

Southeastern Yearly Meeting Gathering & Annual Sessions

5th to 9th Fourth Month 2023

Executive Committee Meeting
31 Third Month 2023
via Zoom

Minutes

The meeting began with worship at 7:04 pm.

Clerk Bill Carlie opened the meeting from the silence with this quote:

From the beginning, it was the witness of changed and liberated lives that shook the foundations of the established social, economic, and religious order of England. The Religious Society of Friends—the Friends Church—is about nothing if it's not about transformation. Helping each other open to the Living Christ among us, allowing ourselves to be searched by the Light at work within us, humbling ourselves to be taught by the Inward Teacher, trusting that surrendering to the Refiner's Fire, we can be given new hearts. It is and always has been through these new hearts that we are made channels for the Motion of Universal Love.

Noah Baker Merrill 2012

Friends reviewed the agenda.

Nominating Committee Report

Ed Lesnick reported for the Nominating Committee. The report is in the Documents in Advance. Jack Bradin is stepping down at the end of his term as assistant clerk, so we are seeking an assistant clerk for Yearly Meeting and Interim Business Meetings. Wendy Geiger is added to the Committee for Ministry on Racism. There is a particular need for a clerk and assistant clerk for the annual Yearly Meeting Gathering Committee.

Friends accepted the report.

SEYM Secretary's Report

Susan Wade gave the Yearly Meeting Secretary's report. She has been working on the Gathering. There are lots of details. She was asked to inventory Wendy Geiger's book. Danny Geiger plans to purchase all the remaining copies of the 2nd Edition of Wendy's books and give them to Wendy. SEYM will remit the net proceeds for all of the 2nd Edition copies to Wendy. All remaining copies of the 1st Edition will be destroyed.

Friends accepted the report.

Gathering Committee Report

Vicki Carlie reported for the Gathering Committee. She will not be able to attend. We are back to pre-pandemic levels, with over 120 registered in person including 20 youth! Friends clarified that worship sharing would not be virtual/hybrid.

Friends accepted the report.

The Field Secretary for Earthcare will report at the Gathering.

Treasurer's Report

Joel Cook, Treasurer, reported that we have engaged a QuickBooks expert to help with the glitches in the conversion.

Friends accepted the report.

Finance Committee Report

Peter Schmidt reported for the Finance Committee. There will be a budget ready for the Yearly Meeting Gathering. Finance committee has prepared an alternate budget that puts the Field Secretary for Earthcare in the general budget as a salaried employee.

Friends accepted the report.

Trustees' Report

Neil Andersen reported for Trustees. He reassured Executive Committee that Friends Fiduciary has looked into the banking issues in California and New York, and funds held by Friends Fiduciary are secure.

Friends accepted the report.

Membership Recorder's Report

Ed Lesnick reported as Membership Recorder. We haven't had any updates from Charleston and Halifax for the past two or possibly three years. Halifax is not affiliated, and there is some sense that it need not be listed. Bill will reach out to some (former) Halifax Friends to find out the status of the meeting and hopes to connect with Charleston Friends when he travels to North Carolina after Yearly Meeting.

Friends accepted the report.

Worship & Ministry Committee Report

Lisa Erazmus reported for Worship and Ministry. The Listening Project requested by Executive Committee has completed the task it was assigned. It will be laid down.

23YEC01 Executive Committee releases Worship and Ministry Committee from the Listening Project, with gratitude for the committee's work.

APPROVED

CAP Coordinator's Report

Cheryl Demers-Holton reported as the CAPP Coordinator. The final revision of the CAPP manual will come to Summer Executive Committee for approval. Training is continuing using the unrevised manual but with the clarifications in the revision.

Friends accepted the report.

Earthcare Committee Report

Brian Humphrey reported for the Earthcare Committee. One focus of the committee is collaborating with other local groups, e.g., the Broward County League of Women Voters who have taken up local

environmental concerns. The committee has also begun to reengage with challenged communities to examine how neighborhood environmental conditions can be improved. They are also concerned with landfill issues which is a national problem but of particular concern in Broward County where the landfill is near capacity.

Friends accepted the report.

Archives Committee Report

Phoebe Andersen reported for Archives Committee. They are planning to visit University of Florida in May to continue working. Phoebe asks all meetings to send her their minutes and newsletters electronically.

Friends accepted the report.

Friends World Committee for Consultation Representative's Report

Joel Cook reported for Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC). He attended the Section of the Americas meeting last week along with Eduardo and Clara Diaz, and Cheryl Demers-Holton. The FWCC World Gathering will be held in South Africa in late 2024 and will have very limited attendance: only one person from each yearly meeting. Joel feels that it should be a young person. He added that there are specific funds set aside in the SEYM budget to assist SEYM Friends who wish to travel to world gatherings.

Friends accepted the report.

Friends General Conference Representative's Report

Liz Dykes reported for Friends General Conference. The Gathering of Friends will be in Monmouth, Oregon, July 2-8, in person. Early registration opens on April 3. There are funds to assist Friends with expenses. Joel Cook reminded Friends that there are also Yearly Meeting funds to assist Friends, and that monthly meetings may have funds as well.

Friends accepted the report.

American Friends Service Committee Representative's Report

Bill Carlie reported for American Friends Service Committee (AFSC). The restructuring challenges continue.

Friends accepted the report.

Liz Dykes read back the numbered, approved minute.

Friends closed the meeting with worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Dykes, Recording Clerk

Participants:

Deland Worship Group

Cheryl Demers-Holton (Gainesville Meeting)

Fort Lauderdale Meeting

Brian Humphrey

Gainesville Meeting

Liz Dykes

Orlando Meeting

Christine Laning

Ed Lesnick

Other Friends:

Peter Schmidt

St. Petersburg Meeting

Bill Carlie

Vicki Carlie

Susan Wade

Tallahassee Meeting

Neil Andersen

Phoebe Andersen

Tampa Meeting

Jan Dahm

Lisa Erazmus

Treasure Coast Worship Group

Jack Bradin (Palm Beach Meeting)

Joel Cook (Palm Beach Meeting)