

**Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting**  
**Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business**  
**October 8, 2023, draft minutes**  
Approved at the November 2023, Meeting for Business

Meeting for Business opened at 12:30 p.m. by settling into worship on Zoom. Beth Wrightson clerked the meeting. 24 Friends were present.

Mary White of Peace, Earthcare, and Social Witness shared that committee's reflections on the Advices and Queries on Simplicity.

The Clerk reviewed the agenda, which was first posted by the Recording Clerk to groups.io on October 6, 2023.

The Recording Clerk then read the September 2023 minutes. These were approved with no corrections.

**Prompt**

The Clerk read the prompt: "We are reminded to consider how our work and decisions today support SCMM in becoming an actively anti-racist faith community."

**Correspondence and Clerk's Business**

- The clerk received an email from Clifford Ham, which she shared via groups.io October 9th. It includes a request for transfer of membership to New Bedford Meeting in Massachusetts, which will be forwarded to the Care of the Meeting Committee. It also contained a request for hospitality on his upcoming visit, October 31st through November 6th.
- San Francisco Meeting sent a minute regarding abolition of nuclear weapons, which the clerk read and forwarded to the Peace, Earthcare, and Social Witness Committee for their deliberation.
- The clerk read a mailing from a coalition of Quaker organizations committed to uprooting racism.
- The clerk shared a postcard from FWCC announcing the launch of a new website listing all Meetings in the Americas It is at [www.FWCC.directory](http://www.FWCC.directory)
- The Bridging the Gap Committee is stalled, and is on Beth's mind and heart. If you are interested in being one of those who restarts our connection with Berkeley Friends Meeting and Berkeley Friends Church, please contact Beth.
- The Child Safety Policy is being reviewed by the Child Safety Committee, consisting of the Clerk of the Meeting, and the Clerks of the Care of the Meeting and First Day Children's Program committees.

**Old Business**

Finance Committee (Lee Douglas). The Meeting approved disbursement of \$13,740 from the General Fund. It will be combined with \$1,258 donated specifically for the Community Sharing Fund. The total of \$15,000 will be sent to Richmond Tiny Village Project, the Oakland LGBTQ Center, and the Intertribal Friends House, as proposed at the September business meeting.

## **New Business**

First Day Children's Program (Josh Gallup) shared his report, which he also circulated via groups.io on October 7th. The committee is struggling to fulfill its mission and asked the Meeting for guidance and assistance. A listening session will be scheduled. Several Friends expressed appreciation to the committee. The complexity of hiring part-time staff was mentioned, and a Friend suggested outreach via channels that might reach young parents sympathetic to Quakerism.

## **Reports**

Revisioning committee (Paul Jolly) read the draft report of the Revisioning Committee, at the request of the Care of the Meeting Committee. Several suggestions were made in response to the challenges of finding a site and reaching out to potential new attenders. The report was shared via groups.io on October 8th. Members of the committee (Elizabeth Moses Strain, Charlie Blanchard, Beth Wrightson, and Paul Jolly) welcome further comments between now and the November business meeting, when a final report will be presented. After the November business meeting, the Revisioning Committee will look for guidance from the Care of the Meeting Committee about whether continuing work is needed.

## **Query**

The Clerk shared the query "How did our work and our decisions today support us in becoming an actively anti-racist faith community?" Some friends responded with their perspectives.

## **Announcements**

- a. The next Meeting for Business will be November 12th at 12:30 p.m. on the Meeting's Zoom site.
- b. Lee Douglas announced that the Finance Committee will be composing the 2024 budget between now and the November Meeting for Business. Committee clerks should expect a call from a finance committee member to discuss expense projections.
- c. There will be a potluck after worship on October 15.
- d. Care of the Meeting Committee will be convening a gathering of clerks and reps, 10:00 to 12:00, November 4th. A short board meeting will follow.

Meeting closed with worship at 2:15 p.m.

Beth Wrightson, Clerk  
Elaine Emily, Alternate Clerk  
Paul Jolly, Recording Clerk