

Gainesville Monthly Meeting
Of the Religious Society of Friends
Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
October 14, 2007

Jean Larson, clerk

The tenth Query was read by Laura Winefordner.

Minutes for 8th and 9th months are pending.

Treasurer's report. Bill Mitchell reported that, from June to October, we have spent \$1413 more than we took in. The report is attached to the Minutes.

Sybil Brennan asked whether distant members have been contacted for funds. In 2006 letters were sent from Ministry and Nurture to members who had not given recently. The letter suggested that members continue membership and make a contribution, lay down membership, or transfer to another meeting. It is suggested that the fundraising committee do this again. Betty Odum asked that the letters be written in a way that is sensitive to feelings of members who value their membership but do not feel able to contribute now.

Grounds committee. Additional money is requested for lawn-care. There is enough money to continue lawn care for five more times. The Meeting asked the committee to use the money it has, and did not approve additional funds.

Special Activities. We took part in the Interfaith Fast for Peace on Oct 8 at the United Church. This was a commemoration of Hiroshima Day.

A Meeting Retreat was held at Hart Springs October 13. About 18 attended. Swimming, canoeing, walks and very good food were enjoyed. Since the way there was not well marked, several could not find the park.

The Meeting and the Gainesville Interfaith Peace Center will host Noah Baker Merrill, from the AFSC, on October 31 for a forum: *Nightmare Beyond Borders: The Iraqi Displacement Crisis and What Can Be Done to Stop It.*

SEYM Interim Business Meeting was held Oct 6-7 at Palm Beach Meeting. Sibyl Brennan and Connie Ray attended. Sibyl reported that some of the highlights were: ad hoc committee to study the process of apportionment; standing committee on racism and classism based on FGC's program; standing committee on earth care; ad hoc committee on our relationship with FUM; request that Meetings send news for the website; Faith and Practice probable completion by 2010; Steve Angell the 2008 gathering speaker; and no increase in Meeting assessments. The racism committee wants a Monthly Meeting contact.

Connie Ray was charged by our Meeting to have a separate stewardship testimony included in the SEYM Faith and Practice. The testimony on Stewardship is now under

Simplicity. The Faith and Practice committee agrees. Connie will write a stewardship testimony. It will go through our Earthcare committee, the Monthly Meeting and then to the SEYM Faith and Practice committee.

Connie is the SEYM archives committee, and she needs help to get the SEYM boxes to the University of Florida library.

Details of the business meeting are in the SEYM Newsletter and Sibyl Brennan's attached notes.

Half-Yearly Meeting will be held over Thanksgiving, November 22-25 at Wekiva Springs State Park. An environmental program, The Reflecting Pool, will be shown.

Friends World Committee for Consulation Sybil Brennan reported on the triennial meeting held in Ireland. Her report is attached.

Minute 07- Transfer of membership. Gainesville Monthly Meeting joyfully approves the transfer of membership of Catherine Puckett from Baton Rouge Monthly Meeting.

Meeting House use Gary Arthur requests permission to hold an on-going \$5 yoga class.

Minute 07- Gainesville Meeting approves in principle the use of the meeting house for on-going yoga classes by Gary Arthur for a donation, of which half will be given to the meetinghouse fund; this approval is given subject to the liability being covered by our insurance and to the scheduling being approved by the Meetinghouse Committee.

Peace and Social Concerns Jim Morrison and Tim Fogarty will consult on possible action concerning the federal SCHIP bill to give health care to lower-income children. Jim Morrison's report is attached.

Film committee - Jim Morrison's report is attached. A new clerk is needed since Arlene Epperson cannot continue.

Friends School Committee- Laura Winefordner reported that the committee is not sure this is the time to start a Quaker School. There are 3000 fewer students in the county's schools than last year. The report is attached.

First Day School Laura Winefordner reported that the older children are going to Flagler Beach next Sunday. She also requests adults to help with the younger children.

The Meeting ended with a moment of silence.

The Minutes, committee reports, agenda and calendar will be filed in the file cabinet in the library.

Elisabeth Odum, recording clerk

