

## Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

### Asheville Friends Meeting

Approved Ninth Month 9, 2018

Eighth Month 12, 2018

Present: NancyLynn Sharpless; Pat Johnson; Margaret Normile; Jim Cavener; Edie Patrick; Rusty Maynard; Steve Livingston; Kitti Reynolds; Patty Burgess; Lynnora Bierce; Michael Peacock; Annika Peacock; Patti Hughes, clerk; Barbara Esther, recording clerk.

Meeting began with a period of silent worship from which clerk, Patti Hughes, read the following:

“Author E.B. White mused, "I arise in the morning torn between a desire to save the world and a desire to savor the world. This makes it hard to plan the day." However, (Spirit) encourages us to find a balance in our daily lives between saving and savoring the world. These are not opposite choices, but are part of (the) plan where-by spiritual renewal inspires us to both enjoy the world and work to restore it to peace and wholeness."

From *Practicing Peace* by Catherine Whitmire

#### Announcements:

A memorial service was held for Alan Scott Robinson on Saturday, August 11, 2018. Several family members, numerous Friends and friends attended a deep remembrance of Alan, appreciating his sense of humor, tender nature and talents. The meeting thanks everyone who contributed to the memorial in planning, worshipping and cleaning up. Alan will be missed.

Friends are joyfully invited to witness the marriage of Tabitha Ammons and Benjamin Burgess on Friday, August 24, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. The wedding will take place at 562 Brendle Road in Franklin, North Carolina in the back yard of Larry and Peggy Holcomb. RSVP to [pattyburgess22@gmail.com](mailto:pattyburgess22@gmail.com) as soon as possible, please.

The SAYMA March Representative Body meeting has been scheduled for Asheville Friends Meeting. The nextstep is to form a working group or Ad Hoc Committee to work with SAYMA to plan and prepare for the meeting.

Friends accepted the agenda as prepared.

Friends will wait to approve the Seventh Month Minutes in September as we await one missing report.

## Committee Reports:

### Communications Committee-Steve Livingston

The committee met on 8/5/2018. Present were Mike Eddy and Steve Livingston (clerk)

The Committee wants to inform the Meeting that there was a previously undetected glitch in the forwarding of emails from the addresses we had assigned to the Meeting to the personal addresses of committee members. Consequently we have missed messages that were important to the senders, and inquiries, comments and requests have gone unanswered. We apologize for the failure in communications. We are now looking into why the forwarding did not work, and how to resolve the problem. [Since the writing of this report progress has been made.] A Friend suggested a way to remedy the group problem encountered.

### Nominating Report - Patty Burgess

5 people leaving positions/committees

Susan Ohler	Rental Coordinator
Nathan Phillips	Communications Committee
Edie Patrick	Hospitality Committee
Scotty Utz	Racial Justice Committee
Barbara Esther	Recording Clerk

2 people taking on responsibilities

Pat Johnson	Rental Coordinator
Nicketie Jayne	Care and Nurture

**Minute 1: Friends approved that Pat Johnson serve as rental coordinator and that Nicketie Jayne serve on Care and Nurture Committee for a three year term in each case (2018-2021).**

### Ad Hoc Retreat Committee Update- Katherine Kowal

We now have a

- date (Nov. 2-4),
- a place (Glen Rock Inn at Montreat Conference Center),
- a theme (Becoming a Compassionate Quaker) and
- a facilitator (Deborah Shaw of Guilford College) with Susan Carlyle, former member of Asheville Friends Meeting, accompanying her as elder.

We still need to decide on the cost, the child care and/or youth programming, the food but we hope to have that decided by mid September. The Glen Rock Inn will

accommodate 20 participants. We may offer a Saturday only option for those who cannot devote the whole weekend. Please reserve the date on your calendars. Friends with input for planning are invited to join the committee as it continues to work. The committee meets on Sandwich Sunday.

### **Long Range Planning Discussion**

One Friend asked why it was coming up again. Was there a disagreement? The clerk explained that we had not yet approved the formation of the committee, nor had we decided whether to form an ad hoc or a standing committee. A Friend suggested that the committee could operate better as an ad hoc committee so that it could operate more efficiently in a finite manner. However, several others suggested that continuity would be valuable. Long-range vision was mentioned as a necessary way to avoid crisis-to-crisis problem-solving. The nature of visioning is not necessarily one that needs efficiency as much as one that should have a long view and less frequent reports. Our meetinghouse is over 100 years old, having been built in 1911. Representation from the various committees was pointed out as valuable to long-range planning as a whole, not just the care of our house and grounds.

**Minute 2: Friends approved the formation of a Long-Range Planning and Visioning Committee to be represented by members of some of the standing committees of the meeting. Staggered lengths of service as we begin this work would provide continuity. Friends are committed to following up on this idea. The structure (Ad Hoc or standing committee) and membership will be discussed in an open meeting during a Spiritual Enrichment hour to be scheduled for this fall.**

An open meeting to discern and discuss the manner of forming a Long-Range Planning and Visioning was suggested as a way to further clarify our way forward. It will be planned during the first possible Spiritual Enrichment (SE) second-hour meeting. On August 19 SE Committee will meet to look at the calendar for the year. We were referred to the latest issue of Friends Journal for ideas for growing the meeting and outreach in general. Care and stewardship of Friends as they age is also to be considered. Child care will be available for that second-hour meeting, as is our practice.

### **Committee Descriptions for approval:**

**Hospitality:** Organizes First Day refreshments and clean up, arranges for a greeter, and welcomes newcomers. As needed they give assistance for Memorial Meetings, Meetings for Marriages and for special events.

**Nominating Committee:** By identifying people's gifts and reaching out to individuals, Nominating Committee fills the needs of committees. They are also responsible for filling all officers positions. A Naming Committee is appointed when the Nominating Committee needs members.

Friends were not ready to approve the description of these two committees. Hospitality Committee will review the word *organizing* to consider addition or substitution of *facilitating* or *delegating*. Nominating Committee is asked to consider changing the word *officers positions* to *positions of responsibility*.

### **Description for review:**

#### **Finance Committee**

This Committee is responsible for the finances and financial procedures of the Meeting. It consists of the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and at least two other members. Additional members may be added as needed or by interest of Friends in this work. The committee keeps the Meeting informed of financial matters by regular reports primarily from the Treasurer. Financial records are kept in Quick Books which are updated regularly.

#### **Board of Directors**

The business and property of the Friends Meeting is managed and controlled by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is self-perpetuating and is chosen by consensus of the existing Board, subject to the approval of the Monthly Meeting for Business. Minimum number of Directors is five. Any may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Board of Directors. Any vacancy may be filled by the Board of Directors subject to the approval of the Monthly Meeting for Business.

Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer serve as ex-officio Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer of the Board of the North Carolina Corporation which legally owns our assets (named "Asheville Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends"), and are thereby Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer of the Corporation. The Meeting Clerk also serves as an ex-officio member of the Board. The Chairperson and Secretary are elected by the Directors. Officers of the Board are officers of the Corporation.

Friends are urged to review the committee descriptions posted on our website in the minutes and in the weekly digest prior to the September 9th business meeting. Suggestions for changes should be made to Patti Hughes so that the committee can be consulted prior to our next meeting for business.

#### **Other:**

House and Grounds Committee did not bring a report, but NancyLynn Sharpless announced that the work on the back porch will commence in September.

We closed with a moment of silence to meet again as way opens on Ninth Month 9, 2018.