

Gainesville Monthly Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends
Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
May, 11, 2008

After a worshipful silence, the Queries for fifth month concerning children and education were read by Jeanie Buskirk.

The Minutes of the April business meeting were read and approved as amended.

Treasurer's Report Bill Mitchell reported. Sibyl Brennan asked us to pay our FWCC contribution now and earlier next year. The fundraising letter was successful, bringing in more contributions in March. We are pleased the mortgage balance is under \$60,000.

Finance Committee Bill Mitchell proposed the 2008-2009 budget. It is included. We discussed the SEYM apportionment; we have increased our budget item although we do not pay what is requested. \$50 was put back into the forum item. The budget is approved.

Chain of Prayer was held on May 5. Connie Ray was the leader of the program. We collected over \$100 for the Ramallah Friends School. We thank Connie and all helpers, especially Phil Buskirk for the game.

SEYM. March 19-23 Connie Ray reported the business which ranged from finances being down, Pro-Nica, FUM church laid down in Nashville, FUM relationships, FWCC, and the Savannah worship group. Her report is attached.

The committee for Friends United Meeting Discernment would like to come to each meeting to worship. They feel a great concern for the SEYM process.

We may be requested to host fall interim business meeting. We feel we are not ready now or will be soon.

Landscaping Committee Brad Thompson reported. The first phase of the landscape plan is almost complete. The bushes have been moved to create a screen, mulch has been spread behind the meeting house, and fencing has been placed around the children's play area. He is accepting proposals for upgrading the beds in the children's area. He is looking for suggestions for ways to hide the air conditioning units. He reminded us that all changes need to be approved by the Grounds Committee. The report is attached.

Marylynn Hall Memorial Fund Sibyl Brennan proposed that the Meeting accept checks to the Meeting labeled for the fund.

Minute 08-05-15 Gainesville MM approves the establishment of the Marylynn Hall Memorial Fund, for receiving money for Philip Hall, Bronwyn Lee Hall and Audry Elise Hall. Our understanding is that contributions to this fund will not be tax-deductable.

If the family decides not to use this fund, we would consider donating the money to a fund for the education of the children.

Tentative schedule for Marylynn Hall services. Tuesday 9am is the viewing at Thomas Funeral home. May 18 Memorial Meeting will be at the Brennans. Hospitality committee will organize finger food to be eaten outside.

The ice cream social for Sunday, May 18 is postponed.

Nominating Committee. Additions to the nominating report were approved. The final report is included.

Peace and Social Concerns Committee. Jim Morrison reported. Among their continuing concerns are health care, cluster bombs, immigration, and the PET (Personal Energy Transporter) project. They helped Connie Ray with the Day of Prayer day-long program.

Film committee. May 16 Brother Bear at the Westmarks.

School Committee Jeannie Buskirk, Bud Brennan, Laura Winefordner. Laura reported that they have not yet received written confirmation of the non-profit status of the school. It will continue in its current status. Laura will continue to pay the annual state corporation fee.

The committee will discuss Bud Brennan's suggestion that the Montessori school Jeannie Buskirk is planning in St Augustine operate as an outreach of Gainesville Friends School or as Gainesville Friends School in St. Augustine.

First Day School Committee. Laura Winefordner reported that the program is going well, when children come. Especially the teenagers need a critical mass. They will divide the younger children into two groups. Catherine Puckett will organize the teens: one plan is to get teens from the whole SEYM to go down the Ichnetucknee.

Ministry and Nurture. Larry and Ellie Clayton may be needed to convene the Ocala meeting for worship in the future and be unable to lead the Bible study. Our two ordained ministers can take over, being mindful of the peculiarities of Friends.

A clearness committee for the membership of Cheryl Demers-Holton has been formed.

A small pamphlet that explains "Spiritual Afterthoughts" is planned.

A forum on June 1 will be led by Cheryl Demers-Holton on the topic of "Hospice Care."

Copies of the form "Requests Regarding My Possible Incapacity" and the section of SEYM's Faith and Practice entitled "Death, Dying and Bereavement" will be available.

Minute 08-05-16 The meeting approves the naming of Betty Odum, convener, Jeannie Buskirk and Walter Morris as the Nominating Committee for 2008-2009.

Minute 08-05-17. The meeting approves the burial of the ashes of members in biodegradable containers in the natural area of the property in the wetlands and its buffer zone.

Earth Care Witness committee Dick Beardsley reported that the children are building a deluxe bird feeder. They thank Bud Brennan for moving the bird bath to its new location and Bart Hulett for providing the cedar post.

Hospitality committee Mona Morris repeated that we want only light-fare finger food after Meeting. This decision didn't get into newsletter

The date of the ice cream social is changed to May 25.

The blueberry u-pick is Friday, May 30 at Bart Hulett's. We'll have lists for car pools. Bring a picnic lunch. Walter will make us a map. We will meet at the meeting house at 8:15, to leave by 8:30.

We will plan a craft and bake sale on Nov. 8.

Meeting House committee. Don Smith requested to use the meeting room from 1-3 on Saturdays June 14 and 28; July 12 and 26; and August 9 and 23. A purpose of the group is to become skilled in conflict resolution using common-ground conversations. The meeting approved

Laura Winefordner made about 50 denim bags for the group of homeless who are sponsored by the downtown Holy Trinity Episcopal church. The bags are used for things like a bus pass and toothbrush.

Our renewed concern for the homeless is referred to the Peace and Social Concerns committee.

The meeting ended with silence

Respectfully submitted by Betty Odum.