

Jacksonville Friends Meeting Numbered Minutes – 2017

2017.01.08 – Friends deferred the decision to make the budgeted annual contribution of 100.00 property fund.

2017.03.12-1 – Friends approved the second draft of the SEYM Committee for Ministry on Racism minute, "End Racism for All" [[Appendix 1](#)].

2017.03.12-2 – SEYM support of FGC "Institutional Racism Assessment" [[Appendix 2](#)].

Friends are in agreement with the general concept of Friends General Conference conducting an institutional assessment of structural racism. We are not in agreement with SEYM approving financial support until we have clarification on three concerns:

1. We want to know how much money will be required from our meeting.
2. We want assurance that external agendas of the hired consultant will not influence internal process.
3. 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.

2017.05.20-1 – Jacksonville Friends approve moving \$100.00 from General Funds to the Property Fund, as budgeted for FY 2016-17.

2017.05.20-2 – Jacksonville Friends approve contributing \$100.00 to Florida Coalition for Peace & Justice, as budgeted for FY 2016-17.

2017.05.20-3 – Jacksonville Friends approve the Treasurer's proposed budget for FY 2017-18 [[Appendix 3](#)].

2017.05.20-4 – Jacksonville Friends minute appreciation to Mike Shell for timely, attractive work on the Meeting website (<http://www.jacksonvillefriends.org/index.php>), and to Ken Hall for hosting the website and for his technical support.

Appendix 1

End Slavery for All Second Draft

Action Request on the Thirteenth Amendment, for Further Seasoning for Suggested Approval at SEYM Yearly Meeting Sessions, 2017

The SEYM Committee for Ministry on Racism asks Worship Groups, Monthly and Yearly Meetings to affirm, and publicize the need for:

1. The removal of the exception clause of the 13th Amendment to the US Constitution which otherwise abolishes slavery. Exception clause has been put in bold below.
2. Knowledge that the purpose of prisons should be to protect members of society and to prepare those imprisoned to return as productive members of their community through provision of comprehensive education and training.
3. Persons formerly in prison to have full restoration of constitutional rights, including access to housing and jobs.

The 13th Amendment reads:

Section 1. Neither slavery or involuntary servitude, **except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted**, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

Section 2. Congress shall have the power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

We seek this in the light of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) testimony on equality and our history of seeking to honor that of God in everyone through justice that restores. Currently, persons in prisons are coerced into working in what amounts to slavery. They leave prison with severely restrictive conditions of freedom that shackle their efforts for normalcy, often for the rest of their lives.

Appendix 2

Discernment on Suggesting Funding from SEYM for Friends General Conference (FGC) Institutional Assessment of Structural Racism

The Committee for Ministry on Racism is supportive of the planned Institutional Assessment that Friends General Conference (FGC) Central Committee has approved for the FGC organization itself, not to include affiliated yearly and monthly meetings. The Assessment will seek to find structural racism within FGC and recommend steps to remove it. FGC Central Committee approved calling the action "Institutional Assessment" rather than "Institutional Audit."

The SEYM Committee for Ministry on Racism will recommend financial support of the Assessment from SEYM once we have heard from the FGC General Secretary, Barry Crossno, that findings and recommendations from that Assessment will be sent to all affiliated Yearly Meetings and Monthly Meetings and that FGC commits itself to following the recommendations that come from its own review.

Susan Taylor, for the Committee

Appendix 3

Jacksonville Friends Meeting: Budget – FY 2017-2018		
Income		
	2011	\$2,188.00
	2012	\$2,908.00
	2013	\$3,422.00
	2014	\$4,609.00
	2015	\$3,719.00
	2016	\$4,171.00
	2017	\$4,000.00
Expenses		
	SEYM	\$1,800.00
	Meeting space rent	\$600.00
	Insurance	\$450.00
	Friends Journal Listing	\$75.00
	SEYM-Attendance Support	\$150.00
	Friends Journal Subscription	\$150.00
	Quaker Life Listing	\$20.00
	Activities	\$100.00
	Meeting Literature	\$100.00
	Property Fund	\$100.00
	Community Donations	\$300.00
	Newsletter	\$155.00
	Total	\$4,000.00