

FRIENDS MEETING OF SAN ANTONIO

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

February 17, 2019

Present: Greg Casillas, Laura Claghorn, Bill Wilkinson; Michelle DiGiacomo, Pat Sweet, Bill Sweet, Carol Redfield, Rick, McClatchy, Jillian Randles, James Mize, Joni Mize, Mari Montemayor, Emil Barondeau, Jr, David Hayes, Jeff Josh, Gretchen Haynes, Val Liveoak

Opening Worship

“The unity we seek depends on all to seek the truth in each others’ utterances; on our being open to persuasion; and in the last resort a willingness to recognize and accept the sense of the meeting as recorded in the minute, knowing that our dissenting views have been heard and considered.” Quaker Faith and Practice, Britain Yearly Meeting

May the words of the Spirit be spoken. May the words of the Spirit be heard.

Agenda preview

Clerk’s comments:

Thanks for contributions from: Friends Peace Teams, Quaker Voluntary Service, American Friends Service Committee, and Dream Week: On behalf of Dream Voice, LLC, I’d like to thank you for your partnership with Dream Week 2019 and for hosting the movie *Selma*. Dream Week is solely a summit of events and your participation made it a success. For that we are grateful. We look forward to working with you for Dream Week 2020. Shokare Nakpodia

Minutes from January Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business APPROVED with two typos noted.

Treasurer’s report January 2019

Balance Sheet

End of year transfers were made in accordance with previous Meeting guidance.

- \$100 unspent in the 2018 M&O Operating budget for “Relief” was transferred to the Relief Fund, which now has a balance of \$1,395.00. These funds are available at the discretion of M&O to help persons in need.
- \$4,377.74 remaining in the General Maintenance Fund was transferred to the Sinking Fund, which now has a balance of \$10,840.44.

The Meetings holdings with Friends fiduciary declined by \$48,975.39 during the fourth quarter of 2018 and is reflected on the balance sheet. This was a result of the market decline in December and should begin to rebound somewhat in 2019.

No other significant activity to report.

Statement of Activities

Income exceeded expenses in January by \$2,202.64.

There was a \$184.44 miscellaneous expense associated with rentals for movie night.

We have begun contributing \$500/month to the Sinking Fund.

All other expenditures were routine.

Faithful submitted, Bill Wilkinson, Treasurer

The contribution to the group sponsored by the Mennonite Church is on hold awaiting confirmation of the 501(C) status. Instructions on how Friends may make direct deposits of contributions are being formed. The current problem is identifying the donor in the electronic transaction. APPROVED

Finance Committee

The Committee met on Monday February 4. We discussed how to "write" a job description for the Bookkeeper. It was decided that we will need to adjust the Bookkeeper job according to the capabilities of the candidate and his/her familiarity with Quaker, or at least Non-Profit, bookkeeping. The outcome of the search will affect the job description of the on-site Treasurer as well.

We have put a call into the first candidate but as of now have not had a reply.

We would like to have more names and resumes to choose the next to candidate to approach, if necessary.

At least, the candidate will need to keep our books, currently done using Quick Books, pay our usual monthly expenses, meet with the onsite Treasurer to exchange other bills, donations, etc. and provide reports to the Meeting with explanations and recommendations. Bill Wilkinson reports that this all takes about 8 hours per month.

Please send all recommendations to Pat Sweet

Sweetp50@aol.com 978-404-9844

Pat Sweet, Bill Wilkenson, Carol Redfield and Joe Redfield APPROVED

Nominating Committee February 2019

- A) After 8 months of discussions and outreach, the Nominating Committee has determined we have no FMSA member to fill the position of Monthly Meeting Treasurer/trustee Treasurer. We now look to the Finance Committee to determine a way forward.
- B) Nominating requests the following committees submit their Long Range Committee representatives by March's Meeting with Attention to Business. M&O and Community Engagement.
- C) The Nominating Committee submits for second and final reading the following Roster. [See Appendix.]

The approval does not apply to the new Trustee which requires a called meeting of the Trustees, to be held after 30 days notice, March 24, 2019. APPROVED

Long Range Planning Committee Report February 2019

The committee met 4 February 2019 at St. Mary's University. We discussed the following:

1. A review of previous forums and committee meetings about envisioning the future of Meeting.
2. New information about property values and questions about zoning and adjacent properties. [Following the meeting it was learned that there are no restrictions on where a church may be located.]
3. Designee for Clerks and Conveners Meeting scheduled for 16 February 2019.
4. The creation of a minute.

MINUTE 2019.1.1 Spirit is moving through the Friends Meeting of San Antonio. Our numbers are growing and our hearts are open. The Long Range Planning Committee sees and hears a need for expansion of the Meeting's presence and physical space. [We recommend moving forward with Phase III to incorporate a multifunctional structure. *Replace*]

Submitted by, Marian Carter, Suzanne Wright Crain, Carol Redfield, Joni Mize

Following discernment, the final sentence of the proposed minute was amended as follows:

We recommend moving forward with forums and other means of discernment to provide opportunities for all to express where Spirit is leading regarding a development plan for a multifunctional structure.

It was noted that two members are to be named by representing committees. The full report will be sent to Friends separate from the full Minutes to allow seasoning, with the

request that Friends consider it for further discussion. The matter will be carried over to the March Meeting for Business. APPROVED

Property Committee Report February 2019

The committee met on 1 February 2019. Liam Randles attended as a Youth representative.

The following items were discussed:

1. Upcoming work day scheduled for 9 February 2019 and the possibility of planting a new tree on the property. Information about the CPS Green Shade Tree rebate program was presented including a recommended tree list and requirements to qualify for a \$50.00 rebate. It was decided further consultation with our volunteer master gardeners and arborists is necessary.
 - a. The status of a master plan for the grounds offered last year. Inquiries have been made.
 - b. Planning for a scheduled visit from Etter Tree Care with consideration of previously mentioned consultation and master plan.
2. Review of Lite It Up Electric's estimate for two light fixture installations and possible diagnostic work. Subsequent to the committee meeting, additional issues with the electrical system were found, specifically relating to lighting. These projects are in development.
3. The invoice for repairs of the rotted wood at the northeast corner of the Meeting house completed by Malitz Construction. (It was received the next day: \$4506.03)
4. Status of Meetinghouse door repair/replacement. An appointment is to be scheduled ASAP.
5. Memorial Garden planning ideas.
6. The proposed Eagle Scout project was determined to be unsuitable by the Scout and his leaders. They asked if we had a project to suggest; we are looking for a project to offer for consideration.

Respectfully submitted, Stephen Shearer, James Mize, Joni Mize, Bill Sweet

The committee is planning to hold work days on the same day of the month through June. The dates will be announced later. APPROVED

Ministry and Oversight Committee—No report

Peace and Social Concerns Committee

Members in attendance –[Val and Greg. We reviewed the 2019 contributions to Quaker and Local Organizations previously approved.

Quaker Organizations:

American Friends Service Committee	\$100
Friends Committee on National Legislation	\$100
Friends General Conference	\$100
Friends World Committee for Consultation	\$100
Friends Journal	\$100
Quaker Voluntary Service	\$100
Friends Peace Teams (for general program)	\$200
Friends Peace Teams (for the Central American program)	\$200

Local Organizations:

Esperanza Center	\$200
Peace Initiatives	\$100
Interfaith Welcome Coalition	\$500
Catholic Worker	\$100
Thrive Youth Center	\$300
Migrant Center for Human Rights	\$300
RAICES	\$100

Val brought attention to a new survey by Green Peace with regard to single use plastic. If you are interested in participating, call / text PLASTICS 877877.

Greg discussed potential support for HIV testing for migrants passing through the bus station. He is exploring opportunities with IWC, City of San Antonio and Ryan White Program funding.

We reviewed the P & SC forum notes and would like to continue the dialogue with Meeting regarding specific participation. We spoke about the idea of taking a “trash tour,” mediation workshops utilizing the works of George Lakoff and Moral Injury – re-entry.

As a result of committee members not able to attend, we have tabled action regarding climate change. We closed the meeting feeling accomplished. APPROVED

Community Engagement Committee - February 4, 2019

Members in attendance - Jillian, Kellie, Gretchen, Katherine, Bill, James and Greg

I am a Quaker. And as everyone knows, Quakers, for 300 years, have, on conscientious ground, been against participating in war. I was sentenced to three years in federal prison because I could not religiously and conscientiously accept killing my fellow man. - Bayard Rustin

We discussed the process of populating the Hospitality Calendar and the need for a person(s) to open and close Meeting on the 2nd & 3rd Sunday's. We discussed the responsibilities and will share these needs with those willing to volunteer for this task.

Bill has made Ken's archive of material available and Kellie has been using this information to share on Facebook.

We had a lengthy discussion about the Directory as there remains some confusion surrounding its use. We discussed several options and attempted to define what a "directory" is. We decided to set aside the discussion and return to the topic in a separate meeting.

Community Engagement will establish an email to be associated with our social media outlets, Twitter, InstaGram, Next Door. An email is needed in order to open the outlets. This account will be accessible by the committee members and login / password sent to the Clerk of Meeting. This could be added to the Handbook for future reference.

There was some concern about recent postings on the Facebook page that could be confused with our monthly query. Kellie is posting content meant to engage the page followers from Extracts from the Writings of Friends found in Faith and Practice, as well as information from Ken's archive. The committee has given Kellie the freedom to post this sort of information from Quaker sources in order to increase a Quaker message to the community. We would like feedback from Meeting regarding this topic.

We talked about the idea of how to disseminate the information about financial support of meeting. Gretchen will create a tenderly written message regarding support and how we may all find a way to sustain Meeting.

We had a brief discussion about ways to increase familiarity between Meeting visitors, attenders and members. Some ideas included, round tables, Friendly 8's and "In the Light" spotlight interviews that could be published in the newsletter with a photo.

Margarita has requested to start a book club using pamphlets found in the library. Community Engagement fully supports this creation and will work with Margarita to

establish a format, meeting time/day and distribute the information to Meeting and through our social media outlets.

We ended the meeting with peace and gratitude.

It was noted that there are currently three Meeting lists: the Newsletter, the Clerk's email and the updated version of Ken's Directory, which includes recent attenders. The official list of members is held by the Recorder. APPROVED

Religious Education Committee Feb 3, 2019

Present: Colin Malone, Ben Hernandez, Greg Koehler, Gary Whiting, Joni Mize, Gretchen Haynes

Children's program: we will carry the first of the month theme through the other weeks with whichever children are present. They are spending the first 10 minutes in Meeting; Joni notes that they seem softer now than before this began.

Adult program: we considered diversity from many angles without reaching a definitive answer. Then concluded that we would present a worship sharing opportunity around spiritual diversity on the fifth Sunday of March, following Rick McClatchy's forum on "Nones," those who answer "None of the above" in religious questionnaires.

APPROVED

Other Concerns: Proposed Minute commenting on CoSA Climate Action Planning

Office of Sustainability
City of San Antonio
1400 S. Flores, Unit #2
San Antonio, TX 78204

cc: Mayor Ron Nirenberg
Members of City Council

RE: Comments on the draft Climate Action and Adaptation Plan

Friends Meeting of San Antonio (Quakers) appreciates the Mayor and City Council for resolving to meet the objectives of the Paris Climate Accord and the process, involving many individuals from many sectors, which informed this draft plan. We also appreciate offering to the whole community the chance to comment on the draft plan, thereby bringing in even more viewpoints into its finalization.

Recognizing the severity of our situation and the need for swift, strong action, we emphatically urge the City Council to adopt the CAAP promptly, and then to act decisively and rapidly to implement this plan. The following comments are meant to clarify and strengthen the CAAP, but we ask for its adoption even in its present form.

We are very pleased to see the emphasis on equity in the CAAP. Quakers have been known for over three centuries as advocates for the dispossessed and marginalized. However, our experience, not unique, is that goals such as equity, that are hard to quantify and all but

impossible to monetize, often rank far behind the quantifiable and the financial. The Climate Equity Screening Mechanism (Appendix III) asks good questions but it is not clear how the responses will be incorporated into the actionable decision in a significantly meaningful way. We would like to see some consideration to implementation be presented.

Speaking of costs, in the Strategies sections, the presentation of implementation costs is quantified in defined dollar ranges, e.g., greater than \$1 billion, whereas the co-benefits are presented only as a yes (checkmark) or no. This presentation skews the emotional or psychological reaction towards, “wow, that’s a whole lot of money” versus “hmm, well, OK, that’s nice”. We recognize that estimating the value of co-benefits is difficult as it requires assumptions that may be debated and challenged. However, without “apples-to-apples” comparison, conclusions and decisions are likely flawed.

The timeline for the co-benefits is not entirely clear to us. Does it extend only until 2050? The science has told us for at least a half century that the climate responds slowly, at least slowly on a human scale. What are the co-benefits – and benefits – after that timeline, especially those born after the timeline. Obviously, this is hard to quantify, or even in wide ranges, but the issue should be clearly identified. Included in that analysis should be estimates of the later costs of adaptation and mitigation of doing little or nothing now. Analyses have shown sharply rising costs the longer significant action is not taken. Indeed, the costs can far, far exceed the ability to pay. This should be explicitly recognized in the report.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Adopted by our Meeting community in Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business,
February 17, 2019

Val Liveoak, Co-Clerk

Gretchen Haynes, Co-Clerk

The letter is APPROVED. Bill S. will print it on our letterhead and distribute the copies.

Friends Fair Report

Date: Sat May 11, 10 am to 2 pm. We are adding the neighborhood Garage Sale and dropping the pony ride in favor of a bouncy house. We have already filled the key roles for the event. The coordinator will invite these friends to a planning session at 9:30 on Sun. March 10 at 9:30 in the Library. APPROVED

Miscellaneous

The Memorial Meeting for Lori Segura will be included in our permanent records by action of Ministry and Oversight.

The monthly birthday celebrations have been a success and we wish to thank Jillian Randles for her splendid cakes.

Val Liveoak, Co-Clerk

Gretchen Haynes, Acting Recording Clerk

APPENDIX

Friends Meeting of San Antonio
Annual Meeting of the F.M.S.A Corporation
January 20, 2019

The Clerk of Trustees, Carol Redfield, opened the Annual Meeting of the F.M.S.A, Board of Trustees for 2018 with silence. She read the list of Trustees for 2019.

Clerk: Carol Redfield

Treasurer:

Secretary: Pat Sweet

Member: Marian Carter

Member: Bill Wilkinson

This slate of trustees had been approved at the Friends Meeting of San Antonio Meeting for Worship with attention to business on December 16, 2018 with additions approved prior to this meeting.

The slate was accepted by the members of the Religious Society of Friends present.

Peggy Dial, Stephen Shearer, Michelle Di Giacomo, Carol Redfield, Joni Mize, Laura Claghorn, Gretchen Haynes, Bill Sweet, Marian Carter, Pat Sweet.

There being no other business, the meeting closed with silence.

Carol Redfield, Clerk

Pat Sweet, Secretary

Roster of officers and committees, 2019 will be sent separately.