

September 2021 Report for Meeting for Worship for Business Climate Crisis Committee

1. First, we would like to thank the members of the Communication Committee who have supported our work so well since we began.
2. We spent some time this summer clarifying our purpose and setting goals. This is an overview of our thoughts:

The Climate Crisis Committee was formed at Providence Monthly Meeting in 2021 to help fulfill PMM and PYM's commitment to address climate change, to promote increased awareness about climate issues in our Meeting, to educate our Meeting on how locally we can reduce our carbon footprints, and to help identify opportunities for witnessing to our faith in creating a more just and sustainable society.

3. We have completed a full description of what this overview statement means that will be posted on the website soon after Sept. 17 when Ken is able to get to it. Please feel free to contact me for a copy if you wish it sooner. We have also felt the need to act in support of the PYM Sprint "Moving Together in the Face of Climate Change" that was approved by YM members on July 31. To do this we have developed a series of goals and immediate actions to guide us this fall. These are organized around some of the key ideas in the Sprint document. There may be more actions as we go but this is where we stand now.

Activism Goals

- Help us (PMM) find ways to mitigate the damage to the health and wellbeing that Chester residents suffer from our society's industrial and economic systems, in which we participate.
- Help FCNL support federal legislation to advance a just and inclusive transition to an economy and society with net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.
- Urge our US senators and representatives to enact legislation that authorizes and funds an independent non-profit corporation for helping to finance clean energy investments in agriculture, construction, education, manufacturing, transportation, and other sources of greenhouse gases.
- **Activism Actions**
 - Speaking out at Delaware County Council meetings -esp. in regard to overlap between reduction of county carbon footprint and racial justice.
 - Non-violent witness such as marches and protests.
 - Letter writing, E-mail and phone campaigns local, state and Federal.
 - Use of newsletter to alert PMM members/attenders of actions.
 - Collaboration with other PMM committees, Quaker meetings and community groups where possible.
- **Education Goals**
- We will share information with members and attenders of all ages in the Meeting community by newsletter announcements, documents on the PMM website, open meetings (live or virtual), occasional "courageous conversations" and educational/engaging activities about key issues and challenging questions.
- **Education Actions**
 - Once a month open committee meeting in the evening with educational speakers. This coming month the meeting will be held Tuesday, September 28 at 7:00pm. The format of these meetings will begin with a guest speaker who will talk for about half an hour with fifteen minutes following for questions. After that, folks are welcome to stay for a half hour committee meeting although we know many of you will need to leave.

- Our first guest will be Burt Dallas, a member of Radnor MM who is a member of the Eco-Justice Collaborative and has just finished three terms as a member of the FCNL General Committee. He will describe and answer questions about Radnor's decision to become carbon-neutral by 2050, and how they are planning to do this.
- Courageous Conversations (TBA)
- **Carbon Footprint Goals**
- Help us find ways for our Meeting community to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.
- Help us urge Delaware County to adopt ways of managing our waste stream to move toward becoming a zero-waste community, and to reduce the greenhouse gases that come from our waste.
- **Carbon Footprint Actions**
 - Compost bucket proposal-Request for approval and support. I would like to complete the report and then present the proposal, if the clerk approves?
 - PMM trash audit (hopefully this process will be useful for members and attenders to use at home)
 - Review of PMM carbon footprint (again, we hope to find ways to make this useful for members/attenders to use at home)

We are aware that the PYM Sprint includes a section on finances, as a Committee we will need to learn more and hope we can provide some education for all of us on this topic. The final area of concern identified in the Sprint is to find ways to help members/attenders mourn the climate losses we see daily, while instilling hope. We are pondering ways to do this, but hope that providing the Meeting with actions we can take will help all of us avoid the stagnation of helplessness. The Light has always been a positive spiritual force for Friends as we work our way through the "ocean of darkness".

In closing, we are here to serve all of you and hope you will come to us with your questions and concerns around the climate crisis. Like all of you, we are trying to discover what the most important and systemic approaches are. As a committee we are learning to reflect on this query from the PYM Sprint "Moving Together in the Face of Climate Change": How does this action or decision support us in our goal to reduce climate change and counter the worst adverse impacts of climate change?

Questions?

Composting proposal for approval

Composting reduces two greenhouse gasses that lead to global warming, methane and carbon. Composting residential organic waste can lead to almost a 30% reduction in material incinerated or placed in a landfill. Composting also means less energy in managing the process of incineration and in transportation of waste. Since Media Borough has an active composting program, we propose that PMM start a system to compost our own organic waste by finding ways to join in the Borough program. If approved our committee will organize the "how" of collection and an explanation of what to collect. We will, however, need other PMM members to help us in the process of managing collection. Clerk, can we consider this proposal now?