

Midcoast Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship with Concern for Business
September 20, 2026

Clerk Guy Marsden opened the Meeting with a moment of silence. Twelve Friends were in attendance. MINUTES of the August meeting were approved.

A request from Diane Dicranian for special permission to install a memorial stone for beloved pets was approved.

Jim Matlack, Andy Burt and Cynthia Harkleroad asked the Meeting to send a letter of support for the Wabanaki Elder in Residence Program at the University of Maine, initiated by Shirley Hager two years ago. The Meeting approved drafting and sending this letter.

Guy will work with Stephen Gorry and others cutting back invasive vines on the trees along the frontage so the sight lines are opened up to better see approaching traffic.. Friends are encouraged to locate skilled help for regular care of the plantings in front of the meetinghouse.

Guy, with help from Andy, is preparing an entry for the Quaker Earthcare Witness Map at New England Yearly Meeting. (Maine does not have any Friends on the map at present.)

New England Yearly Meeting (NEYM) has asked its monthly and quarterly meetings to review three queries concerning relationship to indigenous people:

a. How can I/we as individuals and families acknowledge concretely that we all live on land that was once the homeland of Indigenous People?

b. How can Friends Meetings and the Yearly Meeting go beyond acknowledgments and statements of support?

c. Can we imagine giving some of our principal from the sale of the New England Friends Home (currently the Witness and Ministry Fund) to Native People as a form of retrospective justice?

Friends approved following Minute:

We approve the idea of seeking reparations and relationships to Native People, including access to the Witness and Ministry Fund.

Sue Rockwood reported that we had two families with children attend recently and we had no programming planned for them. she suggested we might have a craft activity once a month if two adults were present. Sally Tukey and Suzy Hallett have offered to help.

Friends are not keeping up with cleaning and we will look into hiring a cleaner.

Guy will adjust the security Sensaphone to ensure it responds to the fire alarm.

Friends were reminded that World Quaker Day will be October 4.

Friends adjourned following a moment of silent worship.