

**Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business  
First Month 13, 2013**

**Clerk:** Kitti Reynolds

**Recording Clerk:** Jennifer Rhode Ward

**Present:** Jim Barham, Edwin Brown, Jim Cavener, Barbara Esther, Gita Larsen, George Gjelfriend, Kristi Gjelfriend, Joy Gossett, Gail Hipkins, Jim Hipkins, Pat Johnson, Katherine Kowal, Nancy Kuykendall, Julie Mahler, Edie Patrick, Frank Roberts, Adrienne Weir

**Opening Worship**

**Clerk's Reading**

Lord, purge our eyes to see  
within the seed a tree,  
within the glowing egg a bird,  
within the shroud a butterfly.  
Till, taught by such we see  
Beyond all creatures, thee  
And hearken to thy tender word  
And hear its "Fear not; it is I."  
*Christina Rossetti*

**Agenda**

The agenda was approved as written.

**12<sup>th</sup> Month Minutes**

The 12<sup>th</sup> Month Minutes were approved as posted by Leslee Johnson. Kitti clarified that Friends could find these minutes on the AFM website.

**Gita Larsen's Request for Transfer of Membership**

Columbia Friends Meeting sent a letter supporting Gita Larsen's transfer of membership from their Meeting to ours. Gita also wrote a letter to Kitti making this request. Since this is a transfer of membership, we will establish a Welcoming Committee of 3-4 persons for our new Friend. Katherine noted that a new Friend could also request a Clearness Committee, if desired. Barbara, Kitti, and Jen will work on this.

**Financial Report – Pat Johnson**

Note that utilities and insurance were over budgeted cost in the last fiscal year. Religious Education spent less money than budgeted, due to loss of receipts. We ended the year with a \$3198 surplus. Much of this was due to increased rental income (~40% more than expected). Note that monies for the Peace Corp GLOW project (Swaziland) are listed as coming from General Funds.

We discussed the proposed budget, which included changes to wages (due to increased Social Security rates), increased Peace & Earth outreach monies (General and Quaker). A Friend noted

that we spent \$75 on the Hope to Home project (with the Unitarian Universalist Church) last year, but that this year's financial commitment will be \$900. Barbara Esther, Gail Hipkins, and Jim Hipkins agreed to be involved in supporting the persons getting a new home. The Peace and Earth Committee will discuss this commitment further, keeping in mind the \$1000 increase in their General Outreach budget.

### **Mail – Kitti Reynolds**

George Gjelfriend typically picks up and sorts AFM's postal deliveries. He is now committed to working with the Youth Group on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month, so he is asking that someone else take over these mail duties. Adrienne agreed to do this.

Kitti noted that Deanna Hatch sent a letter to AFM, thanking us for cookies and updating us on her status.

### **Peace and Earth – Katherine Kowal**

Katherine presented the year-end report for the Peace and Earth Committee; see below.

Kitti noted that our Meeting signed a petition, supporting an FCNL petition that acknowledged human impacts on climate change. See a copy of the related letter below.

### **Other**

A Friend asked after the health of Friends Bobby and Alan. A Friend noted that Bobby was undergoing chemotherapy, and that Alan had been released from the hospital. No one had any additional information.

A Friend asked that Barbara, Gail, and Jim be acknowledged for their work with Hope to Home.

Joy thanked AFM for their support of the Peace Corps Project GLOW.

### **Closing Worship**

#### ***Peace & Earth Year End Report***

In 2012 Peace and Earth organized two food donation drives for MANNA: one in January and one in August.

We co-operated with the UU Church in feeding the hungry in Prichard Park in March, July, and September.

We created and hung a yard sign for the Meeting voicing our support for marriage equality. The sign said: Want to Respect All NC Families? Vote No on Amendment One.

This year we initiated a letter-writing campaign on the fifth Sundays of the month. We sent over 50 letters to elected representatives sharing our views on topics such as maintaining cuts to the Pentagon budget, and acknowledging the human causes of climate change. In August we organized a visit to Senator Hagan's office to hand-deliver some of these letters and share out concerns about reducing military spending. We will have our final letter-writing campaign later

this month, on December 30th.

In September we sponsored a table for Asheville Friends Meeting at the International Day of Peace. We had an interactive activity comparing how participants would allocate our tax dollars with how they are actually allocated. We also presented this activity for the Meeting the following first day.

In October we sponsored a spiritual enrichment program on our response to the Kabarak Call from the Friends World Committee on Consultation. We also responded to an AFSC Request to identify issues of concern to help them in planning for the coming years.

We have disbursed 97% of our outreach budget for the year as follows:

Quaker Organizations - Total \$2,000

Quaker Earth Witness	\$300
AFSC	\$320
FCNL	\$420
FGC	\$160
Friends Journal	\$100
FWCC	\$60
Pendle Hill	\$80
Quaker House	\$300
Ramallah Friends School	\$100
Right Sharing	\$160

General Outreach \$1,875.00

Hope to Home	\$75 (includes \$50 of in-kind contribution)
Veterans for Peace	\$300
Madison, WI Quakers	\$100
WNC Alliance	\$300
Interfaith Power & Light	\$150
Riverlink	\$150
Center for Participatory Change	\$75
Meals on Wheels	\$250
MANNA	\$250
Pisgah Legal Services	\$75
Stephanie's Preschool	\$100
International Day of Peace	\$50

Dear Friends:

The [Climate Summit 2013 coalition](#), of which FCNL is a charter member, is dialoguing with White House staff about the possibility of the President hosting a national summit on climate

change. The White House is considering how to move forward with Pres. Obama's post election desire to "[start a conversation](#)" on climate change – a statement compelled by the pre-election advocacy by climate advocate seeking the end the silence.

Now post-election, the White House wants us to show them how much support is coming primarily from *non-environmental* climate advocacy sectors like faith, diversity, business, labor, state, tribal and local governments. This demonstration of support may determine whether 1) the president decides to host a summit, and if so 2) the intensity of his commitment.

We think this can be a pivotal moment in history – where Pres. Obama announces at the start of his last term, his commitment to national and international leadership on climate disruption – but only if the American people urge him to do so. The White House is asking us to show this level of support right now, and we hope you will join us.

Please consider having the *leaders of your organizations* sign the petition at <https://sites.google.com/site/nationalsummitletter>. If you cannot make that commitment just now, could you indicate whether you intend to seek that endorsement? Can you please share this with your colleagues? Through this, we might begin to see the political leadership the world needs on the greatest challenge humanity faces.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jose

Jose Aguto  
Legislative Secretary  
Sustainable Energy and Environment  
Friends Committee on National Legislation  
245 Second St., NE  
Washington, DC 20002  
[202-903-2527](tel:202-903-2527) (w)  
[202-553-7202](tel:202-553-7202) (c)  
[www.fcnl.org](http://www.fcnl.org)

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