

**Third Haven Friends Meeting**  
**Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business**  
**Eleventh Day Sixth Month 2023**

**Opening silent worship:** Clerk Molly Brian opened the Meeting with silent worship at 11:45 a.m.

Attending: (hybrid) Molly Brian, Mia Brown-Echerd, Larny Claggett, Lorraine Claggett, Sally Claggett, Tom Corl, Stephanie French, Kristina Herold, Marsie Hawkinson, John Hawkinson, Bill Lane, Marie Leonard, Connie Lewis, Steven Meixner, Marian Murphy, Terry-Thomas Primer, Cynthia Quast, Dee Rein, John Rodgers, Nancy Robbins, Bill Schauer, Priscilla Sener, Nancy Stanford, Ben Tilghman, Paige Tilghman, John Turner, Kevin Walsh, Winslow Womack, Mary Yancey

**Comments on Sixth Query, (read at Meeting for Worship)**

When a Friends meeting gives money to causes, we have two priorities: Quaker organizations and other organizations. Both are important. We should remember them in our own giving. Some big organizations stretch their obligations and do not live up to expectations. Small organizations may be more effective use of money.

**Approval of minutes from Fifth Month business meeting Approved**

**Treasurer's Report – Ben Tilghman Accepted**

With 93% of the budgeted fiscal year completed, income stands at 87%, a deficit of 5%. Expenses are at 93% of budget, and expected to finish the year on target. As of June 11, we are projecting a shortfall from budget of \$4,308.08. However, we have in hand several significant donations and anticipate reimbursements from the Trustees of \$4,250 which, if received, will put us almost exactly on budget for yearend FY22-23. This budget projected a surplus of \$2,155, which, if realized, will be added to working cash reserves for FY 23-24. Bear in mind though, Member and Attender donations remain significantly below budget and are a cause for concern for next fiscal year's budget.

**Budget Proposal FY 23-24 Ben Tilghman and Bill Lane Approved**

The FY 23-24 Budget is balanced at \$71,750.00, with Member contributions projecting an 8% increase for the previous year. Expenses are projected to be \$71,750, and increase of 5%. This increase is driven in part by a 9% increase in caretakers wages, a gift of \$1,000 of wood stove pellets to the caretaker, and increased costs of gas for the furnace.

Friends should keep in mind that the annual expense of \$71,750 is significantly below the actual cost to operate Meeting for the year. This is the result of Friends making generous "in kind" donations of goods and services which are truly appreciated, but are not captured as operating costs in the budget. Also, the Trustees often step in to assist with expenses associated with the maintenance of the physical plant. In most other organizations such costs are part of the annual operating expenses.

Discussion covered sums for scholarship, Easton fire department caring for members, and importance of scholarships to children who have left here, carriage shed money being held as seed money for next sale.

## Third Haven Monthly Meeting of Friends Budget

July 2023 through June 2024

Cash Basis

	<u>Jul '23 - Jun 24</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Camp Fee	1,000.00
Member Contributions	55,750.00
Attender Contributions	10,000.00
Other Contributions	1,500.00
Interest & Dividends Earned	100.00
Sales & Cash Box	400.00
Use of Facilities	3,000.00
Total Income	<u>71,750.00</u>
Gross Profit	<u>71,750.00</u>
Expense	
Campaign Committee	2,250.00
Planning	2,000.00
Property & Grounds	
Donation to Easton Fire Dept	0.00
Property & Grounds - Other	36,500.00
Total Property & Grounds	<u>36,500.00</u>
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting	17,500.00
Charitable Contributions	3,000.00
Communications	2,500.00
Conferences & Seminars	0.00
First Day School	
Camp	1,000.00
First Day School - Other	2,500.00
Total First Day School	<u>3,500.00</u>
General Administration	1,400.00
Hospitality	400.00
Outreach	0.00
Pastoral Care	450.00
Quarterly Meeting	0.00
Scholarships	2,000.00
Testimonies & Concerns	0.00
Worship & Ministry	250.00
Total Expense	<u>71,750.00</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>0.00</u>
Net Income	<u>0.00</u>

**First Day School Annual Report** – *Dee Rein for Susan Claggett and Sarah Hilderbrand*  
FDS annual report June 2023

The First Day School met twice per month this school year starting in Sept 2022 and finishing June 2023. We have 14 families associated with our Meeting and attendance has been regular throughout the year. We continued with the one room classroom until Spring when we began holding 2 classes, 1) ages 5-10 and 2) middle school age. We celebrated one graduating senior in June, Atticus Leibman who graduated from University of Maryland. We welcomed new baby, Langdon Gray as well as two new families who had attended our summer camp from June 2022. Throughout the year, FDS class themes often followed our 6 testimonies with a strong emphasis on learning within the natural world. Our 7 acre campus supplies abundant opportunities for spiritual growth. The children made pollinator shelters, learned about composting, took many walks around the property, and even drew maps of the Third Haven grounds all the while understanding about communities. The children painted oyster shells and recycled crayons to sell in the annual members Art show in Dec. They also stocked the baked goods table, which sold out! In October the families gathered for a pumpkin fun night and in December the children participated in the annual Holiday program. FDS also held the annual Easter Egg hunt on Easter with many families attending. Children enjoyed making baskets under the guidance of Heidi Wetzel. The testimonies of community, integrity, stewardship and peace were all discussed in this year's children's program. At the end of the year, we celebrated the Moving up ceremony with a large potluck co-hosted with the Hospitality committee. Throughout the year on the 17th of every month the children were asked to help prepare the Interfaith Shelter meal in conjunction with the Testimonies and Concerns committee. We also won best nonprofit float in Christmas parade thanks to Jeanne Halpin and First Day School parents.

In June 2023, FDS will hold the annual summer Mindfulness camp. Miss Cherie Baron and Miss Kristin Hanlon will again be our camp leaders as well as being regular teachers throughout the school year. Amy Owsley will again be onsite camp coordinator, and her son Liam Ewing will again be a Junior Counselor for the camp. The Clerks wish to thank all the members who helped teach and who supported the FDS program throughout the year. We also wish to thank all the parents who bring their children to Third Haven. We love having them!

**Planning Committee Report** *Tom Corl*

**Phase 1 Priority Projects**

**Introduction**

At the 5.14 meeting for business (M4B) the Planning Committee presented the Master Plan developed in collaboration with John Milner Architects (JMA) and Jonathan Ceci Landscape Architecture (JCLA). The 5.14 minutes state "Acknowledging concerns regarding growth of the Meeting, financial issues and specific aspects of the Plan to be decided later, the REPORT was ACCEPTED."

Since then, the Planning Committee (PC) and the Campaign Committee (CC) have worked on discerning the priorities, and sequencing priority projects for Phase 1, of implementing the Master Plan. In this report, the PC presents the 4 Phase 1 priority projects, and asks the Meeting to approve proceeding these projects, so that the PC and others can continue to work on design, cost estimates and implementation.

## **Phase 1 priorities**

At its 6.7 meeting, after thorough discussion and discernment, the PC reached agreement and approval of the following 4 projects as the top priorities in Phase 1 for Master Plan implementation:

1. External stairway to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the BMH: The PC will get estimates for design, and construction costs for an external stairway to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of brick BMH). Joshua Kiehl of JMA seems to be the best candidate for this, as he has done a good deal of thinking and work on the external stairway. Steve Meixner and Tom Corl have talked to Joshua and alerted him to the idea that we may request an estimate for the design costs for the external stairway. Getting estimates for construction costs, permitting and installation can follow.
2. Renovate 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the BMH: Renovate 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the BMH, including the rest room, for First Day School (FDS) use, safety, and related uses. The scope and costs of these renovations are to be determined.
3. Accessibility ramp to the BMH: We will seek estimates for design and construction costs. Design the ramp. Get construction cost estimates and permits for the construction of an ADA compliant ramp to the BMH, along the south side, away from the building.
4. Tree succession plan: Priscilla Sener has been in contact with Jonathan Ceci about “Trees Succession Planning.” Jonathan sent her a detailed, 3-phase proposal. The proposal is thought to be comprehensive and thorough. The PC will consider phasing and other sources of funding including grants and Interfaith Partners of the Chesapeake. The long-term implementation costs will be significant. The Meeting will be tree stewards forever.

## **Financing**

There is about \$110,000 in the building fund at present. Phase 1 projects will require a good deal more than available at present in the Building Fund.

The sources of funding will be:

- increases in the Building Fund,
- Trustees’ financial contributions,
- Campaign Committee fundraising, and
- external grants as may be secured.

The PC believes that these 4 Phase 1 projects need to be funded by Meeting financial contributions, Trustee financial contributions and such grants as may be available. External funds can support later Phase projects.

The PC will operate within the constraints of the Building Fund, Trustees' financial contributions and grants. **The PC will always seek Meeting approval for construction and financing of all Master Plan projects.**

## **Phase 2**

The PC continues its work on phasing. The following projects would be in Phase 2, but the PC believes that we can continue to work on planning and advancing the following projects. These are not in priority order.

- Annie's Cottage,
- Improvements in the children's area,
- Shed, and
- Lighting improvements.

These Phase 2 improvements can be planned, designed, and implemented as Phase 1 priorities are funded and completed.

## **Discussion:**

Concern was expressed with the overall plan. Time and effort put into the plan is appreciated.

Fourteen months ago, the Meeting engaged an independent architect to conduct a Property Assessment of Third Haven based on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Many of the discrepancies regarding the Brick Meeting House reported in this lengthy assessment have been included in the outline of Master Plan Priorities. A member recommended that top priority be given to correcting the ADA deficiencies such as the rear stairway, the entrances, and the internal structure of the Brick Meeting House.

Later items in the plan will be discussed with the Meeting in the future. The first 3 items are integrated so it makes sense to attack them together. Tree succession planning will allow assessment by Meeting members at no financial cost.

Requested permission for implementation of design and cost estimates for Phase 1 # 1, 2, 3.

**Approved**

## **Campaign Committee Update- Tom Corl Accepted**

This year, the Meeting Campaign Committee (CC) has worked on planning and preparation for the fundraising campaign – *Friends Light the Way* – intended to realize and fulfill the Third Haven Master Plan, over some period to be determined. John Milner Architects (JMA) and Jonathan Ceci Landscape Architecture (JCLA) completed the Master Plan, in collaboration with the CC and the Meeting. The Meeting accepted (approved?) Master Plan at the 5.14 meeting for business.

For the last several years at least, the rate of making financial contributions to the Operating Fund of the Meeting has been consistently about 50% of members. Attenders also make

financial contributions. All who become members are told of the obligations of membership, to:

- attend meeting for worship,
- support the work of the Meeting by serving on committees or otherwise doing the work of the Meeting, and
- making annual financial contributions to support the Meeting’s operations.

This consistent relatively low rate of annual giving to the Operating Fund has been deemed to be a significant obstacle to the Campaign by the CC and various fundraising experts consulted by CC members. This low rate of giving will adversely affect our ability to raise funds, especially outside the Meeting community itself. Accordingly, the CC Meeting Support Working Group has reached out and tried to contact all resident and non-resident members to contribute to the Operating Fund this fiscal year (FY) 2022-23, July 2022 – June 2023.

The current financial giving results for this FY are shown in the tables below:

<b>Members</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Operating Fund Financial Gifts</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Average</b>
Resident	69	40	58%	\$33,074	78%	\$827
Non-Resident	50	13	26%	\$9,400	22%	\$723
Total	119			\$42,474	100%	

<b>Attenders</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Operating Fund Financial Gifts</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Average</b>
	105	23	\$10,360	\$450

<b>Members</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Building Fund Financial Gifts</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Average</b>
Resident	69	16	17%	\$61,243	86%	\$3,828
Non-Resident	50	5	10%	\$10,200	14%	\$2,040
Total	119			\$71,443	100%	

<b>Attenders</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Building Fund Financial Gifts</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Average</b>
	105	2	\$2,800	\$1,400

Discussion: Is there something we need to do differently to reach out to gain more participation/contributions from members? Efforts by the campaign committee contacting members individually had a small effect. Perhaps quarterly participation rate, contributions publication might be helpful. Clarity between operations and building contributions would be useful. Operating budget is currently our focus. Quarterly reports of the operating budget status

are available in the newsletter and spreadsheets on the website. We do well at managing expenses, but need to increase our contributions with participation by all members at whatever level they can afford.

**Report of Meeting with Paramount Chief Norris Howard Sr. and other representatives from the Pocomoke Indian Nation at Third Haven Friends Meeting. Wednesday, May 31, 2023. Mary Yancey**

In attendance: Paramount Chief Norris Howard, Sr., Cheryl Doughty (daughter and representative of Chief Norris Howard), Norris “Buddy” Howard, Jr., Philip L. Goldsborough, Molly B. Brian (Clerk of Third Haven Monthly Meeting), Priscilla Sener, Lorraine Claggett, Mary Yancey.

As a part of our planning process, we at Third Haven reached out to representatives of Native American tribes in Maryland asking for their assistance in exploring the history of the Native peoples of this region and how our Quaker history intersects with the history of the people who have occupied the lands where we currently live, work and worship.

Molly Brian started the meeting with a welcoming statement, stating that we would like to have a fuller understanding of this history and to be able to tell it truthfully. There ensued a long and rich discussion of the history of the Pocomoke people, how and why much of their history has been lost and what these researchers and others have been able to reconstruct from various recorded sources.

Our discussions included a recognition that it’s important to verify the story of Native peoples that is being told, from multiple sources ideally, as misinformation is sometimes promulgated as the truth.

The meeting progressed with a long walk around the Third Haven grounds, including visiting both Meetinghouses, the burial grounds, and a walk around the whole perimeter of the property. We discussed our commitment to care for our land and possible plans for future development. In concluding the meeting our guests asked how they could assist us going forward. We acknowledged that we have a lot of work to do to learn and understand more fully the histories of Native Americans and others who have occupied these lands, and that we don’t expect others to do that work for us.

We agreed that we would like to continue a dialog and share information and historical references where our stories intersect. We asked if, prior to our disseminating any public information about Native Americans as it relates to our own history, we could submit it to them for review and verification. We are invited to learn more about the Pocomoke Indian Nation through their website at their website [www.pocomokeindiannation.org](http://www.pocomokeindiannation.org) and to keep abreast of and to join activities on their online calendar.

**New Business**

**Easton Peace Vigil** was started about 20 years ago by a group that is no longer active. The ask is that Third Haven take this over. We already have an insurance policy. The current permit plan runs out in early August. Note: We also support Food Link under the auspices of Testimonies and Concerns. Testimonies and Concerns supports the Peace Vigil proposal. **Approved**

**Closing Silent Worship** 12:55 p.m.

Recording Clerk D. Rein

