

Minutes
FMSA Meeting for Worship with attention to Business
February 16, 2020

In attendance: Marian Carter, Julia Hitz, Julie Crum, Val Liveoak, Joni Mize, James Mize, Greg Koehler, Ken Stewart, Carol Redfield, Bill Sweet, Gretchen Haynes, James H. Goslin, Sally Dunlap, Michelle DiGiacomo, Pat Sweet, Greg Casillas, Laura Claghorn, Oliver Gerken, Danielle Linde, Jim Spickard and David Hayes.

Clerk's Comments: Request to amend a sentence on page three of January minutes which is incomplete.

January minutes were approved, pending recording clerk amendment.

Treasurer's Report: *Bill Sweet*

Balance Sheet

- ✓ Interim report as the balance sheet could not be accurately reconciled as the bank's reports are showing more money than we actually have, no unusual activity otherwise.

Statement of Activities

- ✓ Expenses for cleaning seem high as two checks were cashed in January.
- ✓ Property liability insurance came due and was paid \$4350.00 which exceeded budget allocation by \$1550.00
- ✓ The Meeting was informed by email on 26 December that our solar panels were connected. This is in the middle of the CPS Energy billing cycle, so the full effect will not be felt until the January-February billing cycle.
- ✓ All other expenditures were routine.

Other

✓ Perceived risk has gone up and premiums have gone up with liability insurance \$1019.00 higher than last year. Several years have passed since FMSA has had a formal discussion with Insurance Agent to go over policy, meeting to be setup with Property and Finance committees.

We have an individual policy under an umbrella Quaker contract that any meeting can buy insurance under, additional details need to be found out in upcoming discussions with agent.

Report accepted.

Committee Reports:

Ministry & Oversight: *Val Liveoak*

M & O met on January 29th. Present were James Goslin Laura Claghorn, Jim Spickard, Gretchen Haynes, Val Liveoak.

1. We reviewed the input from the State of the Meeting report and agreed that a friend who offered to write a first draft would be asked to do so. We discussed other concerns brought up during the report and the forum and will continue to look at these issues in the future.
2. We discussed issues of concern of various members. Several people present agreed to speak further with the members about their concerns.
3. We agreed that the March 22nd forum would be on the topic of holding and being held in the Light. We will ask religious education committee to find a facilitator or presenter for this forum.
4. We reviewed the Last Wishes form, which we are now presenting to Meeting for initial feedback. Next week on February 23, we will facilitate a forum for a more in-depth review, but more importantly, the

forum will provide an opportunity for us as individuals to reflect on our priorities, values, and relationships as we enter the next stages of our lives.

5. We ask meeting to consider a change in meeting for worship that would set aside some of the last minutes of worship for joys and concerns so that people could share these concerns in worship. We would do this for several months as an experiment to see if it meets the needs of the meeting. With congregation's suggestions and concerns in mind.
6. **Minute approved:** For the next four months, Meeting will experiment with setting aside the last several minutes of First-Day worship for brief expressions of joys, sorrows, and concerns.
7. At the request of an attender, we agreed to form a Clearness Committee to consider a proposed ministry that they would like the Meeting to support.
8. We ask Meeting to consider the following Draft of our State of the Meeting report to SCYM: *(distributed by hand)*

The draft of the State of the Meeting report was received with gratitude. Additional modifications are to be worked out between Oliver Gerkin and Jim Spickard with the feedback received from the meeting.

A called meeting for business, to continue the development of the state of the meeting report was scheduled for 3/1/2020.

Report approved.

Nominating Committee: Laura Claghorn

- First Reading:
 - Mary Tyska, Community Engagement (2022)
 - Veronica Gard, Peace & Social Concerns (2022)
 - John Tyska, Property (2022)
 - Bill Wilkinson, Clerk of Long-Range Planning (2023)
 - Danielle Linde, Religious Education (2022)
- Second Reading:
 - Gretchen Haynes, M&O (2022)
 - Petra Ramirez, Community Engagement (2022)
- Kellie Price is stepping down from Community Engagement

Report accepted.

Community Engagement: Gretchen Haynes

Community Engagement Report 2/3/20

1. We reviewed the Hospitality Roster and found that it is filling up. James will post it on the website for easy reference. We affirmed that birthday celebrations will be on Potluck Sundays, with Ivory serving as the baker when she can, and Mary T filling in when she cannot. [We now have Ivory's schedule and will work around that.]
2. We will submit the proposal below for a Spring Fair to Meeting for Business.
 - a. The primary purpose is to build community within Meeting through F/friends cooperating on various tasks before and during the day. The secondary purpose is to reach out to the neighborhood to build community locally and to the broader San Antonio area. The third purpose is to raise funds that are donated to three organizations that are chosen by Peace & Social Action. Drawback: it is a lot of work. Advantage: the work is spread out among 20 to 25 individuals
 - b. Move the date to May 2 from 9 am to 1 pm. RCG has agreed to move their time back an hour to 2 pm.

- c. Focus on Meeting activities and save the yard sale for the Fall. These would include books, rummage items, bake sale, talent, free children's games. Possibly simple food.
 - d. Have a bouncy house to attract families with children. Have an outreach to highlight our children's program.
 - e. Invite independent vendors who would pay a percentage of their sales.
 - f. Invite a service organization, such as the Blood Bank, to set up in the grassy area south of the parking lot.
 - g. Invite our evening groups, those we support with funds, and others, such as Poor People's Campaign to have a presence with literature, etc.
 - h. James later found that the Texas Cottage Food law now permits us to bake at home and sell at Meeting.
 - i. **Action Minute:**
 - j. **Minute approved: FMSA approves holding the 6th Annual Quaker Day Fair on Saturday, May 2nd, as outlined in the February committee report.**
 - k. **Minute approved: Meeting approves donating the money earned to 3 organizations chosen by P&SC.**
3. Jim has begun taking photos of F/friends not now on our photo wall.
 4. Emily raised the question of whether we need permission to post photos of F/friends on Facebook or Instagram. We seek guidance from Meeting (with appropriate discussion) and committee will decide on the policy and bring it back for Business consideration.

Report accepted

Peace and social concerns: Val Liveoak

Report from Peace & Social Concerns Committee Meeting on Feb. 13

In attendance: Ben and Katherine Fitzgerald Hernandez, Val Liveoak

1. Val and two others will lead a Saturday half-day workshop on LARA, a non-violent approach to transforming dialogue with those we disagree with. This in response to several Friends' desires for strategies for engaging people with opposing viewpoints. (Hopefully on March 21, if the date is available).
2. We have reviewed the peace and social issues Friends brought to forum on January 12. We will continue to use these as a guide for planning forums and other events.
3. We recommend that Meeting become an organizational sponsor of the local chapter of Poor People's Campaign. This organization is currently on a 20-state tour to educate and gather momentum for a Moral March on Washington on June 20,2020. The tour seeks to
 "shine a light on the conditions of those most impacted by systemic racism, poverty, ecological devastation, militarism/the war economy, and the distorted moral narrative of religious nationalism."

Report accepted.

Property: David H

The Property Committee met January 9, 2020 and discussed the following:

1. Workdays: Our next workday is Saturday, 25 January, 9:30-2:30. Helpers should bring their own lunch. There are indoor and outdoor projects. Although there was no workday in December, our November workday saw a small group of very dedicated helpers get all our new plants for the entryway into the ground. Temporary protective cages will be placed around vulnerable plants.

2. Grounds Care: On 8 January, Joni M, Pam S and Debbie R met with an Etter Tree Care representative to assess appropriate stewardship of trees and shrubs on the property. We received a comprehensive plan and bid and will schedule this project by end of month.

3. Electrical Maintenance: We are seeking bids to replace Phase I ceiling lighting. Addendum – On 11 January, a licensed electrician located, marked and disconnected the underground lines at the northwest corner of the property, making way for the new monument sign installation.

4. Parking Lot Maintenance: David H received a comprehensive bid for repair/refurbishment of both parking lots. We are considering doing the work in phases, large lot first, then small lot. Additional bids are being pursued.

5. Wall Repairs: Based on bids and recommendations, work to repair cracks in the wall at the entry and library was completed 15 January.

5. Gutter Follow-up: This is a work in progress.

6. Structural Repairs: Bids are being sought for repair of roof support rot.

7. HVAC Maintenance: Addendum – Our appreciation goes to Stephen S who negotiated with A/C Technical Services and finalized a new Preventative Maintenance Plan effective 1 January.

8. Piano Repair/Replacement: Another assessment is scheduled 18 Jan.

Addendum: suggestion to consider moving the piano diagonally in the corner. There was a concern as to whether the piano had to be against an “inside wall,” and that will be asked of the tuner. Any other concerns about the placement of the piano should be

The Treasurer asked that Property Committee be mindful of the budget in making decisions about projects. Treasurer is available to any committee at any time to discuss finances.

There was a general concern that Property Committee prioritizes with budget in mind.

Report accepted.

Religious Education: Oliver Gerken

On February 9, 2020, the Religious Education Committee convened and addressed the following subjects:

1. Acknowledgement of Co-Clerks: with Gretchen Haynes moving from Religious Education committee to Ministry and Oversight, the position of clerk was left open. The responsibilities of that position will now be allocated to co-clerks of the committee Joni and Oliver. Joni will focus most over her attention on the Children’s Program, while Oliver will focus on the administrative tasks i.e. preparing agendas and reports.
2. Review of the Faith and Play Training: Joni reported that eight (8) people participated in the Faith and Play training. Four (4) people say they are likely to move forward in participating. The general feeling is that a second session of training is needed, perhaps supplemented with 1:1 training.
3. Forums: Addressed M&O’s request for a representative from ReEd to host a forum on March 22nd “Holding and Being Held in the Light.” Gary will be the one to facilitating this forum, and intends to conduct it in the style of Worship Sharing.

4. State of the Meeting: the committee reviewed the topics written during the State of the Meeting to discuss how ReEd might help address concerns. This process is ongoing and will carry forward until the next committee meeting.
5. Orientation: Gretchen joined us at the end of the meeting to facilitate discussion regarding the upcoming Quaker orientation. This session, the orientation will emphasize a more Socratic method. There was discussion about treating First Day forums as “field trips” to enrich the subject matter discussed during orientation.

Joni, Oliver, Gary, Greg, Karen, and Gretchen were in attendance.

Nominating: Gretchen Haynes

A couple of changes since the final roster approved: First reading for Petra under Community Engagement. First reading for Gretchen Haynes under Ministry and Oversight.

Report accepted.

Other Reports:

Spring Fair: *Gretchen Haynes*

Quarterly Meeting: *Greg Koehler*

Greg asked for input and assistance in planning for this and attendance. Questions can be directed to Greg.

Report accepted.

Announcements: No further announcement.

Closing Worship