

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

Asheville Friends Meeting

2nd Month 8, 2015

Co-Clerks: Gail Hipkins, Alan Robinson

Recording Clerk: Steve Livingston

Attendance: Danna and Dave McLintock, Rusty Maynard, Kristi Gjelfriend, Katherine Kowal, Jim Hipkins, Desaray Smith, Gjeorge Gjelfriend, Edie Patrick, Ruth Stewart, Adrienne Weir, Tim Burgess, Pat Johnson, Patti Hughes, Patti Burgess, Hannah Burgess, Lauren Adams, Barbara Esther

Meeting began at with a moment of silence at 11:50 a.m. Clerk read from Rumi:

*What sort of person says that he or she
wants to be polished and pure,
then complains about being handled roughly?
Love is a lawsuit
where harsh evidence must be brought in.
To settle the case,
the judge must hear details.
You have heard that every buried treasure
has a snake guarding it.
Kiss the snake to discover the treasure.*

Friends approved the agenda as presented.

Friends approved the minutes of 1st month 2015 business meeting as posted on the Meeting website.

Minutes of 12th month 2014 were held over.

State of Meeting Report

The clerks distributed a copy of draft State of Meeting report and asked that Friends take a copy home for consideration in the coming week, mark the copy with their suggestions, and return them next First Day.

Recording clerk offered to post an electronic copy on the Meeting website and instruct any Friends who were not in attendance to print and mark.

Treasurer's Report

Pat distributed the Treasurer's Report and reported our income so far this year at around \$2400, with expenses about half that much. Thus we have started the year "in the

black". A Friend was curious whether it was typical to start the year with a surplus, or perhaps late arrivals from end of year appeals might explain the surplus. Pat informed us that it was not the usual, and that it was not due to late arrivals. We've simply gotten off to a good start this year.

Friends accepted the Treasurer's Report.

Committee Chart

Clerks presented a chart they have been working on to show what our Meeting's committees are, what the committee's charge is, and the membership of each committee. Clerks asked that Friends examine the chart and let them know of any additions or corrections needed. It is being posted in the foyer.

Peace and Earth

Peace and Earth is recommending that the group rising up to share on the matter of racial justice remain independent of the Peace and Earth Committee. They are already meeting and acting independently. Clerk suggested that this group of Friends further define whether they are a committee and/or need to name a clerk or convener.

Spiritual Enrichment

Clerk informed Friends that there is a calendar of upcoming Spiritual Enrichment sessions posted in the foyer. At the suggestion of a Friend, recording clerk is asked to post the calendar on the Meeting website.

Announcements

Meeting is still in need of recorder and archivist. Recorder keeps track of births, marriage, deaths, membership. Archivist keeps track of minutes and other historical records of the Meeting. Recognizing that it is a daunting task to go through the accumulated, unsorted papers, clerks are suggesting that any Friend willing to take this on be relieved of this burden. Barbara Esther shared that she has been doing some sorting of records, and agreed to accept the position of recorder starting in sixth month.

In response to an inquiry, clerk explained the difference between recording clerk, recorder, and archivist. The Friend asked whether it was also the purpose of the archivist to share this history more widely. It was pointed out that some of this more recent information is already posted on our website.

UU youth

Clerks shared an email from Margaret N concerning an upcoming visit with sixth graders at UU studying Quakerism.

I will go to UU on March 8th to talk with the students about Quakerism and they will come to AFM on March 15. It would be great if we could get some teens to talk with them either before or after Meeting for Worship. This comes from a facilitator for a class I took at OLLI. Please mark your calendars and inform February Meeting for Business since I won't be back from FL for that Meeting. Hopefully Robin can work something out about teens talking with them. I will attend to the details when I return.

Traveling Minute for Jim Barham

Jim has been traveling in California and requested a traveling minute. Clerks provided two traveling minutes, with greetings from our Meeting and request that they welcome him.

SAYMA request

SAYMA is requesting that anyone who has a leading to offer a workshop at YM please notify Liz Perch asap. Clerks posted info about offering workshops in foyer.

Nashville Friends

Clerks shared an email from Nashville Friends Meeting concerning an upcoming workshop with Shane Claiborne, a leading figure in the New Monasticism movement and one of the founding members of The Simple Way in Philadelphia.

We are proud to announce that on March 7, 2015 we are hosting nationally recognized author and speaker Shane Claiborne.

Typically, Nashville Friends Meeting invites TN, KY, AL, and MS meetings to Regional Gathering and draws 20-30 people, but this year we are casting a much wider net. Shane and NFM prefer NOT to limit the event on the basis of a paid registration; however, it is important to note that our main worship space only holds 85 people.

The event will run from 9am-4pm with worship, a keynote, meal, and smaller-group afternoon breakout sharing/workshop sessions visited by Shane. Child care will be provided, and one of the afternoon sessions will be a young Friends group.

We request that you:

*disseminate this announcement within your meetings;
actively discern how many people are confidently anticipated + how many need housing;
actively discern whether/how much your meetings may be able to contribute to defray costs.*

Please direct any questions to me. Although steering committee meetings will take place in Nashville in Jan and Feb, we are open to hearing from anyone that would like to be virtually involved in organization efforts.

SVFM request

On Saturday February 28, interested Friends are invited to come to Asheville Meeting at noon for a bag lunch, then a session from 1 till 4 with Deborah First, an Israel-Palestine veteran and Jewish Friend from New York Yearly Meeting. Several members of our Peace and Social Concern Committee will be there, working with Deborah to draft a minute that speaks to the current situation in Israel-Palestine. No cost for this, and no reservation necessary. Just show up and help if you can.

SAYMA's newly renamed Earthcare Action Network is hosting a weekend retreat at West Knoxville Meeting next month, 3/13-15. They invite us to bring our passion, wonder, grief, knowing, unknowing, and creative ideas in order to strengthen our community and become more actively involved in working on climate change solutions. Poster and entry form are posted on our website.

Personal Concern

Rusty M rose to share his urging to provide a prominent outdoor location for the iron dove in the meeting room that was sculpted many years ago and gifted to the Meeting by former member and ironworker Berry Bate. In view of a past controversy, Rusty requested that the matter be taken up by Ministry and Counsel to season whether such an action would be in good Quaker order. Clerk agreed to refer the matter to the committee.

Closing worship

There being no further business, meeting adjourned with silence at 12:40 p.m.