

Gainesville Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

Ninth Month 12, 2010

Annie McPherson, Assistant Clerk

Attendance: 12

From the silence Jean Larson read the query for ninth month.

The minutes for eighth month were read and approved with a correction.

Bill Mitchell presented the treasurer's report for sixth, seventh and eighth months. The report is attached to these minutes. We can find information about our personal shares of contributions to SEYM on the website.

10-9-14: Gainesville Friends Meeting approves increasing our annual contribution to SEYM by \$560, and increasing the request for contributions from members and attenders by \$500.

Nominating Committee: Sandy Lyon presented the report, which this year is a work in progress. The hospitality committee will need someone to take the lead, with the help of Mona Morris, for the Quaker market dinners, and also someone is needed to take over the crafts-making lessons.

10-9-15: Gainesville Friends Meeting approves the nominating committee report which names Mona Morris as Clerk of the meeting, Annie McPherson as Assistant Clerk, Dick Beardsley as assistant Clerk of the Meetinghouse, Grounds and Landscaping Committee, all for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Ministry and Nurture Committee: Connie Ray presented the report. The committee has developed a way to deal with people with material needs who come to our meeting house. Dick Beardsley, Sandy Lyon, and Gary Arthur agreed to be part of a group to work with people in need.

Gary Arthur telephoned Kendall Continuing Care Retirement Corporation people several times in response to their message concerning their possible building of a retirement home in Gainesville. No one has yet returned his calls.

Peace and Social Concerns Committee: Annie McPherson reported for Jim Morrison. The committee continues to work on achieving universal health care, and what a Quaker economic system would look like. Tim Ray led a successful forum on homelessness in Alachua County and around the US.

David Cobb of the Move-to-Amend project, which advocates the end to corporate personhood, will speak on the evening of Friday, September 17 in place of the regular film night. On November 7 the Geigers will present the film "seafaring cowboy." The committee plans future forums on Palestine, and on immigration.

Meetinghouse, Grounds and Landscape Committee. Dick Beardsley reported a problem exists with soil erosion in front of the meetinghouse. Alan Sawyer and Bill Mitchell are working on this problem with advice from Bud Brennan. Brad Thompson would like to set up a competition asking landscaping students to design a solution for this area. He would like to offer a prize of \$100.

10-9-16: Gainesville Friends Meeting approves Brad Thompson's plan to organize a contest to design a solution for the soil erosion in front of the meetinghouse. We will offer a prize of \$100 to the student who presents the best design. A member of the meeting has offered to provide \$50 of the prize money.

Earthcare Witness Committee: Dick Beardsley reported that the committee has a focus on sustainability. The committee plans to make a bulletin board with information on local foods, shopping, and the economy. The committee plans to help all of us become more educated about solar power, with the hope that we may be able to use this information for our meeting house in the future.

Firstday School: Five families enjoyed Labor Day weekend in Flagler Beach together. Next week the committee plans for the children to harvest peanuts from their little garden and made peanut butter.

Quaker Stamp Project: Sybil Brennan sent a letter stating her preference to have this project under the care of the Fund-Raising Committee. The clerk will check to see whether the Fund-Raising Committee agrees to take on this responsibility. This project raises money for Quaker concerns.

Clerk's Report: The clerk read a letter from Louise Salinas, Associate Secretary of FWCC thanking us for our recent annual contribution.

The clerk is working on setting up an interactive program on our website so that we may keep the calendar up to date. Bill Mitchell will assist with setting up program and Annie McPherson agreed to be the contact person and she will help us all learn to use it. We approved this plan.

Other Business:

Mary Dewey is not using the building for her sewing classes after all.

Gary Arthur talked to us of his concern about relief for the victims of flooding in Pakistan. This country is not receiving nearly as much help as many other countries have received. We discussed the situation. We are considering having a Quaker dinner as a fund raiser for this relief effort, probably on October 23.

10-9-16: Gainesville Friends Meeting approves our sending \$100 to Oxfam designated for Pakistan relief.

Connie Ray reminded us that we usually participate in the Pride parade and festival in October. We plan to have a table with our name and with some literature. Some of us may walk in the parade and some of us may carry signs indicating that God loves everyone. This led to a discussion about proper procedures for deciding when committees will undertake activities in the name of the committee, and when approval by Gainesville Friends Meeting is needed.

A Friend told us of a sense that the Meeting is not sufficiently welcoming and friendly to people, that we appear to discourage those who are visitors or new to the Meeting.

The meeting closed with silence.

Laura Winefordner, Assistant Recording Clerk