

Gainesville Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
12, First Month, 2014

ATTENDING: Dick Beardsley, Gene Beardsley, David Crawford, Shawna Doran, Elizabeth Franco, Ted Jones, Sandy Lyon, Mona Morris, Walter Morris, Betty Odum, Connie Ray, Laura Winefordner, Bonnie Zimmer, Annie McPherson, Clerk, and Gary Arthur, Recorder

The meeting opened with worship.

The twelfth month 2013 minutes were read and approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT by Bill Mitchell:

General Fund Balance: \$25,192

Contingency Fund Balance: \$20,002

MINISTRY AND NURTURE COMMITTEE REPORT by Sandy Lyon:

Meeting approved the following membership minute:

GFM2014. 01.28: Gainesville Friends are pleased to welcome into membership Bonnie Zimmer and Ted Jones, who have transferred their membership here from Barnegat Monthly Meeting, New Jersey.

Sandy will write back to the Clerk of Barnegat Monthly Meeting to share our minute of transfer of membership.

Members of M & N will prepare a table for sharing information about our Meeting at the upcoming Santa Fe College Religious Diversity Day, January 29 from 11 am -2 pm. Sandy Lyon will staff the table.

Ministry and Nurture Committee encourages members and attenders to fill out and update Emergency Contact and End of Life Requests Forms. The emergency forms will be co-located with the first aid kit. The End of Life forms will be placed in the meeting's safe deposit box. A list of contents and who has access to the safety deposit box will be available at the meetinghouse.

Finance Committee will collaborate with members of Pastoral Care Committee regarding the establishment of a Good Samaritan Fund for Pastoral Care. M & N suggests a \$500 line item in the budget to reimburse members who step in to provide pastoral care when a critical, time sensitive need arises.

Regular meetings for Ministry and Nurture Committee will be held one afternoon of the first week of each month at 1:00 pm, either at Morrie Trimmer's home or at the meeting house.

FIRST DAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT by Sandy Lyon:

The First Day School Committee reviewed our current mailing list and will continue to have Mary Allee send birthday cards to the children with either long term or continuing connections with the meeting. We still have very few children attending meeting other than occasional grand children. When we do have children at meeting, they are warmly welcomed and the adults who had historically worked with First Day School step in to teach First Day School. This is an informal arrangement that is working well. Sandy continues to serve on the Youth Committee for SEYM and the Advisory Board of Peace Builders Camp, which is affiliated with Atlanta Monthly Meeting.

SPIRITUAL STATE OF THE MEETING REPORT by Annie McPherson:

A meeting for input regarding the report was held in December, where Friends responded to queries offered by SEYM Ministry and Worship Committee. The report is due to the Yearly Meeting on 2/22/14.

ACTION NETWORK/PICO REPORT by Tim Ray:

Tim shared about his attendance as our Meeting's representative to Action Network at this past weekend's gathering of the PICO gathering held north of Atlanta. PICO (Persons Improving Community through Organizing) has as its mission advocacy on behalf of those in need. The training focused on social justice, organizing, race relations and meditating on the power held by those attending to work toward helping people in need and addressing issues of justice on their behalf.

Tim's complete report on the proceedings is included here in the addenda.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE REPORT by Mona Morris:

Mona reported that approximately \$400 was raised by last night's Market Dinner to benefit the Guatamalen Scholarship Fund. There is currently open an offer to match \$500 if the total can be brought to that amount.

The February Market Dinner celebrating Valentines Day will be followed by a concert at the meetinghouse. While proceeds for the dinner will be given to the Meeting's general fund, donations for the concert will augment the Meeting's \$500 contribution to Solidarity Sojourns.

GFM2014. 01.27: Meeting will host a fundraising concert by Bella Luna on 2/8/14.

Proceeds will be added to the special collections funds for Solidarity Sojourns.
The committee is currently reviewing the kitchen cleanup roster, as a concern was expressed that some Friends are serving extra duty there.

NOMINATING REPORT by Gene Beardsley:

GFM2014. 01.28: Meeting approves the following additions to the list of nominees for 2014: Bonnie Zimmer and Connie Ray to Ministry and Nurture Committee. Sandy Lyon will clerk; Paul Davis to Building and Grounds Committee; Laura Winefordner will serve on Finance Committee, David Crawford will clerk; Elizabeth Franco will serve on Peace and Social Concerns Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The March 8 Quaker Dinner will celebrate St Patrick's Day.
The April Dinner will be on 4/12/14.

ADDENDA:

Nominating Report 1-12-14

OFFICERS:

Clerk: Annie McPherson

Assistant Presiding Clerk: Jean Chalmers (Fall, Winter)

Assistant Presiding Clerk:

Jean Larson

(Spring, Summer)

Adjunct Clerk:

Gene Beardsley

Recording Clerk:

Gary Arthur

Assistant Recording Clerk: Betty Odum

Corresponding Secretary:

Laura Winefordner

Treasurer: Bill Mitchell

Membership Recorder:

Annie McPherson

COMMITTEES:

Bible Study

Coordinators: Larry and Ellie Clayton

Building and Grounds:

Clerk: Walter Morris
Dick Beardsley
Bill Mitchell
Paul Davis

Directory:
Annie McPherson

Earthcare Witness:
Dick Beardsley
Gene Beardsley
Michael Canney
Shawna Doran

Finance Committee:
Clerk: David Crawford
Shawna Doran
Bill Mitchell
Morrie Trimmer

Laura Winefordner

First Day School:
Clerk: Sandy Lyon
Mary Alee

Friendly Reading Group:
Clerk: Connie Ray

Forum Coordinator:

Fundraising
Co-Clerks: Walter and Mona Morris
Jean Chalmers
David Crawford
Polly Doughty
Anne Haisley
Phil Haisley
Anna Angell

Hospitality:
Clerk: Mona Morris
Kathy Anderson
Jean Burton
Tim Fogarty
Sally Gillespie
Doris Nabors
Bob Klein

Library:
Coordinator:
Connie Ray
Jean Burton

**John Burton
Tim Fogarty
Betty Odum**

Ministry and Nurture:

**Clerk: Sandy Lyon
Walter Morris
Connie Ray
Morrie Trimmer
Bonnie Zimmer**

After Thoughts:

**Dick Beardsley
Connie Ray**

Newsletter and Website: **Jen Ambrose**

**Paul Davis
Bill Mitchell
Ted Jones
Bonnie Zimmer
Susan Alec**

Pastoral Care:

**Coordinators: Doris Nabors
and Dick Beardsley
Gene Beardsley
Elizabeth Franco**

Peace and Social Concerns:

**Clerk: Tim Ray
Dick Beardsley
Gene Beardsley
Michael Canney
Shawna Doran
Elizabeth Franco
Maya Luetke
Mona Morris
Walter Morris**

Welcoming Cards:

Arnold Von der Porten

REPRESENTATIVES:

***Campus Ministry:* Jean Larson
*Friends General Conference:***

***SEYM:* Shawna Doran
Sandy Lyon**

Nominating Committee:
(yet to be named)

As Gainesville Friends Meeting's representative on ACTION Network, a local interfaith organization whose mission is advocacy on behalf of those in need, Tim Ray recently attended the Winter Leadership Training of PICO, the 40 year old national organization of which ACTION Network is a local member. As one of 135 leaders, clergy, staff, and allies from across the country, Tim participated in weeklong training held at The Lodge at Simpsonwood, a Methodist adult and family retreat in Norcross, Georgia, north of Atlanta. The training focused intensely on social justice, organizing, race relations, and meditating on our own power to work with others in acting, living, and speaking out in accordance with the prophetic Biblical instructions to "feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and speak justice in the public square."

An important component of organizing and advocacy is understanding the power dynamics of the world's wealthiest nation and the strength and resistance of those sectors of society that resist our efforts to make the United States more equitable and more responsive to the needs of the poor. Our trainers included individuals who are highly experienced in the ministry, in college and university teaching, in work with youth, and in city planning. We were led to look deeply into our society's racial dynamics, which are a powerful force in an assembly composed of African-Americans, Hispanics, and Caucasians, most of whom carry with us unconscious assumptions as to appropriate social roles of varied ethnic groups in our society. We discovered an amazing and very beautiful reservoir of love among us. We also explored the lives of the 12 million undocumented refugees who perform, for low pay and no benefits, the vast quantities of work on which we depend, while living in fear of deportation for minor offenses.

We took time to reflect on our own personal family backgrounds and to share with other how they affect us and our sense of who we are today and what we can achieve. As a Southern white male, I reflected on my maternal great grandfather, who was a Confederate captain who organized his own platoon for participation in the Civil War, and my paternal grandfather, who as mayor of a small North Carolina town, used his moral authority to prevent the creation of a branch of the Ku Klux Klan. As a person brought up to be sometimes excessively polite, I discovered within a far greater power to take action on behalf of right and against wrong than I had been aware of, including the personal resources to speak truth to power. These experiences were vastly deepened by the tour that we took of the Martin Luther King, Jr., memorial center in Atlanta, the short film and lecture that we experienced regarding another heroic civil rights leader, Fannie Lou Hamer, and the full length and very powerful movie that some of us saw, "Twelve Years a Slave." Members and attenders who are interested in becoming acquainted with ACTION Network and PICO are encouraged to contact Tim Ray.