

May 26, 2019

Dear Mike —

Dear Mike,

I am personally very sorry I, and others, on SEYM's Worship and Ministry Committee, have failed to meet and address your concerns for Jacksonville Monthly Meeting (JMM). In retrospect, I can see how you would feel ignored, and for that I, as co-clerk, am fully responsible. The placement on our April 17th agenda was in no way a conscience decision to downplay the seriousness of Jacksonville Monthly Meeting's concerns. At WIBM, there was plenty of time, as we had the better part of 2-3 hours. Unfortunately, we were allotted only 1 ½ hours at Yearly Meeting. I should have considered the consequences when creating April's agenda. But honestly, it didn't occur to me. I am sorry. One other actor was at play, which was your second e-mail on March 25th, which followed several inquiries about JMM from possible new attenders. My take, along with that of the other co-clerk, Nancy Triscritti, was that the situation didn't seem to have quite the urgency it had held on March 24th. Of course, all of this is past and done, posing the question, "What do we do now?"

There will be specific discussion focused on JMM at the June 8th EC meeting. Nancy Triscritti will be there with all documentation in hand. I feel sure the suggestions you set forth in your May 19th letter will be considered. I checked SEYM's Faith and Practice for advice to lay down Meetings or revert to a Worship Group. It doesn't appear to address these needs. Perhaps this will become a later conversation for the Faith and Practice writers. I am hopeful that constructive suggestions will rise, starting with your personal ideas. I feel sure there will be questions arising for you and Sue Watson, as well as thoughtful considerations by others. While I am not technologically savvy, others on W and M are and can lead us all, me included, in telephone conversations. I suspect this, along with other suggestions, including scheduled visits to all MM's and WG's, need to be in order. We as a committee know we must become more vigilant when considering meetings and groups who are infrequently seen or heard from.

While the above only begins to address your frustrations and concerns, I believe it is safe to state that these issues are becoming front and center for SEYM's W and M committee. I deeply hope our future efforts may produce more helpful and palatable outcomes.

Sincerely in The Light,

Clara Diaz

