

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

ATTENDING: Jen Ambrose, Dick Beardsley, David Chalmers, Jean Chalmers, David Crawford, Shawna Doran, Tim Fogarty, Peter Harrell, Ted Jones, Jean Larson, Sandy Lyon, Bill Mitchell, Betty Odum, Connie Ray, Tim Ray, Morrie Trimmer, Laura Winefordner, Bonnie Zimmer, Annie McPherson, Clerk, and Gary Arthur, Recorder

Meeting began with silent worship and after adjustments to the agenda, the eighth month 2014 minutes were read and approved.

AD HOC HANDBOOK COMMITTEE REPORT by Annie McPherson:

A final draft copy of the work was presented, reviewed and approved with minor changes. Future changes to the document will be brought to an annual October review. Committee clerks are asked to offer the Meeting Clerk updates to committees' procedures and responsibilities.

**GFM2014.9.48:** Meeting approves the body of the Gainesville Friends Meeting Handbook. Changes to the Introductory paragraph will be presented for approval at a later date.

**GFM2014.9.49:** Meeting lays down the ad hoc handbook committee.

MINISTRY AND NURTURE REPORT by Sandy Lyon:

Sandy began by announcing that the materials for next month's forum, Preparing for Worship are in the foyer.

A clerking workshop, "What Every Member of the Meeting Should Know about Clerking and Quaker Decision-making," led by Arthur Larrabee is being offered by Miami Friends, and three Gainesville Friends plan to attend. Our Meeting will offer support.

**GFM2014.9.50:** Gainesville Monthly Meeting will pay the three registration fees, \$50 each, for Shawna Doran, Peter Harrell and Sandy Lyon to attend Arthur Larrabee's clerking workshop at Miami Monthly Meeting on 9/27/14. These funds will come from the Scholarships \ Travel line item.

Sandy also spoke to the need for our Meeting to create a standing committee to manage

publicity and communications and to both coordinate and integrate inreach and outreach by the Meeting. Friends supported the idea and approved the following minute.

**GFM2014.9.51:** Meeting approves forming an ad hoc committee to coordinate and integrate the work of outreach, inreach, and publicity, as well as the Meeting newsletter and website. The committee will include David Crawford, Shawna Doran, Connie Ray and Bonnie Zimmer, along with Jen Ambrose, who will act as convener.

Sandy continued with a short report regarding FIRST DAY SCHOOL:  
Our Meeting is currently running short on Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Certified volunteers. Two certified adults are needed to work with children who attend the program. The Yearly Meeting offers training, and interested Friends should contact Sandy for more information.

#### BUILDING AND GROUNDS CONCERNS:

A leak has developed in the east foyer restroom. Dick Beardsley will contact a plumber.

Friends discussed the use of our meetinghouse by outside groups. After hearing various concerns about making our process more user friendly, the issue was sent to Building and Grounds Committee, which was asked to meet with our hospitality committee and the new ad hoc outreach committee in order to do some visioning about the process and to bring a minute for approval to business meeting, the goal being to spell out a revised procedure for facilitating use of the meetinghouse by outside groups.

We heard a request for use of the meetinghouse in November for hosting a group of SEYM Young Friends who will gather here to take part in a workshop on mountain top removal led by George Lakey, Quaker pacifist, mediator and peace activist. The following was approved:

**GFM2014.9.52:** Gainesville Friends Meeting approves hosting an activism training led by George Lakey for SEYM youth, to be held here November 7-9. Details on housing will be worked out to comply with insurance and Child Abuse Protection regulations.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT by Bill Mitchell:

General Fund Balance: \$31,818.24

Contingency Fund Balance: \$20,002.00

The report was accepted, with one correction.

#### SOLIDARITY SOJOURNS UPDATE:

Tim Fogarty responded to a request by Finance Committee to give an update on Solidarity Sojourns projects in Nicaragua. He was asked to report on existing plans to use accumulated funds which are in the Meeting General Fund account under the heading of Solidarity Sojourns. In the past, these funds were used for building projects during University of Florida student excursions to Nicaragua. The funds have accumulated over the past year, as no such trips have occurred. Discussion centered on the perception that Meeting financial support was designated for building houses. Now that UF funded travel is not taking place and no housing is being constructed, the committee inquired of Tim on how the funds will be used.

Tim and Finance Committee will meet to discuss the way forward.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Pastoral Care Committee is responsible for the kitchen this month, and its members are not available at this time. M & N is working together to provide help and would appreciate having the Meeting continue to pitch in as needed on the clean up.
2. Four sets of earphones are missing from our supply. Please notify Building and Grounds Committee with information you might have about them.
3. On Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup> there will be a presentation by the Gainesville League of Women Voters regarding their study of state education funding. They will speak about issues of corruption in the process of funding public education in Florida.
4. Visitors from Quaker House in Fayetteville, NC will be passing through Gainesville on October 23 and would like to speak with interested Friends on their program there near the Fort Bragg Military Base. Shawna Doran agreed to contact them for more information.

Meeting closed with a period of open worship.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gary Arthur, Recording Clerk