

**Minutes – Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business**  
**Asheville Friends Meeting**  
**Fifth Month 10, 2009**

Clerk: Barbara Esther

Recording Clerk: Lynnora Bierce

Present: George Gjelfriend, Sam Rizzo, Steve Livingston, Gary Briggs, Kristi Gjelfriend, Phil Neal, Rylin Hansen, Pat Robinson, Rusty Maynard, Edie Patrick, Bobby Carter

We began with a period of worship, followed by the clerk's reading:

What is love? What shall I say of it, or how shall I in works express its nature? It is the sweetness of life; it is the sweet, tender, melting nature of God, flowing up through his seed of life into the creature, and of all things making the creature most like unto himself, both in nature and operation. It fulfils the law, it fulfils the gospel; it wraps up all in one, and brings forth all in the oneness. It excludes all evil out of the heart, it perfects all good in the heart. A touch of love doth this in measure; perfect love doth this in fullness.

Isaac Penington, 1663

The agenda was reviewed and accepted.

Minutes from Third Month and Fourth Month

**Minute #1 - Minutes were approved as published for Third Month.**

Minutes for Fourth Month – Several corrections were suggested under "other". Concerning Neftali Fernandez's clearness committee, it was noted that the emailed request was sent, but that the clerk had not recognized it as meeting business. There may be a need, with our changing modes of communication, to clarify which type of letter the meeting prefers to have Friends use when making requests of the clerk: hard copy or email.

**Minute #2 - Friends approved noting that the clerk has received the request, but had not responded to it before the Meeting for Business.**

**Minute #3 – Friends agree that the phrase “even though” be replaced with the word “when” to read “This Friend said that he explained the importance of being familiar with our community when Neftali asked him about membership after only two weeks of attendance.”**

**Minute # 4 – Friends agreed that stating the reason for Neftali's absence from meeting is not necessary and that it be removed from the minutes.**

**Minute #5 – Because it was noted that six volunteers makes a very large clearness committee, Friends agreed to advise Ministry & Counsel to select three members to serve on the clearness committee from among the six willing to do so.**

**Minute #6 – The Finance Committee corrected the report stating that Alice Brown had left a bequest of \$14,000 to Asheville Friends Meeting rather than \$1,400 as reported in April.**

The spelling of Kristi Gjelfriend's name in the list of those present was corrected.

The use of names in the minutes will be thoroughly reviewed before the minutes are brought for approval next month.

Minute #7 - Fourth Month Minutes will be amended and reviewed in June.

Financial Report Pat Johnson

	Jan 1 - May 7, Budget 09		\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
<b>4000 · Contribution Income</b>				
<b>4010 · Unrestricted</b>	16 478,46	0,00	16 478,46	100,0%
<b>4000 · Contribution Income -     Other</b>	0,00	20 270,00	-20 270,00	0,0%
<b>Total 4000 · Contribution Income</b>	16 478,46	20 270,00	-3 791,54	81,3%
<b>7010 · Interest Income</b>	359,78	700,00	-340,22	51,4%
<b>4150 · Miscellaneous Income</b>				
<b>Coffee Sales</b>	126,00	0,00	126,00	100,0%
<b>Total 4150 · Miscellaneous Income</b>	126,00	0,00	126,00	100,0%
<b>Rental Income</b>	1 625,00	3 900,00	-2 275,00	41,67%
<b>Total Income</b>	18 589,24	24 870,00	-6 280,76	74,75%
<b>Gross Profit</b>	18 589,24	24 870,00	-6 280,76	74,75%
<b>Expense</b>				
<b>Transfers TO Other Funds**</b>				
<b>M&amp;C Needs Fund Transfer**</b>	0,00	300,00	-300,00	0,0%
<b>Scholarship Fund Transfer**</b>	0,00	200,00	-200,00	0,0%
<b>Transfer to H&amp;G reserves**</b>	0,00	2 000,00	-2 000,00	0,0%
<b>Total Transfers TO Other Funds**</b>	0,00	2 500,00	-2 500,00	0,0%

## Meeting House

### House and Grounds

<b>Supplies</b>	31,92	0,00	31,92	100,0%
<b>Cleaning</b>	137,50	0,00	137,50	100,0%
<b>Maintenance</b>	45,00	0,00	45,00	100,0%
<b>House and Grounds - Other</b>	0,00	3 000,00	-3 000,00	0,0%

**Total House and Grounds** 214,42 3 000,00 -2 785,58 7,15%

### 6180 · Insurance

<b>Property/Casualty</b>	0,00	2 500,00	-2 500,00	0,0%
<b>Worker's Comp</b>	0,00	800,00	-800,00	0,0%

**Total 6180 · Insurance** 0,00 3 300,00 -3 300,00 0,0%

### 6390 · Utilities

<b>Electric</b>	154,35	0,00	154,35	100,0%
<b>Gas</b>	696,23	0,00	696,23	100,0%
<b>6340 · Telephone</b>	215,98	0,00	215,98	100,0%
<b>6410 · Water</b>	89,46	0,00	89,46	100,0%
<b>6390 · Utilities - Other</b>	0,00	2 700,00	-2 700,00	0,0%

**Total 6390 · Utilities** 1 156,02 2 700,00 -1 543,98 42,82%

**Total Meeting House** 1 370,44 9 000,00 -7 629,56 15,23%

## Meeting Support

<b>Hospitality Committee</b>	18,00	150,00	-132,00	12,0%
<b>Pastoral Care Ctte</b>	0,00	120,00	-120,00	0,0%
<b>Communications Ctte</b>	285,00	400,00	-115,00	71,25%

### Advertising

<b>Friends Journal</b>	80,00	0,00	80,00	100,0%
<b>Advertising - Other</b>	0,00	100,00	-100,00	0,0%
<b>Total Advertising</b>	80,00	100,00	-20,00	80,0%
<b>Finance Ctte</b>	0,00	90,00	-90,00	0,0%
<b>Library</b>	0,00	300,00	-300,00	0,0%
<b>Ministry and Counsel Ctte</b>	200,00	50,00	150,00	400,0%
<b>6240 · Miscellaneous</b>				
<b>6120 · Bank Service Charges</b>	0,00	150,00	-150,00	0,0%
<b>Coffee Purchases</b>	136,00	0,00	136,00	100,0%
<b>Office Supplies</b>	0,00	100,00	-100,00	0,0%
<b>6240 · Miscellaneous - Other</b>	0,00	500,00	-500,00	0,0%
<b>Total 6240 · Miscellaneous</b>	136,00	750,00	-614,00	18,13%
<b>6560 · Payroll Expenses</b>	0,00	200,00	-200,00	0,0%
<b>Religious Education Ctte</b>				
<b>Childcare</b>	173,36	900,00	-726,64	19,26%
<b>First Day School</b>	0,00	900,00	-900,00	0,0%
<b>SAYF</b>	0,00	400,00	-400,00	0,0%
<b>Total Religious Education Ctte</b>	173,36	2 200,00	-2 026,64	7,88%
<b>Scholarships from fund</b>	1 410,00	0,00	1 410,00	100,0%
<b>Spiritual Enrichment Ctte</b>	0,00	200,00	-200,00	0,0%
<b>Total Meeting Support</b>	2 302,36	4 560,00	-2 257,64	50,49%
<b>Outreach</b>				
<b>6140 · General Outreach</b>				
<b>Wild South</b>	250,00	0,00	250,00	100,0%

<b>Global Report WPVM</b>	50,00	0,00	50,00	100,0%
<b>Green Opportunities Clean Air</b>	250,00	0,00	250,00	100,0%
<b>Meals on Wheels</b>	364,00	0,00	364,00	100,0%
<b>A-B Community Relations Council</b>	276,00	300,00	-24,00	92,0%
<b>ABCCM</b>	364,00	0,00	364,00	100,0%
<b>Canary Coalition</b>	250,00	0,00	250,00	100,0%
<b>Helpmate</b>	0,00	300,00	-300,00	0,0%
<b>International Link</b>	100,00	0,00	100,00	100,0%
<b>Manna Food Bank</b>	276,00	700,00	-424,00	39,43%
<b>Pisgah Legal Services</b>	0,00	150,00	-150,00	0,0%
<b>WNC Alliance</b>	0,00	700,00	-700,00	0,0%
<b>6140 · General Outreach - Other</b>	0,00	2 500,00	-2 500,00	0,0%
<b>Total 6140 · General Outreach</b>	<b>2 180,00</b>	<b>4 650,00</b>	<b>-2 470,00</b>	<b>46,88%</b>
<b>Peace and Earth Ctte</b>				
<b>Projects</b>	0,00	300,00	-300,00	0,0%
<b>Total Peace and Earth Ctte</b>	0,00	300,00	-300,00	0,0%
<b>Quaker Outreach</b>				
<b>AFSC</b>	0,00	300,00	-300,00	0,0%
<b>FCNL</b>	0,00	550,00	-550,00	0,0%
<b>FGC</b>	0,00	200,00	-200,00	0,0%
<b>Friends Journal</b>	0,00	200,00	-200,00	0,0%
<b>FWCC</b>	0,00	75,00	-75,00	0,0%
<b>Pendle Hill</b>	0,00	100,00	-100,00	0,0%

<b>Quaker House</b>	0,00	400,00	-400,00	0,0%
<b>Ramallah Friends School</b>	0,00	75,00	-75,00	0,0%
<b>Right Sharing</b>	0,00	200,00	-200,00	0,0%
<b>Quaker Outreach - Other</b>	0,00	2 900,00	-2 900,00	0,0%
<b>Total Quaker Outreach</b>	0,00	5 000,00	-5 000,00	0,0%
<b>SAYMA Dues</b>	0,00	3 510,00	-3 510,00	0,0%
<b>Total Outreach</b>	2 180,00	13 460,00	-11 280,00	16,2%
<b>Total Expense</b>	5 852,80	29 520,00	-23 667,20	19,83%
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	12 736,44	-4 650,00	17 386,44	-273,9%
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>12 736,44</b>	<b>-4 650,00</b>	<b>17 386,44</b>	<b>-273,9%</b>

The Finance Report was accepted with thanks.

#### Committee Reports

Meetinghouse Scheduling – Waldorf School Gary Briggs

A neighbor asked about rental for a preschool in the Waldorf style of learning. She is interested in the room with the kitchen attached on the second story and wants to rent the space starting in the fall.

Several possible problems were brought up:

- It is not our policy to rent to groups using the meetinghouse for activities that earn a profit.
- Our insurance coverage might not be adequate for such a school.
- The price we usually charge was too high for the school’s budget.
- A Friend doubted that our building would comply with Buncombe County’s preschool guidelines.
- Another Friend stated that our structure may not be appropriate for her needs, and to postpone our decision would delay the school project.
- A Friend suggested that we think about what we could do in the future to make our building more useable for children and education.

Gary read the guidelines to Meeting for Business.

**Minute #8 - Friends approved saying “no” to this rental inquiry with best wishes to her venture in establishing a Waldorf School elsewhere.**

## Ministry and Counsel Committee

Ministry and Counsel has planned a one-day retreat for Saturday, October 3, 2009. Mary Ann Downey has agreed to facilitate this retreat on Clerking. The "hard part": the date, topic, and speaker have been planned. We need a committee to shepherd this retreat from here on. This will involve handling registration, planning a Saturday meal, and extending an invitation to other area Meetings to attend.

**Minute #9 – Friends approved the following for a retreat committee: Steve Livingston, Barbara Esther, and Katherine Kowal, if she agrees. Bobby Carter volunteered to assist with clean up.**

## Peace and Earth Committee Pat Johnson

Father Louis Vitale, a peace activist, will be coming to North Carolina in June. We have the opportunity to host a speech/presentation by him on June 21st (Sunday). Other groups have contributed help, support, space & etc. He needs help with co-sponsorship and equipment.

**Minute # 10 - Friends feel moved to support the effort of co-sponsoring a presentation by Father Louis Vitale, and will look into finding the proper resources. Approved.**

Sixth Month Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business (SAYMA meets on Second First Day)

The clerk suggested we reschedule the June meeting due to SAYMA schedule conflict.

**Minute # 11 - Friends approved moving meeting for business to June 7<sup>th</sup>, first First Day of Sixth Month.**

## Other

Communications Committee is working on printing a new directory. It is meant to consist of contact information for people who are active in the meeting. The list has grown to 65 people, which doesn't seem in keeping with the original intent of the list. These 65 people self-identify as being active in meeting. One Friend expressed his feeling that the Communications Committee is judging those who say they are active in the meeting, but do not seem to be active. It is keeping this Friend from completing the work the committee intended to do.

- The clerk suggested we call this a list of people who are part of our meeting, but that those who are active are somehow highlighted as being the core of the meeting. For example, their position of responsibility or committee service could be listed.
- A Friend felt that it was helpful that the feelings of this Friend be expressed. He then added that he felt that it was appropriate for Friends to self-select their activity with meeting and that as we re-do a directory every few years there is an opportunity to change the criteria used in listing Friends.
- The clerk suggested we postpone further discussion because this new concern may benefit from seasoning.
- A Friend asked that we not exclude those who feel a connection to the meeting, especially since we have received their information and know of their feeling of connection.
- Another Friend pointed out that having a connection with these people is an opportunity for outreach.
- The clerk reminded Friends that this was a list we need for smooth functioning of the meeting.
- A Friend stated that as Quakers we believe there is that of God in each one of us, and that those of us who feel a connection to meeting or to Quakerism often do unquantifiable good in the community. Those who minister to the physical needs of meeting should be noted, but those who feel a connection should not be excluded.

Friends agreed to set aside this concern for seasoning.

We concluded the meeting for business at 1:58 p.m. with a period of worship.