

**Gainesville Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
9 Ninth Month 2012**

ATTENDING: Dick Beardsley, Gene Beardsley, Paul Davis, Cheryl Demers, Brenda Flowers, Breanna Jarrett, Jean Larson, Sandy Lyon, Betty Odum, Connie Ray, Tim Ray, Javier Soler, Laura Winefordner, Annie McPherson Clerk, Gary Arthur, Recorder

Meeting opened with worship.

The eighth month minutes were read and approved with corrections.

TREASURER'S REPORT by Jean Larson:

General Fund Balance: \$9,168.44

Contingency Fund Balance: 16,406.86

The report was accepted with note that some entries need clarification. Jean will confer with the treasurer regarding those items.

The following was approved regarding signatories of our accounts:

2012.9.30: Friends approved sending a letter to Alarian Bank adding Laura Winefordner as a signatory on all accounts. Jean Larson and Bill Mitchell are the other two signatories.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT by Jean Larson:

Ministry and Nurture Committee will be using the Library space for their committee meeting at 1 Pm on third Sundays.

MINISTRY AND NURTURE COMMITTEE by Sandy Lyon:

A Letter requesting membership for Jen Ambrose and son, Hoyt Cotter was read, and The Ministry and Nurture Committee expressed pleasure in recommending Jen and Hoyt for membership in the Meeting. The clearness committee for membership was composed of Dick Beardsley, Cheryl Demers-Holton and Sandy Lyon.

Approval of membership will be held over for one month, to be approved 10th Month.

The report is attached as an addendum, and their letter requesting membership was to be filed in the Meeting Archives.

Sandy also reported on plans for an all-day inter-generational Meeting-wide retreat to be held on Saturday, October 27, 2012. Friends are asked to mark their calendars. More details will follow.

READING GROUP REPORT by Connie Ray:

Friends are invited to attend a discussion of the Pendle Hill Pamphlet, Artists on the Witness Stand, by Fritz Eichenberg on Sunday, September 30 at 1:00 PM.

Other discussions on various topics are in the planning, and the group was encouraged to describe them in the Meeting Newsletter.

FIRST DAY SCHOOL REPORT by Sandy Lyon:

Sandy shared an update on activities both planned and already happening in First Day School. Making necessary changes to the room in order to accommodate three new toddlers required the purchase of foam floor tiles to be put down for a crawling area. Plans are being made to purchase new instructional materials, and the committee will ask for an increased budget for next year.

Enthusiastic appreciation was expressed for the work of the committee and Sandy's leadership. The complete report is included in the agenda.

SEYM FINANCES AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT by Jean Larson:

Jean shared plans for the forum on September 16, 2012 in which Friends will share concerns and ideas regarding the function of our yearly meeting and what we consider to be priorities for that organization.

PEACE AND SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE REPORT by Tim Ray:

The committee is active in supporting efforts by Action Network and Pico United Florida in voter registration, especially in southeast Gainesville.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Jean Chalmers replaced the Meeting for Worship sign, which is displayed each week at the corner of NW 38th Street and 8th Ave.

A thank-you letter from Nancy Howard, clerk of Fort Meyers Meeting was read. Fort Meyers Friends expressed gratitude for our minute of support of the Occupy Movement, which we sent to them earlier this year.

Meeting closed with a period of silent worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary Arthur, Recording Clerk

ADDENDA:

MINISTRY AND NURTURE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Ministry and Nurture Committee is pleased to recommend Jen Ambrose and her son, Hoyt Cotter, for membership in the Gainesville Monthly Meeting. A Clearness Committee composed of Dick Beardsley, Cheryl Demers-Holton and Sandy Lyon met initially with Jen and then again with both Jen and Hoyt. Jen has a long term connection

our meeting and was married under the care of our meeting. She feels a strong commitment and desire to be part of a Quaker community of faith. Both she and her son are familiar with Quaker practice and testimonies; they do their best to live their daily lives accordingly. Because she is now a single mother, she has enormous time constraints as she balances her work, shares the caring of her son with his father, and maintains her commitment to social causes aligned with Quaker values. While they are not always regular in their attendance, they both give willingly of their time to the meeting. Jen was instrumental in getting our web page designed and she maintains our monthly newsletter. Her positive presence throughout the community is a tremendous outreach as she joyfully identifies herself as a Quaker. Hoyt is a remarkable young man who will give to, and gain much from his membership in our meeting. It is with great pleasure, and without any reservation that we recommend both of them for membership in Gainesville Monthly Meeting.

FIRST DAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT

First Day School Committee Update September 2012

The First Day School Committee met at Mary Allee's home on Monday, August 27. Mary Allee, Sandy Lyon, and Laura Winefordner were present. Unfortunately Kathy Anderson had to work, but she and Sandy talked about the items on the agenda on Sunday. We talked about what was working well and what we might do better in our First Day School program. We also talked about requests we had received for information from other committees.

At our meeting the following decisions were made by consensus:

- We requested that our budget be increased to \$500 for the 2013-2014 year. While our budget is adequate for the present, we expect our needs to grow as our children get older and will participate in more SEYM youth activities.
- Laura will write a draft description of what our committee does for the handbook revision and for the web page.
- We will not make a specific toddler area in the First Day School room. We have two toddlers that need close supervision. We will keep the room as it is *and make sure that we have either a parent, grandparent or one caregiver to care for the toddlers. Kathy will facilitate this. The older children will go into the library or the fellowship room for their lesson with the story teller and another caregiver when we have toddlers.
- We updated the Birthday List and The Friendly Letter List. Mary will continue to send birthday cards to all of the children connected with our meeting. Each family with children will also get a Friendly Letter about once a month. Sandy will continue to write them, but we hope that other Friends will also take a turn.
- Sandy will work with the children to come up with a list of expectations for behavior in Meeting for Worship.
- Laura will continue to present Bible stories.
- We will form an ad hoc committee to help us create a self study program for our children . We want to be deliberate in teaching Quaker literature, thoughts, practice, and a familiarity with our Christian roots. Please let Sandy know if you are interested in serving on this committee.

- Sandy will to work with Peace and Social Concerns, The Florida Coalition for Peace and Justice, and SEYM to develop a work camp for SEYM youth throughout the state in 2013.
- We will try to include making jelly at the Inter-generational Retreat that Ministry and Nurture has scheduled for Saturday, October 27.
- Sandy will continue to ask members of the meeting to sign up to be the storyteller and share their Quaker experience.

Sandy's husband, Bruce, will lead a geo-caching activity at the Half Yearly Meeting as part of the SEYM Youth Program.

We will have our next quarterly meeting of the First Day School Committee in November at Mary's home. We will choose the exact date later.

*Sandy talked with AJ Kleinheksel on Sunday 9/2 as we watched Aletha in the First Day School room. We decided to buy foam squares to pad the floor in front of the toy cubby and dollhouse area. We will use them while we have toddlers that are learning to creep, crawl and walk. They can be readily picked up and stored when we don't need them. AJ will shop for the best buy and purchase them from our First Day School budget.