

“Draft Minutes” for the 3/3/24 AQM Representative Meeting at Byberry Monthly Meeting. Present were Stacy Kent Wyckoff-Gwynedd, Marguerite Hayes-Norristown, Rebecca Cratin-Plymouth Meeting, & Ann Tucker-Richland were there on virtual side of the meeting. Tom Peterson-Unami, Bob Reiff-Unami, Dave Nepley-Byberry, Mary Ellen McNish -Byberry & Kelly Green-Norristown were there in person for the meeting. We opened the meeting in worship. The clerk thanked Byberry for hosting our meeting ! David Nepley gave us a warm welcome! The minutes from 11/5/23 were edited and approved with edits.

- * Stacy gave a report of what’s going on at Gwynedd. She shared they are still looking for a Youth Coordinator for their First Day school. They are thrashing through their Safety protocol to continue their need to be emergency prepared. They are continuing the Bus Stop planning on Summneytown Pike.
- * Ann, shared the news about Richland, They are ready for children to provide First day school activities, but the family with children are not regularly attending, so it’s a little daunting. They are blessed with many new adult attenders and have an adult quaker lessons before their meeting for worship. Mostly using articles from the Friends Journal as topics. After their worship, there is a light lunch after meeting for worship. They are still very active with, “ Food for Friends”, Were people in the community drive up and get meals to go.
- * Marguerite gave a report for Norristown. Shared that they attend to worship, in person. If any one would want to attend using the zoom application, we request they give us a weeks notice, so we may accommodate their request. Typically there 8-10 people in attendance on Sundays. We are having our 2nd Sunday fellowship, which we call GEM day- Greeting & Eating @ Meeting. We have soup and a light lunch after meeting for worship then. We still do our 3rd Thursday soup Kitchen hosting at St. John’s Episcopal Church in Norristown. We are planning our annual Easter celebration @ Upper Providence Meeting House, March 31st. We will meet at UPMH at 8 am and return to Norristown for a Easter Breakfast potluck.
- * Rebecca shared what’s going on at Plymouth. They are still supporting to worship times, one at 10 am, called plain worship, which is in person. The other is at 11 which is a blended worship, using Technology of computer and interfacing with participants on the zoom application.. There is still concern about if this is good for the meeting, splitting the whole in half for two different worships. Visitors seem to come for the plain worship. They are starting to have adult first day sessions after the 11 o’clock meeting for worship today. The land acknowledgement group is still pursuing the journey of discovery and a path forward for the meeting.
- * Dave gave a report about Byberry. He remarked that the Quarter hasn’t met there since 2019. Since then they have been dealing with a major changes of virtual worship meetings, with Upper Dublin. Hiring a coordinator to help facilitate outreach and building an addition to the meeting house. The addition was finished last year and we celebrated our 340 anniversary with an Open House. The Abolition Hall is slated for final renovations later this year.
- * Tom, shared what’s happening at Unami. Sometimes kids come to meeting and sometimes they don’t. Once a month we schedule a inter-generational worship, to include children in the worship. This has been well received! They have had a Leni-Lenape person speak at their meeting recently. This person is on a fellowship at Ursinus College. He explained that there is a schism in the tribe now, and that we should be aware of the fracture as we move forward with our land acknowledgment thoughts and action. Unami has also been going through the FCNL priority thrashing.

The clerk , went through the Items all ready on the May 5 AQM meeting @ Gwynedd.

He shared that Judith Innskeep has interest in having a speaker from the Ujima Friends Peace Center speak, but has not gotten any confirmation yet.

* Rebecca shared that the Land acknowledgment group at Plymouth have been networking with the Mennonite Heritage Center, and that might be a good topic or resource for a speaker kind of presentation at one of our Quarterly meetings.

*The clerk said he will follow up with Judith and Gwynedd to see how the speaker part of the next quarterly meeting will develop.

* Stacy aired it would be great to understand the Leni-Lenape schism.

* In finishing up the discussion of things that were on the agenda, The clerk voiced ,that there is an opportunity for a rising clerk of the quarter. If you are interested in serving , see theclerk. We have also been requested to ask for people interested in serving on the AQM fund committee. Again see the clerk if interested.

*The World Quaker Day will be celebrated on October 6th, with FWCC. We should get a plan together and celebrate it as a quarterly meeting somehow.

*Bob Reiff shared that the Monthly Meeting Annual reports are being archived in the members only area of the website , for members to have access to. That protected area is where we will be keeping our AQM directory also. So we can share contact information of Monthly meetings, with out fear of it being distributed outside our faith community.

*There are still some meetings who have not shared their annual reports and contact list with the AQM Clerk. Upper Dublin, Horsham, Norristown, Richland and Plymouth. We hope we can wrap up the directory in March.

*Mary Ellen, shared that the FGC Gathering will be at Haverford College this year!
June30th - July 6 - 370 Lancaster Avenue , Haverford, PA 19041
She urged as many of our friends to attend. It is very local!

We closed our meeting with silent reflection, of thanks for our community and being guided by the grace of God.

Kelly Green , recording for the meeting