

Minutes
FMSA Meeting for Business
July 17, 2022

Attending:

- In Person: Bill Wilkinson, Rachael Cundey, Val Liveoak, James Mize, Bill Sweet, Pat Sweet, Jim Spickard, Gretchen Haynes, Hector Cruz
- On Zoom: Pam Spurgeon, Leo Gugerty, Carol Redfield, Kirstin Munro, Dale Keairns, Von Keairns, Megan Rotter

The meeting opened with silent worship.

Prior Minutes

Friends approved the Minutes from the June 26th Meeting for Business without corrections.

Treasurer's Report: reported by Bill Sweet

Balance Sheet

- ✓ The midyear distribution from the Friends Fiduciary investment, \$5,606.31, was credited, per Minute, to the General Maintenance fund.
- ✓ In the second quarter of 2022, the Friends Fiduciary Growth & Income Fund lost \$78,058.98 and the Short-Term Investment Fund lost \$356.28.
- ✓ No unusual activity to report.

Statement of Activities

- ✓ Undesignated contributions in June totaled \$1,985.80. Contributions to date are 36.7% of the 2022 budgeted general contributions at 50% of the year.
- ✓ \$410.00 rent was received in May. Rental income for the year is 150% of budget.
- ✓ The CPS bill in June is \$538.97 for 3.200 MWh of electricity. The Big Sun Community Solar off-site photovoltaic panels gave us a credit of \$165.66. After the charges for additional services, the bill totaled \$424.58.
- ✓ Expenditure for electricity is 199% of the annual budget at 50% of the year. This is due to increased cost per kWh, increased consumption from the unusually hot weather, and optimistic projections when making the budget.
- ✓ From the beginning through 06 June, payment for solar-generated electricity totaled \$5002.50. This is an average of \$172.50 per month compared to the amortized capital cost of the panels of \$131.40 per month.
- ✓ The June bill for San Antonio Water System was \$124.70, which is slightly more than typical.

✓ Other expenditures were routine or less than typical, given the current although easing pandemic conditions.

DISCUSSION: Losses from our investments have been typical for current market conditions. Friends accepted the Treasurer's report.

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

M, C, & G met Monday July 11 at 7pm on Zoom

Present: Val Liveoak, clerk, Stephen Shearer, Gretchen Haynes.

1. There were a few Zoom problems last Sunday, but we have some ideas of how to solve or prevent them. We had a few new attenders over the last month, but a small decrease in in-person attendance over the last month. Also few Zoomers but several regular virtual attenders.
2. Upcoming Forums: Gary on Shared Intent July 24
3. Review of Community Life Rises in Covid numbers caused us to cancel the July potluck, and refreshments. We think that when we plan a forum or MfB, we should have drinks out in the breezeway. Gretchen responded to the news that a local synagogue was threatened and spoke to them about our support.
4. We propose regularly indicating members of M, C, & G as available to orient newbies (and others with questions) to members of MCG and to announce how to donate occasionally at rise of Meeting and in the newsletter.
5. Update on children's program: A bit of a response from families: Jett's brother has Covid, another has been travelling and may be back. Some concern was expressed that there was much effort to get it going, and we hope we can hold it together— 1st and 3rd Sundays currently planned.
6. Update re Nom Comm. and Associate Clerk will probably not offer plans for reorganization or filling these positions until September at the earliest.
7. We discussed concerns re: Individual Friends

Next meeting proposed date and time: We plan to meet in August, Monday Aug 8th at 7:30 pm.
If any member sees a need to do so. Otherwise, Sept. 12th.

DISCUSSION: Friends were supportive of the change to have refreshments in the breezeway and indicate MC&G members so that new attenders know who to approach with questions.

Friends accepted the committee's report.

Property Committee Report: reported by James Mize

The property committee met on Tuesday 7/11/22 at 5:30pm on Zoom

The meeting was attended by Pam Spurgeon, Joni Mize, James Mize, Von Keairns and David Hayes

1. The committee welcomes a new housekeeper, Angel Estrada, beginning in July on a 90-day provisional basis. The committee looks to more fully engage with its caretakers. We will review our inventory of cleaning supplies and adjust accordingly.
2. The committee agreed to maintain a monthly mowing schedule until further notice.
3. The committee is seasoning the Ministry, Care and Guidance weapons sign suggestion.
4. We are seeking bids for door replacement and/or maintenance for Phase 1.
5. Because of current weather conditions, workdays are suspended until further notice.
6. The committee is scheduled to meet on July 18th to continue working on Memorial Garden Plans.
7. These projects await our attention:
 - Fallen tree on fence
 - Electrical update
 - Courtyard refurbishment
 - Parking lot resurfacing
 - Sign repair

With gratitude and love,
-Property Committee.

DISCUSSION: Friends accepted the committee's report.

Other Business:

1. **Request to rent our Meeting Room for a wedding by a person outside of Meeting.**
Presented by Jim Spickard

Meeting has been presented with a request to rent our Meeting Room for a small wedding by a young outside couple. It will be a religious ceremony (thus arguably not commercial) and will not involve a reception, as the couple hopes to reserve a local restaurant for that. The proposed wedding would be late on a Sunday afternoon sometime between September and November.

Meeting has had a policy of not renting the Meeting Room for weddings, except that, when we made our policy of performing weddings without regard for gender, we said we could be a site for those prevented from having weddings in other churches.

Given our need for income, I suggest that we change our policy. As a start for discussion, we would:

- Be open to approving small weddings that will (at most) have small, quiet receptions afterwards. (I.e., no parties). (*We don't have a commercial kitchen, so we couldn't host food preparation anyway.*)
- Charge a flat \$100 for a four-hour period, which matches our current fee (\$50 rental plus \$50 application fee), double that for a period over 4 hours. This would be for the Meeting Room. Simultaneous rental of the Community Room would be an additional \$50, as at present.
- Require our current \$75 cleaning/damage deposit.
- Require an Event Liability insurance policy that covers us in case of accidents.
- Not advertise our availability, but be open to requests (for which we get about 1-2 per year).

- *Question: Should we require a special fee to cover our janitorial service cleaning the room and grounds prior to the event?*
- *Question: Should we ban alcohol, in the case of a reception?*

DISCUSSION: Although it is believed that no couples were married under the Meeting policy, approved in the early 2000s, of allowing weddings of couples denied elsewhere due to gender, one Friend recalled a same-gender union in the Meeting in 1990.

There were concerns that the flat \$100 fee would not be sufficient for the expenses of setup/cleanup and that other venues would charge more. On the other hand, our Meeting's purpose and the limitations of our campus for events suggest we should not charge market rates. There was also concern that allowing any receptions would create too large a mess to be worth it, although other Friends felt small receptions would be acceptable. The prospect of alcohol would need to be considered in light of local regulations requiring security at large events (over 50 people) serving alcohol.

Friends find it important that any event rentals include language requiring COVID precautions similar to those we are taking as a meeting—ventilation, masks, etc. as applicable. A thermostat policy will also be in order.

Friends agreed that Jim will consult with Angel about his rates for cleaning/opening/closing and negotiate with the couple currently requesting the rental to determine the appropriate fees. Friends are in favor of allowing small wedding rentals, with details still in question. A small group will take up the issue of the overall policy in the coming months and bring this to the Meeting in September.

Meeting Announcements:

- Friends are encouraged to reach out to Friends who have been absent.

The Meeting closed with silent worship.