

**HOMEWOOD FRIENDS MEETING
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
2024 THROUGH APRIL 2025**

1. What are some of the main ways you spent your time during the time period?

- ❖ Developed and presented the inaugural Narrative Budget.
- ❖ Prepared the Financial Budget.
- ❖ Secured the Capital Needs Assessment.
- ❖ Deliberated about loan to Adelphi Friends Meeting and discussed details with Borrower.
- ❖ Developed and adopted a series of fiscal policies and procedures following audit.
- ❖ Started discussions about strategies to increase funding.
- ❖ Considered building use and performed annual review of rental agreement template and rates.

2. How would you describe the spiritual state of your committee?

- ❖ Begin and end our meetings with a period of silence.
- ❖ Strive for Meetings for Worship with a Concern for Financial and Legal Matters, that is, infused with the Spirit.
- ❖ Mindful we are accountable to the whole Meeting and that some of what we do may be confusing or difficult to understand and require changes in how we explain things.
- ❖ Must have a level of trust and expertise given our weighty responsibilities.
- ❖ Appreciate the humor we bring to our time together even with the level of sobriety and seriousness required by our responsibilities.
- ❖ Hospitality (especially snacks) of our hosts when we meet in-person is greatly appreciated.

3. What are some of the major challenges you have faced/major strengths that helped you?

- ❖ Challenges
 - Managing unexpected expenses, priorities.
 - Detailed work involving policies and capital needs assessment.
 - Volume of work - too few Trustees to work on both trustee tasks and stewardship and finance tasks.
 - Long meetings.
 - Distinction between the work of Treasurer and of Trustees.
- ❖ Strengths and Challenges
 - Budget process and narrative budget: how to weave them together.
- ❖ Strengths
 - Skills of the committee.
 - Expertise of the new Treasurer.

4. What are your hopes for the future (of the committee)?

- ❖ Welcome more committee members!
- ❖ Close on the Adelphi loan in August 2025; receive quarterly income thereafter.
- ❖ Complete the development of the fiscal policies, and model the habit of referring to them.
- ❖ Facilitate better integration of the Narrative Budget into the practices of the Meeting (meaning that we use it, refer to it, resolve how it can easily be referenced on the website, for longtimers and newcomers).
- ❖ Use the Capital Needs Assessment for planning & strategic stewardship of the building and our fiscal and human resources and to minimize surprises.
- ❖ Develop a plan for increasing income.

The committee members are Barbara Bezdek, David Blalock, Polly Heninger (Clerk), and Heather Ravlin (also Assistant Treasurer). Debbie Kennison, Treasurer and Trustee *ex officio*, attended many of our meetings.