

Jacksonville Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Worship for with a Concern for Business: Minutes

December 9, 2012

Elaine Martin, Clerk

1. Worship

2. Queries

“Make a joyful noise at every opportunity to all ye lands. Serve God with gladness; come before All with singing.”

—Psalm 100

“For you shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace. The mountains and hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the forest shall clap their hands.”

—Isaiah 55:12

- How has joy worked as a catalyst to change my outlook on a situation?
- How do I share joy with others?
- When—and in what way—has a song or other music spoken to my situation?
- Discussion: Friends shared examples of joy-filled experience.
 - One Friend described how the hymn “O come, O come, Emmanuel” reminds her of the “expectant waiting” which is part of Quaker worship
 - Another spoke about the Buddhist nun Pema Chödrön’s paradoxical teaching that joy comes in accepting that we are “never going to get it all together.”
 - Another recalled previous Meeting experiences of canoe trips and proposed that we consider doing one again.
 - Note: Friends agreed that this proposal should be a future agenda item.

3. Minutes of November 11, 2012 – Approved.

4. Treasurer's Report – Sue Watson

- Current balance is \$2,295.52.
- Pending expenditures include two quarterly SEYM apportionment payments.
- Minuted (2012.14): Friends agree to a maximum \$100 expenditure for a Christmas gift for employees of Evergreen Cemetery.

5. Membership

- Minuted (2012.15): Friends approve the November 3, 2012, Minute Recommending Membership for Bonnie Hall.
- Celebration Party for New Members: Friends agreed to a celebration potluck, hosted at the Clerk’s home in January or February (possibly 2/3/2013).
- Membership Committee: Friends gave careful consideration to SEYM directory changes due January 31st and to both the “core” and “extended” versions of the Meeting’s email list.

6. Spiritual State of the Meeting Statement – The Recording Clerk distributed copies of the 2011 Statement, together with queries proposed by SEYM Ministry and Worship Committee.

- The 2012 statement is due to SEYM by January 25th.
- Friends targeted the second week of January for a worship sharing and discussion.
- Mike agreed to check with the Southeast and South Mandarin branches of Jacksonville Public Library for possible evening meeting space.

7. First Day School

- Friends agreed that Meeting wants to honor our children, and that the main problem is one of logistics, not intention.
- Bess Wilson proposed that we separate the issue of Meeting location from that of First Day School, and that we start having twice monthly First Day School events during Meeting for Worship.
- Minuted (2012.16): Friends approve beginning First Day School in January, on the first and third First Day of each month, with one of those days including intergenerational activities.

8. Meeting Location

- Friends agreed that there is still not unity about moving Meeting to Brooke's home and agreed to hold the matter over until next meeting for business.
- Evergreen Cemetery may be willing to let Meeting use its chapel. The Clerk will investigate.

9. Newsletter – Mike will send Bonnie content from today's meeting. Bonnie requests contributions from other Friends.

Announcements:

- **Christmas Potluck**, December 16th, 10:30 am, at Heritage Landing amenities center in St. Augustine, hosted by Bonnie and Ken Hall.
- **Winter Interim Business Meeting**, January 18-20, 2013, Orlando Friends Meeting House
- **43rd Mitchener Lecture: Noah Baker Merrill**, January 20th, 1 pm, with workshops to follow.

Submitted by
Mike Shell
Recording Clerk
12/29/2012