

Jacksonville Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
April 9, 2017
Minutes

Attendees: Mike Shell, Caroline Sheely, Sue Watson, Joanne Herrmann

Query: Without self-accusation or shame, what habitual thoughts, feelings and actions do we observe in ourselves that ignore the daily spiritual cost of being Black in America?

Note: Through an oversight the clerk failed to replace last month's Reading & Query, but meeting decided to use this one again for worship sharing.

Worship

Minutes of March 12, 2017—Approved

Treasurer's Report—Sue Watson

- Friends agreed to contribute the remaining \$500 of our 2016-17 apportionment to SEYM.
- Friends agreed to contribute \$100 to Quaker House.

Issue Updates

- Raiford prisoner correspondence—Information from Prisoner Visitation and Support (PVS) still pending <https://www.prisonervisitation.org/>
- Funding from SEYM for FGC Institutional Assessment of Structural Racism
 - *Jacksonville Friends Minute 2017.03.12* – We are in agreement with the general concept of FGC conducting an institutional assessment of structural racism. We are not in agreement with SEYM approving financial support until we have clarification on three concerns:
 - We want to know how much money will be required from our meeting.
 - We want assurance that external agendas of the hired consultant will not influence internal process.
 - We are concerned that an institutional process may not translate into deep personal commitment on the part of FGC, yearly meeting, and monthly meeting people.
 - *Susan Taylor, Clerk of Ministry on Racism, has clarified as follows:*
 - FGC staff are going ahead with the Institutional Assessment, at the deeply-felt urgings of both African American and White Friends. They are simply informing FGC affiliates of their plans, a proposed time-line, and estimated costs.
 - The cost will not be apportioned among affiliated YMs, and no YM is required to donate.
 - SEYM will discern whether to make a donation during the 2017 Gathering business meeting sessions.

Announcements

- April 12-16—SEYM Gathering & Annual Sessions, United Methodist Life Enrichment Center, Fruitland Park, FL
- April 28—FL Interfaith Climate Action Network Assembly, Orlando, FL—Earthcare, climate change, FL environmental issues (FL Council of Churches)
<http://seymquakers.org/blog/2017/01/19/florida-interfaith-climate-action-network-assemblyfebruary-23-25/>

Next Meeting for Business (with Potluck)—May 21, 2017

Note: 3rd First Day instead of 2nd for May, since May 14 is Mothers' Day.

Caroline Sheely
Recording Clerk