

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

Newsletter

Tenth Month, 2022

Monthly Query: *What am I doing to promote healing within our community and the larger community?*

Monthly Worship Tip from the M&W Committee:
Friends who set aside time each day for meditation, personal prayer, or reflection often find it strengthens and deepens their experience with the living silence of meeting for worship. Such preparation readies the mind and opens one's heart and spirit to engage in deep communion with others.



Upcoming Zoom Fora -

October 2: Western Sahara: The Other Occupation. Presenter: Stephen Zunes, national expert and Carolina Friends School graduate. Co-author of a book on the same topic. [Western Sahara: War, Nationalism, and Conflict Irresolution \(Syracuse Studies on Peace and Conflict Resolution\): Stephen Zunes, Jacob Mundy: 9780815632191: Amazon.com: Books](#)

October 9: Peaceful Schools, Christel Greiner Butchart and Ida Trisolini, Carolina Friends School. All About Peaceful Schools NC. Come learn about this outreach initiative of Carolina Friends School, the impact it is having in area schools, and why our work matters.

October 16: Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Monthly Business Meeting

October 23: Righteous Anger and the Work of Peace. Worship-sharing with a quote from Melissa Florer-Bixler's book, *How to Have an Enemy*.

October 30: Chapel Hill Friends' Writings. Hear from and share with some of our community's spirit-led authors.

November 6: Family Sharing: Hart Pillow and Andrew Barker.

Small Group Worship at the Meetinghouse

After listening carefully to our community and giving thoughtful consideration to ways to meet the needs of our community, the Ministry & Worship Committee received permission from the Meeting to begin offering responsible opportunities for small group worship in a variety of settings. We invite the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting community to try and help us evaluate options for small group worship over the coming weeks.

In this unprecedented time, the committee is not pursuing the perfect answer to how to worship together, and we do not know the lowest risk way to proceed.

Note: To promote safety and reduce the possibility of Covid 19 transmission and infection, the completion of **vaccination protocol** and the **wearing of masks** around others on meeting property is lovingly expected. A risk assessment tool is available as well (<https://www.microcovid.org/tracker>). To keep the small group worship simple, there will be no refreshments available (bring your own water), indoor participants will be

urged to go outside at the rise of meeting to limit time in the building, and the building will be closed between early and late meetings. Friends are asked to not go downstairs (except for the nursery), for simplicity in preparation and maintenance of safe spaces..

Children older than 3 are encouraged to attend the first 15 minutes of worship and will be led down to the playground for First Day School, which is on the playground during Covid. However, there will be at least one adult on the playground starting at 11:00 for those who are nervous about indoors. For children under 3, the nursery is open downstairs if needed.

Upcoming Events

Spiritual State of the Meeting, Sat. Oct. 8, 10am

The Ministry & Worship Committee of Chapel Hill Friends Meeting invites one and all to the annual Spiritual State of the Meeting, a 2-hour session on Saturday morning, October 8, starting at 10:00 AM. Sharing what is on our hearts and minds is particularly valuable as we seek to strengthen our community as the pandemic recedes. The gathering will be via Zoom only with the goal of being inclusive and providing consistent audio and visual access for all.

Meeting Clerk Ann Miller has offered a quote to guide the session.

“Neither the inner life, nor meeting life, nor an active relationship with the rest of the world is optional. Prayer that does not issue in a transformed life and deeds of love becomes a form of narcissism or an aesthetic exercise. Worship that does not open us to being gathered into unity and mutuality with others is a hollow exercise...Activity that does not take time to find its source and grounding in prayer, worship or divine leading becomes dry, exhausting and exasperating—or an exercise in power.” Patricia Loring “Listening Spirituality, volume II”.

Queries for small groups. In the last year:

- 1.How has worship opened us to being gathered into unity and mutuality?
- 2.How have our activities found their source and grounding in prayer, worship or divine leading?
- 3.What has been most important in your spiritual journey?
- 4.As the pandemic recedes, how do we rebuild our CHFM community and connections?
- 5.What are ways to deepen our worship and spiritual lives?
- 6.What is most on your heart (Piedmont Friends query)?

A link for Zoom will be issued closer to the date.

For more information, contact ministryandworship@chapelhillfriends.org.

FCNCL Annual Meeting, Oct. 8, 9:15am - 12:30.

The Annual Meeting of the Friends Committee on North Carolina Legislation will be held October 8, 9:15-12:30, again this year via Zoom due to Covid precautions. The link for the meeting and documents for organizational business will be sent to General Committee members prior to the meeting allowing us to conduct our business efficiently in the first portion of the meeting. Please let Pam Schwingl (pschwingl82@gmail.com) know if you are interested in attending so she can send you the link, regardless of whether you are a General Committee member or not. Particularly, you may be interested in listening to

Rob Schofield of NC Policy Watch, starting at 11:00 am on the topic of "Protecting North Carolina Democracy."

350+ Years of Quakers in NC, Thurs. Oct 13, 7pm



We hope you will join us at Guilford College for a plenary session exploring the topic of "Reassessing George Fox: 350+ Years of Quakers in NC." The evening keynote address will be delivered at **7pm Thursday, October 13th in the Carnegie Room at Hege Library on Guilford's campus by Dr. Noeleen McIlvenna**, Professor of History at Wright State University and author of "A Very Mutinous People: The Struggle for North Carolina, 1660-1713." The event will be open to all who are interested, but please RSVP if possible.

For more information, you can visit the webpage here: <https://friendscenter.guilford.edu/fox-350/> or to register for the event, you can fill out this form: <https://forms.gle/8ea7aPyfugphFYfz7>. This event is sponsored by the Friends Center, Quaker Archives, and the Curry-Coffin Commission. Please reach out to Liz Nicholson, nicholsonea@guilford.edu if you have any additional questions.

Announcements

Are You Fond of the Quakerspeak Video Series?...If you are, then read on this will interest you! Naveed Moeed shares with Friends: Jon Watts (musician, videographer and Friend from Germantown in Philadelphia) was the creative force behind the Quakerspeak series. As founding director, cameraman, interviewer, producer and storyteller, for the better part of a decade he curated and compiled stories that brought us unique perspectives into Quaker life. From Quaker practices across our nation to insights into the spirituality of Global Friends. Jon has now launched a brand new endeavor, one which aims to bring Quaker journalism front and center in the 21st Century. Thee Quaker Project is looking to launch next year as a multimedia platform including newsletter, blog, video and a podcast. Jon and the team hope to bring the unique perspectives on the evolving life and witness of Friends around the world. Thee Quaker Project invites us to ask ourselves: what does the world need from us right now? What seeds will we plant to call forth the next generation of faithful, courageous seekers? In an online world how do we communicate with simplicity, deep listening, compassion and speaking truth to power?

I was excited when Jon brought me onto the board of Thee Quaker Project and as well as devoting my own energy and resources to the project, I am spreading the word in my community. This weekend Jon will be visiting us in Chapel Hill, Durham and Greensboro. While it is short notice, I am hoping that you might have time to meet with him to understand more about the potential this endeavor holds.

Please get back to me (naveedmoeed@gmail.com, 434-203-8709) if you have any availability this weekend for an in-person chat or even a phone call. Jon also hopes to join us for worship in-person on Sunday.

75th Anniversary of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro NAACP

Lloyd Kramer shares with Friends that the 75th NAACP anniversary celebration is of interest to many in our Meeting, and wants to offer the following link which leads to web pages with details about a number of events: <https://naacp75.com/>

The IFC Pantry Needs Food Items

Dottie Henniger shares with Friends:

The Inter-Faith Council pantry continues to need donations of food items. Please think of the IFC as you do your grocery shopping! The basket in the meetinghouse foyer is available to receive your contributions. For attenders who worship on Zoom, plastic bins will be put on the front porch on the last Wednesday of each month for your donations. Please also remember that financial gifts are always welcome. You can make your contributions online at the IFC website, ifcweb.org. Thank you! - Dottie

Quaker Call to Action

You can find more details and register at quakercall.net.

We are an ad hoc group of Quakers who believe in the power of Truth and who have faith in the witness of Friends. We know that the individual and collective actions of Friends and friends can have a powerful impact in our communities and in our individual faithful journeys. We welcome your questions, suggestions, and resources at info@quakercall.net.

In faithfulness,

The Urgent Call Steering Committee

Bruce Birchard, Sam Caldwell, Gretchen Castle, Mary Ellen McNish, Diane Randall, and Michael Wajda, clerk

Register Voters This Year - Hank Elkins shares with Friends:

The Racial Equity Subcommittee, the Transition & Support and the Peace & Justice Committees invite you to register voters for this year's election. Know that the need is particularly great to register those leaving prison and for people of color generally. We have a list of 82 men, mostly people of color, who have recently left prison. The Brennan Institute has reported that 90 out of 100 North Carolina Counties have disproportionately purged people of color from the voting rolls.

You can register voters online or in person. Email Astra Titus astatitus@gmail.com or hankelkis@gmail.com with "Voting 2022" in the subject line.

See [North Carolina: The New Selma | Brennan Center for Justice](#)

See also: [New Tools are Needed to Protect Communities of Color in Redistricting | Brennan Center for Justice](#)

Visiting the Meetinghouse During Covid

Building and Grounds shares with Friends:

As you know we've curtailed use of the meeting house during the pandemic. Occasionally, people have, and needed to, gone into the meeting house to support the few essential tasks of the meeting. We appreciate that those visits have been brief and infrequent. We do ask though that anyone that needs to go into the meeting house to please notify John Hite, by phone or text, prior to going. Thank you.

Pray for Peace - From *Friends House Moscow*:

Link to the Daily Meeting for Worship for Peace sponsored by FHM/FHMSA: (Friends House Moscow)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4165005614?pwd=NUtieEtqbDBYbjBrcGdMMzBKQ3drQT09>

Meeting ID: 416 500 5614

Passcode: 182805

The room opens at 8:45am Pacific time (10:45 EST); worship begins on the hour and ends an hour later. After worship there will be time to share brief thoughts that did not rise to the level of ministry. You may also want to rename yourself indicating your geographic location. There will be no audible indicator when one enters or leaves, and everyone will be muted on entry. Please leave yourself muted unless giving ministry.

Ministry may also be shared in the chat, but it is not the place for private conversations. If you are new to Quaker unprogrammed worship and wish to talk with someone about it, send a message to the host and someone can join you in a breakout room.

Recurring Events

Prayers for Healing/Holding in the Light, 2nd and 4th Wednesday, 7-8:30 pm

YOU ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN Virtual Prayers for Healing/Holding in the Light on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month, 7:00 to 8:30 PM. Join us when you can for as long as you wish - from your own home.

Do you have a name or a group of people to add to - or remove from - the list of those we will hold in our hearts and prayers? If so, please send to: prayers@chapelhillfriends.org. The list of names to be held in the Light will be renewed each month. Names must be resubmitted each month to be maintained on the list. We'll send an updated list on Wednesday afternoons. Thank you for joining us!

This virtual prayer service continues under the care of the Ministry and Worship Committee and each week, a volunteer will collect and post the names that are submitted and will read them aloud during the time of the service. You can be one of these volunteers! Please contact the Ministry and Worship Committee (mw@chapelhillfriends.org) or (clerkofmeeting@chapelhillfriends.org) to join the volunteers supporting this ongoing ministry.

Pendle Hill Worship via Zoom, Daily, 8:30-9:10am

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>

Note: The above link takes you *not* to the meeting but to a page of general instructions. Look for the sentence "You can join us via Zoom **here**, or by clicking on the image below."

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

Minutes

9 am Sunday September 18, 2022

Online via Zoom

Ann Miller, Clerk, and Susan Inglis, Recording Clerk

In attendance: Jeff Brown, Hart Pillow, Tom Ludlow, Bonnie Ludlow, Monteze Snyder, Jan Hutton, John Pilgrim, Carolyn White, Tom Munk, Jennifer Leeman, Joe Groves, Kate Vinita Fitch, Bob Durovich, Ellen O'Brien, Quaker Harmon, Wendy Michener, John Hite, Nancy Milio, Hank Elkins, Ken Grogan, Buzz Borchardt, Alice Carlton, Dave Curtin, Julia Cleaver, Emilie Condon, Peter Malone, Paul Munk, Rob Jones, Ann Miller, Susan Inglis

1. Opening worship and query – clerk Query: In what ways do we support each other on our spiritual journeys?
2. The Clerk welcomed Friends and reviewed the agenda. There were no first-time attenders.
3. Susan presented the Minutes of the June Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MWAB), noting that additional information from CFS board representatives on FTEs and contributions had been added to the original minutes. The Minutes were approved. Susan then presented the Minutes of August MWAB, which were considered and approved.
4. Wendy Michener presented the revised Peace & Justice Committee description. It is attached here as Appendix 1. Friends considered the description and commented. The new description aims to clarify the role of the Peace & Justice Committee. Friends expressed appreciation for the committee's work, and concerns about how it is represented to folks outside the Meeting: whether it is perceived as of an individual or committee or of the Meeting as a whole following approval at Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. Ann summarized Friends' comments, noting that we need time for further discussion, and appreciated the input. We will hold over a decision about whether to accept the revised committee description.
5. Kate Fitch presented the Adult Religious Education Committee Annual Report. It is attached here as Appendix 2. Friends expressed great appreciation for the committee's work and accepted the report with gratitude.
6. Carolyn White for the Nominations Committee proposed David Waterman to join Finance Committee. Friends approved, with appreciation to the committee as well as to David.
7. Monteze Snyder presented the Finance Committee Annual Report. It is attached here as Appendix 3. Friends expressed appreciation of the committee's work and accepted the report.
8. Bob Durovich for Buildings & Grounds Committee, supported by Finance Committee and Ministry and Worship, presented a recommendation to proceed with an engineering study to increase ventilation in the meeting house on both floors. It is attached here as Appendix 4. Friends commented on the importance of the project, and noted the distinction between decisions to be made in the Discovery Phase, and in the Design Phase. With consideration, Friends approved, with particular gratitude to Peter Malone.
9. The Clerk invited Friends to share unseasoned concerns, if any, to be identified only and simply heard or referred. None arose.

10. The Clerk noted that our next Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business is planned for 9:00 AM on 10/16/2022.

Announcements:

1. The CHFM monthly newsletter is full of opportunities and events—please take the time to read this every month to stay up to date.
2. Piedmont Friend Fall Retreat will take place on Saturday, Oct. 1, 11am-3pm at Mendenhall Homeplace in Jamestown, NC— registration is open now.
3. The Spiritual State of the Meeting meeting will be held October 8, 10-12.
4. Reports to attach: Revised P&J Committee description, ARE annual report, Finance Committee annual report, B&G proposal

Appendix 1

Description of Peace & Justice Committee

from

“This committee is responsible for providing a focus for peace and justice issues. It helps the Meeting be aware of background and current information, it publicizes opportunities for action to bear witness to our concerns, and it provides linkages between the Meeting and other groups in our community and beyond. Attendance at committee meeting is open to all.”

to

“This committee is responsible for providing a focus for peace and justice issues. It helps the Meeting be aware of background and current information. It brings opportunities for action to bear witness to our concerns to (a) Meeting members and attenders (b) individuals and organizations outside of the Meeting, and (c) the Meeting as a corporate body in Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. Attendance at committee meetings is open to all.”

Appendix 2

Adult Religious Education Committee Annual Report 2022

The Adult Religious Education Committee works to enhance the spiritual life of the Meeting community and to nurture the spiritual and intellectual growth of Meeting members. Our primary task is to provide weekly forums on different topics connecting us to each other, our Quaker faith and practice, and to our role in the greater world. We ask committee clerks to suggest ideas for forum topics. We also consider suggestions from members and attenders, and ideas generated by ARE committee members.

Although forums have traditionally been suspended during summer months, we again offered a series of worship-sharings this year. Tom Munk and Kate Fitch organized a series on topics inspired by quotes from *Faith and Practice*.

We attempt to provide a rich range of topics and periodically review the representation of different types of topics. Between late August of 2021 and mid-August of 2022, forums included personal sharing (2), Quaker faith and practice (18), racial equity and justice (5) other social issues (9), and community nurturing (5). The forums addressing Quaker faith and practice included a series on the Quaker practices with respect to: membership, silent and vocal ministry, Quaker decision-making, clearness committees for discernment, and weddings and memorial services. Among 41 forums, 8 were sponsored by committees, and 10 included outside speakers.

Since March of 2020, forums have been offered by Zoom. This has allowed us to engage a wider range of outside speakers, including those shown in the attached list. Participation in these zoom forums has been robust, typically between 20 and 30 attending. We thank the Zoom Working Group for their steadfast assistance, and encourage members and attenders to consider joining the tech host group.

ARE welcomes suggestions for forum topics as well as suggestions for improvement. We thank the committee clerks and Meeting members for their forum suggestions as well as their willingness to prepare and lead forums. The committee works with the Publications Committee and Ministry and Worship Committees to ensure that forums are announced in a timely fashion. Forums are listed in the newsletter, on the Meeting's website and announced at the rise of all Meetings for Worship.

We appreciate the contributions of our departing committee member, Jennifer Leeman. In January we welcomed Kate Fitch as a new member, and would welcome at least one other new member. Continuing members are Deborah Gibbs, Lori Fernald Kahmala, Tom Munk, Mark Toles. Deborah Gibbs has completed three years as clerk of the committee, with Kate Fitch taking over the role in July.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Gibbs and Kate Fitch

Forum name & description	Presenter
Summer reflections	worship-sharing
Lucretia Mott & the Quaker struggle for Social Justice.	Lloyd Kramer
Personal Sharing	Hank Elkins
Quaker Practice: Membership	Panel
Afghanistan: Tribes, 'Warlords'—and Imperialism	Joe Groves
Prison from the Inside Out	Wm. Elmore, Susan Simone
FCNL update: Why Is War Not the Answer	Nancy Milio
Freedman's School	Sarah Bausell, Tori Staton
Honoring our Loved Ones on the Day of the Dead.	worship-sharing
Living with the natural world	Pat Mann, Pam Schwingl
Quaker Practice: Silent and Vocal Ministry	Panel
First-Day-School led: Gratitude, Alternative Gift Mart.	Panel
Task Force for Racial Equity in Criminal Justice, NC AG	Holly Jones, Talley Wells
The Open Hand: Personal sharing	Kuldip Kuwahara
Winter Solstice Forum	Carolyn and Peter White
Reflections on the 23rd Psalm at the start of a new year.	worship-sharing
Quaker Practice: MFB & Quaker Decision-Making	Panel
Guilford College update	Wess Daniels
Proracism and Antiracism	Panel
Socially responsible investing	Mark Hulbert
NC WARN	Jim Warren
FCNL Priorities discernment	Emma Hulbert

Ramallah Friends School	Max Carter
Quaker Practice: Clearness Committees for Discernment	Panel
IFC Update	Jackie Jenks
What Easter Means to Me	Worship-sharing
FCNCL priorities discernment	Pam Schwingl
AFSC Update	Naveed Moeed
Reentry House Plus	Hank Elkins
Green Burial and Bluestem Conservation	Heidi Hannapel, Anne Weston
Quaker Practice: Weddings and memorial services	Panel
What Memorial Day means to me	Worship-sharing
Celebrating graduates	Panel
Summer forums: Meeting for worship	Worship-sharing
Summer forums: Peace	Worship-sharing
Summer forums: Prayer	Worship-sharing
Summer forums: Discernment	Worship-sharing
Summer forums: Sustainable Stewardship of the Earth	Worship-sharing
Summer forums: Faith Reflected in Our Organization	Worship-sharing
Summer forums: God and Christ at the Center	Worship-sharing

FINANCE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT for July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

The Finance Committee has the responsibility for stewardship of the financial resources of the Meeting, which allows the Meeting to continue its work. The Finance Committee is responsible for:

- a) Fundraising, collection of donations, and payment of Meeting obligations;
- b) Working closely with the Meeting Treasurer to maintain an accounting of income and expenditures, the Meeting's bank and investment accounts, and a financial reserve for use in case of emergencies; and
- c) Preparation of an annual budget for allocation of funds, after consultation with and according to the needs of the committees, and as directed by Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, for maintenance of the Meeting House as well as for funding committee activities and benevolences.

The goals of the Finance Committee are to support the stewardship of the financial resources of the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting by:

- a) Maintaining a balanced budget;
- b) Supporting the work of vital committees and providing support for designated Quaker organizations and other local entities approved by Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (benevolences);
- c) Providing and monitoring the level of savings for routine and unanticipated repairs for our facilities and flexibility to cover contingencies; and
- d) Maintaining sufficient assets and savings to meet future needs.

Meeting accounting is done on a “cash” rather than accrual basis.

The Treasurer reported to the Finance Committee monthly on income and expenses and worked with the Committee in the preparation of the 2021-22 fiscal year report, the quarterly reports to the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, and the budget for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Clerks of the Meeting's committees advised us on their needs for additional funds, if any, and provided information necessary for budget preparation. The Treasurer kept on-going records to assist in our task. We continue to use Servant Keeper and QuickBooks to track our finances.

The financial plan for the Meeting has two segments.

1. The first part is the budget that includes ordinary income and expenses for the operation of the Meeting. At the end of each fiscal year, income should meet or exceed budgeted expenses. The budget for ordinary income and expenses is reset for each fiscal year.
2. The second part of our financial plan includes funds that may carry over from one year to the next. This includes the Building Renovation Fund, a special endowment (Shotts Leadership) and other funds managed for specific purposes such as Returning Citizens, Youth Service Trip, Care and Counsel, and the Physical Plant Reserve Fund (for unplanned major repairs). These are separate from the funds a committee may receive as part of the ordinary budget.

1. Ordinary income and expenses

Ordinary Income includes: contributions, revenues from parking spaces during UNC events, and rental income. With the onset of Covid, we have not rented our interior space.

Compared to FY 20-2021, we increased our budgeted contributions for 2021-22 by **4.7%** to **\$58,150**, and conservatively estimated resumption of parking income to rise from \$ 0 to \$2500. This year, however, our actual income from contributions exceeded last year's by 7%. With the

resumption of sports game parking to pre-Covid levels, parking income more than doubled to **\$6,760**. Our total income of **\$75,247** was 17% higher than last year. In historical perspective, contributions in the mostly pre-Covid 2019-2020 year amounted to **\$76,450**, and the largest total contributions received in recent years was **\$84,945** in fiscal year 2018-2019;

The number of donors each year ranged from **109** in 2015-2016 to **82** this year.

Ordinary Expenses: Overall, we spent **93.9%** (\$54,603) of the total budget for the 2021-22 year. Regularly, we have three categories of expenses: Obligations, which includes child care, insurance, utilities, local taxes for parking, storm water fees, and software licenses; Committees; and, Benevolences.

1. We exceeded the budget for obligations by **3.7%** primarily due to increased taxes due on parking income and storm water fees. This category constituted 38% of our spending.
2. Expenditures from benevolences totaled **\$23,400** as budgeted and were about **43%** of our spending.
3. Committees, which constituted **25%** of our expenses budget, spent **70%** of their allocated funds. **Six of our 14** committees did not spend any of their budgets.

Net Operating Income: As a result of the increased income and lower spending by committees, we show an overage in the operating budget (net ordinary income) of **\$27, 403**. For each of the past three years, we have had surpluses of more than **\$20,000**.

FY 2022-23 Budget: We prepared a budget for July 1, 2022- June 30, 2023, which has been reviewed and approved by the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. In constructing this budget, the Finance Committee provided committees with the current budget and expenditures to date in March and requested their proposed budgets for the upcoming fiscal year. We reviewed obligations and estimated changes in costs for those items, including wage increases. Benevolences were again set at **\$23,400** (40.2% of the budget); this was **89%** of the pre- Covid level but a greater proportion of our budget by 5%.

To project total ordinary income from contributions, we considered the experience from prior years. This year we restored parking to the pre-Covid level and assumed no rental income. The approved budget is slightly lower than last year's budget due to reduced committee estimates. As usual, the Finance Committee will monitor contribution and expense levels closely throughout the year, and we stand ready to amend the budget totals in early 2023 if necessary.

Given underspending by committees for the past several years, the Finance Committee encourages Committees to be mindful of their available resources and make good use of the funds allotted to them in the budget. In February, we routinely provide a report of expenditures to date and budget balances to Committee clerks and ask if any adjustments are needed. Committee members are welcome to contact the Treasurer at any time during the fiscal year to get an update on their remaining budget.

2. Special funds and Accounts

Income and Expenses: The second segment of our financial plan includes special funds that carry over from one year to the next such as the Shotts Leadership endowments and accounts for designated purposes. Contributions to the Renovation fund included **\$10,554** from individual donors with expenses of **\$202**. Shotts Leadership endowment generated **\$1460** with expenses of **\$700**. These funds are in addition to those provided by the annual budget.

3. Net Total Income

For 2021-22, our net total income was **\$33,233**. This net total income figure combines operating income and operating expenses as well as income from building renovation donations and miscellaneous sources and the expenses from our special purpose accounts as indicated above.

4. Balance Sheet

● Assets:

○ Friends Fiduciary (FF): Approximately **40%** of the Meeting's financial assets are held at Friends Fiduciary Corporation in Philadelphia, PA. This includes:

■ The Shotts Leadership Endowment (**\$37,050**),

■ General Fund (**\$27,352**)

■ Physical Plant Reserve Fund (**\$34,938**). (Physical Plant Reserve Fund is intended for major repairs as a result of unforeseen damage, e.g. roof replacement due to a hurricane.)

■ These assets are invested in the FF Quaker Growth and Income Fund.

Expenditure from these accounts requires liquidating assets.

○ Overall, the FF fund performance is satisfactory in our view given its "responsible investments"; While the stock markets were generally down in the first half of 2022, funds that include arms and oil, for example, have done better than average.

● About **60%** of our assets are with Truist and includes Checking and Savings accounts as well as designated funds.

○ The Checking account balance is **\$50,542.20**. As a general practice, we maintain a minimum balance in the checking account that will be sufficient to cover two months of expenses.

○ The Savings account balance is **\$56,131.11**. We maintain a minimum balance in the savings account to cover the obligations portion of the annual budget.

○ Designated funds:

○ Building Renovation funds (**\$26,925**) are earmarked for interior renovations in the last capital campaign combined with some allocated overage funds in previous years.

○ Other funds (**\$17,864**) also earmarked for specific uses: Care and Counsel Support, ReFac Support, Youth Service Support and Shotts Leadership income.

○ Funds held in these designated accounts that carry over from one year to the next are:

Care and Counsel \$7,887

ReFac Support Funds \$2,121

Shotts Leadership Support Funds \$4,025

Youth Service Support Funds \$3,116

Total other special account Truist \$17,149

Overall, the Finance Committee considers that the Meeting's financial health is **good**, and our financial positions are sufficient to address our obligations, repairs, and the leadings of the Meeting.

Allocation: Regarding the allocation of the surplus net ordinary income of **\$27,403** this year, we recognize the continuing uncertainty about changes in the Meeting House that may be required to return to full use of the facilities. In addition, Building and Grounds anticipates water management and structural changes on the exterior of the Meeting House. The foundation of the CFES is likely to require significant foundation work in the next few years. HVAC work is currently being investigated. We do not have cost estimates for any of these projects. It is likely that these projects will require expenditures over a two-year period. Having funds in an account that carries funds forward from one fiscal year to another will be important. Committee decided to place these surplus funds (\$27,403) in the designated Renovations Fund.

5. Other activities

This year the Finance Committee has also:

- Acknowledged with gratitude Maura Murphy's 10 years of service as Treasurer
- Amended the Chart of Accounts to reflect those funds designated for specific uses
- Agreed to participate in the *ad hoc* committee for Renovation of the upstairs of the Meeting House
- Expanded the use of Servant Keeper software for use by Publications and Communications and Care and Counsel in creating the Directory of Members and Attenders
- [Revised our bequests policy to clarify designated accounts, which will be submitted to MWAB for approval](#)
- Initiated use of online documents for the work of the Committee and others as needed
- Confirmed the legal incorporation of the Meeting in the State of North Carolina
- Located and organized documents of Incorporation, deed for the Meeting property and other documents in a Finance Lockbox in the Meeting House
- Considered a policy of paying for bookkeeping services like larger Meeting elsewhere; currently, our Treasurer provides these services as a service to the Meeting and prefers to continue to do so
- Ascertained that our insurance for replacement of the building and the Carolina Early School are adequate.
- Instituted Workers Compensation insurance for paid members of the Meeting

We thank all who contributed for their generosity and stewardship of resources. We encourage Friends to continue to support the work of the Meeting and to consider including the Meeting as a bequest in their wills.

The 2021-22 members of the Finance Committee were: Monteze Snyder (co-clerk), Tom Ludlow, Gwynne Pomeroy, Bob Durovich, Ann Miller, Mansir Petrie, and Maura Murphy (Treasurer and ex officio member).

Proposal to MWAB to Improve Meeting House Ventilation

In response to a request from M&W, and with the support of M&W and Finance, B&G proposes an engineering study to increase ventilation in the meeting house on both floors. The HVAC improvements are to increase fresh air ventilation without compromising comfort or increasing the risk of COVID transmission for the occupancy levels⁽¹⁾ that M&W has provided. The current use of window fans to provide fresh air to the meeting room makes hearing vocal ministry difficult and not using the HVAC systems (to avoid distributing any COVID virus present) results in barely tolerable comfort conditions in the meeting room.

B&G fully supports a plan proposed by Pete Malone. The plan has three phases 1) Discovery 2) Design and 3) Execution. The Discovery phase work will assess the current interior environment conditions and HVAC and power capabilities. Deficiencies relative to standards or more stringent guidelines and requirements would be identified for the first floor, the resident's apartment and the public space downstairs. The Discovery Phase would address all three areas. The outcome of the Discovery Phase would influence the decision to address the entire building as one project or to address each area in separate projects.

Currently, there are thermally efficient windows in some places in the meeting house and older, single pane windows with storm windows in other places. The plan requests the heating and cooling calculations be done for the current state as well as if all windows were thermally efficient. This will help B&G determine the value of upgrading the older windows either now or at a later time. The cost is negligible to do this added calculation.

This Discovery phase will cost \$3500 and take six (6) weeks from the date the contract is signed.

After completion of these calculation B&G will propose a general plan forward, and if supported by MWAB, the Design phase would commence followed by the Execution phase.

After the completion of each phase, and during each if there is a need, B&G would seek input from and confirm unity with MWAB and/or the whole meeting.

We roughly estimate the cost of the Discovery and Design phases at \$9,000 +/- 30%. We will estimate the cost for the Execution phase after a general plan is developed.

(1) Meeting room - 80 worshippers of people in attendance at a special gathering. Downstairs – minimum of 20 people and as many as 80 people.

Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

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