

Minutes of Peace & Social Concerns Committee, 9/26/2019

Present: Diane Crowe (clerk), Ka Rehm (recording clerk), Dan Grubbs, Jane Johnson, David Ahlfeld, Cat Chapin-Bishop, Geoff Lobenstine

We begin with silence.

Timely Action. Cat Chapin-Bishop reminds the committee of times when it's been difficult or slow to get a letter out from the (corporate) meeting to another group. It is possible for MfB to direct the clerk to write such a letter without having a letter already, trusting the clerk to draft and send an appropriate letter. It would be up to the committee to specify the sense of the letter, perhaps with a list of the main points. Cat suggests that, in urgent circumstances such as synagogue attacks, this process be used. Cat will add this process to the clerk's manual.

We discuss whether to replace the process decided on at our August meeting with this process, described by Cat. We agree that we will use both methods in the future, depending on the circumstance. Where Friends are emotionally affected by an event, they may want to write personal letters, as adopted in the August meeting.

Nuclear Ban. David is waiting for a response from NEYM. Ka got oral confirmation from GCB, but did not feel this was adequate, so she has made a written request for written confirmation. We review a draft letter to Honeywell asking them to discontinue work on nuclear weapons (attached). This letter will go to MfB in October. After that, and after the above banking confirmations are received, PSC may recommend a letter to local newspapers. David will get the request for a Honeywell letter to Diane for Cat by Oct 2 for Oct MfB.

Next steps:

- David will draft the main points to be covered in the Honeywell letter and send this info to the clerk, Diane
- They will decide whether to also include, as an example, the letter already drafted
- This material will go to Cat by Weds Oct 2 for October MfB

Quaker-Jewish relations, Oct 6 1-3:30 pm. Since some Friends will stay through for this program, the Committee will provide snacks. Dan will make a pot of chili, and others will bring what they can. When reminders go out this week, we will specify that a snack will be provided, and suggest people bring a sandwich if they are particularly hungry.

We agree to hold the event in the meeting room, which means not having a table for the panel. Ka will check this out with the panel members.

Since the small groups will take all the spaces in the meetinghouse, we will not attempt to provide childcare.

Diane and Jane will help Ka with setup. Geoff and Dan will handle cleanup in the kitchen.

Next steps:

- Ka will ask Nancy to remind Dan about the chili
- Ka will check with the panel on current plan
- Everybody will bring what they can for refreshments before the program
- Geoff will announce this program at ROM this Sunday Sept 29, including the bit about food
- Ka will get a reminder, including the bit about food, into "What's Happening" for 10/6

Need for New Members. 11:40 Hour: Ka & Jane drafted the proposal and sent it to Diane. The 1st & 3rd Sundays starting Feb are available. Dan will be the lead, all will help. The purpose of the program is to renew/refresh Friends' interest in P&SC and recruit new members.

New members: we need to announce upcoming meeting and encourage participation every month, i.e. on the third Sunday. Ka will remind the committee about this on 10/16 so one person can take responsibility for October.

Article asking for new members in newsletter: we agreed we should do this but responsibility was not assigned.

Next steps:

- Diane will send in the 11:40 proposal & affirm a date
- Ka will remind everybody about the Oct third Sunday annct
- Will someone volunteer to write a few lines for Nov newsletter about our need for more people?

Remote participation in P&SC. We will try Zoom asap. Some Friends have concerns, think it could be weird. It might allow a few more Tobyites to actively participate.

Letter-writing 10/13/2019. We agree on the topic, advocating for Massachusetts to change 'Columbus Day' to Indigenous Peoples Day. Diane will organize it. There is already an effort underway, see <http://www.indigenouspeoplesdayma.org>. Diane will pull background info from this website, and compile addresses of state legislators.

We discussed using some of Roger's old laptops so letter-writing consistently has electronic options. We won't do this for October, though, since the statehouse accepts paper letters. Other best practices discussed: getting info onto the website, early in the month; announcing the topic on first Sunday ROM; announcing the topic in "What's Happening" of second Sunday; placing a follow-up note in the newsletter. This last met with some resistance from the editors because it refers to events in the past (when the newsletter comes out). We will continue to try to solve that problem.

Next steps:

- Diane will create materials (background + addresses) and get them to Ka, early in the month, for placement on the website. ***NOTE: there is already a list of state legislators on the Mount Toby website; it just needs to be updated***
<http://mounttobyfriends.org/public/MAhouseAndSenate.htm>
- Someone (Diane?) needs to announce the topic on Sunday Oct 6, for the following week
- Ka will get it into "What's Happening" for 10/13 & place a note in the next newsletter
- Dan will prep Roger's old laptops for future use

We close with a time of silence.

Next meeting: October 24, 2019, 7 pm

Attachments:

DRAFT 26Sept2019 – before being sent, this letter should be checked that address, CEO name, other information is up to date.

DATE

**Darius Adamczyk, CEO
Honeywell International
101 Columbia Road
Morristown, NJ 07960**

Dear Mr. Adamczyk,

We write to you as concerned customers of Honeywell. Specifically, we understand that the Aerospace and Defense division of your company is involved in the production of nuclear weapons. We have learned from

www.dontbankonthebomb.com/honeywell-international/ that your company:

- **Manages and operates the National Security Campus in Kansas City, MO, where 85% of non-nuclear components of US nuclear weapons are produced;**
- **Has produced integrated circuits for Trident D5 nuclear missiles.**

These activities contribute to the build-up and modernization of nuclear arms at a time when the world has condemned and outlawed everything to do with these weapons. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, adopted at the United Nations in 2017, prohibits the development, testing, production, manufacture, possession and stockpiling of nuclear weapons. It also specifically prohibits "assisting, encouraging or inducing, in any way, anyone to engage in any activity prohibited by the treaty."

At its May 2019 Meeting for Business Mt Toby agreed to begin the process of becoming aligned with the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. While the Treaty is not yet in force, we have taken the moral position of acting as if the Treaty is now active.

Towards this end we have agreed to not hold any investments nor buying products from any companies involved in the nuclear weapons industry, including Honeywell.

We therefore ask you to discontinue your work on nuclear weapons without delay and to bring Honeywell into compliance with this new treaty in anticipation of its eventual adoption in countries in which Honeywell does business.

Unless you can reassure us that you will no longer be a nuclear weapons producer, we intend to avoid purchasing Honeywell products and to advise members of our faith community to do the same.

I look forward to your response to these concerns and will be happy to share it with others around the world who have similar concerns.

Yours sincerely,