

Gainesville Monthly Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends
Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
December 10, 2006
Minutes

Jean Larson, clerk
12 present

Query for 11th month was read by Jean Chalmers

The November Minutes were approved with corrections

Treasurer's Report.

Laura Winefordner reported balances of \$14,096.27 in the general fund and \$20,981.19 in the building fund. We have enough to pay this fiscal year's mortgage . We do need more donations to meet the general fund budget. The Meeting decided to pay off the \$20,000 loan from SEYM. The following Minute was approved.

Minute 06-12-36: Gainesville Monthly Meeting approves the repayment of the SEYM loan.

Jean Chalmers described the Action Network. It is an organization of powerful groups including local churches, banks, and individuals, which is working on community problems. They fund projects such as parks in poor parts of town, housing over Christmas, meals, and help with the prostitute problem. Action Network would like to expand to include the Jewish community and liberal churches like the Friends. The cost is \$100 per month. Jean wants us to look at joining this as part of our outreach to the general community, but also as a connection to the local politically powerful. The peace and social concerns committee will look into this. We have been supporting Gainesville Ministry, but this is quite a different group.

Marylynn Hall reported on the wedding of Heather Loring and Michael Fara .It was held under the care of the Gainesville Meeting. The ceremony and reception were on the beach with 79-80 guests. Our wedding committee helped. The ceremony, reception, certificate and other details were beautiful but simple, all made with love and a lot of work. There will be a picture in newsletter and a write-up for our Meeting history.

Thanksgiving dinner at Jean and David Chalmers was delicious and delightfully sociable.

Its being moved from the meeting house to the Chalmers caused a communication problem. One family did not find it. It was decided that when

occasions are moved, it is important to place a sign on the meeting house social room and main doors by the person who makes the change. This should be in the newsletter. The following Minute was approved.

06-12-37 Minute: If something that is scheduled for the meeting house is changed, then whoever is in charge will arrange for a sign at the social room and main doors to the meeting house announcing the change.

Many Friends and friends enjoyed the fantastic variety of foods at the Christmas party at Eleanor and Andy Merritt's. Andy drove many hayrides, the children romped, the adults conversed, and we all sang Christmas carols. Norma 's playing and singing was a special treat.

Quaker Earth Care Witness Series for landscaping design will meet on Dec 17 in the afternoon. If action is recommended, it will come to the business meeting.

Jean Larson shared the message from Helen Helmuth for the FGC Executive Committee. The expected number coming is 30-40. Jean Larson and Gene Beardsley are in charge of hospitality: they are organizing who stays where. Jean will ask that possible allergy to cats and dogs be put on the guest spreadsheet.

The possibility of offering to host the SEYM June or October business meetings was discussed. We decided that we could do the June meeting but not the October one. Connie Ray, Laura Winefordner and Sybil Brennan, as a committee of our SEYM representatives, will let SEYM know.

Ministry and Nurture will consider the scholarships to the SEYM gathering at their next meeting.

Heather Loring and Jen Cotter propose holding Meetings for Worship in Nature at 9:30 on third First Days. Friends will bring their own chairs. Ministry and Nurture approved the committee and action..

The problem of committee meetings scheduled at the same time was raised, but not discussed.

Forums and Discussions

S. Morris Trimmer was approved in his leading to serve on Christian Peace Making Teams. The letter concerning his membership transfer to Morey River Monthly Meeting was approved in the following Minute:

06-12-37 Minute. Gainesville Monthly Meeting approves the transfer of membership of Steven Morris Trimmer to Maury River Monthly Meeting in Rockbridge County, Virginia.

Gene Beardsley reported on Mike Boehm's forum on Reconciliation in Vietnam.

She also reported on Karen Arrington's forum describing her visit to New Orleans after Katrina.

Sibyl Brennan's proposal to give a financial gift to each person who came was not approved because of our financial condition.

Gene and Dick Beardsley will join the Crop Walk. Three-quarters of the money they collect will go to AFSC and ¼ to local charities.

Meeting House committee.

Jen Cotter and Jean Larson filled out the application form for a Friendly Creativity group. It will meet the 2nd and 4th Thursdays from 10 am to 2 pm in the meeting house. The program will include sewing, crafts, discussions, and lunch. For example, Jean is planning a scrapbook with write-ups of members and attenders. John Burton will take pictures. The following Minute was approved.

06-12-38 Minute. A group called Friendly Creativity, headed by Jen Cotter and Jean Larson, under the sponsorship of the hospitality committee, will meet at the meeting house on the second and fourth Thursdays from 10 am to 2 pm until further notice.

Hospitality committee

Mona Morris reported that the committee has reconsidered patterns for the serving and cleaning-up the after-Meeting coffee and surprises. One person of the committee will sign up for a Sunday and request 5 members to serve that day. They will keep a list so people will rotate.

Mona Morris has cleared a space for the punch bowl and cups, and casserole donated by Polly and Paul Doughty. The punch bowl came just in time to be used for the Christmas party.

Baby-sitting during business is not needed.

Mona explained the proposal for a swinging door between the social room and the trash-hall. The meeting house committee will consider suggestions.

Plans for the FGC Exec committee's visit were reviewed.

Peace and Social Concerns

The last class of Solutions to Violence was held. The group thanked Don Smith with a book. It will meet next in January at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

First Day School

Connie Ray reported that Nicole Dominges wants to sing after Meeting on December.24. Annie McPherson will clerk that day.

Background checks for people who care for children can be forwarded from their place of origin and sent to SEYM. This will be put in the newsletter.

The memorial for Marilyn Fregly will be held Saturday, Dec. 16 at 3pm. Gene Beardsley is clerking. The family is catering.

There is a request from Diana Blasedale to give a course "your money or your life." She's given it at Pendle Hill. It costs \$35/person. We will ask them to send us more details. Perhaps we could do it for 4 hours on a February Saturday. If we opened it to others, it could be outreach.

Jean Larson proposed that the January meeting for business be moved to the 1st Sunday because of the crowded calendar. The meeting approved.

Tim Ray proposed the acquisition of an LCD projector for the meeting. It can be used with a computer or DVD player to project slides or movies onto a screen. It costs about \$800. The fundraising committee is looking into having a projector to show regular movies. This raised the problem of donations for special projects conflicting with regular donations.

The forum committee is set up to be the clerks of all committees. Since it has not met, there is no forum planned for February.

The meeting closed with silence.

Submitted by Betty Odum, recording clerk