

FRIENDS MEETING OF SAN ANTONIO
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
May 19, 2019

Attending: Bill Wilkinson, Bill Sweet, Pat Sweet, James Mize, Joni Mize, Margarita McAuliffe, Jillian Randles, Pam Spurgeon, Marian Carter, Stephen Shearer, Greg Casillas, Laura Claghorn, David Hayes.

Opening Worship: "Be still and clear in your mind and you will come to know the principles of God."
William Penn

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

Agenda preview: Gretchen

Laura's reports will be given at the same time, so we'll go out of order from original agenda.

Clerk's comments:

Minutes from April Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business were **approved**.

Treasurer's report: Bill Wilkinson
Balance Sheet

- ✓ Combined accounts at Friends Fiduciary Corporation (FFC) recovered nicely in Q1, increasing by \$42669.47. The balance is now within 1.1% of where it started prior to the Q4/2018 decline.

Statement of Activities

- ✓ The Meeting received a donation of \$220 from the members of Plum Branch Sangha toward the repair of the window that was damaged in the meetingroom.
- ✓ The treasurer forgot to pay the cleaning services bill; so there will be a double payment in May.
- ✓ The \$645 in Minor Repairs & Maintenance is for our maintenance contract for HVAC.
- ✓ All other expenditures were routine.

The \$645 amount for HVAC maintenance is semi-annual.

Generally speaking, there is an average \$100-\$150 contribution per member, but that varies over people's lifespans, giving less when needed and more when they can. No contribution is too small or too large and people should not stress about donating. We always make our budget in the end.

Question about online payments. The best way to do it (so that there are no fees taken from the donation) is to get the routing and account number and set up payments through one's own bank either through direct transfer or online bill pay.

Finance Committee – Nothing to report

Ministry and Oversight: Laura Claghorn

Val Liveoak, Gretchen Haynes, and Laura Claghorn met on May 6 at the meetinghouse. We discussed the following:

1. Membership: The clearness committee for Jillian Randles recommends that she be approved for membership.

MINUTE 2019.05.1: *Friends Meeting of San Antonio welcomes Jillian Randles into membership.*
Approved.

2. Gratitude: The children in our meeting enrich the life of our Meeting with their joy, enthusiasm, laughter, and presence. We are grateful to the members of the Religious Education Committee for their love and care in creating programs that nurture the children's understanding of our testimonies and deepen their relationship with the Meeting.

3. Last Wishes: The committee continued its discussion on last wishes. Topics discussed included the purpose for this information, the Meeting's responsibilities, memorials, executors, advance directives, next of kin, and other data to be recorded. The committee members will continue to season our thoughts and ideas over the coming months.

Report accepted.

Nominating Report: Laura Claghorn

The Nominating committee met on May 1st.

After some silence and joyful commiseration, we reviewed the Finance committee's FMSA Financial Responsibilities Checklist. We discussed possible candidates for the position of Treasurer. Not wanting to overburden the few and in keeping to our commitment of "inspired service," we decided to write a FMSA Treasurer job description and present it after close of Meetings throughout May, thereby allowing for a calling to bloom in a member's heart.

We finalized the 2019 FMSA Roster and agreed that all remaining openings would be filled as the spirit led. The new roster is posted in the Community room and has been sent to the Clerks & Recording Clerk. We closed with silence worship and left feeling at peace with our work.

Since our meeting a new nomination has come forward. We offer for **1st Reading**

Property Committee **David Hayes - Member 2020**

Respectably submitted by Laura Claghorn, Greg Casillas & Peggy Dial
First reading accepted.

Report accepted.

Signage: Laura Claghorn

On May 6th, we sent a community wide email requesting feedback on the final two monument sign designs.

The email included conceptual drawings, final spec designs along with a bid amount for each and a cover letter describing our process. The overwhelming response was in favor of design concept N which follows the design element of the interior of the Meetinghouse.

The ad hoc Sign committee would now like to request approval from Meeting for Attention to Business to move ahead with the purchase and installation of sign concept N.

The estimated amount \$ 2,825.00 but there will be additional cost including removal and disposal of the existing sign, adding clear acrylic covers or graffiti laminate, a permit: \$250+/- and if needed, CPS

encroachment permitting: \$200 to \$560 plus \$100 application fee. Estimated cost \$4,100.

The timeline is 6 +/- weeks CPS encroachment agreement, if needed; 4 +/- weeks for production time; 2 - 4 days installation

Respectfully submitted ~ Laura Claghorn, Joni Mize & Peggy Dial

One Friend does not like either design and prefers to just improve on the current sign for less money, and cannot support the project. The Quaker procedure to deal with a member's "stop in the mind," and the procedure of stepping aside was discussed. It was pointed out that the current sign is wood and will rot, and that the other wooden sign has indeed already rotted. There was a question about the life expectancy of the new sign, that might justify the price more. According to the sign company, the life span is at least ten years, but likely to be in twenty year range. The metal does have a longer life span. The estimate does include things that may not be necessary. The current sign could be repurposed and relocated. For a period of time we've been discussing our presence in the community and the sign does announce us and protects against us becoming functionally invisible in the community.

There was a question about graffiti and it was pointed out that there is a broken light fixture out there that is live and needs to be fixed before people are out there working. It was emphasized with the company that the sign be long lasting, low maintenance, and graffiti resistant. There is graffiti laminate and/or clear acrylic cover to address graffiti.

With regard to plants underneath, Pam offered to landscape around the sign, but would need help. The vinyl letters will be applied to metal sign and then once clear cover goes on top, the letters cannot to be pried off. Bill Wilkinson, who has had signs done by this company before, confirmed that the letters cannot be pulled off.

Marian Carter noted her intention to stand aside. The clerk acknowledged the graciousness of standing aside, and it was determined that doing so should be recorded in a Minute. The sense of the Meeting was to proceed with the sign plan as proposed by the committee.

MINUTE 2019.05.2. Friends Meeting of San Antonio approves FMSA "Sign Concept N," which is the concept that uses the design elements from the interior of the Meeting House, and the requested estimated cost of \$4100.00 as stated in the committee report, with Marian Carter standing aside. The sign committee will move forward with the purchase and installation. Approved.

It will be determined at a later time who from the Meeting will sign the contract and oversee the installation.

Long Range Planning: Joni Mize

On May 12th the committee led a forum discussion about consideration of Phase III. The conversation was wide ranging as participants offered ideas and thoughtful questions. There was unity on changing the name "Phase III" to "???". This is undergoing seasoning. *Notes from this discussion are available.*

A follow up conversation is now scheduled for June 23rd.

Submitted by, Carol Redfield and Joni Mize

Report accepted.

Property Committee: James Mize

The Property Committee met 8 May 2019; all members were present. Together we explored the following topics:

1. A preliminary Community Room design, addressing flow and acoustics, presented by Peggy Dial was well received. A cost analysis is in progress.
2. Goals for the mini-workday and the third Saturday workday.
3. HVAC status: This included a revisiting of assignment of the maintenance contract (to be determined) and the recent installation of a thermostat cover based on resetting by renters which revealed a need to replace the thermostat. Unable to discern cause/effect.
4. Grounds planning: This included seeking original land plan information for the ad hoc team (in work), status of memorial garden, and the potential of a fence as an Eagle Scout project.
5. Gutter maintenance (Assessment appointment is scheduled)
6. Door repair on hold due to medical issue
7. Pest control, second opinion
8. Renter safety concerns

Submitted by, James Mize, Joni Mize, Stephen Shearer, and Bill Sweet

No arrangements for pest control have been made as of yet.

There was a question about the possible fence project. Joni indicated that the type of fence preliminarily under consideration is the type at national parks which is the type that does not actually keep anyone or anything out, but would be a line of demarcation between the property and the apartments. It would be wooden posts and two wooden horizontal beams. There is already some of that type of fencing that is ours and that is rotting. This is still in concept stage.

Report accepted.

Naming Committee: Pat Sweet

The naming committee was comprised of Val Liveoak, Laura Claghorn and Pat Sweet. Peggy Dial's term on the Nominating Committee ends this month and Gretchen Haynes will be named to replace her on the nominating committee.

Report accepted.

Community Engagement: Greg Casillas

Community Engagement Committee Meeting - May 6, 2019. Members in attendance Gretchen, Jillian, Bill and Greg

The old Quaker was right: expect to pass through life but once. If there is any kindness, or any good thing I can do to my fellow beings, let me do it now. I shall pass this way but once." W. C. Gannett 1840-1923

Gretchen gave an update on the Quaker Fair and Garage Sale and we know how that went...GREAT!

We have edited the newsletter and email list from the responses, or lack of response to the letter that James G has sent. As a result Bill will use this information to begin editing the FMSA Directory. Bill is diligently working to create a usable, easily readable directory that will be available to Members and long time Attenders.

At the last Meeting for Business, Peggy made several recommendations and the committee agrees that it would be a good idea to include social media links to our website page as this seems to now be a standard practice for organizational websites. We also think it would be a benefit to create "Contact Us" links for FMSA. We would like Meeting to provide some suggestions and guidance for these links. Additionally, the Committee, will create a letter to be emailed to all visitors that sign the guest book. There is currently no process, however, Greg will write a "Welcome Letter", which will be submitted for approval by Meeting that can be sent.

Peggy sent an email to distribute to FMSA regarding the sign committee recommendations and Gretchen was able to distribute.

We discussed the idea to include a small introduction and link of the local organizations that FMSA provides financial support. We also believe it would be a good idea to update the Quaker links. This idea was passed along to P&SC.

There was an issue with the FMSA phone line not working. Bill assessed the situation, and it was repaired. Possibly just a loose connection. Jillian will look into Google Voice to see if it is available for landlines.

There was a discussion about whether it made sense to have a landline these days. Additional research will be done by Jillian and if it becomes necessary, an emergency business meeting can be called. Some friends had concerns regarding the maintenance of our equipment and it was also pointed out that this needed to be expedited along with the question of WiFi.

Report accepted.

Peace & Social Concerns: Greg Casillas

Peace & Social Concerns Meeting May 6, 2019...Val and Greg in attendance

"The best recreation is to do good." William Penn, 1644-1718

We are still seeking an individual to participate in the IWC meetings. If interested please see me for details.

SCYM has announced the formation of a committee to create a climate change minute and is seeking participation from each Meeting. This committee will present this minute in November at the Representatives Meeting. Anyone interested, please see me for information.

As a result of this request, P&SC would like to hold a forum to discuss and "Action Minute" regarding climate change. Along the lines of FMSA Pledges to These pledges could address many areas of concern.

We discussed the idea from Community Engagement to include local organizations on the website and we agree with this recommendation. We will request each organization to write a brief introduction and provide links to their websites. I will request a meeting with each organization to solidify our relationship. Esperanza Center, P.E.A.C.E. Initiative, IWC, Catholic Worker House, Thrive Youth Center, Migrant Center for Human Rights, RAICES.

We would like to move forward with the "Urgent Response" emails that will give updates on time sensitive issues. Petitions, gatherings, marches, etc. We will try to model this after the FCNL weekly

distribution. We would like this list to be an opt in. Val would begin to facilitate this distribution after July.

It will be part of the conversation with the supported organizations to also include a link to us on their website and also to arrange for them to do forums here to talk about how the donations are used and the impacts they have.

Comment on SCYM climate minute: Bill Sweet received an email with those on the climate minute committee and he will be on it. Those who want input on that minute can talk to Bill or talk to him about how to get on the committee.

Report accepted.

Religious Education: Gretchen Haynes

Religious Education Report May 5, 2019

Present: Colin Malone, Joni Mize, Oliver Gerken, Liam Randles, Gretchen Haynes; regrets: Ben Hernandez, Gary Whiting

We considered a proposed orientation series based on fundamental topics and to be facilitated by various Friends. **Quaker Orientation: 6 x 8 @ 7-9** Eight people commit to come at 7:00 for two hours, for six weeks of study and discussion.

Week 1: The Origins of Quakerism – Gretchen & Colin

Week 2: The Light Within - Joni

Week 3: Meeting for Worship - Open

Week 4: The Testimonies, Outward Manifestations of Inward Transformation - Colin

Week 5: Quaker Process & Meeting for Business - Open

Week 6: The Wider Quaker World & Tidying up Loose Ends – Oliver & Liam

Approximately 2 hours reading in preparation for each session.

Possible dates: mid Sept to mid Oct. We will ask Ben & Gary if they would facilitate the remaining topics. The format would be brief background followed by discussion based on the readings and experience.

[This was subsequently presented to M & O and Community Engagement committees; both expressed support.]

Colin suggested coordinating with the Readers Group in ordering adequate number of pamphlets for each month's discussion. The group can look at the catalog for ideas. He will reorganize the books in the Library, with attention to those introductions and overviews of Quaker history and faith and ask people to read these and other books to make recommendations. He explained that we could initiate a Venmo account on Facebook where readers could order books and pay for them. Oliver suggested online reviews and curating the responses. The meeting ended with silent worship.

Gretchen Haynes, clerk

Report accepted.

Quaker Fair 2019: Gretchen Haynes

The 5th annual Fair proceeded despite dire weather forecasts. A total of 28 F/friends [the highest number ever] made and put up signs, tents, tables & chairs. Baked goods and cold drinks appeared next to the lunch tables. Books and rummage emerged on the breezeway and front porch. Paintings and photos were admired, though not purchased, but lent a touch of class.

Five F/friends and one neighbor set up their yard sale offerings in the parking lot and two invited vendors displayed brilliant paper flowers, hand-made jewelry, pinatas, plants, African fans and baskets. Guatemalan hand crafts for Friends Peace Teams shared a tent with Honduran style tamales for the Migrant Center. Val for Friends Peace Teams and Sara for Migrant Center had separate fund raising efforts and are not included in the FMSA distribution. Thrive Youth Center produced the barbeque.

The children enjoyed the bouncy house and various tossing games. And of course SNIPSA brought three puppies with instructions on adoption. The enthusiastic team work made the difference in the success of the day.

A full list of suggestions and comments is appended to this report. No food receipts are recorded for 2018.

2019 Quaker Fair

	2019	2018	2017
Books	\$ 71.36	137.97	71.16
Children's activities	\$ 45.	72.77	143.90
Baked Goods	\$ 160.50	156.	212.50
Rummage	\$ 312.59	442.95	292.80
Table / space rental	\$ 100.00	20	66.
BBQ prepared by THRIVE	\$ 173.00	n/a	190.
Gallery/Talent	\$ 0.00	53.50	41.
Drinks ['19 w baked goods		30.75	103.
TOTAL	\$ 862.45	973.94	1120.81

Gretchen Haynes, coordinator

Apparently some paintings and photographs did sell, but as the cashier did not receive money for them, Gretchen will follow up.

Report accepted.

Other Concerns

Wedding: Gretchen Haynes

Simple attire. Food dishes can be signed up for on their wedding website.

Respectfully submitted,

Kellie Price, Recording Clerk

Gretchen Haynes, Co-Clerk