

Homewood Friends Meeting Building Use Statement

VISION FOR HOMEWOOD FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

Homewood Friends Meeting House is our place of worship. It is a special place. Many of our most profound spiritual experiences as a community take place here. We hold this building and its surrounding property in trust, with a deeply felt responsibility for its good use and care in supporting our goals as a religious society.

Our vision for the building is that it is an inviting place; it is simple, beautiful, orderly, well maintained, functional, and user-friendly. We are respectful of the historic integrity of our 100-year old building as we make changes to it to meet the current needs of our community.

Homewood Friends experience joy in the fact that our property shelters the activities of many Meeting programs and that it is a lively place used by many community groups at nominal cost. The availability of our Meeting for community groups is both a substantive contribution to the wider community and a form of outreach.

Homewood Friends Meeting, in making our facilities available to the community, does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, nationality, age, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, or different abilities. We do not rent to groups that espouse violence. The building meets accessibility standards and we strive to improve its accessibility and technological capability. Everything about the building is a form of outreach.

PRIORITIES FOR BUILDING USE

Homewood Friends Meeting has numerous requests to use our property. We have determined the following priorities for use of the Meeting House.

First priority: All activities of the Homewood Friends Meeting take precedence over other uses.

Second Priority: Use by other Quaker groups with whom we share ties and goals.

Third Priority: Use by groups of particular interest to our members and attenders, and which promote our values in seeking peace, justice, equality, and care for the earth.

Fourth Priority: Use by other community and religious groups and individuals.

FEES FOR BUILDING USE

In general, fees are not charged for Homewood Friends Meeting events and other Quaker groups that are using the building for events. Contracts, signed by the Administrative Coordinator and a member of Trustees Committee, are established with all outside groups including Quaker groups. A fee schedule for building use for outside groups is established and reviewed periodically. Fees typically are below market-rate. Fees may be negotiated for groups which the Meeting or our committees desire to nurture.

DECISIONS ABOUT BUILDING USE

The Administrative Coordinator will make day-to-day decisions regarding rentals of the building. When requests arise, that require further discernment, the Administrative Coordinator will consult with the Meeting Clerk, Assistant Clerk and Clerk of House and Grounds Committee.

Approved July 5, 2020