

**Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business
Seventh Month 10, 2011**

Clerk: Katherine Kowal

Recording Clerk: Jennifer Rhode Ward

Present: David Clements, Barbara Esther, Gjeorge Gjelfriend, Kristi Gjelfriend, Doug Lane, Laura Maynard Lane, Steve Livingston, Rusty Maynard, Edie Patrick, Kitti Reynolds, Alan Robinson, Adrienne Weir

Opening Worship

Reading,

"The Cosmic Sabbath was not for the purpose of resting in order to work more; there is no Monday in the creation narrative. The purpose of the Sabbath was to enjoy the world forever, which is why it is blessed."

Chuck Meyer, quoted in *Sabbath Economics*

Agenda

The seventh month agenda was accepted as presented.

Review of Minutes from 6th Month

A Friend suggested that a reminder email, containing the previous month's Minutes, would be helpful.

We will re-visit the 6th Month Minutes during the 9th Month Meeting for Worship (our next Business Meeting!).

Finance Committee – Adrienne Weir

Contributions continue to be below projected amounts. To date, 26.67% of the total year's projected contributions have been received.

The tenant with the rent question will continue to use our space at a rate of \$12/hour. Another tenant is on hiatus until the potential mold problem in the mural room is solved; an ionizer has been donated and will be used to resolve this issue.

The check for SAYMA dues has been written and will be mailed shortly. That expenditure will appear on the next report.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

***Ministry and Counsel Committee – Kristi Gjelfriend, Gjeorge Gjelfriend**

The committee read a list of guidelines on eldering, which was followed by a set of examples for discussion. M&C proposed that this item be included in the AFM Meeting handbook, which has been created and maintained by their committee. A Friend suggested that this document be used in triggering a broader discussion during a Sandwich Sunday or other workshop on eldering. Several Friends

suggested that such a document produced by M&C need not be approved by Business Meeting.

AFM supports the work that the Ministry and Counsel Committee is doing to educate our community about eldering.

Committee Report, Seventh Month: Adrienne Weir and her two daughters were peremptorily evicted from their apartment by their landlord who wanted to convert the premises to commercial rentals. They did not have enough time to find affordable public housing and asked M&C for assistance. We agreed to let them occupy the Meeting House, subject to the approval of Meeting for Business. We think this is a suitable way for the Meeting to share this underutilized resource. The family has offered to pay for utilities, etc and has already begun to take on certain cleaning and maintenance chores not already covered by other arrangements. We ask for your approval in this matter.

AFM approved occupation of the Meetinghouse by Adrienne Weir and her daughters while they seek alternative housing arrangements.

***Nominating Committee**

Committee Report, Seventh Month: Adrienne Weir has asked to join the House and Grounds committee. She has been serving as Meeting House coordinator for some time, already a H&G responsibility. We ask for your approval.

AFM approved Adrienne Weir as a member of the House & Grounds Committee.

Peace and Earth Committee – Kitti Reynolds

The Clerk reminded committees that, in February, M&C asked that all committees present a planning report to Meeting for Business. The Clerk asked that all committees make such a report prior to the end of the year. A Friend asked that a paper copy of all committee planning reports be placed in the Meetinghouse foyer.

Peace and Earth presented a committee report:

We co-sponsored another Pritchard Park breakfast this morning, along with the Unitarians. About 8-9 Friends contributed food or money for food, with 4-5 of us helping to serve. Our collections for Manna Food Bank will be done on an occasional basis, with announcements a few weeks prior to taking the food to Manna when someone is able to make the delivery. The composition of P and E is changing, with Kitti rotating off in September and Jen also leaving soon. Bobby Carter has come on board.

P and E is happy to announce that we received a donation of \$14.50 from our young Friend, Nick Novak. We still have copies of the Transition Asheville Handbook which we would like to distribute to area libraries. Is there anyone who could take a copy to Swannanoa, Enka, Fairview, Leicester, Black Mountain?

The International Day of Peace will be Sept. 21. Peace and Earth will be discussion our Meeting's sponsorship and participation in this event in Asheville.

The Peace and Earth Committee also presented its planning report:

During our last two meetings, we have discussed our goals for the next year. They include:

- 1. We intend to have spent most (80%) of our allocated funds by October of each year.*
- 2. As part of our “earth” agenda, we intend to share work on the grounds with House and Grounds Committee, perhaps sponsoring some “yard work parties”*
- 3. We would like to provide more opportunities for Meeting members to be active in helping our community, as we have done with the Pritchard Park breakfasts, and the Homeward Bound program, which Margaret Normile and Sara Jane Thomas are working with. The issue of how immigrants are treated is an example of another issue for which we might advocate.*
- 4. We are still searching for ways to address militarism and poverty in our country.*
- 5. Common Light Meeting is showing a film series on non-violence, and we discussed the possibility of doing that. We also raised the possibility of having Peace and Earth write letters to the editors and asking the meeting to endorse the letters and have the Clerk send the letters on to the local paper.*
- 6. We want to keep the Meeting connected with the climate change group at SAYMA.*

Laura Maynard-Lane and Barbara Esther offered to deliver copies of *The Transition Handbook* to local libraries.

Closing Worship