

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

Asheville Friends Meeting

9th Month 14, 2014

Co-clerks: Laura Maynard Lane, Jennifer Rhode Ward

Recording Clerk: Steve Livingston

Attendance: Barbara Esther, Adrienne Weir, Sara Wila Villatora Weir, Edwin Brown, Scotty Utz, Gjeorge Gjelfriend, Edie Patrick, Patti Hughes, Angela Sullivan, Margaret Normile, Pat Johnson, Leslee Johnson, Kristi Gjelfriend

Meeting began at with a moment of silence at 12:03 p.m. Clerk read from “Help Thanks Wow” by Anne Lamott:

*I do not know much about God and prayer, but I have come to believe, over the past twenty-five years, that there's something to be said about keeping prayer simple. Help. Thanks. Wow.*

Minutes of sixth and seventh month were not available on the website, therefore we will have to review three months of minutes at next month's meeting.

**Friends approved the agenda as presented by the clerks.**

Finance

Pat Johnson reported that we have so far 54% of our budget in income. Pat pointed out that our utility expenses are lower this year than last, despite increases in water costs, but we are likely to run over budget by more than \$800 by the end of the year. The City has informed us that our stormwater charges will increase by about \$120 in the coming year.

Our Friends Journal listing has gone up from \$80 to \$140. Other committee listings are about the same as expected. All of our Quaker outreach funds have been spent, but there are still general outreach contributions yet to make.

**Friends accepted the Treasurer's Report with thanks.**

House and Grounds

Scotty Utz informed us that we continue the cleanup of trees and shrubbery around the house and planted grass in bare spots. Scotty brought an “apprentice” over for a day to do his required service work, and they worked on drainage issues. Next there will be some tree planting going on in the area near our neighbor to the west.

Scotty expressed appreciation for ideas and suggestions he has received and requested

that Friends submit these in writing so he will be more likely to remember them!

In response to inquiry, clerk informed us that a letter had been sent to the neighbor for input on what type of trees should be planted, but since there was no response, the committee was making choices based on its own best judgment.

### Nominating

**Friend approved Nancy Kuykendall and Margaret Normile to join Spiritual Enrichment Committee.**

**Friends approved Greg Howell and Seth Connelly to join Peace and Earth Committee.**

### Membership Transfer

Clerk indicated that Meeting had received a letter of recommendation from Swannanoa Valley Meeting for transfer of membership to Asheville Meeting. Clerk offered that Meeting provide a Clearness Committee, which Scotty declined with thanks.

**Friends approved with joy the transfer of membership of Scotty Utz to Asheville Friends Meeting.**

In response to Scotty's inquiry, a Friend recounted the tradition in our Meeting as offering Associate Membership for the children of recorded members, or allowing a child to undertake the clearness process for full recorded membership. Scotty indicated preference for his children to be recorded as Associate Members.

Gjeorge informed us that there are no particular age parameters for Associate Membership. Clerk pointed out that our Yearly Meeting does recognize "birthright" membership. A Friend expressed support for allowing Associate Membership to remain open ended.

**Friends approved Associate Membership of Adelaide, Anders, and Wynn Utz in Asheville Friends Meeting.**

### Youngish Friends Pot Luck

Clerk announced a pot luck on 10/11 at 5:30p.m. For any Friends who consider themselves "youngish". Clerk reminded Friends that those who have "loud" (i.e., very young) family members are welcome.

### CROP Walk

Margaret Normile will be participating in the CROP Walk and asked that Meeting sponsor her by allowing her to "pass the hat" during rise of meeting announcements,

adding a reminder to the weekly email, and allowing the Meeting's name to be listed as a contributor.

**Friends approved sponsorship of CROP Walk and approved of Margaret's fundraising in Meeting.**

Other Concerns

Kristi rose to express appreciation for the co-clerks' service to the Meeting. Friends united in their gratitude.

Closing worship

There being no further business, meeting adjourned with silence at 12:45 p.m.