

Ministry and Oversight  
Sept 14 2021

Present: James Goslin, Gretchen Haynes, Val Liveoak, Joni Mize, Jim Spickard.

#### Report on Porch Meeting

Gretchen is willing to set up for the 8:30 in-person meeting on the porch or in the Meetingroom.

At this time, there's uncertainty regarding the effect of re-opening schools and community spread. Local data is announced on Wednesday nights so we did not decide about in-person blended worship in the Meetingroom on Sept. 14 , but we later decided that the data indicate a lowering trend in community spread, so we decided to open the Meetingroom for in-person worship, both early (8:30) and blended (10:00am). **We also decided to postpone Meeting for worship with Attention to Business (MFB) until Sept. 26.**

Jim reported on the first steps in considering the bid for the sound/hearing system—the decision whether to accept it will be made at the next MfB after he has finalized it with the engineers making the plan.

Cielo Grande Quarterly Meeting proposed FMSA, Dallas FM, Ft. Worth FM, FM of Austin and the smaller meetings of the QM join Austin for their forum and worship on Oct 31st. (Forum topic \_\_\_\_\_ at 10:00 am, and Worship at 11:00 am.

We would join via Zoom as individuals and withing MfW in person if we are able. This is first of two 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays planned, with Austin joining FMSA on Jan 30. CGQM hopes to encourage such visits among our Meetings on 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays to continue, with the hope of re-animating CGQM. Currently only the Oct. 31st (with FM Austin) and Jan.30th (with FMSA) joint meetings are planned.

James G will draft a query for Oct.

We evaluated the Forums on Remembrance and Reflection in August.

What worked:

Theme that continued throughout month, connected upon and built through the month. Could be done again when there's a need/focus. Grieving together as a community was important.

Not having to have participated in earlier sessions was useful in that people didn't feel obliged to attend all sessions.

What we want to improve:

Concern about ending time didn't always serve Worship Sharing format well.

Some uneven (in terms of time or the Worship Sharing guidelines) sharing by Friends of the proceedings occurred.

Suggestions:

Need to be tender with each other

Be more open about time/ending.

Find gentle ways to intervene if necessary--Consider others' need to share/ seek balance between Spirit's leadings, encouraging many Friends to participate, and time constraints.

Future forums? World Quaker Day Oct. 3—Val will plan something.

Concerns re: Individual Friends

*Our recommendation which Val will forward to Finance: Keep the remaining balance in the Relief fund, and review quarterly starting in January.*

This recommendation was passed along to Finance Committee.

Next regular meeting proposed date and time Oct. 12, 1pm. Special meeting to consider a proposal to develop a 2 year plan, Oct. 1 at 1 pm.