

Gainesville Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
August 12, 2007

Jean Larson, presiding clerk

Connie Ray, acting recording clerk (for Betty Odum who is away healing from a broken leg)

7 present

After opening worship, queries for the eighth month were read by Jean Larson.

Minutes for the seventh month were read and approved as corrected.

Treasurer's report: Bill Mitchell reported that \$1,000 a month is being taken from the general fund to pay the mortgage, and the mortgage fund is being used to draw down the principal. After some discussion we agreed to return to making the mortgage payments from the mortgage fund. "Funds Miscellaneous" is now listed under "Funds." We have \$800 in donations specially designated for tree work. This is being treated as extra to the budgeted amount for grounds, and to the total expected for contributions. The total income for June and July was \$4,634.05 and the total expenses were \$5,025.50. The mortgage fund has \$9,656.11. The mortgage balance is \$77,939.58. The General Fund has \$17,932.52. There is still no word on the status of the McDonalds stock donated to us, but not transferred.

Arlene Epperson reported that the Non-Violent Communication group many need a different night to meet in the meetinghouse due to the leader's schedule. We agreed to the group's request to use the meeting's social room every other week until the end of the year.

The clerk reported a minute from the Nominating Committee.

07-08-55 The meeting accepts the recommendation of the Nominating Committee that Brad Thompson be clerk of the Grounds Committee.

The clerk reminded us of the concern of some that the carpet needs to be protected from damage by sunlight.

56. The meeting authorizes up to \$1500 be added to the building maintenance budget for window film.

The clerk reminded us of our custom of placing advertising in the Gainesville Sun at this time of year. Money is budgeted for this expense. Bill Mitchell agreed to place advertisements for 4 weeks.

Grounds Committee: Jean Larson reported that the Grounds Committee would like to contract with J.W. Lawncare to mow the flat parts of the grass twice a month.

57. The meeting approves the addition of \$240 to the Grounds Committee budget for mowing until the end of October.

Ministry and Nurture: Connie Ray reported that postcards are going to newcomers, people we have not heard from are being contacted, and information is being exchanged about the needs of those we are holding in the Light. A letter of inquiry is being prepared to send to distant members. A Fall Retreat is being planned for Saturday, October 13 at Hart Springs. The committee plans to initiate a prayer list posted where people can write and read requests. The committee urges everyone to be particularly welcoming of our new young adults, and to be mindful of the hard of hearing, especially in the worship room.

Peace and Social Concerns: Jim Morrison reported that the committee continues to encourage people to write letters to elected representatives and to the press. The writing table will continue to be set up in the social room for this effort. The committee is sharing Action Alerts with other organizations and churches. Some of the concerns the committee hopes people will express themselves on are: immigration reform, banning cluster bombs, proper funding of the care of returning veterans, health care reform, and the Levin Anti-Torture Bill. The committee brainstormed ways to get more people involved in letter writing and witnessing for peace and social justice.

Movie Committee: Jim Morrison reported that the new projector and screen that Bud Brennan ordered arrived July 3. The cost of the equipment is \$1200. It is assumed that movies will still be shown as a fundraiser for this equipment, and that the Brennans will be repaid from these funds. Jim Morrison will contact Bud Brennan to confirm that. The committee is experimenting with and perfecting their ability to use the new equipment by showing segments from "Bill Moyers Journal." (PBS) A thank you letter will be sent to the Brennans.

58. On the suggestion of the Movie Committee the treasurer is directed to send \$450 from the Movie Fund to Bud Brennan for partial payment for the projector and screen.

Arlene Epperson reported that we still have the problem of not being able to show family type movies because of the regulations about public showings of films. We agreed to allow Jim Morrison to keep the projector at his home when not in use for its protection. We asked the Meetinghouse Committee to develop a policy or procedure for borrowing meeting equipment for personal or other use.

Earthcare Witness: Arlene Epperson reported that the committee has been discussing “carbon credits.” She requested meeting approval for an energy audit. The meeting recommended coordinating this with the Meetinghouse Committee. There is a concern about the water temperature in the restrooms. It was suggested that the Meetinghouse Committee be asked to make adjustments.

There being no further business, the meeting closed in loving silence.