting IFC programs and encouraging Friends to volunteer and support its important work. Members of the committee meet regularly with liaison committees from other faith and community organizations to learn and share ideas in regards IFC support. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the last few months have challenged the IFC to continue its essential work of providing food, financial emergency support, housing and community for our neighbors living in or near poverty levels. The poor have not gone away; their needs have been magnified by the pandemic that challenges all of us. Given this situation, the annual report will include a description of how the IFC has modified programs in response to the pandemic, as well as ways the committee has worked to support the IFC throughout the year. Please be mindful that Jackie Jenks, Director of the IFC, will present a forum via Zoom on May 24. She will provide information on the progress toward Food First (a program to consolidate food services in the renovated facility at 110 West Main Street, Carrboro) and update us more specifically on the ways the pandemic is affecting IFC operations. She’ll also let us know how we can help during this critical time. Please plan to attend.

The following serve as members of the meeting’s IFC committee: James Bartow, Ronald Carnes, Emilie Condon, Asta Crowe, Gordon Davies, Ann Drake, Max Drake, Gwyn Hein, Dottie Heninger and Carolyn Stuart (clerk). Our committee meets quarterly.

Ongoing Activities

Food contributions: Prior to the closing of the meetinghouse in March, Friends brought food donations, as well as checks, to the foyer. Members of the IFC committee took these items to the temporary IFC headquarters at 100 Rosemary Street.

First Thursday lunches at the Community Kitchen: Our meeting is responsible for assisting the kitchen coordinator in preparing healthy and appetizing lunches each first Thursday of the month. Not only does this service provide a good meal for people in need, but it also gives volunteers an opportunity to enjoy conversations while we chop, roast, sauté and serve. Asta Crowe, Ann Drake, Max Drake, Dottie Heninger, Nancy Martin, Paul Munk, Bonnie Raphael, Carolyn Stuart and Carolyn White are regulars in the kitchen on first Thursdays. When possible, Paul brings men from Orange Correctional Center to join us.

Holiday meals in November and December: Through contributions of Friends and other faith and community organizations, more than 800 holiday meals (Thanksgiving and winter holiday) were provided to those in need.

RSVVP: Approximately 74 area restaurants participated in RSVVP on November 12, 2019 by contributing 10 percent of their proceeds to the work of the IFC. Many Friends patronized these restaurants and contributed to this fundraising effort.

IFC During the Pandemic

Crop Walk: The Church World Service and the IFC sponsor an annual Crop Walk to raise money for world hunger organizations (75 percent of proceeds) and the IFC’s Food Pantry and Community Kitchen (25 percent of proceeds). This year’s Crop Walk, planned for March 29, was canceled due to the coronavirus. Although Friends were able to donate online, the cancellation contributed to a significant decline in funds raised. We raised only \$150 this year — much less than the \$1305 we contributed last year.

Community Kitchen: IFC continues to serve meals to as many as 225 people daily.

However, no meals are served in the community kitchen. Clients now pick up to-go boxes, which are assembled by staff and a small set of volunteers, and distributed in the parking lot of 100 Rosemary Street.

Pantry: Prior to the closure, clients visited the pantry on a monthly basis to select food items contributed by individuals, congregations, community food drives, area grocery stores and UNC-Chapel Hill food services. Due to the pandemic, these food sources have significantly declined and the IFC must purchase more food. Clients can no longer shop in the pantry, but must call in an order. Staff and a small number of volunteers pack items in grocery bags and arrange for pick-up in the Rosemary Street parking lot.

Emergency Financial Assistance: No face-to-face interviews are being held currently for emergency funds for rent, utilities, and medication. All interviews are conducted by telephone. No clothing vouchers are currently being offered, due to closure of the Community Worx (formerly PTA) and Club Nova thrift shops.

Homestart: This residential program for women and families (women, men and children) provides housing for 14 women without children and 10 families. Social distancing in terms of bed placement and dining are being implemented. The IFC is also employing increased sanitization to maintain a safe environment.

Community House: The men's residents provides housing for 52 men. As with Homestart, the IFC is using social distancing and increased sanitization to the extent possible.

The IFC is a volunteer-driven organization. With many volunteers being older, and therefore more vulnerable to infection, the IFC is more dependent on staff and a much smaller volunteer group. Poor people remain in our community and their needs are increased due to the pandemic at a time with the IFC is challenged to meet those needs. *Please consider a financial contribution to the IFC — whose services are needed now more than ever.*

Our committee is aware that legacy organizations supported by the meeting's benevolences, such as the IFC, are being asked to provide financial data for two years in the annual report: general fund contributions, capital fund contributions, endowment contributions, operating expenses, endowment and reserve totals, and number of fulltime equivalents. Given the challenges created by the pandemic for IFC staff and the lack of publicly available financial data, we decided not to include this as part of the annual report this year.

Respectfully submitted,

James Bartow, Ronald Carnes, Emilie Condon, Asta Crowe, Gordon Davies, Ann Drake, Max Drake, Gwyn Hein, Dottie Heninger and Carolyn Stuart (clerk).

Appendix 3

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Buildings & Grounds (B&G) Annual Report for the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year Responsibilities

- Monitor the conditions of the meeting house and property
- Schedule workdays to engage Friends in the care of the meeting house and property
- Assess need for professional or extensive work and recommend same to MWAB
- Oversee professional work
- Oversee use of the meeting house and school
- Recommend applicants for the position of meeting house resident
- Oversee the meeting house resident's activities
- Work closely with meeting house resident

Activities

Meeting House

- Although most of the meeting room renovation was done during the 2018-19 fiscal year, the last project tasks were completed in this fiscal year. These included:
 - o Wood floor installed, replacing the carpeting
 - o New ceiling installed
 - o Chair rail and new crown molding installed
 - o Meeting room painted
 - o Valences with dimmable LED “ropes” installed on the north and south walls of the meeting room
 - o “T-Coil” system installed to boost audio for people using hearing aids; however, optimization of the system continues
 - o Power door opener installed on the side door to the foyer
 - o New key pad lock installed on the side door to the foyer
- In July, we received the occupancy permit that allowed us to resume worship in the meeting room following its extensive renovation. The meeting room was arranged to provide easy access to chairs, “parking” areas for walkers, bench sitting sufficient for the worshippers expected on most Sundays and egress that complied with fire regulations.
- The roof on the meeting house was re-shingled in December.
- The elevator failed state inspection in December because the annual hydraulic system pressure and relief valve tests had not been done. Both tests were completed within the six week grace period. The inspector did not require us to remove the elevator from service during this period.
- In January, Peace and Justice reported the radon level tested in the residence’s apartment was 9 picocuries per liter (pCi/L) and above the action level of 4 pCi/L. B&G contracted with First Choice R&R Radon Remediation which installed a system to continuously remove any radon gas evolving below the building pad. Daily monitoring results over a month confirmed the system was effective, reducing the radon level to a range of 1.6 pCi/L-2.2pCi/L.
- A holding case for an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) was installed in foyer. M&W arranged for the AED purchase which was charged to B&G. The B&G budget was increased by \$2,000 to cover the cost of the AED and the case.
- A noisy air handler condensate pump in the downstairs common room was replaced. However, general sound abatement – within and between downstairs rooms - is still needed. Effort thus far has not succeeded.
- On a Saturday Meeting Workday, the following were done:
 - o Windows cleaned
 - o Meeting room and benches dusted
 - o Closet under the stairs organized
 - o Unneeded stuff disposed
 - o Outside leaves were raked

Meeting Property

- Around August, a sink hole formed on the grassy side of the driveway apron that provides access from the parking lot to back side of the school. Carolina Friend School (CFS) filled the sink hole. This month (June), another sink hole formed near the concrete pad on which the garbage and recycling bins are stored near the driveway apron. CFS will address.
- In December, Bartlett Tree Experts removed a dying elm which stood near the access to the UNC parking lot. They also pruned several trees in front of the meeting house.
- Don Hopper continued monthly care of the memorial garden

General

- B&G presented a forum in January updating the meeting on the status of its various projects/efforts. B&G expressed its intent to focus on property maintenance and oversight of projects per the description of the committee in the Directory and not continue leading the scope definition and/or design of projects as it has done in prior recent years. Ad Hoc committees, on which B&G may participate, should define, develop and gain support for future renovation projects.

- Richard Miller and Bob Durovich became co-clerks as Don Hopper stepped down from committee service. However, Don's service continued. He arranged, oversaw and did work to complete the meeting room renovation project. He continues caring for the memorial garden and advising Bob and Richard.

Projects under discussion/consideration involving buildings and grounds (all led by Ad Hoc committees or individuals)

- Solar panels on the meeting house
- Renovation of the library, foyer, 1st floor bathroom and outside entrance
- Electronic system to connect people worshiping remotely with those worshiping in the meeting room

Other

- Water cost are on a three year trend upward & requires investigation
- Since mid-March, COVID-19 has necessitated curtailing use of the meeting house and school for worship and meetings. The resident has continued living in the resident's quarters. He has watched over the meeting house, school and grounds during this period, addressing issues or needs when they arise, or engaging other people if needed.
- Committee membership: Richard Miller (co-clerk), Bob Durovich (co-clerk & new member), Wendy Michener, Tom Smith, Dottie Heninger, Bill Cleaver, Dave Schneider, Kurt Hein, Brad Kershner, John Hite (resident & ex officio member)

Respectfully,

Bob Durovich, co-clerk, for the B&G Committee

Appendix 4

**Returning Citizen Financial Assistance Committee
Report for Fiscal Year 2019-2020**

The Returning Citizens Financial Assistance Committee (ReCFAC) was established in 2014 to create guidelines and oversee the disbursement of funds to assist men as they leave Orange Correctional Center and return to the community. The committee works with the Transition and Support Committee, which must have established a support circle for a returning citizen before he can receive financial assistance.

The committee meets on an as needed basis, conducting most of its business via email. Requests during FY'2019-2020 included clothing and personal needs upon release from OCC, as well as cell phones and medical supplies. Food assistance was provided for one partner due to temporary unemployment; one partner was provided with transportation assistance (Uber) so he could get to his job early in the morning for two weeks prior to drawing his first paycheck.

We have provided assistance to six men over the year, for a total expenditure of \$1,274.23. We received an anonymous gift to the fund of \$1,200. This leaves a carryover balance to FY2020-2021 of \$2,460.21. [This includes carryover funds from previous fiscal year of \$1,534.76; \$1,000 allocation from CHFM funds; \$1,200 gift.] Due to budget cuts, the allocation approved for FY'20-21 is \$770.

We are pleased that David Schneider will join our committee effective July 1, 2020.

The coming year is uncertain due to the corona virus situation. We have several men in the pipeline requesting partnership but we are unable to visit OCC at this time. We also anticipate a greater need for housing assistance as it is impossible at this time to get men into any of the shelters (with one exception). Although housing has not traditionally been covered by ReCFAC, this will need to be addressed in the coming year by both ReCFAC and Transition/Support committees.

Submitted by the ReCFAC: Asta Crowe (clerk), Nancy Milio, Gwynne Pomeroy and Richard Miller

