

Midcoast Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship with Concern for Business
May 17, 2026

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship.

Guy M. clerked the meeting and Susan R. took the minutes in the absence of the recording clerk. Nine people were present.

Minutes of the April meeting were approved.

Patty S. presented her current draft of the **State of our Society Report**, inviting any changes. Those in attendance affirmed that they had read the report with much appreciation for Patty's process and the report itself. Friends **approved the report** and Guy was asked to distribute it as usual. Patty reported that she enjoyed the process and would be happy to do it again next year.

The draft **Statistical Report** offered by Hugh M. was reviewed at Hugh's request, as he included questions he had as he attempted to compile the data, such as it was, and this is his first time preparing the report. Friends present recalled a few items that Hugh may not have known, and Guy promised to confirm they were from 2025 and pass along our notes to Hugh. Friends appreciated Hugh's work.

Sue R. reported that our **LGBTQ+ Worship** on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month will continue under the eldership of Diane D. and Daniel H. It was suggested that we run off another set of posters, since area bulletins get cleared off from time to time. Sue said that she would run off some more copies and leave them at the meetinghouse for Friends to collect and distribute.

Sue also reminded Friends to sign onto our **meeting checklists** (on the front table). The **monthly cleaning checklist** has items to check off when they are completed. It was pointed out that bathroom trash was not getting collected and that trash removal was especially important after soup Sundays. The **First Sunday Soup** and **Opening and Closing Meeting** signups are also on the front table.

Discussion of a summer bar-be-cue and our usual **summer hiatus** from Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business (MFWCB) resulted in a decision to **forgo August Soup on the first Sunday and August MFWCB on the third Sunday**. Instead, we will hold a **BBQ & Potluck on August 16th** (rain date August 23rd) after the rise of Meeting for Worship.

Bruce R. presented his **Current Budget Report** and a **Proposed Budget** for our 2026-2027 budget year (which begins in June). After discussing our current expenses and income report and the proposed budget for next year, **the proposed budget was approved** with gratitude for Bruce's work. A pledge letter will be forthcoming.

Two additional **financial news items** were brought:

Bruce noted that one change due to current legislation means that tax filers can now choose the standard deductions and in addition can deduct up to \$1000 for individuals and up to \$2000 for joint returns in charitable contributions. He encourages everyone to take advantage of the **new ability to deduct charitable donations**.

Guy noted that the Meeting and individual members might want to **check out Arbor** as an electrical supplier choice for their CMP electricity accounts, as it has proven to be a cost-saving for his personal account this past year. Bruce noted he will check into it for the Meeting.

Meeting ended with a brief period of silence.

Sue Rockwood, temporary recording clerk