



# THIRD HAVEN FRIENDS MEETING

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*April, 2024 Newsletter*

*“Blessed are the peace makers, for they will be called children of God.”*  
Matthew 5:9

## **Third Haven Friends Meeting Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Tenth Day, Third Month, 2024**

**Opening silent worship:** Clerk Molly Brian opened the Meeting with silent worship at 11:37 a.m.

**Attending:** (hybrid) Molly Brian, Mia Brown-Echerd, Larny Claggett, Lorraine Claggett, Susan Claggett, Tom Corl, Stephanie French, John Hawkinson, Marsie Hawkinson, Kristina Herold, Bill Lane Jr., Marie Leonard, Connie Lewis, Steven Meixner, Clinton Pettus, Terry-Thomas Primer, Cynthia Quast, Dee Rein, Bill Schauer, Priscilla Sener, Jonathan Slocum, Nancy Stanford, Paige Tilghman, Ben Tilghman, John Turner, Joan Wetmore, Jonathan Williams, Winslow Womack

**Comments on Third Query** Deepening our Faith: Spiritual Nurture  
None

### **Approval of minutes** from 2/11/2024 **Approved as amended**

Amendment: For the 2.11 minutes add at the end of the Planning Committee update:  
“This additional work by Jonathan Ceci Landscape Architecture will cost \$2500. The Meeting approved this additional expense from the Building Fund.”

Comments on minutes 2/11/2024

Planning Committee: 3 of 4 improvements discussed have to do with this Brick Meeting House, which is our home. That includes the upstairs; it is not just a child/kid space; it is for the entire

meeting. There are opportunities up there for us to grow as a Meeting and use that space with better access.

### **Clerks Desk-** *Molly Brian*

The all clerks meeting provided a threshing session about where we've been, are now and are going. This also involved brain storming. We were all in unity for the Planning phase 1 projects. Different ideas included planning for the 350<sup>th</sup> celebration of Third Haven, doing more together in service and historical arenas, having more community involvement, and what we ourselves can do at low cost, like clearing children's play spaces.

### **Planning Committee Update** – *Tom Corl*

Based on the work of Mary Yancey, Whitley Gray, Priscilla Sener, the tree survey group, Amelia Corl and others, we submitted a revised application for \$9800 to the Chesapeake Bay Trust 3G grant program this past week. With \$5000 matches each from the Trustees and the Meeting Building Fund, this will advance our work on tree succession planning and implementation. We are awaiting the final building drawings from John Milner Architects. We expect these drawings in the next 2 weeks. These drawings will enable us to interview potential contractors and get bids for the external stairway, the ramp to the brick meetinghouse and related work. The Planning Committee will meet next on Wednesday 3.20 at noon in the common room.

### **Hospitality Annual Report-** *Jonathan Williams*

This annual report proposed improvements for hospitality. The current sign-up system isn't working. Proposed were options for improvement and resultant discussion:

Perhaps friendship groups could sign up quarterly as a team to do hospitality quarterly. People knowing each other well might be able to help each other better. This might be easier to coordinate.

We do have a plan to have a coordinator, but who will do the work is unclear.

Make cleanup of the kitchen a part of Spring and Fall clean up days, thus including people who aren't up to heavier outside work.

Comments:

Welcome kitchen clean up as part of clean up days. Friendship groups for 2-3 months might work better.

Keep in mind hospitality means more than just bringing food. It involves set up and clean up.

A quarterly commitment may be too long.

We could try asking committees to take a month each. First Day school is willing. Pastoral Care is willing.

They will coordinate together and then talk following a trial run at next business meeting.

Smaller committees could join together. Jonathan will be there to provide continuity and institutional memory.

Hospitality participation is important to draw new members into the community.

Creating small groups for projects needs to consider how families form and develop. Hence, it may take time for a group to solidify for a purpose.

## **New Business**

**Treasurer's comment:** Financial Return on Investment may be difficult to put together for the Brick Meeting House back stair project, but that doesn't preclude doing it. Understanding what it will bring to us and the cost means going in with eyes open.

### **Third Haven Summer Mindfulness Camp**

The dates are June 24-27 with two camps, morning and afternoon. Sign up has begun.

**First Day School** will have an Easter egg hunt followed by an Easter potluck lunch for the entire Meeting.

The **new members and attenders lunch** was originally scheduled for the week after Easter, but two potlucks in a row seemed too much so Pastoral Care will discuss at their next meeting.

**Houses in "The Hill" area in Easton** were built by and for free slaves to live and work farms.

Quakers had a part in this process

**Notice from Wicomico River Meeting** asks we hold May 19<sup>th</sup> for Southern Quarterly Meeting to be held at Wicomico River Meeting.

**Restoration Work on the Old Meeting House** continues with an explanation by contractors today after Meeting for Business. Sills will be replaced in a complex process involving raising the building 1 inch with airbags and jacks.

## **Closing Silent Worship 12:08 p.m.**

D. Rein, Recording Clerk

## **First Day School**

March 25<sup>th</sup> First Day School was taught by Cherie Baron. She writes: "We explored the grounds a little and discussed the desire to sometimes quiet our bodies to observe our own thoughts as well as the sounds, colors and textures around us. We painted with quill feathers what we observed together."





March 31<sup>st</sup> First Day School celebrated Easter with egg dying and a pot luck lunch for the entire Meeting.



Following egg dying older children hid eggs on the grounds followed by an enthusiastic Easter egg hunt by all.



## **Conversations on Race**

Greetings,

You're invited to our next **Conversation on Race**. We're excited to be partnering with Needle's Eye Academy for our April session.

**Monday, April 22, 2024**

5:30-7:30pm

Talbot County Free Library (100 W. Dover Street, Easton, MD)

A light meal and refreshments will be provided.

Please share this invitation with interested community members in your network. *Even better, bring someone with you this month!*

Best, *Nancy Andrew*

Nancy Andrew, MSW, Executive Director

Talbot Family Network

[COR Flyer April 2024.pdf](#)

## **Old Meeting House Restoration**

Every 30 years or so the Old Meeting House requires extensive restoration work to maintain its structural integrity and historical significance. This has been one of those times. The Trustees of Third Haven Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, Incorporated, which owns the property in Trust for the Third Haven Monthly Meeting, has this responsibility. With some support of the Maryland Historic Trust, this extensive job has been under way for months. Bill Lane Jr. has coordinated the work of numerous contractors. Willie Graham, former curator of architecture at Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Va., has guided the process as consultant. David Weir, Weir Woodworks, has served as lead carpenter with assistance from John O'Rourke Preservation Carpentry. Total Home Performance has helped address moisture issues. James Mosner is replacing window sashes and panes in an historically accurate manner. E.R. Harvey

Metal Working, R.M. Woody Masonry, and Mark Cummings Painting provided additional services. All contractors used historically appropriate materials from Jack Abeel Custom Millwork and Zieg Studios.

The original plan for the effort is below:

Scope of Work:

- Provide a limited historical assessment of the building (not a full historic structure report (HSR)). This will include:
  - A complete inspection of the meeting house inside and out with an assessment of the dating of all its parts.
  - An essay describing the existing fabric, the dating of its various parts, and a summary of their importance
  - An overview of the documentary record, which focuses on ones relating to the building's architecture and use
- Create a set of measured drawings from laser scans. The drawings will include plans and elevations sufficient to provide directions for the restoration. Produce photographs (high resolution DSLR) used to detail proposed work in areas where photographic images more easily illustrate work than do drawings.
- Develop design and specifications for work required to repair the meeting house and restore any aspect deemed necessary.
- Create a maintenance plan for the long-term care of the meeting house.
- Sample the meeting house for tree-ring dating of the original and second construction phases; prepare samples; analyze them; write a report of the findings.
- Provide direction and oversight to craftsmen/women engaged in the restoration as required. Provide sources of materials and help find skilled craftsmen/women and suppliers to undertake required work.

Team:

- Willie Graham, (Willie Graham, LLC) project manager and lead architectural historian. Willie will work with all team members, coordinate their work, and will be responsible for editing the work. He will take the lead on the investigations and design and will provide direction and oversight to the construction team. Willie retired from the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation as the curator of architecture. He is an associate research scholar at the University of Maryland and a consultant on historic building projects.
- Carl Lounsbury, architectural historian. He will help with analysis of the building, pull together known documentary sources, and write the historical section of the report. Carl spent his career studying historic church and meeting houses. Carl retired from the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation as their senior architectural historian and currently teaches at the College of William and Mary.
- Matthew (Matt) Webster, building conservator. Matt will help troubleshoot conservation issues and write specifications. Matt will also develop the maintenance plan. Matt is the director of architectural conservation and research at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.

- Brent Fortenberry. Brent will do the laser scanning and oversee production of the measured drawings. Brent is the associate director of the Center for Heritage Conservation and assistant professor at Texas A&M University.
- Michael (Mick) Worthington, dendrochronologist, Oxford Tree-Ring Laboratory. Mick will undertake the dendrochronology study.

A surprise discovery of sill rot on the western side of the building necessitated a challenging replacement of two sill timbers. Engineered and executed by David Weir and John O'Rourke with hands on help from Third Haven members, the process was successful and the restoration continues with adaptations to the entrances, preventing future water damage. The project continues in hopes of a return to the building for Summer 2024 use by members.

**Donations toward care of this historic building may be made to:**

**Treasurer**

**Trustees of Third Haven Monthly Meeting**

**9249 High Banks Drive**

**Easton, Md 21601**



**Third Haven volunteers unload sill timbers.**



**David Weir and John O'Rourke in the sill replacement process.**