

Gainesville Monthly Meeting  
of the Religious Society of Friends  
Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business  
February 11, 2007

Jean Larson, clerk

10 present

Query for second month was read by Dick Beardsley

He reported that the period of after-thoughts at the end of meeting for worship are valuable for dialogs and to get to know each other better.

The Minutes were approved with corrections

The agenda was accepted with the addition of a review of the calendar.

Treasurer's Report. Laura Winefordner reported that the balance in the general fund is \$12,345.77 which includes \$51.50 collected by the movie group. The balance of the mortgage fund is \$10,880.89. Another \$5000 has been donated to pay down the mortgage principal. She encouraged all the committees to look ahead at their budget for the next fiscal year. Expenses this month were about \$5000, with donations only \$2000.

Meeting for Worship in Nature meets at 9:30 am on the third First Days. Jen Cotter and Heather Fara are organizers. The next meeting will be opened by Karen Porter.

FGC representative committee visited Jan 26-28. Jean Larson reported that we hosted 37 visitors, with 31 in homes.. Jean read their thank-you note. The corresponding clerk will write thank-you notes to the hosts. Jean Larson kept everything coordinated; Connie Ray did hospitality; Annie McPherson, Eleanor Merritt, Gene Beardsley, Mona Morris and the hospitality committee coordinated the food. Our guests especially liked the coffee bar. Mona Morris, Jean Burton, Dick and Gene Beardsley, Gen Cotter and Heather Fara arranged tables. A more complete report is attached to these Minutes. Ideas for future hospitality are: need for more knowledge about difficulties for visitors, like stairs, single room required, and allergies. A local coordinator should be designated by the visitors' office.

SEYM The deadline for registration for the annual gathering is March 1. It will be held at the United Methodist Life Enrichment Center in Fruitland Park from April 4-8. Sybil Brennan will explore with Nancy Finnell and Susan Taylor our hosting the SEYM executive committee in June. We are willing.

State of the Meeting Report. Jean Larson read the report which is attached. Since we did not have much time to consider it, the suggestion was made for next year that we take

time to discuss the state of the Meeting in December, present it to the business meeting in January, and approve it in February.

Ministry and Nurture. Connie Ray reported for Annie McPherson, clerk.

A visitation committee consisting of Connie Ray, Walter Morris and Arnold Van der Porten attended meeting for worship and fellowship with the Friends Meeting of Ocala on January 21.

The meeting's birthday will be celebrated with a cake on March 18.

Phoebe Anderson's Queries concerning FUM's hiring practices were in newsletter. You can send your responses to Annie McPherson or put them in the mailbox.

Our meeting will participate in the Friends United Meeting "Chain of Prayer" by holding a meeting for worship on Wednesday March 7 at 7:30 pm in the meetinghouse. Annie McPherson will clerk.

Odalis Manduley has accepted our offer of a scholarship for her and her children to attend the gathering. The meeting approved the following Minute:

**Minute 39. Gainesville Monthly Meeting approves the expenditure of \$110 to cover one-third of the expense for Odalis Manduley and her four children to attend the 2007 Annual Gathering of Southeastern Yearly Meeting.**

Nominating Committee. The committee does not have a clerk. Sybil Brennan reported that the committee requests suggestions of people to be on the nominating committee. The committee nominated and the meeting approved Jim Morrison as clerk of Peace and Social Order.

The committee raised the question of the future of the ad hoc fundraising committee.

They offered three suggestions:

A. a fundraising standing committee

B. a part of the finance committee

C. a subcommittee of finance committee with special fund-raising committee tasks.

After much discussion we approved the following Minute:

**Minute 40. The Fund-raising Committee can approve a fund-raising "program" where the funds raised are pre-dedicated in whole or in part to a special purpose.**

Further discussion is postponed until the next business meeting.

At this meeting we approved: the movie nights, a birthday/St Patrick's Day dinner on March 17, (Mona Morris, chief cook). a Peruvian dinner on April 14 (Polly Doughty chief cook), and a breakfast by Jim Winefordner on Oct 21.

The meeting approves, in concept, the holding of a Peace Concert by Annie McPherson and David Cook with the funds going to Pro Nica and the Guatemalan Scholarship. They will fill out the form for the Meeting House committee.

We gratefully acknowledge the gift of a large silver service and a vase from Brad Thompson.

Meeting House committee – Walter Morris clerk

The question of cleaning was discussed. One estimate for once a month cleaning is \$125. Companies were contacted not individual cleaning persons. Maybe we all could do more; for example, the library committee could clean the library. Walter reported they are making a calendar of outside professional inspections. We need a form for outside groups who want to use the meetinghouse. It must include rental fees. This committee is working on it.

The GI Rights Group requests to meet in the meetinghouse the first and third Tuesdays of each month. They've filled out the form, but it has not gone to Peace and Social Order yet. Dick Beardsley will be in charge of opening and closing. About 8 people usually meet. The meeting approved the following Minute:

**Minute 41: Gainesville Monthly Meeting approves the use of the meeting house on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays for the GI Rights Hotline group under the auspices of the Peace and Social Order committee, for a period of 6 months, with Dick Beardsley responsible for opening, closing and cleanup. We expect a report at the end of 6 months.**

Grounds Bill Mitchell reported the split-rail fence is up; the materials are ready for the playground fence; we had a successful air potato roundup; and the laurel oak tree at the northwest corner of the meeting house needs to be cut down. The following Minute was approved:

**Minute 42: The meeting approves the removal of the laurel oak and trimming of the live oak at the north end of the meeting house. The meeting gratefully accepts Phil Buskirk's offer to pay for it.**

Peace and Social Concerns Jim Morrison, the new clerk, reported that Don Smith led the Solutions to Violence meeting. The committee is trying to get people to write letters to their legislators. It was suggested to have paper and envelopes at MH for people to write on Sundays.

The committee is sponsoring forums with the media committee to show documentary films.

There is a vigil to remember the start of Iraq war on Monday, March 19.

Religion Education, Connie Ray brought up the question of the First Day school teachers. We haven't considered hiring babysitters because of getting qualified people and the cost. There is a special problem of children's roaming without enough supervision during the

social time. Perhaps we need someone to be a gatherer to watch them. It will be discussed in this committee and can also go to Ministry and Nurture committee.

The clerk reviewed the calendar. It will go in the newsletter.

The meeting ended with silence.