

**Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting**  
**Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business**  
**Oct. 20, 2024**

**Agenda**

1. Opening Worship
2. Reading of the Land Acknowledgement Statement
3. Reading of Query for the Tenth Month
4. Clerk's Report
5. Treasurer's Annual Report
6. Addressing Racism Annual Report
7. Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting Representatives Annual Report
8. Property and House Annual Report
9. Minutes for Approval: September
10. Announcements
  - a. Reports due in November
    - i. Landscape Annual Report
    - ii. Nominating: Proposed Slate of Officers
    - iii. Peace and Social Concerns Annual Report
    - iv. Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting Annual Report
  - b. Release date for Nov 16 (3<sup>rd</sup> Sat) is tomorrow
11. Closing Worship

**Query for the Tenth Month**

**Witnessing in the World: Ministry of Outreach**

- How does our meeting communicate Friends' presence and principles to the wider community?
- How does our meeting join with other faith communities in worship, in spiritual dialogue and in social action?
- What are we doing to invite persons to attend our meetings for worship, to welcome them when they come, to listen sensitively to their needs and hesitations and to encourage their continued attendance?
- *How do I share my spiritual life and experience with others?*
- *Does my life as a Friend attract others to our religious society?*
- *What opportunities have I taken to worship with people from other religious and cultural backgrounds and work with them on common concerns?*

# Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting

## Income Statement - Operating Fund

Fiscal Year 2024 vs. 2023

	Jul 2023 - Jun 2024	Jul 2022 - Jun 2023 (PP)	Change	% Change
<b>Revenue</b>				
4000 Contributions				
4010 Member & Attender Contributions	\$137,856	\$121,306	\$16,550	14%
4030 Bequests/Other Contrib.	\$5,574	\$3,209	\$2,365	74%
4050 Skyspace Contributions	\$6,064	\$7,496	-\$1,432	-19%
<b>Total 4000 Contributions</b>	<b>\$149,494</b>	<b>\$132,011</b>	<b>\$17,483</b>	<b>13%</b>
4200 Use of Meeting House				
4210 Regular Tenants	\$23,931	\$11,774	\$12,158	103%
4220 Weddings & Events	\$30,103	\$15,297	\$14,806	97%
<b>Total 4200 Use of Meeting House</b>	<b>\$54,034</b>	<b>\$27,071</b>	<b>\$26,963</b>	<b>100%</b>
4300 Interest & Dividends	\$415	\$340	\$75	22%
4400 Other Income	\$0	\$621	-\$621	-100%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$203,942</b>	<b>\$160,042</b>	<b>\$43,900</b>	<b>27%</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
7100 Wages & Benefits				
7110 1st Day School Staff	\$3,016	\$3,265	-\$250	-8%
7120 Meeting Secretary	\$5,907	\$9,937	-\$4,030	-41%
7130 Child Care Compensation	\$2,158	\$1,170	\$988	84%
7131 Facilities Coordinator	\$959		\$959	
7132 Cleaning Staff	\$14,264	\$13,846	\$418	3%
7137 Bookkeeper	\$1,787	\$1,254	\$533	43%
7140 Payroll Taxes	\$1,756	\$2,276	-\$520	-23%
7150 Workers' Compensation	\$1,330	\$670	\$660	99%
<b>Total 7100 Wages &amp; Benefits</b>	<b>\$31,176</b>	<b>\$32,418</b>	<b>-\$1,242</b>	<b>-4%</b>
7200 Office & Administrative			\$0	
7210 Office Supplies		\$56	-\$56	-100%
7220 Telephone & Internet	\$4,356	\$2,348	\$2,008	86%
7230 Computer & Software	\$1,211	\$1,009	\$202	20%
7240 Postage and Printing	\$66		\$66	
7290 Miscellaneous Expense	\$195	\$95	\$100	105%
<b>Total 7200 Office &amp; Administrative</b>	<b>\$5,828</b>	<b>\$3,508</b>	<b>\$2,320</b>	<b>66%</b>
7300 Building & Grounds			\$0	
7310 Electricity	\$11,986	\$11,386	\$600	5%
7320 Gas Heat	\$512	\$433	\$80	18%
7330 Water and Sewer	\$3,383	\$2,480	\$902	36%
7340 Repairs and Replacement	\$7,821	\$2,534	\$5,287	209%
7341 Fire Alarm Maint./Monitoring	\$2,027	\$470	\$1,557	331%
7342 Elevator Maintenance/Repairs	\$2,490	\$3,222	-\$731	-23%
7346 HVAC Maintenance	\$9,769	\$22,953	-\$13,183	-57%
7350 Property Insurance	\$13,157	\$12,626	\$531	4%

**Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting**  
**Income Statement - Operating Fund**

Fiscal Year 2024 vs. 2023

	Jul 2023 - Jun 2024	Jul 2022 - Jun 2023 (PP)	Change	% Change
7360 Housekeeping & Supplies	\$362		\$362	
7374 Snow Removal	\$2,800		\$2,800	
7375 Landscaping	\$4,628	\$8,062	-\$3,434	-43%
7395 Mortgage Interest & Principal	\$36,124	\$38,590	-\$2,467	-6%
<b>Total 7300 Building &amp; Grounds</b>	<b>\$95,059</b>	<b>\$102,756</b>	<b>-\$7,697</b>	<b>-7%</b>
7400 Committee Expenses				
7415 Child Care Committee	\$52	\$225	-\$173	-77%
7435 Interfaith Hospitality	\$500	\$442	\$58	13%
7440 Library Committee		\$45	-\$45	-100%
7460 Property Committee	\$150		\$150	
7465 Religious Ed./1st Day	\$50	\$33	\$17	50%
7470 Religious Ed./Adult	\$200	\$45	\$155	344%
7499 Committee Discretionary	\$250		\$250	
<b>Total 7400 Committee Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,202</b>	<b>\$790</b>	<b>\$412</b>	<b>52%</b>
7500 Covenants and Grants				
7510 Yearly Meeting Covenant	\$22,500	\$28,125	-\$5,625	-20%
7520 Quarterly Mtg Covenant	\$2,200	\$2,200	\$0	0%
7530 Grants for Quaker/Community	\$4,650	\$4,000	\$650	16%
7540 Grants for P&SC	\$6,350	\$5,750	\$600	10%
7545 POWER		\$864	-\$864	-100%
7550 Tuition Assistance	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$0	0%
<b>Total 7500 Covenants and Grants</b>	<b>\$41,700</b>	<b>\$46,939</b>	<b>-\$5,239</b>	<b>-11%</b>
75422 Bank Service Charges	\$319	\$443	-\$124	-28%
7600 Other Expenses				
7620 Transaction Fees	\$1,270	\$1,899	-\$629	-33%
<b>Total 7600 Other Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,270</b>	<b>\$1,899</b>	<b>-\$629</b>	<b>-33%</b>
PayPal Fees	\$26	\$20	\$6	33%
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$176,581</b>	<b>\$188,773</b>	<b>-\$12,192</b>	<b>-6%</b>
<b>Net Operating Revenue</b>	<b><u>\$27,360</u></b>	<b><u>-\$28,731</u></b>	<b>\$56,092</b>	<b>195%</b>

## ADDRESSING RACISM COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

OCTOBER 2024

During the past year, the Addressing Racism Committee (ARC) of Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting (CHFM) has felt that CHFM has lost momentum in working on addressing racism, both personal and systemic. We are planning an Adult RE class for November 10, 2024 that we hope will reinvigorate commitment and provide ideas for moving forward. We feel that addressing racism does not conflict with, but rather informs and supports, the meeting's chosen focus on addressing climate change and growing spiritually.

Last fall, we again asked the Nominating Committee for new, more diverse members to join this committee, with no results. However, in late Spring, we welcomed two new people to our meetings while they consider formally joining ARC. They have made valuable contributions to the committee's work in the short time they have been with us. Despite the committee's small size, its members are deeply committed to ending racism and continue to seek ways to help others commit to this issue.

We have continued to make some progress in educating the CHFM community about racism. At this committee's suggestion, Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business has adopted a practice of providing a Land Acknowledgment at the beginning of opening worship. Land Acknowledgements offer Friends a way to acknowledge our ancestors' theft of the land we occupy from the indigenous people who were here before us, and remind us to accept humbly the stewardship role we now play as we "own" this land.

ARC sponsored the Friday evening Annual Sessions of Ujima Friends Meeting at our meetinghouse on June 21. We again hosted the Summer Freedom School of Ujima Friends Peace Center on July 22. The students went on a hike, then relaxed at Diane Dunning's home for swimming, games and pizza before coming to the meetinghouse for the afternoon to pursue their studies. In 2023, about a dozen members of the meeting read bell hooks' *All About Love* which formed the text for the student's summer program. The request for us to host the school this summer came too late for the community to read this year's book, Betina Love's *We Want to Do More Than Survive*.

Our clerk continues to be a steward for CHFM's commitment of financial support of \$5000 a year for five years to Ujima. The second installment of \$5000 was made in spring of 2024 and was taken from the Emergency Friends Fund, administered by Care and Counsel. When the meeting made this commitment to Ujima, it only agreed on the funding source for the first two years. This could continue to come from excess funds in

the Emergency Fund, or from the Burial Ground Fund which also has more assets than it has needed. ARC will be in conversation with the committees which manage these funds and will present a proposal to Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. The ARC committee does not have the person power required to spearhead fundraising to raise money for our commitment to Ujima.

Outreach has been made to Ujima for opening up ways for members of CHFM members to become more involved in their work. Way has not opened for corporate involvement aside from offering financial support and responding to their specific request to use our facilities. It has been made clear to us that when individual Friends are following a personal Leading to visit and learn more about Ujima, they are always welcome. We learned that a member of the Foulkeways Community has made such a connection by helping with the Menstrual Project Ujima supports.

We still seek grounded and meaningful ways to connect CHFM friends with the Ujima community meaningfully. Individual members of our meeting community who would like to worship with Ujima Friends Meeting or be involved with Ujima Friends Peace Center's food giveaway program or menstrual product fabrication and distribution should contact ARC for how to make appropriate connections. Ujima originated out of an action suggestion in the Minute on State Sanctioned Violence passed by the Fellowship of Friends of African Descent. It has become a safe and nourishing space for Quakers of African descent to gather for worship and to carry out projects as they are led. These Friends are understandably protective of the community they have created.

Although CHFM is a member congregation in POWER Interfaith, members of ARC are disappointed that few members of our community have been engaged with POWER's work. Since many POWER member congregations have a majority of members who are people of color, working with POWER is an excellent way to make connections that help us address racism. There are several Quaker meetings with members active in POWER, and even a group of Quakers in POWER that meets regularly. We encourage CHFM members to work more closely with POWER.

As part of our centennial celebration a committee member combed through available minutes to provide a history of CHFM's involvement in racial issues since its inception in 1924. Highlights have been made available via wall plaques outlining activities over the decades. A recap of this history will be part of the November Adult Education session entitled "Addressing Racism: Where Have We Been? Where are We Going?" Let us hope we can learn from the past and move forward in faith and positive action in the future



**Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting Representatives Annual Report**  
**Chestnut Hill Friends**  
**Meeting for Business – Oct 20, 2024**

The representatives of each Meeting in the Philadelphia Quarter meet on Zoom, usually 4 to 6 weeks ahead of the actual Quarterly Meetings held on the fourth Sunday of January, April, July, and October. We work with the clerk of the Quarter to consider the agenda, confirm the program, and refresh awareness of the life of the Spirit in each Meeting.

**State of the Quarter**

Due to sad circumstances, the number of Meetings in the Quarter has decreased. There are five current Quarter member Meetings: Central Philadelphia, Chestnut Hill, Germantown, Green Street, and the Monthly Meeting of Friends of Philadelphia (Arch St.). Frankford Meeting, with very few members left, is now called an “executive “ meeting; they have turned over their meetinghouse to Frankford Friends School. Unity Friends Meeting no longer has any members and Philadelphia Quarter is working with Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and others to determine what use can be found for its historic meetinghouse. Other Quaker bodies in this area are the worshipping group in West Philadelphia and Ujima Friends Meeting in North Philadelphia, which is under the care of the Fellowship of Friends of African Descent, but rarely participates in the activities of the Quarter.

**Personnel**

We mourn the loss of Phil Anthony, such a stalwart, faithful, knowledgeable Friend, Mentoring Clerk, and CHFM representative for many years.

Steve Elkinton is clerk of the Quarter, Andrew Anderson is assistant clerk and also part of the informal Finance Committee, Ellen Sleeter is treasurer, and Kimani Keaton is PQM coordinator. There is a new 3-member program committee.

We are still lacking – and long for – a recording clerk. [Any volunteer or suggested nominee is greatly welcomed.](#)

**New in the past year**

PQM now has a new website hosted on DreamHost, thanks to the hard work of Steve and our previous coordinator, Ruth Reber. Visit [philadelphiaquarter.org](http://philadelphiaquarter.org) for up-to-date information about what’s going on in the Quarter. (You might even see your own photo in the group photo of CHFM.)

Along with our new website, there is now a new PQM newsletter, which goes out monthly. It promotes events and concerns in all the Meetings of the Quarter. If any member of the Quarter (anyone who is a member of any of the Meetings listed above) wants to publicize something, contact Kimani at [pqmcoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:pqmcoordinator@gmail.com), ideally around the 15th of the month for a notice for the upcoming month’s newsletter.

**All are invited to attend Quarterly Meeting!**

A Quarterly meeting can be a full-day event for you, or you can participate only in the parts that interest you. There is worship in the morning with the host Meeting, followed by a meal, and then a program with a variety of activities, with a particular focus on attracting families. The Meeting for Business follows, generally from 2:30 to 4 pm. Most of the time, worship and business meetings are hybrid, and, where appropriate, the program is hybrid as well.

Programs at the past year's Quarterly Meetings have included:

- Quaker Fun Day at CHFM last October - singing and dancing and a SkySpace viewing
- Effective Communication at Central Philadelphia in January
- Quaker Outreach, led by Gabe Ehri of Friends Publishing, at Green Street in April
- Germantown Meeting Arboretum Tour in July.

The next Quarterly Meeting is next week on October 27, hosted by the Monthly Meeting of Friends of Philadelphia (Arch St). The theme will be "A Celebration of Philadelphia Friends", and the program will be presented as a three-way event by PQM, the Arch St. Preservation Trust, and the Arch St. Monthly Meeting.

It will be CHFM's turn to host on January 26, 2025. If any committee or person has an idea for an interesting program we could offer, please contact one of us.

The final and important thing to mention: is contributions to Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting. The Quarter's treasurer urges Friends not to trust a check to the US Mail, but instead use the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's website: [pym.org/donate.philadelphia.org](http://pym.org/donate.philadelphia.org). She recommends that Monthly Meetings use "eCheck" to make their contributions.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla White and Tricia Walmsley (CHFM reps)



## **Property Committee Annual Report Meeting for Business – Oct. 20, 2024**

### **OVERVIEW**

The Property Committee has a few new faces and renewed energy as we continue to emerge from a semi-dormant COVID state. The committee has adopted a new format: alternating evening virtual meetings with in-person working sessions. We're working to attend to administrative items, organizing, and assignment of tasks at our evening meetings. Doing so frees us up to dive into hands-on maintenance during weekend work sessions.

We are working hard to democratize information about the building so that all Property Committee members have access to maintenance and repair procedures and information. Part of this is accomplished through our bi-monthly work sessions which also build community and camaraderie within the committee.

### **MAJOR PROJECTS**

We've tackled some more significant projects including yet more major repairs to the HVAC system, and the purchase of an auto-scrubber floor cleaner. This was a significant project spear-headed by Betsy Wallace to whom we are all grateful for the significant time and effort she spent researching, testing, and negotiating over the purchase of this machine. The auto-scrubber's regular use by our paid custodian Cedrick Wright and our event facilitator Mike Flynn has paid dividends in cleaner floors, happier renters/ tenants, and less physical effort by members cleaning up.

Moving into the fall, we plan to create a building conditions survey to aid us in anticipating mid and long-term property needs.

### **FUTURE NOMINATING**

One major change in the committee came from the last round of work by the Nominating Committee. We once again have a member who serves on both the Property and O&A committees. This is a welcome addition that has many benefits and should continue in the future. Beyond that, our current group of members brings a wonderful mix of skill, knowledge, enthusiasm, and most importantly, a willingness to pitch in. We need to strive to maintain this mix as people cycle on and off the committee.

### **THANKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The committee would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the outgoing clerk, Dan Evans. He provided guidance to and care of the committee through the very difficult years of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Property Committee Annual Report  
Meeting for Business – Oct. 20, 2024**

**TASKS COMPLETED**

Maintenance Backlog Addressed:

- Replacement of broken toilet seats
- Repair of broken toilet flush mechanism in nursery
- Replacement of broken light bulbs
- Replace batteries for the building's emergency lighting system
- Had building fire extinguishers recharged and recertified
- Vacuumed the parking lot in accordance with our maintenance agreement with the water department
- Repaired Social Room fans
- Repaired the Skyspace roof

On-Going Maintenance Performed:

- Deep clean of the kitchen
- Gutter cleaning
- Reset the door codes to limit access to approved persons (clerks & staff)
- Supervision of paid custodial staff

On-Going Projects:

- Update regular maintenance schedule
- Record processes/procedures/ tricks to taking care of the meetinghouse
- Building condition assessment

**Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting**  
**Minutes – Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business**  
**September 15, 2024**

The Meeting for Business was clerked by Miyo Moriuchi. In total, 14 Friends attended in person. There was no Zoom connection.

The meeting began with a period of silent worship, followed by a thoughtful extemporaneous **Land Acknowledgement**, focusing on William Penn’s sons’ betrayal of their father’s agreements with the local Indigenous People. Quakers’ ambiguous legacy in this regard challenges us to give our full attention today to the land we live on.

**The Query for the Ninth Month on Equality and Justice** was read. Responses highlighted the Addressing Racism Committee’s adult class coming up in October; a reflection on Quakers supporting their own schools, but not supporting public education consistently; a sense that the most earnest response to the query would be for us to sell our meetinghouse and give the money to those in need; an invitation to listen to the recent “Be Quaker” podcast that features New Haven Monthly Meeting’s new preschool as an opening to its broader community; and an appreciation of our Meeting’s new practice of offering a vegetarian social hour monthly. Miyo asked that we take today’s queries into our hearts.

- 1) **Clerk’s Report.** Miyo welcomed us back after the summer, exhorting us to center in spirit and know we are not alone. She expressed gratitude for a way opening to complete the repair of the Skyspace and to replace the Meeting secretary with a minimum of interruption. Miyo further acknowledged our committee clerks sharing problems with one another and sharing help. The clerks were encouraged to promote the upcoming homecoming picnic with their committees. Finally, Miyo read a poem lifting up the certainties of love.
- 2) **Care and Counsel Committee: Nominees for Nominating Committee (Decision).** Care and Counsel clerk Joe Byers acknowledged the good work of the Nominating Committee and proposed the following nominees for the committee: John Roberts for a two-year term and Paul DuSold and Meg Mitchell for three-year terms. The nominations were approved.
- 3) **Centennial Committee Report.** Committee clerk Steven Elkinton reported on the following: the 15-poster Meeting history timeline posted around the meetinghouse, thanks to the initiative of Betsy Wallace; an illustrated booklet being prepared that will tell 10 remarkable stories from the 10 decades of the Meeting’s history; the group photo and picnic on September 29 (which Friends are encouraged to sign up for via the newsletter); and Outreach and Landscape committees’ coordination to replace the Meeting’s street sign and install additional outdoor benches. Steve also lifted up the legacy of past and present long-term members of the Meeting as we celebrate the centennial. Events will continue throughout the coming year, focusing successively on our past, present, and future. Ideas and cooperation from committees are encouraged. Vegan hotdogs were requested for the picnic.

- 4) **Worship and Ministry: Request for Ad Hoc Committee on Auditory Accessibility.** Committee clerk Rebecca Heider acknowledged the current acoustic issues in the worship room where the original hearing assistance devices no longer function. Zoom worshippers are well served with excellent auditory, but in-person worshippers can struggle to hear. Rebecca requested that representatives from the W&M, Outreach, Office, and Property committees and others interested join an ad hoc group to research, assess, price, and propose ways to provide effective hearing assistance in the worship room. Mike Silberman and Inaara Shiraz volunteered. Rebecca will take this effort forward, including announcing it in the newsletter.
- 5) **Family Promise of Philadelphia (FPP) Committee Annual Report.** Committee representative Tricia Walmsley reported that a family was hosted at the meetinghouse for two months this summer. FPP was not as present to our work as expected. The family has now moved to First United Methodist Church of Germantown, where they will remain until November, when they hope to move to New Jersey. Nothing definite has been arranged yet. The committee was asked to write a description of the family's needs and share it with Haddonfield and Moorestown Monthly Meetings to see if they could help with finding housing for the family. Two members of our Meeting have connections with these Meetings. The family's three children are doing well in school in Camden. The father of the family remains connected to our Meeting. Both parents work, but their income does not cover the family's needs. Family Promise CEO Bob Byrne wishes to come to our Meeting after worship one Sunday to speak about the agency's focus on helping with rent and preventing eviction. (It was pointed out that this fall is a busy time with other activities in the Meeting.) Tricia said that the committee needs new members, though its work is very focused on the summer housing. Friends were encouraged to continue protecting the family's anonymity, and the committee was thanked for their efforts.
- 6) **Outreach Committee Annual Report.** Committee representative Signe Wilkinson summarized its work to keep our Meeting community growing: several Seekers Meetings exploring worship and meeting life; Friendly 8s (see Signe for more info); our increasing social media presence; and a new street sign in the works with funding help from the Centennial Committee. A Friend extended an invitation to join a Friendly 8s-related activity: movie nights at the Woodmere Museum in October and November. Look for information in the October newsletter.
- 7) **Minutes for Approval: June.** The minutes were approved.
- 8) **Announcements**
- a) Annual Reports/other business in October:
    - 1. Addressing Racism
    - 2. Property
    - 3. Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting
    - 4. Treasurer's Report
    - 5. Nominating (new officers for approval)
  - b) Release date for October 19 (3<sup>rd</sup> Sat) (already booked)

- c) Liz Williams wishes to step down as Meeting secretary. Friends are encouraged to contact Nominating with ideas for replacing Liz.
- d) Shared by Friends: Some in our community erroneously think meeting for business is only focused on money matters. How to educate the community about business meeting's broader agenda?
- e) Childcare was requested for parents who wish to attend business meeting.

## **9) Closing Worship**

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Byers, Substitute Recording Clerk

**Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting**  
**Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business**  
**Oct. 20, 2024**

**Agenda**

1. Opening Worship
2. Reading of the Land Acknowledgement Statement
3. Reading of Query for the Tenth Month
4. Clerk's Report
5. Treasurer's Annual Report
6. Addressing Racism Annual Report
7. Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting Representatives Annual Report
8. Property and House Annual Report
9. Minutes for Approval: September
10. Announcements
  - a. Reports due in November
    - i. Landscape Annual Report
    - ii. Nominating: Proposed Slate of Officers
    - iii. Peace and Social Concerns Annual Report
    - iv. Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting Annual Report
  - b. Release date for Nov 16 (3<sup>rd</sup> Sat) is tomorrow
11. Closing Worship

**Query for the Tenth Month**

**Witnessing in the World: Ministry of Outreach**

- How does our meeting communicate Friends' presence and principles to the wider community?
- How does our meeting join with other faith communities in worship, in spiritual dialogue and in social action?
- What are we doing to invite persons to attend our meetings for worship, to welcome them when they come, to listen sensitively to their needs and hesitations and to encourage their continued attendance?
- *How do I share my spiritual life and experience with others?*
- *Does my life as a Friend attract others to our religious society?*
- *What opportunities have I taken to worship with people from other religious and cultural backgrounds and work with them on common concerns?*