

**Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business
Tenth Month 14, 2012**

Clerk: Kitti Reynolds

Recording Clerk: Jennifer Rhode Ward

Present: Bobby Carter, Jim Cavener, Barbara Ester, Gjeorge Gjelfriend, Kristi Gjelfriend, Joy Gossett, Rylin Hansen, Holly Iglesias, Pat Johnson, Katherine Kowal, Laura Maynard Lane, Gita Larson, Steve Livingston, Edie Patrick, Adrienne Weir

Opening Worship

Reading

“Do all aspects of your life bear the same witness? Do you center your life in the awareness of the presence of God so that all things take their rightful place?”

2012 SAYMA Guide to Our Faith and Practice, p. 57

Agenda

The revised tenth month agenda was accepted as written.

Review of Minutes from Ninth Month

The revised ninth month minutes were accepted, with two corrections. First, the SAYMA annual dues were \$2860, not \$2000. Second, Barbara Ester did not offer hospitality for people attending the retreat sponsored by Swannanoa Valley Friends.

Finance Committee Report – Pat Johnson

Contributions to date have been approximately \$9700, and rental income has been about \$4361, for a total of about \$14237 income. 70.86% of the Meeting’s annual budget has been met to date. \$1767 of the Meeting support money has been spent (40.6% of budget). The \$2000 of Quaker outreach money has been distributed. \$16272.28 of total expenses have been incurred thus far in the budget year.

A Friend questioned the telephone bill expense. Pat replied that, since our phone is considered a business phone, the rates are higher. She will follow up with AT&T about this rate. A Friend asked if a Meeting committee could consider getting rid of our Meeting telephone. Another Friend wondered if the lack of a landline would change our insurance rates. Gjeorge offered to poll Meeting attenders via email about their opinions on this matter. The Clerk agreed to check into possible different rates for our Meeting telephone.

Thanks from Stephanie – Joy Gossett

Stephanie’s preschool project has been funded fully, and she will update the Meeting once funds are disbursed and the project has begun. Stephanie writes:

Thank you to Friends and Asheville Friends Meeting for helping our Swazi Preschool Improvement Project. With your contributions, the Project was fully funded! Funds got delayed by the change of Fiscal Year, but we are excited and ready to spring into action when they arrive. Thanks again and I’ll keep you updated with pics!

Queries – Kristi Gjelfriend

The Ministry and Counsel Committee has created a basket of queries to put in the Meeting foyer. Queries have been collected from other Monthly Meetings. These queries are available for Friends to take for contemplation during or after Meeting, and paper is available for Friends to contribute their own queries. George noted that they had used this process in Acadia Monthly Meeting as a way to help Friends focus during Meeting or to foster spiritual practices outside of First Days. Gita noted that Columbia Monthly Meeting made a similar basket, containing objects / pictures that kids could use to focus during Meeting, and that our Meeting might consider a similar basket.

***Nominating Committee – Katherine Kowal**

The Meeting approved the nomination of Steve Livingston to the Communications Committee, with much appreciation.

The Meeting approved the nomination of Nancy Kuykendall to the House and Grounds Committee.

The Meeting approved the release of Geneva Bierce-Wilson from the House and Ground Committee, with thanks for her service.

Peace and Earth – Katherine Kowal

On September 21st, the committee participated in the International Day of Peace by creating and administering an activity simulating distribution of tax monies. The Meeting also collected 27 letters to our federal senators, encouraging them to maintain cuts to the Pentagon budget. On the 5th Sunday of September, Friends wrote 14 letters to Heath Schuler, asking him to support House Bill 672, an acknowledgement of climate change and human impact on climate change. On future 5th First Days, children will write a group letter as part of their Religious Education activities.

Closing Worship