

Jacksonville Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Minutes (Amended twice on page 2, 11/11/2012)

October 21, 2012

Elaine Martin, Clerk

1. Worship

2. Queries – The life of the Meeting depends upon varied gifts.

There are varieties of Gifts but the same Spirit. There are varieties of service, but the same Lord. There are many forms of work, but all of them, in all men, are the work of the same God. In each of us the Spirit is manifest in one particular way, for some useful purpose. One man, through the Spirit, has the gift of wise speech, while another, by the power of the same Spirit, can put the deepest knowledge into words. Another by the same Spirit is granted faith; another, by the one Spirit, the gift of healing, and another miraculous powers; another has the gift of prophecy, and another the ability to distinguish true spirits from false, yet another has the gift of ecstatic utterance of different kinds, and another the ability to interpret it. But all these gifts are the work of one and the same Spirit, distributing them separately to each individual at will.

I Corinthians 12:4-11

Do we each take an active part in the life of our Meeting? How do we recognize the varied skills and spiritual gifts of our members and attenders? How do we nurture their use and growth?

In what ways are we bringing together members and attenders, young and old, in love and community? Do we visit one another in our homes and keep in touch with distant members?

How are strangers made to feel welcome in our midst? How do we encourage attenders to share in Meeting activities and responsibilities and to consider membership when they are ready?

North Pacific Yearly Meeting, Queries and Advices, Participation in the Life of the Meeting

3. Minutes of September 9, 2012 – Approved

Treasurer's Report – Sue Watson (Attachment 1)

- Minuted (2012.7): Meeting approved contributing to *Friends Journal* the \$150.00 actual cost of a year's subscription, instead of the \$45.00 annual subscription fee.
- Minuted (2012.8): Meeting approved paying the \$100.00 assessment to Interfaith Council of Jacksonville.

4. Interfaith Council of Jacksonville (ICJ) – Stuart Smith, outgoing Meeting representative

- Stuart summarized the history of ICJ. Bill Greenleaf of was one of the founders during a local period of high racial conflict. An influential group in times of difficulty, and a worthwhile group in which Friends can interact with interfaith leadership on a first name basis. Meeting has several times sought to add death penalty opposition to ICJ's agenda. Meets five times a year, usually Mondays from 10 – noon.
- Minuted (2012.9): Meeting approved Mike Shell as the new representative. Stuart will advise him when the next meeting is scheduled and introduce him at that meeting.

5. Membership

- Bonnie Hall
 - Letter of intent, dated 8/17/2012, read into minutes (Attachment 2)
 - Clearness Committee (Elaine Martin, Al Geiger, Phoebe and Neil Anderson of Tallahassee Meeting, and Cheryl Demers of Gainesville Meeting) met with Bonnie on 9/22/2012.
 - Bonnie attended SEYM's Fall Interim Business Meeting on 10/6/2012.
 - A further Clearness Committee meeting is scheduled for 11/3/2012.
- Wendy Clarissa Geiger
 - Letter of intent, dated 9/7/2012, read into minutes (Attachment 3)
 - Clearness Committee (Elaine Martin, Phoebe and Neil Anderson of Tallahassee Meeting, and Cheryl Demers of Gainesville Meeting) met with ~~Bonnie~~ Wendy on 9/22/2012.
 - The Committee minuted that Meeting accept Wendy into membership, and the Clerk read the minute to Meeting (Attachment 4).
 - Meeting will consider this recommendation at the next Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.
- Michael Austin Shell
 - Letter of transfer from Sallie Prugh, Clerk of Columbia (SC) Monthly Meeting, dated 9/20/2012, read into minutes (Attachment 5).
 - Meeting will consider this recommendation at the next Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.

6. Meeting Location – Consideration of Brooke Stephens' home at 2013 Rowe Ave., Jacksonville, FL 32208

- On 9/9/2012, Meeting agreed that we are favorable toward this move but will defer a decision until next meeting for business while some concerns are addressed.
- Some concerns remain, and Meeting asked that the Clerk and Treasurer confer with Brooke about these issues, as well as seeking clarity about her overall expectations, before proceeding. The First Day School effort awaits a decision, since Brooke's home would provide adequate space for it.
 - Backdoor lock: Bonnie and Kenneth Hall think the back sliding glass door might accommodate Bonnie's chair, but Brooke no longer has a key. She has asked that Meeting pay her regular locksmith to change the lock. Meeting will ask for an estimate before acting.
 - Parking: Friends are concerned about accessible parking. The back concrete area and side yard flood, and this may prevent van/wheelchair access and has already caused some cars to be stuck.
 - Liability insurance: The Treasurer will investigate the potential for conflicting claims between the Meeting's insurer and Brooke's.
 - Future use of Evergreen location: If Meeting leaves Evergreen Cemetery and later needs a space, we want to know if they will welcome us back.

7. Website – Discussion was deferred, since Shannon Palmer and Kenneth Hall were not present.

8. FIBM update – Elaine Martin

- SEYM Youth Program (Attachment 6)
- Half-Yearly Meeting Registration
 - Information is online at http://seym.org/HYMreg_2012.html

- Nov. 22–25, 2012 at the Wekiwa Springs State Park, with emphasis on fun and camaraderie.
- **SEYM Youth Service Project** (Attachment 7)
 - On 8/31/12, SEYM Juniors and Teens took part in a visit with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers and learned firsthand about the conditions of farmworkers.
 - They ask that Friends who patronize Publix stores join them in presenting signed letters to management, asking that Publix pay one cent more per pound for “fair trade tomatoes.”
 - SEYM Youth also invite Meetings to minute their support for this project.
 - Full details in the attachment.

9. Quaker Universalist Fellowship (QUF) report – Michael Shell

- On October 11-14, Mike attended the annual meeting of the steering committee, hosted by Lyn Cope at her home in Melbourne Beach, FL.
- QUF has historically focused on publishing pamphlets and books and sponsoring lectures to nurture discussion of both traditional and contemporary aspects of Quaker universalism.
- The primary subject of this annual meeting was the migration of QUF’s work online.
- Mike will give Meeting more details once the new site goes live in mid-November.

10. Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) policy statement revision

- FCNL has sent Meetings a letter (see <http://fcnl.org/assets/about/govern/policyletter.pdf>) inviting input on a revision of the FCNL Policy Statement (http://fcnl.org/about/govern/priorities/policy_revisions/). Responses are requested by April 1, 2013.
- Sense of the meeting was that we would share and consider the content of this request and invite leadings for Friends to form a committee to develop a Jacksonville Meeting response.

Submitted by Mike Shell
10/31/2012