

New York Quarterly Meeting, Religious Society of Friends

Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

October 16, 2022

Attendance: 33

Clerk: Katherine Alford (Morningside)

Morningside: 10

Recording Clerk: Sarah Way (Brooklyn)

Staten Island: 1

Brooklyn: 6

NYQM interim exec dir: Betsy Smulyan

Fifteenth Street: 6

Visitors/Unidentified: 1

Flushing: 4

Manhattan: 2

2022.10.01. The meeting settled into silence at 1:00 p.m. in the historic Flushing Meetinghouse. Out of the silence Katherine Alford, clerk, shares an excerpt from the poem *Another Nautical* by Amanda Gorman, attached below.

2022.10.02. Jeffrey Guyton reads an acknowledgment of the original inhabitants of the land, the Matinecock.

2022.10.03. The clerk, attending via Zoom, screen-shares the agenda. Friends review and approve it.

2022.10.04. The [minutes](#) from the previous meeting, in July 2022, are reviewed and approved.

2022.10.05. Glenn Josey gives the clerk's [report from the Trustees](#). This summer, a search committee was formed to find a new executive director for the quarter. Listening meetings have been held throughout the quarter to find out what Friends would like from the quarter. Glenn reads the job posting, which is attached. The job posting is posted to the NYQM website and will be posted to popular job sites. Friends are asked to spread the word about this job opening, and to refer appropriate people to the position. Friends respond to the job listing.

2022.10.06. As part of the Trustees report, the new treasurer, Dan Seeger, gives [the financial report](#). Dan reports that he has managed budgets for Quaker organizations that involve a mix of property management and programming expenses, and thought that experience would prepare him for being treasurer for the quarter. However, the quarter has not been following generally accepted accounting practices. The quarter is financially secure, but our financial management has been a little nontraditional. We've also been operating without a capital renewal and

replacement plan for our properties. Changing this will take work and time. The financial report given today, attached, reflects the current state of the financial records and includes a preview of a more regularized budget that is planned for implementation in the future.

Friends discussed the financial report and the future accounting of the quarter's finances. Friends express gratitude for Dan and Betsy Smulyan's work.

2022.10.07. Glenn reads a recently-approved minute from the Trustees asking that no decisions be made on new outlays and expenses until the quarter's finances are revised and brought into accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, and the new executive director is in place. Friends receive the report from the Trustees, including the financial report.

2022.10.08. Jeffrey Guyton gives the [report for Flushing Meeting](#). Hybrid worship continues and some new attendees have appeared. There is an atmosphere of renewal. Friends accept the report, which is attached.

2022.10.09. Margaret Mulindi gives the report for Manhattan Meeting. David Herendeen continues to serve as pastor. Once a month the meeting has an "Each one, bring one" worship. Friends accept the report.

2022.10.10. Carol Summar gives the [report from 15th Street Meeting](#). Friends in Unity with Nature has brought a concern about the garden at 15 Rutherford Place, and Betsy provides an update on this. 15th Street has met for worship outside in the courtyard, inside the meetinghouse, and over Zoom. Volunteers for the homeless shelter are welcome. The play "Except Mr. Dickinson" is being performed in the meeting room. Friends accept the report.

2022.10.11. Jonathan Fluck gives the [report from Brooklyn Meeting](#). A projector has been installed in the meeting room and a test hybrid business meeting will happen soon. First Day School is up and running. Marriages and a new member are reported. Friends accept the report.

2022.10.12. Ed Elder reads the [report from Morningside Meeting](#). At hybrid worship, attendance in person has begun to exceed attendance online. 4th Sunday breakfasts have resumed. The meeting has suffered losses, including that of David Fletcher, whose memorial meeting is being planned. Friends accept the report, attached.

2022.10.13. Ted Lockwyn reports from [Staten Island Executive Meeting](#). Worship is held twice a month, sometimes on the beach and followed by swimming. Friends accept the report, which is attached.

2022.10.14. Katherine Alford reads [Morningside Meeting's comments](#) in response to the quarter's ad hoc committee on Witness concerns. It is wished that Witness concerns are addressed using the "first fruits" of our budget, making them a priority. Glenn Josey points out that there is an existing budget line for Witness work on the current year's financial report with a much smaller amount than is being discussed to be spent in the future. Friends expressed the desire to form the committee now, and not wait for the new and finalized budget and the hiring of the new executive director.

Katherine asks all monthly meetings to minute their approval of the formation of this proposed reformulation of the Witness Committee originally described in the Handbook. Meetings are further asked to make nominations to this committee. Meetings are asked to give their nominations to the Witness Committee before the end of the year so its work can begin in 2023. The Witness Committee will give its first report at the next quarterly meeting.

Its work having been completed, the ad hoc committee can now be laid down, after holding a "hand-off" meeting once the new committee is formed.

Friends approve this minute.

2022.10.15. Announcements are shared.

2022.10.16. The meeting closes at 3:20 p.m. after a brief period of silence.

UPCOMING NYQM DATES:

2023:

January 15, Brooklyn Monthly Meeting

April 16, 15th Street Monthly Meeting

July 22, Friends Cemetery

October 15, Morningside Meeting

An excerpt from
Another Nautical
By Amanda Gorman

The English noun suffix *-ship* is unrelated to the vessel.

Rather it means “quality, condition, skill, office.”

The suffix’s origin is from the Old English *scieppan*, signifying
“to shape, create, form, destine”.

Add *-ship* to the end of a word & it transforms its meaning.

Relation	—>	ship
Leader	—>	ship
Kin	—>	ship
Hard	—>	ship

Add *-ship* to the end of a word & it transforms our meaning.

.....

To ship, in colloquial terms, means to imagine or place as a pair, to push two persons or things together, whereby we ship them. It is a shortened, verbed version of *relationship*, to dream of love where there was blankness.

Relationship	—>	ship
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Perhaps our relationships are the very make of us,
For fellowship is both our nature & our necessity.
We are formed primarily by what we imagine.

There truly is a unity
That requires no “they”
For us to be threatened by.
This is the very definition of love.
We’ve never had to hate a human
To hug another, never had to be fearful
To be fond of the hearts beating out to us.