

Minutes
FMSA Meeting for Business
November 17, 2019

Attending: Carol Redfield, Pat Sweet, Lydia Ramirez, Laura Claghorn, Bill Sweet, Jillian Randles, Peggy Dial, Stephen Shearer, James Goslin, Miriam Moore, Julia Hitz, David Novogrodsky, Greg Koehler, James Mize, Pam Spurgeon

Opening Worship: Val Liveoak

Val read from Quaker Faith and Practice, Britain Yearly Meeting on the difference between Quaker decision making process and consensus.

Clerk's Comments

We received acknowledgements from Thrive Youth Center and the Migrant Center for Human Rights.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Sweet

Balance Sheet

- ✓ The decrease of \$4217.06 in the Frost checking account primarily due to contributions to SCYM, Quaker organizations and local organizations.
- ✓ There was a small loss in the 3rd Quarter of \$1173.04 in the Friends Fiduciary investments.
- ✓ No unusual activity to report.

Statement of Activities

- ✓ Unlike last month, when contributions appear to be on track with the budget, this month we have received 58% of budget and we are through 83% of the year.
- ✓ We netted \$649.85 from the yard sale.
- ✓ Telephone expense is higher as we transitioned from AT&T to Spectrum phone plus internet service.
- ✓ Contributions to Quaker and local organization were made, as specified by Peace and Social Concerns Committee.
- ✓ Meeting support to SCYM was paid, in the amount of \$3000.
- ✓ All other expenditures were routine.

Faithfully submitted,

Bill Sweet, Treasurer

Report accepted.

September and October Minutes were approved with Jim's changes.

Committee Reports:

Nominating: Laura Claghorn

Updated roster was passed out.

First reading for Emily Wood on Community Engagement. Second reading for Lydia Ramirez and Julia Hitz.

Carol Redfield and Pat Sweet are continuing as trustees. Bill Wilkinson is continuing as Recorder. Val Liveoak is continuing as M&O clerk. Laura Claghorn will continue on M&O but not as co-clerk.

Greg Casillas' term is expiring for Community Engagement and Peace and Social Concerns. Stephen Shearer's term is expiring as a co-clerk for Property.

Jillian Randles' terms are not expiring, but she will be unable to continue due to her impending move.

It was pointed out that the IWC position is not a handbook position. If it is a standalone position, it should be minuted, but if it is a sub-position within Peace and Social Concerns, it does not need to be minuted. P&SC and Community Engagement will decide whether this position should continue as ad hoc under a committee or whether it should be a general Meeting office and make recommendation to business meeting.

Report accepted.

Community Engagement: Jillian Randles

Members in attendance Jillian Randles, Gretchen Haynes, Bill Sweet & Greg Casillas

Gretchen H. has decided to take on the responsibility of the Directory.

The Dream Week film on January 18, 2020 will be The Long Walk Home and we will have a speaker following the film. The speaker has yet to be determined.

Jim S and Oliver G are working on the process for phone message.

Our next meeting will be December 12, 2019 @ 5:45pm

Report accepted.

Peace & Social Concerns: Jillian Randles

From the committee meeting held on October 4, 2019, in which Val L and Greg C were in attendance, an email was sent to the full committee with this proposed financial giving for 2020.

2020 Quaker Organizations: \$1000.00

AFSC \$100

FCNL \$100

FGC \$100

FWCC \$100

Friends Journal \$100

Quaker Voluntary Srv \$100

Friends Peace Teams \$200 (for the general program)

Friends Peace Teams \$200 (Peace Building en las Americas)

2020 Local Organizations: \$900

Esperanza Center	\$100
P.E.A.C.E. Initiative	\$100
Interfaith Welcome	\$200
Catholic Worker	\$100 (An additional \$100 will be directed to the Tiny House Project if approved)
Migrant Ctr for HR	\$300
RAICES	\$100

Peace & Social Concerns will have \$700 left in the projected budget for local organizations. These funds will be determined after the new committee members are seated and potentially used for emerging issues.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, December 12, 2019 5:15pm
Report accepted.

M&O: Laura Claghorn

James Goslin, Val Liveoak, Jim Spickard, and Laura Claghorn met on October 28 to focus on several items.

1. We again worked on Last Wishes. We discussed a cover page that will include steps and instructions, the option of having paper copies with the Recorder along with scanned documents in a password-protective folder. Access to the files would be limited to the clerk of Meeting, the clerk of M & O, and the Recorder.
2. We began work on written guidelines for e-mail announcements.
3. We looked at coverage on our property insurance.
4. Finally, we continued to season our ideas for deepening the worship in our business meeting.

The committee looked at property insurance in terms of liability issues.

Report accepted.

Religious Education: Greg Koehler

Present: Joni Mize, Oliver Gerken, Greg Koehler, Karen Ball, Gretchen Haynes

Regrets : Ben Fitzgerald Hernandez, Gary Whiting

1. Evaluation of the orientation series: We will ask the participants for their feedback and recommendations. Our sense is that it was successful and that we should repeat the series in the spring. The Meeting room is considered more appropriate than the community room and that presenters should attend each session since each builds on the previous ones. As a follow up, RE committee members might be recognized, along with M&O, at the rise of Meeting to take questions which would then be answered and posted. We did not feel led to undertake a Spiritual Friendship project.
2. Review of Children's Program: Expenses for renovating their room will be reimbursed from the funds from the Yard Sale and a special donation to the children's program. Curriculum units will be purchased out of the current budget
3. The 2020 budget will request an additional \$500 for Misc. for training and other Faith & Play expenses and \$150 for a year-end bonus for Renata. [See Minute below to clarify our decisions.]
4. Concert in March: We did not feel led sponsor a concert.
5. Adding Resource People to our Committee: of those who volunteer but do not choose to attend committee meetings.

6. Farewell and thanks to Colin; his recommendations for the Library will be welcome.
 7. Other concerns: None at this time.
- Prepared by Gretchen Haynes, 11/4/2019

A preliminary schedule for a spring orientation: March 26 TH, April 2 TH; 16 F; 23 TH, 30 TH; May 7 TH.

Religious Education Committee Minute:

Two Friends made significant contributions of items to the Meeting's Yard Sale. In advance of the sale, they requested that the proceeds of their donations be credited to the expenses of the children's program. That amount came to about \$550. Following the sale, a donation of \$300 toward the program was also received.

These funds will go toward the expenses of refurbishing the children's room, \$985. The purchase of Goodly Play and Faith & Play curriculum units, \$700, will be covered by the existing balance in the Materials category of the current budget [\$762.] We intend to make these purchases by the end of 2019.

For the 2020 budget, we request a \$500 increase in Supplies & Misc. line to cover possible further training, bringing the total to \$700. We also request an increase of \$150 in the childcare line to cover the year-end bonus for Renata.

Prepared by Joni Mize and Gretchen Haynes 10/2019

There was discussion as to whether the explanation of the money above needed to be an action minute for the entire business meeting or just a committee minute. Friends were clear that this was a committee minute.

Report accepted.

Property: James Mize

The property committee met on November 8, 2019 to discuss the following issues:

1. Scheduling a workday, which was November 9th and was very successful; I would like to thank the participants that worked the landscaping improvements, as well as the not so obvious work that was accomplished.
2. The property survey, which is necessary for the monument sign placement. Thank you Bill Sweet for finding the original survey. It has been distributed to the sign committee to allow that project to move forward.
 - a. There is electricity routed to that area that also needs addressing (use with new monument sign or disable the line).
3. North West stone wall repair; we have one bid on the repair cost and awaiting another for comparison.
4. Scheduling the gutter service to come back to tweak the gutters after the major repairs.
5. Assessment and bid for replacing roof substructure rot.
6. Contacting Etter Tree service to remove damaged tree limbs. We do not yet have a clear vision on how to proceed with general tree removal on meeting grounds.
7. Getting a bid for resurfacing and repainting the main parking lot.
8. Replacing the HVAC filters and getting clear on value for cost of the service contract we now have.

- a. We are now evaluating a proposed contract with AC Technical Survives Ltd.
9. Looking into repair/replace costs for the piano.

Faithfully submitted,
David Hayes
James Mize
Joni Mize
Stephen Shearer
Pam Spurgeon

The reason for looking at tree removal is due to the type and number of trees and that some are more problematic than others. There are strong feelings about the trees.

Side note on the stone mason: he walked around and was very helpful on a number of things. Some of the stone pathway is breaking up. There are a number of things to continue to discuss within the committee.

The piano issue is cost versus value.

Report accepted.

Long-range Planning: No Report

Finance Committee: No Report

Other Reports:

Val is requesting an ad hoc committee or appointment for quarterly meeting planning. Bill and Val are the representatives for the Yearly Meeting. We are also part of a quarterly meeting, which is a subgroup of the yearly meeting but doesn't necessarily meet 4 times a year. We are associated with groups in Austin, Dallas, Georgetown, Hill Country, etc in the Cielo Grande. Val, Jim, and Gretchen have been trying to get a quarterly meeting set up. It's important to the yearly meeting and to us because it is the quarterly meeting that plans the Yearly Meeting programming for adults. In 2022 and 2023, it'll be our quarterly meeting's turn to do the planning, which means we need to meet in 2021. The proposal is to accept a volunteer for the ad hoc committee for quarterly meeting.

Greg Koehler suggested making this a standing committee along with the representatives to Yearly Meeting. Because this is still ad hoc, it would be outside of Nominating Committee. Greg Koehler volunteered for the ad hoc appointment. If it becomes a permanent office, it would go through Nominating. Greg asked for input as to when it should happen.

Announcements:

Closing Worship

Respectfully submitted,

Val Liveoak
Clerk

Kellie Price
Recording Clerk