

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

Asheville Friends Meeting

12th Month 12, 2021

Present via zoom: Bob Lackey, Clerk; Beth Eddy,
Recording Clerk

Present via Zoom: Morgan Murray, Mike Eddy, Margaret Normile, Patricia Johnson, Robin Wells, Margaret Farmer, Barbara Esther, Jim Barham, Gita Larson, Steve Livingston, Wanda Guokas, Adrienne & Essence Wier, Barbara Burke, Ellie Cox, Ms. Bettie, Satchel Loftis.

Meeting opened with Silent Worship

The Clerk shared a reading out of silence.

Extracts on Experience and Faith – Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.
www.pym.org

As a black Quaker, I see the Inner Light as the great liberator and equalizer able to erase the psychological deficits of racism. The internalization of this divine principle has the potential to remove the sense of powerlessness that so often characterizes the thinking of the downtrodden. For if the Divine Light is the Seed of God planted in the souls of human beings, in that Seed lies all the characteristics of its source. Consequently, the Light within is also the Divine Power within. It is the indestructible power in us that is able to create from nothing, able to make ways out of no way, able to change what appears to be the natural order of things. It is the power in us that can never be overcome by the darkness of fear and hatred or altered by the might or money of people. It is the power in us in which lies unfathomable capacity to love and forgive even the most heinous of crimes.

Ayesha Clark-Halkin Imani
1988

The eleventh month(11th) business meeting minutes were reviewed and discussed at length. It was pointed out that the attachments 1 and 2 in the section about SAYMA were the same; The acronyms should be spelled out first before their use; Plural needed in the letter writing about the Palestine terrorist issue; the 7th minute needs to be expanded and clarified. The 11th month minutes were NOT approved. They will be revisited in the 1st month 2022 BM after a 2nd draft of the 11th month minutes with all the modifications is written and put up on the website..

The 7th minute was then discussed and modified to be added into the 11th month minutes. It was approved that the following verbiage (written during the meeting) accurately reflects the discernment of the AFM and could be included in the 2nd draft minutes:

‘The Meeting wholeheartedly and Joyfully approved support of the Friends Center for Racial Justice’s Conflict Transformation work with SAYMA.’

This minute will be sent to SAYMA and FCRJ.

The 2nd draft of the 11th month 2021 BM minutes will be reviewed at the first month 2022’s BM for approval.

Announcements: Robin Wells

Our Zoom Simple Christmas was a huge success with over 35 people participating.

Thank you to the Friends who led the activities:
Alice Lane and her festive bowl folding,
NancyLynn Sharpless and her pop-up card, and
Rylin Hansen and her orange and clove pomander balls.

And thanks to Susan Oehler for delivering the packages of supplies to
participants.
Fun was had by all!

Committees:

Nominating Committee: Mike Eddy

Barbara Burke nomination for Recording Clerk

Minute # 1: Approved the nomination of Barbara Burke with much
thanks.

Finance: Satchel Loftis

End of the year and draft of the budget proposal for 2022
attachement

Satchel walked through the beginning of a budget proposal He used
last years budget as a starting point. We still are waiting for final
numbers. Our expenditures and normal expenses were on track as of
9/30/21. All Budget requests are to be sent to Ellen Carr.

Starting with the normal budget entries, the 2022 budget is the same
as 2021; the internal transfer numbers were restored to the original
agreed to numbers prior to 2021. The proposed budget reflects: “total
expenses & transfers to other funds of \$29260

(please see attachment.)

What's not included in the proposal: use of the new fund in Evey's name; meeting house improvements which come from reserves and is taken care in budging by the Long Range Planning Committee;

A Friend brought up the issue of the scholarship support fund, since we have some of our 'young ' friends who will be looking into future education in the near future, do we need more funds.. It was pointed out that in kind gifts to the AFM scholarship (or any other) fund can be made to add to this or other budget items.

Peace and Earth: Steve – Reparations Fund and new TV; Barbara Esther

P&E committee brought up the need for a Flat Screen TV for use in the MH. The cost for a 50" screen is around \$300.

Minute # 2: Approved that a Flat Screen TV be purchased from the Meeting's general fund.

The issue of the Reparation Fund(RF) disbursement came up. It was suggested that a Team of 3-5 members be established where 1 or 2 would also be on the P&E and/or RJC committees with 1 at large member hopefully from the M&C committee. This new committee to be established to develop a process for the disbursement of the reparations funds. The process would then come to the BM for approval.

Minute # 3: Approved that a Reparations Fund management team be established where 1-2 members are from P&E and 1-2 members are from RJC; plus 1 member from the meeting (preferably from M&C)

Barbara informed us that the committee is looking for new members. If anyone is interested in joining the committee please let either her or Mike Eddy know. She also told us that a long time and active member of the P&E was sepping down..

Margaret Normile will be stepping down from the P&E committee

Bob Lackey expressed a big Thank You to Margaret Normile for her years of work on the P&E committee

Communications: Mike Eddy – AFM Meta (Facebook) account

Mike pointed out that we have 3 outlets for informstion about our Meeting: AFM Website; the weekly Digest; and Our Meta account (FB). The digest goes out to a set of members at their request. He was looking for approval to put the digest upon our FB account so that it would get a larger readership.

It was pointed out that many have stopped using FB due to FB's business model. It was pointed out the younger group uses other social media outlets besides FB. How we communicate with the outside world came up for discussion We need to focus on what suits our needs best. How we conduct our communications will be taken up by M&C. These issues will be brought up in a future BM.

Racial Justice Committee: Steve Livingston

The RJC will be scheduling the workshop long delayed due to the pandemic in the near future. More details to be available later.

SAYMA – Morgan Murray: 12.4 Representatives meeting

Morgan and Margaret Farmer led us in an intense discussion about the SAYMA and URCJ meetings. Much thanks to them for their commitment and work representing us at SAYMA representative meetings. They reported that the representative committee was not functioning in quakerly fashion . There was a lot of end round decisions and discussions occurring outside prior to the meeting. This activity distracted the representative committee from it's purpose.

Ministry and Counsel: Bob Lackey

Due to time constraints the 2 announcements will be made at the rise of meting for worship on 12/19/21. Attachments are included for our review prior to the second hour discussion on 1/2/22

January Meeting for Business discussion of vaccinations related to opening Meeting House in future

Begin work on State of the Meeting Report

SAYMA - Queries will post on Digest weekly and first discussion 1.2.22, Second Hour, then at January Meeting for Business

SAYMA will send the queries

“Our life is love, and peace, and tenderness; and bearing one with another, and forgiving one another, and not laying accusations one against another; but praying one for another, and helping one another up with a tender hand...”

Isaac Penington
Aylesbury, 4th of Third Month, 1667

Friends,

These queries are a guide, to help your monthly meeting look at the year behind us, to discern the “Spirit,” or state of your Meeting. These are guides based on observations made by the SAYMA Ministry and Nurture Committee. They may not all speak to all meetings, or in the same way. We hope that these queries open conversation, and are used for community contemplation, giving insight also on the growth of your meeting over the past year. It should be a mystical process, not rigid, or stressful. There is more than one path to take.

In Light,
SAYMA Ministry and Nurture Committee

1. How have we actively listened for that of God in others as we contend with vulnerability, hurt, anger, and new ideas?
2. If a method of communication we have been using has not worked, what other ways have we tried?
3. How have we wrestled with the possibility that we are wrong? How have we allowed the space that Spirit needs to show us new possibilities?
4. How did we make room for humanity and life circumstances in our expectations of each other? How have we respected each of our lived experiences?

Tentative due date March 32nd.

The Clerk will set up and conduct committee clerk’s meeting (including SAYMA Rep) to produce Clerks Committee reports needed by January 30 leading to First Draft of State of the Meeting document

to be presented at February Meeting for Business. Second Draft will be presented at March Meeting for Business.

The meeting closed with silent worship until the way opens for our next business meeting in the first month of 2022.

Attachments:

finance

Asheville Friends Meeting
2022 Operating Budget (Proposed)

Operating Activity	<u>2021 Budget</u>	<u>2022 Budget (Proposed)</u>	
Income			
Contribution Income - Unrestricted	23,800.00		<i>Awaiting Year-end Results</i>
Interest Income - Unrestricted	133.00		
Total Income before Transfers	23,933.00	-	
Total Income & Transfers from Other Funds	\$ 23,933.00	\$ -	
Expense			
Transfers TO Other Funds**			
Meetinghouse Improvement Transfer	1,426.00	2,600	<i>Restoring transfers to 2019 levels</i>
College-Age Support Transfer**	17.00	17	
M&C Needs Fund Transfer**	377.00	688	
Scholarship Fund Transfer**	110.00	200	
Total Transfers TO Other Funds**	1,930.00	3,505	
	9%		
Meeting House			
House and Grounds			
Cleaning	1,200.00	960	
Maintenance (+Landscaping)	2,100.00	2,259	
Meetinghouse Improvements	-	see below	
Total House and Grounds	3,300.00	3,219	
6180 - Insurance			
Property/Casualty/Directors	3,300.00	3,500	
Worker's Comp	500.00	500	
Insurance	3,800.00	4,000	
6390 - Utilities			
Electric	450.00	450	
Gas	450.00	450	
6410 - Water & Sewer	900.00	900	
Total Utilities	1,800.00	1,800	
Total Meeting House	8,900.00	9,019	
	43%		

** These items are transfers to/from other funds, not cash out/in.

Asheville Friends Meeting
2022 Operating Budget (Proposed)

	<u>2021 Budget</u>	<u>2022 Budget (Proposed)</u>	
Meeting Support			
Care and Nurture Committee	110.00		
Communications Committee (TV)	69.00	300	
Total Finance Committee	311.00	311	
Hospitality Committee	137.00		
Library Committee	82.00		
Ministry and Counsel Ctte	27.00		
Peace and Earth Ctte	59.00	100	
Total Racial Justice Committee	274.00	450	
Total Religious Education Ctte	2,019.00	1,500	
Spiritual Enrichment Ctte	55.00	50	
Total Meeting Support	3,143.00	2,711	
	8%		
Outreach & SAYMA			
General Outreach	1,645.00	3,000	<i>Restoring outreach to 2019 levels</i>
Racial Justice Outreach	1,645.00	3,000	
Quaker Outreach	1,645.00	3,000	
SAYMA Assessment	5,025.00	5,025	
Total Outreach	9,960.00	14,025	
	40%		
Total Expenses & Transfers TO Other Funds	\$ 23,933.00	\$ 29,260	
Net Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ -	\$ (29,260)	
Future Meetinghouse Improvement projects			
Roof		\$ 15,900	<i>Possible projects</i>
Kitchen remodel		\$ 1,500	
Driveway paving		???	
E. Frerotte bequest (one-time)		\$ 10,000	

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