

Gainesville Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business on Jan. 11, 2009

Jean Larson, clerk

Catherine Puckett, recording clerk

After a worshipful silence, Jeannie Buskirk read the Queries for the first month.

Sixteen people were present.

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

OLD BUSINESS: Connie Ray will check with Swarthmore to see if Bill Howard is still a member there.

Catherine Puckett will prepare a list of the recording clerk's archiving responsibilities and bring to next meeting.

- I. A. Youth delegation to Nicaragua: Meeting clerk Jean Larson communicated with Davida Johns of ProNica about Gainesville Friends Meeting approving helping fund the youth delegation to Nicaragua and our meeting's request to have SEYM also help fund the trip. Catherine Puckett wrote SEYM (Gary Arthur) and asked for SEYM financial support. Tim Fogarty will be in Nicaragua during the time the teens are there.

- B. Lessons learned from Memorial Meetings: The meeting liked the way the tables were set up at the William Howard memorial meeting. The program was terrific and food preferences had been followed by Hospitality. In the future, we may need a coat rack of some sort. The meeting thanks Laura Winefordner for taking on the challenging job of clerking the memorial meeting.

The Marylynn Hall memorial meeting was lovely and very spiritual. The family appreciated it a lot. We need to consider childcare for memorial services; we should add this to the check-off list.

Treasurer's Report. Bill Mitchell reported. Sybil Brennan thanks Bill Mitchell for the meeting's timely sending of the meeting's annual contribution to Friends World Committee for Consultation; the contribution was sent before Sybil's trip to the FWCC meeting.

New Business

- A. **Preparation for SEYM Winter Interim Business Meeting:** Connie Ray reported. She said that she will read the 2008 State of the Meeting Report (see attached).

B. Scholarship to SEYM:

Minute 09-1-1: The meeting approves a scholarship for attending the 2009 SEYM Annual Meeting for April Stitsinger.

We note that each year our custom is to offer scholarships to SEYM in this priority: a scholarship to a new member, a family with children, and third, to someone in meeting who has not been before but would like to go but does not have the money. Sybil Brennan wanted to remind meeting that people do need help to go because our meeting is rather poorly represented at SEYM.

C. New Members' Party: We will schedule a party for new members (Sandy Lyon and Brian Blackmore). The party will be at Gary Arthur's house – date to be determined still.

D. Possible Meetinghouse Concert: Hunt Smith is a well-known artist and musician who has agreed to do a concert when he stays at Gary Arthur's house in early February. The concert would be a fundraiser for the meeting. Hunt Smith performs traditional old-time music with New England flair. The concert date is tentatively set for Feb. 8th from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Hospitality will help with light refreshments. Brian Blackmore will help with the flyer for Bulletin Board and get something in Gainesville Sun.

Finance Committee: No report

Landscaping Committee: No report

Nominating Committee: No report

Peace and Social Concerns Committee: Report submitted by Jim Morrison; read by Jean Larson. The committee is continuing its work on universal single payer health care and the banning of cluster bombs, promoting peace in the Middle East and working for a just stimulus package. The committee hosted a forum on the Road Map to Peace on Jan. 4; Susan Vaughn and Martha Morris, SEYM representatives to the American Friends Service Committee, led this forum. There will be a health care forum on Feb. 1.

Film Committee: On Jan. 16th, the meeting will show the film, *A Home of Our Own*, and on Feb. 20th, *The Visitor*.

School Committee: No report.

First-Day School Committee: Next committee meeting is on Jan. 25th at 12:15. The committee will prepare plans for the remainder of the First-Day School year.

Library Committee: Withdrew report.

Ministry and Nurture Committee: No report.

Earth Care Witness Committee: No report. We noted with joy that we had six feathered visitors to the feeder out front – they are tufted titmice.

Hospitality Committee: The committee needs a new procedure for sign-up for First-Day coffee and snacks. So one person each month will make a call for volunteers to find people for each month. Set up and clean up are two different sets of people, particularly for potluck. The committee also wants to restart Quaker dinners; the first one will be March 14 at 6 p.m. and will focus on St. Patrick's Day. Proceeds will go to the General Fund.

Meetinghouse Committee: Jean Chalmers reporting. The meeting approved a two-sided sign (4 by 6 feet) for the meetinghouse.

Minute: 09-01-2: The meeting agrees to purchase a 4 by 6 sign for \$330.

The committee is coming up with a new policy for the use of the meetinghouse. One consideration is that it may be time to have outsiders request use of the meetinghouse. One suggestion to ameliorate the cost of wear and tear on the meetinghouse is a processing fee to use the meetinghouse (for example, charging \$50 for use of either social room or meeting room). Other suggestions are being considered.

The meeting ended with silence.

Respectfully submitted by Catherine Puckett