

Gainesville Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business on April 19 , 2009

Jean Larson, clerk

Catherine Puckett, recording clerk

After a worshipful silence and a wonderful breakfast, Gene Beardsley read the Queries for the fourth month.

Twelve people were present.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

Treasurer's Report. Bill Mitchell reported. Some of the reason we are in the red has to do with the mortgage. The meeting noted that when the mortgage is paid off, the meeting should start saving for roofs, other maintenance, solar panels, and so forth.

Report from Friends World Committee for Consultation: Reported by Sybil Brennan. The meeting occurred from March 19-22 in Candy Grove, Oregon. The theme of the meeting was "The vision is for its appointed time," which is from Habakkuk 2:203. In accordance with adhering better to the mission statement of FWCC, the annual meeting members worked hard to discern structural governance changes needed. In the future, FWCC will have half as many committees and increased accountability for working groups. There are deficit budgets for 2009 and 2010. In 2011, FWCC is coming here to Florida; they are unsure what city/meeting yet will host. Please see attached summary from Sybil Ann Brennan.

Report on SEYM Annual Gathering: Please see attached report from Cheryl Demers-Holton

Workday: The workday was quite successful; closets were cleaned and many other jobs were completed. The kitchen floor will be steam-cleaned and sealed. Bill Mitchell cleaned gutters and was thanked for the hard work. Sandy and David Chalmers were also thanked.

New Business:

- A. We will change Meeting for Worship for Business to May 17 at 9:30 a.m. in light of May 10 being Mother's Day.
- B. SEYM – American Friends Service Committee – material aid for Haiti. The meeting decided that we should participate in making packages for Haitian midwives; we would need to make about 25. Packages contain hats,

receiving blankets, diaper, little jackets, etc. Meeting will put these together on May 31; we will ask for gently used donations.

Finance Committee: No report.

Landscaping Committee: No report.

Nominating Committee: The nominating committee will bring another draft to the May business meeting for final approval.

Peace and Social Concerns Committee: Our work on priority issues continues: universal single-payer health care and the banning of cluster bombs, promoting peace in the Middle East, and working for a just and equitable stimulus and reinvestment package. We encourage members to get involved, and to ask us for ways to do so. On April 5, we had a forum with a video presentation by theologian and historian Karen Armstrong about her call for an international, cross-religious charter of compassion, which she considers the universal basis for all major religions.

On April 11, 6 volunteers helped build Personal Energy Transporters (PETs) at Penny Farms. After lengthy discussion, the committee prepared a draft resolution, which they presented to Meeting for Worship for Business. The resolution was read and approved by the meeting. Jean Larson and Jim Morrison will sign the resolution and it will be sent, along with a letter to accompany the resolution.

Minute 09-04-06: The meeting accepts the resolution by Peace and Social Concerns concerning Erin Trimmer and others. (Please see accompanying resolution).

Film Committee: The March film was "The Visitor." The April film was Kinamand; future films will include Brick Land and Ghost Town. We welcome suggestions for other films.

School Committee: No report.

First-Day School Committee: No report.

Library Committee: No report.

Ministry and Nurture Committee: The meeting is holding Andy and Eleanor Merritt and Carol Doughty in the Light. We will soon have new copies of the "Quaker Worship" handout to distribute, and they are replenishing the supply of the "Gainesville Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends." The handout on "Spiritual Afterthoughts" will be ready soon. The Quaker Study Program was approved for the rest of the year. A copy of the program is attached to these minutes. This program will include a "Beach Day" in conjunction with a program at Jeannie Buskirk's house on June 13. Swarthmore Monthly Meeting confirmed that Bill Howard was a member of their meeting. The documentary, "The Bible's Buried Secrets" will be shown at the Chalmers' house in the fall.

The GI Hotline is being disbanded because most of the calls have to do with money. The hotline is no longer fulfilling its mission to promote peace and encourage conscientious objection. The members will concentrate, instead, on counter-recruitment.

EarthCare Witness Committee: No report.

Hospitality Committee: The summer list is posted in the kitchen. The hospitality committee is concerned that people on the list for calling other people to do kitchen duty are, instead, doing kitchen duty. The St. Patrick's Day dinner brought in \$360 for the meeting. There will be a chili dinner on April 25th at 6 p.m. In preparation for the craft bazaar on Nov. 14, 2009, those interested will meet at 1 p.m. on Tuesdays in May. "Manly" crafts are also encouraged. The Quaker Market Dinner in May can be on Saturday, May 30th. The committee asked the clerk of the first-day school committee to think of children's activities for the May 30th dinner, which will be a "dinner on the grounds" from about 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Meetinghouse Committee: No report.

The meeting ended with silence.

Respectfully submitted by Catherine Puckett