

**Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business
Second Month 12, 2012**

Clerk: Kitti Reynolds

Recording Clerk: Jennifer Rhode Ward

Present: Bobby Carter, Jim Cavener, David Clements, Gjeorge Gjelfriend, Kristi Gjelfriend, Rylin Hansen, Ed Harris, Gail Hipkins, Jim Hipkins, Pat Johnson, Katherine Kowal, Laura Maynard Lane, Steve Livingston, Edie Patrick, Ruth Stewart, Adrienne Weir, Robin Wells, Rachel Figuero

Opening Worship

Reading

The world is charged with the grandeur of God,
It will flame out, like shining from shook foil;

.....

And though the last lights off the black West went
Oh, morning, at the brown brink eastward, springs-
Because the Holy Ghost over the bent
World broods with warm breast and with ah! bright wings.

Gerard Manley Hopkins, "God's Grandeur"

Agenda

The second month agenda was accepted as written.

Peace and Earth – Katherine Kowal

The committee led a letter-writing campaign, which resulted in 16 letters sent to elected North Carolina representatives. They will conduct another campaign in April. Last month the Meeting sent half of a barrel of food donations to MANNA Food Bank.

***Nominating Committee – Katherine Kowal**

The Meeting approved the nomination of Rylin Hansen and Geneva Bierce-Wilson to the House and Grounds Committee. Their terms will start immediately and end in February 2014.

Finance Report – Pat Johnson

The Meeting has taken in \$3045.48 in gross income so far this year, with \$2236.33 *net* income so far. Adrienne noted that some of this was due to Meetinghouse rental (including 3 classes that she taught here last month), or pre-payment of rental fees

House and Grounds Yard Work Report – Adrienne Weir

On behalf of the House and Grounds Committee, Adrienne has written letters to acknowledge the contributions of the following persons / organizations:

- Christ School students (organized by Travis Harris, who knows one of the persons who rents the Meetinghouse space) did significant yard work on the Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal Holiday. This included removal of many weeds from the yard and a thorough cleaning of the Meetinghouse.
- David Carpenter and a woodworker made and installed arches for the arbor.

***Clearness Committee for Pat Johnson (for membership in AFM) – Steve Livingston**

Kitti began by reading Pat Johnson's formal request for a Clearness Committee to consider her membership in AFM. Steve then read the report of Pat's clearness committee, and asked that the Meeting approve her membership in AFM and in the Religious Society of Friends.

The Meeting approved Patricia Johnson for membership in Asheville Friends Meeting and the Religious Society of Friends.

Review of Minutes from 1st Month

The 1st month minutes were approved as written.

Other

Jim Cavener spoke in opposition of the proposed Amendment 1 to the North Carolina State Constitution, which would change the constitution to narrowly define marriage. The proposed amendment states:

“Marriage between one man and one woman is the only domestic legal union that shall be valid or recognized in this state. This section does not prohibit a private party from entering into contracts with another private party; nor does this section prohibit courts from adjudicating the rights of private parties pursuant to such contracts.”

Jim brought signs (which he got at a rally yesterday at the state capital, sponsored by the NAACP) urging people to vote against this amendment. Friends noted that the Campaign to Protect All North Carolina Families is standing in opposition to this amendment, and Kitti reminded us that AFM had already written a letter in opposition.

A Friend felt concerned that this sign makes a political statement that presents our worship community's opinion in a way that could be isolating for us. Another Friend noted that the sign might not be clear about our pro-family and anti-amendment position, and a second Friend was concerned that the sign urged members / attenders to vote in a specific way and could thus affect our IRS tax-exempt status. A Friend asked the Peace & Earth committee to consider further action on this amendment as soon as possible and to disseminate that publicly prior to the May 2012 voting date.

Closing Worship