

Jacksonville Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
November 11, 2018 – Armistice Day
Minutes

Queries – *How do Friends care for one another?*

- How do we foster a spirit of community among the meeting's members and attenders?
- How does the meeting keep in contact with all of the meeting's members and attenders?
- How does the meeting assist couples and families to communicate, grow together, and rear children in a loving environment?
- Does the meeting community nurture the meeting's children?
- How does the meeting care for those who live alone, the sick, the aging, the widowed, the separated or divorced, and others with families affected by disruption?
- Do we assist Friends in need as their circumstances require?

— *SEYM Faith & Practice, Queries & Advices*

Members/Attenders – Mike Shell, Sue Watson; **Newcomers** – David Sebast, Nina Tepedino, Michelle Brunner, Kirk Altman

The clerk used this “meeting for worship with a concern for business” as an opportunity to introduce newcomers to the Quaker decision-making process and other relevant Quaker practices.

Worship

Minutes for September 9, 2018 – Approved.

Treasurer's Report – Sue Watson (report for 6/1 through 11/4/2018)

- Contributions \$1,325.77; Payments \$787.19; Balance \$1,406.49; Property Fund \$1,550.00; AVP \$586.98.
- Website fee – The report now shows a monthly in-kind gift of \$10.00 from the Friend who hosts and provides tech support for the meeting's website. These entries record the cost of maintaining the site.

Discernment re 2019 Meeting Roster

- Our 2018 roster with Southeastern Yearly Meeting (SEYM) includes 6 recorded members, 3 Friends from other yearly meetings, 9 attenders, and 4 children. Meeting's SEYM apportionment (requested annual contribution) is computed based on these numbers. An updated roster is due by January 19, 2019.
- Friends agreed that the clerk will write to two families (4 attenders and 2 children) whom we have not seen for several years. We want to keep these Friends in our extended circle by maintaining them on our mail/email lists. However, we will remove them from the roster for the sake of good financial stewardship.
- Friends agreed that the treasurer will send the usual year-end letter to everyone on the 2018 roster, encouraging them to continue support for meeting through their personal participation and contributions.

Discussion of *de facto* Worship Group status

- The clerk explained the distinction between Quaker worship groups and monthly meetings.
- While few long-time members or attenders have been present for worship this year, we are welcome a growing community of thoughtful newcomers, Seekers who attend worship, meeting for business, potlucks, and study group. The Spirit is very active in this meeting.
- Jacksonville Friends continue as a recorded monthly meeting, but in practical terms we are functioning as a worship group, with meetings for business only as needed, and with no effort to sustain activities other than worship and monthly potluck/study group.

Submitted by Mike Shell
11/13/2018