

Report of Brooklyn Monthly Meeting

For New York Quarterly Meeting, **25th of Tenth Month, 2015**

Brooklyn Monthly Meeting worshiped every First Day at 9:00 and 11:00 am, as well as on every Third Day at 6:30 pm this quarter. Meeting for worship with a Concern for Business was held on Sixth Day of Ninth month and Eleventh Day of Tenth month. During this period we received into membership Robin Puskas and her son Joseph Eisman (aged 2 years), Colleen Cruz and Nadine Baldasare. Patty Frascatore transferred her membership from 15th Street Meeting meeting. Colleen Cruz and Nadine Baldasare were married under the care of the meeting 24th Day of Tenth month. A Memorial Service was held for Susan Laughter on 29th Day of Eighth month and for Larry Jaeger on Fourth Day of Tenth month. His ashes were buried in our cemetery in Prospect Park earlier that morning.

We continue to have hymn singing on First Day, worshiping on spiritual texts second First Days, worship sharing on third First Days, and our community dinner on fourth or fifth First Days. Our member Paul van Linden Tol is convening a silent witness over the problem of mass incarcerations of African Americans in America's prisons. Friends are encouraged to join him at the statue of Robt. Kennedy in front of the Brooklyn Supreme Court at 12:30 – 1:45 on Fourth days.

I was asked to forward the following minute to NYQM:

2015.10.07

For Planned Parenthood Federation of America and, in particular, its local affiliate, Planned Parenthood of New York City, Brooklyn Monthly Meeting affirms its unwavering support. Appalled, as are many around us, by recent political attacks on this beneficent organization, we take note of its contribution to our nation's wellbeing. Especially for low income women, Planned Parenthood NYC provides affordable breast and cervical cancer screening, sexual and reproductive health care, contraception counseling and methods, emergency contraception, HIV counseling and testing, tests for sexually transmitted infections, assistance to women enrolling in public insurance or obtaining private insurance through the Affordable Care Act, as well as, surgical and medication abortion. In Fact, in spite of media repetition that may make it seem otherwise, less than ten percent of PPNYC.s client contacts involve abortion services.

In other words, this anti-choice madness threatens a reproductive health network that nationwide, is filling a huge vacuum in affordable woman's health services. Brooklyn Meeting lovingly endorses Planned Parenthood's mission and calls upon our elected representatives --- at all levels --- to protect and defend its government-based grants and Medicaid reimbursement contracts.

Friends approve the minute and request that the clerk send a copy to our elected officials, to New York Quarterly Meeting (for their approval and forwarding to New York Yearly Meeting), and to Joan Malin, President and CEO of PPNYC

In Friendship,

Ted Ehrhardt, Clerk