

**Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business
Twelfth Month 11, 2011**

Clerk: Kitti Reynolds

Recording Clerk: Jennifer Rhode Ward

Present: Ruth, Jim Cavener, Barbara Esther, Gita Larsen, Gjeorge Gjelfriend, Kristi Gjelfriend, Ed Harris, Rylin Hansen, DeAnna Hatch, Micala Hatch, Gail Hipkins, Jim Hipkins, Pat Johnson, Katherine Kowal, Rusty Maynard, Edie Patrick, Alan Robinson, Adrienne Weir, Robin Wells

Opening Worship

Reading

"Where two or three," saith our Lord, "are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matt. 18.20). In these words he...invites us not only to meet one with another but, in so doing, with himself also. Yearly Meeting, 1765
from Christian Faith and Practice, London Yearly Meeting, 1966

Agenda

The eleventh month agenda was accepted as written.

Review of Minutes from 11th Month

Kitti will forward copies of the 11th Month minutes so that they can be distributed and approved in a future business meeting.

***Request from Scholarship Committee – Barbara Esther**

Micala is requesting funds to attend school at Monteverde Friends School, Costa Rica for her senior year of high school (beginning in August 2012). She read a letter about this to the Meeting for Business, with an estimated cost of \$6900 for one semester (including travel), and \$14,000 for the entire year. Monies for this request would come from the AFM College Age Friends fund, which currently contains \$6123. Her mother can pay \$7000 of these costs; Micala requested \$2000 from AFM.

A Friend asked for clarification about Micala's fundraising efforts. She will begin working on an organic farm in late spring and is currently doing odd jobs and selling clothing. A Friend said that she thought the school would be a good fit but asked that funds be held by the Meeting until Micala began attending. A Friend asked that Micala give a follow-up report about this experience after it was completed. A Friend proposed that the requested amount be raised to \$3000 as this was a Quaker-related request.

The Meeting approved giving \$3000 in scholarship to Micala to support her attendance for a year at Monteverde Friends School in Costa Rica.

Finance Committee Report – Pat Johnson

Annual income has been approximately \$12000, which represents 62% of the budgeted funds for the 2011 fiscal year. Note that we are \$3555 in the red for this year; this figure does not reflect December contributions to AFM. Pat noted that the total fund (bank) balance for AFM was still positive, although some committee budgets (and the 2011 operating budget) were overspent. A Friend noted that it was important that AFM not run a deficit year after year, and that it was important to address the

longer range issues.

Kitti will put out an appeal for end-of-year contributions via email.

2012 Budget – Pat Johnson

Pat noted that some committees had still not requested funds for the coming fiscal year. She also noted that the budget includes an estimated \$100 for liability coverage for the AFM Board of Directors. David Clements is soliciting quotes for this projected expense.

Friends discussed transferring funds to the scholarship fund but concluded that that was not immediately necessary. A Friend asked that current scholarship committee expenditures (funding for SAYMA attendance) be reflected in the past year's budget so that it can be considered for the future year's budget. Further discussion of movement of monies among committee funds was tabled.

The total projected expense for the 2012 budget is \$20,148. Note that the annual budget is either based on the previous year's contributions *or* percent of the general fund balance, whichever is the greater of the two. For the past few years the latter figure has been used. The 2011 budget was \$19,480. So far \$15666.77 of the 2011 budget has been spent; some small expenses (utilities) are still outstanding, and end of year contributions might not yet have been made.

A Friend suggested that we do budget discussions in January of the budget year, when the previous year's end-of-year contributions had already been made. Another Friend noted that this was just the preliminary budget, and that the final budget would be presented to Business Meeting in First Month. The Clerk encouraged committees to submit budget requests if they had not already done so. The Finance Committee will present a final budget next month based on this preliminary budget and today's discussion.

***Request for Use of Meetinghouse, January 3rd**

Micala would like to do a short performance, with potluck and sing-along, at 5:00 p.m. on January 3rd. She would like the normal fee to be waived.

The Meeting approved Micala's use of the Meetinghouse, sans fees, on 3 January.

***Allocation of Coffee Money**

\$200 from Monteverde coffee sales remains, and these monies should be allocated to a specific fund as the Meeting Monteverde Coffee Sales have been laid down. One Friend suggested that these monies be given to the Hospitality Committee. Another suggested that, since funds were generated from Monteverde's outreach, that monies be used by AFM for outreach. Adrienne clarified that monies for committees should be moved from the coffee fund to the General Fund, then allocated to committees as part of the budget-making process.

Adrienne clarified the AFM reimbursement policy for those who have paid for Meeting-related expenses out of pocket. Have the appropriate committee clerk fill out a form, add the receipt, and submit the form to the Treasurer.

The Meeting approved closing the Coffee Fund, and transferring the \$200 to the AFM General Fund.

***Nominating Committee – Katherine Kowal**

Karen Proulx has asked to be released from the House & Grounds Committee. Ruth Baldwin has asked to be released from the Finance Committee.

The Meeting approved these Nominating Committee changes.

Elizabeth Roebing

Adrienne said that AFM could not collect funds for a non-profit organization, so that it would be difficult to collect monies as requested by her blog. A Friend noted that, should contributions come to our Meeting for this, we can pass these monies on to an appropriate, recognized Haitian non-profit.

Members of the Meeting have heard various pieces of information from Elizabeth. As the Ministry and Counsel Committee decided that this was not a M&C appropriate concern, the matter was forwarded to the Clerk for appropriate action by the larger Meeting.

Other

Satchel Loftis is heading to Florida for a time as his mother is in Hospice care.

Katherine Kowal's birthday was Friday, and Joy Gossett's birthday was the previous Friday.

Joy has asked that you hold her in the light as she goes to Africa to visit Stephanie, who is in the Peace Corps there.

Please also hold Elizabeth Roebing in the light.

Closing Worship