

**Minutes - Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business
Second Month 8, 2009**

Barbara Esther, **Clerk**
Jen Rhode, **Co-Recording Clerk**

Present

Gary Briggs, Bobby Carter, David Clements, Gjeorge Gjelfriend, Kristi Gjelfriend, Joy Gossett, Rylin Hansen, Pat Johnson, Katherine Kowal, Steve Livingston, Phil Neal, Rob Waskom, Adrienne Weir

Worship commenced at 12:16 p.m.

Reading:

Creeds are milestones, doctrines are interpretations. Truth, as George Fox was continually asserting, is a seed with the power of growth, not a fixed crystal, be its facets never so beautiful.

John Wilhelm Rowntree, 1904

Agenda Review

A modified agenda was approved by those present.

Approval of Minutes of First Month 2009

Barbara Esther suggested that minuted actions be noted in future minutes to make these items more clear in the future. This was approved.

1. **Minuted Item: *Friends approved that minuted items in this and future minutes be numbered and written in bold text.***

Gary Briggs asked that the M&C notes be changed to read “Sufferings” rather than “Sufferance”. He also noted that the minutes themselves were duplicated as posted on the Meeting Website, and that this should be corrected. David Clements said that it was unclear whether the change of the committee’s name was a fait accompli or not. Barbara explained that it was her understanding that, historically, there was a Meeting for Sufferings where elders addressed issues that arose for members. Thus, using this fund “Fund for Sufferings” could be a misnomer. She recommended that the wording, though not the sentiments, be changed in the last months’ minutes.

2. **Minuted Item: *The fund under discussion last month will continue to be called the Needs Fund. Approved.***

David Clements noted that the minutes were unclear about expenditures of Peace and Earth monies. Pat Johnson said that minutes from the last P&E Committee meeting indicated that the committee expected to spend 2008 and 2009 budgeted money, as well as House & Grounds surplus, in 2009. David noted that monies from 2006 had been transferred into a separate fund to be spent on outreach; these monies were carried forward (previously committed to outreach), and David told Kitti that it would be available for P&E to spend. Rob Waskom asked for clarification about what happened to unspent monies; David said those monies are just retained in the General fund with the exception of local outreach monies, which Peace & Earth decides how to spend. Barbara clarified the expenditure practices of P&E and noted that she had recently asked P&E to make expenditure decisions earlier in a given calendar year. Pat pointed out that our 2008 P&E monies had now been expended. Barbara said that P&E could approve

expenditures at any time of year that they deemed necessary, and that assessments of community needs could be ongoing.

3. **Minuted Item: For clarification - funds for P&E Projects will not be carried over from one calendar year to the next calendar year. Typically, Project Fund monies budgeted for one calendar year are available for use within that calendar year. *Approved.***
4. **Minuted Item: The Meeting appreciates the P&E committee's careful discernment in its allocation of outreach monies to our community. *Approved.***

George Gjelfriend said that he was unable to retrieve minutes from the Meeting website. Barbara agreed to reissue the First Month 2009 minutes with minuted items numbered and in bold.

Committee Reports

Peace and Earth – Pat Johnson

Minutes from the lat P&E Meeting were presented:

Peace and Earth meeting on 1-18-09

Present: Jen, Kitti, Pat, Susan, George, Steve, Betsy Rose, Becca, Phil

At this meeting we discussed our budget for general outreach for 2008. We are going to come to consensus on how to distribute the funds. We have \$2,150 from the 2008 budget, plus \$330 from operation budget and a possible \$300 carry-over from a prior year. This leaves a total of \$2,780.

We generally distribute the funds by thirds -- to social justice, peace and environmental issues.

George explained a "friends in need" fund that is run by Ministry and Counsel. They have a balance that is currently \$500, but have had a request for \$600, so he is proposing that money from Peace and Earth be transferred to Ministry and Counsel for disbursement. Kitti proposed that we transfer \$600 to Ministry and Counsel. Steve gave us some background on how decisions are made by Ministry and Counsel. We decided to give \$600 to Ministry and Counsel to disburse as they see fit.

This leaves us with \$2,180. There was some discussion about donating to local organizations verses international outreach, and it was explained that we have a separate budget for Quaker outreach, which addresses international needs.

Last year we donated to Asheville Global Report, Meals on Wheels, Manna Food Bank, International Link, Emma Family Resource Center, No More Victims, Asheville-Buncombe Community Relations Council, Help Mate, ABCCM, Riverlink, and Canary Coalition (not last year for this organization, but in past years). The feeling this year was to give larger amounts to fewer agencies.

In the area of environmental justice, it was proposed that we give to three organizations:

- 1. Wild South – they work on maintaining our forests and increasing knowledge of how forests affect global warming*
- 2. Green Opportunities Corporation – disadvantaged youth aged 15 to 20 receive training for 'green' jobs like insulating homes*
- 3. Canary Coalition – works on air quality, which is something that disproportionately affects poorer communities*

We decided on a total of \$750, to be split equality between the three organizations. Betsy Rose spoke to the idea that she was much more comfortable with donating to organizations that members are connected with already. Steve discussed donations to MAIN and the Global Report, and he felt that their needs were minimal, so a small donation would go a long way. We decided to donate \$50 to the Global Report. George said that Meals on Wheels had had a reduction in contributions lately. Kitti proposed giving \$276 to each organization for peace and social justice, and giving much more to social concerns this year, since there are so many people in our area that are facing difficult economic circumstances. Phil raised a concern about Quaker House in Fayetteville, but Kitti said that this is part of Quaker outreach, and 2008 have been dispersed. We will soon have funds for Quaker outreach for 2009 to disperse, which will cover international concerns via contributions to AFSC. We discussed dropping our donation to International Link this year, while we increase funds to Meals on Wheels and to medical care. We finally agreed on this disbursement of funds:

\$50 – Global Report

\$100 – International Link

\$364 – Meals on Wheels

\$364 – Medical – ABCCM

\$276 – Manna Food Bank

\$276 – Asheville Buncombe Community Relations Council

Meeting ended in time for singing before meeting for worship.

Note that planned P&E expenditures are noted in the budget listed below. Phil Neal asked Pat if P&E maintained a watch on FCNL and Roy Taylor (in SAYMA) to get ideas about how to spend wider Quaker Outreach monies. George noted that he sorted mail to the Meeting so that P&E received FCNL communications. Katherine expressed concerns about P&E transferring monies to the Needs Fund, and that she is worried that P&E outreach seems “optional”. She clarified that the M&C Committee meeting did not discuss asking P&E for Needs Fund monies; rather, this was the idea of individual M&C members.

David Clements said that he had been involved in Finance Committee for 10 years and that this was the first time that one committee had given monies to another. It was his feeling that these sorts of transfers should go through the entire Meeting rather than through Finance Committee. Barbara noted that committees should feel free to bring requests for additional funds to the Meeting as needed. Adrienne noted that committees are allowed to overspend by 10%; after than, requests must go to the Business Meeting.

Finance Committee will bring a reminder of this previously approved policy to next month’s Meeting for Business.

Finance Committee – Final Budget Review - Pat Johnson

Note that Adrienne Weir will not be providing a Treasurer’s Report on a regular basis in the future.

						Jan - Dec 08	Budget	Jan - Dec 09	Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense									
Income									
Total 4000 · Contribution Income						17,992.78	21,905.00	562.00	20,270.00
7010 · Interest Income						801.08	1,200.00	0.00	700.00
Rental Income						3,973.00	4,200.00	945.00	3,900.00
Total Income						22,766.86	27,305.00	1,507.00	24,870.00
Gross Profit						22,766.86	27,305.00	1,507.00	24,870.00
Expense									
Transfers TO Other Funds**									
M&C Sufferings Fund Transfer**						0.00		0.00	300.00
Transfer to Outreach Fund**						2,150.00		0.00	
Scholarship Fund Transfer**						0.00		0.00	200.00
Transfer to H&G reserves**						4,051.64	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
Total Transfers TO Other Funds**						6,201.64	2,000.00	0.00	2,500.00
Meeting House									
House and Grounds									
Supplies						191.02		0.00	
Cleaning						465.00		40.00	
Landscaping						90.00		0.00	
Maintenance						202.34		45.00	
House and Grounds - Other						0.00	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
Total House and Grounds						948.36	3,000.00	85.00	3,000.00
6180 · Insurance									
Property/Casualty						0.00		0.00	2,500.00
Worker's Comp						35.00		0.00	800.00
6180 · Insurance – Other						2,405.00	2,800.00	0.00	
Total 6180 · Insurance						2,440.00	2,800.00	0.00	3,300.00
6390 · Utilities									
Electric						499.02		53.47	
Gas						854.60		354.13	
6340 · Telephone						604.93		54.04	
6410 · Water						533.26		41.25	
6390 · Utilities – Other						0.00	2,900.00	0.00	2,700.00
Total 6390 · Utilities						2,491.81	2,900.00	502.89	2,700.00
Total Meeting House						5,880.17	8,700.00	587.89	9,000.00
Meeting Support									
Hospitality Committee						88.02	150.00	0.00	150.00
Pastoral Care Committee						40.00	120.00	0.00	120.00
Communications Committee						399.80	635.00	150.00	400.00
Advertising						80.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Total Finance Committee						20.00	90.00	0.00	90.00
Library						189.90	400.00	0.00	300.00
Ministry and Counsel Committee						0.00	300.00	0.00	50.00
6240 · Miscellaneous									
6120 · Bank Service Charges						158.00		0.00	150.00
Office Supplies						0.00	300.00	0.00	100.00
6240 · Miscellaneous - Other						5.45	1,490.00	0.00	500.00
Total 6240 · Miscellaneous						163.45	1,790.00	0.00	750.00
6560 · Payroll Expenses						156.59	550.00	0.00	200.00
Religious Education Committee									
Childcare						730.64	1,200.00	0.00	900.00
First Day School						1,245.52	1,260.00	0.00	900.00
SAYF						260.46	700.00	0.00	400.00

				Total Religious Education Committee	2,236.62	3,160.00	0.00	2,200.00
				Spiritual Enrichment Committee	15.00	300.00	0.00	200.00
				Total Meeting Support	3,389.38	7,595.00	150.00	4,560.00
				Outreach				
				Green Opportunities Clean Air	0.00		250.00	
				Global Report WPVM	0.00		50.00	
				Wild South	0.00		250.00	
				6140 · General Outreach				
				Center for Diversity Education	50.00		0.00	
				Meals on Wheels	0.00		364.00	
				A-B Community Relations Council	0.00		276.00	
				ABCCM	0.00		364.00	
				Canary Coalition	0.00		250.00	
				International Link	0.00		100.00	
				Manna Food Bank	150.00		276.00	
				Martin Luther King Breakfast	150.00		0.00	
				6140 · General Outreach - Other	0.00	2,500.00	0.00	2,500.00
				Total 6140 · General Outreach	350.00	2,500.00	1,630.00	2,500.00
				Total Peace and Earth Committee	169.33	500.00	0.00	300.00
				Quaker Outreach				
				AFSC	300.00		0.00	
				FCNL	550.00		0.00	
				FGC	200.00		0.00	
				Friends Earth Care Witness	400.00		0.00	
				Friends Journal	200.00		0.00	
				FWCC	75.00		0.00	
				Pendle Hill	100.00		0.00	
				Quaker House	400.00		0.00	
				Ramallah Friends School	75.00		0.00	
				Right Sharing	200.00		0.00	
				Quaker Outreach - Other	0.00	2,500.00	0.00	2,500.00
				Total Quaker Outreach	2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00	2,500.00
				SAYMA Dues	3,510.00	3,510.00	0.00	3,510.00
				Total Outreach	6,529.33	9,010.00	2,180.00	8,810.00
				Total Expense	22,000.52	27,305.00	2,917.89	24,870.00
				Net Ordinary Income	766.34	0.00	-1,410.89	0.00
				Net Income	766.34	0.00	-1,410.89	0.00

Pat pointed out changes to the scholarship fund (from \$400 to \$200), addition of \$300 for M&C's Needs Fund, and changes to P&E projects fund (from \$500 to \$300). We await an updated directory before making a more accurate estimate of SAYMA dues (\$65 per active member). This member number will be determined by M&C; Steve said that the number of active members would not exceed the number estimated in the budget.

Gjorge pointed out that the 2009 outreach expenditures should be moved to reflect that they were actually 2008 expenditures. David said these numbers would be recategorized before the next budget report. David also said that the Needs Fund budget could change according to the recommendations of M&C; Katherine said that M&C will not meet until Tuesday but they will probably ask for additional monies for this fund. Steve asked that we correct the budget to indicate that Global Report and WPVM are two separate budget items; monies were actually given to support Global Report. Gjorge asked why we projected higher contributions in 2009 than those actually received in 2008; the clerk indicated that was our contribution goal. Gjorge

suggested that the library budget line should be spent out, and that the library budget was not a place where we tried to save monies.

A Friend suggested raising the Miscellaneous budget line to \$1000; this money is more flexible than most lines and could be applied when needed (Needs Fund, etc.) even after the full budget was adopted. Steve pointed out that we already have planned expenditures for more monies than we may be able to take in. Ministry & Council is asked to consider their Needs Fund request to bring to next month's Meeting for Business.

George pointed out that unspent House & Grounds monies typically went into H&G reserve (for contingencies). For now, the H&G budget line will remain as is.

5. Minuted Item: The written budget was approved with thanks to the Finance Committee for their careful work and consideration.

Request for Transfer

Jen Rhode requested transfer of her membership from Athens Friends Meeting (Georgia; also in SAYMA) to Asheville Friends Meeting. Hugh Minor, Athens Friends Meeting Clerk, sent a letter supporting the request for transfer.

6. Jen Rhode declined a Clearness Committee, and her request for membership transfer was *approved*. Joy Gossett, Steve Livingston, and Adrienne Weir will form a Welcoming Committee.

Other

Gjeorge asked permission to throw away a container of Civil War soldiers left in the foyer. We will leave a note on the container indicating that the soldiers should be reclaimed (by the end of February) or they will be discarded.

Joy wondered if birthdays (month, day) could be listed in a future directory.

We ended with worship at 2:18 pm.