

Jacksonville Friends Meeting  
 Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business - Minutes  
 Elaine Martin, clerk  
 October 9, 2011

1. Worship

2. Query

Are meetings for business held in a spirit of worship, understanding and forbearance? When direction seems lacking, is this seen as a challenge to a more prayerful search for truth? Do we humbly set aside our own preconceived notions as to proper action, seeking instead Divine guidance as to the right course? Is the meeting aware that it speaks not only through its actions but also through its failure to act? (*Baltimore Monthly Meeting of Friends Stoney Run, Quaker Queries p.1*)

3. Minutes of September 11, 2011 approved.

4. Position of Treasurer

- **Minuted** – Meeting approves the appointment of Sue Watson as Meeting Treasurer and of Shannon Palmer as second signer.

5. Fall Interim Business Meeting (FIBM) update

- Elaine attended the SEYM Finance Committee Meeting and Fall Interim Business Meeting (FIBM) October 1, 2011 in Sarasota.
- Elaine explained briefly the SEYM budget process. At the FIBM, the Finance Committee reviews the budget from the previous year and any concerns raised by the Monthly Meetings. The Finance Committee then prepares a draft budget for presentation at the Winter Interim Business Meeting (WIBM) held in January. Approval of the budget takes place at Yearly Meeting held Easter weekend.
- Elaine raised to the Finance Committee Jacksonville's opposition to SEYM contributions to the Wider Quaker Community (totaling \$9,320 to 19 Quaker organizations).
- As Wendy Geiger had previously raised the concern to the Clerk of the Finance Committee, Nil Wilkins queried the 19 Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups in SEYM to determine their practices. Of the 19, 10 responded. Managua WG and Space Coast MM do not contribute. St Pete has contributed in the past but for the last 2 years has focused on internal finances. The other 7 contribute to various Quaker organizations. Two Monthly Meetings, Tallahassee and Fort Lauderdale, believe that SEYM should continue to contribute to the wider Quaker world.
- Elaine reported that she will continue to raise Jacksonville's concern.
- Friends are invited to contact the FC clerk by email ([ngwvet@aol.com](mailto:ngwvet@aol.com)) to gain more information and to share concerns.
- Half-Yearly Meeting – November 24-27, 2011 at Wekiwa Springs State Park (see <http://www.seym.org/hym.pdf/HYM2011.pdf>)

- SEYM Annual Gathering – April 5-8, 2012

6. Meeting Location – Continued consideration of the Springfield Preservation and Revitalization (SPAR) Council building (<http://sparcouncil.org>) and other locations

- Friends voiced various reasons for seeking a new location, including the following:
  - Adequate separate space for First Day School: a number of families with children have expressed a desire for this
  - Kitchen facilities, to allow for coffee and snacks after meeting and for potlucks
  - Space for added activities during the week
  - Avoidance of the liability of bringing unknown attenders onto the Bartram campus
- Shannon Palmer continues to investigate use of the SPAR building
  - Out-going Treasurer Stuart Smith explained a move from Bartram campus to any other location would oblige the Meeting to get a new “secondary event” insurance policy from a different insurer (SPAR might have an insurance carrier which Meeting could use)
  - Friends proposed that the next meeting for business be held at SPAR, and that we have the regular meeting for worship there before hand, to help Meeting discern whether this is a desirable location.
- **Minuted** – The primary agenda item for the next meeting for business will be the possible relocation of Jacksonville Friends Meeting.

Meeting for worship and meeting for business will be held at the SPAR building, 1321 N. Main Street, beginning at the normal time of 10:30 AM, in order to help Friends discern whether that location is acceptable to Meeting.

Any concerns or questions regarding Meeting location can be directed to Shannon Palmer at 904-521-0101 or [bonadea@comcast.net](mailto:bonadea@comcast.net) who is heading the interim subcommittee on Meeting location.

7. Savannah Meeting update concerning Jerry Knutson workshop tabled

8. Meeting website - discussion tabled