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Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2019 3:57 PM

To: Nancy Corindia <nancy.corindia@gmail.com>

Cc: Bill Carlie <williamcarlie@embarqmail.com>; Clara Diaz <artbearclara@gmail.com>; Vicki Carlie <office@seym.org>; Sue Watson <gwatson603@aol.com>

Subject: Concern for Executive Committee | Laying down Jacksonville Monthly Meeting

Dear Nancy,

I sent an earlier version of this letter to Bill Carlie and Clara Diaz on May 19th.

Sue Watson, Jacksonville Meeting's treasurer, and I met on May 3rd to discern our shared responsibilities with regard to Jacksonville Monthly Meeting. It is clear to us that we must lay the Meeting down as of December 31, 2019—unless several seasoned local Quakers come forward to take on the hosting of regular meetings for worship and the management of monthly meeting business.

As you may know from earlier conversations, except for Wendy Geiger, Sue and I are the sole Jacksonville Friends recorded in the SEYM Directory who are still attending meeting for worship. In addition, since June of 2018, Sue and I have also been the only members or attenders at monthly meetings for business. After September and November meetings with such attendance last year, we discontinued scheduling monthly meetings.

On January 4th, I mailed a letter by USPS to each of the recorded Jacksonville Friends, laying out for them the situation I have described again here and asking for their input. I received only two replies, one from a member, one from an attender, neither of whom has attending since 2010, and both of whom supported laying the Meeting down. This past week I lunched with one other long-time member, also no longer attending, who supports this action.

Here are the steps Sue Watson and I agreed we will need to do by the end of the year:

- Close the Meeting's bank account and disperse the funds appropriately. (There is about \$590 in AVP funds in our account which will need to be returned to SEYM for use by other meetings and worship groups.)
- Advise Florida Christian Center that we will not renew our lease for 2020.
- Allow our liability insurance to lapse at the end of 2019.
- Discontinue the Meeting's subscription to *Friends Journal* and its inclusion in *FJ*'s bi-monthly listing of Quaker meetings.
- Advise Friends General Conference Quaker Finder www.fgcquaker.org/connect/quaker-finder of our change of status.
- Change our website home page www.jacksonvillefriends.org to indicate this change and, eventually, remove the site from public access.
- Compile and organize our archives and deliver digital copies to University of Florida.

What else needs to be done in the process of laying down a monthly meeting? What happens with the status of the eight recorded members (plus 2 Friends of Meeting and 10 Attenders)? What should I do with physical property of the Meeting (mostly books and papers)?

It is uncomfortable to me having to accept silence as consent. This is why I have spent an entire year seeking participation and feedback from Jacksonville Friends. I will therefore call a meeting for

business in September to ask Friends once more if any of them wish to take on responsibility for the Meeting.

We in Jacksonville must proceed in good order with carrying out of our local business.

Please hold us in the light.

Blessings,
Mike



Mike Shell, Meeting Clerk
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