

Middlebury Friends Meeting

June
2019

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Calendar of Events

Earth Profile

—Molly Anderson

State of the Meeting Report

Minutes of April 28



“Life shrinks or expands
in proportion to one’s courage.”

— ANAÏS NIN

JUNE 2019

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QUAKER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every first Saturday	10:30-11:00 AM	ICAN Climate Vigil. New location on Cross Street Bridge
Sat, June 1		Quarterly Meeting in Hanover, NH. There will be a panel discussion on racism and race. Program 9:30 – 12:30. Meeting for Worship 1 – 2. Meeting for Business 2 – 4.
Mon, June 3	6:00 PM	Potluck with Marcelle Martin. Jean Rosenberg’s house, 232 Washington St. Extension. Marcelle is the author of “Our Life is Love: The Quaker Spiritual Journey”. Marcelle will speak at around 7:00.
Sun, June 9	8:30 AM	Friendly Forum “Telling our Stories”. This FF will be based on PHP #454 “The Healing Power of Stories” by Michael Bischoff.
Sun, June 9		Worship and Study meeting
Mon, June 17	7:30 PM	Men’s Group, Location TBA
Sun, June 23	8:30 AM	Meeting for Business
Sun, July 21 [?]		Meeting for Business. This was on the previous calendar but may be changed. The definite date for the summer MFB will be determined at the June 23 MFB.
August 3-8		New England Yearly Meeting, Castleton, VT
Sept. 6 – 8		Quarterly Meeting, Bethany Birches
Dec. 7		NWQM. Middlebury and Starksboro host.

Monthly Meeting for Business

19 May, 2019

Clerk: Jean Rosenberg

Recording Clerk: Lucy McKeon

Present were Ruah Swennerfelt, Spence Putnam, Tom Dickinson, Manya Dickinson, Grace McGrath, Fran Putnam, Priscilla Baker, Louis Cox, and Peter Schenk

Jean opened the meeting with a passage from PHP #453 “A Practical Mysticism” by Elizabeth Meyers.

19:05:01 Clerk’s Report: A letter of Transfer of Membership has been received for Ruah Swennerfelt and Louis Cox, from Burlington Meeting. Pastoral Care will review it and bring the matter to June Business Meeting. Rental Review Committee: Tom Baskett has agreed to join Karen Nawn-Fahey and Chris Stackhouse on the ad hoc committee to review and renegotiate the terms of our lease with Haurah. Friends are reminded to send the information on their social action work to Margie Latham.

19:05:02 Treasurer’s Report: Since the last Meeting for Business in April, I have written checks totaling \$590.20 including \$80 for childcare, \$133.33 for Children’s Program Coordinator, and \$376.92 for Community Supper expenses. I will be making a deposit next Friday for the month of May, including any checks currently in the mailbox.

19:05:03 Worship and Study: Worship and Study has planned two Friendly Forum dates. May 26, “Experiment with Light” and June 9, “Telling our Healing Stories”. Details can be found on the MFM Calendar.

19:05:04 Earthcare: No Report

19:05:05 Pastoral Care: The committee is working on the new directory and will be ready to put it out after committee assignments have been approved in June.

19:05:06 Fellowship Committee: No Report

19:05:07 Social Mapping/COSA: Whether the Social Action Mapping position should become a permanent position, particularly in the light of having laid down the Outreach and Social action committee, was discussed. We will consider this again in future meetings for business.

19:05:07 Nominating Committee: The nominating committee will present its nominations for meeting positions and committees at June MFB. How to handle our listing of meeting contacts in area groups addressing social concerns will be addressed.

19:05:08 New Business: Northwest Quarterly Meeting sent us two proposed minutes which will be considered for approval at the June QM. We had been asked to consider them and be prepared to report at the June quarter. These proposed minutes were sent out to all those on our listserv. Priscilla Baker clerked us as we considered the proposed minute on the humanitarian situation in Gaza. We minute the following:

After worshipful consideration of the proposed revised minute on the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, proposed for approval at the Northwest Quarterly meeting on June 1, we find we are not in unity with this proposed minute. We are grateful to the Friends and meetings that have brought this proposed minute to us, for their efforts to express our deep and serious concerns about the situation in Gaza. Our deliberation on the minute has educated us and inspired a great deal of soul searching among us about what our response should be. We encourage Friends and the Quarterly Meeting to move forward in the spirit of the New England Yearly Meeting minute 2017-46, copied below. We find this YM minute to be consistent with our values and leadings as Friends and helpful in guiding our understanding and response to the current and ongoing situations in the Israel-Palestine conflict. The YM minute speaks to our concerns about this situation.

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The NEYM Minute: 2017-46 Friends gathered at New England Yearly Meeting Annual Sessions at Castleton, Vermont, August 6-10, 2017, attest to the following: The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) testimony on peace, justice, and nonviolence is based in our experience of the divine in all of creation and within all persons. Thus, we are deeply troubled by the suffering and injustice caused by the Israeli/Palestinian conflict and we are concerned that our government perpetuates that violence by continuing to send billions of dollars of military aid to the region.

We call upon our nation to:

- Cease sending United States military aid and selling weapons to the entire Middle East
- Continue diplomatic efforts with all parties and remain in dialogue even with those who have acted violently.
- Join the international court system and accept its jurisdiction.

We call upon all nations to:

- Work with the United Nations Security Council to end military aid and arms sales from all outside countries to all parties in this conflict.
- Support the United Nations efforts to bring justice, peace, security, and reconciliation to all parties in the conflict.
- Take measures to assure that international laws are applied universally. We call upon all individuals and communities to:
- Support and learn from the many organizations that bring Israelis and Palestinians together for justice and peacemaking.
- Examine how anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, racism, and privilege affect our understanding of the conflict

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We are deeply grateful to the Friends who have worked over many months in preparing this minute.

We ask Friends to report back on what insights and conclusions they have in addressing this conflict and seasoning this minute.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship.

MIDDLEBURY FRIENDS MEETING

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Editor: Win Colwell

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Jean Rosenberg 388-6453

Recording Clerk

Lucy McKeon
462-3039

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Karen Nawn-Fahey
PO Box 1026
Middlebury, VT 05753

Pastoral Care Committee

Caring for one another in a loving community is an important part of our life as a Meeting.
Call any member of Pastoral Care to share a concern or need.

Wendy Goodwin (385-1900)
Norm Tjossem (388-0338)

Brud Leedom (558-1005)
Grace McGrath (388-6576)

Faith Lowell (388-3056)

We welcome your submissions! — winslow.colwell@gmail.com
News of Quakerly Interest — lucym@shoreham.net

MIDDLEBURY FRIENDS MEETING

PO Box 1026
Middlebury, VT 05753

Meeting for Worship 10 AM every First Day

Havarah House, 56 N. Pleasant St. (Rt.7), Middlebury

www.middleburyquakers.org

Please send newsletter submissions to the address above or to
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