

Minutes
FMSA Meeting for Business
May 15, 2022

Attending:

- In Person: Bill Wilkinson, Rachael Cundey, David Hayes, Val Liveoak, Gary Whiting, Bill Sweet, Pam Spurgeon, Hector Cruz, Gretchen Haynes
- Online: Pat Sweet, Linda Gugerty, Lee Gugerty, Carol Redfield

The meeting opened with silent worship.

Prior Minutes

Friends approved the Minutes from the April 10th Meeting for Business without corrections.

Treasurer's Report: reported by Bill Sweet

Balance Sheet

- The quarterly statement from Friends Fiduciary, not available in time to include in the March report, is reported here. There was a loss of \$51,889.82 in the Growth & Income Fund, and a loss of \$1,374.23 in the Short-Term Investment Fund.
- A cash contribution of \$290.00 was designated for the Janet Southwood Hospitality Fund.
- No unusual activity to report.

Statement of Activities

- Undesignated contributions in April totaled \$1761.62. Contributions to date are 28.4% of the 2022 budgeted general contributions at 33% of the year.
- \$315.00 rent was received in March. Rental income for the year is 87.5% of budget.
- A line. Outreach, 65051 Refreshments – In-kind, added to record that previously unused in-kind contribution. This contribution is a new activity. Previously, a request for reimbursement was made.
- The CPS bill in March is \$283.44 for 2.275 MWh of electricity. The Big Sun Community Solar off-site photovoltaic panels gave us a credit of \$150.50. After the charges for additional services, the bill totaled \$283.44. This unusually high usage for April.
 - From the beginning through 04 April, payment for solar-generated electricity totaled \$4606.52. This is an average of \$177.17 per month compared to the amortized capital cost of the panels of \$131.40 per month.
- The March bill for San Antonio Water System was \$110.80, which is about typical.
- Other expenditures were routine.

DISCUSSION: It was suggested that we may want to keep track of how the total accumulation of the photovoltaic panels compares to the depreciation of the panels and how much wattage we are saving. A Friend felt this could inspire our members to invest in solar power to further their testimonies of stewardship of the Earth.

The Property Committee has been informed of current power usage concerns. We may want to change the combination to the thermostat to prevent renters from changing the temperature.

Friends accepted the Treasurer's report.

M, C, & G Report: reported by Val Liveoak

M, C, & G met Monday May 9. In attendance were James Goslin, Gretchen Haynes, Julie Crum, Stephen Shearer, Val Liveoak, Clerk.

Review of Worship:

Very few attenders to early worship, and it's been very quiet, but meaningful. Worth reflecting on reason of Early Meeting—Avoiding tech intervention affecting purity, and now in a different place. Some attenders seem to have come because it's there and convenient. Good attendance at 10am. Need to reunify—Maybe help those who are disturbed become more comfortable. Relatively deep worship in some meetings. Tech issues/problems have been affecting Zoomers. We were pleased with the children's quiet entrances to Meeting, which the teachers model for them by handing them a jar with water and sand which after being shaken up, slowly settles to become clear.

Is it time to discontinue Early Worship? Julie, who has attended (and opened), enjoys it, but now sees that only a very few attend, seemingly for convenience. We believe it would be good for all to be back together.

MCG approves MfB consider laying down the Early worship and returning to a unified Meeting at 10am. We recommend setting a period of notice before laying it down.

Upcoming Forums:

1. As a follow up on Flawed Heroes, we plan to try the Rex Ambler method of Experiment with Light on May 22. Val will lead it, and Gretchen has both the books and a shorter summary article about it to distribute.

2. We addressed a Friend's request that we work together to articulate our shared intent in worship. Our plan is to:

- Begin twice monthly evening blended Meetings with worship, worship sharing and journaling to reflect and respond to the queries the Friend suggested over the summer with a longer 'retreat' at beginning and end. Allow observers to participate in retreats but ask for a commitment for the ongoing series.
- Start June: 2nd and 4th Thursdays, evenings June 9-August 26. The opening and closing dates will include the 6-9pm retreats, and the other Thursday evenings will be from 7-9pm.

3. We recommend extending worship on May 29 for 30 minutes to hold in the Light our world at war, the many victims including civilians and soldiers, and how we are led to work for peace

and justice.

We did not discuss any other Sunday forums for June.

Review of Community Life

- Opening and closing sign-up: Just as keeping Meeting going through the pandemic fell on a few Friends, opening and closing Meeting has as well. And generally, it has fallen on the same Friends, a double responsibility. We believe it is time to set up a rotating calendar for opening and closing, and ask all Friends (at least those who have keys) to take responsibility for opening/closing, by signing up. We should remember that potluck Sundays involve setting up and putting away tables and additional effort. Gretchen will review, revise and reprint the lists of things to be done. [We may need to announce the need for volunteers for closing at rise of Meeting until this system is in place.]

- Update on children's program: With a new family this week, we have 4 families in regular attendance plus 1 once a month, totaling 11 children. 4 adult Friends are working along with Renata

Update re Nom Comm. and Associate Clerk.

- No new openings, but hoping to meet soon. They may need to find another member for Property Committee.

We discussed concerns about individual Friends

Other

- We received a request for transfer of membership for Judith Grant. If MfB approves, the Clerk of MCG will write a letter releasing her to send to her new Meeting.

Next meeting proposed date and time June 13, 7pm.

DISCUSSION: There was a concern that teachers would not have an opportunity to worship. The tech team and Children's Program teachers confirmed they are comfortable with trading off/worshipping while at computer.

MINUTE 2022.05.01: The meeting approves laying down Early Meeting for Worship. The last early meeting will be May 29th, and thereafter we will meet together at 10 am.

Gary suggested forums & queries concerning our intent in worship. He wishes to season the idea before we launch into an extended series by printing a summary in the newsletter and holding a forum on Friends' thoughts in July.

Requiring a commitment to attend twice a month for a couple of months has been successful in the past.

We appreciate the enthusiasm of MC&G around this important issue of shared intent central to our worship. MC&G will be in ongoing consultation with Gary as Meeting considers these thoughts.

The Community Engagement committee would normally be required to supply all kitchen and bathroom supplies but is currently in hibernation. We need to designate someone to replace these things. David offers to handle provisioning if given a list.

The meeting has long functioned on the generosity of individuals who see and fill needs, which can be to the detriment of the meeting because it makes these tasks invisible to other Friends. We need to lift this need up to those who do not attend business meeting.

Friends accepted the committee's report.

Friends approved the transfer of membership for Judith Grant from Friends Meeting of San Antonio to Burlington Friends Meeting in Vermont.

Nominating Committee Report: reported by Bill Wilkinson

The committee met on Tuesday, May 10 via zoom. Julie Crum and Stephen Shearer met by zoom, and Kellie Price tried very hard to get in but Julie missed the notification.

The committee is working on several tasks:

- 1) The committees that were hibernated are being awakened and reconstituted.
- 2) We are beginning the process of making the roster for 2023. Many positions have terms that end this year, including clerk of meeting.
- 3) We are surveying committee clerks to find out what they need, both from nominating and from meeting at large.

Nominating welcomes inquiries from Friends who are interested in learning how they can bring their gifts to meeting; contact any member of the committee or email nominating@saquakers.org

DISCUSSION: A committee fair was suggested where people could rotate around tables to learn what each committee does to recruit those less familiar.

Friends accepted the committee's report.

Property Committee Report: reported by David Hayes

The property committee met on Monday, May 9th at 4pm.

The meeting was attended by Pam Spurgeon and David Hayes. Joni Mize and James Mize out of town.

The minute submitted in April for the approval of \$16480.00 was intended to appropriate the funds for immediate treatment once the committee had received all pertinent information.

We have received an additional estimate from ABC Pest Control which includes treatment for subterranean termites that their inspectors found, the numbers are as follows:

\$19536.00 for drywood fumigation. Yearly renewable \$3907.20

\$5482.50 for subterranean termite treatment. Yearly renewable \$822.38

Orkin inspected and recommended heat treatment but they did not follow up in submitting their proposal.

Worldwide Pest Control no-showed twice and they offer spot-treatments only and do not have the capacity to tent, also has failed to submit their proposal.

The committee suggests the proposal from ABC Pest Control is the best choice for treatment.

The inspectors were thorough, professional, and knowledgeable.

The committee submits the following minute for consideration and adoption:

Awarding the termite fumigation to ABC Pest Control, adding \$8538.50 to the previously approved \$16480.00 for a total of \$25,018.50.

We continue reviewing our options regarding the cleaning service.

Our landscape service has gone up \$50 per mow, the committee seeks guidance whether we accept the price increase or we look for other options.

The water has been left running several times throughout the month, particularly the last couple of weeks. We will lock the spigots and attach a normal handle to the spigot by the community room to possibly deter water waste.

HVAC Maintenance scheduled for last month was cancelled by the provider. They have also been bought out by another company. We may need to change providers if contracted price has changed.

With gratitude and love,
-Property Committee.

DISCUSSION: Termite treatment will take approximately 3 days. We would need to communicate with renters and keep everyone off the property for those 3 days. This treatment would cover the entire campus, not just the meeting house. We have sufficient investments to cover this expense without present financial strain. However, the high expense of the warranty and the ballooning property insurance prices have the potential to greatly increase our annual budget moving forward.

There is a need for conversation going forward on the cost of running the facilities we have.

MINUTE 2022.05.02 Friends approve awarding the termite fumigation to ABC Pest Control, adding \$8538.50 to the previously approved \$16480.00 for a total of \$25,018.50.

Friends thank the Property Committee for this effort. We should be able to accomplish this before next business meeting.

The committee will attempt to work with cleaners directly rather than contracting with a company.

We had a leak in the accessible toilet, so the water has been turned off there. The pipe monitor alerted us to this leak.

Friends accepted the committee's report with thanks.

Other Business:

- Request for Volunteers from the Interfaith Welcome Coalition: to help guide the increasing number of immigrant refugees as they travel through San Antonio's airport and bus stations.
- Meeting for Business will be moved to June 26th as those available to clerk will be out of town on the 3rd Sunday of the month.

- May 29th Meeting for Worship will be 10-11:30 to allow for 30 minutes of reflection on war and peace for Memorial Day. A forum by an FCNL Advocacy Team Coordinator (joining by Zoom) will be held at 11:45. FCNL Advocacy Teams are small groups that lobby on topics selected by FCNL. Teams are not required to be exclusively Quaker. David will advertise this event on social media and invite groups who meet in the building. Jim has their contact info.

Other Announcements

- Please send notices for the newsletter to newsletter@saquakers.org NOW

The Meeting closed with silent worship.