

Jacksonville Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
April 8, 2018

Minutes

Attendees: Willie Hager, Elaine Martin, Sue Watson, Wendy Clarissa Geiger, Mike Shell.

Worship

Minutes of March 8, 2018 – Approved as amended.

Treasurer's Report – Sue Watson (as of 4/6/18)

- Contributions \$3,269.00, Payments -\$2,986.09, Balance \$1,440.91
- Property Fund \$1,350.00, AVP \$613.48
- Friends approved the following minutes:

2018.04.08-1 – Jacksonville Friends approve the Treasurer's sending a \$563 contribution to SEYM to complete the meeting's FY 2017 apportionment.

2018.04.08-2 – Jacksonville Friends approve the Treasurer's sending a \$100 contribution to Interfaith Coalition for Action, Reconciliation & Empowerment (ICARE).

- Friends have yet to decide whether to move \$100 into the Property Fund and to make up to \$200 more in organizational contributions, as proposed in the FY2018-19 budget.
- The Treasurer will reimburse Wendy for newsletter postage once she receives an accounting.

2018 SEYM Gathering Report – Elaine Martin

- The complete minutes for the Yearly Meeting gathering have not been published at the time of this meeting for business.
- YM did approve a *Minute on Stopping Gun Violence* seymquakers.org/blog/2018/04/13/seym-minute-stopping-gun-violence (see [attachment](#)).
- YM also approved a new volunteer *Child and Youth Coordinator* position, with Kody Hersh assuming the role. Job and program description will be published with the Gathering minutes.
- Willie Hager is now co-clerk of SEYM Peace and Social Concerns Committee.

"Kings Bay Plowshares" April 4th Action Report– Wendy Clarissa Geiger

- Seven Catholic plowshares activists were detained early on April 5th at the Kings Bay Naval Base St. Mary's GA, after they carried out overnight protest actions at the Navy's Atlantic Ocean Trident nuclear submarine base. (See www.paceebene.org/2018/04/06/kings-bay-plowshares).

2nd Annual "Taste of Murray Hill" – Mike Shell

- Meeting will have a table again this year at Florida Christian Center's local community event.
- Meeting revisited Wendy's proposal to create and hand out a little bag with a cookie and welcome message, but Friends agreed to stay with their previous decision to offer the materials on a display rack instead.

21st Century Quakerism Study Series – Mike Shell & Elaine Martin

- Friends reviewed plans for the first two sessions of this series based on Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's 1998 *Quakerism 101* and Rex Ambler's 2013 *The Quaker Way*.
- This is a project in-the-works, so we don't yet know how many monthly sessions or which themes we will develop. We shared chapter headings of both sources as a provisional guide.

Submitted by Mike Shell
4/27/2018

Southeastern Yearly Meeting of The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

seymquakers.org/blog/2018/04/13/seym-minute-stopping-gun-violence

Minute on Stopping Gun Violence

Friends (Quakers) have a vision of humankind drawing together in mutual care, including reconciliation addressing both the safety of the victims of violent acts and the unmet needs of perpetrators of those violent acts. We are committed to this healing and raising our children. To this end, we demand that our government, school systems, and all adults in the lives of our children take steps to face the root causes of violence in our society. As Quakers, we support the youth in their vision of a world without a ubiquitous background of violence, a world where people learn how to express feelings of anger and pain constructively. This is an issue to unite us in protection of the children and all the people we love. We urge the passage of several pieces of legislation that will make a beneficial difference for all Americans:

Nationally

- Require universal background checks on every gun purchase.
- Implement a ban on all high-capacity ammunition magazines and military grade semiautomatic weapons.
- Reinstate the assault weapons ban or institute strict licensing similar to the National Firearms Act of 1934 (PL 73-474).
- Repeal the “Dickey Amendment”, to allow federal health agencies to conduct research into the causes, effects, and evidence-based prevention of gun violence in our communities and provide funds for this work through Congressional action.

IN FLORIDA

- Repeal Chapter 790.33 of Title 46 of the 2017 Florida Statutes “Field of Regulation of Firearms and Ammunition Preempted,” which now prohibits local governments in Florida (Municipalities, Counties, Cities, etc.) from making any regulations more restrictive than the State laws to control guns or ammunition. We support local governments’ right to pass their own regulations to ensure the safety of their residents and children.

In a larger context, we share distress at the degree to which American culture accepts, uses, and relies on violence by individuals and groups to solve interpersonal and societal conflicts. We ally ourselves with the victims of such violence and with their sense of urgency in seeking reforms through non-violent means.

We affirm our belief, faith, and experience in the power of love, respect, tolerance and friendship as bases for living together with those around us, in family, community, societal and global relationships.

We intend to share this Minute with all people in Southeastern Yearly Meeting and all other Yearly Meetings in the USA, as well as our legislators and the students of Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. We encourage Friends to share this concern widely within their communities, to take action and start collaborating. Let us be open to whatever meaningful work our hearts are led to do.

Southeastern Yearly Meeting in Annual Sessions April 1, 2018