

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
Meeting for Business
Sunday, January 8, 1984
At the Home of Mary Miche,
2600 Hillegass, Berkeley

The meeting opened at 7:05 p.m. The Clerk, Barbara Graves, read some queries on meetings for business from Redwood Forest Monthly Meeting prior to Friends settling in to a period of worship. Nineteen were present during the meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the December meeting were read and approved with the following correction. Under the section entitled "Meeting Calendar", it was noted that the specific items enumerated at the end of the first paragraph were not raised by the Hospitality Committee. The final sentence of the first paragraph was changed to read "It was noted that. . . "

As a follow-up to the minutes, it was pointed out that our initial information on the two members of a French order for women being detained at an airport in Central America was incorrect -- these nuns were not part of the Pilgrimage for Peace. However, their detention was one of the actions which alerted the members of the Pilgrimage that there would be trouble in carrying out the planned vigils.

Correspondence: A letter was read from David and Leslie Leonard, noting that they have asked that their membership be transferred from Berkeley Monthly Meeting (Vine Street) to Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting. This was forwarded to Overseers.

Other items, including a request for information on our position on sanctuary, an announcement of Lloyd and Mary Margaret Bailey as the Brinton Visitors, and an announcement of an upcoming conference of the Redwood Quaker Association on Psychology and Religion, were passed on to the appropriate committees.

Thanks were expressed for the support of the Religious Women's Pilgrimage for Peace.

Kate Buckner, who will be visiting and working in southern Mexico and Guatemala during the next six weeks, asked for a letter of introduction to Friends in the region. Friends wholeheartedly approved this, and expressed their hopes for a safe and useful journey for Kate.

Nominating Committee: The slate proposed by the Ad-Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee, as presented last month (Mary Miche, Clerk; John Bird; Amy Block), was presented again for final action. Concern was expressed that we not overburden any of our already hard working members with committee assignments. Having heard that none of the nominees

Meeting for Business
January 8, 1984

Page Two

feel they would be overburdened, the Meeting approved these names to constitute the Nominating Committee for the next year.

Transfer of Ralph Murphy's Membership:

Andrea Semons read a letter from the Clerk of Morningside Monthly Meeting in New York City expressing their belief that Ralph will be "a real addition" to Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting. All the necessary paperwork being in hand, the Meeting joyfully welcomed Ralph into membership by transfer.

Schedule of Monthly Meeting Sessions:

As requested at the December meeting, a proposed calendar for business meetings in 1984 was presented. To avoid conflict with holiday weekends and the Meeting retreat, and to allow for an August session, the following calendar for business meetings was adopted:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Sunday, February 5 | Sunday, September 9 |
| Sunday, March 4 | Sunday, October 7 |
| Sunday, April 1 | Sunday, November 4 |
| Sunday, May 13 | Sunday, December 2 |
| Sunday, June 3 | Sunday, January 6, 1985 |
| Sunday, July 1 | |
| Sunday, August 5 | |

Finance Committee: Bob Maynard reported. A letter has been received from the Finance Committee of the Yearly Meeting, soliciting our input on the outreach and contributions of the Yearly Meeting. During the course of a discussion of this matter, the following points were noted. Our Monthly Meeting policy has been to contribute only to specifically Quaker organizations or those with a special connection with the Meeting. An arbitrary amount is set, and this same sum is contributed to each organization. Some Friends expressed a desire that contributions be made only to organizations which have a specific relationship with the Yearly Meeting. While feeling that we corporately want to continue contributions, Friends were mindful that we all need to carry the support of our Quaker organizations on our own consciences. With the increase in Yearly Meeting quota payments, it was felt that smaller contributions might be easier to maintain. A number of Friends made specific comments about some of the organizations to which the Yearly Meeting contributes, but the Meeting did not feel capable of revising the entire list of Yearly Meeting contributions.

The Finance Committee was asked to write the Yearly Meeting, indicating that we have no comment on the specific contributions, but noting that we had discussed the Yearly Meeting's outreach and transmitting the comments made.

It was noted that an annual audit will be conducted in the near future, and that it is hoped that the Peace Pedalers Account can be closed out in the very near future.

Nominating Committee: Bob Maynard reported on behalf of 'the past year's Nominating Committee.

The name of Maggie Ely was presented as our Pacific Yearly Meeting Observer. As is our custom, this item will hold over for final approval in February. Questions and comments should be directed to the members of the old Nominating Committee (Dick Emmons and Bob Maynard) as that committee is responsible for this nomination.

Overseers: Andrea Semons reported. Elizabeth Perry has reported on her attendance at the consultation on membership in Richmond, Indiana, and a printed report of the consultation is also available.

In responding to the personal needs and difficulties of individuals, Overseers reminded us that we need to all listen carefully to each other, and consider how we reach out to each other as sisters and brothers. The advice of the Yearly Meeting on Mutual Care was noted, and Friends were asked to take its suggestions to heart. We need encouragement from each other. Overseers do not do all the work of personal counsel and encouragement. They call on each other and on individuals within the Meeting for assistance. Friends desirous of a listening ear were encouraged to speak to an Overseer.

Peace and Social Order Committee: Carl Anderson reported that the Committee has heard from Barbara Graves on her recent experiences with the Religious Women's Pilgrimage for Peace, and is hoping to arrange for a discussion on Central America with Friends who have recently been involved on the issues. We also heard that the East Bay Sanctuary Coalition can provide a variety of services in the nature of language lessons and odd jobs performed by Central American refugees. Contributions for these services are passed on to the refugees.

Worship and Ministry: Rachel Ann Elder reported. It was noted that meeting for worship gathered quite promptly this morning, and Friends were encouraged to keep up the good work. The possibility of a new sign for the Meeting, perhaps a banner, was mentioned, and this will be explored. A plea was made that Friends "de-activate" their electronic watches prior to meeting for worship, so that our time together is not disturbed by digital beeping.

Meeting Affinity Group: Mary Mikesell reported that three meetings have been held of individuals within the Meeting interested in forming an affinity group similar to those which have operated in conjunction with recent actions at the Lawrence Livermore Lab. The group has decided not to call themselves an affinity group, as they see themselves having broader functions than other such groups. Their functions will include participating in vigils and finding positive ways to witness for peace. The group will not meet on a regular basis, but on call as concerns arise. Friends interested in this group are invited

Meeting for Business
January 8, 1984

Page Four

to contact Mary Mikesell.

Concerns/Announcements: We heard news of a number of upcoming events, mostly on issues related to peace and social justice.

It was reported that Laura Magnani of the Vine Street Meeting is currently in Santa Rita Jail because of her participation in recent actions at the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory.

Next Meeting/Closing: Our next meeting will be Sunday, February 5, 1984 at 7:00 p.m. at "Oak Glen", 1236 Bonita in Berkeley. With thanks to Mary Miche for her hospitality, the meeting closed in worship at 8:55 p.m.

STEWARDSHIP

Sam Cox
Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
Meeting for Business
Sunday, February 5, 1984
"Oak Glen", 1236 Bonita, Berkeley
Barbara Graves, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened at 7:05 p.m. with a period of worship. Eighteen were present during the course of the evening. A number of changes were made to the prepared agenda.

Minutes: The minutes of the January meeting were approved as read. We were reminded that the Meeting at the corner of Vine and Walnut Streets prefers to be referred to as Berkeley Monthly Meeting.

PYM Observer: The nomination of Maggie Ely for this position, held over from last month for final action, was approved.

Nominating Process: Barbara Perry read extracts from a letter from Jeannette Norton, the Assistant Clerk of Pacific Yearly Meeting. The letter mentioned some of the problems involved with maintaining an accurate list of Meeting officers and Yearly Meeting Representatives and Observers, due to differences in the scheduling of nominations by Meetings within the Yearly Meeting. We were specifically asked if our Meeting would consider the possibility of making nominations at the same time as the other Meetings within the Yearly Meeting. If so, would the late spring be a convenient time for us, or is there another time during the year which would be more convenient? Since our nominating process already takes place during the spring, the Meeting did not see that a change within the Yearly Meeting to this time would present any problems for us. It was also suggested in the letter that Monthly Meeting Representatives to Yearly Meeting take up their responsibilities at the end of Yearly Meeting sessions. This would result in an Observer attending first a session of Representative Committee and then a session of Yearly Meeting prior to taking on the responsibilities of a Representative. This would also permit nominating an Observer at the same time as our regular nominations, instead of earlier in the year. The Meeting did not foresee any difficulties with this.

We were told that this matter will come up for an initial discussion at Representative Committee in March, and our Yearly Meeting representative was instructed to report that we found no conflicts with the course of action proposed in the letter from Jeannette Norton.

Finance Committee: Susan Burr reported that the annual audit is now scheduled for Sunday, February 12.

Hospitality Committee: Betty Hall reported that a welcoming for Amy Block was held at the home of Isabel Bachels on January 29. The size of Isabel's apartment limited the number invited, but it was a fine welcoming. We later heard from Mary Miche about other events planned for this spring, including a welcoming after meeting for worship on Easter Sunday, a new attenders brunch in March, and a picnic for the three Meetings in Berkeley on June 10. Marilee James King is overburdened with work at the present, and has resigned from the Hospitality Committee.

Nominating Committee: John Bird brought forward the names of Bob Maynard and Rachel Ann Elder as the Committee to Write the State of the Society Report, with Betty Hall, Recorder, serving ex-officio. These names will be acted upon at our next meeting for business.

Oversight Committee: Andrea Semons reported that a visiting committee for David and Leslie Leonard has been formed, consisting of Barbara Graves, Blair Dean, and Leonard Joy, and has met with the Leonards. Overseers expect to bring a report on the transfer of the Leonards' membership to our March meeting.

A letter has been received from the Yearly Meeting's Ministry and Oversight Committee regarding the Yearly Meeting Fund for Concerns. Among other details, it reports that \$12,000 has been expended from this Fund in support of ten separate concerns. Fourteen Monthly Meetings and 12 individuals have contributed to the Fund, with approximately two-thirds of the Fund's resources coming from six Monthly Meetings which make regular contributions. The process for seeking support relies on the Monthly Meeting, which acts as a clearness committee for the concerns brought to it by individuals, and which may seek support from the Fund.

The Fund has exhausted its monies, and we were all urged to consider making contributions to it. The Finance Committee will also consider making the Fund for Concerns a part of our annual budget.

Peace and Social Order Committee: Carl Anderson reported on recent and upcoming events. In March, Catherine Jolly will report on her experiences at the Greenham Common women's peace camp in England, and the Committee is also planning a panel discussion on Central America. Possible involvement with the AIDS Interfaith Network is part of the Committee's agenda during the next month.

Religious Education Committee: Leslie Leonard reported that the Committee's recent meeting on management of the First-Day School was felt to be successful. There are now 11 regular attenders of the Elementary age group class and nine in the Junior High class. A "stand-in" teacher is needed for the "overflow" of children, and plans are underway

for this. At its next meeting the Committee will consider splitting the elementary group into two classes.

Treasurer: Susan Burr reported on the state of our finances.

	<u>Peace Pedalers</u>	<u>Central American Refugee Relief</u>	<u>General Fund</u>
Opening Balance, 12/1/83	\$ 421.00	\$ (15.00)	\$ 670.00
Income	Ø	Ø	85.00
Expenses	<u>Ø</u>	<u>Ø</u>	<u>(932.00)</u>
Closing Balance, 1/31/84	<u>\$ 421.00</u>	<u>\$ (15.00)</u>	<u>\$ (177.00)</u>

The negative balance in the General Fund has been covered by borrowing from the Peace Pedalers Fund. Friends were reminded that the Meeting treasury is in need of funds.

In connection with the Peace Pedalers Fund, we heard that various Pedalers have been contacted, and they suggested that the monies remaining in the Fund be returned to the Yearly Meeting's Fund for Concerns. We also heard that College Park Quarterly Meeting had contributed to the Peace Pedalers Fund, and that this source of support appeared earlier than the support from the Yearly Meeting. The suggestion was made that the funds remaining be split proportionate to the amounts contributed by the Quarterly and Yearly Meetings, and returned to those two bodies. This suggestion will be made to the Pedalers, who will make the final decision. They will also be reminded that they should prepare a report on their work for our Meeting and the Quarterly and Yearly Meetings.

Worship and Ministry Committee: Rachel Ann Elder reported that work continues on obtaining a sign for our meeting place. A concern given earlier to this Committee related to the possibility of a "greeter" on Sundays. This has been discussed, and the Committee is unsure what function a greeter would serve that would not contribute further to any noise and confusion prior to meeting for worship. For the time being, the possibility will be dropped.

Retreat Committee: Joyce Samati reported that the Spring Retreat, at Ben Lomond May 4 - 6, will center on a theme related to how we, as a Meeting community, challenge and support each other in our individual spiritual growth.

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
Sunday, February 5, 1984

Page 4

FASE: John Bird announced that the first nine residents will move into their quarters in Friends House, Santa Rosa, on or about March 1. The skilled nursing facility is expected to open near the middle of March. An open house is being planned. Those Friends who have followed the growth of this project expressed the Meeting's appreciation for the dedication of those who have worked with FASE. A further report will be prepared for our newsletter.

Support Group: Mary Mikesell told us that the "affinity" group is evolving as a "support" group for concerns. A provisional report and a membership list is available.

College Park Quarterly Meeting: Larry Perry noted that there were at least a dozen Strawberries at Quarterly Meeting in January -- our Meeting seems to provide a large contingent at each meeting of the Quarter. A new directory for the Quarter is being prepared.

Annual Calendar: We were informed that an annual calendar of Meeting events was prepared and circulated in draft form to committees and officers of the Meeting. With the incorporation of the comments received from these individuals, the Meeting suggested printing the calendar in our newsletter in June, at the start of the Meeting's new year.

Other Announcements/Concerns: We heard that Berkeley Monthly Meeting has appointed two pastoral visitors for Santa Rita Jail. Since it is anticipated that arrests of Friends for acts of civil disobedience at the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory will continue, Larry Perry will bring a suggestion to our March meeting for possible Meeting action.

Our Meeting's geographical limits continue to grow. Susan Burr, Michael Hartman, and little Alexander will move to their new/old home in Crockett in mid-February.

The AFSC Annual Meeting on March 10 was announced, and the plea was made that committee meetings be announced in the newsletter.

Closing: Our next meeting for business will be held Sunday, March 4 at the home of Harvey and Ruth Smith, 18 Sunset Drive (just off Arlington) in Kensington, where Mary Mikesell will be house-sitting. Complete directions will appear in the newsletter, and it was suggested that Friends carpool, as parking is limited.

With thanks to our hosts at "Oak Glen", the meeting closed in worship at 8:40 p.m.

Sam Cox
Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
Meeting for Business
Sunday, March 4, 1984
18 Sunset Drive, Kensington
Barbara Graves, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of worship at 7:00 p.m. Sixteen were present during the course of the evening. A few changes were made to the prepared agenda.

Minutes: The minutes of the February meeting were read and approved.

Correspondence: The Clerk read portions of a letter from Paul Jolly, who is enjoying his life at Scattergood School. Speaking of the Peace Pedalers Fund, he indicated some uncertainty as to whether the monies should be returned to the Yearly Meeting's Fund for Concerns or retained by the Pedalers while Paul writes a book on their journey. He will confer with the other Pedalers on this matter.

Paul also enclosed copies of his recent correspondence with federal officials regarding his status as a non-registrant with the Selective Service System. Although no specific actions against Paul seem to be in the works at this time, it was suggested that the Meeting write him a letter expressing our interest in the situation, asking to be kept in contact, and offering to be of service. This was approved.

The packet from Paul also included a copy of a narrative report on the Peace Pedalers and their journey. This material will be provided to the newsletter editor for use at his discretion in our newsletter, and sent on to the Quarterly and Yearly Meetings. The report and the correspondence regarding Paul's status as a non-registrant were both passed on to the Peace and Social Order Committee.

Appointment of Committee to Write State of Society Report: The names of Bob Maynard and Rachel Ann Elder were approved for this committee.

Finance Committee: Bob Maynard reported that the committee met on February 12 and audited the Meeting's books for the prior fiscal year. The books were found to be in excellent order, and the Treasurer was commended for her care in this regard. The committee also discussed how to further emphasize the need for contributions to the Meeting's funds.

Hospitality Committee: Mary Miche reported on upcoming activities, all of which have appeared in our newsletter.

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
March 4, 1984

Page Two

Oversight Committee: Andrea Semons reported that the committee recommends accepting the transfer of David and Leslie Leonard's membership from Berkeley Monthly Meeting. Barbara Graves reported for the Leonards' visiting committee, which approached its work seriously and had a spirited meeting with David and Leslie. Leslie's background is not exclusively Quaker (she was raised a Congregationalist), while David has hardly ever lived outside Quaker circles and areas of concern. They each find Strawberry Creek Meeting a spiritual home, and feel especially at home in our meeting for worship. Three of their children will be retaining junior membership in Berkeley Monthly Meeting, making a transition to Strawberry Creek if and when they feel a need to do so. As is our custom, final action on this item was held over until the April meeting for business.

A letter has been received from Susan Burr, requesting a transfer of her membership from Bloomington Monthly Meeting, Indiana, and a visiting committee is being formed. A letter has been received from Jean McCandless, requesting transfer of her membership from 57th Street Monthly Meeting in Chicago, and junior membership for Susanna and Jonathan. This letter and the appointment of a visiting committee will be considered by Overseers at their next meeting.

The Oversight and Hospitality Committees have discussed the whole concept of "new attenders' brunches" in light of the one originally planned for March 18. These are seen not so much as social occasions, but rather as times when several attenders who have become seriously interested in the life and work of the Society of Friends may have an opportunity to meet with a few Friends over a meal and engage in fruitful conversation. It was not felt that a new attenders' brunch was really needed this month, so Oversight has accepted responsibility for a small mealtime gathering of those who, by benefit of chronologic age or number of years in the Society of Friends, might be seen as Quaker "old-timers". The hope is to provide an atmosphere for reflection on what it means to be a Friend.

A letter has been received from Jim Navarro and Lauren Crutcher, asking to be married under the care of the Meeting. The Clearness Committee will include Andrea Semons, Jim Barnard, and Lynne Bird. Because of the young couple's ties with other Friends in the area, Bob and Connie Jolly from Berkeley Monthly Meeting and Doug Gwyn from the Berkeley Friends Church will also serve on the Clearness Committee.

We heard that Isabel Bachels had a successful hip replacement recently, and is now at home, walking with the aid of a walker. She appreciates cards.

Peace and Social Order Committee: Carl Anderson reported on a number of recent and upcoming events.

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
March 4, 1984

Page Three

The committee is considering inviting a speaker from the AIDS Interfaith Network to give an evening presentation in May. Those interested should contact Barb Tittle.

Kate Buckner reported on activities related to Central American concerns. We heard that a number of refugees plan to march from San Jose to San Francisco in late March; this is an act of courage on their part, as they are all technically "illegal" aliens in this country. As always, there are a great many needs within Central America.

Religious Education Committee: Leslie Leonard reported that the committee has decided to keep the extra teacher for the "overflow" of children, and will consider the possibility of two elementary age classes again next year. The committee has discussed junior membership and will make a report to Overseers. A camp-out is planned for June. A Friends expressed our appreciation for all the work done with our children.

Retreat Committee: Joyce Samati reported on the tentative fee schedule for the Spring Retreat, which is very reasonable. More details, and registration forms, are forthcoming.

Worship and Ministry Committee: Rachel Ann Elder reported that, among other items, the committee is trying to set up adult discussion groups.

Yearly Meeting Representative: Kate Buckner reported on the March 3 session of the Yearly Meeting's Representative Committee. Yearly Meeting will be held July 8 - 14 at La Honda on the San Francisco Peninsula. The setting will be quite different from recent sites, and a number of changes have been made in the schedule to accommodate these differences. All are encouraged to attend, as it is, in the words of one Friend, a "stimulating experience". Because of the proximity of the site, it is possible to attend for a day if one is unable to make it for the entire week.

Among other reports, the Representatives heard that negotiations are underway to store the Yearly Meeting's archives in the Whittier College Library, and that local meetings will be encouraged, and given advice on how to have their archives stored there as well.

With regards to the changes in the nominating process within the meetings of the Yearly Meeting, we heard that it is planned that the new procedure, with all local nominations being approved in the spring, take effect in 1985.

Concerns and Announcements: We heard that AB-1, which guarantees job protection for lesbians and gay men, is before the Governor for his signature. As conservative religious groups have been flooding the Governor's office with requests that he veto the bill, we were encouraged to make our

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
March 4, 1984

Page Four

religious concern known to the Governor, via letter, postcard, or telephone.

Kate Buckner returned the letter of introduction given to her, with endorsements and greetings from Mexico City and Guatemala City Meetings.

A concern was raised that the Meeting be aware of the situations of those members who are currently inactive, and that Overseers contact inactive members and those members who are geographically remote from the Meeting. Membership involves a certain responsibility for the life and work of the Meeting.

We heard from a number of Friends on the recent series of talks given by Lewis Benson at the Friends Church. Some remarked that they had been challenged by the relationship of our early Friends to Christ. Do we lack the compelling dynamic they had because we have lost their message? Early Friends saw their movement as "primitive Christianity revived", and themselves in the same kind of master/disciple relationship as the early Christians.

Friends were reminded that the Meeting library contains quite a few books and pamphlets dealing with the life and message of early Friends. It is hoped to soon have a way to display more of the materials at the meetingplace we use.

We heard that a meeting for worship and farewell party will be held later this week for Maude Powell, active in the work of Berkeley Monthly Meeting for many years. Maude will soon be moving into Friends House, Santa Rosa.

Next Meeting/Closing: Our next meeting for business will be held Sunday, April 1, 1984 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Maggie Ely on Colby Street in Berkeley.

With thanks to Mary Mikesell for her hospitality, the meeting closed in worship at 8:40 p.m., mindful of the eternal Presence ever available in our sphere of time.

Sam Cox
Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
Meeting for Business
Sunday, April 1, 1984
At the home of Maggie Ely,
3032 Colby Street, Berkeley
Barbara Graves, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of worship at 7:00 p.m. Twenty-three were present during the course of the meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the March meeting were read and approved with one emendation. It was suggested that the sentence on the membership of the younger members of the Leonard family be changed to read: "Their children will be retaining junior membership in Berkeley Monthly Meeting, perhaps transferring to Strawberry Creek at a later date."

Correspondence: The Clerk read four letters received recently. The first, from Chris Hogness, was an application for membership. Chris speaks of arriving at a point in his life where he recognizes that neither an individual nor a Meeting is perfect, and that membership is a commitment to continue striving for perfection. This letter was referred to Overseers.

The second letter was from Eleanor Warnock, requesting a transfer of her membership to Beacon Hill Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts. Eleanor spoke of Beacon Hill as a young Meeting with deep periods of worship, a strong social conscience, and an open, non-traditional Christian emphasis. The transfer of her membership was approved, and Betty Hall will write a letter of affectionate greetings to Eleanor.

The third letter, from Sam Cox, requested a letter of introduction to Friends in Europe, where he will be travelling this summer. Barbara Graves and Kate Buckner will prepare such an introduction.

Finally, portions of a letter were read from John deValcourt of the Ben Lomond Quaker Center, regarding ways in which the relationship between the Meetings of the Quarter and Quaker Center may be strengthened. Among other methods of service, there is a need for volunteer labor.

Hospitality: Mary Miche reminded us of the two events planned for the near future: a welcoming for new members on April 22 and a picnic on June 10. She also read a sample "Certificate of Welcoming" for newborns, adapted from a certificate in use at Pacific Yearly Meeting, and noted that such certificates are ready for all of this past year's crew of new Meeting youngsters and may be signed by those interested.

Nominating: Mary Miche presented the initial report of this committee, a copy of which is attached to the file copy of these minutes. Friends were particularly reminded of the process we will follow at this point. Those with questions

Meeting for Business
April 1, 1984

-2-

or concerns about a nomination are to speak with a member of the committee (Mary Mische, Clerk; Amy Block; John Bird) prior to our next meeting for business on May 13. As the nominees do not know the sequence of considerations, reasoning, careful thought and adjustments gone through to prepare the slate, it is thought inappropriate to speak directly to them.

It was noted that there are two positions still to be filled -- one on Overseers, and one as the FCL/FCNL Representative. The Nominating Committee has found itself in a quandry over the vacant position on Overseers. While they do not wish to have to transfer Friends from positions in which they are or may be serving, they have been unable to come up with others willing to serve in the vacant slots. Friends with suggestions were asked to contact the Nominating Committee soon. We hope the committee will have resolved its quandry by May 13.

A further question was raised regarding the terms of any appointed to fill out another's term of service. It was noted that these appointments are considered to be for the original term. For example, in an Overseer were to resign at the end of the first year of a two year term, the person appointed in his or her place would have only one year to serve, and any future appointments would be for a new term of two years.

With great appreciation to the committee for the work they have done and are doing in this demanding job, the Meeting held the proposed slate over for final action in May.

Overseers: Andrea Semons reported that a visiting committee of Jane Rubin, David Leonard and herself has met with Jean McCandless on her request for a transfer of her membership and junior membership for Susanna and Jonathan. They hope to bring a report to us next month.

The Marriage Committee for Lauren Crutcher and Jim Navarro has met, and recommends that their proposed marriage be allowed under the care of the Meeting. We heard that the committee had a good exploration with the couple of the issues involved in a marital relationship. Jim and Lauren had already made good use of a book put out by New England Yearly Meeting, Living With Onself And Others, and Overseers have several copies they are willing to loan out. This proposed marriage will come before us for final action in May; the couple is tentatively looking towards a date in mid- to late-summer for the wedding.

We heard that Marc Lambert's father has recently had major surgery and is now undergoing chemotherapy. Prospects are not good, and we were asked to keep the Lamberts in our prayers. Friends were also asked to hold Ann Combs in the Light.

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson reported on the successful and informative evening on Central

America held this past month, at which we heard reports from Kate Buckner, Barbara Graves and Chris Hogness of their travels in and concerns about the region. We were informed that the Immigration and Naturalization Service has changed its procedures for Salvadorean and Guatemalan refugees, who are now being moved quickly from the Bay Area to Florence, Arizona, where it is much harder to get necessary legal services to them. A wide variety of needs continues within the Bay Area, and those interested in working on an issue may contact the East Bay Sanctuary Coalition office at 540-5296. Finally, we heard that the refugees' march from San Jose to San Francisco was a gallant success.

Religious Education: We heard that Jean McCandless has a terrible case of poison oak, but that otherwise our work continues unabated. Several lessons from the Junior High curriculum entitled "Scriptures B. C." are missing, and Friends were urged to see if they might be hiding at the bottom of a stack of papers in any of our homes.

Retreat: Joyce Samati reported that registration forms are out -- the cut-off date for registration is Sunday, April 22. The theme is "How do we support and challenge each other in our spiritual lives?", and the weekend promises to be a stimulating one.

Treasurer: Susan Burr reported on the state of our finances.

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Peace Pedalers</u>	<u>CA Refugee Fund</u>
Opening Balance 2/1/84	\$ (177.62)	\$ 421.35	\$ (15.00)
Income	1,262.55	Ø	Ø
Expenses	<u>(540.37)</u>	<u>(421.35)</u>	<u>Ø</u>
Closing Balance 3/31/84	<u>\$ 544.56</u>	<u>\$ Ø</u>	<u>\$ (15.00)</u>

It was noted that the funds remaining in the Peace Pedalers account have been remitted to the Yearly Meeting's Fund for Concerns, at the request of the Pedalers. Friends appear to have been responsive to our financial needs, and we are happily and clearly in the black again.

The Treasurer also noted that the Finance Committee had done a careful job on the annual audit. They chose a representative month and examined it thoroughly.

Worship and Ministry: Chris McCandless reported. In keeping with the spirit of the day (April Fool's), the report was somewhat tongue-in-cheek, eliciting appreciative remarks from those present. We heard that the committee is considering a simple sign (not of the neon variety) to advertise

Meeting for Business
April 1, 1984

-4-

our presence at the GTU. It will be easy to affix and remove on Sundays, and will carry our name and the time of worship. Those with comments may contact either Leonard Joy or Chris McCandless.

The committee has been thankful for the quality of our corporate worship, although a proposal to tape and sell our "deepest silences" has proved unworkable! There is a continuing concern for latecomers. Although the committee cannot follow-through on a proposal to provide "wake-up calls" on Sunday mornings, we are all encouraged to take more care in the matter of promptness.

The committee is aware of some feelings within the Meeting on the reading of the queries in meeting for worship on the first Sunday of every month. To some, the reading can have meaning and help focus their thoughts. Others are unsympathetic with the prepared nature of the readings. Comments may be given to the committee.

Finally, Friends were again reminded that modern watches with their "high tech" beeping sounds are a source of irritation to some, and we were asked to have a care for the sensitivities of our sisters and brothers.

State of the Society Report: Bob Maynard read the initial draft of this report, which will be copied and made available for our persual during the next month. Comments may be given to either Bob or Rachel Ann Elder.

Other Business: A number of announcements were made of upcoming events at the Livermore Laboratory and on war tax resistance. Larry Perry has registration forms for College Park Quarterly Meeting, to be held at Ben Lomond the weekend of May 19 - 20; the registration deadline is May 12. A sign-up sheet was circulated for Friends interested in purchasing a copy of the new Quarterly Meeting directory, available in May. The process for purchasing has changed -- purchasers will make their payments (\$2.75 per copy) to the Meeting, which will buy copies in bulk from the Quarter. Friends who wish to obtain copies may speak with either Betty Hall or Susan Burr.

We heard of an on-going concern and new developments on Israeli settlements in the occupied territories. This will be further seasoned through the Peace and Social Order Committee.

A concern was raised by one Friend that our present method of breaking worship, with all present giving their names and any short announcements, seems overly long. This was referred to Worship and Ministry for further consideration, and will be brought back to the Meeting at a later date.

Birthday greetings for Isabel Bachels are being sent to her on the back of her copy of this month's Meeting newsletter.

Meeting for Business
April 1, 1984

-5-

A concern for prison visiting was raised in this Meeting a few months ago, and the following statement was presented for our consideration at this time:

In past years several attenders of Strawberry Creek Meeting have been incarcerated at Santa Rita Jail for civil disobedience related to peace witness. Prison visiting is presently possible only for individuals who have been sentenced, and for them only from 11 to 3 on Sundays. Visiting by legal counsel and by designated, recognized and approved pastors is possible at other times. For this, prior approval must be made through the chaplain's office at the jail. Berkeley Meeting has designated two pastors in this manner.

Since Friends may be in jail again, we recommend that Overseers be asked to approve appropriate persons who feel called to this ministry. We encourage such persons to volunteer themselves.

In the course of discussion, a number of issues emerged. First is the question of who we will be visiting. Some Friends felt a need for our involvement in general prison visiting, not just to Friends. We were reminded of the services of Friends Outside in this connection. The other issues centered around process questions. Of the committees of the Meeting, the Peace and Social Order Committee might perhaps be expected to serve in an "alerting" role, hearing about Friends in jail and bringing their needs to our attention. A Friend expressed his opinion that members of the Worship and Ministry Committee seemed the appropriate representatives to be designated as "ministers" and/or "pastors" for civil law purposes. Others suggested that, since we are all ministers, those who are moved to visit should contact Overseers and begin the process of becoming a designated pastoral visitor, which includes a background check through the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The matter was laid over for a month's consideration. Those with comments should address them to the Oversight Committee.

Next Meeting/Closing: With thanks to Maggie Ely for her hospitality, the meeting concluded with a period of worship at 8:55 p.m., to meet again Sunday, May 13 at 7:00 p.m., tentatively at Oak Glen, 1236 Bonita, Berkeley.

Sam Cox
Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
Special Meeting for Business
Sunday, April 8, 1984
GTU, 2465 Le Conte, Berkeley
Barbara Graves, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of worship at 11:10 a.m.
Twenty were present.

The Clerk noted that, through an inadvertent oversight, an important item of business had not been handled at our regular meeting for business on Sunday, April 1. This was final action on the transfer of David and Leslie Leonard's membership from Berkeley Monthly Meeting to Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting. Friends wholeheartedly approved of this transfer.

The Clerk also announced that a request for membership in our Meeting has been received from Chris McCandless, and she will be passing this on to Overseers.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded with a period of worship at 11:20 a.m.

Sam Cox
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
Sunday, May 13, 1984
At the home of Rachel Ann Elder,
800 Hilldale, Berkeley
Barbara Graves, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of worship at 7:02 p.m. Twenty-three individuals were present during the course of the evening. The agenda was accepted as prepared.

Minutes: The minutes of the regular meeting for business held April 1, 1984 and the special meeting for business held April 8, 1984 were accepted as read.

Correspondence: The Clerk read a letter from Jane Timberlake. Over the years she has felt at one with Friends. Feeling a need for a spiritual community, she is now applying for membership in our Society. This letter was referred to Overseers.

The Clerk also read the letter of introduction prepared for Sam Cox, and this was approved.

State of the Society Report: Bob Maynard read the revised report, which incorporates suggestions received since our last meeting for business. Friends commented on the excellence of the report, which reflects both the joys and the difficulties of our growth over the past year. The report was approved, and a copy is attached to these minutes.

Nominating Committee: Mary Miche read the slate prepared for 1984 - 1985, incorporating a number of changes from the copy which had been circulated in the newsletter. The slate was approved, including the names first presented this evening, and a copy is attached to these minutes. New officers and committees will assume their responsibilities June 1.

The Committee noted that it had not been able to fill the vacant position on Oversight. A nomination for this vacancy will not, in all probability, be able to be brought forward until the fall. In the meantime, Friends approved asking Larry Perry to continue to serve on Oversight, as an "interim Overseer".

A concern about our process was raised. It has been our custom that members of the Nominating Committee do not nominate themselves for positions within the Meeting. The hope was expressed that we would all be able to be nominated.

The Committee was thanked for its hard work. We look forward to further reports from them.

Overseers: Andrea Semons reported. The marriage of Lauren Crutcher and Jim Navarro, coming before us for final approval, was accepted under our care. Barbara Perry and Kathy Barnhart will serve as an Arrangements Committee for the wedding.

A visiting committee of Jane Rubin, David Leonard and Andrea Semons met with Jean and Susanna McCandless concerning the transfer of membership for Jean and the request for junior membership for Susanna and Jonathan McCandless. Both Jean and Susanna were lively participants in the gathering. Born into 57th Street Monthly Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, Jean has spent her most recent years here in the West, where both Susanna and Jonathan have been raised. During the past few years the McCandless family has been active in the Meeting, with Jean devoting her imagination, skill and energy to the work of the Religious Education Committee. The visiting committee and Overseers heartily recommend accepting Jean into membership in the Meeting, by transfer and accepting Susanna and Jonathan into junior membership. (A letter of transfer has been received from 57th Street Monthly Meeting for Jean.) As is our custom, this matter will be held over for final action next month.

Overseers would be glad to hear from those who might be interested in travelling to other locations within the geographical limits of our Monthly Meeting to hold meetings for worship. Currently, interest has been expressed in holding meetings on occasion at Isobel Bachel's apartment at St. Paul's Towers, Oakland, and at the home of Bill and Cornelia Cooper in Martinez. Such meetings will, no doubt, also be coordinated with the Worship and Ministry Committee. The site and those being visited for worship will, of course, dictate the size of any such meetings.

We heard that a report from the conference on membership held in Richmond, Indiana last December, which Elizabeth Perry attended, has been placed in the Meeting library. Marc Lambert's father continues to further progress toward a measure of health, and Marc and Mary Louise have adopted a four year old hearing impaired girl.

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson reported. The Committee will be sponsoring an evening with a representative from the AIDS Interfaith Network on Friday, June 8 at 7:30 p.m. at the home of John McCarthy and Kathy Barnhart. We also heard reports on other recent and upcoming events. The Committee is investigating the possibility of Meeting sponsorship of a dinner with the Berkeley Emergency Food Project, probably around Thanksgiving.

The Committee has heard a request from Carl Anderson, asking that the Meeting contact Pacific Yearly Meeting suggesting that Carl conduct a workshop on "testifying against nuclear war". (The Yearly Meeting has asked that requests for workshops and interest groups grow out of Friends' bodies.) The Meeting approved writing the Yearly Meeting, suggesting that Carl's expertise in this area be utilized, if not this year, at some point in the near future.

Berkeley City Measure E: Betty Hall presented a proposal that the Meeting endorse passage of Measure E on the Berkeley City ballot in the June elections. The proposal included the text of a minute approved by Pacific Yearly Meeting last summer on Israeli settlements in the territories occupied

by Israel after the 1967 Middle East war. Measure E calls for the Mayor of the City of Berkeley to communicate with various United States officials asking that the United States reduce aid to Israel by an amount equal to what it determines to be the most accurate approximation of what Israel spends annually on its settlements in the occupied territories. It was proposed that the Meeting approve the text of the Yearly Meeting's minute, state our support for Measure E, and circulate our statement to other religious bodies within the community.

Some discomfort was expressed with the method proposed by Measure E, and some Friends expressed discomfort with the Meeting approving a ballot item on the city's ballot. After some discussion, the Meeting endorsed the statement approved by the Yearly Meeting last fall, and suggested that this statement be circulated within the religious community.

East Bay Sanctuary Coalition: Kate Buckner reported that 19 churches have joined the Coalition and that a number of others are considering joining. Contributions and assistance are needed for the Coalition's work, particularly for the new house for refugees in San Francisco. Friends interested may contact Kate.

Religious Education: We heard that First-day School will meet for its final session of the year on the first Sunday in June. A camp-out the second weekend will be followed by a summer program. Volunteers are always welcome. A questionnaire for both children and adults will be appearing in an upcoming issue of the Meeting newsletter.

Retreat: Joyce Samati reported that the spring retreat was rich and deep. Seventeen adults and six children were able to participate in what was called both a supportive and challenging environment.

Treasurer: Michael Hartman reported for Susan Burr.

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Refugee Relief</u>
Opening Balance, 4/1	\$ 544.56	\$ (15.00)
Income	1,041.50	279.00
Expenses	<u>(396.28)</u>	<u>(269.00)</u>
Closing Balance, 4/30	<u>\$1,189.78</u>	<u>\$ (5.00)</u>

This report was accepted.

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting For Business
Sunday, May 13, 1984

Page Four

Worship and Ministry: Rachel Ann Elder reported. In considering the question of prison visitors, the Committee is also thinking about the need for hospital visitors.

The Committee has considered our practice of having all present introduce themselves at the end of Meeting for Worship on Sundays. An informal poll favored continuing the practice; about half of the respondents were specific in their reasons, reminding us of how important this practice is for both "old-timers" and "newcomers".

Help in setting-up and replacing chairs and tables on Sundays in the room we use for worship has not been forthcoming, and the Committee is concerned that this not be a burden for Kate Buckner, who has faithfully performed this task for some time. It was suggested that a calendar be prepared and Friends asked to take on the job for a month at a time. The work involves arriving about 9:45 a.m., setting up the room for worship, putting out the bulletin board, guest book and welcome leaflets, and then replacing the materials, chairs and tables following meeting.

One of the discussion groups fostered by the Committee has continued to meet on a semi-monthly basis with deepening searching.

Concerns and Announcements: The Friends Church on Sacramento Street is planning their annual Quaker Heritage Day again this year. They have invited us to name a participant in the Planning Committee, and Bob Maynard volunteered to serve. Friends commented on the usefulness of this day in the past, and how important our continuing support of this activity is.

College Park Quarterly Meeting will be held next weekend at Ben Lomond. We also heard that the welcoming for Ralph Murphy and David and Leslie Leonard on Sunday, April 22 was a success. We look forward to a successful picnic on Sunday, June 10 after meeting for worship, which will be held at Lake Temescal. Betty Hall is coordinating this event, which will include the three Berkeley meetings and possibly Hayward Meeting.

Friends marveled at the continuing growth of our library. Rachel Ann Elder and Sam Cox will catalog it and make the catalog available.

In accordance with the instructions of Ann Combs, who passed from this world to the next on May 4, there will be no memorial service in her memory. She suggested that contributions be made to the Meeting.

Next Meeting/Closing: Our next meeting for business, on June 3, 1984, will be held at the home of Mary Mikesell, 18 Sunset Drive, Kensington. With thanks to Rachel Ann Elder for her hospitality, the meeting closed at 9:00 p.m. with a period of worship.

Sam Cox
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
Sunday, June 3, 1984

*At the home of Lynne and John Bird,
5839 Clover Drive, Oakland
Barbara Graves, Clerk, Presiding*

The meeting opened in worship at 7:05 p.m. Sixteen Friends were present during the course of the evening.

Minutes: The minutes of the May meeting were approved with the following correction: Larry Perry was not approved as a "interim overseer" at the May meeting, only proposed; the matter was laid over for action at this meeting.

Clerk's Correspondence: The Clerk read letters from Joyce Samati, requesting membership; and from Charles and Susan Kepner, requesting transfer of their memberships to Strawberry Creek from Third Haven Monthly Meeting in Easton, Maryland. Also read was a letter from Jane K. Caldwell, Clerk of Third Haven Meeting, expressing appreciation for the Kepners' contributions to their meeting. These three letters were referred to the Overseers.

The Clerk also read a letter from Bob Vogel, Clerk of Pacific Yearly Meeting, in regard to Propositions 16 and 17, concerning bond expenditures for prisons and jails, on the June 6 ballot.

Nominating Committee: Amy Block reported, suggesting the name of Susan Kepner as an addition to the Hospitality Committee. The Meeting will act on this nomination at the July meeting.

Hospitality Committee: Betty Hall reported, reminding us of a picnic to be held with other Friends Meetings in the area, on June 10, after the rise of meeting, at Lake Temescal.

The Hospitality Committee will be sponsoring ongoing opportunities for visits to new mothers, older Friends, and others; anyone interested in making such visits may see Betty.

Religious Education Committee: Jean McCandless reported. The outgoing and incoming Religious Education Committees met on May 10 to evaluate the past year and plan the new. There is much continuity on the committee; at least half of its members served last year and the year before. Thirty-six different teachers participated during the past year, serving approximately fifty different children. The greatly fluctuating number of children present each Sunday has caused some difficulty, but now, with backup teachers, things are settling down. The Committee solicits responses to its questionnaire on the First Day School.

Several times, at the request of Overseers, junior membership issues have been discussed; details of the results of these talks are in the May Newsletter.

Committee members plan to meet on June 12 to consider which curriculum materials to purchase for next year, and wished to ascertain how much money they had available to spend. They expect the materials to cost more than last year, and more than what remains to them in their budget for this fiscal year. The meeting

approved amending the 1983-84 budget to permit the Religious Education Committee to spend up to one hundred additional dollars for curriculum materials for next year, if needed. The committee will know by next monthly meeting how much was required.

Friends commented that it was encouraging to see so many children attending First Day School.

The Religious Education Committee was pleased to report that Fam Choy, who has provided outstanding service in our infant care program, will continue during the summer and next year. The committee is soliciting contributions for a cash gift of appreciation to her, and the Meeting approved the writing of a letter of thanks for her hard work and dedication.

A Friend made reference to the request made at the the rise of meeting for worship that day for contributions to the gift, expressing discomfort with the solicitation of cash at meeting. After a lengthy discussion of salaries, bonuses, methods of solicitation, emergencies, and spontaneity, the Meeting agreed to encourage the Religious Education Committee to communicate the appreciation of the Meeting to our child care worker in the form of a letter and gift, and to examine the service of the Meeting's child care worker as part of a general annual review. If a similar non-emergency situation arises again, the Meeting suggested that the committee come through Meeting for Business first if it is convenient to do so.

Worship and Ministry: Rachel Ann Elder reported. The committee continues to discuss prison visitors, a sign for the Meeting's place of worship, and prompt attendance. The outgoing and incoming Worship and Ministry Committees will hold a joint potluck at Bob Maynard's on June 13.

The Kepners will be preparing the meeting room for worship and restoring it to its original state each Sunday in June. As there was some question about our contact with GTU and how the room is to be left, Friends suggested that the committee prepare a set of guidelines for those responsible for this task.

Overseers: Andrea Semons reported. The Meeting heartily approved the transfer of Jean McCandless, and the request for junior membership for Susanna McCandless and Jonathan McCandless.

A visiting committee of Carl Anderson, Bill Cooper, and Kate Buckner met with Susan Burr on April 25 to discuss her proposed transfer from Bloomington Monthly Meeting in Indiana. A membership committee composed of Sam Cox, Barbara Graves, and Michael Hartman met with Chris Hogness on April 24, concerning his desire to become a member by conviction. Chris McCandless has also applied for membership by conviction, and a committee of Dick Emmons, Leslie Leonard, and Larry Perry met with him on May 24 to discuss this.

On the advice of these three committees, the Overseers heartily recommend that the Meeting accept Susan Burr, Chris Hogness and Chris McCandless into membership. As is our custom, these matters will be held over for final action at our next monthly meeting.

Mary Mikesell has convened a committee to discuss with Charles and Susan Kepner their request for transfer, and Andrea Semons will be the convenor of a committee

to consider with Jane Timberlake her wish to become a member by convincement.

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson reported on various events planned for June. He noted a letter from Michael Turner and other Friends in Santa Cruz encouraging a Friends' presence at Vandenburg Air Force Base, and reported the news that the Immigration and Naturalization Service is now requiring \$500 bail instead of \$3000.

Other Business: The suggestion of Larry Perry as an interim overseer, proposed last month, was approved.

Concerns and Announcements: Michael Hartman reported on College Park Quarterly Meeting, and on the Quarter's need for greater participation and input from Friends into the associations within the Quarter which have responsibility for John Woolman School, FASE, and Quaker Center.

Larry Perry and Barbara Graves reported briefly on their recent visits in the East.

A Friend expressed the concern that the Nominating Committee might have some difficulties carrying out its duties in the absence of its clerk, who will be away for three months. The overseers will consider the situation with the committee's remaining members, who will continue their work.

Leslie Leonard offered the use of her home for our next monthly meeting, which will be held on Sunday, July 1. There was some unclarity about whether the Meeting plans to hold an August monthly meeting or not; the minutes will be consulted.

Rachel Ann Elder reported that Mary Margaret Bailey had sent a note of thanks to the meeting for the Brinton Visitors' potluck.

With thanks to our host and hostess, the meeting closed with a period of worship at 9:08 p.m.

Jane Wolff
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
Sunday, July 1, 1984

*At the home of Leslie and David Leonard,
1309 Ordway, Berkeley
Barbara Graves, Clerk, Presiding*

The meeting opened in worship at 7:02 p.m. There were sixteen Friends present during the course of the evening.

Minutes: The minutes of the June meeting were approved with the correction noted that Mary Miche, Clerk of Nominating Committee, will be away until October, not for three months.

Clerk's Correspondence: The Clerk read a letter from Paul Jolly concerning his forthcoming marriage, to take place August 4; his refusal to register for the draft; and the Peace Pedallers' Fund. The Fund requires no action on the Meeting's part.

Hospitality Committee: Leslie Leonard reported on the picnic held on June 10 in conjunction with Hayward Friends Meeting, Berkeley Friends Meeting, and Berkeley Friends Church. About eighty Friends attended. The farewell potluck dinner for Jane Rubin, held last Sunday at the Birds', was also well-attended. The Committee is planning an event to mark the departure of the McCandless family.

Overseers: Andrea Semons reported. The Committee expresses its thanks to Kathy Barnhart, Amy Block, and Barbara Borner for preparing the Meeting's memorial minute for Ann Combs.

Susan Burr's letter of transfer from Bloomington Monthly Meeting has arrived, and the Meeting heartily approved her application for membership by transfer, and those of Chris Hogness and Chris McCandless by conviction. Chris McCandless briefly explained his lifelong association with the Society of Friends, and his "reconvincement."

Betty Hall reported that a membership committee composed of herself, Mary Mikesell, and Bob Maynard has met with Charles and Susan Kepner concerning their wish to transfer their memberships from Third Haven Monthly Meeting in Easton, Maryland, and recommends that the Meeting approve these transfers. This matter will be held over for final action at the August meeting.

The Clerk of Overseers has spoken with Amy Block and John Bird, and reports that they will continue to function as the Nominating Committee without the appointment of another member to replace Mary Miche. Amy will act as the contact person.

Betty Hall will be discussing the Meeting's Final Affairs forms after Meeting for Worship on July 22.

In order for Friends to know one another better and develop deeper friendships, the Overseers proposed for the Meeting's consideration a plan to meet in groups of six in our homes on Sunday evenings. Details of the "Friendly 6's" idea are in the Newsletter. The Meeting is asked to consider this proposal and act on it

at the September Meeting for Business.

Nominating Committee: Amy Block reported, nominating Chris Hogness as an Overseer. This will be held over for final action next month.

The Meeting approved the nomination of Susan Kepner to the Hospitality Committee.

Peace and Social Order: In lieu of a formal committee report, Kate Buckner and Becky Rodd spoke on the issue of sanctuary for Central American refugees. The need grows daily, not only for actual places of sanctuary, but for food, automobiles, money for bail and defense funds, and expressions of concerns to our elected officials. The Meeting encouraged Kate and Becky to identify a concern we can support, and to inform us of specific things we can do.

Religious Education Committee: Chris McCandless gave a brief report for Jean. The Committee has made a decision on curriculum materials for the coming year, and still welcomes responses to its questionnaire on the First Day School.

Treasurer: Susan Burr gave her bimonthly report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. Income from the spring retreat exceeded expenses by \$41.24, and thanks was expressed to the Retreat Committee for the ease with which it was handled. Now that eight of twelve months of our fiscal year have passed, Susan reviewed the funds remaining in the various items of the Meeting's budget. They are:

Newsletter	\$313
Hospitality	25
Oversight	40
Peace and Social Order	200
Religious Education	150
Worship and Ministry	169
Scholarship Fund	200

A question was raised concerning the administration of the Central American Refugee Relief Fund, and it was determined that the Meeting as a whole administers the fund, while the Peace and Social Order Committee may make recommendations on its use.

Susan noted that, while the University Christian Church pays for half of our child care expenses, they rarely use the service.

Worship and Ministry: Chris McCandless reported, noting that the potluck joint meeting of the new and old Worship and Ministry Committees had been a success. He expressed the Committee's thanks to Rachel Ann Elder for demonstrating her sense of good order in clerking, for keeping the Committee abreast of its responsibilities, and for setting a tone in its meetings that encouraged deep spirituality.

The Committee has been discussing, and will continue to focus on in its next two meetings, the Adult Education Program for next year, and solicits suggestions on appropriate and useful content. Worship and Ministry has been encouraging small discussion groups, and wants to continue to do what it can to bring Friends together.

Recorder: Betty Hall, Recorder, explained the records the Meeting maintains on

individual members and attenders. She will bring her files of Membership Record forms and Final Affairs forms to her presentation after Meeting for Worship on July 22, and there will be Overseers present to discuss the stickier questions with members and attenders who wish to complete or amend their Final Affairs forms. A Friends suggested that it might be advisable for the Clerk or the Overseers to read through these forms periodically, to ensure that they are current and that the individual's intent is understood.

Betty noted some statistics she had compiled in the process of preparing her annual report to Pacific Yearly Meeting. As of May 31, 1984, there were forty members of Strawberry Creek Meeting; the year ending on that date was the first in the Meeting's history in which there were no new members by convincement. There are eleven regular attenders who are members of other meetings.

Concerns and Announcements: Barbara Graves encouraged Friends to participate in the Peace Vigil at Vandenburg Air Force Base, which continues through August 18.

Andrea Semons noted that the Aids Interfaith Network continues its work, and urged us to keep their concerns in mind.

Kathy Barnhart will be coordinating rides to demonstrations being held before the Democratic National Convention in San Francisco.

The August Meeting for Business will be held at the home of Kate Buckner, 202 Behrens, El Cerrito, on August 5. At the start of our closing worship, the Clerk read a letter from Sam Cox. With thanks to our hosts, the meeting closed at 8:37 p.m.

Jane Wolff
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
Sunday August 5, 1984

At the home of Kate Buckner
202 Behrens St., El Cerrito

Barbara Graves, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 7 p.m. There were fifteen friends present during the course of the meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the July Monthly Meeting were read. The item in the Overseers' Report on "Friendly 6's" was amended to note that no further action by Monthly Meeting is required and that the program will begin in September.

Finance: Barbara Perry presented the first draft of the Meeting's budget for 1984-85, commencing November 1st. It will be posted on the Meeting bulletin board and the committee invites comments. The formal budget proposal will be made at the September Monthly Meeting. Barbara "walked" the meeting through the budget and Friends made preliminary comments. The tentative budget totals \$5,473 (vs. \$4,727 for '83-'84). General fund contributions for 1982-83 totaled \$4,982, an average of \$151 per contributing unit. The average to date this year has been \$131. This implies a need for increased contributions. The Meeting asked the finance committee to suggest to the next meeting how the "deficit gap" might be met.

Hospitality: David Leonard reported on behalf of Leslie Leonard. A successful party to send off the McCandlesses was held at the Emmons. A baby welcoming party will be held at the Coopers on September 9. A party to welcome new members will be held in October at Andrea Semons' house. Assistance with overnight hospitality is needed for the wedding of Jim Navaero and Lauren Crutcher on August 25th.

Nominating: The nomination of Chris Hoagness to Overseers was approved. Amy Block reported that the Committer nominates Chuck Kepner for Worship and Ministry, which will be acted upon by the Meeting next month.

Overseers: The Meeting approved the transfer of membership of Chuck and Susan Kepner from Third Haven Meeting. Overseers recommend the acceptance of Joyce Samati into membership, to be acted upon next month. Andrea Semons, reporting for the Committee, noted that friends, including non-members who so wish, are urged to file forms on their wishes for their final Affairs. "Friendly 6's" will begin in September. Virginia Heck wrote expressing appreciation for the letters and cards that she has received during her illness. She is recovering well.

Peace and Social Order: Kate Buckner noted that the East Bay Sanctuary Coalition hopes that all member congregations will have a refugee under their care by this fall. Is it possible for this Meeting to make a commitment for at least partial support of a

refugee? Meeting asked that Kate bring a proposal to our next meeting. Volunteers are needed to help with office and other types of sanctuary work. Those interested should please contact Kate. Mexico City Monthly Meeting is active in this area as well. An appeal for funds to support their work has been received and will be posted on the Meeting Bulletin Board.

Pacific Yearly Meeting: Kate Buckner reported that Pacific Yearly Meeting is considering membership in both Friends United Meeting and Friends General Conference. This would be a major step and will prompt extensive discussion throughout member Meetings. An information session would be appropriate. This was referred to Worship and Ministry, with Betty Hall willing to assist.

The new Faith and Practice will be available this fall. Pacific Yearly Meeting archives are to be kept at Whittier College. Yearly Meeting will be held in Southern California next year on the campus of LaVerne University from July 28 to August 3. Kate Buckner was appointed a Yearly Meeting representative to Friends World Committee for Consultation.

Pacific Yearly Meeting encourages all Monthly Meetings to appoint a resource person for Central American issues. This was delegated to Peace and Social Order Committee.

Yearly Meeting would like to know on April 30 each year the names of our Representatives, Observer and Clerk. Our officers are approved at the beginning of May and so we shall simply report our officers a few days late.

Treasurer: Susan Burr reported that there is \$176.89 in the check-book and that \$1700 in contributions are needed by October 31 to meet our full budget.

Worship and Ministry: Bob Maynard reported that Maggie Ely is willing to make a new sign for the Meeting. The Committee will provide the wording. Clark Hurn of the Friends World Committee for Consultation will speak jointly to our Meeting and Berkeley Friends Church on September 30. Several Friends are interested in a mid-week Meeting for Worship. An announcement will be made in Meeting to determine the extent of interest.

Other Business: Jane Wolff, as Recording Clerk, will keep the Meeting calendar.

September Monthly Meeting will be held September 9 at the Kepners, 79 Norwood Avenue, Kensington.

The meeting closed with a period of worship at 9:05 p.m. Several Friends ministered out of the silence.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leonard
acting for the Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
Sunday, September 9, 1984
At the home of Chuck and Susan Kepner
79 Norwood Avenue, Kensington
Barbara Graves, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of worship at 7:05 p.m. Eighteen Friends were present during the course of the evening.

Minutes: The minutes of the August meeting were approved as read.

Clerk's Correspondence: The Clerk read a letter concerning the planned demonstration at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory on Monday, September 24, and a meeting concerning the action on the evening of the 23rd.

Treasurer: Susan Burr reported that the Meeting's financial situation has improved considerably since her last report, and that it is likely we will meet our budget for this fiscal year.

Finance: Several adjustments were made to the proposed budget for 1984-85. Susan Burr then read a note from the Finance Committee, suggesting several additional changes. The Meeting discussed the possibility of soliciting pledges from members, attenders, and children of the meeting, in order to assist the Committee in planning financial matters; Susan was asked to formulate a statement about this for the newsletter. After further discussion, and with thanks to those committees offering to reduce the amounts budgetted to them, the Meeting approved a 1984-85 budget of \$5,280.50. The Meeting thanked the Finance Committee for its hard work.

Hospitality Committee: Leslie Leonard reported on the welcoming held for Daniel Pennypacker-Riggs, and noted that the Committee is planning a welcoming for new members in October.

Nominating Committee: John Bird reported, nominating Barbara Voorhees Emmons to replace Jean McCandless as Clerk of the Religious Education Committee. As is our custom, this will be held over until next month. The nomination of Chuck Kepner to the Worship and Ministry Committee was approved.

Overseers: Kate Buckner reported. The membership of Joyce Samati, held over from last month, was approved. The Meeting heard a brief report on the August 25th wedding of Jim and Lauren Hartlein-Navarro. The sign-up sheet for "Friendly Sixes," the planned series of Sunday evening Quaker dialogues, was circulated.

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson read a letter from Claremont Meeting, urging our Meeting to consider taking some action on behalf of Central American refugees, and to appoint one member to serve as a contact on Central American issues. Kate Buckner has volunteered to serve in this role, and the Meeting gratefully accepted her offer.

Carl noted that a coordinator is needed for the dinner the Meeting is to hold at University Lutheran Chapel on November 18. The Committee will assess the Meeting's options and obligations regarding these plans at its meeting on Thursday, September 13, and report back.

The East Bay Sanctuary Coalition is sponsoring a food drive for Central American refugees in the Bay Area. Non-perishable canned and dry foods will be collected after Meetings for Worship from September 16 to October 14. The Sanctuary Coalition is also organizing a caravan to move approximately thirty refugees from Southern California to the Bay Area, and would like at least one car and one driver from each member church or meeting to participate. The caravan will take place on October 12-14, culminating in an ecumenical service at St. Joseph the Workman Church on the 14th.

Carl distributed maps to the Harvest Festival, and urged Friends to register to vote.

East Bay Sanctuary Coalition: Kate Buckner reported on a recent Sanctuary Movement meeting. A member of Strawberry Creek Meeting has expressed interest in providing housing for a refugee, and the Meeting discussed at length the nature and extent of the additional commitments it might make to provide food, clothing, job training, medical care, language instruction, and so on. Kate will, with Becky Rodd, explore with C.R.E.C.E., a local refugee group, the needs of their refugees and how they might be matched with what our Meeting can offer; discussing with Berkeley Meeting its experience in sponsoring an Argentinian refugee was also suggested.

Religious Education Committee: Barbara Voorhees Emmons reported that the loss of Jean McCandless has been hard to take, but that, largely due to her efforts, this year's program is well organized and off to a good start. The curriculum is now complete. Volunteers and Christmas program ideas are still needed. Leslie Leonard reported on a recent phone conversation with Jean.

Worship and Ministry: Bob Maynard reported that Clair Hurn will be giving a presentation on September 23. The Committee is planning an Adult Education series on personal statements and questions re living as a Quaker, to be held after Meetings for Worship this fall. There will be a midweek Meeting for Worship at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 26, at the home of Joyce Samati. David Leonard and Maggie Ely continue working on a sign for the Meeting.

New Business, Concerns and Announcements: Quarterly Meeting will be held at John Woolman School, October 19-20. Larry Perry has registration forms. Barbara Graves will talk about her recent trip to Honduras and Nicaragua at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, September 21, at the Kepners'.

Leslie and David Leonard will host the October Meeting for Business, at 1309 Ordway, on October 7 at 7 p.m. With thanks to the Kepners, the meeting closed in a period of worship.

Jane Wolff
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
Sunday, October 7, 1984

At the home of Leslie and David Leonard
1309 Ordway, Berkeley
Lynne Bird, Assistant Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened at 7:03 p.m. with a period of silent worship. There were fifteen Friends present during the course of the evening.

Minutes: The minutes of the September meeting were approved, with the correction of the spelling of Clara Hurn's name and the note that Barb Tittle, not Bob Maynard, had reported for Worship and Ministry.

Clerk's Correspondence: The Assistant Clerk read letters from AFSC, thanking us for our contribution and reminding us of the continuing need for material aid in Zimbabwe; and from Reno Friends Meeting, asking us to consider their minute on the integration of religious and political experiences.

A letter from Liz and Tom Head was also read. They send their greetings to all, and, noting that they now feel at home in Multnomah Meeting, ask that their membership be transferred there. The Meeting approved the Heads' request; Betty Hall, Recorder, will respond.

Hospitality Committee: Leslie Leonard gave a brief report. The welcoming for new members, originally scheduled for October, will be held in November instead.

Nominating Committee: With joy and appreciation, the Meeting approved the nomination of Barbara Voorhees Emmons as Clerk of the Religious Education Committee.

Overseers: Andrea Semons offered a final chance to sign up for "Friendly Sixes."

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson reported on the success of the Food Drive for Central American refugees, and on Barbara Graves' talk on her visit to Honduras and Nicaragua. Barbara will speak again at Berkeley Friends Meeting, Vine and Walnut, on Thursday, November 15. Progress continues on the dinner the Meeting is to sponsor at University Lutheran Chapel on November 18. Mention was made of several upcoming events which have also been announced in the newsletter.

Fred Moore, of Berkeley Friends Meeting, described the Central American Peace Walk, a plan for an international group to walk from Costa Rica to Mexico in December; he asked for Strawberry Creek Meeting's support and assistance. Amid some discussion of whether such concerns are best brought to a committee or to the Meeting as a whole, it was decided that Peace and Social Order should investigate and season the proposed action, and bring a recommendation to the Meeting.

Barbara Graves elaborated on the demonstration to take place in San Francisco on Tuesday, October 9, and explained the pledge of resistance many will sign there. The Peace and Social Order Committee will try to arrange a time for Fred Moore to show his slides on Border Witness. Friends are urged to attend the ecumenical service at St. Joseph the Workman Church on October 14, to welcome the Central

American refugees arriving in the caravan that day.

Several Friends in the Meeting have expressed their willingness to help the Friend among us who has been taking steps to offer housing to a refugee. In addition, it was suggested that funds collected in our Central American Refugee Support Fund be earmarked for this refugee. The Meeting, having heard the plans of our Friend for receiving a refugee, expressed its appreciation and support for her in taking this action, and hopes that she will return to the Meeting with requests for individual and group support whenever appropriate.

Retreat Committee: The Meeting's Fall Retreat will be held on November 3, at Hillside Community Church in El Cerrito. Details are in the newsletter.

The Committee, in planning for the Spring Retreat, has discovered that Quaker Center at Ben Lomond is not available; they are considering Alpine Lodge on Mount Tamalpais and the Yosemite Institute in Marin Headlands as possible alternatives. Friends are urged to express ideas and concerns about outdoor space, money, the possibility of inviting Friends from other Meetings, and so on, to members of the Retreat Committee. The Meeting noted its appreciation of the Committee's work.

Worship and Ministry: Bob Maynard reported on Clara Hurn's talk on the Friends World Committee on Consultation. A small midweek Meeting for Worship was held; those interested in future midweek Meetings are encouraged to speak to Worship and Ministry. David Leonard and Maggie Ely continue their work on a sign for the Meeting. Leonard Joy will moderate a discussion by Barbara Graves and Mary Mikesell after Meeting for Worship on October 14. Worship and Ministry will meet at 7:30 on October 10 at the Maynards.

New Business, Concerns and Announcements: Quarterly Meeting will be held at John Woolman School, October 19-20. Larry Perry brought registration forms, and distributed literature on the Children's Creative Response to Conflict.

Gus Schultz, minister of University Lutheran Chapel, will be honored in a program on Politics and Religion, to be held at St. John's Presbyterian Church on Saturday, October 20; proceeds will benefit the sanctuary movement.

This month the American Red Cross is sponsoring a series of workshops on supplying the needs of older shut-ins and the blind.

A Friend's concern about the small size of the Meeting's bulletin board was referred to Worship and Ministry.

The November Meeting for Business will be at the Maynards', 1049 Mandana Blvd., Oakland, on November 4 at 7 p.m. With thanks to the Leonards, the meeting closed in a period of worship at 8:42 p.m.

Jane Wolff
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
Sunday, November 4, 1984
At the home of Bob and Gerry Maynard,
1049 Mandana Blvd., Oakland
Lynne Bird, Assistant Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened in silent worship at 7:03 p.m. Seventeen Friends were present during the meeting.

Minutes: With the following corrections, the minutes of October's Meeting for Business were approved as read: Fred Moore is not a member of Berkeley Friends' Meeting, and Liz and Tom Head are not new to Multnomah Meeting, but returning there.

Religious Education Committee: Barbara Voorhees Emmons reported that the church in which we hold our First Day School wishes the space for its own program, and that we have agreed to vacate by the first of the year. There is an immediate need for an *ad hoc* site committee. It was felt that the normal procedure for appointing a committee through the Nominating Committee would be too slow in this case. Several members (Mary Miche, Dick Emmons, Andrea Semons and Bob Maynard) have already volunteered to help the Religious Education Committee look for a new site, and, as the Committee feels comfortable proceeding with this "unofficial" site committee, the Meeting approved the plan. Friends are urged to consider that, if no place for forty children can be found within walking distance of GTU, the entire Meeting may have to move.

The Christmas program and potluck dinner will be held at the church on December 16. It was also noted that the First Day School is no longer partially supported by the church, and so may cost the Meeting more in the future.

Treasurer's Report: Susan Burr distributed and reviewed a summary of the Meeting's expenditures and contributions for the fiscal year just ended. Not all budget categories were fully spent last year, and contributions were \$1,192.45 greater than the Meeting's budget.

Hospitality Committee: Leslie Leonard reminded the Meeting of the welcoming planned for new members Susan Kepner, Chuck Kepner, Chris Hogness, Susan Burr and Joyce Samati, to be held on November 11 at Andrea Semons's.

Overseers: Andrea Semons reported that a membership committee composed of Ralph Murphy, Lynne Bird and herself had met with Jane Timberlake, and recommends that the Meeting accept her into membership. She read a brief description of Jane's life. As is our practice, the matter will be held over until next Meeting for Business.

Friendly Sixes met for the first time in October. The Committee welcomes comments and suggestions. Several participants offered impressions of their groups. The next round of meetings will be on November 18.

As announced in the newsletter, Friends Journal has trial subscriptions

available.

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson reported on the Berkeley Emergency Food Project dinner the Meeting will prepare on November 17. The Committee felt that sufficient funds to pay for the dinner can be raised, but approved spending up to \$100 out of its own budget if they are not.

Jim Barnard reported that Fred Moore had reviewed with the Committee the plans for the Central American Peace Walk, and that Peace and Social Order is excited about the idea. Fred is seeking a support group of individuals to work with him as he plans his participation in the walk, and the support of the Meeting. Two minutes were proposed, and there were questions and a lengthy discussion. The Meeting approved the following minute:

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting expresses its strong support and encouragement for the concept of a Central American Peace Walk as a cogent expression of the ideals of Friends and as a courageous witness for peace in that war-torn region.

Action on the second proposed minute, related to funding, was deferred.

Kate Buckner reported that the East Bay Sanctuary Coalition is asking for a recommitment of delegates to its steering committee, and that she is willing to continue serving as the Meeting's representative. The Meeting approved her as our continuing representative, noting that, as this is not a standing committee of the Meeting, we are not bypassing due process. The Meeting also approved asking the Nominating Committee to consider the matter in the spring. The Caravan of Central American Refugees, in which Kate participated, was a great success; there were about six hundred people at the service welcoming the refugees to Northern California.

Retreat Committee: Joyce Samati reported that the Fall Retreat, held on November 3, was very successful. Fourteen people participated for the entire retreat, with fifteen there for most of the day. The Meeting's Spring Retreat will be held at Yosemite Institute in Marin Headlands on the last weekend in April.

Worship and Ministry: Bob Maynard reported. The Meeting now has a new sign, and approved sending a letter of thanks for it to Maggie Ely. The Committee is pursuing a request for a larger bulletin board. There will be an Adult Education Program on John Wollman after Meeting for Worship on November 11.

Clara Hurn has suggested the possibility of Meetings in Berkeley hosting a regional Friends' Gathering, to include California Yearly Meeting. A preliminary meeting to discuss this will be held on November 13, and Worship and Ministry asked the Meeting whether it should pursue discussion on this. The Meeting agreed that it was a good idea.

New Business, Concerns and Announcements: A Friend raised the concern that the Pennypacker-Riggs family is having difficulty participating fully in the Meeting due to Daniel's medical problem. Worship and Ministry is considering the problem, and welcomes ideas and suggestions. Larry Perry distributed a questionnaire for Friends. Carl Anderson reported briefly on the Quaker Center program on U.S.-Soviet

Relations, and Larry Perry mentioned the men's gathering to be held there.

Lynne Bird offered her home, at 5839 Clover Drive, Oakland, for the next Meeting for Business, at 7 p.m. on December 2. With thanks to the Maynards, the meeting closed in a period of worship at 8:36 p.m.

Jane Wolff
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
Sunday, December 2, 1984
At the home of Lynne and John Bird
5839 Clover Drive, Oakland
Barbara Graves, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened in silent worship at 7:07 p.m. Twenty Friends were present during the meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the November meeting were approved, with the correction noted that the Quaker Center men's gathering was prior to November 4, not after. Friends expressed appreciation for the appearance of the minutes and agenda.

Clerk's Correspondence: The Clerk read several letters. The first was from Philip Joe Taylor, an inmate at the Ossining Correctional Facility in New York, requesting financial assistance; the Overseers were asked to check on Friends Meetings nearer Mr. Taylor, and respond. Friends were urged to let this letter inspire us to discover as a concern the needs of prisoners in our area.

The Clerk summarized a letter from San Francisco Friends Meeting, expressing its strong preference for Chico over La Honda as a site for future Pacific Yearly Meetings. The letter was referred to our PYM representative, and excerpts from it will appear in the newsletter. Catherine Anderson, Registrar of College Park Quarter, wrote to announce the Winter Quarterly Meeting, to be held at Friends House in Santa Rosa on January 19.

Finally, the treasurer of Pacific Yearly Meeting has sent our annual assessment, a bill for forty members at \$17 each.

Ad Hoc Site Search Committee: Dick Emmons briefly reviewed eleven unsuitable First Day School sites which the Committee had investigated. The possibility of holding the children's program at GTU and moving the Meeting site was also thought not advisable. Since Berkeley Friends Church has expressed an interest in sharing their facilities with us, and we could begin meeting there in January, the Committee recommended we try this option for six months. Then, in the spring and summer, we can conduct a longterm search for a more suitable place, or decide to continue at Friends Church.

The plan is to meet in their social hall, not in their sanctuary, and use a separate entrance on the west side of the building. Strawberry Creek Meeting would not be joining with the Church, and would continue to use its own mailing address and telephone number; the First Day School programs, however, would be conducted jointly, during our worship and before theirs.

A lengthy discussion ensued, during which a number of issues were raised; among these were the scheduled time of Meeting for Worship, the noise of the children under the meeting room and of cars arriving in the parking lot, the uncomfortable chairs, use of the kitchen and storage facilities, publicity for the move, and rent. Barbara Voorhees Emmons, Louanne Beiging and Bob Maynard were asked to attend the next meeting of the Church's Trustees, and were empowered to accept any reasonable terms for rental of the Church's space. Concerns about the meeting time, if any arise, will be referred to Worship and Ministry. *Friends*

Journal, the Berkeley and San Francisco Meetings, and AFSC will be informed of the change in our meeting location, and a variety of methods will be employed to inform our own members and attenders of the move. Dick Emmons will arrange for printing maps and directions to the Church. Worship and Ministry will inform GTU of our departure, and both they and the University Christian Church will receive our thanks for their hospitality. The Meeting thanked the Site Search Committee for its thoughtful and thorough work under pressure.

Worship and Ministry: Bob Maynard reported. Chuck Kepner made a tripod for the Meeting's sign, and varnished the sign. There will be more midweek Meetings for Worship; Kate Buckner will host the next one, at a date and time to be announced. The Committee is examining a pamphlet, "When Friends Attend to Business," which explains Meetings for Business. The Adult Education program continues, as announced in the newsletter. Chuck Kepner and Bob Maynard will be involved with the Site Change Committee. The Meeting was reminded that Friends seeking assistance in spiritual (as opposed to personal or emotional) search should be referred to Worship and Ministry.

David Leonard reported that the Committee has invited the Pennypacker-Riggs family to include Daniel in Meeting For Worship, as long as he is not crying, until he is one year old.

Friends World Committee Regional Gathering: Kate Buckner reported that Amy Block, Ax Nelson (of Berkeley Friends Meeting), Doug Gwyn (of Berkeley Friends Church), Paul Luckenbaugh, and herself had met with Clara Hurn to plan the gathering, to be held on March 22 and 23 at Berkeley Friends Church. Clara has suggested speakers and workshops on the topic of "Third World Friends," and has asked if someone from our Meeting might be interested in planning food for the gathering. The Hospitality Committee can help.

Hospitality Committee: Leslie Leonard reported that the welcoming held on November 11 was a successful event. There will be a potluck on December 16, along with the children's Christmas pageant.

Nominating Committee: The Nominating Committee was asked to suggest names for the positions of PYM Representative and Observer, as we need to submit them in March. Ralph Murphy and Leslie Leonard were nominated and approved as an *ad hoc* Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee.

Overseers: The Meeting heartily approved Jane Timberlake's request for membership.

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson reported. The dinner served at the Emergency Food Project went well; thanks were expressed to Mary Miche for the idea, and to all those contributed. A number of announcements also appearing in the newsletter were made.

Retreat Committee: Lynne Bird reminded Friends that the Meeting's Spring Retreat will be held on April 26-28. The Committee has tentatively reserved Quaker Center for the last weekend in April, 1986.

New Business, Concerns and Announcements: Carl Anderson has information and leaflets on the peace movement in New Zealand. John Bird noted that Friends House is now fully booked with residents and patients, although the adult health care program has vacancies. John will be fulfilling the remainder of Ellie Huffman's term as Clerk of the Board of FASE. Larry Perry announced that there will be a new attenders' list out soon, and that John McCarthy wishes to retire from being the coordinator of the list as soon as a volunteer can be found to replace him. Barbara Graves urged Friends to encourage attenders to come to Meetings for Business, and make them feel welcome in all areas of Meeting life. She also described the Pledge of Resistance sponsored by the Emergency Response

Network.

The January Meeting for Business will be at the home of Andrea Semons, 432 Moraga Way, Orinda, on January 6 at 7 p.m. With thanks to the Birds, the meeting closed in silent worship at 9:10 p.m.

Jane Wolff
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
Sunday, January 6, 1985
At the home of Andrea Semons
432 Moraga Way, Orinda
Barbara Graves, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened at 7:03 p.m. with a period of silent worship. Seventeen Friends were present during the meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the December Meeting for Business were approved, with the following additions and corrections: Friends House in Santa Rose has vacancies in its adult *day* health care program. The reason the Pennypacker-Riggs baby will be permitted to attend Meetings for Worship until he is one year old is because of his medical problem. The Worship and Ministry Committee, not the Ad Hoc Site Search Committee, will conduct the long-term search for a place for Meetings for Worship. Paul Luckenbaugh did not meet in November with the group planning the Friends World Committee Regional Gathering, but has met with them since then. Amy Block was sitting in for Bob Maynard at the November meeting.

Ad Hoc Site Search Committee: The Meeting having made a successful transfer to Berkeley Friends Church, the Committee pronounced itself ready to retire. We will be paying the church \$150 per month for five sessions per month; in months with only four Sundays we will be able to hold an extra meeting there. We can schedule additional meetings for a nominal fee, although we must be out of the meeting room by noon on Sundays. If the Church's insurance rate increases, we will pay the difference. Barbara Voorhees Emmons reported that the Church and our Meeting will each contribute \$10 a week toward infant care costs, meaning that our infant care worker will get an additional \$5 per week.

First Day School Committee: Barbara Voorhees Emmons reported that the program is very organized and well-attended, with over ten children in each class. Friends offered their feedback on the new meeting place, with suggestions for its improvement and reminders not to disturb the Church's worship after our Meeting. Worship and Ministry will continue discussions with the Church concerning the arrangements; they were asked to comment to the Church's representatives that we appreciate their hospitality and the ease with which the negotiations have been conducted.

Barbara distributed a schedule and noted that First Day School teachers are still needed. A Friend expressed the concern that some in the Meeting have no involvement with the children, and reminded us that participation in the Religious Education program is a responsibility and privilege for all to share.

Nominating Committee: Mary Miche reported that the Nominating Committee has encountered problems in trying to nominate a Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative and Observer. While it is the intention and normal practice of the Meeting that the Observer become the Representative for the following year, a few Friends objected to that step in this case, and this year's Observer has withdrawn. The Nominating Committee was asked to try again, consulting with the Clerk or the Overseers and conversing with those raising the objections. Names can be both nominated and approved at next month's meeting. Friends were urged to be generous, and accept any Friend's willingness to serve.

Overseers: Andrea Semons reported. The Overseers proposed that our gift of appreciation to University Christian Church for their hospitality be a gift of \$50 to their landscaping fund. As \$45 has already been contributed by individuals, the Meeting agreed to raise its contribution to \$55. Susan Burr will send a letter with the check for \$100. Friendly Sixes will meet at 6:30 on January 20th.

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson reported that the Committee will meet on January 28 at the Nemir's; they welcome visitors and additional members. He made several announcements of planned activities. Leslie Leonard noted that Fred Moore will be leaving on the Central American Peace Walk at the end of January, and invites us to contribute letters expressing our desire for peace and relating how we are working for peace. Fred and his group will show the letters to Central Americans on their walk, and bring back letters and tape recordings from the countries they visit.

Barbara Graves elaborated on the non-violent witness the Emergency Response Network has planned for January 22nd. Kate Buckner leaves for Mexico, and possibly also Central America, on January 7th; Friends were urged to keep her in mind.

Treasurer: Susan Burr reported that she has paid G.T.U. the last of our rent, and sent our thanks. Our rent and postage costs will be higher, so Friends will need to be mindful of Meeting finances. Friends discussed the cost of mailing the Newsletter, and the advisability of printing the minutes in their entirety. It was felt that the Newsletter is well-done, important, and worth what we spend on it, and that Friends should remain aware of the need to support this enterprise. Dick Emmons will begin making ten extra copies to distribute throughout the month after Meeting for Worship.

Worship and Ministry: Leonard Joy reported that the tasks related to the move are all in hand, and that the Committee continues to welcome feedback. The Adult Education program has been successful so far, with additional sessions scheduled for January and February. The Committee is also involved in the Regional Gathering planned for March, and is working on a leaflet on how Friends conduct business.

Barb Tittle has drafted a letter to Meeting for Business on the subject of prison visitation; this was read. As a means of ensuring that some members of the Meeting will be permitted more than minimal access to prisoners, Worship and Ministry suggested the names of Mary Miche, Mary Mikesell and Larry Perry as designated pastoral visitors. These three are not nominated to undertake general prison ministry, but to attend primarily to the needs of Strawberry Creek members and attenders. The meeting approved proceeding with the process of registering the three members with the prisons; Worship and Ministry will also talk with Phyllis Luckenbaugh, who may be interested in becoming a fourth designated visitor. The letter also suggested, and the Meeting approved, taking steps to enlighten ourselves about the problems of prisoners, specifically, preparing an item for the newsletter on the historical role of Quakers in prison ministry, and inviting someone from Santa Rita prison to speak to the Meeting.

Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee: Ralph Murphy reported, proposing a minute of appreciation for the good job done by the present Nominating Committee; this was heartily approved. He also raised the issue of having Nominating Committee members serve two-year terms, with staggered rotations. Friends discussed at length questions of continuity, expectations of committee members, optimum size of Nominating Committee, and so on, and decided not to regularize any process at this time. Future Ad Hoc Committees to Nominate the Nominating Committee are urged to consider the benefits of both continuity and new blood, and to attempt to construct new Nominating Committees made up of present committee members, other seasoned people from the Meeting, and newer

people when appropriate.

Ralph presented the Committee's proposal for a new Nominating Committee composed of Amy Block as Clerk, Blair Dean and James Mari-Navarro. As is our custom, these nominations will be held over for final action next month.

New Business, Concerns and Announcements: Paul Luckenbaugh reported on the Regional Gathering planned for March 23 and 24, to be called "From the Four Winds: the Growing Edge of Quakerism." A preliminary program has been agreed upon, and Strawberry Creek Friends will be involved in a number of ways.

The February Meeting for Business will be at the Luckenbaughs', 505 Liberty St., El Cerrito, on February 3 at 7 p.m.

Betty Hall reported that Berkeley Friends Meeting's meeting house has suffered an arson fire, and that they are worshipping at a place without wheelchair access. The Meeting asked Betty to call Clare Milliken, their Clerk, with our sympathy and an invitation to their wheelchair-bound members who care to worship with us.

Friends raised several issues to be placed on the agenda for February's Meeting for Business, including the question of whether Meetings for Business will continue to be held in homes, and whether, now that we have access to hymnals and a piano in our place of worship, we might sing together. With thanks to Andrea, the meeting closed in a period of worship at 9:29 p.m.

Jane Wolff
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

Sunday, February 3, 1985

At the home of Paul and Phyllis Luckenbaugh

505 Liberty St., El Cerrito

Lynne Bird, Assistant Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 7:05 p.m. There were sixteen Friends present during the course of the evening.

Minutes: The minutes of the January meeting were approved as read.

Clerk's Correspondence: The Assistant Clerk referred several pieces of correspondence to the Peace and Social Order Committee and to the newsletter binder. She read a note from William Penn House in Washington, DC, discussing the Quaker presence on Capitol Hill and asking for contributions; this was referred to the Finance Committee.

Also read was a letter from Lonnie Jay, a San Francisco attorney, to College Park Quarter, asking the quarter and its Meetings to consider joining a lawsuit against the Immigration and Naturalization Service. CPQ has approved joining; this was referred to Peace and Social Order. Informational letters will be posted on the bulletin board; Friends with concerns about the use of the bulletin board may bring them to Worship and Ministry.

Treasurer: Susan Burr distributed her report for the first quarter of the fiscal year, and noted that our bank, Hibernia, has recently raised its rates. She is exploring the possibility of moving the Meeting's funds, and welcomes Friends' suggestions.

Hospitality Committee: Leslie Leonard reported. The Kepners will host a welcoming on the 23rd for new member Jane Timberlake and for Marguerita and Cynthia Marguerita, a Honduran refugee and her daughter who are living with one of our members. The McCandless family has sent a gallon of maple syrup, and the Committee is considering holding a breakfast picnic when the weather is warmer.

Ad Hoc Committee to Nominating Committee: The names of Amy Block as Clerk of Nominating Committee, and of Blair Dean and James Mari-Navarro as Committee members, were approved.

Overseers: Andrea Semons discussed the move and ways to make our new meeting place more personal to us. She showed a sample of a seat cushion which the women of the Laotian Handicrafts Center can make for us for about \$3.75 or \$4.75 each. Barbara Voorhees Emmons will investigate; the meeting approved ordering thirty of the foam-filled, \$4.75 cushions. There will be a book sale after Meeting for Worship the next two weeks. Substitutes are needed for Friendly Sixes on February 17.

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson reported. Several members who have been abroad recently will discuss their experiences and answer questions at a gathering on March 24th. Carl will give a talk on nuclear weapons and U.S. relations with New Zealand on February 27th. The next Committee meeting will be on February 11; visitors and possible new members are always welcome.

Religious Education Committee: Barbara Voorhees Emmons reported that the schedule is nearly filled. The Committee seeks a rug, pillows, good

children's books and money. The Friends Church has offered to match whatever funds we collect for improving the First Day School facilities. A Friend expressed concern that we not entangle ourselves with too much jointly-owned property.

Worship and Ministry: Leonard Joy reported. Arrangements for designating Strawberry Creek members as prison ministers are proceeding. John Vodica will discuss his prison ministry at Santa Rita after Meeting for Worship on February 24th. There will be a midweek Meeting for Worship at Kate Buckner's on February 20th; more are planned. Leonard noted that there is much interest in the Bishops' pastoral letter on Catholic social teaching and the American economy, and that Worship and Ministry may plan discussion groups on this topic. Anyone wishing to convene such a group or wanting a copy of the letter may see Leonard. The Committee feels that having a time for singing before our Meetings for Worship is not feasible. Worship and Ministry solicits comments on its role, given that its charge is the spiritual health of the Meeting.

Retreat Committee: Joyce Samati noted that the topic for the Spring Retreat will be "What Brought You to Quakers and Why Do You Stay?" The gathering will be held April 26-28 at Marin Headlands.

Nominating Committee: Amy Block reported for Mary Miche. The name of Kate Buckner for Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative was nominated and approved. Another Friend is considering serving as Observer, and Amy will pursue this further.

New Business, Concerns and Announcements: Amy Block noted that we need to appoint two or three people to write the State of the Meeting report. Since the report is to be brought to the March Meeting for Business, and revisions brought to the April Meeting, it was agreed that we would both nominate and approve names this month. Betty Hall volunteered to convene a group comprising some combination of herself, Leslie Leonard, Kenneth Leonard, Bob Maynard, Rachel Ann Elder, and Barb Tittle.

Friends discussed whether to hold Meetings for Business at 7:00 or 7:30, and whether or not to use the facilities at Friends Church or continue to meet in homes. Worship and Ministry will continue to solicit opinions on these issues, and report back. Betty Hall, Recorder, offered Final Affairs forms to those Friends who have not yet filed them with her. Berkeley Friends Meeting is now worshipping in their Social Hall at 10 a.m. and 12 noon on First Days. They welcome contributions of time and/or money as they recover from the fire in their Meeting Hall, as their furnishings were not insured. Andrea Semons pointed out several items of interest in Chuck Fager's recent *Friendly Letter*. Barbara Voorhees Emmons reported that the insurance agent for Friends Church says we should have a statement of liability; Worship and Ministry will contact him regarding this.

Carl Anderson reported that Marguerita could use help with medical expenses related to the birth of Cynthia Marguerita. It was decided that Leslie Leonard will check on their needs and pass the hat after Meeting for Worship. Friends may give contributions to Leslie, or give checks to Susan Burr, earmarked for Marguerita. Mary Mikesell reminded Friends of the Quaker Center weekend this month.

The March Meeting for Business will be on March 3 at 7 p.m., either at the Leonards', 1309 Ordway, Berkeley; or at Friends Church. If we do meet at the church, Betty Hall and Ralph Murphy will prepare a simple meal for Friends to share before the Meeting. With thanks to the

Luckenbaughs, the meeting closed in a period of worship at 8:51 p.m.

Jane Wolff
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
Sunday, March 3, 1985
At Berkeley Friends Church
1600 Sacramento Street, Berkeley
Barbara Graves, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened at 7:02 p.m. with a period of silent worship. Twenty-one Friends were present during the course of the meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the February Meeting for Business were approved, with the following corrections: the correct spelling of Margarita and Cynthia Margarita's names was noted, and the welcoming held for them and for Jane Timberlake was on February 24th, not February 23rd. Also, Lynne Bird's title is Alternate Clerk, not Assistant Clerk.

Clerk's Correspondence: Dick and Barbara Voorhees Emmons have requested that the Meeting recommend their son, Steve, for a Wilkinson Award at Earlham College; the Clerk read a draft of a letter of recommendation, which the Meeting approved sending.

State of the Society Report: Betty Hall read a draft of the Meeting's State of the Society report, prepared by herself, David Leonard, Leslie Leonard and Kenneth Leonard, with special thanks to David. Friends offered comments. Not mentioned in the report were several new babies whose parents have not attended meetings since the births; the Overseers were asked to contact the parents and extend an invitation to worship. With minor changes, the report received the Meeting's preliminary approval.

Treasurer: Lynne Bird gave an informal report covering February 1st to March 2nd. There were \$1,385 in deposits, \$852 in expenses, and the checkbook balance on March 2nd was \$676.82.

Hospitality Committee: Leslie Leonard reported on the welcoming, and noted that Friends Church has invited the Meeting to its annual Easter Breakfast, at 9 a.m. on April 7. The Meeting accepted the invitation with thanks, and agreed to meet for worship at 10:30 that morning. The Hospitality Committee will work with the Church to plan the breakfast.

Nominating Committee: Amy Block reported that the Committee has been unable to find anyone to serve as PYM Observer, and wished to turn the nomination over to the Meeting. Betty Hall and Margaret Mossman commented on what being the Observer involves, and Friends were reminded that, since there is a Meeting fund for such situations, financial concerns should not deter anyone from offering to serve. Each Friend was asked to consider this opportunity; the Meeting will return to the nomination next month.

Overseers: Andrea Semons offered Final Affairs forms to those who have not yet completed them, and encouraged Friends to donate an extra five or ten dollars to the treasury for the new seat cushions. Friends expressed their appreciation for the cushions.

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson reported that the Committee, in its February 11th meeting, considered whether to recommend to the Meeting that it join a proposed lawsuit against the Immigration and Naturalization Service. The Committee, in unity, recommended that we not join; it was felt that the suit may be frivolous, and that the constitutional case is not strong. Most Friends agreed with the

recommendation, noting that lawsuits are lengthy and conflict-oriented, although one Friend expressed the wish that we could share in this concern and effort. Carl also made a number of announcements of events planned for March. Friends were reminded to check that events being planned do not conflict with those already on the Meeting's calendar.

Retreat Committee: Joyce Samati reviewed plans for the Meeting's spring retreat, and urged Friends to attend. Registration forms should be turned in by April 7.

Worship and Ministry: Bob Maynard reported that the Committee has been investigating liability insurance, which Friends Church has requested we obtain. They have one estimate of \$205 a year, are seeking another, and will also see if the Church can add us as a rider on their existing policy. The Committee was empowered to proceed with obtaining the necessary insurance.

Worship and Ministry continues to explore the relationship between the Meeting and Friends Church, and urges Strawberry Creek Friends to bring concerns and comments to the Committee. Eight individuals have expressed an interest in forming a group to discuss the Bishops' Pastoral Letter.

In the course of preparation for contributing to the State of the Society report, the Committee has discussed at length the spiritual health of the Meeting, and there is keen interest in making Worship and Ministry more effective. Friends are especially urged to take seriously the issue of preparation.

Bob Maynard described the West Coast Regional Gathering of Friends, to be held March 23rd and 24th, and encouraged all to attend. The gathering will close with a joint Meeting for Worship in the Friends Church sanctuary at 10:30 on the 24th; our Meeting for Worship will be held as usual at 10 in the social hall. Questions were raised about the responsibilities of the Meeting's Religious Education and Hospitality Committees to participate in or provide services for the gathering and similar events, and concern was expressed that we not overload these Committees with extra duties that happen to be related to children or hospitality. Bob, Kate Buckner and Paul Luckenbaugh, who have been working on the gathering, will recruit volunteers as needed. Bob described the Friends World Committee for Consultation, which is organizing the gathering.

Midweek Meetings for Worship have been sparsely attended; Friends interested in more of them should see Worship and Ministry.

New Business, Concerns and Announcements: A Friend raised three concerns. The first was how to deal with not inviting High School Friends from Friends Church to events intended for Strawberry Creek young people, given that they all hear the announcement. Friends felt that it is important to distinguish between Meeting events and personal outings; Worship and Ministry will deal with problems concerning the former should they occur, and announcements about the latter should not be made in Meeting. The second concern, that there are Friends who worship with us but leave before we can get to know them, was referred to Worship and Ministry.

The third concern was that real theological differences between the Meeting and Friends Church may be causing discomfort among some in the joint High School Religious Education program. Friends felt that, while this may be a problem, it may also be an enriching situation. It was

noted that the High School program is in a state of flux, and that some High Schoolers prefer attending Meetings for Worship at least some of the time. The Religious Education Committee will address these issues at its next meeting.

Jane Timberlake suggested that those caring for the infants and toddlers during Meetings for Worship bring the children upstairs at the rise of Meeting, before announcements. There will be extra commotion, but the Meeting will get to know the small children better, parents won't need to disappear as fast, and those providing child care wno't feel as isolated from Meeting life. The Meeting agreed to try this; the Religious Education Committee will explore arranging for someone to sit near the door and signal when the meeting has ended.

Larry Perry noted that, as Strawberry Creek is the newest Meeting in Pacific Yearly Meeting, it would be especially appropriate for us to send a congratulatory letter to the oldest, San Jose Meeting, as it celebrates the centennial of its meeting house on April 28th. Larry, together with Betty Hall, will prepare a letter to bring to Meeting for Business next month.

The April Meeting for Business will be held at Friends Church on April 14 at 7 p.m.; tea and coffee will be offered at 6:30. Thanks were expressed to Ralph Murphy and Larry Perry for the meal preceding Meeting for Business. We will experiment with holding Meetings for Business at the Church through May, and then review the idea. The meeting closed in a period of worship at 9:14 p.m.

Jane Wolff
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
Sunday, April 14, 1985
At Berkeley Friends Church
1600 Sacramento Street, Berkeley
Barbara Graves, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 7:01 p.m. There were twenty-one Friends present during the course of the meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the March meeting for business were approved as read.

State of the Society Report: Betty Hall read a revised version of the Meeting's State of the Society Report, and thanked Leonard Joy for his assistance. With thanks to the authors, the Meeting approved the Report.

Hospitality Committee: Leslie Leonard reported that the Easter breakfast with Friends Church had gone well, and had taught the Committee much about the possibilities for holding events on Sunday mornings. The Committee is planning to hold the second annual picnic brunch for East Bay Friends on June 9.

Nominating Committee: Amy Block made note of the contributions made by this year's officeholders, especially the Clerk and Recording Clerk. She distributed the Committee's nominations, asking that Friends bring comments to the Committee rather than to the nominees. She noted that the Committee desired continuity in the position of Clerk, and that the nominee had to be strongly persuaded to accept renomination. Positions are still open, and any Friends interested in serving are urged to contact a member of the Committee.

This year the entire nomination process, beginning with the nomination of the Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee, was begun a month later than usual, giving the Nomination Committee less time than normal to complete its work. The Committee will remind the Meeting in the Fall when it is time to nominate the Ad Hoc Committee.

Questions were raised concerning terms for Overseers, and it was determined that Andrea Semons and Chris Hogness are to finish their second year on the Committee, and will end their terms in 1986; terms of the others will end in 1987. Kate Buckner has been filling in for Tom Head, and is now being nominated for a new two-year term. Thanks were expressed to Gerry Maynard for volunteering to serve as PYM Observer.

Overseers: Andrea Semons noted that the last Friendly Sixes will be held April 21, and that the Overseers welcome comments. Friends are urged to suggest to Meeting newcomers that they attend an informational brunch at Rachel Ann Elder's on May 5. John Woolman School would like to hold an informational meeting for young people and their parents from the three Berkeley meetings; this will be held on May 22 at the Berkeley Friends Meeting House.

East Bay Sanctuary Coalition: Kate Buckner reported that the EBSC is growing, and has just hired an Executive Director and moved its offices to Trinity Methodist Church on Dana Street. Spanish-speaking volunteers are needed for jail visitation, job programs, and counseling.

Fred Moore and Kate are the Meeting's representatives to EBSC, but, as

Fred is in Central America and Kate will be spending the next four months in Mexico, other interested Friends are needed. The Nominating Committee will ask Fred if he wants to continue, and nominate Kate, one other person, and a four-month substitute for the coming year. Barbara Graves will attend the May EBSC Meeting if no other representative has been found.

Kate also noted that, as she will not be in the country during PYM, the PYM Observer will serve as Representative. Friends interested in serving as an alternate Observer are urged to make known that fact.

Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative Committee: Kate reported on the Representative Committee Meeting, held March 2 at Claremont. PYM is setting up a fund to provide low-cost loans to students who have not registered for the draft. A PYM archives has been established at Whittier College, where Strawberry Creek Meeting has the option of keeping its records. PYM is considering joining Friends United Meeting and Friends General Conference, and is planning a conference on clerking. Queries on racial equality prepared by PYM's Social Order Committee were referred to our Peace and Social Order Committee. A new *Faith and Practice* should be available by PYM, and there will be several sessions there devoted to it. Marshall Massey will speak on environmental issues at the Meeting. Friends were asked to complete a questionnaire on PYM sites. PYM's East-West Committee will send a delegate to the World Youth Festival in Moscow. Friends wishing scholarship help to attend PYM should contact the Overseers.

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson reported that eleven Friends attended Travel Night on March 24, and heard interesting presentations from several travelers. Kate Buckner circulated information on the Bay Area Central America Hotline.

Religious Education Committee: Barbara Voorhees Emmons reported that the First Day School program is settled through June 9. In the summer the Church worships from 10 to 11 a.m., and has no First Day School; we will continue our usual practice for the summer. Koy Charn has left us, and Priscilla Peterson will provide care in the nursery, at least temporarily. In addition to help with the infants, one other person is needed to supervise summer recreation for all the older children; the new First Day School Committee welcomes suggestions and volunteers.

To ease communication and make meetings less repetitive, the Committee recommends that it meet jointly with the Church's Religious Education Committee every time. Barbara noted that all of the Church's committees meet monthly from 9 to 10 a.m. on a Sunday, and suggested that the Meeting may wish to consider this plan.

The Committee also recommends that the High School program be separate from the program for the younger children, and involve the students more, possibly on a subcommittee on which some students would sit.

Retreat Committee: Ralph Murphy offered Friends a last chance to sign up for the Meeting's Spring Retreat, and gave an overview of the program.

Treasurer: Susan Burr noted that she will be making a written report once a quarter, and gave an informal report on the preceding two and a half months. In this period there were \$2744 in expenses and \$2367 in income, leaving a checkbook balance of \$421.64. It was noted that while Friends respond enthusiastically to needs, there is not much in reserve. Susan was asked to prepare a notice for the newsletter stating

recommended contributions.

Worship and Ministry: Leonard Joy reported. The FWCC Gathering was well-attended. The Committee solicits reactions on the presence of infants at rise of meeting, and encourages Friends to think of clearness as possible in spiritual matters as well as personal. A draft of a pamphlet on Meeting for Business is ready, and will be the subject of at least one adult education session. Worship and Ministry solicits comments on the retreat, as it is such an important part of the spiritual life of the Meeting. More interaction between the Retreat Committee and Worship and Ministry was suggested, and the possibility of the two committees having a member in common was raised.

Leonard reported on a meeting with Doug Gwyn of the Friends Church, who expressed the warmest and most positive support for us staying at the Church. We need to make a decision, as a Meeting, if we wish to stay longer than the six months we originally agreed upon. After some discussion, it was agreed that Worship and Ministry will inform Friends Church of our wish to stay at least until June 1986, and explore with them their response. This will be announced after Meetings for Worship, and Friends are encouraged to bring comments to the Committee. If we are to stay another year, Worship and Ministry will also investigate with the Church the possibility of improving our Meeting room.

A Friend raised the issue of Friends leaving at eleven to attend another Meeting, and suggested changing the time of Meetings for Worship. Worship and Ministry will consider this. Amy Block noted that the Nominating Committee has not nominated a Transportation Coordinator, and asked if the Meeting feels it needs one. It was suggested that the Hospitality Committee could assume this responsibility when there is a need. Worship and Ministry wishes to revive the Meeting's library, and seeks a librarian. The Meeting now has its own liability insurance policy, for one year.

New Business, Concerns and Announcements: Mary Mikesell requested a letter of introduction to Woodbrooke College, where she will be studying April through July; and to London Yearly Meeting, which she will attend in May. This was approved. Mary conveyed loving greetings to the Meeting from Tom and Liz Head.

Betty Hall read a congratulatory letter, in the form of a poem, to San Jose Meeting as they commemorate the centennial of their meetinghouse; the Meeting also approved sending this. Betty also noted that advance orders for College Park Quarter directories can be placed now for \$2.75.

The May Meeting for Business will be at Berkeley Friends Church on May 5 at 7 p.m. Leslie Leonard, Barbara Voorhees Emmons and Rachel Ann Elder will provide a simple meal at 6 p.m. The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 9:20 p.m.

Jane Wolff
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
Sunday, May 5, 1985
At Berkeley Friends Church
1600 Sacramento Street, Berkeley
Barbara Graves, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened at 7:02 p.m. with a period of silent worship. There were eighteen Friends in attendance.

Minutes: The minutes of the April Meeting for Business were read, and approved with the following corrections: thanks for work on the Meeting's State of the Society report were due the Worship and Ministry Committee and David Leonard, not Leonard Joy. Worship and Ministry does not solicit comments on the retreat itself, but on the idea of having the Worship and Ministry Committee and the Retreat Committee work more closely together. Leonard Joy, Amy Block, Barbara Voorhees Emmons, and Rachel Ann Elder prepared the meal preceding Meeting for Business.

Clerk's Correspondence: The Clerk noted that Paul Jolly sends his love to all, and that Jane Rubin has written saying she would be back in Berkeley on May 13. A letter from Phyllis Luckenbaugh, requesting a transfer of membership from Bethesda (Maryland) Monthly Meeting to Strawberry Creek, was referred to the Overseers, as was junior member Kenneth Leonard's letter of application for full membership. Later in the meeting, it was noted that Sherrin Lloyd has also written to express her desire to transfer from Hayward Meeting to Strawberry Creek, and the Overseers will also be given this letter.

Nominating Committee: Amy Block made two additions to the nominations brought to the Meeting last month. Barbara Graves is to be an *ex officio* Overseer, and Susan Burr and *ex officio* member of the Finance Committee. Amy read the slate, and the Meeting approved it. She then presented the Committee's further nominations of Lynne Bird as Clerk of the Retreat Committee, Jim Kimball as PYM Observer, Mary Miche as FASE Representative, and Jill Worzer as one East Bay Sanctuary Coalition Representative. These nominations will be held over until June. Several positions, including one on Hospitality, one on Oversight, and Representatives for EBSC, AFSC, and FCL, are still open.

Overseers: Barbara Graves reported for Andrea Semons. The newcomers' brunch held at Rachel Ann Elder's was enjoyable and fruitful for the approximately twelve in attendance. It was noted that the "Friend in the Corner" is rarely taxed after Meetings for Worship, but that attenders do still have questions and that the brunches are a good way to address them. The Clerk, at the instruction of Oversight, has written a letter of introduction for Mary Mikesell.

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson reported. A group of Australians and New Zealanders from the Australian Quaker Peace Committee are planning a visit to the West Coast, probably next fall. The Committee requested the Meeting to authorize it to proceed with arrangements and publicity for this visit, with the idea that the Meeting would be a local sponsor, possibly in conjunction with other area Meetings and non-Quaker groups. The Committee feels its current budget will probably be adequate to handle any related expenses. The Meeting was supportive and interested, and approved Peace and Social Order's further exploration of the plan.

Religious Education Committee: Lou Ann Bieging reported that the infant care program is currently without a regular childcare person, and is planning to continue so through the summer, with the idea of hiring one again in the fall. She noted that she had attended a meeting of Berkeley Friends Church's Christian Education Committee, and is hopeful for greater cooperation between their

committee and ours. Volunteers are needed for the summer schedule.

Retreat Committee: Joyce Samati reported that twenty-one friends had attended all or part of the retreat, and she and others commented on the lively discussions and presentations, and the valuable reflection that filled the weekend.

Treasurer: Joyce Samati gave a brief report for Susan Burr. The balance on April 30 was \$603.89.

Worship and Ministry: Leonard Joy reported that the Committee has not met since the last Meeting for Business, but that he has had contact with Doug Gwyn. A convener is still needed for a group on the Bishops' Pastoral Letter. The Meeting's library is now at Friends Church, and a librarian is needed.

New Business, Concerns and Announcements: Betty Hall reported on the celebration of the centennial of the San Jose Meeting's meetinghouse, noting that several Strawberry Creek Friends attended. The Meeting's letter was warmly received, and San Jose Meeting returned its regards to us. Friends interested in Quarter history were especially urged to attend this spring's Quarterly Meeting.

The Meeting agreed to send its appreciation to Friends Church for including information about our Meeting for Worship on its sign.

Several Strawberry Creek Friends attended the recent wedding of Michael Turner and Mary Frances Wright; the Meeting will send a congratulatory letter to the Turners. It was also agreed to send a note of sympathy to Andrea Semons, who mourns the loss of her mother.

Dick Emmons noted that Lou Ann and John Bieging are taking over production of the Meeting newsletter, and encouraged Friends to submit items to them, on time and typed. The Meeting expressed its appreciation to Dick for his two years of work on the newsletter. A volunteer is still needed to maintain the Meeting mailing list.

Joyce Samati announced a conference on Youth, Violence and Non-violence, to be held May 31 to June 2. The Emmons family will be visiting Earlham College in May to see Esther Emmons crowned Queen of the May.

The Meeting approved holding Meetings for Business at 7:30 p.m. instead of 7:00, at least through October.

Recorder: Betty Hall noted that the transfer of Tom and Liz Head to Multnomah Meeting, which Strawberry Creek approved last fall, was approved by Multnomah on April 17.

East Bay Sanctuary Coalition: Jim Kimball reported briefly. Volunteers are needed in the Lower Rio Grande border region. There is some confusion over whether "EBSC" means "East Bay Sanctuary Coalition" or "East Bay Sanctuary Churches", and, as a new Jewish Sanctuary group wishes some affiliation with EBSC, it may wish to drop the label of "Churches". Friends encouraged Jim to continue attending EBSC meetings and reporting back.

June Meeting for Business: The June Meeting for Business will be on June 2, at 7:30 p.m., at Rachel Ann Elder's.

With thanks to Leonard, Amy, Barbara Emmons and Rachel Ann, the meeting closed in a period of worship at 8:38 p.m.

Jane Wolff
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

Sunday, June 2, 1985

At the home of Rachel Ann Elder

800 Hilldale, Berkeley

Lynne Bird, Alternate Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 7:33 p.m. There were eighteen Friends present during the course of the meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the May Meeting for Business were approved, with the following exceptions: Jim Kimball was nominated as a member of the Peace and Social Order Committee, not as PYM Representative. The correct spelling of Jill Warzer's name was also noted.

Clerk's Correspondence: The Alternate Clerk read Rachel Ann Elder's request for a letter of introduction to Friends Meetings in Idaho. Friends approved directing Lynne to write this letter. A note from College Park Quarter Ministry and Oversight Committee was also read, and flyers were distributed, urging Friends to attend a late June workshop on "The Good Order of Membership."

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant: Jim Kimball reported that EBSC had settled on "East Bay Sanctuary Covenant" as its name. The need continues for volunteers in the Rio Grande border region. He discussed plans for a public caravan of families which will be passing through the Bay Area in early July en route to Seattle to receive sanctuary.

Hospitality Committee: David Leonard reported briefly for Leslie on the planned gathering of East Bay Friends at Lake Temescal on June 9. Also, Friends Church has invited us to the post-Meeting barbecues it holds each week in the summer. If we do participate, we can purchase materials for \$1.50 each time, and participate in cleanup. The old and new Hospitality Committees are planning a joint meeting.

Nominating Committee: The nominations of Lynne Bird as Clerk of the Retreat Committee, Jim Kimball as a member of the Peace and Social Order Committee, Mary Miche as FASE Representative, and Jill Warzer as one East Bay Sanctuary Covenant Representative, which were held over from the June Meeting for Business, were approved. Amy Block then presented the additional nominations of Larry Perry as PYM Observer and Jim Kimball for a full term as another EBSC Representative. Candidates are still sought for FCL/FCNL Representative and AFSC Representative.

Overseers: Andrea Semons reported that a Membership Committee of Ralph Murphy and Jane Rubin has been formed for Sherrin Lloyd. For Kenneth Leonard, a junior member of Berkeley Friends Meeting on Vine Street who has applied for adult membership in Strawberry Creek, Joyce Samati, James Mari-Navarro and Barbara Graves will act as a Membership Committee. Shortly after applying for membership, Phyllis Luckenbaugh learned that she and Paul will be leaving the area soon, and she has asked that her letter be returned. Andrea read a letter from the *ad hoc* committee of PYM which has been investigating the possibility of joining Friends United Meeting and Friends General Conference. It recommends that PYM not seek formal affiliation with these other Friends groups, but establish a standing committee to report on their activities, and to encourage activities which will bring Friends together. It was noted that Elizabeth Perry and Esther Emmons are graduating from Earlham College this year, and that Aaron Dienstfrey, Steven Emmons and Kenneth Leonard are graduating from high school. Andrea offered copies of the new *Faith and Practice*, and thanked the Meeting for its letter of support after her mother's recent death.

Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative: Gerry Maynard asked Friends to tell her

what aspects of PYM they are most interested in having her report on. Friends planning to attend PYM were urged to let Gerry know, and she was encouraged to attend Representative Committee meetings and whatever else interests her. Those interested in attending may talk to Carl Anderson, Larry Perry, or anyone else who has gone.

Peace and Social Order Committee: Carl Anderson noted that the visit by Friends from New Zealand and Australia will probably happen in October and/or November.

Religious Education Committee: Susan Burr reported briefly for Michael Hartman, noting that the green rug for the infant care room costs \$95, plus \$15 to \$20 for padding, expenses to be shared with the Church. The Meeting approved spending this money. David Leonard noted that the Committee had met with the Church's Christian Education Committee, and that cooperation continues to grow. Larry Perry announced an Adult Religious Education program to be held at Quaker Center the third week in July.

Treasurer: Susan Burr distributed copies of her quarterly report for February through April, noting that receipts and expenditures were both considerable. In May, there were \$1065 in deposits, and the Meeting paid \$591 to Yosemite Institute for this spring's retreat and a \$110 deposit to Ben Lomond for next spring's, leaving a balance of \$795.07 on June 2. The Meeting still has not moved its bank account from Hibernia, and needs to. Friends discussed various financial institutions, their requirements and our preferences. Susan will consult with the Finance Committee, and come back with a suggestion.

Worship and Ministry: David Leonard reported that the Committee is concerned with the acoustics in the meeting room, and is looking for ways to improve them. Leslie Leonard has agreed to take over care of the Meeting's library from Barb Tittle and Rachel Ann Elder. The Committee continues working on a pamphlet on Meetings for Business, and is exploring the possibility of having hymn singing before Meetings for Worship. The Committee is very interested in increasing its contact with other committees working on the spiritual life of the Meeting. A Friend suggested that Worship and Ministry designate someone to go downstairs at the close of Meeting and notify the infant care workers.

New Business, Concerns and Announcements: Rachel Ann Elder reported a call from Herb Foster, the FCNL West Coast Field Representative, announcing that Sig Goodman, FCNL's Secretary for Development, would be in the area for the next two weeks and was interested in establishing closer contact with monthly meetings. To that end, she invited both of them to our Meeting for Worship and to the picnic at Lake Temescal, and encouraged Friends to talk with Herb and Sig there. Joyce Samati reported briefly on David Hartsough's recent trip to Central America, and invited Friends to ask her for copies of his report. Carl Anderson reported that the Central American Peace Walk in which Fred Moore is participating has been a success so far. The walkers have not been allowed into Honduras, but still hope to continue north. Larry Perry offered copies of the College Park Quarterly directory for sale.

The July Meeting for Business will be at Berkeley Friends Church on July 7 at 7:30 p.m. Carol Mann volunteered the Hospitality Committee to prepare light refreshments at 7. The Meeting asked the Hospitality Committee to consider whether this is a regular responsibility they want to take on. With thanks to Rachel Ann, the meeting closed in a period of worship at 8:53 p.m.

Jane Wolff
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
Sunday, July 7, 1985
At Berkeley Friends Church
1600 Sacramento Street, Berkeley
Barbara Graves, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting began in silent worship at 7:30 p.m. Nineteen Friends attended.

Minutes: The minutes of the June Meeting for Business were approved, with the correction noted that the nominations approved at the June meeting were held over from May, not June.

Clerk's Correspondence: Jim Kimball's joyous letter requesting the transfer of his membership from Berkeley Friends Meeting was referred to the Overseers.

Conduct of Meetings for Business: The Meeting discussed some issues related to Meetings for Business. Friends making Committee reports were requested to provide the Recording Clerk with copies of their outlines, notes, or actual reports. A draft of an annual calendar for the Meeting, showing items needing to be considered in Meetings for Business throughout the year, was distributed; Friends will review this and bring changes and additions to the September Meeting for Business. It was decided that the newsletter should be published on the last Sunday of each month, normally one week before monthly meeting, and that the agenda should be distributed after morning worship on the days that Meetings for Business are held. There will be no regular August Meeting for Business, but a short meeting will be held after worship on August 11.

Hospitality Committee: Betty Hall reported that the Committee is arranging an event, to be held August 25, to celebrate transitions in the lives of a number of Friends. Larry Perry explained details of the Friends Church barbecue, to which we are invited each Sunday in summer, after worship. Friends commented, and a signup sheet for helpers was circulated. Betty noted that Lynne Bird will be having surgery in late July, and asked Friends to remember the Birds and assist them if possible during this time. Hospitality Committee members encourage Friends to tell them when similar needs arise.

Nominating Committee: The Meeting approved the nominations, held over from June, of Larry Perry as PYM Observer and of Jim Kimball as EBSC Representative. Amy Block offered the additional nominations of Dolly Marshall as a member of the Peace and Social Order Committee and of Stephanie Kennedy as FCL/FCNL Representative. Nominees are still needed for First Day School and Hospitality Committee members and for AFSC Representative. The Meeting praised the fine job done by the Nominating Committee.

Overseers: Andrea Semons offered copies of *Faith and Practice*. Ralph Murphy and Barbara Graves reported briefly on the Membership Committees for Sherrin Lloyd and Kenneth Leonard, respectively. The Overseers recommend that Sherrin's request for transfer from Hayward Area Meeting and Kenneth's request for adult membership in Strawberry Creek be approved. These recommendations will be held over until our August Meeting for Business.

Andrea reported on College Park Quarter's recent Ben Lomond retreat on "The Good Order of Membership", which four Strawberry Creek members attended. The Overseers have been considering their job description, and proposed that other Meeting committees also do this, and then read the descriptions in Meeting for Business. To begin, Andrea read the Overseers' own duties and responsibilities. They will designate other committees, one by one, to locate and read their mandates in Meetings for Business.

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson reported. The Committee asked the Meeting to sponsor two programs, a panel discussion involving several East German Friends who will be visiting the area in August, and an October visit by several Quakers from New Zealand and Australia. No supplemental budget was requested, although the Committee welcomes contributions from individuals. Mary Mische will be handling the housing for the Germans, and Rachel Ann Elder for the October visitors. The Meeting approved sponsoring these programs, and requested that the Committee keep the Meeting informed about the events. Carl invited Friends to Anna Graves' slide show on her recent trip to Nicaragua, and solicited ideas from Friends on other events the Committee might sponsor. **Religious Education Committee:** Michael Hartman reported briefly for Jane Timberlake. Some difficulties concerning doctrinal differences between the Meeting's Religious Education Committee and the Church's Christian Education Committee are being resolved.

Treasurer: Michael Hartman gave a brief report for Susan Burr. She has not yet consulted with the Finance Committee about moving the Meeting's bank account. Since June 1st, when the balance was \$795.07, there have been deposits of \$460.80 and expenses of \$623.88, leaving a balance of \$631.99.

Worship and Ministry: Leonard Joy reported. Friends Church is comfortable with us meeting at the same time, and there appear to be no problems with our lease. It is now possible for the Meeting to have hymn singing before Meetings for Worship; any interested Friends may initiate this activity. Doug Gwyn is happy to have us explore improving the acoustics in the Social Hall; Brian Erickson is working on this. The Committee still welcomes input on its handout on Meetings for Business. The Library now flourishes under Leslie Leonard's care, with support from Rachel Ann Elder.

The Meeting needs to identify those evenings or other times we would like to use the Church's Social Hall, and clear this with the Church. It was decided that the Recording Clerk will make arrangements with the Church to reserve the room for Meetings for Business, making a year's worth of commitments for months with four Sundays. Worship and Ministry will keep a running total of the number of times we use the room, so we stay within our contract.

New Business, Concerns and Announcements: A Friend expressed concern that the La Honda site for PYM is not easily accessible by the handicapped, and proposed that the Meeting minute a letter to PYM's site committee, with a copy to PYM, requesting that it not choose sites that do not meet minimum requirements for accessibility. This was discussed. Friends felt that this is a complex issue best dealt with at the Yearly Meeting level, and took no action.

The Meeting also thanked the Hospitality Committee for the June 23rd gathering welcoming Lisa Luckenbaugh and bidding farewell to Lisa, Paul and Phyllis.

There will be a short Meeting for Business following Meeting for Worship on August 11, at Friend's Church. The September Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday, September 8 at 7:30 p.m. With thanks to the many Friends who contributed to the meal before the meeting, the meeting closed in a period of worship at 9:19 p.m.

Jane Wolff
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
Sunday, August 11, 1985
At Berkeley Friends Church
1600 Sacramento Street, Berkeley
Barbara Graves, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened at 11:10 a.m., with about twenty-five Friends in attendance.

Clerk's Correspondence: The Clerk read a letter from Gerry Maynard, requesting membership in Strawberry Creek Meeting. This was referred to the Overseers.

Overseers: The Meeting approved Sherrin Lloyd's request for transfer of her membership from Hayward Area Monthly Meeting, and Kenneth Leonard's request for adult membership in Strawberry Creek.

Nominating Committee: The nominations of Dolly Marshall as a member of the Peace and Social Order Committee and of Stephanie Kennedy as FCL/FCNL Representative, held over from the July Meeting for Business, were approved. Amy Block offered the additional nominations of Joan Wheeler as a member of the First Day School Committee and of Erika Atkin-Orvis as a member of the Peace and Social Order Committee. As is our custom, these nominations will be held over for final action at our September Meeting for Business.

September Meeting for Business: The September Meeting for Business will be at the Maynards', 2941 Northwood Drive, Alameda, on September 8 at 7:30 p.m.

Jane Wolff
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
Sunday, September 8, 1985
At the home of Gerry and Bob Maynard
2941 Northwood Drive, Alameda
Barbara Graves, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 7:34 p.m. There were eighteen Friends present during the course of the meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the July Meeting for Business were approved as read. The minutes of the Meeting for Business held after Meeting for Worship on August 11 were approved, with the addition noted that at the meeting Lauren Mari-Navarro had been nominated as a member of the Retreat Committee.

Clerk's Correspondence: The Clerk presented an open letter from Robert Schutz, Reporter of the PYM Committee on Unity with Nature, and an accompanying letter from Alan Strain, Clerk of that committee. In affirmation of Marshall Massey's talk at PYM, they urge Friends to find new energy and commitment to work for preservation of the environment. They suggest that we read Massey's pamphlet (available from the AFSC bookstore for \$3.50), listen to his address (Larry Perry has a tape), raise money, volunteer time, and, as a Meeting, appoint a contact person. This concern was referred to the Peace and Social Order Committee; Friends interested in the issue may speak with Carl Anderson.

Review of Yearly Schedule: Friends reviewed briefly an annual calendar of Meeting events, and were asked to bring suggestions and additions to the October Meeting for Business.

Finance Committee: Gerry Maynard distributed copies of the proposed budget for the 1985-86 fiscal year, noting that it has grown. The Meeting discussed a number of items, giving preliminary approval to our contribution to EBSC, and requesting more information on several proposed Worship and Ministry expenses. In response to several recent out-of-pocket expenses related to our meeting space, it was suggested that we include a line item for such maintenance and furnishings. A Friend proposed the addition of a \$50 contribution to the Brinton Visitors' Fund; it was decided to check our minutes to determine how we have supported Brinton Visitors in the past.

Susan Burr will give those responsible for larger budget items, such as Religious Education and the newsletter, a six-month status report on their spending. Friends were urged to be prompt in turning in their bills to the Treasurer, and to remember that the budget is elastic, and intended as a guideline. While the budget is based on an average annual contribution of about \$165 per member, those who can pay more are urged to do so. Discussion will be continued, and final action on the budget will be taken at the October Meeting for Business.

Hospitality Committee: Larry Perry noted that the Sunday morning barbecues have ended, and thanked those who helped. He reported that the "'Transitions'" party at the Emmons' was an enjoyable event, and that the Committee is planning a baby welcoming and other future gatherings.

Nominating Committee: Jim Kimball reported. The Meeting approved the nominations of Joan Wheeler as a member of the Religious Education Committee, Erika Atkin-Orvis as a member of the Peace and Social Order Committee, and Lauren Mari-Navarro as a member of the Retreat Committee. Jim offered the additional nominations of Brian Erickson as a Hospitality Committee member and of Patti Erickson as AFSC Representative. These will be held over for final action at our October Meeting. Friends were reminded that the *Ad Hoc* Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee will also be nominated next month.

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson distributed copies of a 'Call to End Poverty', and asked for the Meeting's endorsement of it. After some discussion about the meaning and purpose of such an action, Friends approved the following statement:

Strawberry Creek Meeting has reviewed and is in strong support of the 'Call to End Poverty'; we also have heard of the plan of Berkeley Friends' Church to bring the call to the attention of local city councils and will send a representative from our Meeting as a partner in such a presentation.

The Committee is spending \$75 on the visit of Friends from the German Democratic Republic. If the Meeting is to sponsor another Berkeley Emergency Food Project dinner around Thanksgiving this year, a coordinator is needed. Friends were urged to consider volunteering to coordinate a dinner at some other time of the year, if Thanksgiving is not a good time. Carl has a summary of PYM activities related to Peace and Social Order, if anyone is interested in seeing it.

Religious Education Committee: Jane Wolff reported for Jane Timberlake. The program is underway, with most teachers lined up, at least for the first semester. Openings still exist, especially for 1986; anyone interested may contact Jane Timberlake. The Committee solicits Friends' favorite memorized prayers, Bible verses, and so on; they plan a fundraising 'versathon', in which the children would obtain pledges for each verse memorized. Most of the proceeds would go to charities of the children's choice, with some left over for a party.

The Committee solicited feedback on the extent to which the children's singing in the school rooms throughout Meeting for Worship bothered Friends. A number of Friends felt that quieter activities would be more appropriate.

Retreat Committee: Lynne Bird reminded Friends that the Fall Retreat will be held on November 2 at Hillside Community Church, and the Spring Retreat will be April 25-27 at Ben Lomond.

Treasurer: Susan Burr thanked Friends for their recent contributions, and reported that the checkbook balance was \$367.74. She has investigated moving the Meeting's bank account, and recommended Central Bank or World Savings. The Meeting authorized the Clerk to write the letter necessary to open an account at whichever institution the Treasurer and Finance Committee choose. Friends discussed ways of encouraging Friends to contribute to the Meeting's treasury.

Worship and Ministry: Gerry Maynard reported for Leonard Joy. The Committee is planning a program of activities; announcements will be forthcoming. It is also reviewing its role and function, and plans to offer a statement on this at the November Meeting for Business.

Overseers: Kate Buckner reported for Andrea Semons. A committee comprising Carl Anderson, Ralph Murphy and Andrea Semons has met with Jim Kimball to discuss his request for membership. Friendly Sixes are being planned again; Mary Mikesell will coordinate these gatherings.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant: Kate Buckner reported. The group is considering responses to the invasion of refugee camps by Honduran military; more international workers are needed there. Charlie Clements will give a presentation at St. Joseph the Workman Church on October 26. Kate explained a program to observe the INS border patrols. The Meeting thanked Kate for her report, and asked her to consider preparing a written report or leading a discussion after worship.

Kate wished to report on her stay at *Casa de los Amigos* in Mexico City, on the Mexico City Friends Meeting, and on refugees in Mexico. The Peace and Social Order Committee will try to arrange a time for Kate to speak at length on her experiences and observations. The Committee requested and received the Meeting's approval to advertise such an event outside the Meeting.

New Business, Concerns and Announcements: The Meeting offered its support to Jim Kimball, who will be in Nicaragua September 27 through October 6.

The October Meeting for Business will be at the Berkeley Friends Church at 7 p.m. on October 6. With thanks to the Maynards, the meeting closed in a period of worship at 9:43 p.m.

Jane Wolff
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
Sunday, October 6, 1985
At Berkeley Friends Church
1600 Sacramento Street, Berkeley
Lynne Bird, Alternate Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened at 7:34 p.m. with a period of silent worship. Seventeen Friends attended.

Minutes: The minutes of the September Meeting for Business were read, and approved with the changes noted that Jim Kimball gave the Nominating Committee report for Amy Block, and that the meeting ended at 10:14 p.m.

Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee: The Meeting appointed Lynne Bird and Jane Wolff to bring to the November Meeting nominations for members of next year's Nominating Committee.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant: Kate Buckner circulated literature and made a number of announcements about EBSC activities and her own work as coordinator of EBSC's program to sponsor visitors to Honduran refugee camps, and also possibly to the Texan border region. A concern about a campaign on behalf of an imprisoned Honduran physician was referred to the Peace and Social Order Committee.

Finance Committee: Gerry Maynard presented the final version of the Meeting's 1985-86 budget. Leonard Joy explained the Worship and Ministry Committee's request for money for printing its pamphlet on Meetings for Business, and for a book trolley and partitions. The Meeting discussed making a budget line item for improvements to our Meeting space, and decided that, for future budgets, the Finance Committee, when planning the budget, will ask all other Committees for estimates of their projected expenses for "Furniture and Equipment". These, taken together, will compose a line item in the budget for the following year; if other expenses come up during the year, they can be brought to Meeting for Business. A "Furnishings and Equipment" line item of \$135 was added to the 1985-86 budget to cover the book trolley and dividers, and the Meeting agreed to send a letter of thanks to Sandra and Fred Gey, from whom we purchased the dividers. The proposed budget for Worship and Ministry for next year was changed from \$600 to \$200.

The Meeting also agreed to contribute \$25 a year to the Brinton Visitors' Fund of PYM, and increased the "Stationary and Miscellaneous" item from \$65 to \$100. With these changes, the Meeting approved a 1985-86 budget of \$7275.

Hospitality Committee: Betty Hall reported that the Committee is planning a baby welcoming, a new member welcoming, and another event at which maple syrup may be consumed. They welcome feedback on the idea of having juice and cookies after Meetings for Worship.

Nominating Committee: The Meeting approved the nominations, held over from last month, of Brian Erickson as a member of the Hospitality Committee and of Patti Erickson as AFSC representative. Amy Block presented the additional nomination of Susan Kepner as a member of the Hospitality Committee. This will be held over for final action at our November Meeting.

Overseers: Andrea Semons reported that she, Carl Anderson, and Ralph Murphy had met with Jim Kimball to discuss his request for transfer of membership from Berkeley Friends Meeting, and briefly acquainted the Meeting with Jim's background. The Overseers recommend approval of the transfer. The paperwork has been completed. As is our custom, the recommendation will be seasoned until next

Meeting for Business. Kate Buckner has convened a membership committee of herself, Amy Block, Chuck Kepner, and Maggie Ely to explore Gerry Maynard's application for membership with her. Andrea read a letter of application for membership from Barbara Tittle, and reported that the Overseers have formed a membership committee for her of Dick Emmons, Chris Hogness and herself.

The Overseers expressed their thanks to the Friendly Sixes Committee: Mary Mikesell, Louanne Bieging and Jean Flores.

Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative: Gerry Maynard reported briefly on the Yearly Meeting held in LaVerne this summer. PYM now prefers the term "Monthly Meeting" to "Meeting for Business", approved nominating Sok Hon Hahn for the Nobel Peace Prize, and has decided to appoint a representative to the Evangelical Friends Alliance. The Yearly Meeting will be in LaVerne again next summer, and Gerry urged Friends to consider attending.

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson announced a number of upcoming events, and reported briefly on Kate Buckner's recent report of her experiences in Mexico City.

Religious Education Committee: Jane Timberlake reported that things are going smoothly. The Meeting discussed ways to provide Friends, especially the children, with opportunities for singing. It was decided to try singing before worship, up to 9:55 a.m., possibly in a basement room further from the Social Hall. Jane will talk with Doug Gwyn about the use of a piano there. The Committee solicits ideas for the Christmas program, tentatively scheduled for December 22.

Retreat Committee: Lynne Bird described the Meeting's fall retreat, to be held November 2, and offered Friends the opportunity to sign up.

Treasurer: Susan Burr reported that since August 31, there have been \$882.95 in deposits and \$773.10 in expenses, leaving a balance of \$527.14 on October 6. The Meeting's bank account has been moved to Central Bank.

Worship and Ministry: Leonard Joy reported that the Committee is busy with many concerns, but nothing requiring the attention of the Monthly Meeting. Input is still solicited on the proposed pamphlet on Meetings for Business.

New Business, Concerns and Announcements: Mary Mikesell returned her letter of introduction to London Yearly Meeting, with their greetings. Mary reported that before her trip, Rachel Ann Elder had given her money to buy a book for herself and one for the Meeting, and she presented, from Rachel Ann and herself, a copy of John Yungblut's *Rediscovering the Christ*. The Ecumenical Peace Institute will be coordinating activities at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in December; Friends were invited to consider participating, either as a Meeting or individually.

In recognition of the fact that the Meeting has become a larger group, with more newcomers, Friends were encouraged to become acquainted with new people and to include them in activities.

The Meeting decided to return to 7 p.m. as the time for Monthly Meetings, and to discuss next month the possibility of meeting after Meetings for Worship. The November Meeting for Business will be at the Berkeley Friends Church on November 3 at 7 p.m. The meeting closed with silent worship at 9:45 p.m.

Jane Wolff
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
Sunday, November 3, 1985
At Berkeley Friends Church
1600 Sacramento Street, Berkeley
Barbara Graves, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 7:00 p.m. There were eighteen Friends present at the Meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the October Meeting for Business were approved as read.

Clerk's Correspondence: Barbara Graves read a letter inviting Friends to a PYM workshop on clerking, and a letter announcing a weekend program at Quaker Center sponsored by PYM's East-West Relations Committee. Friends were encouraged to attend these events, and to request scholarship assistance if needed.

Business Carried Over from October Meeting: The Meeting heartily approved Jim Kimball's request for transfer of his membership to Strawberry Creek. The Recorder noted that Jim is the Meeting's 49th member.

Finance Committee: Gerry Maynard noted that the annual budget published in the October newsletter is incorrect, and that the corrected version will be published.

Hospitality Committee: Larry Perry announced the planned Thanksgiving worship and potluck at Berkeley Friends Meeting. Betty Hall reported that there will be posted a signup sheet for those who wish to supply refreshments to share after Meetings for Worship, and that the Committee is planning baby welcomings.

Nominating Committee: The Meeting approved Susan Kepner as a member of the Hospitality Committee. Amy Block presented the nomination of Gerry Maynard as Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative. This will be held over for final action at the December Monthly Meeting.

Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee: Jane Wolff reported, offering the nominations of James Mari-Navarro as Clerk of the Nominating Committee, and of Barbara Voorhees Emmons and Gerry Maynard as members. Final action on these nominations will be taken at the December Meeting for Business.

Overseers: Andrea Semons reported that she, Dick Emmons and Chris Hogness had held a fruitful discussion with Barb Tittle concerning her application for membership, and that the Overseers recommend approval of Barb's request. The Meeting will take final action on this at its December Meeting.

The Overseers have been examining the list of members, and report that Tim Hall has asked to discontinue his relationship with the meeting. The Meeting heard Tim's request to withdraw, and expressed its good wishes for his future. Friends noted their appreciation for Tim's activity and participation in Strawberry Creek Meeting in its early years.

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson announced a number of events, and reported that the visit by the New Zealand and Australian Friends was a success, with many attending their presentation.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant: Jim Kimball reported on the trial of Sanctuary workers in Tucson, and noted that several refugees have been placed with East Bay families. The EBSC has experienced rapid growth, and is working on restructuring its steering committee to make its meetings more workable.

Religious Education Committee: Ralph Murphy reported, for Jane Timberlake, that everything is fine.

Retreat Committee: Lynne Bird reported that twenty adults had attended the Fall retreat, held the day before. Friends commented on the experience, and thanked the Committee for its work.

Worship and Ministry: Leslie Leonard read the Committee's description of its charge, and noted that the Committee members had found it a valuable exercise to discuss it. They are now announcing the dates of their meetings, for Friends who may wish to bring concerns to them. The post-worship discussions on the parables have concluded, although there may be an additional evening session, perhaps in January. Two discussion groups focusing on Pendle Hill pamphlets will be held in November.

Leslie noted that the Committee's ongoing conversations with Friends Church have uncovered some misunderstandings about the nature of our agreement to use the space in the Church building. They have posted on the bulletin board a list of the arrangements between the two Meetings which the Church drew up at the beginning of our tenure; some of these are no longer current, and the Committee is working with the Church to update them. One concern is the use of the building beyond our regular Meetings for Worship and Business. Leonard Joy is the Meeting's "official" liaison with Friends Church; all queries about additional use of the building should go through him, or, in his absence, through Leslie.

As directed at the October Monthly Meeting, the Committee solicited Friends' opinions on Monthly Meetings, and found that many Friends wished to hold Meetings for Business after Meetings for Worship, and that some wished to meet in homes, rather than at the Church. Friends noted that this subject was addressed in a questionnaire a few years ago, but that our situation and membership has changed significantly since then. Worship and Ministry will investigate the alternatives open to us, and solicit input with a new questionnaire.

New Business, Concerns and Announcements: Kate Buckner reported that one of the Sanctuary workers on trial in Tucson needs help with childcare, and that the EBSC has asked each of its member congregations to contribute \$50 toward her expenses. The Meeting discussed the concern, and directed the Treasurer to write EBSC a check for \$50, and receive Friends' contributions to cover the expense.

Friends briefly discussed singing before Meetings for Worship. Worship and Ministry will contact the Meeting's pianists and attempt to clarify the situation.

A Friend raised the concern that circulating papers during Meetings for Business distracted Friends from the business at hand and was detrimental to a worshipful atmosphere, and asked Friends to summarize points of interest to all when an issue is first discussed, and make any related printed matter available for Friends to examine at another time.

Andrea Semons noted that All Saints' Day had just been observed, and invited Friends, in the closing silence, to reflect on persons now alive and no longer living who have given us a portion of light. She offered cookies for Friends to enjoy after the Meeting.

The Meeting will hold its December Meeting for Business either at the home of Jane Timberlake or at the home of the Leonards, on December 8 at 7 p.m. The meeting closed with worship at 8:48 p.m.

Jane Wolff
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
Sunday, December 8, 1985
At the home of David and Leslie Leonard
1309 Ordway, Berkeley
Barbara Graves, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened in silent worship at 7:02 p.m. Fourteen Friends were present during the course of the meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the November Monthly Meeting were approved as read.

Clerk's Correspondence: The Clerk noted that three letters had been received. The first, inviting Friends to lend money to the College Park Friends Education Association, was referred to the Newsletter editors. The second acknowledged the receipt of our deposit for our spring retreat at Ben Lomond Quaker Center, and offered a discount at Quaker Center events. This was referred to the Retreat Committee. Finally, Bob Schutz wrote to request that we appoint a representative to PYM's Committee on Unity with Nature. Carl Anderson noted that he would address this during the Peace and Social Order Committee report.

Hospitality Committee: Larry Perry reported on the Thanksgiving meeting and potluck at Berkeley Friends Meeting, and announced a baby welcoming on January 11 at the Samatis'. The Committee is planning a new members' welcoming, encourages Friends to sign up to bring refreshments for after meetings for worship, and is coordinating the potluck after the Christmas pageant.

Nominating Committee: The Meeting approved the nomination of Gerry Maynard as PYM Representative. Amy Block presented the name of Carolyn Duhem as a member of the Hospitality Committee. This will be held over for final action at the January Monthly Meeting; the incoming Nominating Committee will complete the procedure. The Meeting expressed its warm appreciation to Amy for her Committee's work in the past.

Amy read the Nominating Committee's job description. Friends noted that *Faith and Practice* specifies that the terms of Nominating Committee members are to be overlapping. While Strawberry Creek has implemented this informally, it does approve an entire new committee each year. Friends discussed whether to formalize the continuity of the committee by nominating some or all members for two year terms, and whether to expand the number of committee members from three to four. Lynne Bird and Jane Wolff were asked to bring a recommendation to the January Monthly Meeting.

Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee: The Meeting approved James Mari-Navarro as Clerk of the Nominating Committee, and Barbara Voorhees Emmons and Gerry Maynard as members.

Overseers: Andrea Semons reported. The Meeting heartily approved Barb Tittle's application for membership. Kate Buckner reported that she, Amy Block, Maggie Ely and Chuck Kepner had met with Gerry Maynard to discuss her application for membership. Kate briefly described Gerry's life and journey to Strawberry Creek, and reported that the Overseers enthusiastically recommend acceptance of her membership. This will be held over for final action at the January Monthly Meeting. The Overseers are planning a brunch for newcomers to the Meeting, and asked Friends to suggest people to invite.

Andrea reported that the Overseers had discussed the process by which Friends become members, noting that some Meetings prefer to have applicants absent when the Meeting is considering their membership applications. The Overseers feel comfortable with permitting applicants to be present, and asked Friends to bring

to them any concerns that may arise early in the process. Friends discussed this at length, and agreed that if all follow good order, uncomfortable situations should not arise. If, during the month an application is held over, the Overseers become aware of problems, the applicant can be asked not to attend. Objections raised at the last minute are out of order.

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson reported that the dinner at the Berkeley Emergency Food Project was well-attended and appreciated. In reference to the letter from Bob Schutz, asking for a liaison between the Meeting and Friends in Unity with Nature, Carl reported that Larry Perry has volunteered to serve in this capacity. The Meeting gladly accepted and approved.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant: Kate Buckner reported on the EBSC Steering Committee meeting, and made a number of announcements. Those interested in the latest developments in the trial of the Tucson sanctuary workers may call 800-LEV-1933 or 540-5907. Kate noted that while the Meeting made a commitment to EBSC, and she is active, we as a Meeting do little for EBSC. She has given the Peace and Social Order Committee suggestions of things we can do. Peace and Social Order was asked to return with a plan by which the Meeting can pursue these ideas and actions.

Religious Education Committee: David Leonard noted that the Committee is busy with the Christmas program. The Meeting discussed how the children enter Meetings for Worship. The Committee asked the Meeting's permission to have the children sing for the first fifteen minutes of each worship hour until the Christmas program, and the Meeting discussed ways to make this less disruptive.

Treasurer: Susan Burr reported that the Meeting began the fiscal year with \$897.59, and in November had \$1389.85 in credits and \$1822.61 in expenses. She distributed a report showing actual spending by committee in the 84-85 fiscal year. The Meeting agreed to contribute to the Berkeley Emergency Food Project \$18.62 in earmarked contributions remaining after the dinner. It was decided to charge the rental fee for the Christmas program to the Meeting's general rent expenses rather than to the Religious Education Committee. Susan will notify our insurance company that we have no increased expenses, and that they should have the photographs they requested of the building on file as part of the Church's records.

Worship and Ministry: Leslie Leonard reported that the Fireside Room on the Church's ground floor is not available for Monthly Meetings on Sunday mornings; she will check other options in the building. The two post-Worship discussions on Pendle Hill pamphlets were well-attended; the Committee seeks feedback. The Meeting and the Church are beginning to discuss renewal of the contract, and the Committee invites Friends to express concerns and ideas. She asked Friends to assist with setting up tables and rearranging chairs after worship, or at least not to stand in the way of those who do.

Report on PYM Conference on Clerking: Kate Buckner reported on the Conference, which she attended and found to be a valuable experience. Topics discussed included minutes, dissenters, consensus and unity, Quaker process, the Monthly Meeting as a Meeting for Worship, the clerk as facilitator, and good order. Kate offered to convene a workshop on clerking, and the Meeting responded enthusiastically. She has pamphlets, and noted that PYM's Ministry and Oversight Committee is preparing a manual on clerking.

January Monthly Meeting: The January Monthly Meeting will be at Berkeley Friends Church on January 5 at 7 p.m. With thanks to the Leonards, the meeting closed with silent worship at 9:16 p.m.

Jane Wolff
Recording Clerk

✓

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
Sunday, January 5, 1986
At Berkeley Friends Church
1600 Sacramento Street, Berkeley
Barbara Graves, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened at 7:01 p.m. with a period of silent worship. Thirteen Friends attended.

Minutes: The minutes of the December Monthly Meeting were approved as read.

Clerk's Correspondence: The Clerk noted the receipt of a poem from Phyllis Luckenbaugh, which will be posted on the bulletin board. The Women's Coalition to Stop U.S. Intervention in Central America and the Caribbean has invited us to participate in their project to make a peace ribbon for Nicaragua; this was referred to the Peace and Social Order Committee.

Hospitality Committee: Betty Hall announced that, in addition to the five babies (Eva Kersey, Beth Kersey, Clifford Anderson-Bergman, Rebecca Anderson-Bergman and Ravan Samati) being welcomed on January 11, two older children, Michael Anderson and Jacob Kersey, will be included. Larry Perry noted that a welcoming for new adult members is also being planned.

Nominating Committee: Amy Block reported for James Mari-Navarro. The Meeting approved the nomination of Caroline Duhem as a member of the Hospitality Committee. Betty Hall noted that it is time to nominate Friends to prepare the State of the Society report. She offered to convene a Committee to do this, and suggested that Worship and Ministry and Oversight each identify one person who will work with her on the report. The Peace and Social Order Committee and the Religious Education Committee will also provide input. The Meeting thanked Betty and approved this plan.

Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee: Jane Wolff reported. To ensure that the Meeting complies with *Faith and Practice's* directive to have Nominating Committee members serve overlapping terms, the Committee proposed a plan. The Nominating Committee would continue to have three members; each year one member would be serving the second year of a two-year term, one member would be serving the first year of a two-year term, and one member would be serving a one-year term. The Meeting approved, and will ask the present Nominating Committee to determine which of its member are serving which terms.

Overseers: Andrea Semons reported. The Meeting approved Gerry Maynard's membership application. Kate Buckner will present Gerry with a copy of *The Quaker Way of Life*. The Overseers have tentatively scheduled a newcomer's brunch for February 9.

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson reported on the December 15th worship and potluck at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. He noted that Jim Barnard wishes to resign from the Committee, and thanked Jim for his work. Peace and Social Order Committee recommended sending \$20 of the \$25 in the Meeting's Central American Refugee Relief Fund to Mexico City Friends Meeting, which has an active program to assist refugees. After a brief discussion, the Meeting agreed to send the entire \$25.

In response to the Meeting's request that the Peace and Social Order Committee recommend activities in support of the East Bay Sanctuary Covenant, Carl reported that Ken Orvis is looking for a worship service or other suitable event in which Friends can participate. After some discussion on leadership and activity in projects, the Meeting asked Carl to take back to the Committee not a judgement,

but its disappointment that no other suggestion from the list Kate Buckner had given the Committee had been presented to the Meeting. The Meeting hopes that publicizing the list and discussing it further may yield more fruit.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant: Kate Buckner reported that in the last month, four more cities have declared sanctuary, and that sanctuary was voted the leading religious media issue of 1985. The local EBSC office is looking for an office manager.

Retreat Committee: Lynne Bird noted that the Meeting's spring retreat will be held April 25-27 at Ben Lomond. The Committee welcomes suggestions of themes and discussion topics.

Worship and Ministry: Leonard Joy reported. The Committee has conveyed to Berkeley Friends Church the Meeting's concerns regarding our lease, and is awaiting their response. A basement room now used as a schoolroom may be available to the Meeting for Monthly Meetings; now that all possibilities are known, Worship and Ministry will proceed with a questionnaire to Friends concerning time and place for Monthly Meetings. Worship and Ministry seeks new books, especially ones suitable for newcomers, for the Meeting's library.

New Business, Concerns and Announcements: Kate Buckner noted that she has been selected as part of a national delegation to Central America sponsored by Witness for Peace and Fellowship of Reconciliation, and that she leaves for Mexico, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Costa Rica on January 18th. She asked Strawberry Creek to administer a fund to help support her trip, and asked the Meeting to request \$750 from PYM's Fund for Concerns to help meet her expenses. She also read a letter from Orange Grove Meeting, offering its support.

After some discussion of ways in which Strawberry Creek Friends could express their interest, support and appreciation to Kate, the Meeting united in hearty support of Kate's participation in the delegation, and arranged to encourage and receive contributions from Friends for it. In anticipation of the receipt of about \$500 to \$750, the Meeting approved an appropriation of \$100 from its General Fund. In addition, the Meeting opened a special fund to receive contributions which it hopes to be in the neighborhood of \$400 to \$650. The Meeting also approved a request to PYM, that \$750 be provided Kate through its Fund for Concerns. Kate will also be provided with a letter of introduction to Friends' groups, and invited Friends to tell her what they wish her to find out. Jim Kimball will prepare a newsletter article about the special fund, and Andrea Semons will announce it after Meetings for Worship.

Ritve Kaje has moved to San Francisco; Friends were asked to keep her in their minds. In conjunction with the Center for Ethics and Social Policy, Leonard Joy is preparing a personal report of his activities related to the *Bishops' Pastoral Letter on Catholic Social Teaching and the U.S. Economy*. He hopes to create an ongoing forum for discussion of ethics and social responsibility, perhaps including an Adult Education session, and welcomes Friends' input and comments.

Several Friends made observations on the importance of our common spiritual grounding, and noted that the diversity of our spiritually-guided activities is natural. Friends discussed ways to encourage more spiritual content in Monthly Meetings; Worship and Ministry will explore this further. The February Meeting for Business will be at Berkeley Friends Church at 7 p.m. on February 2. The meeting closed with silent worship at 9:21 p.m.

Jane Wolff
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
Sunday, February 2, 1986
At Berkeley Friends Church
1600 Sacramento Street, Berkeley
Lynne Bird, Alternate Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 7:03 p.m. Seventeen Friends attended.

Minutes: The minutes of the January Meeting for Business were approved as read.

Clerk's Correspondence: The Alternate Clerk noted the receipt of an announcement and invitation to the second PYM Conference on Clerking.

Clearness Committee for Kate Buckner: Andrea Semons and Larry Perry reported that they and Barbara Graves had met with Kate Buckner on January 12 to discuss with her her plans to travel in Central America. The Clearness Committee was united in its belief that Kate brings a rich background and unusual gifts to the venture, and that it is highly suitable to bring her request for support to PYM's Fund for Concerns. It offered the following minute, which the Meeting heartily approved:

Strawberry Creek Meeting has explored, both directly with Kate Buckner and through a clearness committee, Kate's plan to participate in a Witness for Peace/Fellowship of Reconciliation delegation traveling in Costa Rica and Nicaragua. The Meeting recognizes Kate's past and present commitment to working toward changing patterns of suffering and injustice which engulf many Central Americans. We are in unity in supporting Kate's work withing this concern and her efforts toward increasing this Meeting's, and other groups', awareness and response. We deeply appreciate her readiness to participate on behalf of the Meeting's concern as well.

In addition, we support Kate's participation in the delegation by pledging \$100 from Meeting funds and anticipating that individual contributions to a special fund will enable the Meeting to provide \$400 to \$600 toward the cost of this trip.

Susan Burr noted that \$795 had already been received. Friends were reminded that the Fund for Concerns is supported solely by contributions.

Finance Committee: Gerry Maynard read a statement describing the role of the Finance Committee, which will appear in the newsletter.

Hospitality Committee: Larry Perry reported. The Committee thanked the Samatis for hosting the welcoming on January 11. A new member welcoming for Gerry Maynard, Jim Kimball, Sherrin Lloyd and Barbara Tittle will be held February 8.

Nominating Committee: Barbara Voorhees Emmons encouraged Friends to be thinking about ways in which they would like to serve the Meeting.

Overseers: Andrea Semons reported. The Newcomers' Brunch will be held March 9; the Committee solicits publications to make available there, and suggestions.

Andrea read a letter from Amy Block and Leonard Joy, requesting to be married

under the care of the Meeting.

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson distributed a report on ways in which Friends can support the East Bay Sanctuary Covenant.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant: Jim Kimball reported. The EBSC Executive Committee has decided to use \$800 raised from the sale of "border bars" to send an individual to the Texas border region to investigate, report on, and support sanctuary efforts there. There is now an EBSC Housing Committee attempting to raise enough funds among member congregations to rent a home for refugees; Jim will present this to the Peace and Social Order Committee when he knows more.

Retreat Committee: Lynne Bird reported that the Committee continues work on the spring retreat, planned for April 25-27 at Ben Lomond.

Treasurer: Susan Burr reported. From December 1 to January 31 there were \$1668 in credits, \$1263 in expenses, and \$13 in bank service charges, leaving a balance of \$831 in the General Fund. She thanked Friends for their eager response to the Meeting's need for funds. The Central American Refugee Relief Fund was closed on January 27, when the \$25 balance was donated to *Casa de los Amigos* via Orange Grove Meeting. Larry Perry is gathering names of Friends who wish the Meeting to subscribe to Friends Bulletin for them; Friends were reminded that each subscription costs the Meeting \$14.

Worship and Ministry: Leslie Leonard reported. Susan Kepner will serve as the Committee's representative on the Committee to write the State of the Society report. Worship and Ministry has circulated a questionnaire on Friends' preferences for time and place of Monthly Meetings, and is preparing a questionnaire about attitudes toward Monthly Meeting, with a view toward increasing attendance.

The committee is working on developing in the Meeting's library a section of introductory books in Quakerism and a collection of essays on ministry. The Spring Adult Education program will include discussions of George Fox's ministry, the spiritual basis of the Bishops' Pastoral Letter, Thomas Kelly's 'The Simplification of Life', and ministering in our own Meeting for Worship.

Leslie read an agreement that Berkeley Friends Church and Strawberry Creek Meeting have drawn up for the 1986 year, noting that our monthly rent has been increased to \$200. When formally approved by both parties, the agreement will be posted on the Meeting's bulletin board. Friends thanked the Committee for its work on this.

Newsletter Committee: Louanne Bieging noted that the Newsletter editors are interested in whether Friends prefer a longer newsletter at greater cost, or a shorter, less expensive newsletter. The Meeting presently spends about \$50 per month to copy the newsletters and \$25 per month to mail them. Friends offered reactions and ideas on ways to reduce costs, and thanked the Biegings for their sensitivity to the Meeting's wishes. Greater efforts will be made to coordinate the Meeting's calendar, kept by the Recording Clerk, and the Newsletter calendar, prepared by the Newsletter editors.

New Business, Concerns and Announcements: Leslie Leonard reported on a letter from Margaret Olney, of the 'Circle of Concern', which protests the University of California's association with Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Friends with ties to the University were urged to write to the Regents, who are reconsidering this association.

Friends may bring old copies of Quaker publications to Meeting, and Andrea Semons will see that they are redistributed to others. Because Strawberry Creek has twice asked for assistance from the PYM Fund for Concerns, it was proposed that the Meeting consider making an extra contribution. The Finance Committee will explore this.

The March Meeting for Business will be at the home of Rachel Ann Elder, 800 Hilldale, Berkeley, on March 2 at 7 p.m. The meeting closed with silent worship at 8:39 p.m.

Jane Wolff
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
Sunday, March 2, 1986
At the home of Rachel Ann Elder
800 Hilldale, Berkeley
Barbara Graves, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting began in silent worship at 7:00 p.m. There were nineteen Friends present during the course of the meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the February Monthly Meeting were approved as read.

Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative: Gerry Maynard reported on the Representative Committee Meeting held March 1st. There will be no increase in fees for this year's PYM. Meetings are encouraged to keep accurate records for the PYM archives at Whittier College. Gerry read three minutes approved by PYM, in support of a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty and deploring the proposed federal budget and the support of groups seeking to overthrow foreign governments. She has copies of material presented by Honolulu Friends expressing their strong concern over the oppression of women. PYM is seeking young German-speaking Friends interested in an exchange visit to the GDR. Yearly Meeting will be held August 3-9 in LaVerne, California. Friends thanked Gerry for her representation and report.

Friendly Sixes Committee: Mary Mikesell invited feedback on whether Friends prefer to continue considering the queries and advices in Friendly Sixes gatherings, or would like to discuss more controversial topics, or would like less structure in general. Friends responded with ideas and discussion.

Hospitality Committee: Betty Hall reported. Berkeley Friends Church has invited Strawberry Creek Meeting to an Easter breakfast on March 30. Committee members invite Friends to tell them of illnesses or other situations in which they can be of assistance.

State of the Society Report Committee: Betty Hall read a draft of the Meeting's contribution to the State of the Society Report, and invited Friends to season it and let her know of possible changes. Friends saw no obvious gaps, and thanked the Committee for its thorough, even account.

Nominating Committee: Barbara Voorhees Emmons reported that the Committee continues its work. She noted several areas of need, and Friends offered suggestions.

Overseers: Andrea Semons reported. The Overseers have discussed Amy Block and Leonard Joy's request to be married under the care of the Meeting, and considered as well the process of clearness as related to marriage. A Committee of Kathy Barnhart, Susan Kepner, Chuck Kepner, Leslie Leonard and Andrea Semons will meet with Amy and Leonard soon.

Andrea noted that Chris Wilfong-Emmons, who, with his wife Leslie, has been attending North Meadow Meeting in Indianapolis, has written to request a sojourning minute. The Meeting approved this request. Paul Jolly has written to request that his membership stay at Strawberry Creek until he finds a more permanent home.

It was noted that scholarship money is available for the retreat, and that interested Friends may ask an Overseer or indicate needs on their registration forms. Friends were reminded of the existence of the Meeting's sharing fund, a confidential resource of emergency funds for those in need.

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson reported on several recent and upcoming events. The Committee is planning a presentation by several Friends who have visited Nicaragua recently. Carl read a description of the role of the Peace and Social Order Committee.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant: Kate Buckner reported. Many events are planned for the anniversary of the assassination of Archbishop Romero on March 24. Friends who can donate food or money were urged to contact the EBSC office. The need for bond money is especially great, and the Peace and Social Order Committee was asked to consider possible participation in the Circle of Refuge prisoner support program. The EBSC has asked if it may use the Meeting's mailing list, and the Meeting approved this provided that the list will not be sold or given away to others.

Worship and Ministry: Barb Tittle reported that Worship and Ministry had held a productive joint meeting with the Overseers. The gathering with Doug Gwyn was well-attended and interesting, and more adult education sessions are planned. The coordination with First Day School of the opening and closing of Meetings is improving.

Barb summarized the responses received so far to the questionnaire on time and place for Monthly Meetings. The twenty responses were nearly evenly divided between those wishing to continue meeting on Sunday evenings and those preferring meetings following Meetings for Worship. Friends discussed advantages and disadvantages of each. Worship and Ministry will return with a more definite recommendation at the April Monthly Meeting.

Leslie Leonard noted that the agreement with Berkeley Friends Church which was read at the February meeting has been approved. We now have the use of the small closet, and Brian Erickson will work on the door. From time to time, Leslie will announce at rise of meeting that Strawberry Creek Friends are asked not to park in the church's lot.

New Business, Concerns and Announcements: A friend expressed concern at the lack of a regular report from the Religious Education Committee; this will be conveyed to its clerk, Jane Timberlake, along with the Meeting's warm congratulations and thanks for her efforts. The Nominating Committee is aware that this job has become an especially large one, and is exploring ways of dealing with this. Betty Hall noted that Jane made a considerable contribution to the State of the Society report.

Gerry Maynard brought a concern from Nancy Miller of Fresno Meeting, requesting housing for a young Friend from Fresno who will be studying in Berkeley this summer. Several Friends responded with offers, which Gerry will pass along.

The April Meeting for Business will be at Berkeley Friends Church at 7 p.m. on April 6. With thanks to Rachel Ann, the meeting closed in a period of worship at 9:03 p.m.

Jane Wolff
Recording Clerk

**Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
Sunday, April 6, 1986**

*At Berkeley Friends Church
1600 Sacramento Street, Berkeley
Barbara Graves, Clerk, Presiding*

At 7:02 p.m., as the meeting moved into opening silence, those present were urged to remember in their thoughts two absent Friends, Isabel Bachels and Mary Mikesell. Nineteen Friends attended the Meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the March Monthly Meeting were approved as read. It was noted that Friends interested in participating in the PYM exchange visit to the German Democratic Republic may contact Chris Hogness.

Finance Committee: In acknowledgement of the fact that several Strawberry Creek members who have traveled to Central America recently could use financial assistance which other Friends willingly offer, the Meeting discussed and approved the establishment of a Central American Travel Fund. The Meeting's treasurer will receive contributions to this *ad hoc* fund; they can be earmarked for particular travelers and will be forwarded anonymously to recipients. An announcement of the fund will appear in the newsletter.

Friendly Sixes Committee: Jean Flores reported briefly. The Committee has distributed the schedule for the final gathering, on April 20. Friends have responded favorably to recent discussion topics, and noted their appreciation to the Committee for its work.

Hospitality Committee: Larry Perry reported that the Easter Breakfast with Berkeley Friends Church went well. The Committee will sponsor the annual joint picnic with other East Bay Friends Meetings on June 8 at Lake Temescal. Betty Hall has advanced \$150 to reserve space in the park, and the Meeting approved repaying her this sum with the understanding that contributions from Friends attending the picnic will reimburse the Meeting's treasury.

Newsletter: Andrea Semons, for the Overseers, introduced a discussion of Friends' wishes concerning the content of the newsletter. Friends suggested a number of new newsletter items, including book reviews, short personal essays or reflections on spiritual life or experience, short biographies of members and attenders, and puzzles intended to introduce us to each other; in addition to the calendar, minutes, queries, short advertisements and registration forms that do appear. Photocopying and mailing expenses make it desirable that the newsletter not grow beyond five sheets, or nine pages. Friends agreed that the newsletter editors should be free to solicit articles or other items if they wish, and to make the final judgement on what to print. It was felt that the calendar, the minutes, and registration forms for Meeting retreats and Quarterly Meetings should always appear, but that the queries could be omitted if there is not room, as they are available in *Faith and Practice*. Contributions to newsletter expenses may be sent to Susan Burr.

Nominating Committee: James Mari-Navarro presented the nominations for the Meeting's officers and committee members for 1986-87. If the slate is approved, Barbara Voorhees Emmons and Gerry Maynard will serve as co-clerks of the Religious Education Committee, and neither will continue as a Nominating Committee member next year as earlier suggested. No East Bay Sanctuary Covenant representative was nominated, but the Committee will ask Kate Buckner and Jim Kimball, who are serving now, if they wish to continue. James reminded Friends that all comments on nominations are to be directed to Nominating Committee members rather than to nominees, and that all or none of the nominations will be approved at the May Monthly Meeting. There are still some openings; additions may be proposed in May and approved in June.

The Committee proposed two minutes of appreciation, one for those who have served the Meeting in the past year and one for those who have offered to serve in the coming year. The Meeting agreed to act on these at the May Monthly Meeting, and thanked the Nominating Committee for its work.

Overseers: Andrea Semons reported that the newcomers' brunch was enjoyed by all thirteen in attendance, and she welcomed Susan Burr back to Monthly Meeting after her illness.

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson reported that those who gathered to watch the Committee's showing of *El Norte* found it more fruitful to conduct a discussion instead. He announced several upcoming events.

State of the Society Report Committee: In Betty Hall's absence, Jim Bulldis read the report. The Meeting approved it, with a few minor corrections.

Treasurer: Susan Burr reported. To a General Fund balance of \$831.71 on February 1 there were added \$475 in credits and subtracted \$503.23 in expenses, yielding a balance of \$803.48 on March 31. The \$690 contributed to Kate Buckner's travel expenses before February 1, plus the \$155 added since, were given to Kate, closing out the fund. PYM will provide the difference between this \$845 and the \$1500 needed.

Worship and Ministry: Leslie Leonard reported that the Committee had considered the results of its questionnaire on Meetings for Business, and recommends that the Meeting try holding Meetings for Business after Meetings for Worship for six months, beginning in October, with the arrangement to be evaluated monthly during the trial period. The Meeting approved.

New Business, Concerns and Announcements: Carl Anderson noted that PYM's East-West Relations Committee will sponsor a weekend at Quaker Center May 9-11, and offered to share with interested Friends his knowledge of and concern about the U.S.'s refusal to negotiate a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty. Larry Perry reported that he had attended the second anniversary celebration of Friends House in Santa Rosa, and encouraged Friends to visit there. He thanked Friends for their sympathy after the recent death of his father. Barbara Graves noted that she will plead not guilty to a charge of creating a disturbance at a demonstration on February 24, and asked Friends to remember her in their thoughts.

The May Meeting for Business will be at Berkeley Friends Church on May 4 at 7 p.m. The meeting closed with silent worship at 9:12 p.m.

Jane Wolff
Recording Clerk

**Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
Sunday, May 3, 1986**

At Berkeley Friends Church
1600 Sacramento Street, Berkeley
Barbara Graves, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 7:02 p.m. There were nineteen Friends present at the meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the April Monthly Meeting were approved as read.

Clerk's Correspondence: The Clerk noted that Rachel Ann Elder will be away for the summer and has requested a letter of introduction to Friends Meetings she will visit. The Meeting approved providing her with such a letter.

Quaker Study Program: Laura Magnani, of Berkeley Friends Meeting, announced an extensive program that PYM's Religious Education Committee will be sponsoring in Berkeley in the coming year, for the purposes of furthering the spiritual quests of those who attend, and of strengthening the quality of ministry in area meetings. It will involve a major commitment, beginning with a retreat at Ben Lomond on September 12 and continuing with weekly attendance at three eight-week sessions on Quakerism, the Bible, and Christian History and Thought. The program will cost \$160, and will be limited to thirty participants. She urged Friends to consider participating.

Skills Exchange: Laurence Schectman, of Berkeley Friends Meeting, explained that that Meeting plans to establish and maintain a list of the skills and needs of its members and attenders, in order to encourage Friends to borrow and exchange skills from other Friends, and, ultimately, to strengthen our sense of community. He invited Strawberry Creek Meeting to join in the project, and requested that the Meeting approve participation. After some discussion, the Meeting agreed to season the issue for a month. Laurence will explain specific aspects of the proposal in a short paragraph for the newsletter.

Hospitality Committee: Betty Hall noted that Berkeley Friends Church also worships at ten in the summer, and asked Friends to let her or Larry Perry know their feelings about holding joint post-meeting coffee hour or potluck activities with the church. The Committee continues work on the picnic planned for June 8.

Nominating Committee: Barbara Voorhees Emmons distributed an updated version of the proposed slate of officers, representatives and committee members for the coming year. A Clerk is still needed for the Hospitality Committee. The Meeting approved the nominations presented at the April Monthly Meeting, and will act on those brought forward at the May meeting in June. The terms of those approved in May begin June 1st. The Nominating Committee will offer to the Religious Education and Hospitality Committees the names of Friends who expressed a willingness to contribute time occasionally or irregularly.

As Barbara Voorhees Emmons and Gerry Maynard are leaving the Nominating Committee, the Meeting will select, with suggestions from the incoming Clerk, an *ad hoc* committee to nominate replacements for them. They will serve an extra month as the Meeting seeks a clerk for the Hospitality Committee.

Overseers: Andrea Semons announced that former Strawberry Creek member Elizabeth Dearborn would be married May 10 in Media, Pennsylvania. The Clerk will send the Meeting's delight and best wishes orally through Michael Turner, who will be attending, and the Overseers will send a card after Friends have had the opportunity to sign it after Meetings for Worship.

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson reported. The Committee asked the Meeting to sponsor a showing of a new video, "Women for America, Women for the World", about women and world peace. After some discussion, the Meeting approved, with interest and appreciation.

Several East Bay Sanctuary Covenant congregations have rented a house for Central American refugees and made commitments to offer support for refugees living there. The Peace and Social Order Committee proposed that the Meeting join in this project, which could involve sending a representative to coordinating committee meetings, volunteering time, contributing \$25 per month from the Meeting's general fund, and establishing a special fund for additional earmarked contributions. After considerable discussion of the legal aspects of involvement and of the Meeting's desire to involve itself more in the sanctuary movement, Friends agreed to season the idea and asked the Peace and Social Order Committee to return to the June Monthly Meeting with more information.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant: Kate Buckner brought announcements and news of the Tucson trial. The urgent need for food, jobs and permanent and temporary housing for refugees continues. The EBSC is looking for a health coordinator. Friends are urged to write to local newspapers in support of sanctuary. A meeting of sanctuary workers in the northern California region is planned for June 7, and a national event in Washington, D.C. on September 26-28. Kate invites other Friends to attend EBSC meetings. The need for closer coordination between the EBSC representative and the Peace and Social Order Committee was expressed.

Retreat Committee: Lynne Bird reported that 32 adults and eleven children attended the Spring Retreat. Friends commented that the weekend was very well organized, with a good balance between individual time and group events. The Committee plans to return to Ben Lomond next spring.

Treasurer: Jane Wolff reported for Susan Burr. The general fund began the month of April with \$803.48. There were \$2346 in credits, \$2066.83 in expenses, and \$12.90 in bank charges, leaving a balance of \$1069.75 on April 30. The Central America Travel Fund began with no balance on April 6. Five hundred dollars were collected and dispersed, leaving a zero balance. The fund is still open for use. Income from the Spring Retreat was \$1440, and expenses were \$1337.51.

Worship and Ministry: Mary Miche reported for Leonard Joy. The books in the Meeting's library have been prepared for circulation. Friends who read these or other books of interest to the Meeting are urged to consider reviewing them for the newsletter. Eighteen Friends attended the Adult Education discussion on simplification of life; another session is planned to discuss ministry. The Committee invites Friends' comments and reflections on the quality of worship in the Meeting.

New Business, Concerns and Announcements: Betty Hall noted that Friends may order College Park Quarterly Meeting directories from her. The Tittles will be in Belize for six weeks, returning June 22. Barbara Graves noted that she has been sentenced to four months probation and forty hours of community service. Mary Mikesell received thirty days probation and eight hours of community service.

The June Meeting for Business will be at the home of Brian and Patti Erickson, 540 24th St., Richmond, at 7 p.m. on June 1. The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 9:38 p.m.

Jane Wolff
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

Sunday, June 1, 1986

At the home of Brian and Patti Erickson

540 24th St, Richmond

Andrea Semons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 7:00 p.m. Twenty Friends attended the Meeting. As the Meeting began, the Clerk asked each Friend present to thank those seated nearby for their contributions to the Meeting in the past year.

Minutes: With the addition that the sentences which Barbara Graves and Mary Mikesell received were for their participation in a February demonstration protesting U.S. aid to Nicaraguan contras, the minutes of the May Meeting were approved.

Clerk's Correspondence: The Clerk read a letter from Wendy Carson, an early member of Strawberry Creek Meeting who has been away for a number of years. Wendy now wishes to transfer her membership to Westwood Meeting in Los Angeles. She and Michael Lindsay have asked to be married under the care of Westwood Meeting.

The Clerk read a letter announcing a retreat on "Our Living Faith: Tradition and Experiment" which College Park Quarterly Meeting's Ministry and Oversight Committee will sponsor at Ben Lomond on June 27-29. Finally, the Meeting also received a letter from the Clerk of Asheville Friends Meeting in North Carolina, requesting help for a Nigerian woman who seeks part-time work and housing while she participates, without stipend, in a visiting scholars' program in U.C. Berkeley's Rhetoric Department. This was referred to the Overseers.

Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate New Nominating Committee Members: The Clerk reported that Amy Block and Barbara Graves have agreed to serve as an *ad hoc* committee to nominate two new Nominating Committee members to replace Gerry Maynard and Barbara Voorhees Emmons. The Meeting approved.

Worship and Ministry: Leslie Leonard reported that the Committee continues to seek a way of ensuring that the outside door to our meeting room closes securely and quietly. The post-worship discussion on ministry in our Meeting was a success, with many good responses and a fruitful sharing. Leslie expressed her sincere thanks to Caroline Duhem, who, while new to the Meeting, has faithfully, promptly and cheerfully assisted in preparing the meeting room for worship.

Nominating Committee: Barbara Voorhees Emmons reported. Following a month of seasoning, the Meeting approved the nominations of Leonard Joy and Amy Block as members of the Worship and Ministry Committee, Sherrin Lloyd as clerk of the Retreat Committee, Patti Erickson as AFSC Representative, and Jim Bulldis as PYM Unity with Nature Representative. The Committee nominated Jean Flores as Clerk of the Hospitality Committee and Ken Orvis as a co-representative to PYM's Unity with Nature Committee; final action on these nominations will be taken at our next Monthly Meeting.

Religious Education Committee: Barbara Voorhees Emmons reported. For the summer, when the Meeting usually provides only childcare, the Committee proposed dividing the children into three groups: infants, kindergarteners through third graders, and older children. Rob, the regular infant care provider, will continue throughout the summer. The Committee asked Friends to consider volunteering to lead activities for any of the three age groups on any Sunday or Sundays, and sign up after the Monthly Meeting. Depending on the response, the Committee may hire a few of the older children to help.

Overseers: Kate Buckner reported that the Overseers had sent graduation cards to Steve Semons, Joann Leonard, Andrew Dienstfrey, Katje Semons and Carol Mann. A marriage committee of Leslie Leonard, Chuck Kepner, Susan Kepner, Kathy Barnhart and Andrea Semons has met with Amy Block and Leonard Joy, and its members and the Overseers recommend that the Meeting take the marriage under its care. Several Friends commented

Peace and Social Order: Barbara Graves reported that the Committee had investigated several of the Meeting's questions concerning the proposal to participate in the support of EBSC's house for Central American refugees. It sees no legal problems. There is to be a meeting on the first Monday of each month to coordinate the project. Brian Erickson has offered to serve as our liaison, although others who are interested may also serve. The Meeting heartily approved joining the project, and contributing to it \$25 monthly from our general fund.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant: Kate Buckner reported on the EBSC meeting and announced several June events. She asked Strawberry Creek Friends to let her know of any activities done in support of refugees, so that she may inform EBSC. She offered copies of the EBSC newsletter.

Treasurer: Susan Burr reported. The general fund began May with \$1069.75. There were \$187 in credits and \$756.74 in expenses, leaving a balance of \$495.71 on May 31. Contributions are welcome at this time. One major expense was our liability insurance premium, which increased from \$135 to \$351. Susan reimbursed Leonard Joy, who paid this amount upon discovering that our policy was to be cancelled for lack of payment. Friends agreed to investigate the handling of the Meeting's mail.

The Central American travel fund received \$750 in contributions. Fifty dollars were dispersed in May, and the remaining \$700 on June 1.

Berkeley Friends' Barter Network: Friends discussed the proposal that the Meeting participate in the Berkeley Friends' Barter Network, a skills exchange program introduced at the May meeting by Laurence Schectman of Berkeley Friends Meeting. Questions were raised about liability, what would be required of the Meeting, the extent and feasibility of the project, and participation as individuals vs. participation as a Meeting. Friends were urged to consider the Quaker tradition of helping each other. Jim Doherty volunteered to ask Grass Valley Meeting about a similar sharing network it has established. The Meeting plans to hear more about this in the future, and approved encouraging individual Friends to consider and explore the idea, and to participate in planning meetings.

Dates of Summer Monthly Meetings: As the first Sunday in July falls on Fourth of July weekend, the Meeting agreed to hold its next Meeting for Business on June 29, rather than wait until July 13. This will be at Berkeley Friends Church, at 7:00 p.m. As the first Sunday in August occurs during Yearly Meeting, the August Monthly Meeting will be held on August 10.

New Business, Concerns and Announcements: A memorial service for Isabel Bachels is planned for June 15 in San Francisco. Registration forms for PYM are in the *Friends Bulletin*; they are due July 14. Brochures on the Quaker Spiritual Quest, announced at the last Monthly Meeting, were made available. Rachel Ann Elder noted that the spiritual sharing group, three to six Friends who meet regularly at her home, will continue through the summer.

With thanks to the Ericksons, the meeting closed in a period of worship at 8:47 p.m.

Jane Wolff
for the Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

Sunday, June 29, 1986

At the Berkeley Friends Church

Andrea Semons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opening with a period of silent worship at 7:00 p.m. Seventeen Friends attended the meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the June meeting were approved with the following additions: Sarah Burke was sent a graduation card as well; Rachel Ann Elder was encouraged to write to Laurence Schechtman expressing her conviction that the Barter Network was in the tradition of Friends and should be encouraged, even though the Meeting will not be participating as a corporate body; and Wendy Carson's request for a transfer of membership was approved and the Recorder was asked to act accordingly.

Clerk's Correspondence: Brian and Patti Erickson wrote to express their appreciation for the financial support provided through the Meeting for their travel in Central America. The meeting responded that it was pleased that these Friends had been able to undertake such service.

Nominations: Approval was given to the nominations presented at the last meeting of Jean Flores as Clerk of the Hospitality Committee and Ken Orvis as Co-representative to Pacific Yearly Meeting's Unity with Nature Committee.

Barter Network: Laurence Schechtman spoke briefly to his proposal. He noted that participation by the Meeting as a corporate body is not necessary for individuals in it to take part, as the use of the network is flexible and depends on personal initiative in any case. Nonetheless he would like to be able to telephone Meeting members to encourage their attendance at the neighborhood information sharing potlucks in their areas, as these are an excellent way of getting people involved. The meeting approved this request. The particulars on neighborhood potlucks also should be published in the Meeting newsletter. The Skills Inventory questionnaire for the Network is attached to these minutes.

Marriage: Having received the favorable recommendation of the Overseers last month the meeting gave its approval for the wedding of Leonard Joy and Amy Block and appointed a Wedding Arrangements Committee consisting of Lou Ann Bieging, Rachel Ann Elder, David and Leslie Leonard, and Gerry Maynard. The wedding will take place on Sunday July 20th and all members of the Meeting are invited.

Worship & Ministry: Leslie Leonard reported that the door to

the Meeting room has been provided with new spring hinges thanks to Brian Erickson.

Ad Hoc Committee: Barbara Graves reported that the committee will nominate the remaining members of the Nominating Committee at the August Monthly Meeting.

Religious Education: Andrea Semons noted on behalf of the committee that there will be a First Day School Potluck at the Emmons' on September 6th.

Overseers: Kate Buckner reported.

The request for assistance for the Nigerian Friend was to be published in the newsletter but the U.S. mails failed us. It will be published next month.

The committee asked the meeting to discuss the concern of some Friends^{who} feel that the Meeting is not getting good and timely reports on Friends who are ill or otherwise in need. It was noted that the responsibility for dealing with Friends in need falls to the Overseers, although the Hospitality Committee and individual Friends in the past also have been actively involved with this concern. It is important that Friends make a point of being certain that Overseers are aware of Friends in need. When the condition is one that may appropriately be made public, as it generally is with illness, Friends also may wish to provide such information during the introductions and announcements at the close of meeting for worship. Furthermore, it is appropriate for Friends to minister to or to pray for such needs in meeting for worship, should they feel so moved. Overseers will give further consideration to this issue and, if necessary, bring it before the Meeting again.

Peace & Social Order: Barbara Graves reported that the committee will be experimenting with asking Friends to write to their members of Congress on various issues after meeting for worship.

The committee was concerned that Kate Buckner was overburdened by having to report to the Meeting on each East Bay Sanctuary Covenant meeting. It was agreed instead that she should keep the Committee informed and need report to the Meeting only on special developments.

Brian Erickson reported on the Sanctuary House. The Meeting's contribution of \$25 to the \$700 monthly budget is appreciated. He participated in a work party at the house. Other volunteers would be appreciated and are encouraged to let him know of their availability.

Kate Buckner noted that at the end of September there will be a national Sanctuary meeting in Washington, D.C. and that there will be a walkathon on Saturday July 26 to raise funds for the two East Bay delegates.

Leonard Joy spoke with appreciation for the work of the Friends Committee on National Legislation and for the proposed effort to get us all more involved with writing to Congress.

Hospitality: Jean Flores reported on the activities of the Com-

mittee and noted its need for further members/ assistants.

Friends are encourage to attend the Friends Church barbecue after meeting for worship during the summer, as it is an excellent way for us to get to know one another as well as Friends from the Church. Responsibility for assistance will be through a sign-up sheet at the barbecue itself. Some Friends find it difficult to participate as there is not provision for vegetarian diets. It was noted that last summer our Meeting's participation and assistance fell below what the Friends Church had expected. Leslie Leonard, as our liaison to the Church, was asked to discuss the issues with them, making it clear that our participation can not be as great as that of the Church and perhaps should be focused on select Sundays.

New Business, Concerns & Announcements: Barbara Graves reported that Friends she met in Philadelphia had been most enthusiastic about their participation in the Quaker Spiritual Quest study program that had been pioneered there and which is due to commence here shortly.

Barbara Tittle spoke briefly on the medical work that she and Rich had done in Belize. The work was challenging and rewarding and it was important to the family to know that they had the spiritual support of the Meeting. Friends encouraged the Tittles to share further with the Meeting with a slide show.

Andrea Semons reported on the Memorial Meeting for Isabel Bachels, which several Meeting members attended.

The next meeting for business will be held on August 10 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Brian and Patti Erickson at 540 24th St., Richmond.

The meeting concluded after a period of silent worship at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leonard
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

Sunday August 10, 1986

At the home of Brian and Patti Erickson
540 24th St., Richmond

Andrea Semons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 7:05 p.m. Eighteen Friends were in attendance.

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of June 29 were read and approved.

Clerk's Correspondence: A letter was received from the Peace Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting concerning a conscience fund that has been established for Young Friends who need financial assistance with their college education because of their refusal to register for the draft. The letter was referred to Overseers and a condensed version will be published in the newsletter.

Leonard and Amy Joy wrote to express their appreciation to the Meeting for all aspects of its assistance with their marriage.

Old Business: Marriage: The wedding of Leonard Joy and Amy Block took place on July 20th, was well attended and was a great success. It was discovered that the State of California does not accept Marriage Licenses for Quaker weddings and requires the filing of a Declaration of Marriage instead. Overseers was asked to revise our statement of procedures accordingly. The Meeting is concerned with the irregularity of the resulting documentation and would like to have the issue raised with the State authorities by Pacific Yearly Meeting.

Committee Reports: Ad Hoc Committee: Amy Joy reported that the committee nominates John Bieging and Dolly Marshall to the Nominating Committee. The Meeting asked that the Ad Hoc Committee bring to the next meeting for business a recommendation as to which one of the Nominating Committee members would hold the staggered two year term.

Religious Education: Barbara Emmons reported on the progress of its planning. Rachel Ann Elder is visiting with the families of the Meeting to collect their experiences and views on First Day School. One of the strongest findings is the value of Friends sharing from their personal experiences and giving the young people a chance to develop personal relationships with their elders. The committee will be meeting jointly with Worship and Ministry to devise plans for adult education as well.

Overséers: Kate Buckner reported that the committee has decided to continue the Friendly Sixes program this year. Volunteers are needed to assist Mary Mikesell with the planning.

Peace and Social Order: Patti Erickson reported that seventeen Friends wrote letters to Congress at the last after-Meeting-for-Worship writing session. The committee plans to have more such sessions.

Sue Severin of Marin Meeting will be asked to speak to us on her work on the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua.

Brian Erickson will try to arrange for refugees from the Sanctuary to attend the Meeting/ Church potluck on August 31 and to address us afterward.

Leonard Joy, Barb and Rich Tittle, and David Leonard are to be asked to speak about their professional work overseas and its relation to Quaker values.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant: Jim Kimball reported that a fund raising letter has gone out to those on the Meeting mailing list. Individuals associated with the Covenant are also working to facilitate the resettlement in El Salvador of some of those who had fled.

Treasurer and Finance: Susan Burr reported for June and July. The balance in the general fund is \$320.81, which is very low. The fiscal year ends October 31.

The budget for the next financial year is currently being prepared. Increased contributions from members will be needed. Attenders might be encouraged to contribute as well.

Worship and Ministry: Amy Joy reported. Mary Mikesell will be doing a series on the Gospels. Other adult education sessions are being planned.

Pacific Yearly Meeting: Gerry Maynard gave a preliminary report. Ann Friend will be speaking in the Bay Area on September 11 on the War Tax Fund.

Gerry was deeply concerned at the Yearly Meeting's inability to accept a proposed minute on the Peace Testimony. She also was troubled that no minute was adopted on South Africa, although two were adopted on Central America. Mary Mikesell is concerned at the number of vital sessions that had to be missed by staff people.

New Business: Patti Erickson spoke on ways to increase the Meeting's awareness of the opportunities for involvement with the San Francisco AFSC. The meeting encouraged Patti to arrange an orientation talk for the Meeting, to which the Church could also be invited.

Mary Mikesell raised a concern about Kent Larrabee of San Diego, who has traveled extensively in the USSR and feels strongly about the importance of people to people contacts. He will be in the Bay Area the last week in September and Mary would be pleased for suggestions of schools, service groups, churches, etc. where he might speak.

The meeting concluded with a period of worship at 9:02 p.m. to meet again at 7 p.m. on September 7th at the Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leonard
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

Sunday, September 7, 1986

At the Berkeley Friends Church

Andrea Semons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of worship at 7:05 p.m. Twenty-one Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of August 10 were read and approved.

Clerk's Correspondence: A letter was received from Patti Erickson applying for membership in the Meeting. It was referred to Overseers.

Carl Anderson wrote requesting a letter to introduce him to Friends on his travels in Australia and New Zealand, where he will be carrying his concern on disarmament. The meeting approved a letter of introduction that would also convey support for his concerns.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer: Susan Burr reported that there was a balance in the general fund of \$998.79 at the end of August. Our contributions to other organizations are completed. Only a small amount of further contributions to the Meeting will be needed for it to meet its obligations for the balance of the fiscal year.

Finance Committee: Bob Cooter presented the proposed budget for 1986-87, which is based on committee requests and projections of past commitments. The proposal is attached. The committee suggested that the only places where significant cuts seem feasible are among the donations and the Friends Bulletin subscriptions. The donations are symbolic of our commitment as a Meeting to these organizations and are intended to remind us as well of the responsibility of individual members to contribute to them. The meeting felt that it was convenient and desirable to continue buying our Bulletin subscriptions collectively rather than individually. Susan Burr will enquire of Larry Perry as to the procedures for identifying subscribers so as to be able to project correctly the likely expenditure. John Bird expressed a concern at the rate at which the Yearly Meeting's assessment has increased. The meeting asked that our Yearly Meeting representatives inform us of the composition of the budget when they report next month. The meeting approved adding provision to the budget for twenty cushions for meeting room chairs. An up-dated Meeting address list will be published shortly by John Bird and financed through the Newsletter line item. The budget will be discussed further and approved next month.

Ad Hoc Committee: Amy Joy reported that John Bieging has agreed to a two-year term on the Nominating Committee. The nominations of John Bieging and Dolly Marshall to the committee were approved. A member asked whether or not members of the Nominating Committee are required to be members of the Meeting. The sense of the meeting was to agree with the suggestion in

Faith and Practice that Nominating Committee members need not be members of the Meeting, although close familiarity with the Meeting and its members is expected.

Religious Education: Barbara Voorheis-Emmons indicated that all is going very well. There are 60 children in the First Day School in 6 classes. Two and a half classes are taught by Friends Church members. The integration of the Church and Strawberry Creek First Day Schools has gone very well.

Overseers: Lynn Bird reported. Friendly Sixes will meet on the fourth Sundays of October, November, January, February and March.

Hospitality: Jean Flores noted that the committee needs more members and requires more volunteers to supply juice and snacks after meeting for worship. Many members of the Church have expressed their appreciation for the joint pot-lucks we did over the summer.

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson reported that the August 3rd letter writing was not as successful as the preceding one had been.

The presentation by residents of Sanctuary House after the pot-luck was most informative.

Leonard Joy, the Leonards and the Tittles will speak about their work overseas and its relation to Quaker values on October 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the home of the Acton-Orvises.

We were reminded that all requests for use of the Friends Church should be channeled through the Clerk of Worship and Ministry, Leslie Leonard.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant: Jim Kimball gave a brief report.

Worship and Ministry: Leslie Leonard announced the 6 week program that Mary Mikesell will be doing on the "Records of the Life of Jesus," probably on Tuesday evenings.

A series of three after-meeting sessions on "Raising Quaker Children" will be held over the year.

When the committee polled the membership on when to hold meetings for business it found the Meeting divided evenly between evenings and after meeting for worship. The meetings for business for October and November accordingly will be held at 11:30 a.m. and we will evaluate the experience.

New Business: Michael Hartman raised several concerns that had been discussed in the Religious Education Committee. First is the occasional noise of crying children heard during meeting for worship. This does not arise from a lack of care. Second, some Friends appear to be concerned that infant care be available during the social time after meeting for worship. The committee needs more input from individual Friends on this point. Third, the participation of upper-elementary school children in First Day School appears to drop off because they do not know one another well. The Worship and Ministry program on "Raising Quaker Children" will attempt to ameliorate this problem by grouping parents by the ages of their children and thus encouraging more social interaction between families.

The meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 9:28 p.m. to meet

again at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday October 5 at the Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leonard
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

Sunday, October 5, 1986

At the Berkeley Friends Church

Andrea Semons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opening with a period of silent worship at 11:42 a.m. Twenty-six Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of September 7 were read and approved.

Clerk's Correspondence: A letter was received from the Yearly Meeting East-West Relations Committee concerning the tour of the USSR it is sponsoring in 1987.

Old Business: Twenty new cushions were purchased for the meeting room, as approved last month. They cost \$5 each and additional contributions to the Meeting Fund to cover the expense would be appreciated.

Pacific Yearly Meeting Report: Sherrin Loyd reported on behalf of herself and Gerry Maynard, our official representatives. Among other items their report highlighted: the minutes on mental illness and AIDS, the discussions on terrorism and peace, and the minutes on El Salvador and Central America. A copy of the Yearly Meeting's budget was made available. In response a Friend expressed concern at the high subsidy in the budget for the Bulletin and for the travel expenses of Yearly Meeting officers and committee members. This Friend noted that dues to Yearly Meeting exceed those to the Quarter and questioned the budgeted levels of expenditure of the former. Betty Hall responded to these concerns as a member of the Yearly Meeting Finance Committee. The meeting considered Friends' responses and may discuss its relationship to Quarterly and Yearly Meetings and other Friends' bodies in the future.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer: Susan Burr reported that all our major expenses have been met and that actual contributions for the financial year ending October 31 have exceeded the amount budgeted. The Balance on Hand is \$420.89.

Finance: The budget for 1986-87 (attached) was discussed and approved. The decision made last month to continue to subsidize Bulletin subscriptions for interested members and attenders was reaffirmed.

Religious Education: Rachel Ann Elder continues to meet with the Friends Church as our Religious Education liaison. Attendance in the First Day School continues to increase. Suggestions with regard to Christmas celebrations would be appreciated.

Retreat Committee: Sherrin Loyd noted that the committee needs another member. Nominating Committee was asked to make this appointment. The next retreat will be at the Hillside Community Church on November 1st on the topic of "Transitions." The spring retreat will be May 1-3. A number of people have expressed a concern that the cost of the retreat be reduced. Some families have felt "priced out" of coming, yet have felt unable to ask for scholarship assistance. The meeting suggested the use of an expanded sliding scale to meet this need, recognizing that it is possible that this will sometimes result in retreats not breaking even financially. Betty Hall noted that Quarterly Meeting has encouraged meetings to include other meetings in their general interest retreats.

Overseers: A membership committee will meet with Patti Erickson shortly. A brunch for newcomers will be held November 9 at Rachel Ann Elder's.

Hospitality: Betty Hall called attention to the fact that the committee traditionally has five members and has only three. Assistance with even portions of its responsibilities is urgently needed.

Peace and Social Order: Erica Atkin-Orvis reported that last week's letter writing produced a quite successful 35 missives and the meeting with Sue Severin was productive. The PYM East West Committee is interested in young people who might like to join its trip to the USSR. Carl Anderson will depart for Australia and New Zealand on October 21.

Worship and Ministry: Leslie Leonard spoke of the profitable joint meeting the committee had had with the Retreat Committee. The committee has a concern that people stand when ministering in meeting for worship, so that they will be heard better and so that those entering will know that someone is speaking and not disrupt the message. The committee is discussing the order in which the queries are read. Input would be appreciated. Finally, concerns that Friends have about the contract with the Friends Church should be raised with Leslie at this time. One item is that we are not in fact leaving the meeting room by 11:30 a.m., as was agreed originally.

Meeting Calendar: David Leonard asked that the responsibility for the Meeting's calendar be shifted from the Recording Clerk to the Newsletter Editors. The request was approved. Friends should be sure to clear dates of functions before they are announced.

New Business: Leonard Joy provided an up-date on the concern about the fit between State of California and Friends' procedures for marriages. Berkeley Friends Meeting has a small committee which is concerned with the issue as well as Strawberry Creek's Overseers.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:33 p.m. to meet again at 11:30 a.m. on November 2 at the Friends Church. Fourteen Friends were present as the meeting closed.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leonard
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Business

Sunday, November 2, 1986
At the Friends Church
Andrea Semons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:35 a.m. Twenty-two Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of October 5 were read and approved.

Clerk's Correspondence: Andrea Semons noted that we receive newsletters from other Meetings in the area, which are posted on the bulletin board.

Attention was called to the Quaker Center Year-End Retreat December 27 - January 1 and to the Meeting for Worship that will be held at the gates of the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday December 14.

Committee Reports:

Nominating: Dolly Marshall nominated Tannisse Brown as a member of the Retreat Committee. Two additional members are being sought for the Hospitality Committee.

Ad-Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee: Ralph Murphy and Susan Burr were nominated and approved. They will bring a nomination for an additional member of the Nominating Committee to the December meeting for business.

Retreat Committee: A successful retreat, with 16 people, was held November 1 on the theme of "Transitions."

Treasurer: Susan Burr reported for the two months ending October 31 and closing the financial year. The final balance on hand was \$220.54, compared to \$897.59 last year. John Bird observed that the forthcoming change in the tax laws make it advantageous for Friends to make their contributions before the close of the calendar year.

Overseers: Kate Buckner, speaking for the committee, recommended that Patti Erickson be accepted into membership. The recommendation will be seasoned for one month. Dolly Marshall has requested a transfer of membership from Gwynedd Meeting in Pennsylvania to Strawberry Creek. A committee to meet with her is being established. A joint meeting with Worship and Ministry is planned for this month. Work on the legal requirements for marriage continues.

Hospitality: Jean Flores spoke again of the need for committee

members and volunteers. A "gathering for song" will be held at the Birds' on November 15.

Peace and Social Order: FCL's new lobbyist will meet with us on December 12.

The meeting on "Professionals Abroad" was well attended and well appreciated. Joyce Samati indicated her interest in our holding a similar session on "Friends in Domestic Service. ~~in the U.S.~~" Mary Miche mentioned her appreciation for the letter writing sessions.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant: Kate Buckner reported on the discussions that are currently going on about directions for the movement nationally and regionally. The questions are whether the movement will become more involved in political lobbying or will continue to focus more or less exclusively on humanitarian work and on whether there will be a stronger national organization or a continuation of congregations as the focal point of activity.

Worship and Ministry: Mary Miche spoke on the contract negotiations with Friends Church. We are asking to be able to stay in the meeting room until 11:45. A contract will be brought to the December meeting for business for approval. The committee is soliciting opinion about the time for meetings for business and will bring a recommendation to the January meeting. Following the decision made last April, the meeting will continue to hold its business meetings at 11:30 a.m. through January.

Other Business: The meeting suggests that teen-age child-care personnel be paid at the close of the event, with reimbursement then being provided to the responsible adult by the Treasurer. The request for reimbursement should include a note on the hours worked and the numbers of children cared for, so the Treasurer can serve as a source of information for committees hiring sitters. The Treasurer will contact committees that have hired in the recent past to establish current practice.

The meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 1:15 p.m. to meet again on December 7 at 11:30 a.m. in the Friends Church. Twenty-one Friends were present as the meeting closed.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leonard
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Business

Sunday, December 7, 1986
At the Friends Church

Andrea Semons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:35 a.m. Twenty-three Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting for November 2 were read and approved. It was noted that "Friends in Domestic Service" connoted work in the U.S.

Clerk's Correspondence: FWCC will be sponsoring a Quaker Youth Pilgrimage next summer.

A booklet of Friends Committee on Legislation policy statements was received.

Sam Cox wrote requesting a letter of introduction to Redwood Forest Meeting. The clerk was asked to so write.

Old Business: The nomination of Tannisse Brown to the Retreat Committee was approved.

Patti Erickson was warmly accepted into membership in the Meeting.

Reports:

Ad Hoc Committee: Ralph Murphy nominated Joyce Samati as the third member and clerk of the Nominating Committee. When approved, she will join John Bieging and Dolly Marshall on the committee.

Overseers: Kate Buckner reported. Eight newcomers attended the Newcomers' Brunch at Rachel Ann Elder's.

A joint meeting was held with Worship and Ministry, a practice which was useful and will be continued.

Joyce Samati reported for the committee that met with Dolly Marshall to discuss her request for transfer of membership to Strawberry Creek. Her acceptance was recommended.

Peace and Social Order: Erica Atkin-Orvis noted that East Bay Sanctuary Covenant has asked us to consider taking full responsibility for a refugee. The Meeting already is active in the Safe House. The committee will give further consideration to the ways in which we can be of assistance. Friends wishing to be of assistance to those in the Safe House or to employ their services should contact Brian Erickson.

Retreat Committee: Dolly Marshall reported that Sherin Loyd will be unable to continue as clerk of the committee. Nominating Committee was asked to suggest a replacement.

Worship and Ministry: Leslie Leonard announced that Doug Gwyn

has decided to resign as pastor of Friends Church to pursue a concern he has for ministry in the Society of Friends. In the event that the new pastor is uncomfortable with Strawberry Creek's continued use of the Church, the committee has asked for a minimum of four to six months' notice.

The committee is soliciting the views of Meeting members about the appropriate time for meeting for business. A recommendation will be brought to the January business meeting.

The committee is anxious that the Meeting take the time periodically to reflect upon itself. The State of the Society Report offers such an opportunity. The committee recommends that a three person committee to draft the report be appointed in January of each year and that it consult extensively with members in preparing the report. The proposal is that there be a process of self-reflection as well as drafting of a report. The Meeting delegated the responsibility for the process and drafting to the Committee on Worship and Ministry, which will coopt members of other committees for the exercise as it sees fit. The Meeting will review this procedure after the State of the Society Report has been approved this spring.

Nominating: Jim Navarro nominated Clifford and Jamie Ham and David Elliot to the Hospitality Committee. Gerry Maynard was nominated to serve again as Pacific Yearly Meeting Observer and (subsequently) Representative.

Religious Education: Barbara Emmons noted that the Christmas Pageant will be held in the Church on Saturday December 20. Additional First Day School teachers will be needed for the new year.

Treasurer: Susan Burr reported that the balance on hand at November 30 was \$1152.98. Contributions are welcome.

Other Business: Jane Wolff passed on the thanks of the Berkeley Food Pantry to the Meeting's young people for their help on the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

The meeting concluded with a period of worship at 1:16 p.m. to meet again on Sunday January 4 at 11:30 a.m. in the Friends Church. Twenty-four Friends were present as the meeting closed.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leonard
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
Sunday, January 4, 1987
At the Friends Church

Andrea English (formerly Semons), Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:35 a.m. Twenty-eight Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes of the December meeting for business were read and approved.

Clerk's Correspondence: A letter was received from Friends Church, inviting the Meeting to a farewell and book party for Doug Gwyn on January 11. The meeting asked that a copy of Doug's book be purchased for the Meeting library.

The February conference of Redwood Quaker Association for Religion and Psychology was announced.

Ben Lomond Quaker Center is looking for a new Center Director and Program Director, to start August 1.

Visalia Friends Meeting wrote asking that our Meeting write to the President of the United States supporting their suggestion that Stephen Thiermann be nominated as trustee to the U.S. Institute of Peace. The Recording Clerk was asked to so write on behalf of the Meeting.

Western Quarterly Meeting of Philadelphia has written asking that we consider purchasing peace oriented book covers for distribution in high schools.

Old Business: The nominations of Joyce Samati to Nominating Committee; David Elliot, Clifford Ham and Jamie Ham to Hospitality Committee; and Gerry Maynard as PYM Observer were all approved.

Dolly Marshall's transfer of membership to Strawberry Creek was enthusiastically approved, pending receipt of the transfer from Gwynedd Meeting.

Reports:

Peace and Social Order: Jim Bulldis reported that meetings with Chris Hoagness on Central America and on FCL are planned for this month.

Chris Hoagness would welcome the formation of a support group for those actively interested in Central American work.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant: Kate Buckner reported that the Peace and Social Order Committee recommends that the Meeting not take responsibility for a particular family under the Covenant, as we share responsibility for the Safe House.

Religious Education: Gerry Maynard thanked Andrea English for coordinating the Christmas Posada.

Teachers are needed for the spring and Gerry will be calling those who do not call her to volunteer.

Worship and Ministry: Leslie Leonard indicated that Dick Emmons will clerk the sub-committee to write the State of the Society report. A "soul storming" session for the Meeting's participation in the process will be organized.

Lou Ann Bieging provided the results of the questionnaire to Meeting members on meetings for business. (A summary is appended to these minutes.) The Meeting is exactly evenly split between those favoring Sunday noon and evenings. The committee recommends that business meeting be held at noon from November through April and in the evenings at 7:30 from May through October, the latter set to be held in Friends' homes. The meeting approved the recommendation. Worship and Ministry was asked to reevaluate the experience with this arrangement next December and report to meeting in January or February of 1988.

Treasurer: Susan Burr gave the Treasurer's Report, which is attached. The balance on hand at the end of the year was \$568.44. The final report for the 1985-86 financial year was received as well. Total expenditures for the year were \$9410.57, more or less as budgeted. Finance Committee was asked to bring a proposal to the meeting for the periodic audit of the books.

Nominating: Dolly Marshall indicated that Sherin Loyd will continue on the Retreat Committee and Tanisse Brown will assume the committee clerkship.

Other Business: David Leonard pointed out that occasionally a Friend responsible for rearranging the social hall after meeting for worship is unexpectedly absent. He asked that Friends be alert to whether the process of putting away chairs, etc. has begun by 11:25 and, if not, initiate it themselves. Others will be quick to assist. Instructions on how the room is to be arranged are posted on yellow sheets on the bulletin board by the outer door.

The Meeting was asked to hold in the light Patty Erickson and Barbara Graves as they go to work in Nicaragua as well as Laura McGrew, who was visiting us, as she goes to work in Kampuchea for the AFSC.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship, to meet again on Sunday February 1 at 11:30 a.m. in the Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leonard
Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting for Business

Sunday February 1, 1987
Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of worship at 11:41 a.m.
Twenty-five Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes of the January meeting for business were read and approved.

Clerk's Correspondence: A letter was received from Santa Cruz Monthly Meeting, asking for support in their request for assistance from the American Civil Liberties Union over the repeated violation of First Amendment rights at their peaceful vigils at Vandenberg Air Force Base. The meeting approved that such letters of support be sent.

Old Business: The nomination of Tannis Brown as clerk of the Retreat Committee was approved.

Reports:

Overseers: Kate Buckner reported that Ralph Murphy will assist Dick Emmons in writing the State of the Society report. The committee has asked Nominating Committee to add an additional Overseer for next year, as the committee's work load has increased with the size of the Meeting.

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson indicated that a meeting with a representative of Friends Committee on Legislation was held last month.

The committee is assembling a set of reading materials on Central America.

There will be a large march on Central America in San Francisco on April 25, at which it is hoped to have an organized Quaker presence.

Nancy Chickering hopes to go on the Women's Delegation to the Witness for Peace in Nicaragua in March and is raising funds to that end. The meeting approved use of the Meeting Travel Fund for those who would like to contribute to her trip. Nancy will be asked to present her concern to the Meeting.

Dolly Marshall also will be traveling to Nicaragua this month and Brian Erickson will be going to Guatemala.

Mary Miche mentioned that several Friends had expressed interest in the Meeting's organizing a dinner for the poor and homeless at Easter, particularly with the children's assistance.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant: Kate Buckner mentioned that the Covenant is now urgently in need of funds. The Meeting also could nominate an additional Friend to serve on the Steering Committee. Friends are needed to go on delegations to Honduras and El Salvador.

Religious Education: Joyce Samati indicated that First Day School teachers are still needed.

Retreat: Dolly Marshall reported that the retreat will be held at Ben Lommond the first weekend in May.

Worship and Ministry: Leslie Leonard indicated that this year's meeting with the Brinton Visitors, the Darts, will be held on March 28.

Today was Doug Gwyn's last day in the Friends Church pastorate. He will be replaced in the next few weeks by Arturo Carranza, who is happy with our joint use of the premises. Friends Church will be raising the rent for use of the premises from \$200 to \$250 a month effective November 1. Occasional use of the rooms will be charged at \$50 for three meetings, effective immediately. The Church expects us to participate in the workdays on the building. There are no problems with the renewal of our agreement.

Treasurer: Susan Burr reported that our balance on hand is \$600.71, with checks to be deposited of \$795.

Nominating: Joyce Samati nominated Tom Whiteman to serve on the Retreat Committee. Friends are asked to contact members of the Nominating Committee about ways in which they would like to serve the Meeting next year.

Concerns: Betty Hall spoke of her participation last week in the AFSC meeting on Breaking the Silence on the Middle East and her concern with the difficult issues inhibiting peace in that region. Jean Flores expressed her concern that Friends work most effectively in these areas when they remain truly neutral and open to all.

The meeting closed with a period of worship at 1:00 p.m. to meet again at the Friends Church at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday March 1.

Respectfully submitted,
David Leonard
Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting for Business

Sunday March 1, 1987
At the Friends' Church

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:35 a.m. Twenty Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes of the February meeting for business were read and approved.

Clerk's Correspondence: Delta Meeting invited us to join them on May 10 for a Mother's Peace Day meeting for worship at Lawrence Livermore Laboratory.

The Discipline Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting wrote that further discussion of the new Faith and Practice will be held at Yearly Meeting this year. Comments on the ways in which our beliefs have been presented in that document will be appreciated.

Old Business: The nomination of Tom Whiteman to the Retreat Committee was approved.

The first draft of the State of the Meeting Report was read. Comments should be given to Dick Emmons in the next three weeks.

Reports:

Peace and Social Order: Bob Reis reported that there is no one immediately available to organize the Easter Dinner with the Food Pantry. An announcement of the need for organizers will be made in the Newsletter and after Meeting for Worship.

The committee approved Nancy Chickering's use of the Travel Fund for her trip to Nicaragua and looks forward to a report on her return.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant: Kate Buckner indicated that the last week of March will be Central America week, commemorating the assassination of Archbishop Oscar Romero.

Religious Education: Gerry Maynard reported that Meeting members are invited to make special presentations to the Pre-Schoolers. Volunteers are also needed for the Infants.

Retreat: Tannis Brown said that Doug Gwyn and Dorian Petri Gwyn have agreed to be resource people for the Spring Retreat on "Sharing Our Gifts." Plans for the weekend are full and coming along well. The committee is concerned with charges, for a family of four with two children under 12 would cost at least \$117. The Meeting is strongly concerned that families be able and encouraged to attend. The committee wants the children to be

an integral part of the retreat, not just accommodated. The use of a wider sliding scale of charges was approved. Special contributions for the retreat to make it financially feasible for children were approved. A special permanent retreat fund will be created as well, in which operating surpluses can be accumulated toward future subsidies.

Worship and Ministry: Mary Miche reported that a work day with Friends Church is scheduled for April 4.

The Brinton Visitors, the Darts, will be at the Vine Street Meeting House on March 28.

Treasurer: Susan Burr indicated that the balance on hand at 2-28 was \$744.27. The report is attached to the minutes.

Overseers: Kate Buckner reported that Overseers will be holding a joint meeting with Worship and Ministry this month.

A newcomers brunch will be held at the end of May.

Announcements: Lynn Byrd called attention to the "Strawberry Jam" music evening to be held on Saturday March 21.

The meeting concluded with a period of worship at 1:05 p.m. to meet again on April 5 at 11:30 a.m. at the Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leonard
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

April 5, 1987

At the Friends Church
Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:34 a.m. Twenty-four Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes of the March Monthly Meeting for Business were read and approved, with the amendment that the Easter dinner would be with the Berkeley Emergency Food Project.

Clerk's Correspondence: A letter was received from Lee McKusick and Jan Stokley announcing their intention to be married, outside the care of the Meeting. The Meeting wishes them well with their plans.

A letter of transfer was received from Gwynedd Meeting for Dolly Marshall and her membership was approved.

Old Business: The draft State of the Meeting Report was presented by Dick Emmons. The report was approved with minor corrections.

Committee Reports:

Religious Education: Barbara Emmons invited the Meeting to a First Day School potluck at noon April 25 at the Emmons'. Assistance with child care is needed for the summer. A replacement for Rob Arundel with the Infant Care will be needed in the fall.

Retreat: Tom Whiteman gave a status report on the plans for the retreat. The children's program will be integrated into the retreat's theme. A sign-up list for assistance with the children's program and the work program will be posted two weeks beforehand. Friends would be welcome to attend only on Saturday if they cannot manage the full weekend. The meeting approved inviting Hayward Friends to join us.

Nominating: Joyce Samati presented the committee's nominations for the next year, which are attached to these minutes. Comments should be directed to members of the committee prior to the next Monthly Meeting.

Overseers: Kate Buckner reported that a Newcomers' Brunch will be held at the end of May.

Someone needs to be officially designated to maintain the Meeting's directory of members and attenders. The Nominating Committee was asked to nominate someone for this task after Overseers have refined the job description.

The Discipline Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting, prepar-

ing for Yearly Meeting discussion of the new Faith and Practice, has requested Friends' comments on ideas proposed as basic when we consider what defines us as Quakers and what words we can use to express our common beliefs. A synopsis of the letter will be placed in the newsletter. Worship and Ministry and Overseers will prepare a response that can form the basis of discussion at next Monthly Meeting.

Worship and Ministry: Mary Miche noted that the committee is considering recommending a new committee to handle the house-keeping details of setting up, etc. for Meeting for Worship.

Mary Mikesell will be teaching a series on the Gospels in May, probably on Tuesday evenings.

The Easter Brunch would be a good place for Friends to meet Arturo Carranza, the new pastor of the Friends Church.

The committee has prepared a pamphlet on Meeting for Business, which will be distributed through the newsletter.

Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative Committee: Larry Perry indicated that PYM will be at Chico this year. A concern was expressed that different Friends go to monthly and quarterly meetings, creating a discontinuity in business. Betty Hall indicated that we will probably be asked to host Representative Meeting in March 1988.

Peace and Social Order: Brian Erickson reported that a Quaker contingent is being organized for the Spring Mobilization on April 25.

The Berkeley Presbyterian Church is not available for an Easter dinner for the needy. At this point it is not practical to mount the dinner as early as Easter.

The Samatis are being asked to make a presentation on conditions in Iran.

Hospitality: Betty Hall said that events are being planned for welcoming babies and new members.

Clifford and Jamie Ham are coordinating a Meeting outing to an Oakland A's game.

The meeting closed with a period of worship at 12:58 p.m. to meet again at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday May 3rd at the Leonard's at 1309 Ordway Street (off Gilman) in Berkeley.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leonard
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

Sunday May 3, 1987
At the Leonards', 1309 Ordway, Berkeley

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 7:38 p.m. Nineteen Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes of the April Monthly Meeting were read and approved, with the amendments that we may be asked to co-host Representative Meeting with Berkeley Meeting and that Mary Mikesell will lead, not teach, the series on the Gospels.

Clerk's Correspondence: A letter has been received from College Park Quarterly Meeting, proposing that the Fall Quarterly Meeting be a non-business session. Some concern was expressed that there be some kind of program and that there needs to be some provision for business to be handled in the interim. Our representative should report back to us on this item. Meetings are asked to circulate draft proposals for Quarterly Meeting to other Meetings for seasoning six weeks in advance of sessions. Visitation among Meetings is encouraged.

Pacific Yearly Meeting Peace Committee has written asking that the Meeting respond to the "Declaration of Faith" minuted last year. The matter was forwarded to our Peace Committee.

Old Business: The nominations for the 1987-88 year, which were presented at the April Monthly Meeting, were approved. (They are attached to the April minutes.) It was noted that as the Ericksons will be leaving in June further members of the Peace and Social Order Committee will be needed. The meeting expressed its appreciation to the Nominating Committee for its deliberations and to the outgoing officers of the Meeting for their work.

Committee Reports:

Retreat: Tom Whiteman reported that fifty-four attended the Meeting retreat at Ben Lomond this weekend. The children's program went well and Doug Gwyn set a very fine tone for the gathering. Next year's retreat will be held the first full weekend in May. Susan Burr reported that the sliding scale seemed to work out well, broadly balancing. Several Friends expressed their appreciation for the retreat.

Overseers: Lynn Byrd presented a suggested job description for the Meeting Directory Coordinator, which was amended, approved and forwarded to Nominating Committee.

The committee recommended that a contribution be made to Berkeley Meeting for the joint list of members which it publishes. The Meeting approved such a contribution and asked the Coordinator to work out an appropriate sum with his/her counterpart in Berkeley Meeting.

Peace and Social Order: Carl Anderson reported that 18 Meeting members and 15 Church members went to the Spring Mobilization.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant: The Sanctuary House needs English teachers and the installation of a cat door.

A large group of El Salvadorian refugees in Honduras are planning to return to their homes in June and volunteers are needed to accompany them.

Treasurer: Susan Burr indicated that the balance on hand at the end of April was \$936.36. A written report will be presented next month.

Worship and Ministry: There will be a pot-luck dinner meeting with Doug Gwyn at the Leonards' on May 22nd.

Jane Rubin reported on the controversy concerning Christian language in Faith and Practice. Apparently the greatest concern is with the section on membership. Our response is needed by the end of this month. Friends should speak to Jane in the next two weeks and she will prepare a summary response.

Hospitality: Betty Hall presented a series ^{of} events that are being organized for this month. There will be joint pot-lucks with the Friends Church on the 4th Sundays of June, July and August. Appreciation will be expressed at the July pot-luck to Rob Arundel for his child-care services. The Meeting picnic will be June 20 in Tilden Park. The committee asked that its budget be increased by \$50 so that it can purchase paper cups in quantity. The meeting approved. Friends expressed their appreciation for the work that the committee does. The diligent assistance of Miranda Orvis and other Meeting children with the after-worship hospitality was noted.

Concerns: Carl Anderson requested a letter of introduction for his trip to the Soviet Union this summer with a Pacific Yearly Meeting delegation. The meeting approved a Traveling Minute for him.

Carl also reported on the Northern California Ecumenical Council, to which he is a delegate. He requested that the Meeting make a regular contribution to the Council. The Meeting approved a contribution of 50 cents per member, i.e., \$26 for this year.

Betty Hall spoke on behalf of the Quarterly Meeting Ministry and Oversight Committee. Hayward Meeting has decided to now meet only on the 3rd Sunday of each month.

The meeting closed with a period of worship at 9:39 p.m. to meet again on Sunday June 7 at the home of Mary Miche.

Respectfully submitted,
David Leonard
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

Sunday, June 7, 1987

At Mary Miché's, 2600 Hillegass, #3, in Berkeley

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 7:34 P.M.

Twenty-three Friends were present.

Minutes The minutes of the May Monthly Meeting were read and approved, with Carl Anderson noting that his head count of Meeting and Church members at the Spring Mobilization was approximate.

Clerk's Correspondence • A letter requesting consideration for membership has been received from Ken Orvis; the letter was forwarded to Oversight Committee. • A letter requesting a letter of introduction to Cambridge (Massachusetts) Meeting has been received from James Navarro; this met with approval. • A letter requesting a letter of introduction to Monte Verde (Costa Rica) Meeting has been received from Patti and Brian Erickson; the matter was approved. • A letter requesting a letter of introduction has been received from Rachel Ann Elder, the letter to be carried on her upcoming visits to Meetings and Worship Groups throughout the Pacific Northwest and adjacent Canada; the matter was approved.

• A letter has been received from Helen Perkins explaining and appealing for funds for a Friends' scholarship/loan program in Guatemala. Kate Buckner spoke well of the program, noting that such help for indigenous peoples is rare and that the money goes far. The Meeting approved printing excerpts from the appeal in the newsletter.

• Pacific Yearly Meeting Discipline Committee has written regarding membership practices (for both adults and children), requesting that Meetings season any issues before Yearly Meeting in August. This is an outgrowth of the larger issue of Christian language; relevant minutes received from several Meetings were enclosed in the letter, and Clerk read samples from Santa Barbara and Santa Monica.

Strawberry Creek Friends raised a variety of concerns regarding what an appropriate response to the letter might be. However, Friends subsequently voiced more far-reaching concerns about the propriety and purpose of the letter, focusing on orderly business procedure within Yearly Meeting, both in reference to the history of adoption of the current *Faith and Practice*, and to the immediate rush of activity regarding its continued use. Clerk proposed, and Friends approved, charging Oversight with drafting an immediate response expressing Strawberry Creek's hesitation, while referring our

own analysis of membership practices within the context of the Christian language issue to Oversight and Worship and Ministry jointly.

- A letter has been received from Bill Minkowitz discussing *Faith and Practice* as an instrument of growth, and including reflections on the history of, and inter-group differences among, Friends.

- There was further discussion, regarding the upcoming travels of Carl Anderson and of the Ericksons, of the distinction between a traveling minute and a letter of introduction; Friends tacitly acknowledged our working distinction as hinging on whether travelers specifically intend to *carry concerns to other Meetings*. Clerk read the letter of introduction written for Carl, noting that the Meeting's knowledge of and approval of his concerns were expressly stated.

Old Business • Michael Hartman reported that College Park Quarterly Meeting's Ministry and Oversight Committee, concerned that Quarterly Meeting sessions involve too-lengthy threshing of business minutiae, has proposed a program for fall Quarterly Meeting with greater emphasis on opportunities for fellowship. To accomplish this requires that categories of business now handled in Quarterly be resolved at the Monthly Meeting level, either through Meeting-to-Meeting communication or through using Quarterly as a clearing house rather than a forum.

- Jim Buldis read the proposed Declaration of Faith drafted by the Peace Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting, together with a Minute from our own Peace and Social Order Committee which he submitted on the committee's behalf as a draft Minute in response. Carl Anderson noted that it had taken some time to agree on and draft the committee's Minute.

Friends expressed a wide variety of concerns: with the appropriateness and clarity of the committee Minute, and with due process in using it as a Meeting response; with the unclear nature of perceived problems with the current Peace Testimony and with the danger of attending overmuch to the phrasing of our creed and too little to its practice; and finally with the propriety of the letter proposing the *Declaration* and thus with the necessity of response. The Meeting approved Clerk's drafting a reply which questions the need of a formal Meeting response and which outlines some of the Meeting's concerns, while noting that Meeting concern over the issue continues.

- Jane Rubin reported receiving four letters addressing the issue of Christian language in Faith and Practice, noting the eloquence of some. Acting on a joint decision of the Oversight and Worship and Ministry Committees, she will forward them to Pacific Yearly Meeting's Discipline Committee under a cover letter, which she read, describing the Meeting's sense of the issue and the issue's lack of divisive effect, and proposing deeper attention in the coming year. The letters will be posted.

Committee Reports • Nominating asked whether Peace and Social Order Committee needed two new members immediately to replace Patti and Brian Erickson, and will await a request from Peace and Social Order.

• Overseers: Kate Buckner reported discovering no job description amendment, as reported in the May minutes, for the Meeting Directory Coordinator (this turned out to have been informal), and briefly discussed the question of how to approach inclusion of attenders in the directory. New-comers' Brunch is postponed until September.

• Peace and Social Order: Jim Buldis read the minutes. An opportunity to hear from Bijan Samati on his trip back to Iran is planned for mid-June. Two possible facilities for the off-season Thanksgiving Dinner have been found: the Souper Center and the Richmond Rescue Mission, both in Richmond. A volunteer (more would be welcome) is needed to take the place of Brian Erickson with the Montclair Sanctuary House.

• East Bay Sanctuary Covenant: There will be a Walkathon July 18 to raise funds for EBSC. The plan to repatriate refugees, repopulating Berkeley's Sister City, continues amidst rising activity of the Right in El Salvador; supporters hope to raise \$1000 per family to aid in re-settling.

• Quarterly Meeting: The report and subsequent discussion centered on encouraging attendance at Quarterly Meeting. The Meeting approved newsletter, vocal and posted announcements together with registration instructions.

• Treasurer: Jane Rubin, having accidentally discarded her notes, reported extemporaneously that we have money and are insured. She also reminded committee clerks that committee budgets are needed for the next fiscal year by the end of July.

• Worship and Ministry: Worship and Ministry is reexamining its function, and encourages Friends to bring concerns to the attention of committee members; committee meetings will be announced. Amy Joy expressed the committee's thanks to Jane Rubin for her work gathering responses to the *Faith and Practice* issue; a process involving the Meeting in a seasoned response is planned. Six people participated in Mary Mikesell's group, meeting from May through June; sixteen attended Doug Gwyn's discussion on May 19. Ideas for further activities are solicited. Mary Miché has developed a list of candidate homes for Business Meetings. The "This Week" bulletin board seems to be a success; the last three weeks have seen announcements lasting six, three and six minutes. A Home Worship Group is starting for those who wish a small, home-centered Meeting for Worship; it will meet once a month, starting up 10 A.M. July 12 at the McCarthy/Barnhart home. Amy Joy and the committee acknowledged the many contributions of Leslie Leonard, the outgoing committee Clerk. The Friends' Church contact person is Amy Joy pending a new choice next committee meeting.

• Hospitality: Monthly post-meeting potlucks are planned with Friends' Church this summer. The annual multi-meeting picnic will be based at the Alders in Tilden Park, with many planned activities. We now proudly own 1000 paper cups with handles, less those used. The Solohubs are moving to New Mexico; there will be a farewell in July. Tanya Snyder needs a place to stay June 22 through August 1.

• Retreat: The one-day Fall Retreat will be in late October or November. Members and committees are asked to contribute topic suggestions by August. Larry Perry noted that more people attend retreats than Quarterly Meeting.

New Business and Concerns • Monthly Meetings for Business will be held this summer as follows: **July 12**, 7:30 P.M. at Francia Welker's home at 8266 Terrace Drive in El Cerrito; **August 2**, 7:30 P.M. at Andrea English's home at 432 Moraga Way in Orinda; **August 30**.

• Betty Hall reported that we are set to host the 1988 PYM Representative Committee Meeting on the first Saturday (the 5th?) of March. The Meeting approved writing a formal invitation to Pacific Yearly Meeting.

• Rachel Ann Elder reported the 1986-87 Quaker Spiritual Quest, with sections in Berkeley and Sacramento, has run its course; participating Members include Judith Bowman, Tannisse Brown, Rachel Ann Elder, Barbara Graves, Leslie Leonard, Lauren Mari-Navarro, Mary Mikesell and Larry Perry. Sections will be held in Santa Cruz, Palo Alto and Redwood Forest for 1987-88, and this year's participants plan to continue in a "graduate course". The committee of Quarterly Meeting whose purview this is suggests Monthly Meetings consider scholarships for participants.

• Pacific Yearly Meeting will be held the first week of August, commencing August 2.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 9:39 P.M.

Kenneth Orvis
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 12th of Seventh Month, 1987
At Francia Welker's, 8266 Terrace Drive, in El Cerrito

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

*The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 7:33 P.M.
Twenty-two Friends were present.*

Minutes The minutes of the 6th-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, with the following corrections: • The committee responsible for the Quaker Spiritual Quest is a committee of Yearly Meeting, not Quarterly; • Mary Mikesell's group does not end with 6th Month but continues into 7th.

Clerk's Correspondence • Clerk has complied with a signature request from the Emmons Family in connection with Earlham College's conferring a Wilkinson Award on Mari Emmons, entering in the fall.

• A new pamphlet has been received describing this year's Quaker Spiritual Quest, together with a letter detailing the committee's ideas regarding "scholarships" to help defray the cost of attending (\$160.00 exclusive of travel expenses). Donations to the committee's general fund for this purpose are solicited, and may be sent to Stewart Mulford, 16177 Del Mar Way, Penn Valley, CA, 95648.

Old Business • Clerk reported that she had mailed a letter to the Peace Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting expressing Strawberry Creek's gathered responses to the proposed Declaration of Faith. She then read her letter by request; it included our acknowledgement of the committee's efforts and of the challenge we feel from both new and old testimonies, together with our uncertainties and concerns. Friends expressed rather deeply felt appreciation for the gentle, incisive courtesy of the letter.

Committee Reports • Overseers (Jane Rubin): A Membership Committee has formed, and has met with Ken Orvis in connection with his application. In response to the inquiry from PYM regarding membership practices (see 6th Month minutes), Overseers have sent a copy of Strawberry Creek's three-page statement on membership, drafted in 1983. Leonard Joy encouraged Overseers to make copies available again within the Meeting.

• Peace and Social Order (Barbara Graves): She expressed some relief at finding Peace and Social Order would not have to grapple again with the Declaration of Faith. Bob Reis will be participating in the East Bay Sanctuary Covenant walkathon. Dolly Marshall will continue exploring sites for the off-season dinner. Leonard Joy raised a concern that Peace and Social Order

might function as a clearness committee on social issues, providing Friends with insight into issues of our times and possible responses. Committee members felt unprepared to take on the task as a committee, but suggested individual members might respond to Friends' queries. Mary Miché brought a shared concern to the Meeting that Peace and Social Order keep in mind the participation of children in some committee-sponsored activities. Peace and Social Order will meet on the 21st rather than the 14th, at Barbara Graves's.

- East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): About a thousand people are set to participate in the repatriation effort in El Salvador. EBSC asks the Meeting to consider endorsing, with other congregations, an advertisement in the Salvadoran press in support of and coincident with the effort; The matter was referred to Peace and Social Order. The Moakley-DeConcini Bill is now out of committee in both houses of Congress. There is a move towards a faith-based call for a moratorium on aid to El Salvador, as an ingredient of the 1988 campaign. EBSC wants feedback on the following fundraising idea: EBSC could buy gift certificates, redeemable at Lucky's supermarkets, in quantity at discount, and by re-selling them at face value to EBSC supporters could thus pick up the difference at no cost to the supporters; Meeting asked Bob Reis to inquire further and report in the newsletter.

- Treasurer (Jane Rubin): We have about \$500; Susan Burr will return in a week. Committee clerks are reminded to submit proposed budgets in the next week or two, and to see Jane Rubin, Bob Cooter or Susan Burr with questions.

- Worship and Ministry (Jane Wolff): Plans for this year's Adult Education programs continue apace; look for announcements. Mary Mikesell's series on the Gospels continues. Amy Joy will serve this year as the contact person with Berkeley Friends' Church. She has contacted Ken Kumasawa on the question of PYM Representative Committee use of Church facilities next 3rd Month; we await reply from the Church's Trustees. Announcements after Meeting for Worship continue to go well. The committee will next meet the 12th of 8th Month. Friends are encouraged to contact committee members with ideas for the Adult Education program or with other concerns.

- Hospitality (Caroline Duhem): No one seems to dislike the paper cups; however the Church seems not to be interested at this time. Not many Strawberries showed up, and little ecumenical fraternizing took place at the last "4th First-day" potluck; we are encouraged both to participate and to mix. The 7th Month potluck will be the occasion of thanks and homage to Rob Arundel, who has cared for our infants during Meeting for Worship in recent years. Church members are welcome for coffee after Meeting for Worship. The annual inter-meeting picnic was a success.

- Religious Education (Barbara Voorhees-Emmons): Meeting approved giving Rob Arundel a check for \$25.00 and a card; he leaves at the end of 8th Month; the Church has found a replacement, to cost \$550.00 per year.

We are encouraged to sign up for First-day School duties through the remainder of the summer, especially covering the older (to 8 years) age group. Planning is under way for the upcoming year, in concert with the Church; we may volunteer for semester or full-year duties, and are encouraged to do so if we feel concern for curriculum. We will have about 45 kids this year, having lost high-school students especially, both to boarding schools and to college. The committee will next meet the 26th of 8th Month.

- Retreat (Tom Whiteman): The committee solicits further suggestions for retreat topics and focuses, and for speakers as well.

- Nominating (Andrea English): The committee is close to nominating a clerk to handle the member/attender list.

Announcements • Barbara Graves has received a letter from Switzerland from the daughter of a long-ago Berkeley Meeting member asking for lodging for herself and her ten-month-old for three days at the end of 7th Month.

- Mary Mikesell will present a Christic Institute tape on Central American interconnections and history at Calvary Presbyterian Church at Milvia and Vining, 7:30 PM the 19th of 7th Month.

- Those planning to attend Pacific Yearly Meeting should meet with Sherrin Loyd either before Meeting or after the potluck on Potluck First-day; call her to find out which.

- The Church will hold a work day lasting from 8 to 5 the 25th of 7th Month, concentrating on yard work and giving the kitchen a spring cleaning. The last work day saw about half Strawberries; bring tools.

- The Church will sponsor a concert by the Chevaliers the 26th of 7th Month at 8 PM, featuring works by Brahms, Bach, Paganini. Contributions are welcome; the proceed are to benefit the AFSC.

- John Woolman School is searching for a Student Activities Director.

- Meg Palley is now running a Bed and Breakfast business (which receives a favorable review from Barbara Tittle) in Nevada City .

- Lois Hoxie, who left a long term employment position for reasons of conscience, now offers Rosen Method body therapy.

- Grass Valley Meeting wishes to share news of a recent marriage of two women under the care of their meeting.

- Next Meeting for Business¹ will be held 7:30 PM the 2nd of 8th Month at the home of Andrea English, 432 Moraga Way in Orinda; 9th Month

¹An updated announcement was printed in the newsletter minutes.

Meeting for Business will be held the 30th of 8th Month at the Barnhardt-McCarthy's; 10th Month Meeting for Business will be held at the Orvises'.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 8:42 P.M.

Kenneth Orvis
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 2nd of Eighth Month, 1987
At Andrea English's, 432 Moraga Way, in Orinda

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 7:32 P.M.

Twenty-one Friends were present.

Minutes The minutes of the 7th-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, with the following correction: • the marriage under the care of Grass Valley Meeting has yet to take place.

Clerk's Correspondence • An announcement received from Friends' House in Santa Rosa announces a "Grandparents-Grandchildren Day on the Green" the afternoon of 10/10, and urges friends to attend and to donate handcrafts and produce to sell. Funds are urgently needed to make up for Medi-Cal and other government revenues.

Mary Mikesell noted the passing of Maude Powell in the early morning of Second Day this past week at Friends' House. She was a strong early member of Berkeley Friends' Meeting; a book of her collected letters, *Eternally Yours*, is recommended.

• A letter has been received from Redwood Forest Meeting, which has reached a decision to support demonstrations at Port Chicago with a monthly presence on the 24th of each month; friends are invited to join, and should contact Redwood Forest Meeting if interested.

Committee Reports • Peace and Social Order (Barbara Graves): In keeping with a desire to refresh in our minds the interrelationship of the committee and the Meeting in the light of Friendly concerns for social justice, Barbara reviewed two documents. The first was a "job description" written by Carl Anderson for the committee in 1983, outlining the committee's duties both to and for Meeting. The second was the original memorandum of intent which invited congregations into the East Bay Sanctuary Coalition and reviewed the Salvadoran refugee problem as it then stood.

• East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): The advertisement to be published in El Salvador newspapers in support of the Mesa Grande repatriation was read. The repatriation effort is scheduled for the first week of 10th Month; the ad is to run in 8th and again in late 9th Month. Peace and Social Order asked that Meeting consider endorsing since congregations and similar groups, not EBSC, will sign. Meeting Approved endorsing the 8th Month ad; the 9th Month ad will require a donation. Peace and Social

Order expressed willingness to take whatever further action Meeting might feel moved to recommend. Individuals can donate funds to the repatriation effort through Terry Chin of Share Foundation, at 2311 Bowditch in Berkeley, 94704; those willing to physically accompany the repatriation move (North Americans are needed both for visibility and to provide, simply through their presence, a degree of insurance against outrageous retribution) should contact EBSC. CRECE, a group promoting Central American refugee concerns, will hold a walkathon September 26th, the proceeds to go to Mesa Grande.

The Moakley-DeConcini bill has passed the House with a respectable margin and is scheduled for vote in the Senate later in the fall. Bob Reis raised \$150.00 through his participation in the EBSC walkathon, about a hundred of which came from Strawberry Creek. The movement toward a faith-based call for a moratorium on aid to El Salvador includes in its goals getting members of Congress or their aides to visit El Salvador, and ending some members' practice of either voting against El Salvador aid or voting against Contra funding, trading one off against the other.

EBSC needs funds, and donations of nonperishable foodstuffs to be passed on to refugees; it was suggested that a paper sack could show up at Meeting for Worship for food collection. The Central American Arts Project needs sewing machines and supplies for the sewing program, and woodworking tools for the arts and crafts program. The El Centro asylum project, which assists refugees detained in El Centro, is in need of funds; contact Sister Maureen through EBSC. The Lucky Supermarket gift certificate idea mentioned last month has been abandoned for lack of interest.

Jim Kimball expressed a tentative interest in accompanying the Mesa Grande repatriation move. Clerk expressed the Meeting's thanks to Peace and Social Order for reminding us of concerns and of the dedication and work of some Strawberries in particular.

- Treasurer (Susan Burr): Susan had not yet checked the books, but a bank statement indicates we had \$430.00 as of 7/20.

- Worship and Ministry (Andrea English): Worship and Ministry will meet 8/12.

- Finance (Susan Burr): Committees were again reminded to contact Susan Burr, Jane Rubin or Bob Cooter with their budget requests, since the budget goes to Meeting for Business next month for seasoning.

- Hospitality (Jean Flores): The 7th Month potluck was very well attended by both Strawberries and Church members, with ample mixing and general enjoyment; however the food, though considerable, ran out. The signup sheet for after-meeting refreshments is missing, so please pitch in; Church members continue to join us.

- Religious Education (Barbara Voorhees-Emmons): Volunteers with the infants are needed for month-long stints next year; the new salaried infant caregiver is now apprenticing under Rob Arundel. The 3-6 year old group has over twenty children now and will be divided into two groups; teachers are needed, even for three months at a time. The 7-8 year olds, the Upper Elementary and the Junior High groups will be taught by people from the Church. David Leonard may take the High School group, but this is not certain. The committee will next meet 8/26.

- Retreat (Tom Whiteman): 11/7 was proposed as the date for Fall Retreat; Meeting approved. Hillside Community Church in El Cerrito, site of recent fall retreats, has met mixed reviews, and new sites are under consideration, including the Holy Redeemer Center in Oakland, the Mills College conference center, and Dunsmuir House. Child care will be provided. A theme is taking shape around the building of community, and the free, creative use and expression of personal light, especially in regard to sharing across interpersonal barriers. Suggestions for a resource person *cum* discussion leader are solicited.

- Nominating (John Bieging): Lee McKusik is nominated for Directory Keeper. This will be seasoned until next month.

- Overseers (Kate Buckner): Susan Kepner has asked to be released from membership, as she is joining the Arlington Community Church; her note does not mention Chuck, so an attempt will be made to contact him. Carl Anderson, who grew up in Arlington Community Church and asked for a transfer of membership to Seattle Friends Meeting rather than a release, suggested we might do the same. Clerk proposed drafting a minute of release with care and warm feelings for their new affiliation and for themselves, and with appreciation for their many active contributions to Strawberry Creek, and noting Carl's comment. This plan was approved.

The 1983 statement on membership needs some updating before re-release, and will be addressed, with particular attention to junior membership, at the joint Worship and Ministry / Oversight meeting tentatively scheduled for 8/15. This year's annual, budgeted scholarship fund, used to help Strawberries attend various functions, is now depleted. Overseers meets 8/11; contact Kate Buckner.

(Barbara Voorhees-Emmons): The membership committee has met and now forwards Ken Orvis's application to Meeting for seasoning.

New Business • Clerk proposes establishing a fund for the Ericksons for their use on their return, to be held in a Meeting savings account (Treasurer says this is feasible) and perhaps financed by pledges of small monthly donations. Friends expressed the strong sense that the Ericksons are a part of us, that they represent us in a very personal and immediate way, and that they serve a strong need in many of us who are unable to be there, with all the risks, deprivations and rewards pertaining. Susan Burr and Clerk will

try to express through the account's title the essential duality of the direction in which contribution is flowing. Meeting approved the proposal.

Announcements • Carl Anderson reminded us to follow the news accounts of the upcoming New Zealand national elections, in which nuclear freedom is a crucial issue.

• Next Meeting for Business will be held 7:30 PM the 30th of 8th Month at the home of the Orvises, 2805 Kelsey Street in Berkeley.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at about 9:10 P.M.

Kenneth Orvis
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 30th of Eighth Month, 1987
At the Orvises', 2805 Kelsey Street, in Berkeley

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

*The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 7:35 P.M.
Fifteen Friends were present.*

Minutes The minutes of the 8th-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, with the following corrections: • Maude Powell passed away on the 29th; also, referring to her as an "early member" of Berkeley Friends was misleading; • Carl Anderson was far from the sole author of Peace and Social Order Committee's "job description". • Kate Buckner noted that the reported depletion of the scholarship fund was mistaken, stemming from a confusion of account titles and budgets. • Your recording clerk regrets the phrasing of Carl Anderson's religious biography — he is not moving to Seattle.

Agenda Correction • The Yearly Meeting representatives were unable to attend Meeting for Business this month, so their report is postponed.

Clerk's Correspondence • Lois Hoxie has written a letter requesting a transfer of membership from Hayward Meeting. This was forwarded to Oversight.

• Orchard Park Quarterly Meeting announces fall meeting October 17-18, and reminds Meetings, in light of the brevity of the planned business session, to circulate urgent action minutes through other Meetings for prior seasoning.

• The Berkeley Emergency Food Project, under a cover letter from the mayor, projects a need for participating congregations to extend shelter for the homeless from a one-month to a two-month period.

Old Business • Meeting heartily approved membership for Ken Orvis.

• Nomination of Lee McKusik for Directory Keeper is to be held over at the request of Nominating Committee.

The Budget • Susan Burr handed out copies of a two-page budget summary. For the record, the following errors were noted: (1) the expenditure column labeled "85-86 budgeted" should read "86-87 budgeted"; (2) the income column labeled "85-86 actual" should read "86-87 actual"; (3) the "space rental" figure proposed for 87-88 should read "2,400 minimum"

rather than "1,000", and the total should reflect this; (4) all "d" footnotes should be "c" footnotes, "e" should be "d", "f" should be "e", and an "f" footnote should be appended to the "N. CA Ecumenical Council" line; (5) footnote "f" should read "50¢ x 52 members" rather than "\$20 x 52 members".

The first area of discussion centered on items added to last year's budget during the year. These include the purchase of paper coffee cups (\$50), the East Bay Sanctuary House contribution (\$300), and the Northern California Ecumenical Council contribution (\$26); Oversight noted that their \$80 projected expenditure incorrectly includes \$30 for copies of *Faith and Practice*, since Meeting was reimbursed as Strawberries bought them. Other expenditures increased as well, particularly insurance.

Discussion moved on to the projected shortfall for the 86-87 year. Meeting sponsored a number of special funds during the year, and earmarked contributions mounted generously; however, the general fund suffered, perhaps partly as a result, and Meeting now faces a fiscal crisis at the close of the year, with a projected shortfall possibly as high as \$2,022. Unfortunately the algorithms used to calculate "actual" versus "to date" contributions were not readily apparent, while the accuracy of some figures was questioned, so the seriousness of our current situation was not at all clear. Finance Committee will pursue this matter. In any case, Meeting approved mailing copies of the budget to Strawberries under a cover letter soliciting contributions and detailing our predicament, the fair share calculated per "contributing unit", and the fixed expenses concomitant with carrying a non-contributing Member. The mailing is to be paid for out of "Stationary and Miscellaneous". Some would like to see a donation box of some kind at Meeting for Worship.

The proposed budget for next year includes all current items and will show a substantial increase overall. Three areas of particular concern were addressed: the method of handling *Friends' Bulletin* subscriptions, the cost of insurance, and the proposed Religious Education budget.

Last year Meeting decided that Strawberries would pay individually for their *Friends' Bulletin* subscriptions by earmarking a portion of their contributions. Treasurer declared this method unworkable since she received only two such earmarked checks during the year; Finance Committee recommends not subscribing as a meeting. Meeting approved requiring subscribers to actively request (and pay in advance for) renewal of their subscriptions, the list of subscribers to be handled by the Directory Keeper (this addition to the Directory Keeper's duties was referred to Oversight). Some would also like to encourage sharing of *Friends' Bulletin* copies, perhaps through the library.

While our current insurance carrier originally proved most economical since our insurance is essentially a required sub-component of the Church's insurance (carried by the same company), Meeting requested Worship and Ministry to contact the PYM Finance Committee, which has elected to serve

as a clearing house of insurance information, to see if a cheaper carrier can be found after last year's 235% increase.

Michael Hartman reported for Religious Education Committee on the need for a hired teaching aide for the 3- and 4-year-olds, to provide these children with some continuity since Meeting volunteers will hold one-month stints only. This is to cost \$540 for the year and will, it is hoped, halt our history of fatigue among over-committed volunteers. General and curriculum supplies are also needed this year after a recent history of mixed frugal and unreimbursed purchasing. Clerk noted that we needed to approve this budget section immediately, ahead of normal procedure, since the "First-day school year" begins this month. Meeting approved.

We are to contact Susan Burr, Jane Rubin or Bob Cooter promptly with further concerns.

Committee Reports • Overseers (Kate Buckner): Clerk read the Minute of Release for Susan and Chuck Kepner. Meeting approved extending the minute to include Chuck, with a note that Susan served on Hospitality Committee. Overseers plans two events, for newcomers and others, one to focus on membership, the other on marriage in the care of Meeting (including same-sex marriage). Overseers Committee needs broader resources on the same-sex marriage issue, and asks that we forward pertinent materials or references to committee members.

• Peace and Social Order (Barbara Graves): Carl Anderson will talk about his Russia trip October 2nd, 3rd or 4th at a Friends' Church event. EBSC is sponsoring a talk by former ambassador Robert White 11/1; PSOC proposes buying a quarter-page ad in the program for the event, the \$30 cost to come out of the committee's budget. Meeting approved. There is a possibility of an exchange of letters between Meeting children and Soviet children.

• East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Kate Buckner): We were referred to the Central America bulletin board regarding a Northern California sanctuary movement meeting 9/12 in San Rafael. Elvira Alvarado, a Honduran woman, speaks 7-9 PM at the EBSC office 9/20. A planned push to stop aid includes visits to Congresspersons 9/15 and related demonstrations. Certain Senators have been targeted for letters supporting the Moakley-DeConcini bill. Funds are still needed for the Mesa Grande resettlement.

• Treasurer (Susan Burr): The general fund, at \$201.34 on 6/1, took in \$976.90 over the summer; expenses leave a balance of \$142.37. With the rent and other expenses looming, contributions are urgently needed. \$25 has been left in the revolving travel fund. The special fund to aid in the resettlement of Strawberries after sojourning in Central America, still without a formal title, has started up.

• Worship and Ministry (Amy Joy): An educational series for fall was announced: on 10/2 a potluck followed by a discussion led by Sam Cox on the history of *Faith and Practice* and on the use of Christian language among

Friends; on 10/16 a session on membership in historical perspective and its significance within the Society of Friends; on 10/22 a discussion of vocal ministry led by Ellie Foster and Mary Mikesell; on 11/15 a session led by Madge Seaver and Leonard Joy; and further sessions during winter and spring focusing on such areas as Friends' government, service committees, and Meeting for Business. A joint meeting with Retreat Committee is scheduled for 9/8. A response with thanks for our contribution on the subject of Christian language has been received from PYM Discipline Committee. Worship and Ministry is looking for babysitters for post-Meeting functions including Meetings for Business.

- Hospitality (Caroline Duhem): On 10/11, a First-day, there will be a baby welcoming for Flynn Berry and Jesse Gerstin. On 9/26 there will be a trip, with Friends' Church, to see the A's play the White Sox; see Clifford Ham.

- Religious Education (Michael Hartman): Michael expressed the committee's thanks on funding the aide. The committee will be asking for volunteers with the younger children, of which we have twenty-seven from 0 through 7 years years of age. A phone-canvassing program will target non-parents and parents of adult or independent children, in the spirit that the whole of Meeting is responsible for the "joyful care" of our young people. Michael reflected that 35,000 young people die each day worldwide from lack of necessities, and that this is our opportunity to provide for certain very real needs among our own; we are encouraged to reflect on the applicable Queries and to come into the classroom in the spirit of the task. The committee has feelers from two potential applicants for the aide position, but solicits further suggestions; we need someone with a strong interest in pre-schoolers.

- Retreat (Ken Orvis): Planning continues; the site will be the Hillside Community Church in El Cerrito.

- Nominating No further business.

New Business • Doug Gwynn will be the Visiting Friend at Pendle Hill during Fall term.

Announcements • Next Meeting for Business will be held following a 6:00 PM potluck at 7:30 PM the 4th of 10th Month at the home of the Andersons, 71 El Toyonal in Orinda.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 9:36 P.M.

Kenneth Orvis
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 4th of Tenth Month, 1987
At the Anderson/Bergman home, 71 El Toyonal, in Orinda

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 7:32 P.M.

Sixteen Friends were present.

Minutes The minutes of the 9th-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, with the following corrections: • The discussion of vocal ministry sponsored by Worship and Ministry is scheduled for 10/25, not 10/22; • the quarterly meeting announcement is for College Park Quarter of course, not Orchard Park as accidentally written.

Clerk's Correspondence • A caretaker is needed for Ben Lomond Center; applicants and suggestions are solicited.

• A letter has arrived from the Ericksons, which Clerk will post; also see Lee McKusik for other news from them (he has a mailing list for shared correspondence).

Yearly Meeting • Sherrin Loyd, with corroboration by others who attended, spoke of the remarkable and uplifting contrast between this and the previous yearly meeting. There was a pervasive sense of healing and of joined evolution within the Society which to some extent defies communication to non-participants. Several individual sessions were fondly remembered and spiritedly discussed.

The Budget • Susan Burr handed out copies of a one-page budget summary, noting that *Friends Bulletin* subscriptions still show as a line item although the minuted plan is in effect. Marie Mayen has been hired as the 3-4 year olds' teaching aide. The budget of Worship and Ministry has increased, reflecting the current rental policy of Friends' Church re. the use of rooms for business meetings and other events. In light of that committee's budget being artificially inflated, on the one hand, and liaison with the Church being part of its purview, on the other, Meeting approved adding a sub-line to the budget listing rental expenses separately. Babysitting expenses may also rise.

Friends acknowledged, with some trepidation, that the budget does accurately reflect our Meeting's activity. Clerk directed those with concerns about specific or general trends to follow their leadings through the course of the year in order to influence the budget before the time of final approval.

The \$190/year (\$15.83/month) "fair share" figure does not take contributing attenders into account; some expressed the sentiment that regular attenders should be encouraged to feel fiscal responsibility to Strawberry Creek, not least because that brings with it a strong sense of partnership. Finance Committee was encouraged to insert regular budget updates in the newsletter.

Meeting approved the budget.

Committee Reports • Nominating (John Bieging): Lee McKusik's nomination for Directory Keeper is withdrawn at his request. Ken Orvis is nominated in his stead, the nomination to be seasoned.

• Overseers (Jane Rubin): Friendly Sixes will begin anew, this year under a new plan to avoid the problems with last-minute switching. The Newcomers' Brunch at the Leonards' saw about twenty people. There will be two sessions on marriage in the care of Meeting sometime after Thanksgiving, one general, the other to focus on same-sex marriage. A membership committee for Lois Hoxie has been appointed, consisting of Lynn Bird, Betty Hall and Jim Kimball. Ralph Murphy, in ill health for several months now, has requested a temporary leave from Oversight Committee; Nominating is to find a substitute.

• Peace and Social Order (Jim Kimball): At the committee meeting Carl Anderson spoke about Elau (a Pacific island nation), and the SHARE food project was discussed (see below). Peace and Social Order proposed sending a letter to Redwood Forest Meeting in support of its monthly vigil at Concord Naval Weapons Station; Tom Whiteman read the draft of the letter, and Meeting approved it. Questions regarding Strawberry Creek's role in the witness are pending.

Tom Whiteman spoke at some length on the SHARE food project after further investigating it following an initial presentation after Meeting for Worship by Dick Strong of the AFSC (AFSC sponsors the Bay Area SHARE project, the only SHARE project sponsored by Friends; it is a monthly at-cost food distribution scheme which requires partial payment in social service). Tom Whiteman and Dolly Marshall are very interested and note that all those involved whom they've spoken with have been vitalized by the project and that the project targets, *inter alia*, an unperceived segment of society with a nutritional deficit especially at the end of the month. They believe Strawberry Creek would be an apt "host site" if half a dozen committed volunteers can be found.

Friends raised concerns regarding possible conflicts with the Food Pantry operations in the Church; inquiries are being made. Some present expressed strong feelings that Meeting or its members should and would host.

Religious Education (Mary Anderson): Marie Mayen's duties include watching the play structure until 11:30 after Meeting for Worship. The

Upper Elementary (4th-6th grades) group would like to conduct a "peaceful toys for Christmas" vigil, and need more participants; see Mary. They are also concerned about the sense of isolation children with non-violent backgrounds have within our culture, and hope such an event might work toward dispelling that sense somewhat.

- East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): The Mesa Grande resettlement effort takes place next week; a delegation of observer/participants is there now, and another will leave next week. Money is still needed; send to St. Johns for EBSC, labeled "attention Going Home Project". EBSC's main fundraising project for the year, Ambassador White's \$25 a plate dinner, will take place 11/1. He will also speak on campus and in San Francisco.

- Treasurer (Susan Burr): The general fund, at \$142.37 on 9/1, took in \$1627.45 last month; expenses leave a balance of \$321.67 (both figures exclude \$300.00 of checks and cash in hand). The travel fund maintains its \$25.00 balance; the Nicaraguan Sojourners' fund holds \$70.00, and Clerk has pledge coupons for those who wish self-reminders.

- Worship and Ministry (Amy Joy): Sam Cox's first presentation went well, with 19 attending and a potluck. His second will be 10/16. The committee met 9/8 with Tom Whiteman (as clerk of Retreat Committee).

We need babysitters.

- Hospitality (Betty Hall): The baby welcoming is postponed.
- Retreat (Tom Whiteman): Retreat announcements will be ready soon.

New Business • Mary Miché raised a concern regarding the segment of time spent in Meeting for Worship by the older youth, suggesting several aspects for reexamination. Amy Joy will raise the matter again with Religious Education, who are already working on some facets.

- Marie Mayen spends an hour on the bus to work for us; perhaps rides could be offered.

- A friend of Rachel Ames will be here and wishes to talk about Peru.

Announcements • Next Meeting for Business will be held following Meeting for Worship at 11:30 AM the first of 11th Month at the Friends' Church. Worship and Ministry will evaluate the recent months' Meetings for Business in homes.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 9:59 P.M.

Kenneth Orvis
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 1st of Eleventh Month, 1987
At Berkeley Friends' Church

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:37 A.M.

Twenty-seven Friends were present including one child.

Minutes The minutes of the 10th-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, with the following corrections: • The "Rachel Ames" mentioned under New Business is in fact Rachel Ann Elder; • Oversight Committee's request for an additional member is not connected with Ralph Murphy's leave of absence.

Old Business • Meeting approved Ken Orvis as Directory Keeper.

Ad Hoc Committee • After a round of nominations Meeting approved an Ad Hoc Committee for Nominating the Nominating Committee, consisting of Michael Hartman and Larry Perry, who will report next month.

Committee Reports • Retreat (Tom Whiteman): We are ready for Saturday; Friends are welcome to simply show up (but notify a Retreat Committee member if you need childcare, since none has yet been requested). Friends spoke highly of the fall retreat experience, encouraging Strawberries to attend.

• Nominating (Joyce Samati): The committee plans to nominate a new Overseer next month.

• Overseers (Kate Buckner): Overseers request the new member because of Meeting's burgeoning growth and the attendant workload. The committee needs up to date versions of all committees' and representatives' task descriptions and senses of mandate. So does Nominating, while the Recording Clerk notes that Strawberries have expected his materials to include a reference set as well. Meeting asks representatives and committee clerks to submit such to Nominating by the first of the year, and suggests committees make a summary statement in Meeting for Business sometime during each year.

There followed reports and concerned discussion regarding Jessica McKusik.

Lynn Bird reported on the membership committee's meeting with Lois Hoxie. The committee recommends approval of her transfer into Strawberry Creek; the recommendation is to be seasoned until twelfth month.

- Peace and Social Order (Carl Anderson): Friends are encouraged to join the ongoing vigil at Concord Naval Weapons Station; Berkeley Friends' Meeting contributes a presence on Friday mornings, Barbara Graves on Wednesday mornings and Redwood Forest Meeting on the 24th of each month. Tonight's fundraising banquet for EBSC, featuring former Ambassador White, has sold out (Strawberries bought up two tables' worth, seating ten each). The Ericksons are residing near the Honduran border, and would like letters. The SHARE food project is going ahead for November, the distribution to be held at Berkeley Friends' Meeting. The Emmonses are back from China and will discuss their trip 11/17 at the Leonards' at 7:30 (come fed).

- East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): The Mesa Grande resettlement effort is progressing, but morale in the camp itself is falling as more people leave to go home, and since responsibility for the camp is to switch from the UN to the Honduran government. EBSC has tentatively decided to change tactics somewhat and actively work toward a moratorium on aid to El Salvador, but would like the considered approval of member congregations before doing so. EBSC wishes to respond to changes, as fewer people in the Bay Area need immediate help but other needs press. Friends spoke of the refugees' own requests for such work (via CRECE) and of similar messages from the Central American religious community. Some concern was voiced about changing from the immediately humanitarian to a more political arena. Meeting decided to approve EBSC's plan and to make note of initial reservations in our answering message.

- Treasurer (Susan Burr): The general fund, at \$321.67 on 9/30, took in \$1215.00 last month; expenses leave a balance of \$1170.28. The travel fund maintains its \$25.00 balance; the Nicaraguan Sojourners' fund holds \$110.00. Susan, convinced by new arguments, plans to set up a contribution box, to be left near the guest book during Meeting for Worship.

- Worship and Ministry (Amy Joy): There was no committee meeting during the past month since members were widely distributed around the globe; the next meeting will be 11/19. The committee will discuss the entrance of the children to Meeting for Worship with Barbara Emmons, and will review our ongoing experiment with times and locations of Meeting for Business. The cost estimate for PYM Representative Committee Meeting next March has been forwarded to the clerk of Representative Committee. Recent events have been well received and well attended; the next will be by Madge Seaver and Leonard Joy, also on vocal ministry. Jane Wolff returns soon with Carlos Daniel Wolff.

- Hospitality (Caroline Duhem): The baby welcoming will be November 15th.

• Religious Education (Michael Hartman): Michael briefly discussed the current state of his inquiry into the entrance of the youth into Meeting for Worship at the close of First-day School. Andrea English and Barbara Emmons are planning a Christmas program tentatively scheduled for Saturday the 19th.

• Quarterly Meeting (Michael Hartman): Much of Quarterly Meeting was spent in small groups which included everyone over five years of age and which experience generated a strong sense of the larger community of Friends, and of its strength and substance. The next Quarterly Meeting will be 1/16 in Palo Alto.

New Business • Barbara Graves asked all and sundry to keep aware of people traveling to Nicaragua: the Ericksons and others need supplies and various goods, and the mails are anything but reliable, so travelers should be seen as a resource, news of which should be shared. Try to come up with other creative channels.

• Mary Miché notes that the Oxfam fast will take place Thursday 11/19, and invites friends to contact her.

Announcements • Next Meeting for Business will be held following Meeting for Worship at 11:30 AM the 6th of 12th Month at the Friends' Church.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:20 P.M.

Kenneth Orvis
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 6th of Twelfth Month, 1987
At Berkeley Friends' Church

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:36 A.M.

Twenty-one Friends were present including one child.

Minutes The minutes of the 11th-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, with the following correction: • the Ericksons are still in Matagalpa rather than near the Honduran border as reported to Meeting.

Clerk's Correspondence • Sam Cox has written requesting a transfer of membership to Redwood Forest Monthly Meeting. This was forwarded (over at least one wistful motion to deny) to Oversight with fondness and regret.

• Rachel Ann Elder has written requesting a sojourning membership at Chester (Pennsylvania) Monthly Meeting while she remains there; Meeting approved.

• The clerk of PYM Representative Committee has written that, in light of the committee's possible need for facilities into the Sunday morning of the March 5th weekend, and because of financial difficulties regarding the \$250.00 use fee requested by Friends' Church, the committee would prefer to use Berkeley Friends' Meeting facilities, which have been offered. Strawberry Creek would co-host as planned. Meeting agreed and Clerk will respond.

• Friends' Committee on Legislation has written us, along with other Meetings and Worship Groups, asking for accounts of recent experience holding and registering marriages after the manner of Friends under California law. The matter was forwarded to Leonard and Amy Joy.

• The Northern California Ecumenical Council is to hold its 75th anniversary dinner in late January.

Old Business • Lois Hoxie's membership was warmly approved and welcomed.

Committee Reports • Religious Education (Michael Hartman): Our Posada and potluck will be held 12/19 starting at 5:00 PM (4:00 for participants). The committee continues work on the curriculum for the younger children. Teachers are still needed for Spring.

• Retreat (Tom Whiteman): Thirteen people participated in the Fall Retreat, concentrating on community building and relationship building. The committee would like to ask the Meeting's help in integrating retreat Child Participation programs with ongoing First-Day School programs, and further help in defining directions for community-building among all Strawberries.

• Nominating (Joyce Samati): Bill Cooper is nominated as the additional Overseer. Nominating reminds us to forward job descriptions of committees and other officers to them. Clerk directed Joyce to remind recidivists.

• Overseers (Kate Buckner): We are reminded of the planned series of discussions on marriage after the manner of Friends, not least by the planned marriage January 9th of a lesbian couple under the care of Berkeley Friends' Meeting. To keep from accidentally dropping Strawberries not otherwise particularly active, Oversight plans to compile a list of "active contributors" with the aid of the Treasurer.

• Peace and Social Order (Barbara Graves): The committee meeting concentrated largely on EBSC matters and on SHARE. There are 34 signees for the December SHARE distribution, by no means all of them Strawberries. We are reminded of the "Choose Life" vigil at Lawrence Livermore Labs.

• East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): EBSC's dinner with former Ambassador White made some \$5,000; CRECE's event last night was quite small, on the other hand, so they stand in need of donations. Bob Reis and Kate Buckner are both to be EBSC officers (Kate is on the Steering Committee and is half-time chair of the Accompaniment Committee). No American aid is being allowed into the repopulated Salvadoran cities. (Barbara Graves described the "repopulation" of Port Chicago's town site on 12/5, in sympathy with the Salvadoran efforts). The current residents of the sanctuary house are approaching solvency and may be encouraged to find other housing.

• Treasurer (Michael Hartman): The general fund, at \$1170.28 on 11/1, took in \$1680.00 last month; expenses leave a balance of \$2497.67. The travel fund maintains its \$25.00 balance; the Nicaraguan Sojourners' fund holds \$160.00. \$1,000 of the past month's donations came with instructions that it be held intact, Meeting to make use of accrued interest only. Meeting approved referring the matter to Finance Committee and solicits suggestions.

• Worship and Ministry (Amy Joy): The issue of the young Friends' entrance to Meeting for Worship is complex; after consideration the committee, with Barbara Voorhees-Emmons, felt the benefit of joining Meeting for Worship outweighs the inconvenience. It may be more important to post signs in the hallway and to work on adult entry to Meeting for Worship. The committee plans programs on church government this winter, and on our selves as Quakers in the spring. A review of attendance at Meeting for Business over the past year showed an average attendance of nineteen in the

evenings at homes (May-Sept.), and twenty-four at midday in the Church (Oct.-April, use fee \$29). The committee recommends continuing the half and half arrangement; Meeting approved. Insurance will increase by 10% this year. Worship and Ministry will consider the possibility of a fire in the fireplace during Meeting for Worship.

- Ad Hoc Committee for Nominating the Nominating Committee (Michael Hartman): Leslie Leonard (as Clerk), Mary Mikesell, and Mary Miché are nominated to serve on Nominating Committee; John Bieging will continue. The Ad Hoc Committee has decided a four-member Nominating Committee is in order at this time, noting the membership is set at "three to five"; the issue of term length has yet to be resolved.

- Hospitality (Caroline Duhem): The baby welcoming was well attended.

New Business • Oversight Committee guided Meeting through an examination of Junior Membership in Strawberry Creek, noting that the 1984 *Faith and Practice* deleted mention of it at the yearly meeting level. While this was not intended to discourage individual Meetings from continuing to offer junior membership, Oversight felt this an occasion to reexamine our own practices. At present Strawberry Creek offers Junior Membership, upon request of a child and/or the parents, continuing through the junior member's request for either adult membership or some other action (terminating at age 25 if no request is made).

Strawberries spoke with concern and feeling on a variety of aspects of the issue. Major themes included the question of the meaning of membership to children, especially regarding belonging and inclusion and a strong sense of self; the possibilities for responsibility and participation; and delineations of child-initiated membership versus parent-sponsored membership, especially in infancy.

- Ken Orvis, in his capacity as Directory Keeper, reminded friends of the need to actively request renewal (or startup) of Friends' Bulletin subscriptions. There was some confusion about how we had agreed to pay, so a final announcement on that issue was deferred.

Announcements • Next Meeting for Business will be held following Meeting for Worship at 11:30 AM the 3rd of 1st Month at the Friends' Church.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at about 1:20.

Kenneth Orvis
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 3rd of First Month, 1988
At Berkeley Friends' Church

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

*The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:34 A.M.
Nineteen Friends were present.*

Minutes The minutes of the 12th-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, with the following corrections: • Bob Reis is not an officer of EBSC; • the residents of the Sanctuary house are to remain, but now that they are relatively self-sufficient some of the funds may go elsewhere.

• A third point of clarification regards the last minutes' reference to "accidentally dropping Strawberries". Oversight periodically reviews the list of Meeting members and occasionally is aware of someone who has been absent for a long time from all Meeting activities. If long absence is accompanied by no financial contribution as well, it suggests a change of relation to the Meeting. Business meeting noted last summer in budget preparation that non-contributing, long absent members might be contacted by Overseers to remind them there are regular costs of membership borne by the Meeting. The treasurer was asked to assist in this regard.

Clerk's Correspondence • The Sollohubs send greetings and invite travelers to stop in Las Vegas, New Mexico.

• The Children's Creative Response to Conflict Project, currently forced to operate on a fee-for-service basis, asks us to consider forwarding our California tax rebate checks to them.

Old Business • Meeting approved Bill Cooper's nomination to Oversight Committee.

• Meeting approved the nominations of Leslie Leonard (as clerk), Mary Mikesell (for a two-year term) and Mary Miché to Nominating Committee; John Bieging continues in his second year.

Committee Reports • Nominating (Joyce Samati): The committee is nearly done gathering the job descriptions of committees and officers.

• Overseers (Kate Buckner): Betty Hall has broken her foot, which is in a cast and can take no weight for six weeks, so needs help shopping etcetera. A subcommittee is working on issues of membership and junior membership (see December minutes and also Dick Emmons's piece in the newsletter);

we are encouraged to forward thoughts and concerns to them. Discussions of same-sex marriage are slated for February and March.

- Peace and Social Order (Barbara Graves and Carl Anderson): The committee discussed issues related to SHARE, and also the actions at Lawrence Livermore Labs. Dolly Marshall shared with the committee some of her personal ideas regarding peace and social order, taking her turn in a committee series.

- East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): EBSC has decided to hire a part-time fund raiser, is thinking of expanding its horizons to include Guatemalan refugees as well as Salvadoran, and is sponsoring production of the play "Underground Railroad". The issue of support of the Moratorium on Aid to El Salvador remains pending.

- Treasurer (Susan Burr): The general fund, at \$2497.67 on 12/1, took in \$1410.70 last month; expenses leave a balance of \$2649.04. The travel fund maintains its \$25.00 balance; the Nicaraguan Sojourners' fund holds \$230.00. Finance Committee has yet to decide the fate of the \$1,000 endowment fund. Money does appear after Meeting in The Box.

- Worship and Ministry (Amy Joy): The committee is working on a sign for the hallway (Ken Orvis contributed a draft version), on the entrance of children and adults to Meeting for Worship, and on reducing the proportion of committee time spent on "housekeeping activities". The vocal ministry series was well attended, with 18-25 present at each. The Church Government discussion and potluck is tentatively scheduled for Friday, 1/29; Margaret Mossman will coordinate presenters, discussion to focus on history and how Church Government reflects Quaker principles and values. A second event is tentatively scheduled for 4/8. A following series, in friends' homes, is to focus on "Ourselves as Quakers" - how we as individuals bring Quaker values into our lives. Jane Wolff will handle the list this year of homes available for evening Meetings for Business in the summer months; please contact her to volunteer.

New Business • (Andrea English): We co-host, with Berkeley Friends Meeting, PYM Representative Committee Meeting the weekend of March 5th. Together we need to provide 1) someone to coordinate transportation arrangements; 2) someone to coordinate arrangements for hospitality; 3) a Saturday noon meal and other refreshments; and 4) facilities arrangements for the meetings. Strawberry Creek might take either the transportation coordinating task or the hospitality coordinating task. When no one immediately volunteered, Clerk suggested we agree to take on the hospitality task, and Meeting approved.

- (Barbara Graves): While those Strawberries sponsoring our SHARE distribution have taken pains to keep it separate from official Meeting business, insurance concerns on the part of Friends Church have forced the issue. If we are to use the Food Pantry distribution room for SHARE distributions, Friends Church requires a written minute stating that this is a Meeting-

sponsored activity and is covered by our insurance. Leonard Joy obtained approval from our insurance carrier for such distribution, and Meeting approved the following minute:

"Barbara Graves reported on the work of a group of friends planning a distribution outlet for the "SHARE" program. This program arranges low-cost distribution of food through bulk purchase and voluntary labor. Substantial food packages are provided monthly at a cost of \$12.00 and a social service contribution.

"The group (Barbara Graves, Tom Whiteman, Dolly Marshall, Amy Joy, Kathy Barnhart, Larry Perry, Andrea English) reported that Berkeley Friends Church were willing to allow the distribution of SHARE packages from the Church premises having been assured that the activity would be fully covered by insurance if it were undertaken by Strawberry Creek Friends Meeting. The group requested the approval of the Meeting for its participation in the SHARE program and for undertaking monthly distribution (one to two hours once each month).

"The Meeting gave its approval for this."

Friends are urged to participate in SHARE, regardless of financial status, since the program's initial hurdle is to build enough volume.

- Amy Joy has communicated with FCL regarding marriage after the manner of Friends and has forwarded a list of marriages.

Announcements • Quarterly Meeting will be held 1/16 at Palo Alto Friends Meeting.

- Next Meeting for Business will be held following Meeting for Worship at 11:30 AM the 7th of 2nd Month at the Friends' Church.

Reflection Friends were drawn into a centered discussion of membership, of deeper unity, of community. A few shared thoughts:

Can we notice conflict? Can we find what resolution or what unity means? What is the dimension of membership against the larger sociocultural backdrop of community, of the Friends system? How much *friendliness* do newcomers perceive? How is it we here focus so easily into unity, bypassing personal views? Is one newcomer's relief at our lack of judgementalness a common experience? Some felt so. Do we achieve our unity creatively, or passively through sidestepping real grappling with issues? How are we to conceive of our community in this fluid, dynamic age? Is there a salient difference in Strawberry Creek's approach, embodying union in a familial sense? Has the Worship and Ministry series fostered that? Do and should we properly utilize Meeting for Business for matters of housekeeping, or for a deeper and more serious realm of business?

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:06.

Kenneth Orvis
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 7th of Second Month, 1988
At Berkeley Friends' Church

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:30 A.M.

Twenty-four Friends were present.

Minutes The minutes of the 1st-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, without correction.

Clerk's Correspondence • The Friends General Conference Gathering will be held in Boone, North Carolina July 2-9; the theme will be on protecting and upholding the value of life.

Old Business • We co-host PYM Representative Committee Meeting March 5-6 with Berkeley Friends Meeting. Erica Atkin, assisted by Jean Flores, will act as Hospitality Coordinator. Susan Burr, with a Berkeley Friends Friend, have taken responsibility for preparing food for Saturday noon and other refreshments. Patricia Stewart of BFM is transportation coordinator. We are strongly urged to contact these people and volunteer; the necessary tasks are simple, pleasant, and not a burden if shared around.

Committee Reports • Worship and Ministry (Amy Joy): Ongoing issues under discussion include promptness of arrival at Meeting for Worship, which the committee feels has improved over several months; noises during Meeting, which Leonard Joy has analyzed and which the committee hopes may abate somewhat with the posting of signs in the hallway (a draft sign has been given to Friends Church for approval); and the reduction of the committee's "housekeeping" overhead. Eleven people attended Margaret Mossman's session 1/29 on church government. Leonard Joy has word from those overseeing insurance for Philadelphia Yearly Meeting that our insurance rate probably could not be bettered. Jane Wolff will coordinate a process event 2/21 following rise of meeting to discuss the state of the meeting.

The committee recommends that a position for a *Librarian* be created, who would oversee the library, order books, insert brief notices or reviews in the newsletter, and maintain the bulletin boards. The Librarian would report to Worship and Ministry and Religious Education Committees, and attend Worship and Ministry meetings as needed, perhaps once or twice a year. Meeting approved the position as described.

The committee further recommends transferring insurance responsibilities to Finance Committee. Jane Rubin, noting that she is an outgoing member of Finance Committee, accepted transfer on its behalf, and Meeting approved the transfer of responsibility while maintaining Worship and Ministry's role as liaison channel with Friends Church.

- Hospitality (Caroline Duhem): Planning has started with BFM for the annual picnic; a welcoming for new members is being planned.

- Religious Education (Barbara Voorhees-Emmons): The program is bouncing along; volunteers are needed as always. (A friend spoke in appreciation of First-Day School reports during announcements following Meeting, especially from the children themselves.)

- Retreat (Tom Whiteman): The theme for the summer retreat draws from a statement made during the vocal ministry discussion with Madge Seaver on 11/22/87: *The Meeting has the potential to be a community; it is up to the Friends to actualize this potential.* The retreat will be held at Ben Lomond from the evening of May 7 through midday May 9.

- Nominating (Leslie Leonard): Larry Perry is nominated to fill the PYM Observer position, and Nominating Committee suggested calling a brief Meeting for Business 2/28 following Meeting for Worship to act on the seasoned nomination in time for PYM Rep. Committee Meeting. However, in the interests of time and due to the nature of the nomination and the appointment, Meeting elected to season the nomination in silence for perhaps 45 seconds, and then approved it on the spot. Tom Whiteman and David Elliot are nominated to Peace and Social Order Committee, the nominations to be seasoned. Nominating Committee is in the process of calling all attenders to ask if and how they might like to serve. A discussion arose concerning our past policies on membership in Meeting: for serving in which capacities is membership requisite? Leslie Leonard will search through the minutes to find out.

- Overseers (Kate Buckner): There will be a single session on same sex marriage, to be held 3/13; reading material will be distributed at Meeting for Worship. Work on contacting inactive members continues, and on job descriptions.

- Peace and Social Order (Carl Anderson): The committee will sponsor a program 3/1 at 7:30 in the Berkeley Friends Meeting Education Building by Lee Bowman, back from several months in Central America, where he saw the Ericksons.

- East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): Harassment of Salvadoran repatriates is reported on the part of Honduras and El Salvador. EBSC has set up a program which allows you to send a check for \$25 to EBSC at St. Johns, for which they will send ten wire messages in protest to the appropriate authorities, over your name. EBSC is producing a play on the life of Harriet Tubman as a fund raiser. Thanks are due the Meeting for the recent

letter-writing effort. The question of endorsing the moratorium on aid for the war in El Salvador has been approved as a matter for individual congregations, so we are now asked for formal endorsement (same as before; see 11/87 minutes). Meeting approved.

- Treasurer (Susan Burr): The general fund, at \$2649.04 on 1/1, took in \$1009.50 last month; expenses leave a balance of \$2598.64. The travel fund maintains its \$25.00 balance; the Nicaraguan Sojourners' fund holds \$320.00. Meeting discussed available options for holding the \$1000 endowment contribution, and eventually directed Treasurer to research certificates of deposit, with the goal of maintaining strict separation of any endowment funds, including the requirement of multiple signatures.

New Business • (Andrea English): An Ad Hoc Committee to write the State of the Society Report is needed; Amy Joy volunteered, though not in her Worship and Ministry Committee capacity, and Ken Orvis volunteered to assist. These were approved. Discussion preceded and followed, regarding the writing, content and intent of the State of the Society Report, and responsibility for it. While some frustration with our previous efforts was expressed, and a consensus toward finding some new direction was felt, no concrete proposals were adopted.

- (Mary Mikesell): In her capacity as a member of PYM's Friend in the Orient Committee, Mary is inquiring after interest in organizing an evening event during the upcoming stay of a visitor.

- (Michael Hartman): Quarterly Meeting was well attended, though he missed the business session. An inspiring, refreshing, and difficult exercise was a group effort to think about and share visions of peace and simplicity in the world.

- (Betty Hall): Authorization is needed to spend up to \$30 for coffee, tea, juice and the like, to be served during PYM Rep. Committee Meeting; this was approved.

Announcements • Next Meeting for Business will be held following Meeting for Worship at 11:30 AM the 6th of 3rd Month at the Friends' Church.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:04.

Kenneth Orvis
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 6th of Third Month, 1988
At Berkeley Friends' Church

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 A.M.

Twenty-four Friends were present.

Minutes The minutes of the 2nd-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, with the following correction: Lee Bowman was inadvertently referred to as "he" rather than "she".

Clerk's Correspondence • *Friends Bulletin*, continuing to grow, requires a full time editor and thus better funding, so we are urged to subscribe if we do not already (those wishing to subscribe may contact Ken Orvis, 841-9616).

- Berkeley Friends Church plans to celebrate Quaker Heritage Day with a program April 8-9 comparing Quakerism today and a century ago. Mark Miner will speak.

- The Friend in the Orient Committee sends word that four people will be visiting. The committee puts out a regular newsletter called *Windows on the Orient*.

- The Friends' World Committee on Consultation has issued a Call to Quakers urging Quakers the world over to examine gender relationships in our various cultures, citing our separate and different failures to generate true sexual equality and inviting us to send responses on this theme, in the form of personal writings, scholarly investigation, or other forms, to FWCC for possible future publishing.

- PYM Peace Committee invites us to join the Quaker Affinity Group at the Nevada Test Site starting 3/11, and to examine non-violent living as a Meeting.

- The Quaker Marriage Bill passed out of committee without opposition, somewhat to FCL's surprise. Amy Joy notes that the bill provides for a special form for registry of Quaker marriages, as in New York and Pennsylvania.

Old Business • The nominations of Tom Whiteman and David Elliott to Peace and Social Order Committee were approved.

- The draft State of the Meeting Report was read, suggestions were noted, and Amy Joy and Ken Orvis solicit further comments for next month's final draft.

Committee Reports • Treasurer (Susan Burr): She continues to pursue the matter of setting up a separate account for the \$1000 endowment fund, and will follow a suggestion for three signees to the account, of whom any two would be required for transactions. PYM Representative Committee Meeting received \$95.00 in contributions, so our funds were not needed. The general fund, at \$2598.64 on 2/1, took in \$906.00 last month; expenses leave a balance of \$1641.93. The travel fund maintains its \$25.00 balance; the Nicaraguan Sojourners' fund holds \$361.00.

- Unity with Nature (Ken Orvis, David Elliott): The recent conference at Ben Lomond attracted about 50 friends, and there was a strong sense among participants that such a gathering was overdue. It was an opportunity to approach a consensus on directions and goals in ecological matters among PYM friends in a post-Marshall Massey era, and in fact a Minute was approved which grew from a concern that unity with nature be a central testimony of Friends, not as a change in view but to meet a perceived modern need for clear articulation. A quarterly journal, Quaker-born but not Quaker-centered, is planned, to be edited by Jane Yett of Santa Cruz (samples will appear in May). Ken deepened his conviction that Quakers have much to offer simply because of their habit of substituting conviction of truth for political ambition in their witnesses and actions, and because of their unthreatening yet respected position in the national and world religious communities. Ken's concern in Strawberry Creek is that the spirit of Unity with Nature be perceived and incorporated as an integral thread of education and reminding within committee and meeting business, not as a challenge to priorities. David views ecological matters as integral to political, social and other Quaker concerns, and sees a need for involvement as a group.

- Worship and Ministry (Amy Joy): The adult education series continues with a Friday night potluck session (tentatively 4/15) on the history of Meeting for Business, by Doug Gwynn; a host home is needed. Punctuality to Meeting seems to be improving. 18 attended Jane Wolff's session 2/21 reviewing the state of the meeting. Friends Church has approved our hallway sign reminding of the need for quiet; their new liaison is Ariyeh Schmeder, who comes to our coffee hour. The new contract raises the rental fee for after-Meeting meetings as of 4/1. Meeting approved the contract, which sets the new monthly rental fee at \$320.00 and the rate for extra meetings after Meeting for Worship at three for \$30.00. There will be a Friends Church work day 3/12.

- Friends Association for Services to Elderly (Larry Perry): Friends House in Santa Rosa plans the acquisition of two parcels for expansion. Planned are twelve additional residential care units, twelve additional skilled nursing facility beds, and an adult day health care program.

- Nominating (Leslie Leonard): Work continues. Our archival minutes were recently rediscovered by Sam Cox in the back of his closet. Leslie reported they make wonderful reading; friends who were here at the time seemed less sure. Larry Perry noted that Whittier College has facilities for archiving Meeting records; Betty Hall agreed to look into the issue.

- Overseers (Lynn Bird): Preparations for the same sex marriage session continue, also Friendly sixes and efforts to contact old members. Some scholarship funds have been granted. A newcomers' brunch is planned.

- Pacific Yearly Meeting (Gerry Maynard): Yearly Meeting will be in Chico 8/1-8/6 (but childcare starts 7/31); the fee will be \$6-\$30 per day depending on resident status (to a family cap of \$18-\$90); the youth and children's programs have been expanded and are recommended (and childcare salaries have risen). We are all urged to go. PYM had money left over last year but plans to rectify that. A session called "Clerking 101" will be held at Ben Lomond 3/25-3/27. A conscience fund for students has been started. One-time contributions are needed for a book on taxes and related issues, to be published in May if funds accrue; the price is \$9 before publication, perhaps \$12 after. Honolulu has voiced a concern regarding indigenous peoples of the Pacific. Thanks are extended to Erica, Susan and everyone else who helped in hosting.

- East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): The Harriet Tubman play went well but was sparsely attended. Moratorium on aid to El Salvador activities are to start, including an effort for the annual "spring mobilization" march, to be held in the Mission District this year 4/30.

- Retreat (Tom Whiteman): The committee recommends that fees for the Spring Retreat be the same as last year: a sliding scale to a maximum of \$125 for three days: adults \$25-\$70, kids 3-11 \$10-\$25, and kids under 3 free. Meeting approved.

New Business and Concerns • (Erica Atkin): Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) has asked all Meetings for a brief but clear list of suggested areas for action next year. The gathered lists will be winnowed into one long list to be returned to Meetings for suggestions regarding priorities. The intent now is to gather results of brief brainstorming sessions among the larger body of Friends. Meeting approved these suggestions: working against intervention in Central America and elsewhere; funding childcare; funding education; fostering peace in the middle east; reducing the military budget; working to dismantle "secret government"; improving U.S./Soviet relations; resuming allocations of surplus food to the needy; alleviating the stresses of third-world debt; and refocusing the "war on drugs" into medical and research channels rather than enforcement.

- (Andrea English and Barbara Graves): PYM has passed a concern to Meetings on witness and nonviolent action in Friends' life and culture. Meeting approved passing this matter to Peace and Social Order Committee

jointly with the PYM Representative; time is to be allotted on our next business agenda.

- Bill Minkwitz is scheduled for trial 3/21 for his Concord actions. Barbara Graves somewhat earlier for hers.

- (Barbara Graves): Patti Erickson tentatively plans a trip here in late summer for a break, and wonders if it would be appropriate to use the "Sojourners Fund" for the trip. Meeting approved, noting that the funds were to be available for their own use as they see fit.

Announcements See Barbara Graves for a wide variety of events, witnesses and actions around Easter.

- The annual AFSC meeting will be held Saturday 3/19 at the Unitarian Church at Franklin and Gough in San Francisco.

- Next Meeting for Business will be held following Meeting for Worship at 11:30 AM the 10th of 4th Month at the Friends' Church.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:40.

Kenneth Orvis
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 10th of Fourth Month, 1988
At Berkeley Friends' Church

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

*The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:35 A.M.
Twenty-five Friends were present.*

Minutes The minutes of the 3rd-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, with the following corrections: • Our rent will be \$230 per month, not \$320; • Mark Minear's name was misspelled; • the name of the Friend in the Orient Committee's newsletter is Windows East and West; and • Doug Gwyn's name was misspelled.

Clerk's Correspondence • Delta Meeting invites us to join their annual Mothers' Peace Day worship and potluck at Lawrence Livermore Labs, starting at 10:30 AM on 5/8.

• The annual Jobs, Peace and Freedom March, routed through San Francisco's Mission District this year, will be held 4/30.

• A letter had been received last month from David Elliott requesting consideration for membership, but was unavailable at Meeting for Business; it has already been forwarded to Oversight Committee.

• A letter has more recently been received from Tom Whiteman requesting consideration for membership, and will now be forwarded to Oversight.

Old Business • The amended State of the Meeting Report was read, amended slightly, and approved. A copy of the approved version is attached.

• The agenda item on Nonviolent Direct Action has instead evolved into an after-Meeting event 4/24, sponsored by Peace and Social Order Committee.

Committee Reports Retreat (Tom Whiteman): Registration forms are on hand; retreat is scheduled 5/5 - 5/7 at Ben Lomond. Those who attend are encouraged to bring something to share, which represents their gift of self to the Strawberry Creek community.

• Treasurer (Ken Orvis): The \$1000 designated for beginning an endowment fund is now held as a one year savings certificate at American Savings. As requested, there are three signees to the account, currently the

Treasurer, Clerk, and an undetermined third: Meeting approved appointing the clerk of Finance Committee for this duty.

- Unity with Nature (Ken Orvis): The PYM Committee on Unity with Nature plans a quarterly journal on environmental ethics, and asks us to order sample copies at cost to distribute in our community so people can see the journal and hopefully subscribe. Meeting approved spending \$30 for 100 copies.

- Worship and Ministry (Amy Joy): The adult education series Friday night potluck session 4/15 on "Meeting for Business: an Historical Perspective", with Doug Gwyn, will be held at the Leonards' starting at 6:30. A final event before summer is being planned. A job description has been written for Librarian. Homes for Meeting for Business are lining up, thus far May at the Leonards' and June at the Orvises'.

Several friends had asked Worship and Ministry whether the time of summer Meetings for Business might begin at 7:00 PM rather than 7:30. Worship and Ministry laid the matter before Meeting, and Meeting approved a 7:00 PM time.

- Hospitality (David Elliott): We are reminded to sign up for after-meeting refreshments; the supply of biscuit is running low. The new member welcoming is in planning, scheduling being a problem. Lois Hoxie noted that a simple celebration at Disneyland would suffice, and Ken Orvis indicated his unity with her sense of the situation, but discussion drifted on to other matters.

- Nominating (Leslie Leonard): Because of a clear dichotomy of interests on the part of prospective committee members, Hospitality has been subdivided into two sections, one (dubbed the Apple-Juice Committee) primarily responsible for after-Meeting refreshments, the other (the Fun Committee) primarily responsible for grander social events. Co-clerks will each take a section; however no co-clerk has yet been found for the Fun Committee. Otherwise all positions have been filled, and the year's list of nominations (attached) was presented for seasoning, friends noting that we have co-representatives to EBSC, rather than a representative and an alternate. Meeting expressed approval for these organizational matters.

Nominating Committee took its guidelines (noting that we have never adopted formal rules) on the issue of requisite membership in the Society of Friends for particular meeting offices from Leslie Leonard's exhaustive reading of Strawberry Creek's minutes. Their process has been to: 1) call everyone including past committee clerks for ideas and suggestions; 2) plan, without being bound, to nominate members for Clerk, Treasurer, Overseers, and clerk of Worship and Ministry; 3) seek a balance of proven experience and potential; 4) make an effort to contact young Strawberries; and 5) avoid nominating members of Nominating Committee. Meeting expressed appreciation for the committee's efforts and for Leslie Leonard's

minute-reading. Suggestions for filling the final office are solicited. Old and new are encouraged to meet together in May.

- Overseers (Kate Buckner): Thirty attended Sam Cox's session on same sex marriage, which covered some basic history, how other meetings have dealt with the issue, and recent experience at Berkeley Friends Meeting; small discussion groups followed. Feedback has been positive so far, and responses are still solicited. Future directions are in the air. Friendly Sixes have continued, with some problems noted. The subcommittee on membership plans to report next month. A membership committee is being formed for David Elliott.

- Peace and Social Order (David Elliott): PSOC has been involved in several events around Easter, has conducted a letter writing event, and is sponsoring the after-Meeting event 4/24 on nonviolent direct action. We will carry our banner to the "Spring Mobilization" march 4/30, joining together with the other Berkeley Friends groups.

- East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): There are ongoing delegations, in Honduras now, in El Salvador in June, and in Guatemala in September; contact EBSC at 540-5296 to apply to go. The "Going Home Campaign" continues with pressure on the Salvadoran government to allow food into the repopulated regions unconditionally, and a rebuilding fund has been set up, called "One Million Seeds" in honor of the \$1 million goal. Three hundred attended the service and march 3/24 in honor of Archbishop Romero. There will be a demonstration at Concord at 11:00 AM 5/1.

A new issue concerns the provision for American soldiers seeking sanctuary because they refuse to be sent to Central America. This is a departure from previous EBSC business but has many historical precedents. Meeting referred the matter to Peace and Social Order Committee.

- Recording Clerk (Ken Orvis): In the interests of brevity Ken has been omitting from the minutes dates and announcements of planned regular events such as committee meetings which will take place before publication of the newsletter; Meeting approved this practice.

- Religious Education (Joyce Samati): The committee has been reviewing events this year with great appreciation for all contributions. There will be a celebration following the rise of meeting 6/12. Help is still needed, however, for the remainder of the year.

New Business and Concerns • (Barbara Graves): Patti Erickson is under a real concern to return and speak to North Americans, as well as to take a break from the strain involved in their situation. A round trip reservation has been made for mid-July, and our contributions are needed if the Sojourners' Fund is to be equal to the task.

- (Betty Hall): Betty Hall and Larry Perry attended the "Clerking 101" session at Ben Lomond, finding the experience worthwhile; a videotape was

made and may be of interest to us. There is interest within College Park Quarter in the very successful programs for teenagers and children within Southern California Quarter.

Announcements • Registration forms are on hand for Quarterly Meeting, to be held 5/13 - 5/15 at Ben Lomond. The theme of the non-business program is "The Experience of Witnessing", with a program of speakers and small group discussions.

• Next Meeting for Business will be held at 7:00 PM the 1st of 5th Month at the home of the Leonards, 1309 Ordway in Berkeley.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:14.

Kenneth Orvis
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 1st of Fifth Month, 1988
At the Leonards', 1309 Ordway, in Berkeley

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 7:07 P.M.

Seventeen Friends were present.

Minutes The minutes of the 4th-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, with no corrections.

Clerk's Correspondence • Friends House sends thanks along with a receipt for our contribution.

• PYM Committee on Unity with Nature has forwarded its proposals for including unity with nature concerns in Friends' queries; these will be published in the newsletter.

• Clerk has an advance program for Friends General Conference this summer; see her if interested.

• Miriam Swift of Grass Valley Meeting writes that she plans to sell her house in Towhee Intentional Community, and is searching for a buyer compatible with the community's purposes.

Old Business • Nominations (Leslie Leonard): Larry Perry and Julie Russell are nominated to co- co-clerk the "Fun" section of Hospitality Committee, these nominations to be seasoned. Nominating plans to report further on nomination guidelines at a later time. Most job descriptions are in hand and will be forwarded to committee members, officers and representatives. New and old are encouraged to meet together during May.

Meeting approved the nominations thus far (list attached).

• Statement on Membership (Kate Buckner): The report (attached) was read; a separate report on junior membership is in process. Some readers commented that the report stresses membership by convincement; Oversight Committee will look into amending the report, or producing a different version, on membership by transfer, and will also address inactive membership. Further discussion centered on the timeliness of application, and the mutuality and depth of examination within the process of marriage of Meeting and member.

Committee Reports Treasurer (Susan Burr): Since our fiscal year doesn't coincide with our nominating year, an interim budget report was presented showing budgeted and actual expenses thus far; overall we have spent 58.7% of our budget, with most major expenses behind us. For March and April, income of \$1725.75 and outlays of \$2730.64 bring the general fund from \$1641.93 to \$637.04; the travel fund remains at \$25.00, and the sojourners' fund stands at \$626.00.

- Worship and Ministry (Andrea English): Thirteen attended the adult education session with Doug Gwyn, which was stimulating and lively. After Meeting for Worship on 5/22 Jan Hartsough of AFSC and San Francisco Meeting will speak on simplicity. Worship and Ministry will meet jointly with the new committee this month, to evaluate plans for the summer and to reflect.

- Hospitality (Jean Flores): Only coffee remains in the after-Meeting supplies, so as usual, volunteers are sought. Asked whether cash contributions would be useful, Jean replied that the buying (or making) and bringing is the greater chore. The aim is to provide an opportunity for all – and children particularly – to feel part of Meeting. Joint potlucks with Friends Church may take place monthly this summer.

- Overseers (Kate Buckner): A membership committee for David Elliott now exists, consisting of Bill Cooper, Barbara Graves and Kate Buckner. A committee for Tom Whiteman has been named but is not yet formally constituted. Outgrowth from the same-sex marriage session continues to evolve, working at this point toward a discussion of relationships in general; this will be a matter for the new committee.

- Peace and Social Order (Jim Kimball): There will be an event 6/5 at Concord, a procession of religious leaders supporting a moratorium on further military aid to Central America; since no individual Friend qualifies as merely a religious *follower*, we are encouraged to consider joining.

The committee has considered (see last month's minutes) a statement received which offers sanctuary for military personnel, and which asks us to consider making a similar statement. After discussion the committee drafted two minutes to lay before Meeting:

We have heard a request from St. Joseph's Church and University Lutheran Chapel that we extend sanctuary to military personnel who are conscientiously unable to participate in military action in Central America. We recommend to meeting a careful discussion of this request – mindful that our meeting has not previously addressed issues concerning military service.

It is also our sense that the meeting should use this opportunity to inform ourselves on the issues and options facing those persons subject to draft registration, as well

as those already in the military, in order to consider what position or what action we might wish to take as a meeting toward meeting the needs of our young Friends, and others, in these matters.

The matter proved complex for Meeting to respond to given the contrasts between Strawberry Creek's situation and that of the authoring congregations: our lack of a physical base, the extensive history of Friends' efforts in aiding all others in matters of conscience, and the perceived narrowness of the statement's intent.

Eventually Meeting approved two separate actions. First, David Leonard, assisted by Bob Maynard and Ken Orvis, will plan to draft a suitable statement for Strawberry Creek's own context, and will present it next business meeting. Second, we will plan a forum, perhaps this summer, on matters of conscience and the military, for our adults and our youth alike; we might consider an outside source person from CCCO or AFSC, and we might work with the other Berkeley groups of Friends. This matter was referred back to PSOC.

- East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): Folk are still needed to go on the 6/15 delegation to El Salvador, which will take in food and will meet with government and U. S. military officials. Someone recently back from Honduras reports that refugees are afraid to attempt further resettlement at this time; the camps are now run by the Honduran military. Crece (the refugee organization here) needs donations.

New Business and Concerns • (Tom Whiteman): The "Spring Mobilization" march 4/30 saw 5-6 Strawberries, 8-9 from Friends Church, and 3-4 from Berkeley Meeting. Meeting approved asking Clerk to write a note in thanks to Friends Church for their help with the efforts.

- (Susan Burr): A letter from Mary Louise Lambert reports on meeting an Argentinian refugee Strawberry Creek once sponsored, now doing well, working at the Chevron refinery and speaking flawless English.

- (Clerk): Jessica McKusick is eight months old now, and has been in Meeting for Worship twice. She is living successfully at home, with a nurse during the night and part of the day, and is growing stronger and playing with toys. Jan is eager to talk about Jessica's care and welcomes visits; she finds Meeting intensely healing, and hopes it is so for Jessica as well.

Jessica has a tracheostomy and an inserted device to ease her breathing; in the normal course of events this slowly fills with fluid and must be suctioned by machine; as it fills she emits a bubbling sound which can seem a cause for concern to the uninitiated. Meeting expressed joy at Jessica's progress and welcome for the family's presence.

Announcements • Next Meeting for Business will be held at 7:00 PM the 5th of 6th Month at the home of the Orvises, 2805 Kelsey in Berkeley.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 9:14.

Kenneth Orvis
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 5th of Sixth Month, 1988
At the Orvises', 2805 Kelsey Street, in Berkeley

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

*The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 7:05 P.M.
Sixteen Friends were present.*

Minutes The minutes of the 5th-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, with no corrections.

Clerk's Correspondence • A letter from J. Bernard Haviland notes that Pendle Hill is looking for scholars, and also that matching funds are available to bolster scholarships provided by individual Meetings.

• PYM Peace Committee has written a summary of the Nevada Peace Test actions, and includes plans for Yearly Meeting activities.

Old Business • Nominations: Meeting approved Larry Perry and Julie Russell as co- co-clerks of the "Fun" section of Hospitality Committee.

• Draft Registration and Sanctuary (Ken Orvis): Ken Orvis, Bob Maynard and David Leonard jointly wrote a statement they hoped would be suitable for use perhaps as a classified ad or in a similar context; this was read to Meeting, receiving generally favorable reviews and some criticism in detail. The authors will work further and report back next Meeting for Business. Meeting also reflected on its current unreadiness for a counseling role, and on other available Friendly resources.

Committee Reports Treasurer (John Bird): For May, general income of \$313.00, Retreat-related income of \$1294.00, outlays of \$2557.93 and miscellaneous adjustments resulting in a net gain of \$493.75 bring the general fund from \$637.04 to \$179.86; the travel fund remains at \$25.00, and the sojourners' fund has dropped to \$146.00 after expenses of \$650.00. John would like to open a new account at a location more convenient for him, with the same signature requirements (one signee of: Treasurer, Clerk of Finance Committee, Clerk); Meeting approved. Send all items to John Bird at Post Office Box 126, Point Richmond 94807-0126.

• Worship and Ministry (Barbara Graves): A joint meeting was held 5-9, discussing adult education, the needs of the Meeting, and housekeeping tasks. August Meeting for Business is tentatively scheduled for 8-7 at the Russells'.

- Hospitality (Larry Perry): There will be a combined New-Member-Welcoming and New-House-Warming after Meeting 7-17, the Hartman-Burr family moves to Albany 6-18, and a celebration and fixup is set for 7-2. Ideas in consideration stages include pizza-and-games evenings, and "progressive dinners" (each course at a different house). The annual Inter-Meeting Picnic will be next week.

- Nominating (John Bieging): The job descriptions are all but complete.

- Overseers (Kate Buckner): The Newcomers' Brunch, a qualified success, is in search of a somewhat different format. The Report on Membership has been referred back to subcommittee. A further event on marriage and relationships is scheduled for 7-24. Jane Rubin has joined David Elliott's membership committee, since the changing of the guard left it without an Overseer.

(Lynne Bird): Tom Whiteman's membership committee (Jane Rubin, Jim Barnard and Lynne Bird) reported meeting fruitfully with him, and Oversight recommends approval, this to be seasoned until next month.

(Barbara Graves): Susannah McCandless, now eleven, has been diagnosed with an aplastic anemia, so is experiencing immune difficulties. The preferred therapy, marrow transplants from a matching sibling, has been ruled out; she will be treated with a new drug starting this month, but results will be unknown for six weeks or so. She seems to be holding up well in the face of this difficulty, and supportive notes would be appreciated.

- Peace and Social Order (Tom Whiteman): CRECE, which has been feeding 500 people on \$279 per week, has lost the governmental share of its funding and so needs contributions. Patti Erickson will arrive at 12:05 AM on 6-29, to be here six weeks. A car pool will be organized to meet her. Work continues on our Friends and the Military self-education session. Space remains on an upcoming Friends Tour of the USSR. The next committee meeting will be joint new and old.

- East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): About 200 people showed up at today's procession of religious leaders at Concord, the only noted "missing faiths" being Episcopalian and Baptist. A religious service was held at the main gate. A quote from William Penn was read, and the Peace Testimony, while Zachary Moon and Rebecca Anderson-Bergman were dressed in the style of 19th-century Friends. Funding is a problem for EBSC this year without the traditional Jackson Browne concert; a raffle is planned.

- Retreat (Tom Whiteman): The retreat this year came up with a \$400 shortfall, largely the result of two changes in pricing policy on the part of Ben Lomond: 1) meals for children were charged at the adult scale this year; and 2) people trading occupancies - one there Friday night, the other in the same room Saturday night - were charged for two full-weekend fares this year. Our Ben Lomond representative will investigate further; in the mean time the committee recommends earlier and more assertive negotia-

tions. We have made reservations, with a deposit, for the first full weekend (5-6-7) in May 1989. Meeting expressed appreciation to the committee.

- Pacific Yearly Meeting (Larry Perry): Yearly Meeting will be held in Chico 8/1 through 8/6; Larry is registrar and asks for Strawberry volunteers to help with his workload. Mary Mikesell notes that Lang Hsien-Hwa will be there.

New Business and Concerns • (Clerk): Because of the usual holiday and PYM conflicts, a schedule for summer Meetings for Business might be 7-10, 8-7 and 9-11; Meeting approved. Friends Church begins its summer schedule 6-19, and its after-church barbecues (to which Strawberries are invited, for the usual nominal cost and with the expectation that we help).

- (Barbara Graves): 6-10 will be the first anniversary of the continuing tender witness at Concord, and will be a good time to be there. (Larry Perry): Holly and Brian Willson will be at Friends Church 6-9 in a fundraising event.

- There will be a memorial service at 4:00 PM 7-16 at Friends House for Ed Morgenroth.

Announcements • Next Meeting for Business will be held at 7:00 PM the 10th of 7th Month at Mary Miché's, 2600 Hillegass, #3, in Berkeley.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at about 9:00.

Kenneth Orvis
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 10th of Seventh Month, 1988
At Mary Miché's, 2600 Hillegass, #3, in Berkeley

Dick Emmons, Alternate Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 7:05 P.M.

Sixteen Friends were present.

Minutes The minutes of the 6th-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, without correction.

Clerk's Correspondence • A letter from Patty Erickson was read, thanking the meeting for its support and outlining her plans for an evening talk at the Orvises' 7/19.

• Ellie Huffman has written on behalf of College Park Quarter regarding plans for a Cape Town Peace Centre in South Africa. There is a fundraising goal of \$325 per month; she suggested Meetings individually or jointly pledge a month's support during the coming year. The letter was forwarded to Peace and Social Order.

• Pendle Hill plans to republish A Friendly Story Caravan, and calls for new contributions. See the newsletter for details.

• John Woolman School will be hiring a new Principal; the job notice will be posted.

Old Business • Membership of Tom Whiteman: Barbara Graves reflected on Tom Whiteman's odyssey out of Catholicism and its parallels with George Fox's earlier odyssey, in responding to perceived fallacies of the church by the internalization, rather than the dismissal, of symbol and sacrament. She noted that the tension between the indwelling church and sacrament versus the demands of the external world are a central dynamic of Quakerism, and could not imagine anyone who better exemplifies this vision of Quaker discipleship than Tom. Meeting wholeheartedly and enthusiastically approved his membership, whereupon he was retrieved from the bottom of the stairwell whither he had taken upon himself to retreat.

• Draft Registration and Sanctuary (David Leonard): The drafting committee (David Leonard, Bob Maynard and Ken Orvis) suggests producing two versions of the statement (attached) for use as ads, one version, with the bracketed segments deleted, for publication in high school newspapers. A phone number or similar contact mechanism is needed; David volunteered his own for the high school version, but feels unequal to fielding the broader

community. Meeting approved the statement in principle, leaving minor details to be worked out with Peace and Social Order, provided we publish after our own session on draft and the military.

Committee Reports Peace and Social Order (Tom Whiteman): An after-meeting session on Friends and the Military is planned for 9/25, to be mediated by Leonard McNeil. The committee decided on this date while acknowledging concern about younger Strawberries who would miss the session due to college or boarding school; perhaps a smaller session could be planned earlier for their benefit. The committee also plans to contact neighboring Meetings. Regarding the statement on draft registration and sanctuary, the committee is waiting to reflect on the statement in its final form, for clearness from Meeting regarding how widely it should be disseminated as an advertisement, and for a structure within Meeting for responding to any who might seek what we offer.

Some discussion followed regarding the optimal schedule, with eventual agreement on the September date followed by a further session during Christmas break, the matter referred back to PSOC and David Leonard, who had expressed interest in obtaining a speaker from CCCO.

- EBSC (Kate Buckner): The recent meeting was chaotic, lasting two and a half hours, the major issue being a dire lack of funds. The office and its paid full-time staff of five are deemed to be performing work which might properly be the domain of member congregations. EBSC needs feedback from us on its perceived focus: grassroots work? sanctuary and advocacy for individuals? political lobbying? a focus on the aid-to-El Salvador issue? Meeting referred to PSOC the task of organising and defining our response. EBSC's stopgap fundraising plans include a walkathon, a yard sale, an art night, and a dance (call 540-5296).

- Religious Education (David Leonard): We must all come to grips with our responsibility for educating the younger generation: Strawberry Creek carries five classes every First Day ten months of the year, requiring fifty adults each teaching for one month. We must affirm the responsibility of every member: the question is not whether an individual should choose to teach, but rather which class and what month. Reflect now, so that you will be prepared when called.

- Treasurer (John Bird): For June, general income of \$967.20 and outlays of \$186.41 bring the balance of the new account to \$780.79. The old account is not yet closed, so this is not a full accounting. The new account is at Coast Savings and Loan, bears interest when the balance is over \$500.00, and suffers a per-check charge when below. We are waiting for printed checks.

- Worship and Ministry (Jane Wolff): A subcommittee has been formed to refine adult education ideas. Currently the person closing meeting acts as a "Friend in the corner".

• Overseers (Jane Rubin): A discussion on the discussion of relationships is planned for 7/24. The committee recommends setting up a fund against the anticipated needs of the McCandlesses (Chris has not worked during two months of sick duty, while the insurance deductible looms along with possible travel expenses for exotic treatment); Meeting approved. There will be a Meeting for Worship 7:30 Tuesday night at the Dienstfreys'; Susannah's platelet count jumped from 500 to 800 on her birthday.

• Pacific Yearly Meeting (Dick Emmons): PYM, in an effort to curb the waste of paper used in xeroxing handouts, seeks to borrow overhead projectors, and also needs a person to handle them. Also, John Draper, who has acted as sound/audio tech in recent years, needs an understudy who can take on the task more or less permanently. The secretariat needs volunteers - and paid staffpersons - for the newsletter, as well the borrow of Macintosh computers; contact Gary Wolff of Orange Grove.

New Business and Concerns • (Alternate Clerk): We are reminded to take up concerns about budget matters with Finance Committee this month and next, rather than waiting until the budget has been formulated.

• After brief discussion Meeting approved appointing the clerks of PSOC and of Oversight to oversee disbursements from the sojourners' fund and the McCandless fund, respectively, as "extra-budgeted expenses" of Strawberry Creek Meeting. This is merely to save the treasurer from the onus of tracking requests and decisions, and does not alter the essential nature of the accounts, viz. that they are to be spent at the discretion of the Ericksons and McCandlesses, respectively.

• (Mary Mikesell): Friend in the Orient Committee of PYM is soliciting funds to allow Friends from third world Asian countries to attend the triennial gathering in Japan; see newsletter or Mary Mikesell. Two Chinese Friends need hospitality 8/6 - 8/11.

• (Ken Orvis): The Directory Keeper wanted to know how Meeting wanted him to handle the purchase and resale of College Park Quarterly Meeting directories; Meeting instructed him to solicit individual orders and individual checks, so he will purchase and resell them with his own funds.

Announcements • Next Meeting for Business will be held at 7:00 PM the 7th of 8th Month at the Russells', 2312 Carquinez Avenue, in El Cerrito.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 8:37.

Kenneth Orvis
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 7th of Eighth Month, 1988
At the Russels', 2312 Carquinez Ave, in El Cerrito

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

*The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 7:07 P.M.
Thirteen Friends were present, and one child.*

Minutes The minutes of the 7th-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, without correction.

Clerk's Correspondence • A letter from the Quaker U. N. Office deals with several issues. The office provides an ongoing AFSC link with the U. N., with staff at New York and Geneva as well as the FWC world offices at London, and it also produces a newsletter. Meetings are invited to appoint a contact person. There will be an opening for Quaker U. N. representative in the winter of 1988; those interested should inquire through the AFSC personnel office in Philadelphia.

• FCL reports the Quaker marriage bill has been signed and will become law the first of First Month, 1989. Forms are expected to be available a month or so later. Marriages after the manner of Friends will thenceforth be legal events filed under vital statistics, rather than as "property exchanges" as heretofore.

The Harvest Festival will be held 9-25 from noon to 5:00 at Hidden Villa; help and donations are solicited, as well as attendees.

• John Jory of Berkeley Meeting called to ask if Strawberry Creek cares to appoint a representative to the Interfaith Council. Meetings are every other month, held at a church in Berkeley.

• Chester, Pennsylvania, Monthly Meeting has written, returning Rachel Ann Elder to our care, with thanks.

• Paul Jolly has written to request that a certificate of transfer of membership be sent to Multnomah Meeting, in Portland, Oregon, on his behalf.

• James Mari-Navarro has also written to request that a certificate of transfer of membership be sent to Cambridge Meeting, in Cambridge, Massachusetts, on his behalf. James also shared news that Lauren Mari-Navarro has requested membership in Cambridge Meeting.

Since no problem was contemplated with either request, Meeting approved in each case, and shared several memories of these long time Strawberry Creek Friends.

Committee Reports • Treasurer (John Bird): Receipts of \$145 to the general fund, \$100 to the Sojourners' Fund, and \$25 to the travel fund, and \$270 in expenses bring the new account balance to \$779.12 on 7-23, from \$780.79.

• Pacific Yearly Meeting (Gerry Maynard): 480 attended yearly meeting, with 70 children, and 22 Strawberries attended. Yearly meeting will be held next year 8-6 through 8-12 at Laverne. Reno and other meetings have reported a confidence scheme in which a stranger claims to be a eastern Friend who has lost his or her wallet; beware any such, and demand very full information. Dues were raised from \$20 to \$23 per member per year. A discussion and reporting session is planned – for both PYM and FGC – 8-21 after Meeting.

• Peace and Social Order (Bob Reis): The committee has continued with plans for the sessions on sanctuary vis-a-vis the draft and military. Leonard McNeil will speak 9-25 from 11:30 to 1:00. Contact is being made with CCCO. The Barbara Boxer bill was discussed (see below).

• East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): This day's meeting lasted eight hours, mostly dealing with matters financial. EBSC's recent budget has been \$10-11,000 per month minimum; self-sacrifice on the part of the staff is to bring costs to about \$5800 per month during August and September. Of the \$200,000 in grants applied for, \$8000 has been funded while more than \$100,000 has been denied. There is a sense that sanctuary matters are no longer trendy, and grant monies are going toward homelessness, AIDS and other concerns. EBSC formed five working groups to draft contingency budgets based on varying levels of funding, and to solicit suggestions. Planned fundraisers include an arts night, a yard sale 8-20 at Friends Church, and a dance at Ashkenaz.

2500 more Salvadorans plan to repatriate; funds are solicited through Going Home Share.

Barbara Boxer has introduced a "sense of Congress" bill to encourage the executive branch to transmit all aid to El Salvador through religious and relief organizations which have proven reliable, rather than through the Salvadoran government. Bob Reis submitted to Meeting a draft letter thanking and supporting Ms. Boxer, which he would be interested in sending in the Meeting's name, both to Rep. Boxer and to Ron Dellums, a co-sponsor. The letter (attached) and the bill were both read, and Meeting approved.

• Religious Education (George Russell): A coordinator has been named for each age group (see the August newsletter). There is some discussion of grouping the 5-year-olds with the 3-4's rather than the 6-7's. Nikki Gage of

the church will teach Junior High girls; Consuela Carranza will teach a mid-elementary group, working from the theme "God calls his people".

- Retreat (Susan Sanford): The committee convened by telephone. Hillside Community Center, site of our recent fall retreats, is changing its fee structure, and the cost to us may rise by 30%. The retreat is tentatively planned for November 5 from nine till five, with a potluck lunch. The theme has yet to be decided.

- Worship and Ministry (Andrea English, Joyce Samati): See above for the PYM/FGC session 8-21. Strawberry Creek's welcoming brochure is to be updated. 24 attended the Quaker Spiritual Quest information session today.

- Ben Lomond Quaker Center (Janice Albert): The billing policy regarding rooms is under consideration, but evidently our previous experience of being charged for partial occupancies was irregular. The billing policy for childrens' meals was a suggestion only, which we chose not to discuss further at the time.

- Hospitality (Julie Russell): Another joint potluck with Friends Church is planned for August. We again encourage ourselves to mingle; thus far both congregations have proven to be slippery, despite the best of intentions all around.

- Overseers (Andrea English): The committee solicits suggestions for the next phase of the series on relationships: perhaps small groups on different aspects. The aim is to avoid "therapy" while respecting confidentiality, and to include same-sex relationships in a full context. The Committee on Membership for David Elliott has met. Plans continue for contacting inactive members, and to strengthen ties among active members and attenders. Committee members were brought current on both the McCandlesses' situation and the McKusicks'.

New Business and Concerns • (Clerk): Copies of last year's budget were handed out; we are encouraged to contact Finance Committee with concerns.

- (Ken Orvis): Perhaps we might consider buying, as a gift to Friends Church, three "beer stein" shaped charcoal-starting cans. They work quickly and effectively, using only a little newspaper and *no charcoal lighter*, and cost about \$10 each. Thus we could avoid being occasionally visited by strong charcoal-lighter fumes during Meeting for Worship. The barbecue season for this year is nearly at an end, however. Ken will take up the matter with Worship and Ministry.

- (Janice Albert): Janice shared a concern, soliciting advice from the knowledgeable or experienced, about a parent whose abilities are suddenly diminishing.

Announcements Barbara Graves has been asked to be the Brinton Visitor for this year; she will travel throughout the western United States and Mexico, visiting meetings and worship groups in Pacific, North Pacific and Intermountain Yearly Meetings. She will be accompanied by Mary Mikesell, and they will first leave in mid-September, "visiting" us at different times during the year between journeys.

- (Susan Sanford): Santa Cruz Meeting will be getting a new meeting house; we might consider a minute of housewarming when the time comes.

- Next Meeting for Business will be held at 7:00 PM the 11th of 9th Month at the Biegings', 518 Carmel Avenue, in Albany.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 8:57.

Kenneth Orvis
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 11th of Ninth Month, 1988
At the Biegings', 518 Carmel Ave, in Albany

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

*The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 7:02 P.M.
Fifteen Friends were present.*

Minutes The minutes of the 8th-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, without correction.

Clerk's Correspondence • A post card from Dorian Petri and Doug Gwyn, now at Pendle Hill, thanks the meeting for its contribution to their time here and invites travelers to stop by.

• Marc and Mary Louise Lambert have written to announce that the process of adopting Theresa Marie Lambert is now complete.

Rachel Ann Elder has returned the letter of introduction from Strawberry Creek which she carried on her recent travels, now covered with notes from meetings she visited.

• Berkeley Friends Church will host Alan Solomonow in an open meeting at 7:30 PM on Saturday, 9/24 (the announcement will be posted).

• A letter from Carol Mosher of the Friends World Committee on Consultation announces that Margaret Hope Bacon will be traveling under a concern regarding gender equality; she will be in our area on 10/29 and is soliciting potential hosts for a gathering. She is also eager to meet with others such as students or women's groups. (Barbara Graves noted that Margaret Hope Bacon's concern is actually much broader, encompassing the modern situation of Friends.) The letter was forwarded to Worship and Ministry Committee.

• Sam Cox called this afternoon to let us know that his marriage under the care of Redwood Forest Meeting to Larry Whitehead was approved, with no Friends standing aside.

The Budget • A sheet prepared by Finance Committee detailing the proposed 1988-89 budget and comparing it with the 1987-88 budget and experience is attached; please refer to it, paying particular attention to the notes. The new position of Librarian has its own budget, compensated for in part by decreasing the Worship and Ministry budget.

The Religious education budget currently includes funds for possible purchase of a curriculum, funds for the pre-school aide position should we decide to fill it, as well as a possible overestimate of \$380. Meeting directed Religious Education Committee to produce harder figures next month.

It was noted that the \$60 budgeted for Retreat Committee 1987-88 is not reflected in the "balance remaining" column.

The \$100 budgeted contribution for the Sanctuary House Fund in 1988-89 should be deleted, per note "c".

The \$100 budgeted contribution for "Quaker Peacework - CPQM Fund" is anticipatory. After some discussion, Meeting directed that it be deleted pending full process. Clerk will also write suggesting that the Quarter approach Yearly Meeting to inquire whether this might be an appropriate use of the Fund for Concerns.

Friends were uneasy both with bringing Fund for Concerns and Brinton Visitors contributions to the \$100 level without special cause, and with leaving the N Ca. Ecumenical Council contribution at \$25. The Treasurer noted that the Fund for Concerns contribution is budgeted but not spent (see 1987-88) unless specifically called for; Meeting directed Gerry Maynard to inquire of the committee clerk about the current situation, and to report back. Since this year's Brinton Visitor is a Strawberry, and since the circuit now includes Mexico and Hawaii, Meeting let that item stand for now. Finance Committee is to ask Carl Anderson or Betty Hall to inquire into the Northern California Ecumenical Council's needs.

Committee Reports Oversight (Jane Rubin): The committee finds that the evolution of the program on relationships, in avoiding taking on aspects of therapy sessions, is moving increasingly into the realm of adult education. For this reason, they propose to make it a joint Oversight / Worship and Ministry project, and possibly a program for the Retreat. A joint meeting with Worship and Ministry is planned.

The membership committee for David Elliott has met twice with him and five times in all. The committee has asked him to defer his application and to reapply when his current initial year in a treatment program is finished; the committee would like to continue to serve. At issue is the program's adjuration against making life-changing decisions during the initial year. A lesser consideration with which Meeting may have to grapple is the requirement that he carry a weapon when on duty as an officer of the peace.

- Peace and Social Order (Bob Reis): Leonard McNeil's program for 9/25, on Friends and the military, is coming into focus. We are invited to approach him with particular concerns in advance. The committee anticipates gaining a better sense of our plans and commitments regarding military sanctuary from the program.

- East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): The budget for next year stands at \$32,500, some amount from grants and more from fundraising efforts. Two paid positions are planned (and open): a half time coordinator, and a full time refugee rights resource person. Most office duties will fall

back on the steering committee and member congregations. Discussions continue on long range plans. Announcements will be in the newsletter.

- Religious Education (David Leonard): The First-day school year started this morning. We have 42 regular students in Strawberry Creek, 8-10 potential or occasional attendees, and 9 students beyond nursery school from Friends Church, for a weekly total of 50-60 in the program. The roster of coordinators for the classes, who provide continuity through the year as well as some oversight on curriculum, has changed: high school, Maggie Ely and David Leonard; junior high including Berkeley Meeting, Mary Anderson; junior high girls group, Nikki Gage; mid primary, Lou Ann Bieging and Barb Tittle; lower primary, Jon Berry and Francia Welker; preschool, Sid Rosen and George Russell; and nursery, Pat Dienstfrey and Alex Henry.

The high school group, meeting this morning in an informal session at the Leonards', greeted the plan to publish a version of the draft/sanctuary ad in high school papers with interest and enthusiasm. However, they pronounced the current draft far too wordy, and have convened a subcommittee to produce a pithier draft in, we assume, a more current argot. They would like to publish it in time for the Leonard McNeil program 9/25; David Leonard will serve as the contact person. Meeting approved these plans.

- Treasurer (John Bird): We are referred to the budget sheet for activity through 9/7. It's time for clerk of Oversight to inquire about disposition of funds earmarked for the McCandlesses.

- Worship and Ministry (Joyce Samati): The committee recommends purchasing two "beer stein" style charcoal lighting cans for Friends Church at about \$10 each (the Orvises have already contributed one); Meeting approved. Ariyeh Schmeder reports from Friends Church that everything is fine at this time; the church will again review our situation in March. We are reminded again not to use the parking lot and to use the ramp entrance except for folks with children. Worship and Ministry plans to grapple with the issue of the quality of Meeting for Worship, with a focus on the potential of deepening and bettering it, not because of any perceived weakness but simply to avoid errors of complacency.

New Business and Concerns • (Barbara Graves): A traveling minute would be in order for her travels as Brinton Visitor; Meeting approved.

Announcements • (Leslie Leonard): She brings greetings from the McCandlesses; her recent 5-day visit finds their local meeting with "McCandless" stamped all over it. Susannah looks radiant and is quite a young lady; we all wait and pray.

- Quarterly Meeting will be held 10/15 and 10/16.

- Next Meeting for Business will be held at 7:00 PM the 2nd of 10th Month at the Leonards', 1309 Ordway, in Berkeley.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 9:04.

Kenneth Orvis
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 2nd of Tenth Month, 1988
At the Leonards', 1309 Ordway, in Berkeley

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 7:03 P.M.

Twelve Friends were present.

Minutes The minutes of the 9th-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, with the following corrections: • only the half-time position at EBSC was actually open; • David Elliott's membership committee met three times in all rather than five; • Barb Tittle is merely teaching First-day school, rather than acting as mid-primary coordinator; and the line suggesting that Clerk would write to the Quarter suggesting an inquiry into use of PYM Fund for Concerns was not a formal decision and should be struck. Also some present expressed alarm over the completeness and candor of the minutes on membership committee reporting, while a member of the committee in question noted this was cleared in advance.

Clerk's Correspondence • An announcement has been received of the upcoming annual gathering of West Coast Quaker Lesbians, 11/10 - 11/13 at Ben Lomond.

• An announcement has been received of the Friends' House annual Day on the Green, 10-8.

• Rachel Ann Elder, unable to attend this meeting for business, wrote to express her concern over the multiplicity of conflicting events last First-day, and hoping we can remain sensitive to each other and to events in the wider Quaker community.

• A letter has been received from Donald Groom requesting consideration for membership; the letter will be forwarded to Oversight.

Old Business • The revised high school version of the draft sanctuary advertisement (attached) was read; thus far contact has been made with Berkeley, Oakland Technical, Bishop O'Dowd and Albany High Schools' newspapers. We are invited to help by contacting other schools, especially if we have ties. Peace and Social Order Committee is still working on the adult version, and the high school group looks forward to a further session on the draft by a representative of CCCO in December.

• A revised draft (attached) of the budget was handed out. *Notes: the revised Retreat listing for last year is still garbled, and John Bieging will ask*

the treasurer to work it out; note "b" belongs on the line above, referring to the PYM Fund for Concerns.

(1.) Religious Education reports their budget is now stable as listed; their actual projected costs stand near \$1000, but they need to maintain the ability to purchase curricula and meet similar obligations. The full figure works out to about 60¢ per student per week. Meeting took no action.

(2.) The Northern California Ecumenical Council (NCEC) suggests a contribution of 20¢ per year per member; noting that "membership" is much broader in many churches, our \$25 budgeted contribution reflects a rate of 50¢ per member (and CPQM contributes on our behalf as well), so our representatives feel this is adequate, and Meeting took no action.

(3.) No current need is reported by the committee in charge of PYM's Fund for Concerns, and our representative proposed to reduce the budgeted contribution to last year's \$50 level; Meeting approved.

(4.) In light of our personal involvement with the Brinton Visitor program this year, as well as its increasing level of ambition (with visits to Mexico City and Hawaii), many supported the higher \$100 budgeted contribution; Meeting approved leaving it at this amount. *(Those wishing to contribute personally can send earmarked checks to PYM's treasurers, Virginia and Walter Klein, 4509 Pavlov Ave, San Diego 92122.)*

(5.) The practical certainty that we must purchase some chairs this year (estimated at about \$100-\$120 for a dozen) prompted a suggestion that the Furniture and Equipment budget be increased to \$200 so some funds would be left; Meeting approved.

(6.) PYM and Representative Committee will meet in southern California this year, prompting a suggestion that the amount budgeted for PYM Travel be recalculated; the figure of \$180 was approved by Meeting.

Meeting approved the 1988-89 budget as printed, with the above amendments.

The Nomination of the Ad Hoc Committee for Nominating the Nominating Committee • Meeting approved a committee consisting of John Bieging and Gerry Maynard.

Committee Reports Nominating (Leslie Leonard): She first read the Nominating Committee job description. She next proposed that we discuss the nomination guidelines (attached), noting the importance of doing this at a time when particular individuals are not being suggested for particular positions, since the guidelines address issues of (suggested) requisite membership in the Society of Friends. *Note: Item 4 should read "...one of the two or three new..."*. Nominating Committee noted it might be appropriate as well for clerk of Nominating to be a member, and also that we depart from the recommendation in *Faith and Practice* that Worship and Ministry consist of members. Discussion followed, with suggestions that Worship and Ministry and a majority of Nominating normally consist of members. Clearness was not immediately forthcoming, and the matter was held over; consideration by Oversight was also requested. Leslie Leonard noted that we will be working on the new Nominating Committee slate, and that care

should be taken to avoid entangling that business with the membership question. Finally, while Oversight acts as keeper of job descriptions, Nominating notes that it can accomplish most of the tracking and handling.

Oversight (Jane Rubin): The committee is moving to plan relationships discussions as an adult education project for the year, and a joint meeting with Worship and Ministry is planned for 10-8. A first check to the McCandlesses has been sent, and continuing contributions to the fund are encouraged.

- Peace and Social Order (Bob Reis): Erica Atkin, as FCL/FCNL representative, will be meeting more frequently with the committee. The Leonard McNeil session on the draft was quite successful, and the committee has grappled with the adult draft/sanctuary advertisement, but has yet to find a volunteer to act as contact person, and is working tentatively toward placing it after any December CCCO session on the draft. The letter on the CPQM fund for South African peace work was not available at the committee meeting and the matter was carried over.

- East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): The recent meeting was transitional; both new positions are held by previous staffers, so there is some continuity. The committee is reorganizing its tasks as well. Bob Reis and Kate Buckner brought a thank you card on behalf of Strawberry Creek. There will be a fundraiser on election eve, to be announced in the newsletter. Volunteers are needed.

- Religious Education (David Leonard): The First-day school picnic and debate viewing seminar went well. The program is under way for the year. The committee finds itself in a conundrum regarding committee meeting times. Our paid employees need to attend, while several members have small children; the committee proposed that committee meetings might be held after meeting for worship. Apart from the problem of space rental, Worship and Ministry voiced a growing concern over the trend toward holding committee confabs after meeting, since this detracts from social hour and the open, accessible atmosphere important to new attenders. The matter proved rather complex and was referred to Worship and Ministry. A volunteer is needed to plan and oversee the Christmas program.

- Retreat (Susan Sanford): Registration forms are in the newsletter and are coming in.

- Worship and Ministry (Betty Hall): Greetings were extended to Katja Nakesah Samati, born 9/7. Lou Ann Bieging reported as librarian, with many ambitious ideas. The barbecue fume transaction is complete. A session on and of singing will be held at Lynne Bird's at 7:30 on 9/7. Rachel Ann Elder will speak at her home about her year at Pendle Hill 10/21. The committee is looking into possibilities during Margaret Hope Bacon's coming visit, and into the purchase of chairs (Strawberry Creek is outgrowing the Friends Church supply). The newsletter solicits "Quaker Quotes" for inclusion.

New Business and Concerns • (Betty Hall): Two Friends' homes were lost in the "Forty-Niner Fire", in one case pretty well impoverishing the owners.

Announcements • (Betty Hall): Rick Saporito, now living at 8024 Winthrop in Oakland near the Keller Avenue exit off I-580, hopes to continue, Wednesday evenings at 7:30, the meetings for worship which have been held in his San Francisco home this past year. We are invited to join, but are cautioned to call him first at 636-9014 to be sure he's up to it on the particular evening.

• (Betty Hall): Jessica McKusick will be one year old Tuesday.

• (Betty Hall): NCEC will hold its annual dinner Friday, 11/11. Bishop Gumbleton from Detroit will speak.

• Quarterly Meeting will be held at John Woolman School 10/15 and 10/16; Lois Hoxie has registration materials.

• Next Meeting for Business will be held at 11:30 AM the 6th of 11th Month at Berkeley Friends Church.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 9:28.

Kenneth Orvis
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 6th of Eleventh Month, 1988
At Berkeley Friends' Church

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:33 A.M.

Nineteen Friends were present.

Minutes The minutes of the 10th-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, with the following corrections: • the minutes did not make clear that Nominating Committee was not suggesting that clerk of Nominating be a member; • Bishop Gumbleton spoke at an EBSC event, not the NCEC event where his name was listed and which occurred on 11/17 anyway; and • "similar obligations" under the First Day School budget includes potential salary costs.

Some discussion followed on the inclusiveness of the minutes; Meeting approved leaving inclusion of event announcements to the discretion of the Recording Clerk.

Clerk's Correspondence • Lisa Lundberg has written announcing her recent marriage to Arturo Leyva and their subsequent move to Minnesota, and thanking Strawberry Creek for its friendliness.

• An announcement has been received of a Friends' Bible Conference being planned for next year, growing from interest expressed at Friends General Conference and elsewhere among Friends in "recovering" the bible as a resource. This was forwarded to Worship and Ministry.

• Cilde Grover has written noting next year's Quaker Youth Pilgrimage from Portland to San Francisco in conjunction with the FWCC gathering, and requesting logistical support from meetings on the route. This was forwarded to Hospitality and Religious Education.

Committee Reports Worship and Ministry (Tom Whiteman): The committee, concerned with the quality of Meetings for Worship and wishing to strongly emphasize spiritual awareness, plans a leaflet on vocal ministry, to be available in a pocket near the outside door, and perhaps other educative efforts as well. There will be a Thanksgiving Meeting for Worship at Jane Wolff's. Religious Education committee does plan to meet Sundays following Meeting for Worship; most other committees which have responded prefer midweek evening meetings.

There were not enough chairs today. Meeting approved expeditious purchase of a dozen chairs by Worship and Ministry using funds on hand, authorizing use of up to \$200.00 for that purpose.

- Peace and Social Order (Kate Buckner): The high school draft ad placement continues and expands; no one has come forth to be the contact person for the adult ad. Gerry Wolfe will speak on draft matters after Meeting for Worship on 12/18. PYM Peace Committee wishes to repeat a Quaker presence to coincide with the American Peace Vigil this March at the Nevada Test Site. Barbara Boxer has replied to our letter; her reply will be posted and perhaps included in the newsletter.

- Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee (John Bieging): Ralph Murphy and Jim Kimball are nominated (Mary Mikesell continues her term); the nominations will be seasoned. The committee seeks a third nominee.

- Oversight (Jane Rubin): Two discussions on relationships are planned, for 1/29 and 2/12 after meeting. A membership committee for Don Groom has been chosen, with Barbara Voorhees Emmons as clerk, along with Ken Orvis and Andrea English.

- East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): A delegation is going to El Salvador to accompany 1500 who plan to repatriate from Mesa Grande to Santa Marta. The delegation will report back later this month.

- Quarterly Meeting (Lois Hoxie): Lois can recommend a lovely small motel in Downeyville for anyone having difficulty unearthing John Woolman School in the dark. A recent interpretation of existing state law means that Friends House can be held more broadly liable in case of legal difficulties involving health care than was previously thought, and through Friends House, College Park Quarter. Since the Quarter's real assets are minimal, incorporation is not currently contemplated.

- Religious Education (David Leonard): Some high school age Strawberries attended Quarterly Meeting with Michael Hartman. Leslie Leonard will take on the Christmas Posada if others will help.

- Retreat (Susan Sanford): Thirty-six attended including five children, even after five cancellations; funds remaining will roll over to spring retreat.

- Treasurer (John Bird): The report for the current month was not on hand at Business Meeting. The final 1987-88 budget report was presented and is attached. Last year \$8096.00 was spent, and more than that received; the account stands at over \$2000, which includes nearly \$600 in the so-journers' and the McCandless funds.

New Business and Concerns • (Kate Buckner): Barbara Graves will be confined to bed for two months, but her prognosis is excellent.

- Jim Kimball has agreed to serve on the board of John Woolman School.

- Some discussion followed on the timeliness of Friends Church work day announcements. Worship and Ministry agreed to inquire about this.

Announcements • Next Meeting for Business will be held at 11:30 AM the 4th of 12th Month at Berkeley Friends Church.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 12:43.

Kenneth Orvis
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 4th of Twelfth Month, 1988
At Berkeley Friends' Church

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:39 A.M.

Twenty-nine Friends were present, including two children.

Minutes The minutes of the 11th-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, with the following corrections: • the draft speaker is Gary Wolfe; and • whatever was or was not said, clearly no one succeeded in keeping Barbara Graves home in bed for any appreciable length of time at all.

Clerk's Correspondence • Ben Lomond has written with a wish list of specific needs (furniture and the like) and dollar amounts.

• Jane Kocourek has written thanking us for the newsletter and regretting her inability to attend.

• Delta Meeting will meet and worship at Lawrence Livermore Labs 12-8, and invites us as usual to join them.

• Susan Sanford has written asking to transfer her membership from Santa Cruz Meeting; the letter was forwarded to Oversight.

• Tom Huff has written asking to transfer his membership from Poughkeepsie Meeting (of New York Yearly Meeting); the letter was forwarded to Oversight.

• A letter was received from Cambridge Monthly Meeting, noting their acceptance of our certificate of transfer for James Navarro on 9-8-88.

Old Business • Action on Nominations, and Further Nomination, to Nominating Committee (John Bieging): Ralph Murphy has agreed to take the two-year term; Meeting approved the seasoned nominations of Ralph Murphy and Jim Kimball. Francia Welker has agreed to serve; this nomination will be seasoned. There is no clerk of the committee as yet; the Ad Hoc Committee is asked to consult with the new Nominating Committee and report regarding the clerkship.

• Nominating Guidelines: Suggestions were made that the guidelines, appended to the October minutes, be amended to suggest that the "balance" (a percentage ≥ 50) of Worship and Ministry Committee, and the clerk of

Nominating Committee as well, be members of the Religious Society of Friends.

A concern was voiced that clerk of Nominating be a member of Strawberry Creek Meeting in particular rather than a member within the Society. The discussion which followed addressed the potential loss of available resource, and the appropriateness of encouraging membership through the nominating guidelines. Some present remained unconvinced of any need for clerk of Nominating to be a member at all, while others felt strongly that the comprehension of Quaker process implicit in membership should be encouraged in a position vital to defining the architecture of Meeting function. Alternative suggestions were also made before unity was reached. All present agreed strongly on the essentially suggestive, non-binding intent of the guidelines.

Meeting approved the following revision of item three in the guidelines: "The Clerk, Treasurer, all Overseers, at least half of Worship and Ministry, including its Clerk, and Clerk of Nominating should be members of the Religious Society of Friends, and hopefully members of Strawberry Creek Meeting." Discussion closed with a strong statement of trust in the meeting's full nominating process and its encouragement of insight and openness to inspiration.

Committee Reports • Worship and Ministry (Betty Hall): The committee continues to deal with its concern regarding conversational meetings for worship, and continues with plans for a pamphlet; Leonard Joy will speak as well. A forum on thematic ministry has been suggested for the new year, and we are invited to speak with Worship and Ministry on the subject. Seventeen adults and three children took part in Meeting For Worship on Thanksgiving Day. The committee asks Nominating for a replacement for Barbara Christwitz. Chairs have been purchased.

• Retreat (Susan Holbrook): With one small bill outstanding, income from the Fall Retreat stands at \$429.00, and outlays at \$38,92; Meeting approved holding the balance in the budget against the Spring Retreat.

• Christmas Coordinator (Leslie Leonard): Things are moving along; there will be a rehearsal this First-day.

• Nominating (Leslie Leonard): Elsa Glines is nominated as the new PYM observer (Larry Perry succeeds as representative); this will be seasoned.

• Oversight (Jane Rubin): The committee has found itself overly struggling with the effort to produce meaningful sessions on relationships which avoid aspects of group therapy; it is laying this task down at this time, and canceling announced plans for the time being. Those interested are invited to speak with them. The committee is also concerned for its abilities in relation to the size of the meeting nowadays.

- Peace and Social Order (Kate Buckner): There will be the post-Meeting presentation on the draft by Gary Wolfe of CCCO on the 18th; he will also speak at Berkeley Friends Meeting. Russ Jorgensen of PYM Peace Committee is organizing a 2-3 day Friends presence at the Nevada Test Site in March. Bob Reis, who has moved to Dixon, has asked to be replaced on the committee (he will continue as EBSC representative). The small Central America library has been incorporated into the main meeting library. Strawberry Creek will hold an 8:00 AM Meeting For Worship at Concord 12-25.

- East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): The Housing Committee has been dissolved, and the funds allocated, since all those using the services have now obtained their own housing. Grants now outstanding may fund EBSC through the next six months at its present level of activity. The latest repatriation effort was successful, with a remarkably fast re-integration noted. 100 people came to the election eve fundraiser. There will be an eight-year commemoration of the four church women who died in El Salvador. It is very pleasant to represent Strawberry Creek at EBSC, since the meeting's level of interest and activity is known.

- Religious Education (David Leonard): It is becoming increasingly difficult for children to sit through protracted announcements after Meeting for Worship. The high school group plans to help in the Food Pantry.

- Treasurer (John Bird): November income of \$391.92 and expenditures of \$514.00 leave a balance of \$2,426.67; this includes \$330.18 in retreat funds, \$375.00 in the Sojourners' Fund, and \$112.00 in the McCandless Fund.

Announcements • Quarterly Meeting will be at Friends House in Santa Rosa 1-14.

- (Jane Rubin) Jane has entered a graduate program at the Wright Institute, and plans some research comparing Friends with others in their ethical concerns and decision making. She hopes to use us in her research, and issues fair warning that we may receive requests from her in the mail.

- Next Meeting for Business will be held at 11:30 AM the 8th of 1st Month at Berkeley Friends Church.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:13.

Kenneth Orvis
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 8th of First Month, 1989
At Berkeley Friends' Church

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

*The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:35 A.M.
Twenty-seven Friends were present, including two children.*

Minutes The minutes of the 12th-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, with the following corrections: • the last phrase of the EBSC Representative's report should read "the meeting's level of interest and activity is strong"; • the Overseers' concern centers on sensitivity to needs and the consequences for timely help; and • the Meeting for Worship at Concord took place 12-24.

Clerk's Correspondence • Guy Thro of Friends Outside has written in thanks for the clothing Gerry Maynard collected and sent.

• PYM Peace Committee has written asking whether someone, perhaps with a special concern, might serve as a contact person within the meeting for the Nevada Test Site Quaker weekend in March. Clerk approached Tom Whiteman in this matter, and he agreed.

• Pacific Ackworth Friends School has written asking for contributions to their scholarship fund; Tom Huff may be able to answer questions about the school.

• Janice Albert has written applying for membership in Strawberry Creek Meeting; the letter was forwarded to Oversight.

Old Business • Action on Nomination to, and Report on Clerkship of, Nominating Committee: Meeting approved the seasoned nomination of Francia Welker; Jim Kimball will clerk.

• Action on Nominated PYM Observer: Meeting approved Elsa Glines as PYM Observer.

Committee Reports • Treasurer (Clerk): December income of \$1656.10 and expenditures of \$1295.06, including a *Friends Bulletin* pass-through of \$435.00, leave a balance of \$2,786.63; this includes \$320.18 in retreat funds, \$425.00 in the Sojourners' Fund, and \$112.00 in the McCandless Fund.

- Worship and Ministry (Carl Anderson): Going back over patterns of attendance at Meetings for Business, the committee notes that average attendance is about 15 at meetings in homes (May-Oct), and 23 at meetings in Friends Church (Nov-Apr); how much of the difference is related to season rather than place of meeting is not known. Only one committee expressed a strong interest in the "Committee Meeting Sunday" at Friends Church idea, while a second thought it might make occasional use. Therefore committees may act on their own to rent rooms for Sunday meetings at the church, checking the newsletter for conflicts; very brief meetings (five minutes or less) may be held on occasion upstairs. Barbara Graves will speak 1/22 after meeting about her Brinton Visitation experience.

Joyce Samati then read from and discussed Worship and Ministry's job description. A good deal of discussion followed on the related purviews of Ministry and Worship Committee and Oversight Committee, in which it was generally agreed that Worship and Ministry's primary concern is the spiritual and physical well-being of the corporate meeting, whereas Oversight's primary concern is the well-being of individuals within the meeting. Clerk requested that Worship and Ministry revise its job description to elucidate these distinctions, and report back.

Meeting also approved asking the librarian to provide a binder in which copies of current job descriptions can be kept for casual reference.

- Hospitality (Julie Russell): The Posada went well. A baby welcoming is contemplated.

- Nominating (Leslie Leonard): Peace and Social Order has retracted its request for a replacement for Bob Reis on the committee, since the committee is strong enough as it stands. Gerry Maynard is nominated to replace Barbara Christwitz on Worship and Ministry; this will be seasoned. Those interested in serving the Quarter in regards to Ben Lomond should contact Betty Hall, who is clerk of CPQM Nominating Committee.

- Oversight (Jane Rubin): Don Groom is recommended for membership; this will be seasoned. A membership transfer committee has been formed for Tom Huff, consisting of Barbara Tittle, Mary Mikesell and Ralph Murphy; and one for Susan Sanford, consisting of Susan Burr, Carl Anderson and Jane Rubin. Other committee business continues.

Barbara Voorhees-Emmons spoke, relating something of Don Groom's personal and spiritual history and concerns, and regarding Melinda Groom as well.

- Peace and Social Order (Kate Buckner): Four or five Strawberries attended the Concord Meeting for Worship on 12/24. The after-meeting session on conscientious objection was well attended, providing a lot of information and precision as well as knowledge of a resource. The committee is in contact with PYM Peace Committee regarding the Nevada Test Site activity planned for March. The Food Pantry needs to fill its Coordinator posi-

tion. PSOC feels a need to widen its horizons by informing itself more deeply on issues other than Central America. CRECE is sponsoring a fast 2/4, funds not spent on food to be donated; a committee member will be available to collect funds after Meeting for Worship on the 5th. The committee is working on ideas regarding Mary Miché's hope for including children in projects.

- East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): EBSC needs a volunteer book-keeper. AFSC has issued a news release about its filing suit against the INS over the law requiring documentation of alien status at hiring. (This news prompted some reaction in Business Meeting; PSOC will inform us further.) Meetings are planned for discussing the state and future of EBSC.

- Religious Education (David Leonard): The committee is struggling with how best to incorporate young people in Meeting for Worship, and is holding Meetings for Worship centered on the issue. Any inputs, contributions or light in this matter would be welcome.

New Business and Concerns • Clerk reminded Meeting of a letter received from J Bernard Haviland of Pendle Hill announcing matching funds up to a \$500.00 limit for aid given by monthly meetings to Pendle Hill attendees. Barbara Graves is planning to attend Pendle Hill in the spring term (3/31 - 6/10) to pursue a matter which grew out of her Brinton Visitor experiences. Meeting approved setting up a special fund for contributions.

- Leslie Leonard reported for Kenneth Leonard that Susannah McCandless's blood counts have reverted to normal, and Chris is now working again. Meeting asked Clerk to write a letter to share our rejoicing in Susannah's regaining her health.

Announcements • (Carl Anderson): Quaker Heritage Day activities in the Church will take place the weekend of 2/2.

- (Mary Mikesell): Friendly Eights signups are beginning.

- (Betty Hall): Sacramento Monthly Meeting has joined Friends General Conference as an individual meeting.

- Next Meeting for Business will be held at 11:30 AM the 5th of 2nd Month at Berkeley Friends Church.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:05.

Kenneth Orvis
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 5th of Second Month, 1989
At Berkeley Friends' Church

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

*The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:38 A.M.
Twenty Friends were present.*

Minutes The minutes of the 1st-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, without correction.

Clerk's Correspondence • Anna Emmons has written on the occasion of her proposed marriage to Nathan Kirk this 6th 17 in the Stillwater Meeting house at Barnesville, Ohio. While the marriage is under the care of Nathan's home meeting (Middleton, Ohio) and formal clearness rests there, Anna would like to request a less formal committee for clearness from Strawberry Creek. Anna is currently acting as school nurse and health teacher for Olney Friends School, but will visit this month. The matter has been passed to Oversight; and Jane Rubin reported that a small committee has been named, consisting of the elder Emmonses, the Tittles, the Kerseys, and Andrea English.

• The clerk of College Park Quarterly Meeting has written reporting on the recent quarterly meeting and announcing the next, to be held at Ben Lomond the second weekend in May, with homelessness as a focal theme.

Old Business • Action on Nomination to Worship and Ministry: Gerry Maynard's seasoned nomination was approved.

• Action on Membership of Don Groom: Meeting warmly approved Don Groom's membership in Strawberry Creek Meeting.

Committee Reports • Religious Education (David Leonard): The committee continues its efforts around involving young people in Meeting for Worship.

• Treasurer (Tom Huff): December income of \$344.50 and expenditures of \$1550.13 leave a balance of \$1044.00; this includes \$320.18 in retreat funds, \$0.00 in the Sojourners' Fund, and \$0.00 in the McCandless Fund.

• Worship and Ministry (Joyce Samati): Friends Church work days are scheduled for 3/4, 5/20, 7/29 and 10/28 of this year, and last from 9 to 4. Friends are encouraged to pitch in. The committee has amended its job description to omit "arranging spiritual clearness groups" from the list of specific committee tasks. Leonard Joy's session on vocal ministry, post-

poned by the advent of Judith Samantha, has been rescheduled for 3/19. The white finches in the northwest basement room were found last Monday with red dye on their feathers; the school and church are concerned, and plan to lock up earlier downstairs.

Based on attendance results as reported previously, and also on the changing demographics of the meeting, the committee recommends holding Meeting for Business year round at Friends Church, at 11:40 following Meeting for Worship. Meeting approved the plan pending approval on the part of Friends Church; Joyce Samati will report back.

For this year's renewed contract with Friends Church (annotated copy of old attached), the basic rent is to increase from \$230 to \$250 per month, while the single-use rent schedule will remain the same; the list of contact people is to be updated; and previously accomplished goals omitted. Our pledge to help pay for repair of the fellowship hall shades and curtains has been rendered moot for the moment by their being declared beyond help; replacing them would be expensive; we will wait and see what transpires. Worship and Ministry will look into possible "inside sources". Some concern was expressed over our obvious failure to comply with the guideline describing our intended use of the building on Sundays as ending at 11:30. Aside from a caution against overextended stay (well past 12:00), it was not clear what changes, if any, might make all parties most comfortable. Joyce Samati will sound out Friends Church on this and the more general matter of how our welcome is wearing, and report back.

- College Park Quarterly Meeting Representative (Clerk): Quarterly Meeting has advanced \$1000.00 to finish the year's stipend of a young Friend within the Quarter for residing in Cape Town and establishing a "Quaker Peace Centre"; and the Quarter now appeals to monthly meetings to recover its outlay. Meeting approved a special \$100.00 contribution, and provision for pass-through of earmarked funds. Two proposed minutes for spring Quarterly Meeting have been circulated by Redwood Forest Meeting; Meeting approved forwarding these to Peace and Social Order.

- Nominating (Jim Kimball): The year's work is under way.

- Oversight (Jane Rubin): The transfer of Tom Huff's membership to Strawberry Creek is strongly recommended; the recommendation will be seasoned [Tom stepped into the hall during discussion]. A membership committee is being set up for Janice Albert. The McCandlesses, noting that no further contributions need be sent at this time, request that the fund remain alive in name.

Discussion followed on the practice of asking prospective members to leave the room during discussion of their memberships. Some meetings follow this custom while others do not; Strawberry Creek has done both at different times. There are questions both of the openness of discussion, especially in the very rare instances of difficulty, and of the inevitable discomfiture of the individual in question (whether leaving or staying). It was noted

that the proper place to raise serious concerns is with the membership committee rather than in Meeting for Business; and also that discussion of difficult issues in the presence of the individual concerned is practical only if the committee takes great care to analyze on the basis of policy rather than personality. Meeting asked Oversight to include this issue in its ongoing work on membership.

- Peace and Social Order (Tom Whiteman): The committee discussed Project HOPE (see newsletter calendar) and the AFSC suit (below). The Draft ads are being run in six of seven local high school newspapers; there have been no calls, but the seeds are being scattered. The committee is taking up a concern with drugs and their influence on culture.

- East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Tom Whiteman): Leslie Leonard has volunteered to act as the Covenant's bookkeeper.

New Business and Concerns • State of the Society Report (Clerk): The time has come. There followed the traditional discussion surrounding the task, and the roles of Worship and Ministry and of Oversight, with a suggestion that the matter be raised in November to allow a fuller approach by Meeting. There was a clear interest on the part of Meeting for Business in an opportunity for the full meeting to discuss the "state of the society"; Meeting conferred responsibility for such a session and for the upcoming report on Worship and Ministry; Leslie Leonard volunteered to help.

- AFSC Immigration Law Lawsuit (Tom Whiteman): The American Friends Service Committee (with amicus briefs from 25 related organizations, including monthly meetings) has filed suit, continuing its stand during the writing and passage of the legislation. At issue is the perceived inability, as employers, to act in good conscience as a government agent in oppressing a class of people (undocumented aliens) and driving them underground into a position of inevitable exploitation. The decision to bring suit was arrived at through an extensive process of threshing and clearness-seeking, and is very firm. We can also choose to join with an amicus brief within the next 60 days; our expense would be essentially limited to postage, although law skills from within the meeting could help greatly. Meeting approved asking Peace and Social Order Committee to take up the matter and report back.

Announcements • Next Meeting for Business will be held at 11:30 AM the 5th of 3rd Month at Berkeley Friends Church.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:48.

Kenneth Orvis
Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the 5th of Third Month, 1989

At Friends' Church

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:42 am. Twenty-five Friends present.

Minutes The minutes of the 2nd Monthly Meeting were read and approved as corrected.

Clerk's Correspondence -Space is still available for the Unity with Nature retreat at Ben Lomond, the weekend of March 10.

-A postcard of Feb. 4 from Patti Erickson was read thanking SCM for continued financial support. Current funds will be spent for tires.

-The Quaker Center program with Doug Gwyn and Dorian Petrie was announced for March 31-April 2. The weekend is planned as an experience in silence, including, but not limited to periods of silent worship.

-A letter was received from Francoise Sellier and Julian Moiseiwitsch requesting to be married in the care of Strawberry Creek Meeting, in the Spring of 1990.

-A letter was also received from Mary Miche and Andrew Secrest, with a request to be married under the care of the Meeting, in May of 1990. These two letters were referred to Overseers Committee.

-An announcement from the AFSC Peace and Justice Youth Outreach Project was read, inviting Friends to a meeting concerning military recruitment in local highschools, on March 9.

Old Business -Contract with Friends' Church: Joyce Samati read a brief report from the Friends' Church Worship and Ministry Committee. It states that while the current relationship is satisfactory, the long range goal of Friends' Church is to grow. There may come a time when it is no longer possible to house both groups at the Friends' Church. (SCM would be given ample notice.) The Church prefers to keep our specified time range of 9:30 am to 11:30 am, allowing for flexibility in practice. SCM will try to leave before noon. Friends' Church has approved the use of the building for Monthly Meeting during the coming summer. The summer schedule may require SCM to use the fellowship room, but the fee will remain the same. It was noted that there is recent damage to the wood floors in the fellowship room and the kitchen. SCM is asked to take care of the floors when using the rooms. It was suggested that the protective rubber feet on chairs and tables be checked and replaced as necessary. A major concern of the Friends' Church is the lack of supervision of children outside after meetings for worship. Parents are reminded that they are responsible for their children at this time. Barbara Emmons will help the Church committee with the replacement of the curtains in the fellowship room. Appreciation was expressed for the graciousness of the Church's statement of concerns. Meeting approved the new contract with Friends' Church, effective April 1, 1989 to April 1, 1990.

-State of the Society Report: There will be a session to discuss the State of the Society Report after the rise of Meeting on March 12.

-Proposed Minutes for Quarterly Meeting from Redwood Forest Meeting: Peace and Social Order Committee recommends sending a letter of support for the Minutes on Sanctuary and World Law (copies attached). Meeting for Business gave approval to the Minute on Sanctuary and support for Redwood Forest Meeting's Minute concerning World Law. Quarterly Meeting will be notified.

Committee Reports -Peace and Social Order (Kate Buckner): Two Minutes of Concern have been received. La Jolla Meeting writes of its concern about the building of a nuclear reactor. Berkeley Meeting shares its concern for the homeless. Copies of these letters will appear in the Newsletter.

The FWCC affiliate Quaker UN Office (QUNO) has requested that a SCM contact person

be designated. Peace and Social Order Committee is asked to write expressing the Meeting's interest in the work of QUNO without naming an official representative at this time.

The Nevada Test Site group, with participants from various local Meetings, will leave for Las Vegas on March 10. The group will spend Saturday in a workshop sponsored by Friends and Friends (traditional peace churches) as part of the Nevada Desert Experience's Lenten activities. Sunday morning worship will be held at the Test Site. Participants would appreciate being held in the light by SCM that First Day.

The Erickson's Fund has been transferred to their checking account as requested. The fund is still a budgeted item, available for contributions.

Roy Allen from AFSC will discuss the suit against the INS after Meeting for Worship on April 23. Copies of an AFSC informational brochure were distributed. Peace and Social Order has drafted a Minute of Support of AFSC (copies to be available soon). The Minute was read, and will be held over until next Monthly Meeting for approval. In the meantime, comments and concerns can be directed to PSO, which will hold its next meeting March 16. The possibility of filing an Amicus Brief, in support of the AFSC suit, was discussed. Such a brief would not involve SCM as a participant in the suit, but would serve to register support for the AFSC as plaintiff. Briefs filed by Quaker meetings will support the AFSC position that the suit arises out of religious convictions. When SCM issues a formal minute of support, the Meeting will then be asked to answer a questionnaire circulated by AFSC. PSO is requested to circulate the Minute and specific details concerning formal support of AFSC. This information will also appear in the Newsletter.

-East Bay Sanctuary (Kate Buckner): There will be two Easter Week marches in San Francisco, on the 18th and the 24th. EBSC continues to seek a moratorium on aid to El Salvador. SCM is not currently budgeting money toward the EBSC Renters' Assistance Fund, though it has assisted EBSC with housing needs in the past. PSO is asked to bring a proposal regarding a budget item for renters' assistance to the next Monthly Meeting. EBSC is reviewing its position on El Salvador, and may request new consideration of our sanctuary membership.

-Religious Education (George Russel): The committee has agreed to take responsibility for handling the Friends' Church concern about unsupervised children outside after Meeting for Worship. While it is agreed that parents are responsible for their children at this time, the committee will put forward a recommendation at the next Monthly Meeting.

-Retreat Committee: The Spring retreat will be at Ben Lomond in early May. Details will be available soon.

-Treasurer: Report deferred.

-Worship and Ministry (Barbara Graves): It would seem that 11:40 am is a realistic time for Monthly Meeting and other after-meeting gatherings to start.

Worship and Ministry Committee will oversee the preparation of the State of the Society Report. Leslie Leonard has volunteered to help write the report. There will be a meeting to reflect on the year and discuss the content of the report on March 12, after Meeting for Worship.

A tape is now available through Tom Whiteman of Barbara Graves' Brinton Visitor Report.

-Hospitality (Julie Russel): A baby welcoming is planned for April 8, at the home of John and Karen Kersey, 4-6pm.

-Nominating Committee: Report deferred.

-Overseers (Jane Rubin): The committee recommends the transfer of membership for Susan Sanford from Santa Cruz to Strawberry Creek Meeting. A visiting committee has met with Susan. A brief report, prepared by Susan Burr, was read. The recommendation will be

seasoned for one month. It was noted that a Letter of Transfer from Santa Cruz Meeting is needed.

A membership committee (Jean Flores, clerk, Barbara Graves, and David and Leslie Leonard) will visit soon with Janice Albert.

Overseers is planning a Newcomers' Brunch, probably in the middle of May.

New Business and Concerns -Calendar for Business Meeting: Changes to the calendar for Monthly Meeting to accomodate holidays were discussed. The following dates were approved: April 2, April 30 (for May), June 4, July 9, no meeting for August, August 27 (for Sept.), October 1. All meetings to take place at Friends' Church at 11:40am.

Announcements -The next Monthly Meeting for Business will be April 2, at 11:40 am.

-A report on FASE will be brought before the next monthly meeting.

-There are still opportunities for Friends to travel in the Soviet Union this summer. Contact Carl Anderson for further details.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship.

Lou Ann Bieging

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 2nd of Fourth Month, 1989
At Berkeley Friends' Church

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 A.M.

Twenty-four Friends were present.

Minutes The minutes of the 3rd-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, without correction.

Clerk's Correspondence • Steve Smith sends greetings and word that he is quite reimmersed in his home meeting.

- Betty Hall has written, noting her recent absences from Strawberry Creek and attendance at Redwood Forest, to request a minute of sojourn from us. This was approved.

- An announcement and advance program for Friends General Conference is on hand.

- Louis and Lois Hoskins will be in the area next month on behalf of Friend in the Orient Committee of PYM; contact Mary Mikesell.

- John Woolman School has announced the hiring of their new principal, Barbara Bradshaw from St. Louis.

Old Business • Action on Minute in Support of AFSC Suit: The draft Minute is attached. A remarkably concerted and unified discussion among those present resulted in several changes in the wording; the Minute as approved follows:

We of the Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends have gathered in the Light to consider the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) lawsuit against the US Attorney General and the Immigration and Naturalization Service. This Meeting finds that AFSC's effort to be free to employ without investigation or reporting of immigration status is fully in accord with our own deeply felt religious and moral position as a congregation which has committed itself to give sanctuary to refugees from oppression in Central America.

We support AFSC in this suit, which seems to us to be an appropriate expression of the historical religious and moral convictions of the Society of Friends.

• Action on AFSC suit Friend-of-Court Brief: Discussion centered on expectations of Strawberry Creek's legal and financial burden (minimal to nil), and on the meaning and scope of the proposed amicus brief (we are assured, without yet seeing it, that it will be quite specific, being in essence built upon our Minute and accompanying information — unless our position resembles that of other Meetings enough to form a consensual group brief). The proposal to join the suit was approved. Clerk will forward our Minute and letter concerning our decision to the AFSC in Philadelphia.

Committee Reports • Oversight (Jane Rubin): The membership committee for Janice Albert, clerked by Jean Flores, with David and Leslie Leonard and Barbara Graves, which met 3/14, recommends approval. [Jean Flores then warmly discussed a little of Janice's personal odyssey.] This will be seasoned. A New Attenders' Brunch is planned for 5/21, the name and format changed slightly to encourage recently new attenders rather than first-time visitors. A Marriage Committee has been formed for Françoise Seillier and Julian Moiseiwitsch, consisting of Leonard and Amy Joy, David and Leslie Leonard, Maggie Ely, and Jane Rubin. [The committee's statement reviewing membership was circulated but held over due to the lengthy agenda.]

• Pacific Yearly Meeting (Larry Perry and Elsa Glines): Larry Perry extolled the virtues of the Yearly Meeting experience, referring to it at one point as "heaven on earth". It will be held at LaVerne 8/6 through 8/12. Paid staff is needed by the Secretariat for computer work; and also for the childrens' program. See Elsa Glines about a possible chartered bus.

• Peace and Social Order (Tom Whiteman): Nevada Test Site experiences were recounted at committee meeting, and the AFSC suit discussed. The committee will henceforth meet on Mondays.

• East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): With the Irena party in control after the Salvador elections, there are two measures before congress: a "Sense of Congress" measure, and a proposal to cut off all military aid to El Salvador. The Covenant feels a need to direct more of its resources toward halting aid to the war, and have drafted a resolution to this effect and are circulating it among member congregations for approval (a copy is attached; it was read, and approved by Meeting).

• Religious Education (David Leonard): The committee is beginning to explore curricula for next year. It also decided against taking on after-Meeting control of children; this is left to parents, and a reminder will be spoken at rise of Meeting. Proposed guidelines for incorporating children into Meeting for Worship were read [a copy is attached]. Responses are welcomed.

• Treasurer (Ken Orvis): The treasurer was not present, but a report for February has come to hand since last month. February income of \$373.05 and expenditures of \$622.60 leave a balance of \$1070.93; this includes \$0.00 in retreat funds, \$165.00 in the Sojourners' Fund, \$0.00 in the McCandless Fund, and \$125.00 in the Pendle Hill Matching Fund.

• Worship and Ministry (Joyce Samati): The draft State of the Society report is on hand, as well as a tape of Leonard Joy's recent discussion. We may use the present room (the Food Pantry distribution room) for Business Meeting for a while. The committee has decided to try, for three months, reading queries during opening worship at Business meeting, along with a considered written response, rather than in Meeting for Worship. This is in response to a concern that the queries have a programming effect on ministry and reflection when read early in Meeting for Worship. Reactions will be solicited.

• Hospitality (Larry Perry): Maps are on hand for the baby welcoming at the Kerseys'.

• Friends Association for Services to Elderly (Ted Dienstfrey): The previous management contract for Friends House (with a subsidiary of Alta Bates) terminated in January. An internal finance advisor has been hired, and an administrator is to be hired. In-house nursing service is planned, and some expansion. Losses are mounting in the adult day health care center (twice last year's), and discussions are planned with Santa Rosa community bodies.

New Business and Concerns • First Reading of the State of the Society Report (Leslie Leonard): The draft is attached, and will be seasoned. We should comment before next month's Meeting for Business.

• Nominations (Jim Kimball): The year's nominations slate (attached) is complete except for AFSC Representative and two slots on the "Fun" subcommittee. These will be seasoned.

Announcements • (Leslie Leonard): Kenneth Leonard will undertake a stint in Gabon in the Peace Corps after graduating.

• Next Meeting for Business will be held at 11:40 AM the 30th of 4th Month at Berkeley Friends Church.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:51.

Kenneth Orvis
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 30th of Fourth Month, 1989
At Berkeley Friends' Church

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 A.M.

Twenty-eight Friends were present.

Minutes The minutes of the 4th-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, with the following correction: under the East Bay Sanctuary Covenant report, the Salvadoran Arena party was misspelled "Irena". More corrections might have been noted had the minutes been less incoherent generally, at least in the ears of this recording clerk, an irony in the light of a brief speech of thanks and appreciation (for a job well done over two years) by Clerk just prior to their reading.

Clerk's Correspondence • Friends World Committee for Consultation (Section of the Americas) announces its annual meeting 5/15 - 5/19 in Des Moines, Iowa. A new project called Friend to Friend, designed by younger friends, is beginning through which Meetings are paired in a sort of pen-pal relationship; we are invited to send in for further information, and a proposal was made that we do so; this was approved.

Old Business • Action on Membership of Janice Albert: Janice Albert's membership met with enthusiastic approval.

• Action on Nominations, and Further Report: The following amendments were made: Jean Flores's intended term on Oversight Committee was shortened to one year, while Lois Hoxie's was lengthened to two years; and Susan Burr withdrew her nomination to Finance Committee. With those amendments the slate thus far was approved, with gratitude to Nominating Committee. Further nominations, to be seasoned, are Mike O'Sullivan as AFSC Representative, and Bob Reis as an additional EBSC Representative. The "Fun" subcommittee of Hospitality still needs additional members.

• Action on State of the Society Report: The report was read by Leslie Leonard, and approved with two minor changes in structure and wording; a copy of the final report as approved is attached.

Committee Reports • Oversight (Jean Flores): The Report on Membership, long in the making, was read, and was well received as a rather lucid road map of the membership process. Some discussion followed on the need to address the issue of junior membership or at least the status of belonging of

young Strawberries; and on whether the committee might also focus on the broader meaning of membership within the Strawberry Creek community. Oversight will examine these concerns.

- Peace and Social Order (Kate Buckner): Business included working further on the Friend of the Court Brief in support of the AFSC suit, Nevada Test Site experiences, and a request for sporting equipment for Nicaraguan youth. New ideas include extending our draft-counseling advertisements to college papers as well as high school, and a focus on matters environmental within the context of our testimony on simplicity.

- East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Kate Buckner): EBSC proposes to reinstate the housing fund (to which Strawberry Creek contributed \$25.00 per month) as a revolving loan fund to aid refugees in acquiring housing, and we are asked to consider re-instating our contribution. Meeting approved reinstating our \$25.00 per month contribution for the remainder of the fiscal year, starting in May; and asking Finance Committee consideration regarding inclusion as a line item in the next year's budget.

- Treasurer (John Bird): April income of \$635.07 and expenditures of \$636.87 leave a balance of \$907.61; this includes \$1,357.00 in retreat funds, \$165.00 in the Sojourners' Fund, \$0.00 in the McCandless Fund, and \$175.00 in the Pendle Hill Matching Fund (which was then sent).

Contributions are needed.

- Worship and Ministry (Joyce Samati): The committee reviewed recent events within the meeting, and felt heartened by the frequent depth of Meeting for Worship. A pamphlet on ministry is in the making.

- Hospitality (Julie Russell): The baby welcoming went well. There is some question about the committee budget; it was noted that in the past committee members have largely underwritten the weekly refreshment expenses.

- Librarian (Lou Ann Bieging): All of the Strawberry Creek library holdings have not yet found their way back, but 175-200 books, 50-75 pamphlets and around 20 children's books now have pockets and cards: so we are asked to follow procedures. The meeting owes a debt of gratitude to Sam Cox and Anne Cooms for their contributions. Some old and fragile volumes are currently stored in the Bieging garage.

The library now needs children's books; we are asked to consider contributions, and especially to consider gifts to the meeting library "in honor of" individuals, in lieu of giving them material presents, on appropriate occasions.

New Business and Concerns • Sidewalk Parking (John Bird): a local householder on Cedar Street has called police to have cars ticketed that park

partially on the sidewalk during Meeting for Worship. We are advised to park more fully in the street.

Announcements • Old and new officers and committees should meet together during May.

We are asked to join in a cleanup day with Berkeley Friends Church on Saturday, May 20 (all day: come morning or afternoon).

Several of our young friends are passing thresholds this spring: Jeff Ely, Maria Emmons, Joanna Bird and Jamie Ham are all finishing High School; Steve Emmons and Kenneth Leonard are graduating from college, and Anna Emmons is marrying, to name a few.

• Next Meeting for Business will be held at 11:40 AM the 4th of 6th Month at Berkeley Friends Church.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:11.

Kenneth Orvis
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

First Day, the 4th of Sixth Month, 1989

At Berkeley Friends' Church

Andrea English, Alternate Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 A.M.

Sixteen Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes of the 5th Monthly Meeting were read and approved, with the correction of the spelling of Ann Combs' name.

Clerk's Correspondence: § Shelley Davis sent a letter of appreciation of Quarterly Meeting's and our support of her work at the South African Peace Center.

§ San Francisco Meeting sent a letter of introduction of Rick Saporito, who has moved to the East Bay. It was also noted that mid-week Meeting for worship is held at his house, 4th Days at 7:30, but because of his unpredictable health, friends should call on Wednesday afternoons to confirm that it will take place. His phone number is 636-1854.

§ Quaker Youth Exchange is a facilitating group for young friends who wish to travel and experience the similarities and differences between Quakers worldwide. Friends who are interested in hosting travelling Friends between the ages of 12 and 22 can write for information.

§ A letter from Lee Andresen announced that Hayward Meeting is being laid down as a Meeting, and will continue as a worship group.

§ The Alta Bates/Herrick Chemical Dependency group announced a breakfast introducing their program to the Berkeley Interfaith Council.

§ Letters of request for membership were read from Pat Marrone, George Russell, and request for transfer of membership from Westtown Meeting for Julie Russell.

Old Business:

A. The transfer of membership of Susan Sanford was approved.

B. The nominations of Mike O'Sullivan for AFSC Representative and of Bob Reis for EBSC Representative were approved.

Committee Reports:

Hospitality Committee will be organizing joint potlucks with Friends' Church again this summer. They will be the third First Days of Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Months; June 18th, July 16th and August 20th.

Oversight (Jane Rubin): The committee for clearness on the marriage of Françoise Seillier and Julian Moiseiwitsch heartily recommended the marriage to the Meeting's care. Because they have changed their plans from marrying next spring to this August (because of visa problems), Oversight requested that the Meeting waive the usual month of seasoning and approve the marriage during this Meeting for Business. Friends considered both the importance of the seasoning process and the circumstances of the couple, who are leaving now and will be away for more than a month, traveling and preparing for their move to North Carolina. After discussing several alternative methods of seasoning, Friends felt clear in moving ahead with approval for the marriage, noting that this exception to the usual seasoning time was considered with care. Their plans are to be married at the Women's Faculty Club on the UC campus on Sunday, August 13.

The New Attenders Brunch was well attended, contacting the recent attenders having served well to encourage attendance by people genuinely interested in Strawberry Creek. Another was scheduled for September 17th.

A joint meeting of the old and new Oversight Committees took place to follow up on the ideas from the spring retreat on pastoral care. Members and attenders are encouraged to contact someone on the Oversight Committee if they are aware of a need for pastoral care.

Peace and Social Order (Tom Whiteman): A strong concern about the effects of drugs and other addictive substances in our society was evident in the new committee's first meeting of the year, particularly how to hold in the light the powerlessness, poverty and disenfranchisement of those affected. Other concerns were the effects of American foreign policy in the Middle East, and El Salvador, Panama, and Nicaragua.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): Things are getting worse in El Salvador and Guatemala. Bills are before Congress this week to reduce or eliminate foreign aid by the U.S. to the governments there. EBSC is trying to block the establishing of an INS detention center in Oakland.

Religious Education (Mike Hartman): The potential number of kids in the First Day School program now is around 80. There are 5 different age groups because 5 rooms are available. The committee is looking for a coordinator and an assistant for each age group for the fall, and hoping to involve everyone in the Meeting in some way during the year. The summer program is a looser format; adults are encouraged to participate so that they can begin to get to know the kids in a more playful way.

A forum is planned after Meeting on June 11th to begin generating ideas for the fall.

Copies of Faith and Practice were handed out in the high school group recently, resulting in some surprise that Friends actually do have some structure.

Treasurer (Andrea English): As the Treasurer job is changing hands, and both new and old Treasurer^s are away, only a preliminary report was available. \$714.61 is in the bank. The spring retreat came quite close to

balancing its expenses and income. Because it has been several years since our last audit, Bob Maynard has been asked to audit the books, a service he has provided to the Meeting several times before.

Worship and Ministry (Gerry Maynard): The committee is encouraged by the depth and quality of worship, but concerned by the lack of attendance of adult education. There may be a follow-up of the forum on Right Livelihood.

Quarterly Meeting (Lois Hoxie): The fall Quarterly Meeting will be at John Woolman School, October 14-16, and a retreat is being considered for Sept. 29-Oct. 1. Harvest Festival is planned for Sept. 24. PYM registration packets can be obtained from Larry Perry. Ben Lomond is doing well, running in the black, but needs care (participation in work week is encouraged) and toys.

A minute was approved in support of U.S. participation in the World Court.

New Business and Concerns: Children being dropped off for First Day School should be left formally with a specific person who knows the child's name and to whom the child goes back after Meeting.

Barbara Graves writes that there is a 3-week workshop at Pendle Hill in July which will be led by Bill Taber. Entitled "The Servant Leader in the Meeting Community", it is a spiritual retreat touching on all aspects of Meeting life, specifically designed for those who are clerking or may clerk (that's everyone).

The Quaker Youth Pilgrimage, a group of 28 travelling friends between the ages of 16 and 18 requests hosting in August. Arriving August 9 or 10, from travels through Washington and Oregon under the sponsorship of Friends World Committee for Consultation, they will be staying in hostels. Suggestions of what might be of interest in the area for them to see, or joining them in witness would be welcomed. Particularly needed are rides to the S.F. Airport on Monday, August 14.

A trial subscription to Friends Journal is available for \$7 for six months.

Announcements: Next Meeting for Business will be held at 11:40 A.M. the 9th of Seventh Month. It will be upstairs in the Fellowship Hall because Friends Church's summer barbecues will be under way.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:16.

Julie Russell

Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

First Day, the Ninth of Seventh Month, 1989

At Berkeley Friends Church

Barbara Emmons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 A.M.

Twenty-one Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes of the Sixth-Monthly Meeting were read and approved with the following correction: the copies of Faith and Practice were presented to the high school group, not simply handed out.

Clerk's Correspondence: § William Walters writes from Chena Ridge Friends Meeting in Fairbanks, Alaska, introducing Victor Valiente. Victor is an agricultural engineer from El Salvador who ran into difficulty over his research into land reform. He is in the Bay Area to pursue an asylum request through the Canadian consulate, and is warmly recommended to us.

Discussion followed informing us of Victor Valiente's needs. He is living with a cousin in Castro Valley whose house is far from public transportation. He needs a place to stay which is near public transportation and help finding work to support himself until his appointment with the Canadian Consulate about three months from now, and for however long that process lasts. Emotional support would also be a way that we could come forth.

§ A letter was read from Mary Anderson requesting transfer of membership from Berkeley Friends Meeting.

Old Business: The Marriage Arrangements Committee for Françoise Seillier and Julian Moiseiwitsch consists of Maggie Ely, Leonard and Amy Joy, David and Leslie Leonard and Jane Rubin.

Committee Reports: Worship and Ministry (Tom Whiteman): The Query was read in Meeting for Business one more time today and the committee has found positive and negative aspects to this practice. Discussion of other possibilities for hearing and considering the queries in depth followed, and the committee will consider it more. The review of worship showed a concern about a Meeting which took the form of a dialogue. The committee continues to look for a way to minister to each other and our needs. The committee is soliciting responses from the Meeting as to whether or not there is an ongoing interest in mid-week Meeting for Worship.

Oversight (Jane Rubin): The clerks of the membership committees are confirming the members of the committees. Lois Hoxie will be clerk of the

committee for Julie Russell, David Leonard will be clerk of George Russell's committee, and Susan Burr will be clerk of Pat Marrone's committee.

Pacific Yearly Meeting (Elsa Glines): Yearly Meeting is in Chico, August 6-12. It is a wonderful experience, and attendance is encouraged.

Peace and Social Order (Tom Whiteman): An after-Meeting panel is being planned to raise awareness of drugs as a form of violence. We hope to include some of the older children in the Meeting, to get a clearer picture of the pressures they experience today. The committee was asked to make a recommendation as to our responsibility to Victor Valiente as a Sanctuary Meeting. The Meeting wishes to make a strong contact with him and asked Kate Buckner to identify specifically what we can do for him.

Religious Education (George Russell): The summer program is going well, initiating a connection between the adults and children to encourage adult participation in the First Day School program in the fall, and as an enjoyable experience.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): A report was accepted from the Treasurer covering the period from November 88 through May 12, 1989. Expenditures are exceeding income, including the carry-forward credit from last year. Work begins on next year's budget in August.

New Business and Concerns: A letter was read from Brian and Patti Erickson thanking us for our support over the two years they have been in Nicaragua. They wish to apply to PYM's Fund for Special Concerns, under the heading of environmental concerns. They are asking for one year of personal funding in the amount of \$3600. The letter describes their financial needs and their work with bamboo; cultivating (to slow the erosion of the devastated countryside), curing, construction and crafts. Brian has an opportunity to study bamboo furniture and basketmaking at the Chinese Technical Mission in Moin, Costa Rica, starting this September. The Chinese focus on high quality work with hand tools seems more appropriate in Nicaragua than Western work with power tools.

Peace and Social Order Committee drafted a minute of support of their request, and it was discussed by the Meeting to be edited and read after next Sunday's Meeting for Worship. The intention is to be very clear about our support of them so that PYM will be able to consider this request at this Yearly Meeting. An ongoing commitment to their work was clear in the discussion, as well as a concern as to how Strawberry Creek can continue to support them beyond the next year. There was concern about the fact that Brian's sister, Susan Erickson, who has been handling their financial affairs in the States, will be unable to do so for much longer. Because the Minute is needed for PYM, before next Meeting for Business, a mandate was handed to Tom Whiteman to edit the Minute, and it was approved.

Special Report from Barbara Graves on Pendle Hill: Barbara thanked us for our support, and spoke warmly of the rich experience of living there, with tremendous amounts of affirmation and concern for the individuals studying there, and complete freedom to let them find their own way. The community clearly operates under God, which has a powerful effect on the experience

available there. Barbara studied Pottery and Gardening, as well as taking Doug Gwyn's course on the Gospel According to John.

Announcements: Friends Church is having a work day on Saturday, July 29. The job of painting the ramp by which we enter the Fellowship Hall was considered.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:45.

Julie Russell

Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

First Day, the 27th of Eighth Month, 1989

At Berkeley Friends Church

Barbara Voorhees Emmons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:43 A.M.

Twenty-six Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes of the 7th-Monthly Meeting were read and approved with the following corrections: •PYM will be in La Verne this year. •The Treasurer's report covered the period through June 30, 1989. If we take into consideration the carry-forward credit from last year, the Meeting is in the black, though 88-89 expenditures are exceeding income so far.

Clerk's Correspondence: •A check has been received from the PYM Fund for Concerns for the Ericksons in the amount of \$1500. Barbara Graves informed us that the agreement from the Ministry and Oversight Committee of Yearly Meeting was for the full \$3600 that Brian and Patti requested, to be paid as Meetings' contributions are received. She also told us that Susan Erickson is still able and wanting to take care of financial affairs for them in this country, and that money must be hand delivered to them in Nicaragua. Though it is difficult to determine their condition or needs (how far this money will take them), she recommends that we maintain our past level of support of them. She suggests that we think of contributions to them as an opportunity to share their ministry, rather than aiming for a specific dollar goal.

•A letter from Sandy Spring Monthly Meeting was received, requesting that we extend fellowship and loving care to Jennie Stiles, a student returning for her second year in Berkeley.

Committee Reports: East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laurie Doyle): EBSC plans to join the Spanish Unity Council, Philipinos for Affirmative Action, the Coalition to Stop the INS Detention Center and some taxpayers in a lawsuit against the City of Oakland because of its plans to establish an INS detention center in Oakland. The suit charges that the city violates the Brown Act (concerning the conducting of public meetings), an administrative instruction declaring Oakland a city of refuge for political refugees, the California Environmental Quality Act, and zoning and planning regulations. Discussion followed, expressing concern about how severely our government treats people who simply look like they might be in this country illegally. Objections were voiced on the basis of opposing the planned INS center on procedural objections rather than the substance of having a detention center in Oakland, then it was described as one of many levels from which

to approach the problem. Peace and Social Order Committee was requested to write a minute expressing our support of the suit, including the substance of our objections.

EBSC is now solvent and is engaging in a number of fund-raising activities, the current one being the showing of the movie, "Romero".

Finance (John Bieging): A proposed budget for fiscal year 1989-90 was offered (see attached), with one change request for increasing the Scholarship fund from \$200 to \$300, in order to include support of those choosing to participate in programs greater than a day or weekend. Meeting approved.

There was considerable discussion of the amount for Furnishings and Equipment, since Friends Church has requested that we share in the cost of a new set of draperies for the Fellowship Hall. Meeting approved increasing the amount by \$500 for one year, as a sincere gesture of appreciation of the hospitality of Friends Church.

A request was made to add to the budget a line item of \$100 per year to support the Food Pantry. The Pantry runs entirely on contributions, and has many patrons, especially in these times. Expenses are between \$1000 and \$2000 per month. The Meeting approved the item, and other ways to contribute to the Food Pantry will be published in the next newsletter. PSOC was asked to consider the issue of hunger and homelessness.

All three of these issues were considered to be symbolic changes, intended to bring awareness of important issues and to encourage personal contributions. Particularly difficult was the issue of the Scholarship Fund--discussion was clouded by a need for help with tuition for an attender who has made no specific request to the Meeting.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): The Meeting is behind in contributions, and expected expenses are considerably more than cash on hand. The treasurer was encouraged to send out a reminder notifying members and attenders of the need to support the Meeting. It was acknowledged that actual financial support of the Meeting is extremely variable, and that people should keep in mind that contributions to special funds should not be in lieu of contributions to the Meeting, but beyond them. The treasurer was requested to change the term "tithes" to "contributions" on the budget.

Worship and Ministry (Carl Anderson): The committee wishes to encourage ministry from new people, and to encourage those who minister to speak up. The various committees will be asked to take responsibility for having the queries read in Meeting for Worship on the first Sunday of the month, and to compose a response to be read in Meeting for Business. Details on mid-week Meeting for Worship are not yet formalized, but 5:30 to 6:15pm is being considered. A volunteer has come forward to organize the activity of sanding and repainting the ramp on the west side of the building.

Hospitality (John Bieging for Lou Ann Bieging) A new member welcoming is expected soon.

Oversight (Jane Rubin): Meeting has finally received the certificate of transfer of membership for Tom Huff from Poughkeepsie Meeting, nearly completing his membership process.

Oversight wishes to encourage awareness of "Junior membership", without necessarily changing policy. It is available to children on request by parents who become members or by anyone under the age of 25. It has an important role in religious education, to discuss the significance of membership in the family and in First Day School. Though there is no lower age limit on adult membership, junior membership is intended to include children in the life of the Meeting until such time that they chose to make their own committment. "Associate" was offered as a more neutral term for such a membership.

Pacific Yearly Meeting (Larry Perry): Dues for the year will be \$23 per member. The new clerk of Yearly Meeting will be Jane Peers from San Diego. Next Yearly Meeting will be in Chico, July 30th through August 4. A special forum is being planned to let the Meeting know about what happened at the recent PYM.

Peace and Social Order (Tom Whiteman): The committee has talked with Victor to clarify his status. He is from a middle class family in El Salvador. His father owns a machine shop. He is a graduate of the national university with a degree in Agriculture, and has both theoretical and practical training. He is a refugee from both sides; the left suspects him of collaborating with the American Embassy, and he has been assaulted by the police purely because of his status as a student. Because his sister was arrested, beaten and held incommunicado for some weeks, for no reason other than that she was his sister, he was asked to leave his family. His tragedy is that he cannot contribute to his own society.

He is applying for political asylum in Canada, which he must do from outside Canada. He is an administrative and political victim, tolerating the tremendous difficulties finding work, low pay and abuse. He is staying with an attender of the Meeting, exchanging work for room and board, and has interviews at the Canadian Consulate scheduled for early September. His most immediate need from the Meeting is for employment. He can do household repairs, laying tile, and gardening.

The committee has drafted this minute: Peace and Social Order Committee recommends that Strawberry Creek Meeting take Victor into sanctuary. We strongly urge the members of the Meeting to assist him in the areas of housing, spiritual support, guidance to community resources, and employment possibilities. We recommend that this commitment be maintained as long as he needs it.

Religious Education (Mike Hartman): The committee is looking forward to starting its formal year on September 10th, with 6 groups, including the infants, with a co-ordinator for each group. A larger issue is that Friends Church has decided to make a full committment to a Sunday School program of their own. Of the 7 rooms downstairs (including the Food Pantry), they want the use of three, leaving us with 5, as the nursery will continue jointly. A joint meeting of the two Education Committees is planned for Thursday, September 21, and provisional space has been arranged for September. The Meeting was very quiet, shocked at this news. The question was raised whether this could be considered a termination of our lease. Reports say that it is a positive move on the part of Friends Church, with troublesome ramifications for us, but that the Church wants to work together to find a solution.

Retreat (Dick Emmons): The fall retreat is planned for Saturday, November 18, at the Hillside Community Church in El Cerrito. Suggestions for a topic are invited. A deposit has been paid at Ben Lomond for the Spring Retreat.

Announcements: •(Joyce Samati): College Park Quarterly Meeting plans a Sierra Foothill Retreat for September 29 through October 1.

•Harvest Festival takes place the 24th of Ninth Month in Los Altos.

•Next Meeting for Business will be the 1st of Tenth Month at 11:40am.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:55pm.

Julie Russell

Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

First Day, the 1st of Tenth Month, 1989

At Berkeley Friends Church

Barbara Voorhees Emmons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 A.M.

Twenty-six Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes of the 9th-Monthly Meeting were read and approved with the following corrections: •Friends Church has not made a formal request that Strawberry Creek share in the cost of the curtains for the Fellowship Hall. •The queries are to be divided among the various committees for consideration, one a month, with the possibility of a response in Meeting for Business if the committee is so moved.

Clerk's Correspondence: •The AFSC sends an update on the lawsuit against the INS (regarding the requirement of employers to examine the documentation of people seeking employment as violating the constitutional right to free exercise of religious beliefs), including the judge's ruling to dismiss the suit, the plan to appeal (with a request that the *amicus* brief be re-submitted), and a request for continued monetary, legal and moral support. The letter will be posted.

•A letter from Rose Lewis of Brooks, Oregon informs us of plans to have a training in Seoul, Korea this October led by two Fellowship of Reconciliation nonviolence trainers. She requests contributions, and describes it as a small memorial to a great man of peace, Ham, Sok Hon, the Quaker known as the Gandhi of Korea, who saw an urgent need for nonviolence training in Korea. This letter will be posted.

•PYM has approved a letter requesting support for the Pacific Ackworth School, one of two Friends schools in California, which is in danger of losing its property to the city of Temple City. This letter will also be posted.

•Lee Andresen writes requesting transfer of her membership from Hayward Meeting, as it has been laid down as a Meeting.

Old Business: •The membership of Tom Huff was approved, better late than never.

•The final Budget was approved with appreciation, including the changes mentioned in last month's minutes, and changing the amount for the

Brinton Visitor Fund to \$0 as Barbara Graves informs us that the Fund does not need donations right now.

The Nomination of the Ad Hoc Committee for Nomination the Nominating Committee •Mary Mikesell, Lou Ann Bieging and Mary Miché were nominated, hoping that at least two of the three will be able to accept.

Committee Reports: Retreat (Barb Tittle): The Fall Retreat is planned for Saturday, November 18th, at Hillside Community Church in El Cerrito. The topic will be "Moments of Grace: an exploration of our many ways of experiencing and practicing the presence of God". Registration forms will be available soon.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): A number of contributions are in her back pocket (having been received this morning), an encouraging response to her letter requesting support. Last month saw \$800 in and \$400 out, which is also encouraging, but needed, as the annual outreach donations have not yet been paid, and she would like to not have to use the carry-forward from last year's budget.

Worship and Ministry (Barbara Graves): The committee is planning to start posting its minutes so that they can be read by anyone who is interested. The consideration of the state of the Meeting showed appreciation of new people ministering, that more people are arriving on time, and that an upsetting aberration a few weeks ago was absorbed well by the Meeting. The plan for the Queries is that they be assigned to the committees (a schedule will be printed in the newsletter) with the purpose of including the committees in the spiritual life of the Meeting. A period of quiet consideration of the query in committee was suggested, with the responsibility for reading the query in Meeting for Worship on the first First Day of the month, and the option of formulating a response to be given at Meeting for Business. The committee started consideration of the section in Faith and Practice on equality of the sexes (pp.14-18). How we might contribute best to the Food Pantry was considered. Appreciation was felt for the Religious Education Committee in its current dilemma, especially for its caution not to be alarmist about the situation.

Hospitality (John Bieging for Lou Ann Bieging): There will be an informal New Member Welcoming for Don Groom and Tom Huff next Sunday, October 8th, following the rise of Meeting. The committee plans to experiment with different types of new member welcomings to provide a variety of opportunities for members and attenders to get better acquainted. The committee would welcome additional members.

Oversight (Jane Rubin): The committee recommends the transfer of membership of Julie Russell from Westtown Meeting and the application for membership of George Russell. These will be seasoned. The committee has decided to recommend a change in nomenclature, changing "Junior" membership to "Associate" membership. The Meeting concurred. The occasion of the wedding of Françoise and Julian on August 13 was remembered as a very nice occasion, with warnings to those who might want to marry there in the future that the campanile plays a concert every Sunday from 2:00 to 2:45pm. The next meeting of the Oversight committee will be a joint meeting with Worship and Ministry on October 29.

Peace and Social Order (Tom Whiteman): The committee wishes to bring to awareness that the situation of the Ericksons is a continuing concern, and plans to canvas other Meetings for their contributions to the Fund for Concern. The Sanctuary lawsuit has become moot, because the INS has decided not to build a detention center in Oakland. Victor has been accepted by Canada, but has to wait six more months for paperwork to be completed before he can enter Canada. Julian Frederick brought us copies of a petition to create a nuclear-free zone in Alameda county, asking for help collecting signatures. It is an extremely comprehensive proposition, including requiring a peace curriculum in the public schools, preventing the expenditure of county resources to co-operate with nuclear weapons activities, or their use in the arrest of persons engaged in non-violent civil disobedience intended to impede nuclear weapons work. The committee is sponsoring a discussion on drugs as a symptom of problems in our society on Oct. 22, from 7:30 to 9:30pm.

Religious Education (George Russell): The fall program has started well, with 35-40 children attending each week. The First Day School is as successful as it is because of participation of people in the whole Meeting--more involvement would be appreciated. The joint meeting with the Christian Education Committee of Friends Church was a fruitful and useful dialogue. How Strawberry Creek and Friends Church originally came together, and the past and future relationships were discussed. The committee is unresolved as to how much the committees will work together. Do we want to join our programs? We are moving ahead to join the 3&4-year-old classes, to resolve the space problem. Another joint meeting is expected in the next month, and will be announced after Meeting when it is scheduled. Discussion followed, clarifying that the Church is not clear between its members whether they want a joint program, and that we need to wait patiently until they are clearer. It was pointed out that failure to have a joint committee encourages separateness and hardening of communication. George described the current 3&4-year-old program, which is being taught by Consuelo Carranza. It includes a greeting period, a short period of free play, a worship activity (like singing or prayer), a Bible story with a "present day example" (such as comparing Jesus' healing to a trip to the doctor for a shot), then Bible learning from a curriculum by David Cooke with an activity based on it.

Announcements: •Friends Church plans to have a work day on October 28, from 9 to 4, doing gardening and clean-up, including lunch and fellowship.

•Jean McCandless will be visiting the area October 26-28. Leslie Leonard will host a potluck dinner one evening.

•Quarterly Meeting will be the weekend of October 13-15 at John Woolman School.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:07.

Julie Russell

Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

First Day, the 5th of Eleventh Month, 1989

At Berkeley Friends Church

Barbara Voorhees-Emmons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 A.M., during which a response to the queries was read. Twenty-five Friends were present.

Minutes The minutes of the 10th-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, without correction. Meeting extended thanks for the thoroughness, care and precision of Julie Russell's minutes.

Clerk's Correspondence • A letter has been received from the McCandlesses. It details both the love and caring they have continued to feel through five years of separation from Strawberry Creek, including their deep appreciation for the sense of support they felt during Susannah's illness, and their growing involvement with Burlington Monthly Meeting; and it concludes with a request for transfer of memberships. Meeting recorded itself as "reluctantly willing", which aptly describes the mood, and the letter was forwarded to Oversight.

Old Business • Pending Memberships: Jane Rubin read for David Leonard a report from the membership committee of George Russell, and Lois Hoxie spoke similarly on behalf of Julie Russell. Both memberships received hearty approval and an eager welcome.

Committee Reports • Peace and Social Order (Kate Buckner): The panel on drugs and addiction went well, with a fruitful and focused discussion afterwards. Those attending decided to continue, with an interest in what the Meeting can do; a session is planned for 11/13 at Kate Buckner's house. Mary Anderson has raised a concern for the homeless. Contact has been made with Liz Walker of Global Walk; an event is planned in January. We are reminded of the Sanctuary hotline on Central American affairs; the level of violence in Guatemala and El Salvador is escalating.

- Oversight (Jane Rubin): Susan Burr first reported on behalf of the membership committee of Pat Marrone, detailing some of her personal and spiritual history now rather than after seasoning, and recommended Pat for membership. Jane then reported similarly on behalf of Mary Anderson, who has asked to transfer her membership from Berkeley Friends Meeting, and recommended her transfer. Both recommendations will be seasoned. Oversight held a joint meeting with Worship and Ministry on building community in Strawberry Creek Meeting, from which grew ". . . A Message to the Meeting . . ." (attached, and read in Meeting for Business by Barbara Graves).

- Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): The report is attached, which closes the 1988-89 fiscal year. The 1988-89 budget was \$10,296.00; this was met with contributions of \$10,307.06 and interest of \$104.45; actual expenditures came to \$8,902.46. October contributions of \$2,728.00, interest of \$8.96 and expenditures of \$1,354.41 bring the general fund from \$1,532.01 to \$2,914.56; contributions of \$260.00 bring the Nicaraguan Sojourner fund from \$1,550.00 to \$1,810.00; There is \$135.93 in the Retreat fund. The Brinton Visitors Fund is not in need of contributions at this time, and the budgeted amount has been deleted. Half of the Friends Church expenditure on curtains for the Fellowship Hall comes to \$517.50; this amount was included in the budget for furniture and equipment. Meeting instructed the Treasurer to send a check for this amount, and to report to them on refurbishing the ramp.

- Ad Hoc Committee for Nominating the Nominating Committee (Lou Ann Biegling): Ralph Murphy and Francia Welker are to continue their terms. Nancy O'Sullivan, Tom Huff and Leonard Joy are nominated; the nominations will be seasoned. The clerkship is open, as are terms of service. Lou Ann very gently voiced a question of good Quaker order, noting that two members of the Ad Hoc Committee were informed of their appointments rather than asked if they wished to be nominated. This is perhaps not an efficacious method of ensuring a spirited effort on the part of future committees.

- Religious Education (Michael Hartman): A Christmas program is planned for 12/16. No one has yet come forward to lead the children's program, but there will be caroling and a potluck in any case. The joint Church/Meeting class of 3-to-4 year olds is going well, with some reservations. There has been a suggestion to hold First Day School (perhaps including adult education) in the hour before Meeting for Worship; this would obviate the space problem and also allow teachers to attend meeting.

A lengthy and concerned discussion followed. Reservations regarding joint programs centered largely on the contrast between the Church's ability to be theologically focused, and Strawberry Creek's very real need to accommodate the remarkably diverse range of theolog-

ical outlooks represented by Strawberries and especially by Strawberry parents, while acknowledging that such points, while of deep concern to parents, are probably of little concern to the children. A search for a commonly acceptable curriculum is in order, but many present felt that a prerequisite for any action is an open, sharing search within the Strawberry Creek community for clearness on our own felt needs and outlooks, including clearly discerning between being drawn to our commonalities with Friends Church, on the one hand, and simply being repelled by the spectre of a search for a new home, on the other.

- John Woolman School (Elsa Glines and Jim Kimball): The school needs about 50 students to stay afloat, and currently has about 30; this is of concern for potential future students among today's younger Strawberries. The problem is demographic (the nadir of the "baby bust" is at high school age now); John Woolman has received a strong rating from its accrediting body, and has an excellent faculty and program, but needs students.

- Retreat (Barb Tittle): The "Moments of Grace" program will attempt to bring us into a realization of others' experiences today; arenas are to include nature, people and relationships, ourselves, and art.

- Worship and Ministry (Joyce Samati): The committee meeting focused on the reverence experienced in Meetings for Worship, and the unity achieved. Gratitude was expressed for Barbara Graves' opening her home for a Meeting for Worship on Thanksgiving Day, and to Barbara Voorhees-Emmons and Ken Orvis for their efforts with the curtains and the ramp. A suggestion was made for a Meeting for Sharing (with Friends Church) following our Meetings for Worship on Sunday. Ideas are solicited.

- AFSC Suit (Tom Whiteman): On 8/28 the federal district court in Los Angeles dismissed the AFSC's suit against the Immigration and Naturalization Service (see October minutes), for lack of grounds, ruling that the government has a compelling interest to maintain its sovereignty through control of its borders, and has no less intrusive means for fulfilling that interest (there are other points as well). The suit has attracted wider interest due to some of the grounds on which it was thrown out, and AFSC will appeal the dismissal; we are asked to reaffirm our amicus standing, tailoring the language to the current stage of events. Meeting approved such action.

Announcements • (Carl Anderson): The Food Pantry will put on a special program both Thanksgiving and Christmas, and will need volunteers the afternoons of three days before Thanksgiving (for two hour shifts).

• Next Meeting for Business will be held at 11:40 A.M. on the 3rd of 12th Month at Berkeley Friends Church.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:35.

Kenneth Orvis

For the Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

First Day, the 3rd of Twelfth Month, 1989

At Berkeley Friends Church

Barbara Voorhees Emmons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 A.M.

Thirty Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes from the Eleventh Monthly Meeting were read and approved, with the following corrections: the event with Liz Walker informing us about the Global Walk is next week, rather than in January, and delete "(with Friends Church)" from the suggestion of Meetings for Sharing in the Worship and Ministry report.

Clerk's Correspondence: • A minute has been received from San Francisco Monthly Meeting recommending that College Park Quarterly Meeting consider collecting a list of individuals in the Quarter who have skills to perform annual audits for Meetings. It suggests establishing an exchange among Meetings of the lists of such individuals.

• A letter of introduction of Mere Boustridge, an active member of Mt Eden Meeting in Auckland, New Zealand was received. She is visiting California for six months, and considering moving here.

Old Business: The memberships of Pat Marrone and Mary Anderson were enthusiastically approved.

Committee Reports: East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): Bob has not attended a Covenant meeting since his return from travelling in Central America, so his report was of personal experience. The re-populated communities are doing well, though the situation is still serious and dangerous.

Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee (Lou Ann Bieging): Ralph Murphy has agreed to clerk the committee, Francia Welker will continue her term for one more year, Tom Huff has agreed to serve for two years, and Nancy O'Sullivan and Leonard Joy have agreed to commit to one year, with the possibility of another year, depending on their commitments a year from now.

Religious Education (Michael Hartman): The Christmas potluck is planned for December 16th. The upper elementary and high school groups are working on a script for a modern day Christmas.

The committee regretfully reports that, "after two months of a joint 3&4 year old class with Friends Church, it is the united opinion of the First Day School Committee that we cannot continue with this joint venture under the present circumstances. The two months of this class has turned out to be an accomodation of the space shortage, rather than a careful and well seasoned decision in the care of our 3&4 year old children. Therefore we respectfully request assistance from the Meeting, and from the Worship and Ministry Committee in particular, in finding space to house another class. We would hope, that in addition to this, that the Meeting would undertake to further an atmosphere of unity and trust between our Meeting and the Friends Church in the hope that one day we could again benefit from a joint program. For now, it is very important that First Day School Committee be unburdened of this concern and be able to return as quickly as possible to the task of loving care and attention for the Meeting's children."

Discussion followed, with a strong common thread being that the issues are much larger than the realm of responsibility of the Religious Education Committee. The ongoing concerns of Unity between the branches of Quakerism are a theological question, perhaps uniquely faced by Strawberry Creek and Friends Church. Caution was voiced that we not break our previous agreements with Friends Church, and concern that we do not know where the Church stands at present. Are we both seeking Unity? It was clear that we need to deal with the immediate issue of space, and look at the larger issues of our relationship with Friends Church and our agreement to have a joint First Day School program with them. A meeting of Worship and Ministry and Religious Education was arranged for December 17th, with a member of Oversight Committee.

Another announcement followed that we need to be aware that our children are often quite noisy during the social hour after Meeting. Especially on the stairs, we must make sure that our children honor the need for quiet when Friends Church is worshipping.

Retreat (Mary Miche): We had a very succesful retreat, with 20 adults and two children. Mark you calendars for May 11, 12 and 13, 1990 for the spring retreat at Ben Lomond. Thanks were expressed to the committee for a well thought-out, well organized, and beautiful retreat.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): In the General Fund, \$150.00 more was spent than was collected. The money was sent for the curtains in the Fellowship Hall, along with a mention of the work on the ramp that Strawberries did, with an offer of a statement of expenses and hours of labor, which was accepted. The Retreat Committee is ahead of budget, but not all expenses from the Fall Retreat are in yet. The Nicaraguan Sojourners Fund is the same, but now is a good time to contribute, as the funds will be carried to Nicaragua in early January. There is some confusion about the subscription process to Friends Bulletin--Leslie will handle subscriptions if she receives them.

Worship and Ministry (Gerry Maynard): The committee was extremely pleased with the joint meeting with overseers, and recommends we extend ourselves a little more in the pastoral care department. A phone call of concern for another, or short visit can be rewarding for all. The singing of Christmas carols for 15 minutes after Meeting started this morning, and will continue through the month.

Hospitality (Lou Ann Biegling): We have a wealth of new members to welcome. A potluck lunch after Meeting at the Biegling's home is planned, tentatively for the 21st of January. A suggestion was made to expand this committee next year, as their duties expand.

Oversight (Susan Burr): The membership of Lee Andresen is being considered. Lois Hoxie read an autobiography, describing Lee's spiritual history, and recommended the transfer of her membership from Hayward Meeting.

Peace and Social Order (Jane Terry): Delta Meeting of Jackson, California has written, notifying us of their annual Sunday morning worship to protest the Research and Development at the Lawrence Livermore Lab, and inviting us to join them, the second Sunday in December.

A letter was received from Santa Cruz Meeting describing in detail the situation in El Salvador, and requesting that we consider how we can help aid and protect the efforts to repopulate traditional villages in El Salvador. Active, open participation with these people is recommended as the best way to deter violence against them. A request was made for a meeting to be set up to let us know how we can act.

The discussion about the Global Walk for a Livable World with Liz Walker will be next Sunday evening. The committee is considering a concern about the death penalty. There was another informal meeting of people concerned about drugs and addiction, a minute is being drafted to be presented soon and another meeting is planned. A minute is being drafted expressing our concerns about the situation in El Salvador, and will be published in the next newsletter.

Mary Mikesell made a short impromptu report about the Unprogrammed Friends Bible Conference at Arch Street Meeting in Philadelphia last month. Well attended by more than 200 Friends from all over the country, it was an impressive, in-depth presentation of the Bible.

Announcements: •Carl Anderson announced that the Food Pantry made it through Thanksgiving, just barely, being limited in funds and hands to help. Christmas food packages will be handed out on the afternoons of December 20, 21, and 22. Help will be needed those afternoons and the preceding evenings.

•Tom Whiteman announced the plans for the Nevada Desert Action, this coming March 16, 17, and 18, entitled "When the Stones Cry Out". It will be combined workshop, worship and action at the Nevada Test Site, is being organized by Bretheren, Mennonites, and Friends, and is being sponsored by PYM as a Yearly Meeting activity. There may also be representatives from the Shoshoni Nation, concerned about the use of Yucca Mountain, a Shoshoni sacred site. The World Council of Churches theme of "Justice, Peace, and the Integrity of Creation" will be used as a focus.

•John Woolman School needs funds and students.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:30.

*Julie Russell
Recording Clerk*

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

First Day, the 7th of First Month, 1990

At Berkeley Friends Church

Barbara Voorhees Emmons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:45 A.M.

Twenty-seven Friends were present.

Minutes: December minutes were approved after one addition, that of Jane Wolff as coordinator for subscriptions to Friends Bulletin rather than the treasurer's handling this, and one correction, that rather than expand the Hospitality Committee next year, we would facilitate their work by filling two positions now vacant.

Clerk's Correspondence: Announcement of next summer's Friends General Conference, the theme "Time for Healing", has been received. It will be held in Northfield, Minnesota, from June 30 to July 7. Details are on the bulletin board. A letter from Burlington Monthly Meeting recording the acceptance of the transfer of membership for the McCandless family was sent, completing their transfer from Strawberry Creek.

Old Business: Meeting gave warm approval to the transfer of membership of Lee Andresen from Hayward Meeting.

Committee Reports: Peace and Social Order (Tom Whiteman): Friends are invited to a presentation of Bob Reis' travels through Central and South America, focussing particularly on accompanying Salvadoran repatriation efforts. It will be held Jan. 21; Berkeley Meeting and Berkeley Friends Church have been invited.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): Church workers are being expelled from El Salvador, and many refugees are fleeing, especially teenagers, unaccompanied. EBSC has started a weekly vigil in San Francisco. Contact Bob for information.

Religious Education (Michael Hartman): The committee has met several times over the month, including with Worship and Ministry committee (see W&M report). They read the Advices and Queries on Home and Family today, and would like to respond to them in Business Meeting in February.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): Our annual contribution to John Woolman School was paid, earlier than usual because of their critical financial situation. The Nicaraguan Sojourner fund is sending approximately \$2500.00

to Ericksons, \$1500.00 from the PYM Funds for Concerns, and an additional \$1000.00 raised in Strawberry Creek.

Worship and Ministry (Tom Whiteman): The committee reviewed Meeting for Worship and found that it continues to be marked by solid and reverent ministry. Twenty-two friends attended a special Thanksgiving Day worship at Barbara Graves' home.

Mid-week meeting for worship will continue, on Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:15pm.

The main focus of this month's meeting was on an analysis of what information we had available about the 3 and 4 year old First Day School concerns, in preparation for meeting jointly with Religious Education Committee. Julie Russell spent the first hour of the meeting with us, assisting us to focus more clearly on parental concerns.

Hospitality (Lou Ann Bieging): A new member and baby welcoming will be held Jan. 21, potluck lunch at the Biegings' home. Welcomed will be Susan Sanford, Julie Russell, George Russell, Mary Anderson, Pat Marrone, Lee Andresen, and baby Caroline McKusick.

Nominating (Ralph Murphy): PYM representative nominated for the coming year is Elsa Glines, advancing from Observer; new Observer nominated is Gerry Maynard.

Oversight (Jane Rubin): Following discussion of the ways we build the community of the Meeting, the Committee has scheduled Meetings for Sharing, in which we may talk over our life experiences and come to know each other in deeper ways. The first set is for February 11, taking up the experience of loss. Suggestions for topics to consider in this series are welcomed; contact an overseer with your thoughts.

Worship and Ministry (second installment of report by Joyce Samati, arriving after overcoming car trouble): Joint meetings of Religious Education and Worship and Ministry committees were held Dec. 17 and Jan. 4, well-attended by members of both committees. Meeting approved inserting the full report of their discussion and proposals in our minutes, as follows:

"Since our December Meeting for Business, the Religious Education & Worship & Ministry Committees have held 2 joint meetings, clerked respectively by Jane Rubin and Barbara Voorhees Emmons. These sessions have provided us a time for thoughtfully exploring together the concerns raised by the Religious Education Committee in the December Meeting for Business, gathering our understanding of the core issues & dynamics at hand, through the course of which we find ourselves in a new place.

"As a result, the Religious Education Committee's 3/4 year old class coordinator has written a revised statement, to supersede the one presented at the December Meeting for Business. I will read this in a moment, after which I will share the several recommendations which the committees jointly now propose to Meeting for Business for implementation. First, the revised statement from Religious Education:

"Dear Friends,

"After prayerful re-consideration of the decision reached by the Religious Education Committee last month, it is my recommendation that

we formally commit to a joint 3/4 year old program with Friends Church. Our committee's decision last month was based on a belief that the joint class was only an accomodation of the space crisis & that there were looming adult issues problematic to the continuation of a joint class. In a truthful re-examination of the results of 3 months of the joint class, light was shed on the goals set forth by the Religious Education Committee.

"Now we see that the class has met those goals. My responsibilities as coordinator are no different than they were at the beginning of the year when our program was separate from that of Friends Church. It is my responsibility to provide a safe environment for the children where there is a connection made lovingly with our Meeting in order to provide religious education. In the joint class a loving connection has been made both by adults from our Meeting & by Consuelo Carranza. My additional responsibility is to communicate regularly with Connie. It was the re-examination of our religious education goals which convinced me that our previous decision came out of an insufficient seasoning process. I have personally learned a lot about Quaker process from this experience.

"In summary, the purpose of this letter is to clarify what has happened in the joint 3/4 year old class & that our religious education goals have been met.

"Faithfully yours, George Russell,
"3/4 year old class coordinator,
"Religious Education Committee

"Continuing from this new place of understanding, these committees now recommend that, first, Monthly Meeting for Business empower the Meeting clerk, Barbara Voorhees Emmons, to select a planning group to develop a Saturday morning workshop with the goal of exciting and enabling Strawberry Creek adults to participate more fully in the lives of Strawberry Creek children, both as First Day School teachers and in general.

"Secondly, the committees recommend that, through the already-established channel, Worship and Ministry Committee, our Meeting pursue the idea of inviting the church to have some form of joint committee to facilitate mutual cooperation in general. This should be considered further by the Worship and Ministry Committee in its yearly review of our present contract, which will expire on March 31st.

"Finally, the committees encourage any individuals who find that they have a problem with the direction taken by the Religious Education Committee with regard to the current program, as reflected in this report, to bring their concerns directly to the Overseers. If anyone finds that his/her concerns are specifically spiritual in nature, s/he is encouraged to contact the Worship and Ministry Committee.

"I believe that it's essential that the full text of this report be included in the minutes for the Meeting, just as the previous statement was, so that it may be circulated to the community of Friends through the newsletter.

"With great appreciation to all those who have generously and fruitfully contributed their understanding toward the seasoning process of these ideas and proposed actions,

"Respectfully submitted by Joyce Samati,
"Worship and Ministry Committee Clerk"

(1) Meeting approved requesting the clerk, Barbara Voorhees Emmons, to select a planning group for developing a workshop whose goal will be to

enable Strawberry Creek adults to teach and participate in the lives of our children more fully. (2) We request the Worship and Ministry pursue the idea of inviting the Church to find a means for facilitating our mutual cooperation. (3) And we encourage individuals with concerns about this report, or specific spiritual concerns, to bring them to Oversight or Worship and Ministry Committees.

Friends responded with appreciation for the careful work and attention given by these committees and other persons involved, noting that the depth and complexity of questions had received consideration within a framework of trusting our intention to serve God, and loving care for one another, from which we find new creativity and alternatives able to arise.

We are aware of our interest in and need to examine our own beliefs together, to be aware of issues that require more attention, and that in our planning, we need adequate lead time in arranging First Day School programs. Having given extensive time to exploring by means of Quaker processes developed over many years, we are reminded of an excellent exposition of these in the book, Beyond Majority Rule, by Michael Sheeran.

Announcements: A question about the issuing of a minute on political action regarding El Salvador evoked responses that this concern forms part of the fabric of our Meeting's long involvement with Central American issues, which we also respond to in our individual lives and actions; and that sometimes these statements are useful to Yearly Meeting awareness of the views of monthly meetings.

The AFSC Annual Meeting will be held March 31, 9:30-5, at the First Unitarian Church, San Francisco.

Meeting closed at 1:05, with thanks from the clerk for the many efforts, personal and collective, exercised in caring for our Meeting community.

We ended in quiet together.

Andrea English
Substitute Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

First Day, the 4th of Second Month, 1990

At Berkeley Friends Church

Barbara Voorhees-Emmons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:45 A.M.

Thirty-three Friends were present.

Finance committee responded to the query, focussing on the goal of keeping or working toward simplicity in our lives, with two particular examples in Strawberry Creek. The job of our Religious Education Committee is not a simple one, and we would do well to remember the time when the Meeting was so small that everyone participated in First Day School, and consider ways to share the load equitably. The life of our Meeting is very much simplified by the fact that we do not own or have to maintain property.

Minutes: The January minutes were read and approved, with one correction of the amount delivered to our Nicaraguan Sojourners. \$2300.00 was delivered, \$800.00 from individual contributions to the fund. Brian and Patty's appreciation of the love and support of the Meeting was noted.

Clerk's Correspondence: • A request for transfer of membership from Hayward Meeting was received from Elsa Glines, requesting associate membership for her daughter, Melinda.

• College Park Friends Educational Association writes, requesting additional funds from individuals and Meetings for John Woolman School. It was expeditiously approved that Strawberry Creek send an additional \$100.00.

Old Business: • The clerk reported on the Ad Hoc Committee for Exciting the Adults on First Day School. Members of the committee are Dick Emmons, Karen Kersey, George Russell, Peter Trueblood, and Francia Welker, and the committee's first meeting is scheduled for this evening.

• The nominations of Elsa Glines as PYM Representative, and Gerry Maynard as PYM Observer were approved.

Committee Reports: Overseers (Jane Rubin): A letter was read from the marriage clearness committee for Mary Miche and Andrew Secrest, strongly recommending their marriage to the Meeting.

Peace and Social Order (Kate Buckner): The evening with Bob Reis on the situation in Central America was a great success, well-attended and

well organized. An informal subcommittee has been meeting to discuss the effects of drugs and addiction on our lives, and this minute is submitted:

"Those of us who have been meeting recognize the complexity of issues relating to drugs and addiction, and realize that we need to examine the roots of addiction in ourselves as well as in others. We see addiction as a signal of the loss of a spiritual connection in a materially oriented society, rather than a mere lack of self-control or physiological response to a substance. In a positive light, we think that awareness of our addictions can serve as a tool for self-knowledge.

"Some of the things we can do in our Meetings are to have open informal discussions, educating ourselves and our children as to the nature of addiction in so far as it is understood; and to foster an open loving willingness to understand the far-reaching consequences of addictions, to substances as well as less tangible areas of our lives, such as work, television, romance, etc.

"On a larger scale, we favor an expanded awareness of approaching the "drug problem" with love and understanding rather than punitive militaristic solutions. We feel it is important to realize that much of the nature of addiction is little understood, but that through loving and open communication perhaps healing can begin. With this in mind we will meet again on 26 February to plan an after-Meeting gathering and to continue our on-going discussion."

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): The repatriated communities are having a difficult time. Crops were destroyed in one. EBSC has three task forces: Media, Vigil, and Legislative. Vigils are held each week; call EBSC at 540-5296 for information. Several Strawberries marched in San Francisco on January 14 to protest aid to El Salvador.

Religious Education (Michael Hartman): The committee plans to start a policy to thank specifically those who have participated in First Day School, and did so. The query on Home and Children was considered yesterday, and was particularly appropriate for this committee. It brought up a sense of inadequacy about meeting the ideals of the query, but there was an awareness of a need to appreciate the reality of our lives.

Quarterly Meeting (Larry Perry): Quarterly Meeting focussed almost exclusively on the difficulties at John Woolman School. Next Quarterly Meeting will be the third weekend in May, at Ben Lomond.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): The Nicaraguan Sojourner fund has \$230 in it because of so many contributions being received on the morning that our courier was leaving, so will be paid at our next opportunity. The Meeting's certificate of deposit is due to turn over at the beginning of March, and at that point we will have the option of whether to take out the interest or turn it over in the account. Meeting approved leaving it in the account.

Worship and Ministry (Carl Anderson): It was noted that though ministry had many personal references, they did have the effect of deepening the quality of worship. Our connection with Friends Church was considered, particular areas to be aware of being peace and social order, work days, the Food Pantry, First Day School, summer barbecues, and adult

religious education. It was decided that an overall committee would be too cumbersome, and that a better idea would be to remind ourselves of opportunities to co-operate. With regards to First Day School, a subcommittee of the Religious Education and the Christian Education Committee for the classes which are joint seems best, hopefully not having to include the clerk of the Religious Education Committee, as that person's responsibilities are already considerable. Pending items to be reported on later are: (1) the renewal of the contract with Friends Church, (2) some ideas for adult education, a possible topic being a discussion of our various images or ideas of God, and (3) a pamphlet on vocal ministry.

Hospitality: Thanks were expressed for the welcoming on January 21st.

Nominating (Nancy O'Sullivan): The committee is concerned about the title and the impression of what is now called the "Fun" Committee. It was proposed that the committee be returned to being one committee, acknowledging the significance of the hospitality the "Fun" committee provides. A new job description for the Hospitality Committee was offered. The responsibility of visiting members who are sick or in difficulty is to be shifted to Oversight, as a function which is neither particularly fun, nor one of hospitality.

Retreat (Barb Tittle): The annual weekend retreat is scheduled for the first weekend in May. Those with concerns may contact the committee. Meeting for Business will be the same weekend. How to participate in both challenges our adherence to the query on simplicity.

New Business: An Ad Hoc Committee to Write the State of the Society Report was approved, members being Andrea English, Jonathan Taylor, and Andrew Secrest.

Announcements: • Friends Church workdays are scheduled for March 10, June 9, August 14, and October 13.

• Mary Miche announced a walkathon for bringing awareness of services for the homeless in Berkeley on March 17th.

• PYM will be in Chico, July 30th through August 3rd.

• The 9, 10, 11, & 12-year-old First Day School Group will be serving lunches to the homeless in Richmond from 11 to 1 on first days, starting Easter Sunday.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 12:51.

Julie Russell

Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

First Day, the 4th of Third Month, 1990

At Berkeley Friends Church

Barbara Voorhees-Emmons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 A.M.

Twenty-five Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes for 2nd month were read and approved, with the correction of one of the work day dates--August 4, not 14.

Clerk's Correspondence: • A letter from Brian Erickson thanks Strawberry Creek for its support, appreciating this "small group with a big hand."

• Betty Hall writes, remembering fondly the changes she has seen during the years she has been involved with Strawberry Creek, and requesting transfer of her membership to Redwood Forest Meeting. Her request was reluctantly approved, with an agreement to have her continue as an honorary member.

Old Business: The marriage of Mary Miche and Andrew Secrest was enthusiastically approved. Their marriage is to be under the care of both Strawberry Creek Meeting and Friends Church.

Committee Reports: Nominating (Ralph Murphy): A new job description was proposed for the Hospitality Committees, retaining two committees, one called the Applejuice Committee, whose job will be to provide refreshments during the visiting time after Meeting. The Hospitality Committee will have the job of providing a strong sense of community among the Meeting by creating ways for members, guests, and attenders to get to know each other, welcoming guests and inviting them to sign the guest book, and arranging times of welcome for new members and new babies in the Meeting.

Oversight (Jane Rubin): The membership committee for Elsa Glines will consist of David Leonard and Gerry Maynard. The Meetings for Sharing are a great success, next being April 22nd with addictions as a topic, at the request of PSOC. In May, work issues are proposed as a topic.

Peace and Social Order (Tom Whiteman): PSO's vision of a Meeting for Sharings on addiction relates not only to drugs, alcohol and tobacco. Included could be the many manifestations of addiction and related behaviors of co-dependency, and personal experiences of obstacles to connection, with the Spirit and with each other. Two weeks from now, about

4 Strawberries plan to attend the Nevada Desert Action organized by PYM, Bretheren, and Mennonites, and ask that we hold them in the Light.

Two requests for financial support have been received, the first from EBSC (see EBSC report). The second request is from the Friend in the Orient Project Fund of PYM. They are looking forward to assisting Russ and Verna Curtis to spend some time in Micronesia to learn how Friends and other concerned people can support the islanders' aspirations for independence, peace, and resistance to any nuclear presence. A notice will be posted so that friends may send contributions if they are so led.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): There are severe problems in the repatriated communities; direct bombings and strafing people travelling to get health care. EBSC has approved supporting activists or their families to leave El Salvador, so that their energies are not split by worry about their safety. Meeting approved including information on how to contribute in the next newsletter, and posting it on the Strawberry Creek bulletin boards. A march is planned in San Francisco on March 24 and 25.

Religious Education (Michael Hartman): Thanks were expressed to each of the 11 individuals who assisted in the First Day School classes in February. Concern was expressed that children need continuity of teachers, and that commitments of a month or more suit their needs best, especially the younger groups. A complaint has been received from Connie and Faith that this has been a problem in the 3/4 group, particularly in December. Teachers of the classes need to arrive early so that they can set up and be ready to greet their students 15 minutes before Meeting starts.

Next week after the rise of Meeting, the 9,10,11,& 12 group will present a skit of an incident in George Fox's life, adapted by David Leonard. Flyers were distributed to encourage participation in the program on March 31st, which is designed to identify and learn specific ways that adults can contribute and connect with our children in First Day School.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): The month's activity was fairly simple, the difference between contributions and expenses being somewhat distressing. The treasurer was encouraged to remind members and attenders that contributions are needed, either regularly or not. It was noted that the Church is planning to get curtains for the west windows of the Fellowship Hall, without requesting assistance from Strawberry Creek.

Worship and Ministry (Joyce Samati): Gratitude was expressed for Nelson Mandela's release, his witness, and the spirit of nonviolence in the world at this time. Leslie Leonard brought a concern to the committee that adult education could serve seekers and the deepening of relationships better if there were more continuity than we have in single meetings with a different topic each time. Barbara Graves will introduce and facilitate a discussion after Meeting on April 8 on the subject of Quaker theology. Some issues in our contract are of concern to Friends Church, and will be discussed at the next committee meeting before renewal, but we are assured that the contract will not expire abruptly. A suggestion to change the date of the May Meeting for Business to May 13th was made and approved.

Ad Hoc, for Writing the State of the Society Report (Andrea English): All are invited to an after-Meeting discussion about our experience of Strawberry Creek on March 25 to aid in the writing of the report.

Announcements: • Tom Whiteman informed us that he and his wife are getting divorced. While the process is proceeding amiably, each family member is experiencing significant personal grief and apprehension about the future. Though difficult, Tom feels sure that this action comes from a deeply centered truth.

• John Swomley, past Executive Secretary of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, will speak on Friday, March 30, at 8 pm, at the First Congregational Church in Berkeley. The topic is to be "Peace Strategy in the Post Cold War Era."

• Karen Kersey's mother passed away recently, and her father is ill.

• The AFSC is monitoring plans for an execution which is planned at San Quentin in early April. Concern is high, we expect to hear from them when a date is set.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 12:40.

Julie Russell

Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

First Day, the 1st of Fourth Month, 1990

At Berkeley Friends Church

Barbara Voorhees-Emmons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 A.M.

Twenty-seven Friends were present.

Retreat Committee responded to the query on equality with an observation that at the worldly level, our efforts to treat others equally are disrupted by differences in money and power. The spiritual level is a higher level at which to strive for an attitude of equality.

Minutes: The minutes for March were read and approved, with the acknowledgment that the changes proposed by Nominating Committee were approved.

Clerk's Correspondence: A letter from Jim Doherty was read, requesting membership in Strawberry Creek.

Old Business: Peter Trueblood reported on yesterday's event to excite the adults to participate in First Day School. It was well-attended, by about 44 adults and children, and consisted of a keynote speaker on child development, a dinner prepared and served by the children, and a discussion of ideas and goals that we have for our First Day School. Some important ideas were: the significance of building adult/child relationships (learning their names and more), suggestions for inclusion of the children in meeting for worship, the need for materials (children learn by doing), curriculum, thoughtful preparation, arriving well before the hour of worship on days teaching, co-teaching as a way to help more adults become comfortable in the classrooms, and the significance of providing the children with many ideas of belief and faith, so that when their own search begins, they will have ideas from which to start.

Committee Reports: Hospitality (Lou Ann Bieging): Easter Sunday there will be a breakfast at Friends Church at about 8 am. A gathering is planned for May to make new friends, and say good-bye to some others.

Nominating (Ralph Murphy): Proposed nominations for the terms beginning in June were distributed. Those with concerns or cold feet, please contact someone on the committee.

Ad Hoc, for Writing the State of the Society Report (Andrea English): The first draft was read and a few suggestions were made. The final draft will be read next month.

Oversight (David Leonard): The associate membership of Melinda Glines and the membership of Elsa Glines were recommended as a piece of good fortune for Strawberry Creek. Susan Burr will be clerk of the Arrangements Committee for the Miche/Secrest wedding, which is to take place on May 28th. A Meeting for Sharing on work issues is planned for Sunday, June 3rd.

Pacific Yearly Meeting (Elsa Glines): The representatives met, hearing many more ideas than could be included in the program for the year. PYM will be July 30 to August 4, with an excellent program for children. Those with ideas of how we can encourage families to attend, please contact Elsa Glines.

Peace and Social Order (Tom Whiteman): The committee is preparing for the Meeting for Sharing on addiction issues. Looking toward next year, how to participate in the peace dividend is being considered, perhaps in a forum on the economics of peace. Tom also gave a report of the action at Yucca Mountain last month, with a description of the dangers of using the site as a disposal site for plutonium wastes and the beauty of the worship of trespass, clearly demonstrating that action and worship are identical.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laurie Doyle): A delegation is going to the bombed area in El Salvador, as witness. \$1600 was raised for Exodus 1990, to help activists or their families leave El Salvador. The march in San Francisco was attended by 5,000-10,000 people, depending on whose reports one reads, which was felt to be a good turnout. The De Concini bill (co-sponsored by Cranston), regarding suspending deportation of refugees who are seeking political asylum, is before Congress. Those concerned are urged to write Pete Wilson. Violence in Guatemala is escalating; a teacher's strike in 1989, 2 leaders were pursued and found dead in Mexico City, the crossing of borders being a major concern, and medical treatment is being refused to anyone who might be a terrorist from El Salvador. Victor is back in the area, and though his paperwork is done, he still must wait two months before going to Canada, and needs work while he is here.

Religious Education (George Russell): Those who taught or assisted in First Day School in March were thanked, and the clerk expressed his gratitude to the Ad Hoc Committee. A 2nd annual coast camp outing is in the planning stages, probably in July. Special appreciation was expressed for Jon Berry's contribution to the 5/6 First Day School class.

Retreat (Dick Emmons): The spring retreat at Ben Lomond will be May 4-6. Information and registration forms are in the newsletter.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): This month, there was more income than outgo, and the insurance was paid.

Worship and Ministry (Tom Whiteman): The committee met with Sally Williams and Faith Jensen to review the relationship of the Christian

Education Committee and Friends Church to the Religious Education Committee and Strawberry Creek. The Church has a need for a First Day School which would translate their Christ-centered theology, which at present is adequately answered, both in terms of space and theological concerns. There was a strong recommendation that the mutual concerns might be met much better by getting to know each other better as Friends and as friends and neighbors. There is a consensus to invite the Religious Education Committee to meet with the Christian Education Committee to interpret the history of the CEC's concern, particularly as it relates to the Church's longstanding commitment to offering a Christ-centered message from Christ-centered teachers. Two elders are to be appointed by each meeting/church, as facilitators for the processes recommended to the congregations. These liaisons in Strawberry Creek will be the clerk of Worship and Ministry and the co-clerk of Religious Education Committee.

There was some discussion of our contract with Friends Church, including that there is no mention of space requirements for First Day School, or termination notice time. We rely on good faith rather than the letter of the contract, though some specifics (a year's notice) were offered as expectations, in that reduction of First Day School space would be practically identical to termination of our contract at this point. The Church agrees to give timely notice of any changes in space available for First Day School classes. Though there is no need to approve the contract with Friends Church, as there are no substantive changes this year, continuing with the contract was approved.

Dates were proposed and approved for summer Meetings for Business as follows: June 10th, July 22nd, September 9th, and returning to the usual on October 7th. Strawberry Creek has been asked to exercise key control for the west door to the Fellowship Hall. All who have a key, please speak to Joyce Samati. When planning extra events, be sure to check with the Church for rent and scheduling purposes.

Announcements: Quaker Heritage Days, the retreat at Ben Lomond, and College Park Quarterly Meeting were announced. Next Meeting for Business will be the 13th of Fifth Month at Friends Church.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:35.

Julie Russell

Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

First Day, the 13th of Fifth Month, 1990

At Berkeley Friends Church

Barbara Voorhees-Emmons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 A.M.

Twenty-three Friends were present.

Minutes: The Worship and Ministry report for April should have said that scheduling of extra events at the Church should be handled through Joyce Samati or a member of Worship and Ministry. The sentence regarding (possible future) reduction of First Day School space should read "would create serious difficulties for our program." The minutes were approved as corrected.

Clerk's Correspondence: •A letter of appreciation was received from Rosemary Peterson, for the gift of flowers after her lecture on child development.

•A letter was received from John Bird, requesting the transfer of his membership back to Berkeley Friends Meeting.

Old Business: •The nominations for 1990-91 terms were read and approved. The presence of the alternate clerk as an ex-officio member of Worship and Ministry was missed, then was identified as being at the discretion or pleasure of the clerk of the Meeting.

•The State of the Society report was read, minor changes made, and approved with strong appreciation of its content and eloquence.

•The membership of Elsa Glines and Associate Membership of Melinda Glines were heartily approved, wishing them well among us.

Committee Reports: Hospitality (Julie Russell for Lou Ann Bieging): There will be no May event as previously announced, as the success of the retreat leaves little need for another event so soon.

Overseers (Susan Burr): The marriage of Mary Miche and Andrew Secrest will be at 10:30 am on May 28th. There will be a Meeting for Sharing on June 3rd after Meeting, focussing on the inner experience of the workplace, the fun and the difficulties, and whether work is expressive of self. A joint meeting of the old and new Oversight Committees will be this week. Susan is the new clerk.

Pacific Yearly Meeting (Gerry Maynard): Do plan to go to PYM. Information and registration forms will be in the next Bulletin. The location is in question--perhaps it will be in La Verne. Friends were encouraged to consider Friends General Conference, which is held the first week of July in Northfield, Minnesota.

Peace and Social Order (Tom Whiteman): The committee would like to identify an interest group of those with concerns about capital punishment, toward the possibility of planning an appropriate response for the next time an execution is announced by the State of California. Please contact a member of the committee. A letter has been drafted to Mikhail Gorbachev urging him to settle differences with Lithuania nonviolently, as confrontation weakens the policy of glasnost. It has been translated with care by Carl Anderson, and sent to the consulate in Washington, DC.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): CRECE, a group of Central American refugees meeting their own needs and educating the American public about their situation, has been harrassed by the Salvadoran Consul General since the Arena party member started there. They are falsely accused of allowing people to stay at the temporary housing too long, and forcing them to take part in political action. There have been death threats against refugees in L.A., but not in the Bay Area, as awareness seems to be higher here. HR4636, an amendment before Congress which cuts aid to El Salvador by 50%, based on human rights improvement, is being discussed in the Rules Committee. Exodus 1990 has collected \$2200 of the \$2500 pledged.

Religious Education (Andrea English): The committee thanked the many adults who participated in First Day School this month. Alex Henry, who takes care of the babies in the nursery, is graduating from high school, and will be working through August, then moving on. There is a search for a replacement in progress. (The Chinese woman who was expected to start in June at the time of this Meeting was soon considered a dubious candidate.) Peter Trueblood will co-ordinate the summer program in the park this year, and will need four volunteers to assist each First Day. The committee is trying to get an estimate of numbers of kids for the fall; please sign up. The committee considered the query on Witness and saw it as a major part of what First Day School is about--the essential quality of how we teach and behave with our children. Finding Truth goes hand in hand with witnessing and speaking about it, each being incomplete without the others.

Retreat (Dick Emmons): The retreat at Ben Lomond was a great success, with 40 adults and 20 children, though some were not happy with the theme. \$1999 was collected, and expenses were 2105.68, the deficit of 106.68 being due primarily to a number of cancellations in the last week (something to avoid in the future if possible). Money was lost on the food budget, but \$56 has already been collected to make up the deficit. The children's program was a triumph, earning the praise, "The older you get, the more fun it is." Thanks to Dick Emmons, Jonathan Taylor, and John McCarthy for their work with the older kids, and a special letter of thanks is to be sent to Tanya Rabbit for her special knowledge of our kids' needs and joys.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): This month's report is the six-month report, reflecting figures half way through the fiscal year. Income is

slightly under half, and expenses slightly over. The expense of extra meetings, though over the budget for the entire year, can be absorbed in other ways, and is considered a happy occurrence.

Worship and Ministry (Gerry Maynard): The committee is excited about the results of the Meeting for Sharing on Theology, and will joyfully listen to ideas sparked during or after that discussion. To nurture the interest, those who are excited by the ideas are encouraged to connect with each other. A transcript of questions and notions was in last month's newsletter. Many arriving early at Meeting is resulting in an earlier, deeper silence, which is good, but creating difficulties for those arriving on time as they enter and find seats. Please leave spaces on the aisles, especially near the door.

Announcements: There will be a work day at Friends Church on Saturday, June 9, from about 9:30 to 4:00. Weeding, painting and general maintenance are excellent opportunities for fellowship with our neighbors, and a good lunch is served.

We closed in silence at 12:45.

Julie Russell

Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

First Day, the 10th of Sixth Month, 1990

At Berkeley Friends Church

Andrea English, Alternate Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:45 A.M.

Twenty-one friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes for May were read and approved, with the deletion of the parenthetical sentence about the candidate for nursery position.

Clerk's Correspondence: Stephanie Kennedy's request for membership was recieved and forwarded to Overseers.

Committee Reports: Worship and Ministry (Carl Anderson): Mid-week Meeting for Worship will continue indefinitely, Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:15pm at the home of Andrea English. Next Meeting for Business will be July 22nd, there will be none in August, and September's will be on the 9th, the week after Labor Day. When the question of the schedule of the queries was brought up, it was brought to light that the queries in Faith and Practice are written to avoid the possibility of a Quaker liturgical calendar, so it is not surprising that we are considering different queries than Berkeley Friends Meeting and Palo Alto Meeting this month. The method of assigning queries to various committees for consideration with an option to respond after opening worship of Meeting for Business has been going well, and will continue. Assignment of queries to committees over the next year is planned for this week's Worship and Ministry meeting.

Hospitality (Caroline Duhem): There will be no joint potlucks with Friends Church this summer, as they are not changing their hour of worship for the summer as they have in the past. In our exuberance during the fellowship hour after worship through the summer, we need to be mindful that they will still be worshipping.

Nominating (Francina Welker): Caroline Duhem is nominated as a candidate for Religious Education Committee for the term of 1990-91.

Overseers (Susan Burr): The membership committee for Jim Doherty will consist of Jim Kimball, Kate Buckner, and Jim Barnard as clerk. The marriage of Mary Miche and Andrew Secrest was completed with joy on Memorial Day--the rain even stopped! Clearness committees are available to those who would like assistance in reaching clearness on personal matters, not just for those getting married or considering membership. One such was

formed this month. The Meeting for Sharing on work issues deepened another aspect of our knowing each other and our connection. Another on addictions is planned for June 24th, a follow-up of the one initiated by PSOC, as there was so much interest last time that not everyone got to speak.

Pacific Yearly Meeting will be in LaVerne this summer, and is an excellent way to begin to feel a part of the greater group of Friends. Those interested should contact Gerry Maynard or Elsa Glines.

Peace and Social Order (Tom Whiteman): The last meeting focussed on the nuclear freeze issue in the recent election. A forum on re-ordering national budgetary priorities is being planned, entitled "The Economics of Peace Today". It will be in September to leave time for action before the end of this Congressional session, and it will be a joint effort with Berkeley Friends Meeting and perhaps Friends Church. Lee Andresen encouraged support of Bill 2180 in the California Senate, sponsored by Bill Lockyer, which provides job counseling and support pre- and post-release from state prisons.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laura Cornell): EBSC has raised its \$2500 goal for donating to Exodus 1990 toward helping to relocate a family working with ADEMUSA, a women's organization in El Salvador. The addendum to the bill in Congress which cut aid to El Salvador by 50% was passed by a large margin, but only symbolically as the bill itself was voted down. Even so, it was encouraging, and those interested can still support their representatives to cut aid to El Salvador, as there are two more votes during this session, in June and August. Irene Litherland of EBSC is trying to determine whether there is sufficient interest for a workshop by Father Miguel Ventura, who has worked with Liberation Theology in the repopulated communities in El Salvador, and who has expressed interest in working with North Americans, perhaps in October.

Religious Education (Caroline Duhem): The summer program begins next Sunday, with the kids meeting at Cedar Rose Park, so take your chance for a good time by signing up with Peter Trueblood. Babies will still be at the Church, and someone else will be at the Church to meet latecomers and children of newcomers and take them to the park. Be sure to sign in the kids who are dropped off at the park. A summer camping weekend is in the works and plans are moving forward for the fall, ascertaining how many kids will be in each group and who will be teaching.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): Things look good, with \$625 income and \$350 paid out this month. An anonymous check was received to cover the deficit for the retreat.

Announcements: •There will be a show of Patti Erickson's paintings on June 23rd, from 10am to 2pm. Jim Doherty is collecting recorded messages for Brian and Patti on a cassette tape.

•The Food Pantry is very much in need of help, especially in the form of volunteers. Hours have had to be cut recently, from 2-5pm to 2-4pm, weekdays, as there have not been enough people to work. Contributions may be sent to the Church, earmarked "Food Pantry".

•Passages this spring are many: Alex Henry, James Leonard, Toki Emmons, and Melinda Glines have graduated from high school, Andrea English

and Andrew Secrest have completed nursing school, Lauren Herbert has completed her medical residency, Kate Buckner has finished her paralegal training, Andrew Dientsfry has graduated from college, Elizabeth Perry completed a Master's in Library Science, and Margot Leverett has completed a degree in occupational therapy.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 12:55.

Julie Russell

Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

First Day, the 22nd of Seventh Month, 1990

At Berkeley Friends Church

Barbara Voorhees-Emmons, Clerk, Presiding

Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 A.M.

About twenty Friends were present.

Leslie Leonard read the response of the Finance committee to the query on stewardship. Some things to consider are: how we recognize and support each other's gifts; how we draw on the gathered experience for connection to Christ and/or our political witness; and how we care for our selves to maintain our strength to carry out our witness. Guilt can be induced by the queries, but "all we possess are gifts of god" provides gentle reassurance that our choices and priorities are to be discovered amidst the bounty and challenge of creation. Our stewardship is enhanced when we participate in our community, contributing our special gifts and drawing from the gathered experience as we follow our leadings to care for our fellow creatures.

Minutes: The minutes for Sixth month were read and approved as written.

Clerk's Correspondence: Nancy Jackson wrote requesting membership for herself, and associate membership for Summer and Casey, her two children.

Old Business: The nomination of Caroline Duhem to Religious Education Committee was approved with appreciation.

Committee Reports: Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): A report was passed around, showing us two-thirds of the way through the year, and at a reasonable point in expenditures and income for the year.

Worship and Ministry (Barbara Graves): Copies of the draft of the committee's new pamphlet on ministry were brought to Meeting today and snapped up. The citing of sources will be more specific in the final version. There will be a series of informal meetings between those who are fairly new to the Meeting and some who have been around Quakers and Quakerism longer for the purpose of dialogue and conversation about Quakerism and/or personal spiritual journeys. They will be at the home of Barbara Graves, and hosted by Barbara and Andrea English, each Sunday evening in September except the first. Strawberry Creek's pamphlet on Meeting for Business has been re-issued, and will be available soon. A study group for adult education is being formed, with Leslie Leonard as

convener, probably to start after the September gatherings. There will be a discussion of ideas, inspirations and desires for such a group after Meeting on Sunday, August 12. Those interested who cannot make it that day, please contact Leslie Leonard.

Finance (Leslie Leonard): Next month will be the initial reading of the budget for 1990-91. Committees will be contacted to find out what their needs are for the upcoming year. If information is needed as to how committees have spent this past year, please contact Leslie. Contributions to the general fund over the past year have come from 66 families, 34 of whom are members. This indicates that nearly half of our supporters (of the financial sort) are non-members. As a measuring stick of participation by non-members, this is very good. With our budget as small as it is, our needs are met by contributions of \$200 per member per year. Other types of participation in the life of the Meeting are appreciated, too.

The committee would like members to consider the following items in preparation for discussion of the budget for the next fiscal year:

1. Our Meeting has customarily set aside resources to make small donations to organizations which are of particular interest to our members. What is the meaning, to our Monthly Meeting, of such small contributions? Are there concerns within the sphere of our Meeting which might benefit from these resources?
2. To what extent do we account for our allocation of financial resources based on our income? Is there a process that might be implemented that reserves certain "mandatory" budget items and identifies others that could be contingent on surplus income?

Oversight (Lois Hoxie): The Meetings for Sharing on Addictions are considered very successful and are expected to continue.

Pacific Yearly Meeting (Elsa Glines): PYM starts July 30th. Patti Erickson has requested that her pictures be shown at PYM, as a way to communicate their experience, and their appreciation of the support received from PYM.

Peace and Social Order (Tom Whiteman): The forum on the economics of peace is tentatively set for Sunday, September 23rd. Julian Fredericks will be co-ordinating Strawberry Creek's part in it, and would like another Strawberry to help. There is interest in education and sharing about the situation in Iran, particularly considering the similarities to Central American social and political issues with which we are more familiar. Expect an event in late fall or early winter. PSOC will be tracking the movements of Father Ventura, and will announce where he can be heard when he is in the area in October.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laurie Doyle): Some good news--In Congress, the House has voted to cut aid to El Salvador by 50%. The Senate appropriations bill is now being written, so now is a particularly good time to contact Senators Wilson, Cranston, and Mitchell (D-Maine, the Senate majority leader) to promote a rational governmental attitude toward Central America. The National University re-opened in San Salvador in June. It is encouraging that the Arena party and the FMLN have met, though not much came of their initial meeting. And some less pleasant news--CRECE, an organization working for refugee rights in the Bay area, has

received a lot of harrassment from the consulate and the Spanish press in San Francisco. EBSC would like to have a representative from CRECE speak to us to present their side of the story. Though it is a good sign that elections are planned in Guatemala in November, human conditions there are not good. It used to be all right for residents of the Bay Area to sponsor refugees, which was particularly advantageous for teenagers, but that is not legal anymore. EBSC is still doing well financially, as well as spiritually and socially.

Religious Education (Francia Welker): Alex Henry will be leaving the infant care position soon, and Mindy Brown will replace him. \$50 has been budgeted for a gift to express our appreciation of Alex's reliability, sensitivity and love of our children. Plans for a camp-out turned into a one day hike at Point Reyes, which was very enjoyable. Perhaps there will be a picnic in the fall. The summer program is going well. On June 28th, there will be a meeting between Strawberry Creek and Friends Church to consider content and space needs for First Day School programs. As it looks now, space will be quite sufficient for the fall. The infant care will be shared; the 3-to-5-year-old group will be joint, co-ordinated by Caroline Duhem; Strawberry Creek will have room for two classes, the 1st and 2nd graders, and the 3rd and 4th graders; and for the 5th through 7th grades, Peter Trueblood and Dorothy Kakamoto will organize a program, either joint or alternating weeks. Locations are being considered for the high school group. The ease of this situation represents a change in attitude by the Church. The Christocentric content of classes has become much less of an issue, and there is much more trust on the part of the Church of what Strawberry Creek is doing--a better feeling all around. Arturo and Connie Corranza left Friends Church in May and the Church is searching for a new pastor.

Announcements: John McCandless, the father of Chris McCandless, died recently. The Meeting decided to send a letter of sympathy.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 12:55.

Julie Russell

Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 9th of Ninth Month, 1990
At Berkeley Friends Church

Barbara Voorhees Emmons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 A.M.

Twenty-three Friends and one infant were present.

Minutes The minutes of the 7th-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, with the following corrections: • Dorothy Kakimoto's name was misspelled; • the unfortunate juxtaposition of the final two sentences under Religious Education, about Arturo and Connie Corranza's move and about Strawberry-Church relations, seems to imply a connection where none was intended nor felt, plus the search announcement is premature: the final sentence is to be struck.

Clerk's Correspondence • Clerk has received a request for membership from Caroline Duhem; this was forwarded to Oversight.

• Clerk has received a request from Francia Welker for transfer of her membership to Strawberry Creek from Homewood Monthly Meeting in Maryland; this was forwarded to Oversight.

• *Friends Journal* is offering special meeting-sponsored student (or similar) subscriptions for ten dollars the school year; interested parties are to approach the Clerk.

Committee Reports • Finance (Jed Appelman, with Leslie Leonard): The proposed 1990-91 budget is attached, together with the July/August Treasurer's Report; the committee extends special thanks to Leslie Leonard and her report-generating software for their help.

Religious Education noted that a salary for a second child care provider had been budgeted last year, which was not needed, and proposed a reduced committee budget of \$1200.00.

The Brinton Visitor contribution, not needed last year, will be this year; a line item of \$100.00 was proposed.

The rent increase is anticipatory.

The Miscellaneous Administrative Expenses amount, largely spent on postage, is proving inadequate; the Treasurer proposed an increase to \$125.00.

The proposed budget, as amended, is to be seasoned; it amounts to about \$215.00 per member. We will need to immediately raise \$2100.00 to

\$2500.00 to achieve equity, leaving us with the roughly \$3000.00 carryover with which we started the year. Meeting approved a mailing to remind Strawberries of the Meeting's needs.

General discussion focused on two issues, the first being whether we should consider lowering budgets across the board to more genuinely reflect amounts spent, or whether we should leave committees with their present "breathing room". No change was made, but Clerk and Treasurer noted that increases can be requested and approved during the year, so committees needn't plan precisely. The second issue concerns our method of budgeting outreach donations: are these mere token amounts; should we instead contribute more meaningfully to needs very close to us; are we falsely assuaging our consciences without taking significant action; should we make a habit of contributing to felt needs through Meeting, or would this tend to make others feel the matter is taken care of; should we involve ourselves and our children more actively in our outreach? Finance Committee is to address these concerns and report back.

Treasurer also circulated the report for July and August (attached). Income of \$938.15 and expenses of \$1189.16 brought the general fund balance from \$2486.19 to \$2235.18 (having started the fiscal year with \$2914.56); retreat funds stand at \$224.47; the Sojourners' fund increased from \$925.00 to \$950.00.

- Worship and Ministry (Clifford Ham, with Carl Anderson): The recent quality of worship was discussed; representatives of Oversight participated. We need to repair the door from the ramp. Leslie Leonard's adult program will be starting. Meetings for Sharing will be held at Barbara Graves's 9/23 9/30 and 10/7. The 1990-91 edition of our lease, entitled "Terms and Guidelines for Arrangements with Strawberry Creek Meeting", is attached. Basic rent is to increase to \$280.00 per month from \$250.00; use of downstairs rooms above the minimum will cost \$12.00, up from \$10.00. Meeting approved the new lease. Latecomers to Meeting for Worship are a concern: a recent meeting started the hour with fifteen present, reaching thirty by 10:30 and forty-five to fifty by the close.

- Oversight (Susan Burr): The Committee for Membership of Jim Doherty met with him on two occasions and reported, recommending his membership; likewise the Committee for Membership of Stephanie Kennedy reported, recommending her membership strongly as well; these will be seasoned. A Committee for Membership has been formed for Nancy Jackson including Lois Hoxie, Carl Anderson and Mary Mikesell. Interest continues in the series of meetings on addiction; the format and purpose are under discussion. Lois Hoxie is returning to work after her cardiac problems (fibrillation episodes); she has a strong sense of her continuing life as a gift.

- Pacific Yearly Meeting (Elsa Glines, Jerry Maynard): A glowing report; next year will be Chico; quite a few Strawberries were in evidence. The University of California's weapons labs contract is a major focus of concern

and action. PYM is slowly considering the issue of joining Friends General Conference.

- Peace and Social Order (Tom Whiteman): The forum on "The Economics of Peace", sponsored jointly by Strawberry Creek Meeting, Berkeley Friends Church and Berkeley Friends Meeting, will be held 9/16; the Unitarian Fellowships were also invited. Tom next discussed a letter (attached) from the American Friends Service Committee requesting specific information on Strawberry Creek's stance regarding contested immigration law: this is for purposes of their appeal, in connection with our *amicus* brief. He also read our original minutes from 4/2/89. Meeting approved answering that we have no minute of non-compliance with employer sanctions; that we do have a minute *in support of* non-compliance with employer sanctions; and that we have no policy of non-compliance when hiring new employees (since we have no employees); the matter was remanded to committee.

- East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): Bob mentioned legislative bills in need of support. Help is needed for a project providing food for East Bay refugees; an "art night" fund raiser was announced.

- Religious Education (Andrea English): The Emmonses' annual pool-and-potluck bash was announced for later the same afternoon. Mindy Brown is the new infant care provider. Friends Church is generously providing the pastor's study for the use of the high school group. Parents are encouraged to bring children by 9:45 and settle them by 9:50 so that programs can use the full hour and so that they can join Meeting for Worship in time to settle. We are encouraged to help with teaching.

Announcements • Barbara Graves introduced the long-awaited pamphlet on vocal ministry, noting that much reading about vocal ministry cannot compare with deep reflection on the few central truths of Quaker worship.

- Next Meeting for Business will be held at 11:40 AM the 7th of 10th Month at Berkeley Friends Church.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:23 P.M.

Kenneth Orvis
for the Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

First Day, the 7th of Tenth Month, 1990

At Berkeley Friends Church

Andrea English, Alternate Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 A.M.

Fifteen Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes of the 9th-Monthly Meeting were read and approved with the following corrections: •In the Worship and Ministry discussion of the quality of worship, only one member of the Oversight Committee participated; •Joyce Samati will be on Nancy Jackson's membership committee instead of Mary Mikesell.

Old Business: The memberships of Jim Doherty and Stephanie Kennedy, having been seasoned, were enthusiastically approved.

The budget was approved as ammended in last month's minutes, with special thanks to the Finance Committee.

New Business: •Jed Appelman and Barbara Graves were nominated to be the Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee.

•Barbara Graves questioned how many people feel the loss of attending Meeting for Worship because they are downstairs teaching First Day School. A few ideas were discussed of alternate ways of organizing First Day School and the worship hour and their relationship. Religious Education and/or Worship and Ministry Committees will consider this matter.

Committee Reports: Religious Education (Andrea English): The materials closet for First Day School was cleaned out, some materials were restocked, and some curriculum materials were discovered. The left side of the closet now has Strawberry Creek's materials. Members and attenders are encouraged to consider teaching First Day School; to decide which month and age group is most appropriate and to contact the group co-ordinator. The children from preschool age and up came to the last 15 minutes of Meeting for Worship today. The committee is planning for their coming in on a regular basis, so please feel free to express concerns or comments.

Worship and Ministry (Barbara Graves and Joyce Samati): The committee is very enthusiastic about the plans for the two adult education groups that Leslie Leonard and Mary Miche and Andrew Secrest will be convening. A sign will be posted on the door of the Fellowship Hall encouraging

latecomers to consider the advantages of prompt arrival. The home gatherings about Quakers and Quakerism have been valuable. The pamphlet on vocal ministry compiled by W&M was included in last month's newsletter for our perusal. A request was received from an English Friend for a room to stay in during a visit; Barbara Graves will follow up this request. The Friend in the Orient Committee of PYM informs us that Russ and Verna Curtis will be available to tell us about their travels between mid-October and early November. Some possible locations were volunteered, and plans were made to co-ordinate an evening with Berkeley Friends Meeting and Friends Church.

Peace and Social Order (Jane Terry): A panel discussion on Repression and Social Disorder in Iran will be presented on Saturday, November 10. Details are in the newsletter.

The panel discussion on Peace Conversion on September 16th was very stimulating. Speaking were Dave Hartsough from AFSC, Carl Anthon from the Center for Economic Conversion, and Charles Schwartz from UC Berkeley.

A letter was received from the AFSC regarding a Supreme Court decision (Oregon vs. Smith) which potentially could drastically reduce religious freedom in this country. The case concerned an Indian who uses peyote in his religious observances, but as written by the Supreme Court, could outlaw such practices as Catholic communion, circumcision, and the wearing of skull caps by Jewish high school students. We are urged to contact our Congressional representatives in support of the Religious Restoration Act (HR 5377).

Marin Meeting has sent us a minute regarding the mid-east crisis, emphasizing opposition to military aggression and to the inclusion of food and medicines in the embargo, and the importance of supporting the peace-keeping efforts of the United Nations.

A march and rally entitled "No War for Big Oil" was announced for October 20th in San Francisco.

Redwood Forest Meeting has sent a list of this year's ballot measures for the state election on November 6th. It includes recommendations from the Friends Committee on Legislation, the League of Women Voters, Common Cause, ACLU, NOW and other groups.

The next P&SO meeting will be on Monday, November 5, at the Samati's.

Quarterly Meeting will be October 18, 19, and 20. John Punshon is an eagerly anticipated speaker.

Overseers (Susan Burr): The 3rd Meeting for Sharing on addictions focussed on issues of co-dependence. Those who may be interested in continuing these meetings should contact an overseer for connections to others. David Leonard will clerk the membership committee for Francia Welker, and the committee for Caroline Duhem will consist of Tom Huff, Gerry Maynard, with Lynn Bird as clerk.

Overseers would like to begin to follow more closely the recommendations in Faith and Practice for the membership process. This will involve the new member withdrawing from Meeting for Business (accompanied by an overseer) when their membership is being presented, and the appointment of a welcoming committee after approval, to meet with the new member and discuss issues of interest. The month of seasoning was highlighted as an opportunity to get to know the person.

Nancy Wolfe Jackson's membership was recommended, with a biographical sketch which was so much appreciated that a desire was expressed that excerpts from these sketches be printed in the newsletter (with the approval of the new member), to deepen our awareness of each other's journeys. The Meeting hoped that Overseers would follow this through.

Retreat (Mary Miche): The committee is working on a theme for the Fall Retreat, on November 17th. Hillside Church, where the Fall Retreat has taken place in the past, is possibly going to be sold, which is of great concern to those who worship there.

Announcements: •Next Meeting for Business will be at 11:40 am, at Friends Church on November 4th.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:10.

Julie Russell

Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

First Day, the 4th of Eleventh Month, 1990

At Berkeley Friends Church

Barbara Voorhees Emmons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 A.M. Twenty-three Friends and one child were present.

A response to the Advices and Queries on Unity was given by Worship and Ministry Committee. Unity implies differences. Knowing, responding to and rejoicing in our differences strengthens it. We need to know our roles in perpetuating divisions among Friends and in society, and in promoting loving relationships on a day-to-day basis. In the Society of Friends, Unity is achieved through the Meeting for Worship.

Minutes: The minutes for Tenth Month were read and corrected as follows: The committee for Francia Welker is a transfer of membership committee and the second member of the Peace Conversion panel was Carl Anthony.

Clerk's Correspondence: • A request for transfer of membership to Claremont Meeting was received from Mary Mikesell, and forwarded to Overseers. She is already making new ties there, and looking forward to new projects.

• A letter of gratitude was recieved from the Therapeutic Day Care Center in Nigeria (where James Ham was during his time there) for the generous contribution James collected here.

Old Business: The membership of Nancy Jackson and her children, Casey and Summer, was approved recognizing our good fortune. Barbara Graves and Barbara Emmons volunteered to organize a welcoming.

Committee Reports: Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee (Barbara Graves): Bob Burnett, John Kersey, and Kate Buckner have agreed to serve, with Kate as clerk, and Nancy O'Sullivan and Tom Huff will continue. Terms will be determined and Ralph Murphy will step down. This slate is offered for seasoning until next month.

Religious Education (Andrea English): The committee is still in need of teachers for First Day School--we haven't been loud enough in making this request and invite ideas as to how to convince people of the significance and gift of this type of ministry. Tentative plans for the annual Christmas potluck and program are being made for Saturday, December 22. The committee is looking at curriculum from FGC and other sources. If

anyone has ideas for curriculum or for teaching First Day School, please contact someone on the committee.

We were reminded that care of children during the fellowship hour is beyond the scope of the Religious Education Committee, so please be aware of where your children are after rise of Meeting. They are not to be in the classrooms downstairs during this time. Parents may share supervision of kids outside, as long as communication is clear as to who is in charge of which kids.

Retreat (Barb Tittle): Permission was obtained from the publisher (for \$20) to reproduce part of Finding God at Home by Ernest Boyer. It will be distributed so we can prepare ourselves for November 17th's retreat. The excerpt relates not only to families, but to spiritual growth for individuals and communities.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): This month's report is for the fiscal year which has just ended. 91% of the projected budget came in and 88% went out, leaving a small increase in the carry forward from last year, from \$2900 to \$3300. Over \$5000 went to the Nicaraguan Sojourner Fund this year, some from outside the Meeting. Because this was Leslie's first full year as treasurer, she will ask Jed Appelman to look over the books.

Worship and Ministry (Tom Whiteman): The committee discussed the role of children in Meeting for Worship, and suggested that it be frequent enough that they will learn what is expected of them (more than once a month). Their presence is viewed as a blessing and an addition to the quality of worship. The Meeting's responsibility to maintain the ramp on the west side of the Church is being kept in mind. Gentle, persistent attention will continue toward encouraging latecomers to make the effort to arrive earlier. The room is ready for worship at 9:50am.

The home gatherings brought out a common concern about how to develop personal and spiritual process within the context of the Meeting. The adult education groups are getting started. The one which meets at the Church after Meeting for Worship had 20 people the first week, and 10 the second. At Mary and Andrew's house, the group is small, and considering changing their meeting evening to Fridays.

Attendance by Strawberries at the work days to maintain the Church property has been sparse. Ken Orvis is co-ordinating specific jobs for those who can contribute effort at other times, but bear in mind the loss of the fellowship of working together. The Church needs to be separating their wet garbage from dry to comply with a city regulation, so please be aware of the distinction between containers.

Strawberry Creek's 3rd annual Thanksgiving Meeting for Worship will be held at 10:00am at the home of Mary Miche and Andrew Secrest.

Overseers (Susan Burr): A biographical sketch was read with the recommendation of Francina Welker's transfer of membership. Excerpts will be printed in the newsletter to encourage conversation about common interests and warm up the seasoning process.

Peace and Social Order (Tom Whiteman): There was no meeting this month. Remember the Panel Discussion on the situation in Iran November 10.

Lois Hoxie raised a concern which came up at her work at the Coast Guard. When she was taking care of some paperwork regarding the Coast

Guard supervision of loading and unloading ammunition ("Operation Desert Shield") at the Concord Naval Weapons Station, she questioned her superior as to why the Coast Guard was involved. She was told that the Coast Guard comes under the Department of Navy during times of war. When she said that was in times of declared war only, no satisfactory answer was forthcoming. Her concern was that war is imminent, and that government writes its own rules irregardless of the law.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laurie Doyle): The Central American situation is on the back burner because of the Persian Gulf Crisis, but witness is being maintained: There is a vote in Congress to cut funding to El Salvador by 50%; peace talks are continuing in Costa Rica between the government and the Arena party; and elections are to be held in Guatemala in January, though the situation is worsening and does seem to be moving toward an overt military dictatorship.

A series of events is planned to commemorate the lives of the six Jesuits and their housekeeper and daughter who were assassinated on November 16, 1989, the four North American church women assassinated on December 2, 1980, and the 75,000 unknown martyrs of El Salvador. November 15 and 16, there will be a special mass, a teach-in, and a candlelight procession and prayer service, and December 2, there will be a candlelight vigil and prayer service in San Francisco.

EBSC's Guatemala Commission is busy, investigating the situation in refugee camps in Mexico, and raising money to work with local groups to increase awareness of the worsening human rights abuse in Guatemala. Rental Assistance Funds are being used to make loans to refugees to obtain housing. Grupo de la Comida feeds 100 people each week, and is an opportunity to extend support, as is the employment of refugees.

Hospitality (Erica Atkin Orvis): A welcoming for new members is planned after Meeting on December 9 at the Truebloods. There will be a baby welcoming after the first of the year (after Carlos Wolff's new brother comes home from Peru). Ideas for building community are percolating--picnics or folk dancing or sharing music. Stay tuned.

Announcements • The Berkeley Food Pantry works hard at Thanksgiving, so needs extra volunteers and food (non-perishables are preferred). The week of Thanksgiving, volunteers are welcome any evening, and especially needed during the afternoons when the food is actually distributed.

• Brewster and Anna Grace will be speaking November 14, 16 and 18 in Berkeley, Palo Alto, and San Francisco on the situation in the mid-east.

• There will be a meeting of the AFSC Organizational Coalition for the Peace Dividend on November 15 at Berkeley Friends Church.

• Barb Tittle reports that the Junior High group from First Day School has been cooking and serving at the soup kitchen in Richmond once a month from 10 to 1pm on Sundays. It is hard work, and has bonded this group of kids in a special way. They have requested reducing to alternate months, so Barb is looking for volunteers from the adults in the Meeting. It is regularly on the 3rd Sunday of the month--next time is November 18.

• Leslie Leonard raised a concern about the difficulty of finding child care for after Meeting groups. It seems that there are such meetings consistently enough that we could hire someone every week from 11 to 1pm. If anyone can think of anyone who would like the job, please contact Leslie.

• Pat and Ted Dientsfry will speak about their recent trip to Israel on Thursday evening, the 8th, at their home.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 12:57.

Julie Russell

Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

First Day, the 2nd of Twelfth Month, 1990

At Berkeley Friends Church

Barbara Voorhees Emmons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 A.M.

Twenty-five Friends were present.

A response to the Advices and Queries on Mutual Care was provided by Lynne Bird for Overseers. We need to do a better job of incorporating new people into the life of the meeting.

Minutes: The minutes for Eleventh Month were read and approved.

Clerk's Correspondence: • Andrew Secrest writes requesting a transfer of membership from Sandwich Meeting to both Strawberry Creek and Berkeley Friends Church Meetings. The matter was referred to Overseers.

Old Business: • The membership of Francina Welker and associate membership of Mary Welker was approved. Larry Perry and Lois Hoxie will welcome them into the meeting.

•The membership of Bob Burnett, John Kersey and Kate Buckner on the Nominating Committee was approved.

Committee Reports: East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laura Cornell): An East Bay CRECE has been initiated, which is assisting 57 families. New toys for these families for Christmas would be welcome.

A change of the law for minors who are refugees is a prospect. They will only be released into the custody of blood relatives or a group home. This will make their care more difficult.

Salvadoran refugees will have a special protective status under a special law until June 1992. There may be problems with this status at the end of that period.

Quarterly Meeting Representative (Larry Perry): A report was presented on the fall gathering at John Woolman School. Many visiting Friends were in attendance. The School is still in existence, permitted by the sale of some of its land. The January 19th meeting will be here in Friends Church, under our hospitality. Larry will organize our effort. Susan Burr, Andrew Secrest, Barbara Graves and Andrea English will assist.

Religious Education (Andrea English): Incorporation of the children in the meeting for worship is a continuing concern. The Christmas Posada will be held December 22 at 5pm at the Friends Church, organized by Andrea and Leslie Leonard. We are asking the children to be orderly in exiting the meeting room into the play yard. They are not to use the classrooms. The committee considered the problem of the four or five people who regularly miss meeting for worship because of their First Day School responsibilities. More volunteer teachers are needed to relieve this problem. Curricular suggestions are available to those who can help.

Retreat (Barb Tittle): Fifteen people attended and a surplus of \$40 was generated to carry forward for the spring retreat. Would it be better to hold the retreat earlier in the fall? This and other issues will be pursued via a questionnaire in the newsletter. Larry Perry raised a concern about the spring retreat's being in too close proximity to Quarterly Meeting. The problem is the availability of Ben Lomond. Members expressed appreciation for the fall retreat.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): The balance in the general fund is now \$3700, up \$400 from last month. The Ericksons are in need of funds if Friends wish to make contributions through the Nicaraguan Sojourners Fund.

Worship and Ministry (Ken Orvis): Attendance in meeting for worship peaked about a year ago. Concern for lateness continues, so as to improve the quality of worship. But some friends are unsettled by too much attention to the issue, so sensitivity is needed. The week-day study group continues to have low attendance and there is much turn-over in the Sunday one, but interest remains high. The committee continues to plan work for the maintenance of the ramp. A Thanksgiving Worship was held at the home of Mary Miche and Andrew Secrest, with 8 present. Jane Terry redesigned the "Welcome" bulletin board. Friends Church is concerned that some of their children are being "swept" outside by ours in the after First Day School play. We need suggestions as to how to manage the children better after meeting. The attached minute on the use of lighting was presented and approved. The minute will be published in the newsletter and the Leonards will do their best to carry out the spirit of the meeting.

Hospitality Committee (Cindy Trueblood): A welcoming for new members is planned for December 9th (Stephanie Kennedy, Elsa Glines, Melinda Glines, Nancy Wolf Jackson, Casey and Summer Jackson, Jim Doherty, and Francia and Mary Welker). A monthly picnic and occasional folk dancing is being discussed. Members of the committee are making an effort to talk to newcomers but everyone needs to do so. Perhaps Friends could speak to someone they don't know after Meeting before speaking to familiar Friends.

Overseers (Lynne Bird): The membership of Caroline Duhem was recommended and will be seasoned until next month. A newcomers brunch will be held in January. An update of members' photos is due. Jamie Ham and Susan Burr will do this.

Announcements: • Carl Anderson reported a smoother operation this Thanksgiving at the Food Pantry. Volunteers are needed for this Christmas season as well.

• Barbara Graves is coordinating leafletting for peace in the Middle East Wednesday evenings at the North Berkeley BART station.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:09pm.

David Leonard

for the Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

First Day, the 6th of First Month, 1991

At Berkeley Friends Church

Barbara Voorhees Emmons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 A.M.

Twenty-four Friends were present.

Francia Welker gave a response from Religious Education Committee to the Advices and Queries on Home and Children. All our children belong to all of us, but the sign-ups to teach First Day School don't seem to reflect this. It is admittedly difficult to share our deepest beliefs with our children at home, but a consistent time of reflection for adults helps us live with more clarity toward ourselves and our children.

The Committee asked the Meeting for suggestions of how to involve more adults in the First Day School. Keeping the sign-up sheet very available, as well as the names of the different group co-ordinators was suggested. But since some potential teachers have no leaning for any particular group, it would be appropriate to approach people. Observing people's special talents, and suggesting ways to share them with the children can be very flattering.

Minutes: The minutes for December were read and approved.

Old Business: The membership of Caroline Duhem was approved with hearty appreciation of her coffee and her recent burst of energy in the preschool class of First Day School. Joyce Samati and Francia Welker will organize a welcoming for her.

Committee Reports: Peace and Social Order (Tom Whiteman): A letter updating the AFSC's IRCA suit and our position as amici was received. An appeal was heard in Pasadena, focusing primarily on the aspect of generally applicable law which may infringe on personal pursuit of religious practices. It was clear that when there are differences, the government's interest will prevail. The suit will continue pressing for legislative relief of examining documentation of employees, and the committee will keep us posted as to how we can help.

There is a part time job as afternoon receptionist available at AFSC in San Francisco.

There will be a national mobilization against the war in the Middle East on Saturday, January 26th in San Francisco and Washington, DC. There will be opportunities to do civil disobedience on January 15th at the Federal Building in San Francisco.

Nominating (Kate Buckner for Ralph Murphy): Laura Cornell is nominated for PYM Observer. This will be seasoned until next month.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laurie Doyle): The East Bay CRECE is growing, and needs sources of inexpensive housing. The rental assistance fund cannot cover all needs. Grupo de la Comida needs volunteers and household items--this month, 5 single beds are needed. In Guatemala, there was a massacre at Lake Atitlan. People were marching to investigate the disappearance of a fellow villager and the army opened fire, killing 15. Aid from Congress to Guatemala has been cut. There will be a final run-off election on January 13 between two right-wing candidates--not much change is expected. An eighteen-month protected status for El Salvadoran refugees (with temporary work authorized) begins January 1st. They must register, which leaves the question of whether such records would be used for deportation. The FMLM is on the offensive in El Salvador. Although US aid has been cut, the payments have been bunched together by the Executive Branch, resulting in circumvention of Congress' intent.

Laurie shared that her absence from Strawberry Creek has been because she has been involved in Zen Buddhism, meditating daily and doing meditation retreats. The paths are similar, but it is difficult to do both, hence her absence from Meeting. She will continue as EBSC representative, and asks for the Meeting's support.

Quarterly Meeting (Larry Perry): Quarterly Meeting will be hosted by Strawberry Creek at Friends Church on January 19th, from 10 to 5. People responded well to the need for help, and we are looking forward to it. There will also be a 50th anniversary celebration for FCNL in the evening, with an emphasis on Peace and the Peace Testimony and PYM'S Witness at the Nevada Test Site which is planned for March 22 through 24.

Religious Education (Franca Welker): The committee discussed the queries, and informs us again that curriculum materials are available for volunteers for teaching First Day School. Children coming into Meeting for Worship for the last 15 minutes is planned for next Sunday.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): As is often the case, there was a bulge in contributions at the end of the year. \$750 went to the Ericksons, and \$500 to the Sharing Fund (a fund for personal emergencies which is used at the discretion of Oversight Committee). An increase in Hospitality Committee's budget to \$125 for the year was approved.

Worship and Ministry (Barbara Graves): There were Meetings for Worship on New Years Day and Christmas Day, both very successful.

Hospitality (Erica Atkin Orvis): Ideas for community building events are welcome, making music or playing. A baby welcoming is planned soon, now that Nicolas Wolfe (Nico) is home. Names were collected for that event.

Oversight (Susan Burr): There will be a new attenders' brunch next Sunday. The committee is considering when it would be appropriate to encourage parents to consider associate membership for their kids. It is often included in the membership process, but what about longtime members?

It may be an advantage to young men of age for military service to be on record as Quakers from the age of seven or earlier.

New Business and Concerns: Barbara Graves described the leafletting that has been taking place in the name of Strawberry Creek for the past few weeks. Wearing signs saying "Witness for Peace in the Middle East", flyers are being passed out giving information about who to contact in Congress to voice opposition to the United States presence in the Persian Gulf. Flyers similar to these are being passed out at 7 area BART stations, this one at North Berkeley with identification as being from Strawberry Creek Meeting. Meeting approved the continuation of this leafletting until this crisis is over.

David Leonard brought up concerns about the draft for military service. Strawberry Creek needs to re-announce sanctuary for conscientious objectors or those avoiding military service. Perhaps we should repeat our ad in area high school papers offering draft counseling, as recruiting of high school boys is getting very aggressive. The matter was referred to PSOC.

Announcements: • Leslie Leonard announced that a tape of John Punshon will be played for the adult education group next week.

• The Brinton Visitor, Clara Sinclair, who has served as FWCC Regional Secretary, will be in the area soon.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 12:54.

Julie Russell

Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

First Day, the 3rd of Second Month, 1991

At Berkeley Friends Church

Barbara Voorhees Emmons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 A.M.

Twenty-five Friends were present.

A response to the Advices and Queries on Simplicity from Finance Committee was read. In this time of war, the testimony of simplicity helps us focus our attention on our spiritual center and its inspiration. Our unique gifts contribute to the spiritual life of the Meeting in diverse ways, both in the sources of our connection with the spiritual and the leadings we choose to follow.

Minutes: The minutes for January were read and approved.

Old Business: The nomination of Laura Cornell as PYM Observer and the advancement of Gerry Maynard to PYM Representative were approved.

Committee Reports: Overseers (Lois Hoxie): A membership committee is working with Andrew Secrest, but has nothing to report yet. A newcomer's brunch is planned for March 10. Janice Albert has been contacted. She has requested that we remove her membership, as she is happy in her new spiritual home at the Episcopal Church. This action was approved, and the clerk was asked to write her a note wishing her well, as well as one recommending her to her new Church.

Peace and Social Order (Tom Whiteman): The committee's main focus has been the request to renew ads offering draft counseling to young men in the East Bay. An ad will run in the Daily Cal twice this month, and in papers at many area schools. This may result in an overrun on the committee's budget, so members might consider contributing a little extra. The Peace Committees of the 3 Berkeley Meetings are meeting jointly, to identify common concerns. On February 11, a meeting on aspects of the draft is planned, with information on draft counseling training, and training for trainers. A training is planned for Saturday, March 9. Other topics will be the legal implications to the Meeting of offering sanctuary to draft resisters, fairness of the representation of the anti-war movement by the media, and formalizing a C.O. registry, so that conscientious objectors may declare themselves now.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laura Cornell): A recent court case in which the US government has settled out of court has improved the protected

status for Salvadoran and Guatemalan refugees. Refugees may reapply for asylum--it will be easier for them to stay than in the past. US aid to El Salvador has been restored without fanfare after the downing of a US helicopter by the FMLM. EBSC needs funds to pay the salary of a particularly valuable worker.

Quarterly Meeting (Carl Anderson): Attendance was down at Quarterly this time because of the anti-war march on February 19, but it went well, with food and such coming together well. Some concerns considered were child abuse as it relates to our individual lives, happenings in the Soviet Union, and co-ordination of Gulf War activities by area Meetings.

Religious Education (Dick Emmons): Things are going well in setting up the program.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): The deposit for the Spring retreat has been sent to Ben Lomond. The Nicaraguan Sojourner fund has \$50, and the Sharing fund has \$500.

Worship and Ministry (Clifford Ham): Appreciation was expressed to Berkeley Meeting for organizing Meeting for Worship on Christmas Day. The issues of a permanent child care person after meeting and the repair of the door at the top of the ramp are both being tabled to wait and see if need is clear. A co-operative directory between Berkeley Meeting, Berkeley Friends Church and Strawberry Creek is being considered. PYM's Committee for Quaker Process (via Vanita Blum) is considering organizing a joint workshop; potential clerks should keep an eye out for information. Chairs are being borrowed and returned too late from the Fellowship Hall. The downstairs heating problem has been temporarily fixed. Mid-week Meeting for Worship continues to be held. Scheduling of events at the Church should be done through Joyce Samati.

Hospitality (Mike O'Sullivan): Planned events are a Baby Welcoming at the Orvis house on February 24th, a pizza party at the Hartman/Burr house at 6pm on March 15th (pizza dough provided, bring your own toppings), a picnic near Little Farm in Tilden on March 24th, and a joint picnic with Hayward Worship Group, Vine Street, and Berkeley Friends Church on June 16th, tentatively at Lake Temescal. If anyone is interested in going to an A's game, bring it up.

Nominating (Kate Buckner): The new committee has set up a rigorous schedule for itself, so be considering how you would like to serve.

New Business and Concerns: Laura Cornell volunteered to help with the State of the Society Report, and Andrea English will be asked to participate, as she did so well last year.

Mike O'Sullivan informed us of plans by the Central Committee for Conscientious Objection (CCCO) to host a Draft Counseling Event on February 12th at UC Berkeley. There will be a panel discussion by people who have been conscientious objectors, information on the current laws, and help with articulating individual conscience. The cost will be about \$3000, which will hopefully be made up by contributions from attenders, but donations are being requested to pay initial costs. Any extra funds will

be contributed to the CCCO. The Meeting approved creating a line item on the budget, so that contributions toward this event may go through the Meeting.

Announcements: Barbara Graves announced that Clare Sinclair, the Brinton visitor, will be in the area from March 18 to 22, and began a process of discerning a good date to ask her to speak to the Berkeley Meetings.

Eric Moon has accepted the AFSC receptionist position.

Patti Erickson exhibited her paintings recently in Limon, Costa Rica. The opening went well, though it was overshadowed by the outbreak of war in the Persian Gulf. Patti insisted that the opening not be an exclusive affair, but invited her friends and subjects from all over. The viewers were impressed by the extent to which she has understood the culture. She misses and appreciates Strawberry Creek.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 12:53.

Julie Russell

Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

First Day, the 3rd of Third Month, 1991

At Berkeley Friends Church

Barbara Voorhees Emmons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 A.M.

Twenty Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes for February were read and corrected as follows: Quarterly Meeting was on January 19, not February 19; CCCO stands for Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors, and the Welcoming on February 24 was for babies and new members. The minutes were approved with appreciation for their thoroughness.

Clerk's Correspondence: • A letter of thanks was received from Gary Wolf for the money that was collected by Strawberry Creek to support last month's draft event at UC Berkeley, and for the volunteers who helped at the event. Mike O'Sullivan reported that the event went well--it was attended by 600-700 people. There was a panel discussion by objectors from WWII up to someone who decided not to comply with the draft in the last few months. Information was supplied about the selective service process, as well as draft counseling training possibilities. 80 counselors had a chance to get to know each other and build community, and statements of conscience were videotaped for those who wanted to do so. The CCCO is moving now in the direction of counter-recruitment, as the draft itself is not operational, but young men are being recruited actively by the military.

• The Meeting approved a letter of introduction for Dolly Marshall, who will be traveling for a couple of months. This will make it possible for her to use the FGC Directory for Traveling Friends, a list of Friends around the country who will host traveling Friends in their homes.

Committee Reports: Nominating (Tom Huff): The committee has been making lots of calls, and plans to have a slate ready for nomination next month.

Overseers (Susan Burr): The New Attenders Brunch will be changed to March 17, to accommodate the State of the Society Meeting on the 10th. Overseers are reviewing a report on membership and decided to move quickly to ascertain how many members would like their children to be on record as Associate Members, as a new Directory is expected out soon. Families with children will be contacted, and an official letter will be drafted as a permanent record for those who want it. Mary Mikesell has written again

requesting the transfer of her membership to Claremont Meeting. It was approved; we will determine what action we need to take, and do it.

Peace and Social Order (Tom Whiteman): The joint Peace Committees of the 3 Berkeley Meetings are continuing to work on draft counseling, as it is clear that the Pentagon is well prepared to crank into a draft at a moment's notice (with megabucks at their disposal). Draft boards continue to meet, so we will continue to train counselors--the training March 9 will take place. A definition of sanctuary for draft resisters is being clarified. There is considerable legal liability to any person or group that actively hides people who are avoiding the draft. Most consider that offering sanctuary is an openness to support those who are considering resisting the draft with moral or ethical ideas, and a clear understanding of what the options are. Our draft ad has been in several papers, and David Leonard has been talking to lots of people, but they seem to have been referred by word of mouth, rather than the ad. Friends Church is interested in approaching people who are already in the military, another tack altogether.

There will be a benefit evening for the Nevada Desert Experience with Dom Helder Camara, Brazilian Archbishop and noted author, on March 12th.

On March 29, Good Friday, at 6:45 am, those opposed to the continued development of nuclear weapons will gather in prayer and witness at the Livermore Nuclear Weapons Laboratories. Rev. Lee Williamson will preach. Non-violence training is recommended for those considering civil disobedience. Call 527-8370 for details.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laura Cornell): EBSC was involved in the asylum suit which the government settled recently, and so is considering some sort of a celebration. US aid to El Salvador was reinstated on January 15th. Our new Senator did not have a position on aid to El Salvador when he was contacted recently, so groups and individuals are encouraged to call Senator Seymour and state your views. Salvadorans applying for temporary protected status must pay prohibitively high fees (\$330 per person). The refugee community has been protesting to the INS, who set the fees, and would like support. The person to call is Jean McNeary, the General Counsel at INS, at (202)-541-2895.

The Guatemalan Refugee Support Network has sent a statement requesting similar protected status for Guatemalans which they would like us to endorse. EBSC already has endorsed it, but says it is more powerful coming from individual congregations. The Meeting felt a need to check the accuracy of the statement, and find out what they intend to do with it, and perhaps to put ourselves more fully behind it by writing a statement of our own, so it was sent back to the committee for clarification.

EBSC is researching the recruitment of undocumented aliens into the military with obtaining residency as incentive. 6 beds and a wheelchair are needed.

Religious Education (Dick Emmons): Recruitment of undocumented First Day School teachers is going well to finish up the year. The groups which are run jointly with Friends Church, the nursery and 5-7th grades, have been quite a success this year. Special thanks to Peter Trueblood and Dorothy Kakamoto.

Retreat: Please note the dates for the Spring Retreat at Ben Lomond-- May 10-12.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): \$320 was collected for the CCCO event, and funds are going well. Jed Appleman looked over the books for last year, and found them in order. The question of whether we need a more formal audit occasionally was asked, and next year was suggested.

Worship and Ministry (Carl Anderson): Unusually large attendance was noted the first couple of weeks after the war started. The issue of whether Strawberry Creek should list itself in the phone book was discussed, and it was decided that it would avoid considerable awkwardness, with other Meetings and for potential attenders. Action will have to be quick to get into the new book, and a phone will need to be installed in a member's home, for which Leslie Leonard volunteered. Clarifying our listing in Friends Journal was also suggested. Starting a new committee for adult education is under discussion. The Brinton Visitor, Clare Sinclair, will speak at Vine Street on Tuesday, March 19, at 7pm after a potluck dinner at 6pm. Ken Orvis has agreed to help write the State of the Society Report, of which the Meeting heartily approved. There will be a meeting after worship next Sunday to speak about our sense of the Meeting through the last year, and a draft will be presented at the next business meeting.

Hospitality (Mike O'Sullivan): We had a warm and wonderful Baby and New Member Welcoming last week.

Announcements: • The plans for a workshop with Berkeley Meeting on Quaker process and clerking continue. The date proposed conflicted with Quarterly Meeting, so a better date will be found, but expect a Saturday workshop from 10am to 4pm, with a potluck lunch. Gratitude was expressed for this opportunity because we as a meeting need more awareness of clerking as a process, so that we can all participate with more clarity.

• Tom Ambrogi has accepted the position of Interim Executive Secretary of the AFSC in San Francisco.

• Mike O'Sullivan informed us about a project starting at the Montclair Presbyterian Church. It is an Ad Hoc Committee to Promote Mid-East Peace, with a vision of two states, one Palestinian and one Israeli, to live in peace and good will, with democracy and prosperity for the region. They are looking for 2 or 3 people from Strawberry Creek to broaden their representation, and to help plan a cultural and political event in May at the Berkeley Community Theater. Rachel Ann Elder was interested--others may contact her.

• There will be a work day at Friends Church on March 16th, an opportunity to help fix the leak in the roof of the Fellowship Hall.

• Elsa Glines informed us of a Peace Group teach-in at Cal State Hayward on March 6. Also, she is leaving soon for a trip to England, which will include a conference on George Fox at the University of Lancaster.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:05.

Julie Russell

Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

First Day, the 7th of Fourth Month, 1991

At Berkeley Friends Church

Barbara Voorhees Emmons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 A.M.

Twenty-six Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes for March were read and approved.

Committee Reports: Hospitality (Caroline Duhem): The Easter breakfast went very well.

Nominating (Kate Buckner): The committee's proposed slate for the next year was distributed and read. If there are any concerns about any of the positions, please contact a member of Nominating Committee, not the nominee(s). The committee will clarify which of the overseers will be for two year terms by next month. Clarification was also needed as to who is responsible for the maintenance of the bulletin boards--Worship and Ministry will consider the matter. W&M will also let us know about the possibility of an Adult Education Committee by next month. The slate will be seasoned until next month.

Overseers (Susan Burr): The recent Newcomer's brunch was different from the last in that of the seven new attenders, all but one were well seasoned Friends. Overseers enjoyed it so much that they scheduled another for June 9th.

The committee completed the process of contacting families with children to see whether they wanted the kids to be Associate Members. This sparked some interesting discussions in that kids are not generally considered members in PYM. Fourteen families said yes, and a number of families were discovered who are not yet members. Brief letters acknowledging their status as Associate Members will be mailed to the kids. Some sort of celebration was proposed.

Pacific Yearly Meeting (Gerry Maynard): PYM will definitely be in Chico this year; the dates will probably be August 4-10. Costs for dorms or camping with options on meals are available. The Registrar is Joe Magruder and Marg Mossman is in charge of arrangements. If individuals or Meetings have a concern for PYM, please send it directly to the clerk, Jane Peers, allowing sufficient time for seasoning. There will be no separate sleeping area for the teens this year, as the building is being worked on, but Junior Yearly Meeting already has a big program planned, including

ultimate frisbee, an overnight camping trip, and perhaps river rafting. There's a pool, too.

Peace and Social Order (Tom Whiteman): On May 19th, the joint Peace Committees will sponsor an afternoon music event to benefit the AFSC Refugee Relief Fund. Funds will go mostly to the mid-east.

Atanasio Tzul, a national organization of local groups working to support Guatemalan refugees, sent a resolution, requesting endorsement, which was read last month in Monthly Meeting. The purpose of the endorsement is to bring the process of acquiring temporary protected status for Guatemalan refugees to the grass roots level. Sister Maureen of EBSC confirmed the statement about the detention centers on the border--it is not uncommon for people to be detained there for as much as 1½ years. The committee recommended endorsing the resolution, and the Meeting approved.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laura Cornell): The Urban Lawyers are bringing two lawsuits against the INS for the high fees Salvadorans are being charged to apply for temporary protected status.

Laura requested some guidance as to what the Meeting wants from our connection with EBSC--should she just report events, or does the Meeting want to be more actively involved? Involvement of other member congregations was discussed and it was clarified that Leslie Leonard does keep the books for EBSC. EBSC is a subcommittee of PSOC, so guidance should come from there.

Retreat: The announcement was read from the newsletter for the Spring Retreat at Ben Lomond. Looks good--let's go!

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): There is \$5284 in the General Fund, \$500 in the Sharing Fund, and -\$58 in Retreat. The Nicaraguan Sojourner Fund has \$75 at present. As Patti is coming in May, we might like to consider building up a nestegg. \$358.79 was paid for insurance, and a copy of the policy was sent to Friends Church, as insurance is part of our contract with them.

Worship and Ministry (Barbara Graves): Julie Russell shared a concern that arose from the Adult Education reading of John Punshon's book, Encounter with Silence. Looking back at the process that Strawberry Creek went through last year regarding the First Day School, it didn't seem that "the Business Meeting served the minute", as John Punshon suggested is standard practice. Decisions seemed to be made in committee and simply reported to Monthly Meeting. So came the query, "Does Strawberry Creek avoid conflict, or does the Meeting for Business serve the minute?" In discussing that the Monthly Meeting appoints committees to bring recommendations to Meeting for Business, Leslie joined the concern that committees ought not make decisions on behalf of the Monthly Meeting. Anyone who has a concern that Meeting for Business is operating with "hidden agendas" has a real obligation to bring that concern before the Meeting at the time it is perceived. It was agreed that a practice session on conflict resolution might be a good thing to have, so Leslie agreed to contact Steve Birtlebaugh. It was also agreed that a discussion of how committees serve the Meeting for Business would be well included in the upcoming day on Quaker Process. We must trust and hold each other in the light when committees work on behalf of the Meeting as a whole.

Leslie reported on the great depth and value of the Adult Education discussions. As Leslie does not have the time to do the co-ordinating, Adult Education was returned to W&M, and Leslie was thanked heartily for her efforts. There is an interest in doing something around liberation theology; Barbara Graves is looking for someone who might lead such a group. Sunday is a better time than evening, as was clear from the low attendance at Andrew and Mary's house. It particularly helps those who need child care, so we'll try moving toward regularization of after Meeting groups.

It was decided to go ahead with the installation of a telephone line at the Leonard's house and the invention of an answering machine message which will give all crucial details to potential attenders. A new budget line, "telephone", was approved for this year for \$350. Annual expense will be about \$150, after installation and purchase of a machine, or about \$3 per member. The phone number is 524-9186.

Claire Sinclair, the Brinton visitor, gave a wonderful description of her life as a spiritual journey. Her story of her spiritual roots, disappointments and growth was much appreciated.

New Business and Concerns: The first draft of the State of the Society report was read and strongly appreciated for its sensitivity for the spirit of the Meeting. It needs to be shorter, in order to be read at Quarterly and PYM, so will be edited, but it was suggested that this longer version be kept for our records. The final draft will be published next month.

Announcements: Larry Perry informed us that Quarterly Meeting is May 18th & 19th, and that John Woolman School has a week long workcamp the last week of June. Invitations are available.

Rachel Ann Elder responded to an invitation to represent Strawberry Creek in an ecumenical group on Palestinian-Israeli relations. When she went, there was no recognition of such representation; it was a meeting of an organization dedicated to the establishment of separate states. She does not wish to continue, as there was no truly ecumenical organization.

Andrea English informed us of Friends General Conference, a large gathering of Friends (approximately 2000) which will be in Boon, NC, June 29th through July 6th this year. The theme will be "growing in radical faith", and speakers will be Asa Bennett and Mubarak Awad.

It has been 2 years since the marriage of Sam Cox and Larry Whitehead at Redwood Forest Meeting, during which time Larry has been increasingly ill with AIDS. He died a few days before Easter, with full recognition of what stopping medications would mean. Sam is well and gathering himself, and there will be a celebration of Larry's life soon.

The annual Walkathon, a 9 mile walk to benefit the Food Pantry and 13 other organizations, will be April 20th.

T. Canby Jones will be speaking on Quaker Heritage Day, at Friends Church on Saturday, June 8th.

Friends Journal made an offer of special group rates, which Clifford Ham agreed to co-ordinate.

The Meeting was glad to hear that Doug Gwyn will return as Pastor of Friends Church in mid-July. It will be a boon to our multi-faceted circumstance.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:33.

Julie Russell

Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting for Business

First Day, the 5th day of the Fifth Month, 1991
At Berkeley Friends Church
Barbara Voorhees Emmons, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:45 a.m.. Nineteen Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes for Fourth Month were read and approved with the following clarifications: Julie Russell presented her concern to Worship and Ministry, not directly to Meeting for Business. Asia Bennett's name is Asia, not Asa.

Clerk's Correspondence: Wesley Eastman has written asking to be able to board in a Friend's home, rather than in a nursing home. His letter was referred to Overseers.

Old Business

Nominations: The nominations made last month were read again and approved. Appreciation was expressed for the work of the Nominating Committee.

State of the Society Report: The revised report was read and approved, as attached to these minutes. A shortened version will be presented orally at Quarterly Meeting. The work of the drafting committee was greatly appreciated.

Clerk's Business: A letter was sent to Sam Cox from the Meeting expressing condolences on the death of Larry Whitehead.

Committee Reports

Worship and Ministry (Andrew Secrest): A joint telephone directory for the three Berkeley Meetings is in progress. The new Meeting telephone--524-9186--is functioning. Suggestions for the message are welcome. This number will be announced in various Friends' publications. Barbara Graves will coordinate a study group on liberation theology. Another, evening group on cosmology is being discussed. Other events are announced in the newsletter.

Hospitality (Erica Atkin-Orvis): The Tilden picnic was attended by about 20 and was fun. Another will be held May 12th and a further one for all three Berkeley Meetings on June 16th.

Nominating (Kate Buckner): Additional nominations were put forward for seasoning: James Hamm -- Apple Juice Committee; Lee Andresen -- FCL/FCNL representative. Special thanks were expressed to all those who have served the Meeting so well this last year.

Overseers (Lois Hoxie): Certificates will be prepared for Associate Members and other young attenders and presented in September.

Peace and Social Order (Tom Whiteman): The committee's work this month has focused primarily on the fund-raising event on May 19th for the AFSC's Gulf Assistance Fund.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laura Cornell): March 24, 1992 will be the tenth anniversary of sanctuary in this country. Discussion of what to do for the event is underway. The response of Salvadorians in the U.S. to the opportunity for "temporary protected status" has been disappointing. Attempts to understand why are underway.

Religious Education (Andrea English): Classes end on June 9th. Children should be congratulated on finishing this year of study.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): The mid-year report was presented and is attached to these minutes. The telephone expenditures will be less than budgeted due to the donation of an answering machine by Jed Appelman.

Concerns

Premises: David Leonard is concerned that many of the physical details associated with maintaining our Meeting premises either overburden Worship and Ministry or fall between the cracks. He suggests that we have a Premises Committee. The idea was referred to Worship and Ministry.

Announcements

Meetings for Business will be held on June 2, July 21 and September 8.

The meeting concluded with a period of worship at 1:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leonard
for the Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

First Day, the 2nd of Sixth Month, 1991

At Berkeley Friends Church

Lynne Bird, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 A.M.

Twenty-five Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes for May were approved correcting May's picnic date to the 19th.

Clerk's Correspondence: •Brian Erickson wrote requesting membership in Strawberry Creek, acknowledging the awkwardness of the distance involved. The reality of the close communication over distance that has been maintained since Brian and Patti went to Central America was noted, and the letter was passed on to Overseers.

•FCL of California will have its annual meeting on Tuesday, July 2, in Sacramento. Laura Magnani will speak.

Old Business: The nominations of James Ham to the Applejuice Committee and Lee Andresen as FCL/FCNL Representative were approved.

Committee Reports: Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): This month \$835 came in and \$1800 went out (the annual payment went to PYM), leaving \$3836 in the General Fund. The Retreat Fund has \$409 in excess, as the deposit for next year's retreat at Ben Lomond has not been paid yet. The Nicaraguan Sojourner Fund received \$1785, and \$2258 went out, leaving \$301. The account balance is \$5066.

Hospitality (Erica Atkin Orvis): In response to the State of the Meeting Report, Hospitality Committee would like to get a new guest book with space for optional phone numbers, so that the committee can contact and welcome new attenders more easily. Meeting approved, and space for clear indication about desire to receive the newsletter was requested. The joint potluck of the 3 Berkeley Meetings will be at Live Oak Park on Sunday, June 16th.

Worship and Ministry (Carl Anderson and Ken Orvis): T. Canby Jones will speak at Quaker Heritage Day at Berkeley Friends Church on June 8th. An Adult Education series on Liberation Theology will be convened by Barbara Graves on 4 Sundays this summer. Literature to be discussed will be Robert McAfee Brown's Unexpected News and Gustavo Gutierrez' We Drink From Our Own Wells.

The committee considered the idea of a committee to care for the premises, and agreed that Worship and Ministry is stretched, and that such a committee would be appropriate, as things do fall through the cracks. A general job description for the committee would be keeping an eye on the aesthetic environment of the space that Strawberry Creek uses, including set-up and re-ordering of the Fellowship Hall and First Day School space, and maintenance of the telephone and answering machine. Serving on this committee was described as a great way to lead into contact with the Meeting, but caution was advised that it not be considered a "second-class" appointment. It was suggested that formal contact with Friends Church stay with Worship and Ministry, though it was originally presented as a possible duty for this committee. Do we treat our relationship with the Church too cautiously? Duties of such a committee will be posted, and the "Name that Committee" contest is on.

Nominating (Kate Buckner): The terms of office for the Overseers were read, and the final version of the Nominating Committee's report will be in the newsletter.

Overseers (Lois Hoxie): The Newcomer's Brunch has been postponed till fall, and 20 new memberships in the last 2 years were noted. Wesley Eastman's request to be adopted by a member family is under consideration. Members are encouraged to include him in the life of the Meeting however possible; during the fellowship hour, visiting him at Chapparal House, or including him in committee work.

Pacific Yearly Meeting (Gerry Maynard): Applications for PYM are in Friends Bulletin, and on the table after worship on First Days. Strawberry Creek has been historically under represented at PYM, as at Quarterly Meeting.

Peace and Social Order (Jed Appelman): Strawberry Creek's relationship to EBSC was a primary concern at the last meeting. At the next meeting, the committee profoundly hopes to bring in more Strawberries, to consider the history of our relationship to EBSC, and for exploration of where we want to go from here. A letter of appreciation was received from the AFSC for our participation in the AFSC vs. Thornberg amicus brief.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laura Cornell): PSOC's concern seems a fruitful beginning, as EBSC is made up of member congregations.

Quarterly Meeting (Larry Perry): Quarterly Meeting met at Ben Lomond Quaker Center in May. 116 attended, including 1 Strawberry. The basis for the Peace Testimony was considered. Speakers were Laura Magnani, Patricia Stewart, Chris Mackinney, and Sage Wexner. Joseph Magruder will continue as clerk of Quarterly.

Religious Education (Peter Trueblood): Co-ordinators discussed last year's curriculum, and how to group the classes by age, size and maturity for the fall is being considered. Kathy Fink starts as nursery co-ordinator for the summer and Peter Trueblood is co-ordinating the summer program in the park--call them to volunteer.

Announcements: •Carl Anderson informed us that PYM's East-West Relations Committee will sponsor two trips to the Soviet Union this summer. One will be a work camp at an archeological site which was a monastery, and the other will concentrate more on the cities. Seven days will be at an international conference on human rights in Moscow.

•Patti Erickson expressed her thanks for the many forms of support, thoughts, words and deeds, that have been extended to her and Brian. Brian will arrive on July 15th for 3 weeks.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 12:50.

Julie Russell

Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

First Day, the 14th of Seventh Month, 1991

At Berkeley Friends Church

Lynne Bird, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 A.M.

Sixteen Friends were present, and one child.

A response to the Advices and Queries on Stewardship from the Finance Committee was offered by Leslie Leonard. We are encouraged to consider all we are and do as well as all we have. We need to be aware of all living things, and the delicate balance of life on earth. All our actions have a trade-off, and constant awareness sometimes becomes guilt-inducing and immobilizing. Time is one of our gifts which should be responsibly spent. We can use our gifts in a spirit of love and joy.

Minutes: The minutes for June were read and approved.

Clerk's Correspondence: • Lynne Bird has received a request for a letter of introduction from Rachel Ann Elder, to take on her travels. Meeting approved her writing one.

• A letter was received from Andrew Turnell, a member of Perth Regional Meeting, in Australia. He and his wife, Jenn, and their two year old son, Jeremy, will be arriving in this country on August 26th, to study at the Institute for Culture and Creation Spirituality in Oakland. They would like to offer their skills (which are varied from activist, community development, counselling and spiritual to being handy at carpentry, home renovating and bicycles) in exchange for space in a house, and are willing to share. The letter will be posted.

• A letter requesting formal support of the Dorothy Day House, was received from Michael Siani. A group wishes to acquire a house in the Berkeley/Oakland area and to provide housing and regular breakfasts for the homeless in the Catholic Worker tradition. The matter was referred to PSOC.

• An announcement of the Silent Retreat at Ben Lomond will be posted.

Committee Reports: Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): The report through June of the fiscal year was distributed. Finance Committee will be working on the budget to present next time.

Worship and Ministry (Barb Tittle): The Liberation Theology series has gotten off to a great start. The idea of the creation of a committee to care for the Meeting environment is ready to be passed on to Nominating Committee. Meeting approved. A list of duties of the new committee has been prepared, and the choice of a name for the committee has been left up to Nominating Committee. There was some discussion of whether there needs to be a formal link between W&M and the new committee, most preferring to start with a formal link as long as the need is felt. It was noted that we can fine tune the relationships as time goes by--formal link with the Church will stay with Worship and Ministry for now, but quite likely could move to this committee in time.

Hospitality (Nancy O'Sullivan): Past successes have been the singing on June 14th, the All Friends Picnic June 16th, and the A's game on July 1st. The Committee is considering flowers for Meeting and singing before Meeting on First Days, finishing by 9:45. The Kanasawas will be leaving soon, which will be recognized after Meeting. 3rd Sundays are getting to be a regular day for potluck lunches in Tilden. July 21 and August 18 will be Birthday Picnics, and September 15 will be a picnic at Redwood Park with a guide to the ecology of the redwoods by Mary Comstock. A trip to Ardenwood Farm is planned for October. Friday, Sept. 13, there will be a dessert potluck and book swap, proceeds from books going to FCL, and extra books going to the harvest festival. Hospitality Committee meets on 2nd Mondays of the month--all are welcome to attend. Sept. 9th's meeting will devote time to developing a Meeting response to Thanksgiving. There will be a presentation of certificates of Associate Membership for kids after Meeting one Sunday in September. The Committee doesn't feel able to take on primary responsibility for individuals in need at this time, though they are willing to help.

Overseers (Lynne Bird): It is clear that the adoption that Wesley Eastman has requested is not workable. A membership committee has been formed for Brian Erickson, consisting of Joyce Samati, clerk, Jim Kimball, and Bob Maynard.

Pacific Yearly Meeting (Gerry Maynard): PYM will be August 4-10, at Craig Hall, a residence hall in Chico. There will be terrific worship sharings and business sessions, as well as an active kids, pre-teen and teen programs, a swimming pool, and an intergenerational dance contest. Strawberry Creek attendance has been down only for the past three years or so. PYM functions on a purely volunteer basis and does very little publicity, so those who haven't been, don't know what they're missing.

Peace and Social Order (Laura Cornell): Irene Litherland, EBSC's co-ordinator, came to the last meeting, and was a great help in clarifying Strawberry Creek's relationship to EBSC, and the shifts that have taken place in sanctuary work in the last ten years.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laura Cornell): EBSC is coming up on its 10th anniversary, and is requesting formal clarification of the relationships of the covenant to its member congregations, which Strawberry Creek has already started. Currently, the U.S. Foreign Aid Appropriations Bill contains no aid to El Salvador, though it is likely that some may be added at the last minute. Support of the Dodd Amendment, to withhold 50%

of aid unless human rights situations improve, is encouraged. Senator Seymour's office may be contacted at 556-4307. A proposal for temporary protected status for Guatemalans has been sent by EBSC for Strawberry Creek's endorsement. Laura will take it to PSOC.

Religious Education (Stephanie Kennedy): The event on the last Sunday of the regular year was very enjoyable. Next year, the older kids will be involved more in the preparation for it. The committee requested more members from Nominating Committee, so that there can be two co-ordinators for each First Day School group.

Announcements: • Doug Gwyn is back at Friends Church. Strawberry Creek is delighted, and welcomes him. Dorian will stay at Pendle Hill for a while.

• Clifford Ham has the picture of our banner which appeared in the SF Chronicle, and will have it framed.

• Kenneth Leonard has changed his plans, and will be back from the Peace Corps sooner than expected. He will attend graduate school here next year.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 12:50.

Julie Russell

Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Called Meeting for Business

First Day, the 11th of Eighth Month, 1991

At Berkeley Friends Church

Lynne Bird, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a short period of silence.

The Clerk read a letter from Laura Cornell declaring her intention to go on a Women's delegation with Witness for Peace to Guatemala and the Guatemalan refugee camps in Mexico. She will need to raise \$1150 in order to be able to attend. She requested assistance from the Meeting in two forms. The first was for the creation of a fund called the "Witness for Peace Fund", so that donations could be sent to the Meeting, and the amount raised could be sent directly to Witness for Peace. Any excess funds raised would be sent to Mama Maquin, a women's organization in the camps. Her second request was that the Meeting consider donating to the fund from the Sharing Fund, if the funds raised are not sufficient by October. The Meeting approved establishing the fund, and closed in silence.

Julie Russell

Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 8th of the Ninth Month, 1991
At Berkeley Friends Church

Lynne Bird, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting for Business opened with a period of silent worship at 11:45 a.m. with twenty-two Friends present.

The minutes of the Seventh Month Meeting for Business and the Eighth Month Called Meeting for Business were read and approved.

Clerk's Correspondence: In addition to numerous announcements, a letter was read from the family of Wesley Eastman, which mentioned their appreciation for the visits members make to him.

Pacific Yearly Meeting notes indicate that although Strawberry Creek is not the largest Meeting in PYM, it has by far the largest number of children.

Draft minutes on "Children in Meeting" and "Laying Down a Meeting" were received from PYM and referred to our Committee on Worship and Ministry.

A letter was received from Laurilee Astrella reporting that her son Jake is currently serving a short sentence at Santa Rita prison in Dublin, arising out of his drug and mental health problems. She asked that he be visited by Friends. Mary Comstock will coordinate those willing to respond.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Peace and Social Order (Jed Appelman): PSOC was asked to review our relationship with the East Bay Sanctuary Covenant. That discussion is continuing but there is concern that the Meeting's relationship has drifted of late. Nominating Committee has been asked to find a replacement as EBSC representative for Laura Cornell, as she is now in Central America.

The committee will suggest letter-writing projects to the Meeting from time to time.

Finance Committee (Maggie Ely): The attached proposed budget was presented. The donations for outreach were discussed extensively. Some Friends wished to increase them by the cost of living; others to add further organizations. A concern was expressed that these decisions not be made in a routine manner but on the basis of knowledge about real needs. It was noted that guidelines on donations may have been developed in the past and need to be reviewed as well (or created if they don't exist). A brief presentation about the organizations and the Meeting's relationship to each one would serve the purpose of reminding all of us as to why they are worthy of the support of individual Friends in addition to the Meeting's symbolic contribution. Perhaps they could be presented one-by-one in the Newsletter. Finance Committee was asked to present suggestions next month on how to proceed.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): Contributions and expenditures are in reasonable balance and the finances are sound.

Worship and Ministry (Barbara Emmons): The series on Liberation Theology with Barbara Graves went well. Various topics for adult education are under review, such as: "Quakerism as a Prophetic Religion" and "Introductory Quakerism."

Carl Anderson will serve as the liaison between Worship and Ministry and the new premises committee.

Leslie Leonard reports that there are at least four calls a week to the Meeting telephone. So it's serving a useful information function.

The committee was asked to look into the storage of the Meeting's archives.

Hospitality (Mary Comstock): The date for the Ardenwood gathering was not available and the function will have to be postponed until next year.

Nominating (Kate Buckner): Sandy Hoffman will substitute for Laura Cornell at EBSC during the latter's absence.

Overseers (Susan Burr): Susan Burr will be acting clerk for the committee during Lois Hoxie's illness.

An after-meeting ceremony will be held on September 15 to issue certificates to the young people who are associate members and attenders. A Newcomers' Brunch will be held on October 13th at the Leonards'.

The committee will use its \$500 Sharing Fund to meet any balance remaining in the needs of Laura Cornell in her stay in Central America.

Joyce Samati presented the report recommending the membership of Brian Erickson. The decision on membership was held over to next month, as is our custom.

Pacific Yearly Meeting (Gerry Maynard): Planning is underway for the Western Gathering of Friends, which includes all Yearly Meetings in the west.

Seventeen Strawberries attended at least part of the sessions. The PYM Epistle was read to us. The minutes of the sessions will be left on the literature table for perusal.


Religious Education (Peter Trueblood): Up to 25 Young Friends participated at a time in the summer program. This year's regular program began today.

Retreat (Lynne Bird): The Fall Retreat will be held at Ben Lomond November 22-24.

Announcements: Quarterly Meeting will be held at John Woolman School October 19-20.

The meeting concluded with a period of worship at 1:18 p.m. to meet again on October 6th at 11:40 a.m. at Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted,



David Leonard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

First Day, the Sixth of Tenth Month, 1991

At Berkeley Friends Church

Lynne Bird, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:45am.

Twenty Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes for Ninth Month were read and approved, with the following corrections: The acting clerk for Overseers during Lois' illness will be Joyce Samati, not Susan Burr. The PSOC report was not complete last month. EBSC and PSO Committee are re-thinking their relationship, and the committee prepared a statement which was not read last month, nor was it available today. It will be read next month.

Clerk's Correspondence: • A letter introducing Andrew Turnell was read. He was very active in his home meeting in Australia, and is here studying Creation Spirituality with Matthew Fox.

• A draft minute was read regarding the relationship of the AFSC to the Society of Friends. It is on the agenda for next Quarterly Meeting.

• A letter was received from George Milliken of Berkeley Meeting requesting assistance with the PYM Representatives Meeting which Berkeley Meeting will be hosting February 28, 29, and March 1st. Forty representatives will be here, working intensely to organize next year's PYM, needing housing, transportation, and simple meals. There will be a planning meeting in December. Those interested in helping, please contact Erica Atkin Orvis. It will be easier to help if tasks are defined, and specific help requested.

Old Business: • The membership of Brian Erickson was enthusiastically approved, and ways of welcoming our new member were invented. The next Strawberry going that way, Lynne Bird, will join up with Patti for a welcoming meal, and a biographical sketch is in progress.

• The Budget: The budget for 91-92 was distributed and approved with the likelihood that the Outreach donations may change. The Finance Committee plans to contact representatives of each of the organizations to which we send annual donations, and review the purpose of the donations. The needs will be in the January newsletter, so that concerns can be brought to the attention of appropriate representatives before February's Meeting for Business. Concerns will be discussed at that time, as well as other possible organizations the Meeting may wish to consider. The

committee plans to establish new donation amounts by next summer, including need as one of the criteria on which the budget is based.

Committee Reports: East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Sandy Hoffman) A commemoration of the massacre of the Jesuit priests in El Salvador is planned for mid-November. Fundraising continues with coupons for groceries at Lucky (and soon Safeway). EBSC gets 6% of the proceeds. Coupons may be purchased from Sandy. The State Council of Churches offices in Washington were raided by the INS to get their records on applications for protected status. There are still a lot of refugees coming in from Central America, and EBSC is helping with legal issues. Boalt Hall law students are helping this year. EBSC is establishing a revolving bond fund, to lend funds to people who want to bring their applications for asylum to bigger cities than the ones on the Texas and Arizona borders, where few lawyers are available. 50% of applicants win cases for asylum with legal representation, but only 5% without. An increased level of militarization has been noted along the routes refugees travel through Mexico. CRECE continues to work on programs providing English instruction, food, and employment for Salvadorans seeking refuge. A similar group has formed for Guatemalans: they need office supplies. Robert Ochoa will speak November 23rd, regarding the indigenous miners in Guatemala.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): Donations keep pace with need in an amazing way. The Witness for Peace Fund is \$200 short, which the Sharing Fund will cover, if needed. Many small contributions have been received from Laura's family and friends.

Worship and Ministry (Barbara Graves): Elsa Glines will be reporting sometime soon about her trip to England last spring, and her research ideas on Margaret Fell. The Liberation Theology group will continue with five sessions on Kairos: Three Prophetic Challenges to the Church by Robert McAfee Brown. The committee is waiting to clarify how much space is needed for the storage of the Meeting's archives. The sequence of committee assignments to consider queries is in some upheaval, so there have been no query responses recently. The librarian has brought to our attention the need for more space. Possibilities of how to handle it seem to involve a change in our agreement with Friends Church, involving either a visible presence in the Fellowship Hall (a bookcase on the south wall) or co-mingling the libraries of Strawberry Creek and Friends Church.

Hospitality (Erica Atkin Orvis): The book swap to benefit FCL was sparsely but enthusiastically attended. There will be one last Tilden picnic on October 20th. Ideas or needs around Thanksgiving should be communicated to a member of the committee.

Nominating (Kate Buckner): Nancy Jackson has agreed to serve on the Religious Education Committee. The nominations for the new "Facility Committee" are George Russell, clerk, Carl Anderson, liaison to Worship and Ministry, Ken Leonard, Gerry Maynard, and Tom Yamaguchi. These will be seasoned until next month.

Overseers (Joyce Samati): Mary Comstock, Barbara Graves, and Peter Trueblood responded to the request of Laurilee Astrella to visit her son Jake at Santa Rita Prison. They were privileged to witness his reunion

with his father after many years. Wesley Eastman is still in Rheem Valley Convalescent Hospital, and misses attending Strawberry Creek. Elsa Glines is co-ordinating visits--a small Meeting for Worship there would be nice. Fourteen are expected at next week's Newcomer Brunch. The children of the Meeting very much appreciated the certificates of Associate Membership distributed in September. The next committee meeting will be October 28th, please communicate concerns.

Peace and Social Order (Jim Barnard and Jane Terry): Seventeen letters were sent to Congress last week regarding Judge Thomas. There have been two vigils in support of David Duncan, who is imprisoned at the Martinez Jail for witnessing at the Concord tracks. He will complete a 40-day fast on the day of his expected release, which is to continue his protest in spite of being in prison, and to protest the fact that he was prohibited from presenting any defense in his trial. His determination serves to continue to bring attention to the distribution of weapons to El Salvador and the world.

Strawberry Creek's involvement with EBSC has been considered, and the difference between our participation and that of other congregations was noted. There is a lot of energy and involvement, by various individuals, but we will not be participating in the EBSC evaluation process, though we are considering the same literature in our Liberation Theology group.

New Business: Elsa Glines and Andrea English agreed to be nominated to the Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee. Appreciation of their willingness was expressed.

Announcements: • Larry Perry announced the marriage of his daughter, Elizabeth Perry, to Paul Ready at the West Concord Union Church, in Massachusetts. The couple has taken the surname Perry.

• There is an exhibit of Patti Erickson's paintings at Friends Center in San Francisco, at 2160 Lake Street, which is very professionally done.

• The Strawberry Creek Fall Retreat will be at Ben Lomond this year. It was noted that there was no discussion in Monthly Meeting of the invitation to Friends Church to participate.

We closed in silence at 1:22pm.

Julie Russell

for the Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting for Business

First Day, the 3rd day of the Eleventh Month, 1991
At Berkeley Friends Church
Lynne Bird, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:45 a.m.. Twenty Friends were present.

Queries: A response to the Queries on Unity was provided by Barbara Emmons on behalf of the Committee on Worship and Ministry. Strawberry Creek Meeting has a strong spiritual center. We have our imperfections and there are those who drift away from us, but we are able to work with all. No group or clique dominates the Meeting. Perhaps we are too homogeneous or too reluctant to discuss our theological differences openly.

Minutes: The minutes for Tenth Month were read and approved. It was noted that another alternative for accommodating the library would be more closet space at the Church, which also would require the approval of Berkeley Friends Church.

Clerk's Correspondence: Davis Meeting has written expressing concern about the increased violence toward gays and lesbians. It is interested in joint action. The letter was referred to the Peace and Social Order Committee.

Laura Lee Praskievicz wrote expressing gratitude to Friends for their visits to Jake Estrella at Santa Rita Prison. Peter Trueblood visited him again and has kept in touch with him.

Thank yous for various Meeting donations have been received.

AFSC has written asking for thoughts about the selection of its new national Executive Secretary.

Daree and Lisa Liske-Doorandish wrote that they will be coming here from Baltimore in January to study. They look forward to worshipping with us. They are looking for housing and Daree is looking for work. Mary Comstock will respond.

Old Business: The nomination of Nancy Jackson to the Religious Education Committee was approved.

The nominations to the new Facilities Committee of George Russell, clerk, Carl Anderson, liaison to Worship and Ministry, Ken Leonard, Gerry Maynard and Tom Yamaguchi were approved. The committee's job description was read, revised and approved. It is attached to these minutes. Concern was expressed that Meeting members participate more in work days.

Committee Reports--

Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee (Andrea English): The continuing members of the Nominating Committee are to be Kate Buckner, Bob Burnett and John Kersey. New members are nominated to be Patricia Dienstfry and Marka Carson with Kate Buckner as clerk.

Nominating Committee (Kate Buckner): Judy Lightstone was nominated to serve on the Retreat Committee.

Peace and Social Order Committee (Jim Barnard): A statement on the Meeting's relationship to the East Bay Sanctuary Covenant was read and is attached to these minutes. It affirms the centrality of EBSC concerns to those of the Meeting. The statement will be communicated to EBSC.

The request of the Dorothy Day House for financial support was investigated. The House is no longer a part of the Catholic Worker movement and has filed for non-profit status. It provides food for those in the People's Park area. PSOC recommends that the House be supported by individuals and not by the Meeting.

On December 15 PSOC will sponsor a meeting to share concerns and ideas about the homeless. There probably will be a follow-up meeting on January 19.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Sandy Hoffman): Coupons for Safeway as well as Lucky are available for purchase and help to support the work of EBSC. Please give Sandy checks (made out the St. John's/ EBSC) on the first Sunday of the month to get your coupons on the second Sunday.

Religious Education Committee (Peter Trueblood): Suggestions for the Christmas celebrations are needed. Mindy Brown's wages for child care were raised \$1.00 per hour. Appreciation was expressed for her work.

Retreat Committee (Bob Burnett): The location of the Fall Retreat has been rescheduled to the Hillside Community Church on November 23 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The theme will be "Reflections on Simplicity."

Andrea English reminded the Meeting that she and Ken Orvis are the contacts for coordinating events with Friends Church and Friends are encouraged to work through them.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): The annual accounts were presented and are attached to these minutes. Special contributions to the Witness for Peace fund have more than met the need. The Finance Committee was asked to arrange for the routine audit of the accounts, if possible through the new procedure established by the Quarterly Meeting.

Hospitality Committee (Mary Comstock): Christmas plans are in progress.

Worship and Ministry (Carl Anderson): Barbara Voorhees Emmons will be assisting Ken Orvis with clerking the committee while Ken finishes his doctoral dissertation. Andrea English will take up his liaison duties with Friends Church for the interim. Mid-week Meeting for Worship will be laid down after this next week.

Overseers (Joyce Samati): The Newcomers' Brunch was well attended.

Margaret Ramsey lost all her belongings in the Oakland fire. She needs an apartment. Ian Whiteman, Dorothy Kakamoto (of Friends Church) and Pat Stewart (of Berkeley Meeting) all lost their homes. The use of the Meeting's Sharing Fund in response to these needs is under consideration.

The committee is considering the way in which the Meeting's committees function in relationship to the Meeting as a whole.

Jim Raymond-Muir is becoming Jennifer ("Jenn") R. Muir and will be presenting herself as a woman beginning in December. Sensitivity and support will be appreciated.

Facilities Committee (George Russell): The committee will assume responsibility for set-up

and clean-up on November 17. As the committee developed its job description a few issues came up. Is clean-up after snacks the responsibility of the Hospitality Committee? Will Worship and Ministry continue to find child-care for Monthly Meetings? Will the librarian and Committees participate in culling bulletin board literature? These questions should be explored with Worship and Ministry Committee.

Announcements: Andrea English is selling books from the AFSC Bookstore.

Carl Anderson noted that the Food Pantry will need extra volunteers over the holiday period.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday December 1st at 11:40 a.m.

The meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 1:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leonard
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting for Business

First Day, the 1st of Twelfth Month, 1991
At Friends Church, Berkeley
Lynne Bird, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:45 a.m. Eighteen Friends were present.

Queries: Joyce Samati responded to the Queries on Mutual Caring on behalf of the Overseers. We must be both givers and receivers of care. We all must be attentive to mutual care; its provision is not the purview of Overseers alone.

Minutes: The minutes for Eleventh Month were read and approved with the note that the Witness for Peace Fund only exceeded its requirements after the end of the fiscal year, so the small surplus is not reflected in the annual accounts.

Clerk's Correspondence

Brian Erikson wrote of his pleasure at now being a member of our Meeting.

Palo Alto Meeting wrote expressing its loving concern for those who lost their homes in the Oakland fire. The letter was referred to Overseers.

The East West Relations Committee of the Yearly Meeting wrote requesting funds for Access Exchange International to help with the reorganization of social services in a restructured Soviet Union. The matter was referred to the Peace and Social Order Committee for a recommendation, together with another request from William Penn House in Washington, D.C.

Friends House has written requesting financial support as well. This letter was referred to the Finance Committee.

Old Business:

The nominations of Patricia Dienstfrey and Marka Carson as members of the Nominating Committee as well as of Kate Buckner as the committee's clerk were approved. The Meeting expressed its appreciation to the members of the Ad Hoc Committee for their work. The nomination of Judy Lightstone to serve on the Retreat Committee was approved.

The 1990-91 Meeting accounts will be audited by the Treasurer or Assistant Treasurer of Berkeley Friends Meeting.

Committee Reports

Facilities Committee (George Russell): Beginning in January members of the committee will rotate responsibility for meeting set-up for a month at a time, recruiting other persons to assist them. A sign-up list for after-meeting clean-up will be established. It was stressed that whoever has the key to the Church on a given Sunday needs to lock-up before they leave.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Sandy Hoffman): The Immigration and Naturalization Service has started using the Contra Costa County jail as a detention center, which is a matter of concern.

Religious Education (Carolyn Duhem): The Christmas celebration will be held on December 21st.

Retreat: No formal report was made. About 15 Friends were present for the November retreat and judged it very successful.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): The General Fund Balance is \$3869. The Finance Committee has requested the Meeting's various representatives to write brief statements about the financial needs of their respective organizations, which will be published in the newsletter. This will lead to a review of Meeting contributions.

Hospitality (Erica Atkin-Orvis): Volunteers to provide greenery for the tables at the Christmas celebration are needed. A baby welcoming for Nathan Makepeace Miche-Seacrest is being planned. Assistance with the hospitality for Representative Meeting of Pacific Yearly Meeting from February 28 to March 1 is needed.

Overseers (Joyce Samati): The \$500 remaining in the Sharing Fund from 1990-91 was allocated for needs arising from the Oakland fire. In the event of a future emergency Tom Whiteman (with Amy Joy as a back-up) will serve as a contact for those with needs and those with resources to share.

Overseers are available to offer support to Meeting committees if and when they encounter problems.

Elsa Glines is chairing a visiting committee for those who are sick or in need.

A concern was expressed that child-care be routinely available for Ben Lomond Friends Center events.

Elsa Glines spoke to the membership issues arising from the laying-down of Hayward Meeting. Two elderly members have not been able to transfer their memberships elsewhere. The Meeting approved inviting Alice McGuiness (who is ill and in a retirement home in the Bay area) to ask for membership in our Meeting.

New Business: Sherrin Loyd expressed a concern that we as a Meeting have not yet taken a stand on the issue of gay and lesbian marriages and asks that we do so. The concern was referred to Overseers, with a request that they organize an appropriate process for our consideration of this issue.

Announcements: There will be a Young Friends gathering in Oregon over New Year's. Contact Paul McKinney in Berkeley Friends Meeting.

The next Meeting for Business will be held January 5th at 11:40 a.m. in Friends Church.

The meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leonard, Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the fifth day of the First Month, 1992
At Berkeley Friends Church
Lynne Bird, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 a.m.
16 Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes for Twelfth Month were read and approved.

Clerk's Correspondence: Various letters thanking the Meeting for contributions and requesting further ones were received.

Old Business: George Russell reported that Worship and Ministry will be responsible for the child-care during meetings for business. The Hospitality Committee is responsible for clean-up after tea and snacks, but assistance is always welcome.

Committee Reports:

No formal reports were received this month from the following committees: Peace and Social Order; East Bay Sanctuary Covenant; Religious Education; and Retreat.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): The financial report for November and December was presented and is attached to these minutes. It shows that the meeting has received 21 per cent of its budgeted annual contributions and has made 12 per cent of its expenditures, as is to be expected at the end of the tax year. The general fund balance is \$5,265.

A pamphlet has been prepared describing the organizations to which the Meeting contributes and their needs. It will serve as a basis for the discussion next monthly meeting of the Meeting's contributions for this next financial year. It should also help Friends in making decisions about their individual charitable contributions, as the Meeting's contributions are intended to be symbolic only. The meeting approved the circulation of the pamphlet to the full Meeting mailing list after the decisions about contributions have been made next month. Finance Committee may try to keep it current and available for newcomers.

Worship and Ministry (Ken Orvis): The committee discussed possible additions that may be needed in our lease with Friends Church. A rate needs to be specified for all-day uses of the premises, and a location for the library is needed.

Jane Terry will make a sign to inform entering worshippers of child-care and First Day school downstairs.

Elsa Glines will be speaking on her work on Margaret Fell. The committee has assumed responsibility for updating the Meeting bulletin boards.

Preparation of a combined directory for all three Berkeley meetings is underway.

The committee hopes to contribute periodic thoughtful quotes to the newsletter.

Hospitality (Erica Atkin-Orvis): Planning for hospitality for those attending Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative Committee meeting in Berkeley has begun.

Nominating: Esther Morgan was nominated to be Observer to Pacific Yearly Meeting.

Overseers (Joyce Samati): Lois Hoxie's health has now recovered to the point where she can reassume clerkship of the committee.

The committee presented more fully its plans for a central contact point in the event of a future emergency, such as the Oakland fire. Tom Whiteman (with Amy Joy as backup) will be available to coordinate those with needs and those with assistance to give.

Elsa Glines is coordinating visits to the sick and immobile in our Meeting and would be happy for assistance.

Alice McGuinness does not feel it is appropriate for her to apply for membership in our Meeting at this time.

Sherrin Loyd's concern about gay and lesbian marriages was discussed and a process for its consideration is being planned. Bruce Folsom will be making a presentation related to this issue at Berkeley Friends Meeting (Vine Street) on January 26th.

Meeting budgets \$150 a year for the Sharing Fund, which has now been spent. Additional contributions are always possible by individual Friends. The meeting agreed that private contributions to the Sharing Fund will be carried forward into the following financial year if they are not spent in the year in which they are received. Overseers and Finance Committees were asked to develop a proposal for how the Sharing Fund should be handled in the future.

Interest has been expressed in another round of "Friendly Sixes" get-acquainted get-togethers. Volunteers to help with its organization would be greatly appreciated.

Mary Anderson, as our representative to Ben Lomond Quaker Center, will raise our concern about child-care for all events there.

The committee is reviewing what it needs to do in order to be ready to meet the wishes and needs of individual members on the event of their death. The forms on which Friends' indicated their wishes for their final affairs have not been kept up to date.

Facilities (George Russell): The person responsible for setting-up for meeting for worship will also be responsible for coordinating the clean-up. The committee has told Friends Church of its existence, so it can be contacted for future work-days.

The Meeting's policy on the use of lights during meetings for worship was discussed. There are competing concerns for saving energy and creating a warm, welcoming atmosphere of togetherness. It was agreed that this is a matter of judgement and the decision should be made by the person responsible for

setting up the room. The lighting should not be changed once meeting for worship has begun.

New Business: Leslie Leonard expressed interest in having Pendle Hill pamphlets available through the Meeting library. The librarian should bring a proposal to the meeting on this.

Announcements:

A memorial service for Wesley Eastman will be held at Chapparal House on January 16 at 3:30 p.m.

The next meeting for business will be held on Sunday February 2nd at 11:40 a.m. at Berkeley Friends Church.

The meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leonard,
Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the second day of the Second Month, 1992
At Berkeley Friends Church
Lynne Bird, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 a.m. Twenty-three Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes for First Month were read and approved, with the following corrections. Ken Orvis gave the Hospitality Committee report on behalf of Erica Atkin-Orvis. Furthermore the decision on whether or not the contributions pamphlet is to be mailed out was laid over to the next monthly meeting.

Clerk's Correspondence: Announcements were received for the Western Gathering of Friends (July 7-10; Oregon), Friends Weekend Lenten Desert Experience (March 27-29; Las Vegas) and Friends General Conference (June 27 - July 4; New York). These are posted on the bulletin boards.

A letter was received from the Finance Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting explaining the charges for attendance at PYM. It is recommended that monthly meetings establish scholarship funds to enable their members to attend. Some Friends expressed a concern that the costs were keeping more Strawberries from attending. The Meeting has a scholarship fund but people seem to be reticent to apply. The matter was referred to Overseers for further consideration.

Letters have been received from Wendy Carson and Donna Hamilton and will be posted.

Laura Cornell and Mary Comstock have written requesting membership in the Meeting. Their applications were referred to Overseers.

Old Business: Leslie Leonard reported that the audit of the 1990-91 accounts is currently underway with David Berg of Berkeley Meeting.

The nomination of Esther Morgan as Observer to Pacific Yearly Meeting was approved.

Calendar Business: Ken Orvis, Larry Perry (as Quarterly Meeting representative) and someone designated by Overseers will constitute the Ad Hoc Committee to write the State of the Society report. If others are needed to help, Ken Orvis is authorized to recruit them. In the future Overseers and Worship and Ministry should each nominate one person to join the Quarterly Meeting representative in writing the report.

Carl Anderson reported on Quarterly Meeting in Santa Rosa. Major items discussed included the Northern California Ecumenical Council and

the relationship of the AFSC to Friends.

Committee Reports:

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laura Cornell): EBSC will be considering the implications of the peace accords in El Salvador for its work.

Retreat (Bob Burnett): The retreat is scheduled ~~it~~ for Ben Lomond the weekend of May 1st. Due to an oversight this time ^{it} conflicts with monthly meeting for business, which will now be moved to the following weekend.

Finance Committee (Leslie Leonard): The discussion of meeting donations was opened with a number of suggestions from the committee: These were modified and approved as follows:

Budgeted Meeting donations should continue to be seen principally as symbolic of our commitment as a Meeting to these organizations. They are intended to be reminders of the responsibility of individual members to contribute to them.

At this time, institutions receiving our budgeted donations are either Quaker organizations in which members of the Meeting participate or non-Quaker organizations to which the Meeting as a whole has a particular commitment.

The brochure describing the organizations to which the Meeting contributes will be updated annually and made available to Friends in the meeting room via a "pocket" on one of the bulletin boards. The brochure should include special funds within the Meeting to which Friends may wish to contribute.

Contributions will be made throughout the year rather than at fiscal close. Each month the organization(s) receiving the donation(s) should be listed in the newsletter with the brochure information, including the address. The Meeting representative to that organization, if there is one, might wish to take advantage of this opportunity to include additional information for Meeting attenders.

Although for fiscal reasons we determine a budget annually, the budget should be viewed as a dynamic one, which can be updated at any time in response to concerns arising within the community.

The standard donation amounts in the budget (which have been \$100 since 1988-89) will be increased to \$110 to account for inflation.

After discussion Friends Bulletin and Friends Committee for National Legislation were added to our list of organizations to support and our contribution to the PYM Fund for Concerns was increased to \$110. The contribution to the EBSC Housing Fund was decreased to \$110, to be in line with the level of the other organizational donations. Our contribution to the Food Pantry will be doubled to \$220 for this year in order to signal one small part of our growing concern for the homeless and needy. Future suggestions for contributions should be brought to the appropriate Meeting committee or, where there is none, to the Finance Committee. It is important that Friends see Meeting contributions as invitations to support these organizations as individuals. Such individual

contributions can be made either directly or through an ear-marked check to the Meeting.

Worship and Ministry (Barbara Graves): Barb Tittle is working on new bookshelves for our library and will be discussing the matter with the Church.

The Liberation Theology discussion group will be continuing and invites new people to join it.

The committee is exploring the possibility of creating a "course" on Quakerism for the Meeting.

Tardiness in arriving at meeting for worship remains a concern, although we do not wish to discourage the attendance of those who find themselves unable to arrive on time for a reason.

Ken Orvis reported that the lease with Friends Church is being negotiated now. The base rent will go from \$280 to \$300 and other use rates will be adjusted accordingly. The Church property is suffering from a good deal of deferred maintenance, due to the congregation's limited resources. There also is some concern that we are now straining the limits of the available First Day School space in the Church and we may need to move one or more classes off the immediate premises some time in the future.

Hospitality (Mary Comstock): Planning for hospitality for those attending Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative Committee meeting in Berkeley is underway. The committee is also planning some spring picnics.

Overseers (Lois Hoxie): The committee approved dispersing \$150 from the Scholarship Fund to Jeremy Groom for his participation in the Amigos Project. He will need \$2900 overall and the Meeting approved creating a special fund for ear-marked contributions from individuals who wish to support him.

The committee requested a new appropriation of \$150 for the Sharing Fund, which was approved. These appropriations will not carry forward from year to year.

Committees need to review their job descriptions and relay that information to the Nominating Committee.

Peace and Social Order (Jane Terry): The committee continues to deliberate the Meeting's involvement with the homeless problem. A Quaker dialogue on the subject has been scheduled for March 8th.

New Business: Mary Anderson asked if there is a need to set up a Marriage and Family Relations committee. The matter was referred to Overseers.

As our representative to Ben Lomond, Mary Anderson reported that the Center lacks sufficient funds to provide child care at all gatherings held there. Special contributions might be made to the Center to facilitate response to this need.

Announcements:

Laura Cornell expressed her thanks to the Meeting for supporting her participation in the Witness for Peace delegation in Guatemala.

Earlham School of Religion will be holding a dinner meeting for those interested on Sunday March 22nd at the Friends Church.

Jennifer Raymond-Muir announced the upcoming play of Carol Lynne Pearson, "Mother Wove the Morning."

The next meeting for business will be held on Sunday March 1st at 11:40 a.m. at Berkeley Friends Church.

The meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 1:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leonard,
Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the second day of the Third Month, 1992
At Berkeley Friends Church
Lynne Bird, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 a.m. Seventeen Friends were present.

Queries: Julie Russell responded to the Queries on Peace for the Worship and Ministry Committee. We particularly appreciate the focus on our need to have a spiritual center in order to minister effectively to peace in these troubled times.

Minutes: The minutes for Second Month were read and approved, with the following corrections. The correct name is Jennifer Rene-Muir, not Raymond-Muir.

Clerk's Correspondence: Berkeley Meeting will be holding its retreat on March 21st from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call Bob Jolly at 665-5601 if you wish to attend.

Berkeley Friends Church will be hosting a dinner for the Earlham School of Religion on March 22nd.

A letter was received from Bob Burnett requesting membership in the Meeting and was referred to Overseers.

Old Business:

David Berg, Assistant Treasurer of Berkeley Friends Meeting, has performed an audit of our accounts for 1990-91, which is attached to these minutes. The report and its recommendations were accepted. The clerk was asked to write to David Berg expressing our appreciation.

David Leonard expressed a concern that the Sharing Fund be kept constantly at a level of at least \$150 so that Overseers will be able to respond promptly and confidentially to needs as they arise. Overseers responded that this was in fact their attention and that they will seek renewed appropriations as the need arises.

Committee Reports:

Religious Education (Mary Anderson for Peter Trueblood): A detailed report on the state of the First Day School was received and is appended to these minutes. Sixty-three young people participate, 43 regularly. More volunteers are needed to teach the younger children. Suggestions for off-site classrooms near the Church would be welcomed.

Retreat (Bob Burnett): The theme for this year's retreat will be "Building

Community Through Appreciating Our Diversity." In order to encourage people to take advantage of the sliding-scale of costs, the retreat will be said to be free of charge and people will be encouraged to contribute to cover the costs as they feel able.

Treasurer (David Leonard for Leslie Leonard): The balance on hand in the general fund is \$4,789.69. The donations decided upon in the last monthly meeting have not yet been incorporated in the budget figures for this report and will be in the next one.

Worship and Ministry (Julie Russell): Arrangements have been made with Friends Church for expanded library shelf space. Work days for the next year will be held on: 3/21, 5/16, 7/25 and 10/10.

Pacific Yearly Meeting has asked for input on its revisions to Faith and Practice, particularly the sections on Quakerism and Christianity, dual and junior membership, and sexual preferences and same gender marriage. The committee is satisfied with these sections as they are currently written, but would welcome those Friends who have concerns to bring them to the committee. It will then cull them and bring them back to the Meeting.

Rachael Findlay is working with the committee to develop an introductory "course" on Quakerism.

The committee is pleased with the numbers attending meeting for worship.

Hospitality (Mary Comstock): Plans for picnics are underway.

Nominating (Bob Burnett): The committee is at work developing a slate for next year.

Overseers (Lois Hoxie): Membership committees are in place for Laura Cornell and Mary Comstock. A newcomers' brunch will be held on April 26th.

The committee recommends that a subsidy of \$100 each be provided in the future for both the Pacific Yearly Meeting representative and observer. This does not preclude requests for further scholarship funds. The recommendation was approved.

Overseers have developed a set of queries and a draft minute on same sex marriage, which will be published in the newsletter and discussed on May 31st. They are attached to these minutes.

Overseers feel that family relations should be dealt with through the committee and that a separate committee is not necessary.

Peace and Social Order (Jim Barnard): Various activities that the committee has sponsored were reported. These have involved nuclear waste disposal, the death penalty, and homelessness.

The committee finds burdensome the large number of appeals for funds

that it receives. Should it establish a binder with such requests for perusal by individual Friends? The meeting felt that such a binder would serve no useful purpose and the committee should feel free in throwing away appeals to which it does not wish to respond.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laura Cornell): The progress of the peace process in El Salvador is still unclear. EBSC is planning a 10th Anniversary celebration on March 29th.

Pacific Yearly Meeting (Laura Cornell): A number of difficult issues were raised in Representative Meeting. Chico State has raised its charges by 40 per cent and Yearly Meeting therefore probably will have to be moved. Suggestions for alternatives, short and long term, are urgently needed and should be passed to Steve Birdlebough of Sacramento Meeting.

New Business: David Leonard asked if it is disruptive for him to keep minutes on a lap-top computer. No objections were raised.

Someone is needed to assist with the planning of the child-care for the May retreat. Volunteers should please speak to Sherin Loyd.

Announcements:

The next meeting for business will be held on Sunday April 5th at 11:40 a.m. at Berkeley Friends Church.

The meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 1:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leonard,
Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the fifth day of the Fourth Month, 1992
At Berkeley Friends Church
Barbara Graves, Alternate Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 a.m. Eighteen Friends were present.

Queries: This month's queries will be addressed next month by the Hospitality Committee.

Minutes: The minutes for Third Month were read and approved, with the following correction. Sherrin Loyd's first name is spelled with two r's.

Clerk's Correspondence: A letter was received from Francia Welker and Sherif Tartar requesting marriage under the care of the Meeting. The matter was referred to Overseers, with expressions of great joy.

Old Business:

The reports on the applications for membership of Mary Comstock and Laura Cornell were presented by Lois Hoxie and are attached to these minutes. The memberships of both were recommended by Overseers. Final action will be taken next month. The meeting expressed its appreciation for the fine reports.

Calendar Items: Mike O'Sullivan was unable to be present to report on the AFSC. He and Nancy were blessed with the birth of a second son, Jesse, on March 24th. Barbara Graves reported on the special celebrations planned for the AFSC annual meeting, as this is the 50th anniversary of the regional office.

Committee Reports:

Nominating (Kate Buckner): The nominations for Meeting officers and committee members were presented and are attached to these minutes. Final action will be taken next month. The name of the Apple Juice Committee is to be changed to the Loaves and Fishes Committee.

Treasurer (David Leonard for Leslie Leonard): We are now 42 per cent of the way through the Meeting's financial year, have spent 30 per cent of our budget and have received 31 per cent of our projected income. The balance on hand in the general fund is \$4,010.10.

Worship and Ministry (Julie Russell): Planning for the course on Quakerism and for the new book shelves are well underway. A volunteer is needed to take pictures of Meeting members and attenders for the bulletin board. Joel Hildebrand has suggested an outdoor meeting for worship, perhaps in

connection with Meeting picnics.

There is a need for adult supervision of the children outside after the rise of meeting for worship, as the older children are sometimes too rambunctious for the safety of the younger ones. It was suggested that the high school class might be willing to rotate the responsibility for proctoring the play area for a period after meeting. In the interim adult volunteers will assume this task. The range of activities permitted probably needs to be restricted, e.g., no balls. Parents also need to be aware of the need to supervise their children. Julie Russell, Tom Huff, Ken Leonard and Stephanie Kennedy were asked to form an ad hoc committee to consider further and act upon these suggestions. Jamie Hamm has offered to be of assistance.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Sandy Hoffman): The grant which has helped needy refugee families with groceries is running out. There is a need for \$15 per week for 40 families. A special appeal will be put in the Meeting Newsletter this next month, Religious Education will consider if the children would like to raise funds, and Peace and Social Order will be asked to consider whether any other action is appropriate.

EBSC's Tenth Anniversary celebrations were held last week, which evoked a number of useful insights for those attending.

Religious Education (Peter Trueblood): The committee has located space for rent for First Day School in the old Jefferson School building. If the cost is too high, the use of the Leonard's house is an alternative.

Some Friends are also concerned to remind the men of the Meeting that they share equally with the women in their responsibility for the First Day School.

Stephanie Kennedy reported on the successful vegetarian pot-luck run by the High School group. Jane Timberlake was also especially helpful.

New Business:

Friends in Unity with Nature (Barbara Graves): This Yearly Meeting Committee is anxious to encourage Meetings to greater activities in this important area. It was agreed that Jim Doherty, as our Meeting's representative, Barbara Graves, as a member of the Pacific Yearly Meeting committee, and Rachel Findlay, as a member of the national committee, form an ad hoc committee to promote activities in this area.

Andrea English reported on the publication of selected writings (poems, etc.) from the Meeting Newsletter.

Announcements: Jamie Hamm's birthday is July 15th.

The Western Gathering of Friends will be held in Oregon from July 6 to 10.

The Friends Committee on Legislation lobbying day in Sacramento was very successful.

The Food Pantry may have to shut down its Wednesday distribution operation if it can not find a regular volunteer to assume overall responsibility for coordinating activities that day. A three hour weekly commitment is

involved. Anyone who is willing to help out should speak to John Maurer of Friends Church.

The next meeting for business will be held on Sunday May 10th at 11:40 a.m. at Berkeley Friends Church.

The meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 1:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leonard,
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business

First Day, the 10th of Fifth Month, 1992
At Berkeley Friends Church

Lynne Bird, Clerk, Presiding

*The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:44 A.M.
Twenty-five Friends were present.*

Responses to the Queries Facilities Committee responded.

Minutes The minutes of the 4th-Monthly Meeting were read and approved, without correction.

Clerk's Correspondence • Peter Lane of Westtown School will visit Berkeley 5/24 to speak about Westtown and Friends' education in general.

• Friends Committee on Legislation in California will be holding its 40th annual fundraising dinner 6/9. Meeting approved an outlay of \$105.00 for our representative and one other to attend.

• Pacific Yearly Meeting will be held in Claremont this year. The format will be different, with only a four-day agenda, due to an abrupt increase in costs. See our Clerk for more information.

• Bridgett O'Connell, a young Friend from Redding Friends Meeting, hopes to join this year's Quaker Youth Pilgrimage and is trying to raise funds. She will be the only representative from northern California. Lee Andreson speaks well of her family. An announcement will be published in the newsletter.

Old Business • The memberships of both Mary Comstock and Laura Cornell were warmly approved with humor all around. Susan Burr and Elsa Glines will organize a private welcoming for Mary Comstock; Ken Leonard, Barbara Graves and Erica Atkin Orvis for Laura Cornell.

A clarification was requested on the purpose of such private welcoming events in light of the other welcomings also held. There is a sentiment that those who have come to know a candidate member well, for example those on her or his membership committee, might in some cases like to participate in a small gathering centered on congratulating and reinforcing ties with the individual new member, since the larger gatherings are necessarily more formal and not always as timely, acknowledging as they do a larger group.

- Approval of Nominations: Nominating Committee reported a change of nomination for Recorder from Rachel Ann Elder to Larry Perry. This change will be seasoned. Otherwise the nominations seasoned from Fourth Month were approved.

- State of the Society Report: The draft report had been published in the newsletter. Ken Orvis read the draft and noted a previous comment that the list of fire victims within the other groups of Berkeley Friends were not necessarily complete. New comments included adding notes on Affinity Groups, the Nevada Test Site action and the passing of Wesley Eastman. The report was approved as amended.

Discussion followed on our established process for creating the report each year. This year's default to sole authorship occurred unintentionally as the deadline of Quarterly Meeting approached faster than our normal process could be organized. There is a clear feeling that the process of self-evaluation may be more important to our own meeting than the document produced or its reading in College Park Quarter. Meeting approved referring the question of process to Worship and Ministry and to Oversight for reexamination, with special note to ask into the recent experience of Andrea English.

Committee Reports • Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): At this point we have spent 49% of our budget, and have received 40% of our contributions. A checking account balance of \$4,667.00 includes \$2,957.66 in the general fund, \$553.09 in Retreat funds, \$681.25 in the Nicaraguan Sojourner fund, and \$475.00 in the Amigos Project fund. The savings account balance stands at \$1,337.50.

- Worship and Ministry (Ken Orvis): Kim Lacie of the PYM committee charged with writing a new *Faith and Practice* over the next decade or so has contacted us about an early meeting with Strawberry Creek ministry and oversight committees. On behalf of the committee she represents, she would like to get an initial feel for the sense within Strawberry Creek Meeting on some areas of faith and practice that seem to be of concern among the wider PYM community. Similar committees in all meetings are being similarly approached. Our librarian would like to purchase the bookcase which has been discussed previously. Meeting approved use of the "Furniture and Equipment" budgeted funds, as needed. As an initial experiment in response to expressed interest, Worship and Ministry will sponsor an informal Meeting for Worship in Tilden Park before the after-Meeting picnic later this month.

- Hospitality (Erica Atkin Orvis): The summertime monthly pot-luck picnics in Tilden Park after Meeting for Worship will commence this month. There will be a welcoming for Jesse O'Sullivan. There will be a joint new/old committee meeting this month. Hospitality also responded to the Fourth-Month query.

- Nominating (Kate Buckner): There will be a joint meeting of the new and old committees.

• Overseers (Lois Hoxie): The committee has been meeting in corners quite frequently. The newcomers' brunch served six new attenders. Plans continue on a threshing session on same-gender marriage. The Samatis and Emmons have served on a marriage committee for Francia Welker and her intended. There are two other clearness committees as well. Susan Burr and Barbara Graves served as a membership committee for Bob Burnett.

(Susan Burr): Susan reported on Bob Burnett's theological trail and on his current interest in Friends and in Strawberry Creek. Barbara graves also commented. The committee recommends for membership; this will be seasoned.

There was minor discussion of the same-gender threshing session mainly clarifying that this is intended to be a point of departure for future discussion.

• Facilities (George Russell): There will be a joint work day on the Friends Church building and grounds on 5/16. There are plans to alter the placing of reflecting versus plain light bulbs in the Fellowship Hall. The committee is experimenting with some changes in setup.

• Peace and Social Order (Jane Terry): Much of the recent meeting and subsequent discussion has focused on the Simi Valley verdict in the Rodney King case and its aftermath. A called Meeting for Worship, centered on concerns surrounding these events, has been scheduled for First Day evening (today), and another for mid-week. Several members of the committee are deeply concerned.

A desire to do something concrete in response has led to the following proposals being laid before Business Meeting. We might donate to a church in the Los Angeles area which is directly involved in relief efforts, or adopt one such as a sister church. We might help the Pasadena office of the AFSC in its ongoing or particular response efforts in this same arena of regional social justice. We might contribute to a local effort closer to home. The committee made no recommendation.

Considerable discussion followed. There was a note that the INS may have used the Los Angeles unrest as a cover for extensive arrests and deportations of non-nationals, and that letters addressing this activity might be called for. A broad concern that emergency relief needed to be immediate and timely led to a sense that individuals wishing to address these needs should probably do so on their own, through the involved Los Angeles churches; process, or funneling funds through meeting, would only introduce delays. On a broader front, many expressed a deeper need to address issues of race relations and social justice where they affect us and our community most directly, since it is here that we face the greatest personal need, and here that we have the deepest personal opportunity. Many saw the longer-term interest in a sister church as separate from the scope of immediate concern.

The committee also noted an execution scheduled for May 20 in Virginia.

- East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laura Cornell): The implementation of the Salvadoran peace accords is behind schedule, but progresses nonetheless. Many refugees now in the Bay Area are making plans for return home. The Journey Home campaign for Guatemalans continues. There will be a conference on religious solidarity in changing times at Mercy High School 6/6.

- Friends in Unity with Nature (Jim Doherty): Jim spoke of current events including a recent retreat.

- Retreat (Bob Burnett): The committee has received positive feedback on the retreat. 32 adults and ten children attended (as opposed to 44 and 12 last year); there were nine no-shows. The retreat cost \$336.00 more than fees covered, so the balance came from the meeting retreat budget. We will reconsider reserving the hostel next year, since we pay full rental for even a single occupant.

Announcements • (Barbara Graves): Berkeley Friends Meeting has many leftovers from a book sale; Barbara encourages us to check them out.

- There will be a workshop on nonviolence at Mills College in August.

- (Tom Whiteman): A San Diego Friend is running for a seat on the U.S. House of Representatives; funds would be welcome.

- Next meeting for Business will be 11:40 A.M. 6/7 at Friends Church.

Meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:35.

Kenneth H. Orvis, for the Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Business

First Day, the 7th of Sixth Month, 1992

At Berkeley Friends Church

Lynne Bird, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:40 A.M.

Sixteen Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes of 5th Monthly Meeting were read and approved with appreciation for their thoroughness.

Clerk's Correspondence • An invitation was received to a gathering of Friends of African descent, August 7-9, 1992. It will be at Howard University in Washington, D.C.

• Jim Doherty has passed us a letter from Bob Schutz describing ways to support Earthlight Magazine, a new magazine published by the Unity in Nature Committee of PYM. A line item of \$300 to \$500 for the next two years is suggested as a good way to get the magazine on its feet.

Old Business: • The nomination of Larry Perry as Recorder was approved.

• The membership of Bob Burnett was warmly approved.

Committee Reports: Worship and Ministry (Andrea English): An adult education project to study Quaker heritage is under way, coincidentally with a publication by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting on the subject. Kim Lacey will visit the W&M committee meeting this week to get input for the revision of Pacific Yearly Meeting's Faith and Practice. One bit of input will come from the threshing session on same sex marriage, which is that "sexual orientation" is a more appropriate term than "sexual preference".

Hospitality (Erica Atkin Orvis): There will be a welcoming for Jesse O'Sullivan next week after Meeting. A new member welcoming for Mary Comstock and Laura Cornell is planned for July. Outdoor Meeting for Worship and potluck picnic will continue as a third Sunday event through the summer. Bring something to sit on. The spot will be marked by a wonderful Strawberry banner made by Miranda. Kid care is ad hoc, but was considered quite successful, as kids could stay in worship, or wander away and play at a distance. A 3-Meeting potluck is in the works for September. Nominating Committee will be contacted as the committee needs more members.

Overseers (Lois Hoxie): The turnout was excellent at the threshing on same sex marriage. Another is set for July 12. The Marriage Committee for

Francia Welker and Sharif Tartar has met, and a recommendation is expected next month. October 11th will be the next Newcomer's Brunch. The committee will be in touch with the Emmons regarding the preparation of a Memorial Minute for Mari, and to find out how the Meeting can be of support during this time.

Peace and Social Order (Jane Terry): Concern after the riots in Los Angeles remains high in the awareness of the committee, and what actions may be effective. July 26th after the rise of Meeting, Terry Messman will speak about the Homeless Organizing Project of the East Bay (HOPE), an AFSC sponsored organization.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laura Cornell): EBSC has been receiving calls from Haitian refugees requesting legal help with asylum. There has been a decision not to extend the Covenant to include Haitians, though the calls for information will continue to be answered. El Salvador is off schedule with the peace accords, but many are planning to return anyway. The situation in Guatemala was expected to get worse, and it has, with death threats and harassment of people working in peasant groups or for human rights. Churches are starting to pull back their support of such organizations as it is too hazardous. Laura and Sandy are simplifying the process of buying the grocery coupons which raise funds for EBSC.

Quarterly Meeting (Carl Anderson): Quarterly allocated funds for Bridgett O'Connell to go on the Quaker Youth Pilgrimage, but she still needs more. The Malley's are resigning at Ben Lomond, so both Program Co-ordinator and Maintenance positions are open.

Friends in Unity with Nature (Lee Andresen): A follow-up to the conference in Rio is planned for September in Sacramento, to focus on ecological opportunities in California. Perhaps we could support Jim Doherty to go.

Treasurer (Lynne Bird for Leslie Leonard): Balances are as follows: General Fund \$2587.42, Retreat Fund \$387.79 (the May retreat deficit was \$165.30), Nicaraguan Sojourner \$681.25 (to be sent with Jane Terry), and Amigos Fund \$0 (A check for \$475.00 was given to Jeremy Groom, for which he was very grateful).

Pacific Yearly Meeting (Laura Cornell): This is a turning point year for PYM. Costs have risen significantly, so Yearly Meeting will be only four days this year, and discussions will focus on the future of Yearly Meeting. Let Laura know your thoughts.

Friends Committee on Legislation (Lee Andresen): The tickets for the 10th annual fundraising dinner were received, four will be attending.

New Business and Concerns (Andrea English): There are changes ahead for the use of space in the church building in the fall. Friends Church has decided to make space available for their children's program, leaving Strawberry Creek with shared nursery space plus two more rooms during the 10 to 11am time slot on First Days. Negotiations have fallen through for nearby school space, so alternatives are being considered. There have been an average of approximately 25 children per week attending Strawberry

Creek's First Day School this year. A meeting to discuss options was agreed upon for next Sunday evening, the 14th. Options to start with are:

- 1) Reduce the number of classes
- 2) Locate some classes offsite
- 3) Choose a different time for Strawberry Creek's worship so that First Day School hours will not conflict.
- 4) Look for another site for Strawberry Creek to meet.

The contract with Friends Church has never been based on the space used for First Day School, and it is clear that a combined First Day School is not currently desirable. Strawberry Creek does pay a very favorable rent for its combined activities. Meeting approved a group consisting of Andrea English, Peter Trueblood, Barbara Graves, and Lynne Bird to follow through on developing the ideas that arise from next Sunday's meeting. Ideas are welcome for short term (September) and long term solutions.

• Mary Anderson brought forward a concern for young people in the Meeting who face problems with depression and how we can be of support. The importance of semantics was stressed--use of the term suicidality rather than mental illness is significant. A literature packet from PYM's committee on mental illness was noted as a resource, as well as the safety net of support that Strawberries create for each other. This was agreed to be a very important issue, and referred to Overseers.

Announcements: Meetings for Business were scheduled for each month this summer, because of the First Day School issue. They will be July 5th, August 2nd, and September 13th.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:06.

Julie Russell

for the Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the fifth day of the Seventh Month, 1992
At Berkeley Friends Church
Lois Hoxie, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:45 a.m. Seventeen Friends were present.

Queries: David Leonard made a personal response to this month's queries on Stewardship and Right Sharing of Resources. They seem particular timely as we consider the current debates over the California State budget and the proposals to dramatically reduce the services to society's most disadvantaged and least powerful groups in order to protect the budget share and low taxes of those who are better organized.

Minutes: The minutes for Sixth Month were read and approved, with the following correction. EBSC is providing legal advice and assistance to Haitians but is not expanding the covenant to include educational and advocacy work for them. Friends thanked Julie Russell for her fine job with the minutes.

Clerk's Correspondence: A letter requesting membership in the Meeting was received from Judy Lightstone and was referred to Overseers.

Friends Committee on Legislation wrote to thank the Meeting for its sponsorship of the anniversary dinner and its continuing support.

Friends Church Quaker Heritage Day will be held May 22nd 1993.

A set of questionnaires on participation in Pacific Yearly Meeting was received and needs to be returned urgently to contribute to planning for the future of the gathering.

Old Business:

Overseers recommends that Sherif Tartar and Francina Welker be married under the care of the Meeting. Final action on the recommendation will be taken next month.

Andrea English presented a report on the space problems for the next school year, which is attached to these minutes. The specially called meeting of members had expressed a preference for a change in time as a solution to the problems, so the ad hoc committee developed proposals along that line. Friends prefer option #1, which involves our beginning our worship and First Day School at 9:30 a.m. Friends Church would then need to move its Sunday School to 10:30 and worship to 11:30. The meeting approved the presentation of this option to the Church. Friends saw several problems with option #2, which would involve our beginning at 10:30. If Friends Church can not approve #1, then the additional option of a First Day School and Adult Education program at 9:00 a.m. might be considered. If there are delays in reaching a final decision we will begin the fall with option #3,

which involves two classes being held off the Church premises.

Leslie and David Leonard will welcome Bob Burnett into membership in the Meeting.

Committee Reports:

Hospitality (Susan Burr): The welcoming to Jessie O'Sullivan went well. The next outdoor meeting for worship will be on Sunday July 19th at 10:30 a.m. at Mineral Springs. More members are needed for this committee and volunteers are welcome.

Nominating (Kate Buckner): Jim Kimball is nominated to replace David Calderon (who is unable to serve) on the Facilities Committee.

Overseers (Lois Hoxie): A summary of the meeting with Cliff Hamm to discuss Jamie Hamm's living arrangements during Cliff's year in Nigeria appears in the newsletter.

Overseers have initiated a request for the Yearly Meeting's mental health packets.

Facilities (Carl Anderson): A work day is scheduled for July 25th.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Sandy Hoffman): EBSC needs to raise funds and the grocery coupons are a relatively painless way to accomplish this. East Bay CRECE has several El Salvadorians who need support in returning to their country.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): We are two-thirds of the way through the year and have spent 63% of our budget but have raised only 47% of our needed contributions. Friends are urged to consider the financial needs of the Meeting. The full financial statement is attached to these minutes.

The audit report had raised the issue of paying social security for Mindy Brown. Friends Church needs to be contacted for joint action on this matter, which the meeting asked Leslie to do.

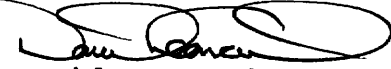
Worship and Ministry (Andrea English): Most of the last meeting of the committee was spent in discussion with Kim Lacey on the revision of the Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice. The process of revision will continue over the next seven (+) years. The Yearly Meeting Committee is interested in Strawberry's experience with Associate Membership for children and with the laying down of Meetings. Meeting suggested that a study group to look at Faith and Practice as a whole might be very helpful.

Announcements:

The next meeting for business will be held on Sunday August 2nd at 11:40 a.m. at Berkeley Friends Church.

The meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Leonard". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "D".

David Leonard,
Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the second day of the Eighth Month, 1992
At Berkeley Friends Church
Lynn Bird, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:45 a.m. Twenty Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes for Seventh Month were read and approved.

Clerk's Correspondence: A letter was received from Tom Yamaguchi requesting membership in the Meeting and was referred to Overseers.

The celebration of Ben Lomond Quaker Center's 25th anniversary will be held there on June 12, 1993.

Space is available in Friends House retirement center.

AFSC is establishing a skills bank, the details of which will be published in the newsletter.

The AFSC regional nominating committee is looking for suggestions for clerk and associate clerk of the regional executive committee. Speak with Barbara Graves or Andrea English.

The local AFSC 50th anniversary celebration will be held on November 1, 1992. The meeting agreed to purchase a table at the dinner, with the expectation that the eight spaces will be filled by Meeting members who will contribute toward the cost.

The Pesticide Action Network will have a volunteer from the Church of the Brethren working with them here for the next year. Housing is needed for her.

Old Business:

The meeting approved that Sherif Tartar and Francia Welker be married under its care on October 17th.

The nomination of Jim Kimball to the Facilities Committee was approved.

No action has been taken yet on the issue of Social Security payments for our childcare personnel.

Andrea English presented a further report on the space issue for the next school year. Friends Church recommends to us that we move our meeting and First Day school times to 9:30 a.m., that it retain its schedule of 10:00 for classes and 11:00 for worship; and that it hold an assembly in the church sanctuary until our classes end at 10:15. Strawberry Creek would still have access to two classrooms for the entire period. This arrangement was approved, to take effect on September 13th. It will be reviewed at the December Monthly Meeting.

Committee Reports:

Nominating (John Kersey): Lee Andresen is nominated to take Elsa Glines' place on Overseers.

Overseers (Lois Hoxie): The clerks of Overseers and Worship and Ministry proposed a

schedule and process for the preparation of the State of Meeting Report. Those who are to write the report will be appointed at the February business meeting and a called meeting will be held during February to invite general discussion of the Meeting's condition. Overseers and Worship and Ministry will each nominate to the February monthly meeting one person to write the report. Others may be added to the writing committee at monthly meeting.

A further threshing meeting on same sex marriage will be held on August 30th.

A committee has been formed to consider the application for membership of Judy Lightstone.

An arrangements committee for the Tartar-Welker marriage is being formed.

Peace and Social Order (Laura Cornell): Various presentations on concerns and needy projects are being prepared for after-meeting slots during the year.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laura Cornell): The purchase of grocery coupons to support EBSC went well last month and will be continued.

Friends in Unity with Nature (Jim Doherty): A survey regarding Friends concerns with environmental issues will be distributed in the near future.

Religious Education (Peter Trueblood): Fifteen to 20 children have been attending the summer program. Fifty-four children are expected for the fall, who will be divided into five classes. The class co-ordinators will be:

Nursery: Kathy Fink with Dick Emmons

3s - 5s: Caroline Duhem

6s - 8s: Stephanie Kennedy with Laurie Glass

9s - 11s: Joanna Graham

Oldest: Ken Leonard with Melinda Groom

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): Committee clerks will be given a report on their expenditures to date shortly and asked to make budget proposals for consideration in September. The Meeting is still behind in raising funds; contributions are needed.

Worship and Ministry (Andrea English): There will be an all-Berkeley meeting to discuss the Western Gathering of Friends on September 16th.

The assignment of queries to committees for their responses over the next year will be distributed shortly.

New Business:

Donna Hamilton expressed a concern for Jen Muir. Lois Hoxie noted that Overseers has been attempting to get in touch with her and needs an up-to-date telephone number. Individual Friends have been in contact with her in recent months.

Announcements:

The next meeting for business will be held on Sunday September 13th at 11:10 a.m. at Berkeley Friends Church. January monthly meeting will be held on the 10th of that

month.

A young adult Young Friends group has been formed and will meet next on August 16th at Ken Leonard's.

The meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 1:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leonard,
Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the thirteenth day of the Ninth Month, 1992
At Berkeley Friends Church
Lynne Bird, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:15 a.m. Twenty-three Friends were present.

Queries: Barbara Graves spoke of the centrality of meeting for worship to the life of the Meeting.

Minutes: The minutes for Eighth Month were read and approved.

Clerk's Correspondence: The Friends World Committee for Consultation directory of Friends meetings is available for \$6.50 a copy from Andrea English. A \$10.00 contribution to FWCC for the Meeting's copy was approved.

Several letters were received from students at John Woolman School, asking for contributions to enable them to pay to continue at this Friends' school. Individuals willing to assist may obtain these letters from the clerk.

Letters of thanks for the Meeting's contributions were received from John Woolman School and from Friends World Committee.

Old Business:

The nomination of Lee Andresen to Overseers was approved.

Report on Pacific Yearly Meeting (Laura Cornell): This year's PYM was shorter and somewhat smaller than last year's. The Peace Committee brought forward the Alternatives to Violence Project, which the Yearly Meeting agreed to join in sponsoring. PYM also will sponsor one weekend at the Lenten Desert Experience. Ministry and Oversight has formed a sub-committee on sexual abuse and harassment. Walker Creek Ranch in Marin will be the site of Yearly Meeting next year from August 3-8. A committee is considering the future format of Yearly Meeting.

Committee Reports:

Overseers (Lois Hoxie): Judy Lightstone has withdrawn her request for membership until a later time. A committee has been formed to consider the application for membership of Tom Yamaguchi.

Overseers recommends a \$200 scholarship for Dharma Yamaguchi to attend Delaware Friends School, which the Meeting approved. A special account also will be opened for individual contributions to her education. Dharma has special education needs which make this choice of school particularly important for her.

Overseers plans to undertake discussions on what a Friends marriage means, what it means to be married under the care of the Meeting, and what the Meeting's responsibilities are when those married under its care separate.

A short-term committee is to be formed to discuss the issues involved in Friends' response to death and dying.

Overseers recommended a minute to the Meeting on same-sex marriage. Friends spoke of the great value of the three threshing sessions we have now held on this subject. Others also urged that we not rush into a decision on this matter and be sure that we indeed have unity before taking final action. Some Friends were concerned that the minute as proposed is ambiguous as to whether same-sex unions would be called marriages and whether this is traditional for Friends. Proposals for change in the wording were made accordingly. The proposed minute now reads as follows and in order to achieve the deep unity which seems within our reach will be seasoned until next monthly meeting:

"Strawberry Creek Meeting recognizes and affirms the Light in all sincere and loving relationships which are characterized by growth and in which faithfulness and trust, hope and truth abide. We affirm the goodness of committed, loving relationships and offer recognition and support to those who share this ideal and desire to enter into a lifelong partnership based upon it. (~~By tradition~~) Friends recognize committed union in a celebration of marriage under the care of the Meeting. After careful consideration in the Light we have been led to decide that from now on the same loving care and consideration will be given to both same-sex ^{gender} and heterosexual requests for marriage, as outlined in Faith and Practice."

Facilities (Julie Russell for George Russell): The new library shelves are in place. The doors to the meeting room will now be open by 9:15 a.m. on Sunday. A sign will be made to encourage Friends to use the ramp. Workdays are coming up on September 26, 27 and October 10. Friends are strongly urged to participate.

Peace and Social Order (Jim Barnard): Action proposals on homelessness will be presented in a session after meeting for worship on September 27. On October 11 a focused meeting for worship will be held at Indian Rock to consider the heritage of Columbus' "discovery" of America.

Religious Education (Peter Trueblood): Mary Anderson will be teaching the 9s-11s with Joanna Graham. The 3s-5s and 6s-8s will join meeting for worship on the second Sunday of every month. Comments on this arrangement are encouraged. The Christmas Pageant is tentatively set for December 19th and will use Rufus Jones' Shepherd Who Missed the Manger.

Finance (Leslie Leonard): To date 82 % of the annual budget has been spent but only 62 % of the expected contributions have been received. The accounts and the budget proposals for next year are attached to these minutes. Next year's budget largely represents only incremental changes to this year's, although the change in meeting time will lead to increased child-care expenses. Meeting approved the cost over-runs recorded for 1991-92 for Religious Education and Overseers.

Worship and Ministry (Julie Russell): Children will be less disruptive when they enter meeting for worship if they sit with their parents. "Reserved for a child" signs have been prepared to assist parents in saving a seat.

Planning for a joint worship service with Friends Church is underway.

Rachel Findlay is preparing a course on Quakerism and Doug Gwyn will be asked to lead off with some lectures on Quaker history.

Nominating (Pat Dientsfry): Sherry Stozell is nominated to serve on the Hospitality Committee.

New Business: Elsa Glines is going to Pendle Hill for the year. The clerk will prepare a letter of introduction.

Announcements: Friends wishing to purchase a ticket to sit at the Strawberry table at the AFSC November 1st dinner should contact Leslie Leonard.

The next meeting for business will be held on Sunday October 4th at 11:10 a.m. at Berkeley Friends Church.

The meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 1:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leonard,
Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the fourth day of the Tenth Month, 1992
At Berkeley Friends Church
Lynne Bird, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:11 a.m. Twenty-six Friends were present.

Queries: This month's query concerns participation in the life of the meeting. Barbara Graves spoke to her appreciation for the great variety of gifts of service that Friends give to the meeting. Carl Anderson said that we do fairly well (but not perfectly) in participating in the life of the meeting. Andrea English values the part of the query that notes that our individual insights are tempered by the corporate body.

Minutes: The minutes for Ninth Month were read and approved with the substitution of "same-gender" for "same-sex" in the draft minute. Also, the Christmas pageant "may", not "will" be based on The Shepard Who Missed the Manger. Dharma Yamaguchi is at Delaware Valley Friends School. The PYM committee on sexual abuse is concerned with this issue within the Yearly Meeting.

Clerk's Correspondence:

Belau in Micronesia will shortly have a referendum on a proposed change in its constitution, which would permit the U.S. to have a nuclear military base there. Russ and Verna Curtis have written to request contributions (through Visalia Meeting) to help oppose this change.

The Berkeley Area Interfaith Council wrote to express concern about the possible Berkeley City tax on the revenues of the city's churches and voluntary organizations.

Old Business:

Minute on Same-Gender Marriage:

The meeting approved the recommended minute on same-gender marriage. Carl Anderson asked to be recorded as standing aside and to have his letter stating his position attached to these minutes. Tom Yamaguchi thanked Carl for expressing his opinions and for deciding to stand aside. Several Friends spoke to their joy at our having reached unity on this minute and to their appreciation for the careful, thoughtful and considerate process we have followed. The minute as approved is as follows:

"Strawberry Creek Meeting recognizes and affirms the Light in all sincere and loving relationships which are characterized by growth and in which faithfulness and trust, hope and truth abide. We affirm the goodness of committed, loving relationships and offer recognition and support to those who share this ideal and desire to enter into a lifelong partnership based upon it. Friends recognize committed union in a celebration of marriage under the care of the Meeting. After careful consideration in the Light we have been led to decide that from now on the same loving care and consideration will be given to both same-gender and heterosexual requests for marriage, as outlined in Faith and Practice."

Budget for 1992-93 (Leslie Leonard): The financial report for the year was presented. The Meeting spent 87% of its budget and received 81% of its expected contributions. The general fund has been slightly depleted by the shortfall but the meeting is still financially sound. No requests have been made for changes in the proposed budget for 1992-93, which will represent average contributions of \$220 per member. The budget was approved, with appreciation for the work of the Finance Committee.

The Ericksons have written requesting that the Sojourners' Fund be closed, at least as it relates to them. Their income now supports their modest standard of living. (Their letter is attached to these minutes.) The meeting agreed to discontinue making requests for contributions to the fund but to keep it open for those individuals who still wish to support the Ericksons' work through the meeting. Leslie Leonard will write to the Eriksons on the Meeting's behalf.

Nomination: The meeting approved the nomination of Sherry Stozell to the Hospitality Committee.

Ad-Hoc Committee: The meeting appointed Dick Emmons, Stephanie Kennedy and Leslie Leonard to serve as the ad-hoc committee to nominate the nominating committee for 1992-93.

Committee Reports:

Facilities (Ken Leonard): The preparation and priming of the ramp was done at the last work day. The final painting of the ramp and other painting will be done on the general work day on October 10. Wide participation on that day is needed.

Peace and Social Order (Jim Barnard): The committee has formed a Task Force on Homelessness, co-clerked by Bob Burnett and Ken Leonard. This group will serve as a clearing house for meeting activities and public policy concerns on homelessness. The Task Force will bring specific requests for donations and volunteer work to the meeting from time to time. The Meeting approved the appointment of the Task Force and recorded its desire to support activities in this area.

Peace and Social Order Committee proposed a minute in opposition to Proposition 165 on the November ballot. Several Friends expressed their unease at the precedent of the Meeting's taking a position "in opposition" to a ballot proposition, but others felt that this issue was particularly threatening to the moral fabric of our society. The following minute was approved:

"Proposition 165 will have the devastating effect of increasing homelessness and misery among the poorest members of our society, most especially poor women and children and disabled people. As such it is a particular threat to the moral community of mutual care in our state. We urge Friends and others to examine their consciences carefully in voting on this proposition."

The committee also urges members to inform themselves about proposition 167.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laura Cornell): Violence continues to be a serious problem in Guatemala and the peace process is slow in El Salvador, delaying the return of those

refugees who were scheduled to go back to Central America this year. There is a need for funds at East Bay CRECE to support the return of Salvadorian refugees. In addition the Covenant is about \$5,000 short of its budgeted needs and contributions would be welcome. A Friend suggested that the sale of grocery coupons benefiting EBSC might be facilitated if the Meeting were to purchase them in bulk in advance so they can be sold directly and immediately to Friends. Laura will explore this option.

Friends in Unity with Nature (Barbara Graves): The PYM group concerned with this issue met last week and is concerned to put the issue of the environment more forcefully before Friends. Meetings will be hearing more as the group works to expand our awareness and concern.

On November 8th there will be a gathering at the Orvis' home where Friends whose work bears on the environment will share about what they do.

Worship and Ministry (Andrea English): Adults and children are doing better about sitting together and being quiet when the latter come into meeting for worship, so reserved seating signs for the children no longer seem necessary.

A combined meeting for worship with Friends Church is being planned, perhaps at Thanksgiving.

The committee urges Friends to consider the new draft "Questions and Counsel" put out by London Yearly Meeting as a way of bringing fresh insight to our traditional Advices and Queries.

Hospitality (Susan Burr): The committee tries to further the life and community of the meeting by creating special opportunities for fun. The three Meeting picnic on October 25 will be a particularly good chance to bring together young and old, as well as our several Berkeley Meetings.

The Rise Up Singing book is in print again. The meeting approved purchase of 30 copies at \$230, both for general use of the Meeting and for resale to Meeting families.

Overseers (Lois Hoxie): The Newcomers' Brunch may be postponed. The committee report on Tom Yamachugi's application for membership will be made next month.

Announcements: Friends wishing to purchase a ticket to sit at the Strawberry table at the AFSC November 1st dinner should contact Leslie Leonard.

The next meeting for business will be held on Sunday November 1st at 11:10 a.m. at Berkeley Friends Church.

The meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 1:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leonard,

Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the first day of the Eleventh Month, 1992
At Berkeley Friends Church
Lynne Bird, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:16 a.m. Twenty-one Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes for Tenth Month were read and approved.

Calendar Items:

Ad-Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee: Leslie Leonard, Dick Emmons and Stephanie Kennedy nominated a Nominating Committee composed as follows: Patricia Dientsfry, Marka Carson (both continuing), Laura Cornell, and Bob Maynard (clerk). One more person remains to be nominated. These nominations will be seasoned until next month.

Quarterly Meeting: Larry Perry, Pat Dientsfry and Ester Morgan reported informally on Quarterly Meeting. The Quarter approved support for a peace center in Croatia. The religion and psychology conference will be resurrected this year. There is also an interest in religion and science and religion and philosophy.

Committee Reports:

Peace and Social Order (Ken Leonard): The Homelessness Task Force is most actively concerned with Habitat for Humanity, Elizabeth House, and Project Home Again. There will be a Meeting workday with Habitat for Humanity in Richmond on Saturday December 5th. Members and attenders are strongly urged to participate, both in order to assist the homeless and to build community with those in the Meeting who share this concern. The meeting approved the workday as a corporate activity of the Meeting, to which it gives strong support.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laura Cornell): There is an urgent need for calls to Washington concerning the peace process in El Salvador, which is now stalled. The EBSC hot line for details is 540-5907. There are 4,000 refugees on the border, awaiting return to Guatemala. Negotiations are under way to facilitate their resettlement. Laura and Sandy Hoffman proposed that the Meeting make bulk purchase of grocery coupons from EBSC for resale to Meeting attenders. In this way Friends would have coupons immediately after they wrote their check. The meeting approved this method on a trial basis for three months. The meeting accepts that it would be liable were coupons to be stolen or destroyed before they could be turned over to purchasers.

Religious Education (Peter Trueblood): The Christmas pageant is tentatively scheduled for

December 19th.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): The final financial statement for the 1991-92 year shows a deficit of \$700, with 97% of the budget expended.

Worship and Ministry: A copy of the current terms and guidelines for arrangements between Strawberry Creek Meeting and Berkeley Friends Church were circulated and are attached. Proposed changes would come in the starting times noted in item 2 and 9. The clerk of the Facilities Committee will be responsible for key control.

There will be a Thanksgiving Day worship service with Friends Church.

There are on-going mid-week meetings for worship on Wednesdays at Andrea English's. Call if you would like to attend. Special meetings for worship have been held at the homes of Maggie Ely and Kate Buckner, who have been ill. An adult education class on Quakerism will begin in January.

Overseers (Lois Hoxie): The committee recommends membership in the Meeting for Tom Yamaguchi. Action will be taken next month.

New Business:

Ken Leonard raised a concern that we are not as welcoming of new attenders at meeting for worship as we should be and are perceived by outsiders as unfriendly. Not infrequently new attenders are left with no one to talk to after meeting. Every member and attender needs to make a special effort to talk with newcomers after meeting. Mary Miche suggested that after -meeting meetings should be pushed back 10 or 20 minutes, so Friends have more time for greeting one another. Worship and Ministry will consider this proposal. The person who closes meeting also should be sure to announce who is available to answer questions.

Announcements: The next meeting for business will be held on Sunday December 6th at 11:10 a.m. at Berkeley Friends Church.

The meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leonard,
Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the sixth day of the Twelfth Month, 1992
At Berkeley Friends Church
Lynne Bird, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:15 a.m. Twenty-seven Friends were present.

Queries: Leslie Leonard responded to the Query on Unity for the Finance Committee. They celebrated the degree to which the Meeting was able to achieve unity in its decision on same-gender marriage and the very broad sense of family they feel in the Meeting.

Minutes: The minutes for Eleventh Month were read and approved.

Clerk's Correspondence: Thank you letters for contributions were received from the AFSC and Friends House.

Delta Friends Meeting invites us to join with them in a vigil for peace at Livermore National Laboratory on December 20th at 10:30 a.m.

Those wishing to receive Friends World News from the Friends World Committee for Consultation should write to them at 1506 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102.

A note was received from Dharma Yamaguchi about her studies at Delaware Valley Friends School. Elsa Glines, who has seen Dharma while at Pendle Hill, also writes about how well Dharma is doing and how well the Meeting's support for Dharma is being spent.

Old Business:

Ad-Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee (Leslie Leonard): Mary Miche was nominated to serve as the fifth member of the Nominating Committee. The other members of the committee were approved, as follows: Patricia Dientsfry, Marka Carson (continuing), Laura Cornell, and Bob Maynard (clerk).

Membership: The membership of Tom Yamaguchi in the Meeting was approved. Andrea English and Laura Cornell will welcome Tom into the Meeting informally.

Committee Reports:

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laura Cornell): Continued watchfulness about the implementation of the peace accords in El Salvador and the return of refugees to Guatemala are needed.

EBSC continues to need our financial support.

Friends in Unity with Nature (Andrea English): Two meetings were held last month, at which various Friends spoke about their work and the way in which it impacts on the environment. Another such meeting will be held in January.

Religious Education (Peter Trueblood): We continue to have an active and successful First Day School with good attendance, particularly in the 8 - 11 group.

In the new year the committee will be working with Worship and Ministry to evaluate the children's participation in meeting for worship.

Volunteers to assist with classes in the new year would be welcome.

Retreat (Bob Burnett): Approximately 20 attended the retreat on "Images of Divinity" on November 21st. The next retreat will be held on April 30 - May 2 at Ben Lomond. Meeting for business that month will be moved to May 9th. Friends expressed their appreciation for how well the November retreat went.

Worship and Ministry (Andrea English): Informal indications are that the contract with the Friends Church for next year will be approved with the minor changes suggested.

The change in the time of the meeting for worship seems to be going reasonably well. The inclusion of children also is valuable. We continue to puzzle over the lateness of some attenders and the comings and goings from meeting on the part of some adults.

The joint Thanksgiving service with Friends Church went well.

The introductory course on Quakerism will be kicked off on Thursday January 21st with a potluck and a talk by Doug Gwynn. For those wishing to carry on, the class will continue over the next six weeks.

Overseers (Lois Hoxie): A newcomers' brunch will be held on February 28th. Lois also spoke warmly of the new wardens at Ben Lomond -- the Sullivans.

Facilities (George Russell): The ramp has been painted. It is permissible to borrow Meeting chairs, but only after having contacted a member of the Facilities Committee and with the assurance that they be back for meeting for worship.

Homelessness Task Force (Bob Burnett): More than 20 Meeting members and attenders participated in the Habitat for Humanity workday on December 5th. It worked out very well all around. A workday will be held with Dignity Housing West in the new year.

Recorder (Larry Perry): Assistance is needed with updating the computer data base on Meeting members. He plans to bring copies of the existing records to meeting in January for Friends to check the accuracy of their own entries. If any member has a dry place in which Meeting records could be stored, please speak with Larry.

New Business:

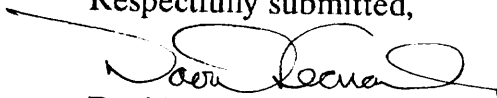
Friends Committee on Legislation: Lynne Bird has received a video from FCL on the Canadian health care system, which Friends are urged to borrow from her.

Lee Andresen, who is our representative to FCL, reports that Palo Alto Meeting is no longer to carry the main burden for the Harvest Festival, which is one of the central sources of financial support for FCL. Another or additional way to support FCL would be through locally organized activities. The meeting expressed support both for doing a local activity in the spring and in working on the Harvest Festival. The matter was referred to Peace and Social Order, for development of a detailed proposal.

Announcements: Larry Perry noted that Jim Kimball goes into the hospital for surgery next week and afterward will be home from work for several weeks. Visits would be appropriate. The next meeting for business will be held on Sunday January 10th at 11:10 a.m. at Berkeley Friends Church.

The meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 12:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David Leonard", written over a horizontal line.

David Leonard,
Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the tenth day of the First Month, 1993
At Berkeley Friends Church
Lynne Bird, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:18 a.m. Twenty-seven Friends were present.

Queries (Lois Hoxie): The Committee on Oversight noted that Queries on Children reflect a shared community concern with their role in the life of the Meeting. Overseers found that there is broad participation in First Day School and that Friends are deeply respectful of the children, including those with special needs. Nonetheless, it would be well for us to seek out the young people for conversations after meeting for worship and in other ways to treat them as equal participants in the Meeting. The committee discussed at length, although without conclusion, the types of membership for children, their appropriateness, and the role the children themselves should play in initiating them. Overall the Meeting seems quite attractive to families with children.

Minutes: The minutes for Twelfth Month were read and approved.

Clerk's Correspondence: A job announcement was received from AFSC.

The Northern California Ecumenical Council is requesting additional financial support.

Calendar Items:

Nominations (Bob Maynard): Esther Morgan is nominated to move from Yearly Meeting Observer to Representative and Stephanie Kennedy is nominated to be Observer. Larry Perry was approved as interim representative to Quarterly Meeting.

Old Business:

Nominating Committee: Mary Miche's nomination as the fifth member of the Nominating Committee was approved. Pat Dienstfry has had to resign from the committee and the Ad Hoc Committee will seek a replacement.

Friends Committee on Legislation Fund-raising (Jim Barnard): Peace and Social Order briefly discussed three ways to support FCL financially: a play(s) put on by Stuart Smith [who presented a well-written proposal], a pancake breakfast, and a day of canning for the Harvest Festival. One Friend was concerned that some forms of canning present potential health hazards and need to be done well. Liz Freeland reports that the Young Adult Friends are interested in going down to the Festival and working overnight. Peace and Social Order will develop these proposals further.

Committee Reports:

Religious Education: Mary Anderson expressed a personal concern that when children come up for meeting for worship it would be helpful for them to know what had been going on during the preceding worship. Her concern was referred to Worship and Ministry.

Treasurer (David Leonard for Leslie Leonard): In November and December the Meeting received 21% of its annually budgeted contributions and made 8% of its expenditures, both of which are standard. The General Fund now has a balance of \$5,052.16; the Retreat Fund, \$495.79; the Nicaraguan Sojourner Fund, \$75; Friends Bulletin, \$112 and CRECE Party, \$8.41. The Meeting approved that the CRECE funds be sent to that organization. A thank you has been received from Delaware Valley Friends School for our financial support for Dharma Yamaguchi. To date \$1350 has been sent. Further contributions are needed.

Worship and Ministry (Carl Anderson): Plans for "Quakerism 101" are summarized in the Newsletter. A \$10 contribution per person will be needed to cover the cost of duplicated materials.

We are still working on collecting all the children downstairs together, so they come into meeting for worship together.

The contract proposals from Friends Church increase the charges somewhat. The new contract was approved and is appended to these minutes. The liaisons with Friends Church were proposed to be the clerk of Worship and Ministry and the alternate clerk of the Meeting. Some Friends suggested that the clerk of the Facilities Committee should be among the liaisons. The matter was referred back to Worship and Ministry.

Overseers (Lois Hoxie): A newcomers brunch is planned for February 28th.

Peace and Social Order (Jim Barnard): A meeting is planned for January 17th for those interested in supporting the work of Share.

A national week of events in solidarity with the people of Haiti is being planned for February 7-13. A letter writing session after meeting for worship and possible participation in an inter-faith service is being proposed among other activities for the Meeting. Peace and Social Order will be refining the plans for our Meeting, which expressed its shared concern on this matter.

Homelessness Task Force (Bob Burnett): Work on a playground with Dignity Housing West is being planned. Habitat for Humanity needs volunteer assistance on the building on which the Meeting worked as they strive to complete the project.

New Business:

Bob Burnett pointed out that the new State budget proposed by

Governor Wilson contains a further 5% cut in the support for welfare. We really do need to support the work of Friends Committee on Legislation in fighting this and other injustices.

Tom Huff indicated that the newsletter is open for brief articles that Friends wish to write about Meeting concerns.

Mary Miche asked what had happened to her suggestion that meeting for business start at 11:20 not 11:10. Worship and Ministry will bring a report to our next meeting for business.

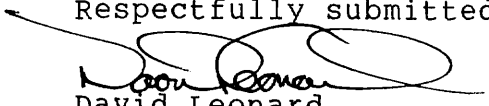
Barbara Graves recommended that Friends read the volume of poetry by Anne White, which was donated to the Meeting library recently. Anne was a nationally known Friend from Boulder, Colorado.

Announcements:

The next meeting for business will be held on Sunday February 7th at 11:10 a.m. at Berkeley Friends Church.

The meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


David Leonard,
Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the seventh day of the Second Month, 1993
At Berkeley Friends Church
Lynne Bird, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:18 a.m. Twenty-five Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes for First Month were read and approved.

Clerk's Correspondence: The Friends Weekend Lenten Desert Experience at the Nevada nuclear test site will be held April 2-4.

Old Business:

Nominating Committee: The nominations of Esther Morgan as Pacific Yearly Meeting representative and Stephanie Kennedy as Observer were approved.

Time of Monthly Meeting: Worship and Ministry recommends that all meetings after meeting worship start at 11:15 p.m., not 11:10. The recommendation was approved. Friends are reminded to keep their announcement succinct.

Ad-Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee (Leslie Leonard): Leslie Leonard and Stephanie Kennedy accepted Dick Emmons resignation from the Ad-Hoc Committee and nominate him as a member of the Nominating Committee.

Calendar Items:

State of the Meeting Report: Overseers nominated Lee Andresen to write the State of the Meeting report and Worship and Ministry nominated Francia Welker. Tom Yamaguchi was added by the meeting and all three names were approved. A discussion with the entire Meeting on this subject will be held after meeting for worship on Sunday February 14th.

Quarterly Meeting: Concern was expressed for the situation in Yugoslavia and a further meeting in Berkeley on March 28th is planned.

Committee Reports:

Religious Education (Stephanie Kennedy): The committee will be meeting Sunday the 14th of March to discuss curriculum. Those with ideas and concerns should please be present or give them to committee members.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): In January \$1120 in contributions was received and about \$900 was spent. At this point the Meeting has raised 30% of its annual budget and spent 15%, which is about where we should be. We will have a small short-fall in the rent category of the budget, as it was under-estimated.

Worship and Ministry (Tom Whiteman): The "Quakerism 101" series is off to a very strong start, with about 50 people participating. Doug Gywnn gave the talk for the opening session and Rachel Findlay led the second one.

The committee recommends that Andrea English and Barbara Graves be the liaisons with Friends Church. The meeting approved.

The committee requests permission to purchase 30 further cushions for the chairs in the meeting room. The meeting approved.

Overseers (Lois Hoxie): The newcomers' brunch will be held February 28th at the Leonards'.

Don Groom finds it difficult to know when to include occasional attenders in the Meeting Directory. He should consult with Overseers on this matter.

Nominating Committee (Mary Miche): The committee is trying to talk to all Meeting members and attenders about the positions they would like to hold. All should please be sure to talk with a member of the committee.

Facilities (Jerry Maynard): The committee is taking an inventory of the chairs to see which ones have been lost or broken. On occasion there have been too few chairs. If anyone wishes to borrow chairs they must contact a member of the Facilities Committee and have them back before Saturday night.

Carl Anderson serves as a liaison between the Facilities and Worship and Ministry committees. For repairs and work-days informal liaison with the Church seems to be working.

Peace and Social Order (Jane Terry): The committee at its last meeting discussed the Share Project and the Haiti and Yugoslavia issues. As noted above, Joel Gazis-Sax will be speaking to the three Berkeley Meetings on the latter issue on February 28th.

New Business: Several Friends noted some concern at the fund-raising requests after meeting for worship. Worship and Ministry was asked to bring a recommendation back to the Meeting on this matter.

The next meeting for business will be held on Sunday March 7th at 11:15 a.m. at Berkeley Friends Church.

The meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leonard,
Recording Clerk

MEETING FOR BUSINESS
Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
First Day, The Seventh Day Of Third Month, 1993

Lynne Bird, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:15 am. Twenty-two friends were present.

Response To Advices And Queries

Response To Peace Witness (Worship And Ministry, Barbara Graves): Friends are encouraged to live true to that center which bespeaks "Thy peace". In so doing our lives reflect our inner commitment to this witness.

Minutes From Last Month

Corrections: Cushions for chairs are handled by Facilities committee. The report from Overseers was presented by Joyce Samali. Joel Gazis-Sax' presentation on the Croation Peace Center will be held on March 28, 1993. The minutes were approved as corrected.

Clerk's Correspondance

- A. Esther Morgan writes that she has requested transfer of membership from Redwood Meeting.
- B. PYM Mental Health Committee appeals for new committee members. This letter will be included in the newsletter.
- C. Friends Bulletin recognizes the contribution of Strawberry Creek Meeting.
- D. Members of Chico Meeting are seeking support for their work with Komsomolsky, a community in the Russian Federation which has a history of participatory democracy. These Friends will be producing a documentary to publicize a positive image of Russian Life.
- E. Quaker Center will be celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary.

Old Business

The nomination of Dick Emmons to Nominating Committee was approved. Francina Welker-Tatar read the State of the Meeting Report, which she wrote with Lee Andresen and Tom Yamaguchi and the input of Friends. There followed considerable discussion regarding the length and details presented. Friends agreed that the length should be determined by the many issues and activities of concern to our Meeting. A warm thanks was extended to those who labored on this document. An edited version of the document will be reviewed next month.

Committee Reports

Worship And Ministry (Barbara Graves): The committee discussed the Advices And Queries On Peace Witness. The large and enthusiastic attendance in Quakerism 101 was reviewed. The committee recommends that those who write the State Of The Meeting Report return to the pattern of previous years and invite input from the various committees. Friends have expressed concern that our Meeting For Business is too expeditious. The committee finds our Meeting for Business reflects enjoyment mixed with reverence. The issue of non-Quaker fundraising was held over to next month.

Committee On Oversight (Lois Hoxie): The committee reports that thirty-three adults and six children attended the Newcomers' Brunch. The committee will review the process and size of these gatherings. In addition, the enthusiasm shown by individuals attending more than one Newcomers' Brunch suggests that there is a need for further outreach to individuals. A special thanks was extended to the Leonards who provided child care in addition to hosting the event.

Peace And Social Order (Jim Barnard): The presentation by Joel Gazis-Sax on the Croation Peace Center is a fund raiser endorsed by Quarterly Meeting. The Quarter suggests a Meeting donation although no amount has been specified. In addition, the committee recommends a minute endorsing the work of the Peace Center. This matter is to be taken up again next month. The committee will participate in hosting a

pancake breakfast at Friends Church to raise funds for Friends Committee On Legislation. The date in May has yet to be identified, but will be publicized closer to the event.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laura Cornell): The Bay Area Religious Task Force is placing an advertisement in local newspapers in El Salvador. It will be an open letter to President Alfredo Christiani discussing the need to purge the military of human rights offenders, as well as a reminder of the role the government and military must play in the implementation of the United Nations sponsored peace agreement. This ad is supported by EBSC. Member congregations have been urged to sign the letter. The purpose of the ad is to lend support to and protect human rights workers. The Task Force hopes the ad will remind Salvadorans that they have the support of congregations in our area. They are asking for a small contribution to cover the cost of the ad. Friends in attendance took up a collection for this purpose. In addition, Laura stressed the importance of the grocery coupons Strawberries have been buying. Strawberries have contributed 1.7 percent of EBSC annual budget through this program.

Religious Education (Joanna Graham): The committee has been meeting to organize a curriculum that will structure the First Day School. Committee members hope to reduce the stress on individual volunteer teachers that last-minute preparations can cause. The committee will meet next on March 14 after rise of meeting.

New Business

Human Rights Ordinance (Lee Andresen): Alameda County Board of Supervisors will be considering an ordinance that will regulate the use of county correctional facilities by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. She asks Peace And Social Order to review and bring back to Business Meeting next month.

Chairs (Carl Anderson): The Facilities Committee is keeping track of the chairs used in the Fellowship Hall.

Newsletter (Tom Huff): The editor requests announcements of coming events. He also encourages Friends to submit for publication short contributions of a personal spiritual nature.

Announcements

March For Gay And Lesbian Rights (Tom Yamaguchi): Tom will be in Washington, DC to participate in this event on April 25, 1993. He also adds that Dharma has received a significant contribution for her schooling at Delaware Valley Friends School from Springfield Meeting in Springfield, Pennsylvania.

The meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 12:40 pm.

The next meeting for business will be held at 11:15 am on April 5, 1993 at Friends Church.

For the Recording Clerk, Jed Appelman

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the fourth day of the Fourth Month, 1993
At Berkeley Friends Church
Lynne Bird, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:15 a.m. Twenty-six Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes for Third Month were read and approved.

Clerk's Correspondence: John Punshon will speak at Berkeley Friends Church on May 22nd.

John Woolman School writes encouraging contributions to this Friends high school. Thank you letters for contributions were received from the East Bay Sanctuary Covenant and Friends Committee for Legislation.

Eleanor Warnock wrote from North Hampton Meeting in Massachusetts.

FCL encourages Friends to see their video on the Canadian health system.

Jeanes (Friends Mental Health) Hospital will be featured on the Discovery Channel program on "Industry of Care" on April 30th.

A letter was received from James Ham expressing his appreciation for the Meeting and requesting membership.

Old Business:

State of the Society Report (Lee Andresen and Stuart Smith): The revised report was read and approved with minor revisions. The greatest discussion focused on whether or not the passage on violence in the larger society implied an "us versus them" attitude or a concern for all of those affected by violence. The report as approved is attached to these minutes. Great appreciation was expressed to Lee Andresen, Tom Yamaguchi and Francia Welker-Tartar for their work in drafting the report.

Croatian Peace Center (Jane Terry): Joel Gazis-Sax spoke to the Meeting last Sunday evening about his visit to Yugoslavia. The Peace and Social Order Committee requests a contribution of \$100 to the Peace Center in Osijek through the Yearly Meeting East-West Committee. The meeting approved. Individuals are encouraged to make contributions as well. The meeting asks to be kept informed by the Peace and Social Order Committee about this project.

Calendar Items: ^{and attendees}

Nominating Committee Report (Laura Cornell): Despite the fact that 77 percent of the ^{active} members of the Meeting have agreed to serve on committees, a few positions remain to be filled. The "slate" of nominations are appended to these minutes and will be seasoned until next month. If anyone has problems with any of the nominations, they should speak with a member of the Nominating Committee (Bob Maynard, Laura Cornell, Marka Carson, Mary Miche and Dick Emmons). Those who wish to volunteer for the remaining positions or to suggest others are encouraged to speak to members of

the Nominating Committee as well. The committee noted that the growth in Meeting membership has not kept up with the growth in attendance, which creates a problem in filling positions for which membership is required. It encourages the Meeting to consider whether there is a problem here. The issue was referred to Overseers. The meeting expressed appreciation for all the new names on the list of nominees and for the work of the Nominating Committee.

Report of the Yearly Meeting Representative (Stephanie Kennedy): PYM will be August 3-8 at the Walker Creek Ranch near Novato. There are a limited number of spaces available both for camping and lodging, so register early. Attenders will not be allowed to cook for themselves, including campers.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): We are 42% of the way through our financial year, and at this point the Meeting has received 42% of its annual budgeted income and has spent 29% of its budget. The report is appended to these minutes.

Worship and Ministry (Julie Russell): Quakerism 101 was a great success. The income for the course fell \$284 short of the funds raised. A recommendation on how to handle the deficit will be presented next month.

The committee has observed that violence is a strong concern in Meeting for Worship and is considering forming a group to address the issue further.

Further input on the solicitation of funds after meeting for worship is being sought. Appeals for Meeting supported causes and for attendance at Friends schools should receive priority. It is important that the Meeting's children have a safe atmosphere in which to raise funds and that this activity adds to the sense of Meeting community. The children are urged to make their appeal for funds themselves.

The committee will be drafting additions to the "Meeting Closer's Speech" to clarify various aspects of the meeting for worship.

The committee is discussing what adult education activity should follow on Quakerism 101.

Overseers (Lois Hoxie): The attendance at the last Newcomers' Brunch was overwhelming. Greater clarity about who is invited is needed. Nonetheless it should be stressed that the event was very successful. It did indicate that members and attenders do feel a need for greater opportunities for fellowship.

The committee used \$150 of its funds to support the education of Dharma Yamaguchi.

Overseers have a concern that some individuals and committees are "eldering" others in the Meeting, when (save for Worship and Ministry) this should be done through Overseers. A recommendation will be brought to the meeting on this matter.

No member should be dropped from the Meeting Directory without an action of Overseers.

Barbara Voorhees Emmons, Tom Whiteman and Lois Hoxie were constituted as the membership committee for Esther Morgan.

Facilities (Carl Anderson): A small but successful work-day was held at Friends Church March 13th.

Peace and Social Order (Jane Terry): The Pancake Breakfast to benefit FCL will be held on May 15th.

Seven hundred and eighty undocumented aliens were held in maximum security at Santa Rita prison last year. Alameda County is considering a Human Rights Ordinance which would prohibit this practice. A letter writing day in support of the ordinance will be held. The committee also is concerned at the tendency at the state level for aliens to be blamed for the state's problems.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laura Cornell): Irene Litherland was present for the return of the Guatemalan refugees to their homes and will speak to the Meeting about it on April 25th.

be joining with AFSC to

Announcements: The Meeting will hold an 80th birthday party for Barbara Graves on June 5th. There will be both a reception at Bob Burnett's and Kathy Berry's and a dinner at the Friends Church. Friends are urged to make contributions to the AFSC or the Tenderloin Reflection and Education Center as gifts to Barbara.

The next meeting for business will be held on Sunday May 9th at 11:15 a.m. at Berkeley Friends Church.

The meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



David Leonard,
Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the ninth day of the ~~Fourth~~^{Fifth} Month, 1993
At Berkeley Friends Church
Lynne Bird, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:15 a.m. Twenty-seven Friends were present.

Queries: George Russell spoke to the query on witness for the Facilities Committee. Setting up for meeting for worship is a weekly act of witness and commitment. In thinking of witness to society, one Friend reflected on the recent march in Washington for gay rights and another on Habitat for Humanity. Key concepts are: speaking, seeking, doing, being visible, demonstrating, and listening by considering. How do we look to outsiders? Are we so much to ourselves that we seem closed to outsiders? We are very diverse and need to be accepting of this diversity. Do our convictions ever get so strong we can't hear anything else? We all have the Light, we all have "the Center" -- and all beliefs ultimately come from that Center.

Appreciation was expressed by Friends for the committee's consideration of the queries.

Minutes: The minutes for Fourth Month were read and approved with minor corrections.

Clerk's Correspondence:

An announcement has been received for the AFSC-Inter Mountain Yearly Meeting Joint Service Projects for Young Friends this summer, which will be posted.

A letter was received from Friends Committee on Legislation requesting that the meeting be a sponsor for its annual dinner. The meeting approved \$85 for this purpose.

Jim Doherty writes thanking the Meeting for its help with the letter writing campaign on the James Bay project in Canada.

Robin Standish writes requesting transfer of her membership from Palo Alto Meeting to Strawberry Creek.

A few residential lots are available for purchase from John Woolman School.

Old Business:

Nominating Committee (Bob Maynard): Additions to the list of nominations were made as follows: Facilities Committee -- add Peter Trueblood and delete John McCarthy; Loaves and Fishes -- delete Kathy Fink, clerk; Religious Education -- add Kathy Fink, clerk, John McCarthy, curriculum, Stuart Smith, high school, Bob Burnett, high school, Jane Wolff, 3 to 5, Rick Forste, 3 to 5, delete Kathy Fink, summer coordinator. The following positions remain to be filled: Loaves and Fishes clerk, Religious Education Assistant Nursery Coordinator, and Religious Education Summer Coordinator.

The nominations made last month were approved. The ones made today will be seasoned until next month.

The committee has responded to the difficulties in filling positions on Religious

Education by increasing the size of the committee, so as to spread the work load more evenly.

The committee suggested that the Christmas program be devolved from Religious Education and handled by Hospitality or an ad hoc committee instead. Hospitality Committee will respond to this suggestion next month.

The meeting expressed its appreciation for the work of the Nominating Committee.

Committee Reports:

Worship and Ministry (Andrea English): The committee will defray part of the costs of Quakerism 101 out of funds that have already been budgeted to it, but needs additional funds for the balance. The meeting approved an augmentation of up to \$140 to the committee's budget to cover these expenses.

Summer meetings for worship in the park are being planned.

The possibility of a Contra Costa worship group is being explored.

The committee, together with Overseers, proposed the following minute on solicitations after meeting for worship. The minute was discussed extensively and a revised version will be presented to the next meeting for business. Specific suggestions on the minute should be directed to members of the Committee on Worship and Ministry.

1) We ask that there be no solicitations at the rise of Meeting for Worship other than those for Society of Friends' projects or organizations already approved by Meeting for Business. Individuals seeking monetary support for activities clearly consistent with our concern for members of our community are encouraged to bring their requests directly to Meeting for Business.

In a spirit of cooperation with children's solicitations, we encourage children to approach individuals during the social hour and/or that the Meeting designate a children's table where members can seek them out to respond to solicitations during the social hour.

2) In keeping with the testimony that "gambling by risking money haphazardly disregards the belief that possessions are a trust" and the query on simplicity -- "Do we refrain from gambling and from practices based on principles of gambling?" -- we recommend against all solicitations for raffles.

3) In addition, we urge Friends to limit announcements at rise of Meeting to those one would consider of specific relevance to our Quaker community and its activities. Brevity in these announcements is significant. All other announcements may be posted on the "This Week" board, the title of which we have recommended to Worship and Ministry be changed to "Current."

Hospitality (Susan Burr): The Songs of the Spirit book has been sold to many Meeting members and was used successfully at the retreat.

Suggestions for summer meetings for worship in the park would be welcomed.

Overseers (Lois Hoxie): The committee recommended the transfer of membership of Esther Morgan to Strawberry Creek Meeting from Redwood Forest. Overseers has appointed Maggie Ely and Sherin Loyd to co-clerk those who are willing to provide Esther with assistance as her physical condition deteriorates.

The membership committee for James Ham will be Joyce Samati (clerk), Mary

Miche, Tom Whiteman, and George Russell.

Overseers delegated to Peace and Social Order the task of holding a sharing session on violence.

In the future Overseers will work with the Directory Coordinator to decide who is to be included in the Meeting Directory.

Overseers does not believe that it is a problem that Meeting attendance is growing more rapidly than membership. But it will hold a sharing session in the future on why various ones of us have chosen to become members.

Overseers wishes to prepare a Bay Area version of the Honolulu Meeting book on "When Death Comes to a Meeting." Francia Welker-Tatar will be coordinating this effort.

Facilities (George Russell): The committee will be arranging for more cushions to be made for the meeting room.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laura Cornell): The attendance for the talk by Irene Litherlin was embarrassingly small. We recommend that events not be held again on Sunday evenings. Laura and Sandy Hoffman recommend that the Meeting send someone to accompany the return of refugees to Guatemala this summer.

Retreat (Bob Burnett): Last weekend's retreat at Ben Lomond was very successful, with 45 adults and 17 children. The deficit of contributions over costs was within the budget of the committee. The meeting expressed its appreciation to the committee for a job well done.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard): At the half way mark in the year the Meeting's expenditures are 50% and donations are 48% of budget. Bob Maynard will make an audit of the Meeting accounts before David Leonard assumes the treasurership.

New Business:

Lynne Bird suggested that the Meeting write a letter to Quarterly Meeting seeking any support possible for the education of Dharma Yamaguchi.

The meeting expressed its appreciation for the work done by committee members and officers of the Meeting over the last year.

Announcements:

The next meeting for business will be held on Sunday June 6th at 11:15 a.m. at Berkeley Friends Church.

The meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leonard,
Recording Clerk

MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS
First Day, the sixth day of Sixth Month, 1993
At Berkeley Friends Church
Susan Burr, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:20 a.m. Twenty Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes for Fifth Month were read and approved. The following correction was requested by Worship and Ministry. The committee has requested an alteration of its 1993 budget to cover the unexpected shortfall from Quakerism 101. Half of the shortfall will come from the committee budget and the balance will come from the general fund.

Agenda: The agenda was approved and summer meetings were scheduled as follows: Seventh Month meeting will be held July 11, no Eighth Month meeting will be convened, Ninth Month meeting will be held September 11.

Clerk's Correspondence:

1. A letter was received from Delaware Valley Friends School regarding a matching grant available for Dharma Yamaguchi from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. Friends agreed to commit \$650.00 to be matched by the Yearly Meeting. Announcements will be made at rise of Meeting. Friends may contribute toward this grant through a special fund which will be augmented by the general fund as necessary.
2. The Peace and Social Order Committee of College Park Quarterly Meeting has sent us a minute of concern regarding the School For The Americas. This entity trains counter-insurgents from other countries in our hemisphere. This matter was referred to our Peace and Social Order Committee to recommend a minute to the Business Meeting.

Old Business

1. **Nominating:** Friends approved the nominations which had been brought forward in May.
2. **Worship and Ministry report on solicitations** (Barb Tittle): Two changes were made in the wording of the minute. There followed a discussion of the ways Friends might encourage and assist children making announcements at rise of Meeting. A children's solicitation table will be designated by the cookies and a sign will be constructed. Those children who wish, should feel free to approach adults during the social time after rise of meeting. The committee wished to stress the importance of leaving these arrangements flexible as we experiment.
3. The transfer of Esther Morgan's membership from Redwood Forest Meeting was approved.

Committee Reports

Worship and Ministry (Barb Tittle): The new and old committees met together and noted the hunger among Friends for more learning and personal sharing. The new committee plans to move forward with plans for more activities in these areas.

Hospitality (Joel Hildebrandt): Summer activities will follow this schedule: On the second First Day of each month Friends will gather for a potluck picnic at a location near the Meeting House. In addition, on the fourth First Day of each month, Friends will have the opportunity to worship in Tilden Park. A potluck picnic will follow worship. Committee members noted that the goal of this committee is to build community through shared activities. The committee will search for other activities throughout the year. A baby welcoming will be organized for Nia, Barbara Graves' god-child and Glendora Patterson's grand daughter. The committee will consider another round of Friendly Eights and Pizza Nights. The committee has suggested that the Christmas pageant should be jointly planned by members of both this committee and Religious Education, with Hospitality taking responsibility to structure and direct the effort.

Friends agreed to continue discussion of the structure and direction of this activity through the summer, with resolution of outstanding issues to be reached in September.

Nominating (Bob Maynard): Here are the latest changes to the committees for this year: Loaves and Fishes -- Caroline Duhem to be clerk, Dee Rossman and Mary White added to the committee. Religious Education -- Mike O'Sullivan to be assistant nursery coordinator, Charlie Blanchard to be summer coordinator. These recommendations will be held over until next month. The next committee meeting will be in September. During the autumn, the committee will review job descriptions.

Oversight (Joyce Samati): Lynne Bird, current Alternate Clerk, will be ex officio member of Oversight. Susan Burr, current Clerk, will be ex officio member of Worship and Ministry. The committee for membership for James Ham has had two meetings with him. The committee is waiting for a letter from Falls Meeting, where James is currently a member. The committee will wait to proceed until this letter has been received. The committee for membership transfer for Robin Standish will be: Lynne Bird, clerk, Bob Burnett and Barbara Graves. The committee of support for Esther Morgan has met and is providing assistance to Esther. A sub-committee for the Meeting Directory will be: Larry Perry, clerk, Leslie Leonard, and Don Groom, with technical assistance from Ken Orvis. Larry Perry, Meeting Recorder, has provided statistics of members and attenders as of May first, 1993 as follows: 63 members (an increase of 4 members from the previous year), 6 members of other meetings, 60 attenders and 65 children in the Meeting under age 18. The committee continues to reflect on the meaning of membership and being under the care of the Meeting. We encourage Friends to hold the following Friends in the Light: Nancy Wolf Jackson and family as they relocate to Kansas this month. Lois Hoxie has had surgery and is recovering by taking a business trip to Alaska. Patricia Dienstfrey will have surgery on June 14 for breast cancer. The committee will next meet on June 17. A Friend raised the concern about including professional information and personal interests in the Meeting Directory. Joyce will bring this concern back to the committee.

Friends In Unity With Nature (Andrea English): There have been two meetings at the Orvis' home about occupations of Friends who are working to protect the environment. A third is planned in the near future.

Treasurer (David Leonard): We are 58 percent through our financial year. The Meeting has received 57 percent of its annual budgeted income and has spent 58 percent of its budget. The report is appended to these minutes. Friends approved a transfer from the general fund of \$123.25 to pay for the Meeting's copies of the song book.

College Park Quarterly Meeting (Carl Anderson): Contribution by the Quarterly Meeting to Dharma Yamaguchi's education was held over until the next meeting. Friends re-affirmed membership of the Quarterly Meeting in the Northern California Ecumenical Council. Pre-registration for future Quarterly Meetings will save those attending a \$20.00 late fee. The next meeting will be held in October at John Woolman School.

New Business

1. A Friend inquired about the process for obtaining bulletin board space in the Meeting room. Worship and Ministry approves content of posted items while Facilities maintains the bulletin boards in working order.
2. A Friend inquired about the process for changing Meeting location and was directed by Friends to several individuals who had considered this in the past.

Announcements

Newsletter Committee meets next on June 14. AFSC is looking for housing for a Friend who will be working in Concord.

The next Meeting For Business will be held on Sunday, July 11, 1993, at 11:15 a.m. at Friends Church.

The meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Jed Appelman, Recording Clerk.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS
First Day, the eleventh day of Seventh Month, 1993
At Berkeley Friends Church
Susan Burr, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:20 a.m. Twenty-nine Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes for Sixth Month were read and approved with the following corrections: 1) the next Meeting for Business will be held on September 12; 2) our grant toward Dharma Yamaguchi's education at Delaware Valley Friends School will be matched by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting; 3) Charlie Blanchard will co-coordinate the summer children's program with Katherine Keeney.

Clerk's Correspondence:

- The clerk read the results of Bob Maynard's audit of the Meeting's financial records, which included a commendation for the thorough care with which Leslie Leonard kept them for the past three years.
- Acknowledgments were received for Meeting contributions from AFSC and Connie Jolley.
- Ian Simpson, a Quaker law student is looking for rental housing in our area.
- John Woolman School announces an opening for an English teacher. One Friend mentioned the importance of increasing the presence of Friends at the school during this period of transition.
- Several advance announcements and publications from Pacific Yearly Meeting have been received and will be distributed to those attending next month.

Old Business:

- The nominations brought forth by the Nominating Committee during June were approved with thanks.
- A letter requesting a match for our \$650.00 grant toward Dharma Yamaguchi's education at Delaware Valley Friends School was sent to Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

Committee Reports

Peace And Social Order (Jane Terry): Former and current committee members met on June 15 at the home of Jim Barnard and Anna Graves. There followed a report from the committee on the SHARE project. The involvement of Strawberries with this nation-wide food distribution effort dates back seven years. The Bay Area distribution coordination for SHARE was initiated by the AFSC regional office. Strawberries were involved in coordinating and staffing one of several local distribution sites. While the core group of SHARE volunteers came from our Meeting, and facilities of the Friends Church have been used for packaging and distributing the food, this was never a formal Meeting project. Tom Whiteman had provided much of the overall guidance and energy throughout the years. Earlier this year, Tom was ready to move on to new projects. After a search for a new "primary volunteer", Tom Huff has provided the guidance and coordination for several months. However, as Tom Huff prepares to relocate to Hawaii in August, the need has again arisen for our Meeting to consider the role of SHARE in the life of the Meeting. After considerable discussion it was agreed that it will be up to the current group of SHARE volunteers to recruit new volunteers and to define their organizational status. Should a stable and energetic core of volunteers emerge from this effort, the Meeting will be willing to consider incorporating that function into the committee structure next year. We will be hearing from that group in the weeks ahead. The fund raiser play to be produced by Stuart Smith, has been postponed. Stuart is holding weekly gatherings for spiritual movement and acting exercises on Wednesdays on the Sacramento side of Ohlone Park. The committee will present further considerations about violence in society at a later Business Meeting. The next committee meeting will be held at the home of Jim Barnard and Anna Graves on Tuesday, July 20, at 7:30 p.m.

Nominating (Bob Maynard): There continues to be a need for a clerk and editor of the Meeting Newsletter to replace Tom Huff, who is relocating to Hawaii. The next newsletter is due at the end of

August. If an editor has not been found by then, it is hoped that the existing committee will be able to produce a "skeleton" newsletter comprised of the Calendar and the Minutes of the Meeting For Business.

Oversight (Joyce Samati): The committee to consider membership with James Ham will meet again in August. The following committee will renew work with Judy Lightstone on her request for membership: Lois Hoxie, clerk, Sherrin Loyd, Andrea English and Tom Whiteman. Lynne Bird, clerk of the committee to consider Robin Standish's request for transfer of membership from Palo Alto meeting, presented a sketch of Robin's life and prior affiliation with the Society of Friends. The committee recommends this transfer, and the Meeting will season this until next Business Meeting. Two requests for assistance were handled this past month: expenses for Esther Morgan, as Representative to Pacific Yearly Meeting, and a partial scholarship for James Ham who attended Friends General Conference in Stillwater, Oklahoma. James worked mornings with the very youngest children during the conference. The three Friends working on a local edition of the publication, "When Death Comes To The Meeting" are two Strawberries, Francia Welker-Tartar and Larry Perry, as well as Grace Buzalkjo of Berkeley Friends Meeting. The committee was not ready to make a recommendation regarding a Friend's request for professional identification and personal interests in the Meeting Directory. The Meeting Directory will be published very soon. A request from several Friends for various modifications to the "Kids' Directory" will be considered prior to a future publication date. The current format, sorted by the child's age, will be published with the new Meeting Directory. The committee considered a concern by one Friend about an item in a recent Newsletter. The committee requests that Friends hold Robin Standish in the Light following the recent death of her mother. The next regular meeting of the committee will be August 17.

Facilities (Carl Anderson): The next work day at Friends Church will be held Saturday, July 24.

Treasurer (David Leonard): The Treasurer calls Friends attention to the following: we are 70% through our fiscal year, with 69% of our budget spent while we have only received 59% of our income. We are currently \$1,400.00 behind the level of income that would have kept our income and expenses even. In preparation for clerks' work with the Finance Committee next month, a report will be prepared showing the status for each committee as of 70% through the fiscal year. Friends are encouraged to keep their contributions coming.

Worship And Ministry: The next meeting of the committee will be on July 17.

Newsletter (Tom Huff): A joint meeting of the Newsletter and Oversight committees was held to review the concern expressed by a Friend over an item in the Newsletter. The clerk distributed a copy of the current job description for the Newsletter Clerk and Editor, which is attached to these minutes. Suggested changes are as follows: Item 1, first line, will read "edits, prepares, copies and distributes the monthly newsletter"; under Item 1, the second on the list of contents will read "other contributed items as are appropriate and consistent with Friends testimonies". These draft changes will be held over until next month.

The next Meeting For Business will be held on September 12, 1993 at 11:15 a.m. at Friends Church.

The meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Jed Appelman, Recording Clerk.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS
First Day, the twelfth day of Ninth Month, 1993
At Berkeley Friends Church
Susan Burr, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:15 a.m. Twenty-seven Friends were present.

Response to Advices And Queries On Worship - Worship And Ministry (Julie Russell): The committee noted with disappointment that we have no context in which to share about our daily spiritual practices. They took encouragement from the realization that mistakes are part of the path. If we were always in the stream we would not know it.

Minutes: The minutes for Sixth Month were read and approved.

Clerk's Correspondence:

- College Park Quarterly Meeting will be held at John Woolman School, October 15-17, 1993
- Berkeley Friends Meeting will hold a Quakerism 101 series starting October 7, 1993
- Two Friends from North Carolina will be moving to Berkeley in the Fall. He will be working at Lawrence Berkeley Lab. They are looking for housing.
- Friends House in Santa Rosa is looking for interested Friends to increase the presence of Friends on their staff
- Helen Grinstead, a local Friend, sells her knitting projects to benefit Friends Committee On National Legislation. She would like to present her wares at our meeting: referred to Worship and Ministry
- Acknowledgments were received for our contributions to Friends World Committee On Consultation and Friends House
- Quaker Center in Ben Lomond announces two workshops this fall: Bread Making October 29-31, 1993 and Women's weekend November 19-21, 1993
- East/West Relations Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting seeks our support for Friends Center in Moscow (Russia). This matter was discussed under New Business.
- The Harvest Festival, a major fund-raiser for Friends Committee On Legislation, will be held September 26, 1993 in Los Altos
- Minutes from Pacific Yearly Meeting will be placed on the "back table"

Old Business

SHARE (Jane Terry): Jane reported on an organizational meeting held on August 7, 1993. Two participants who are not Strawberries, Michael Fletcher and Wes Ikeuchi, will assume major roles coordinating warehouse pickup and packaging at Friends Church, respectively. Elsa Glines will act as the money coordinator. Friends expressed thanks to Jane and the SHARE volunteers for moving past their organizational crisis. SHARE volunteers will report back to Meeting for Business in December or January. If this new organization is successful, the Meeting will consider forming a new committee in time for the February, 1994 nomination cycle.

Newsletter Editor and Job Description: The new job description was read and is attached to these minutes. Friends heartily approved Ramona Silipo's unseasoned nomination as our new Newsletter Editor.

Transfer of Membership: The Meeting approved a transfer of membership of Robin Standish from Palo Alto Meeting. Barbara Graves and Leslie Leonard will serve as her welcoming committee.

Committee Reports

Finance (David Leonard): Reporting for Maggie Ely, Clerk of Finance committee, David presented a Quarterly financial report for 83 percent of the current fiscal year. The Meeting has spent 75 percent of its budgeted expenses, but has taken in only 67 percent of its budgeted income. While the proposal for the next fiscal year presents a net decrease for the total budget it assumes a steady-state of the Meeting's ability to support its financial goals. The committee will judge, based on this month's contributions, the extent to which our Meeting can sustain this budget. There followed an extended discussion of the role individual donations play in meeting these goals. Friends asked that the Finance Committee co-ordinate with the other committees to provide descriptions for outreach donations and line items in the budget. The pamphlet describing our outreach donations will be updated this month.

Facilities (Tom Yamaguchi): The next work day at Friends Church will be Saturday, October 9, 1993. Friends voiced appreciation for the work of the committee in providing a setting for our worship.

Peace And Social Order (Jane Terry): Jane reported on two meetings held in July and August. A letter writing campaign was held to protest the School of the Americas at Fort Benning, Georgia, a counter-terrorist training facility. The committee will work with Worship And Ministry and Religious Education in considering Meeting programs about the topic of violence. Worship And Ministry will present a meeting in November on the historical Quaker response to violence. The next meeting of the committee will be Tuesday, September 21, 1993 at the home of Jim Barnard and Anna Graves.

Religious Education (Kathy Fink): The temporary replacement for Mindy Brown is doing an excellent job. The committee requests Friends to sign up to teach First Day School. Today was the first day of the new First Day School year. The Christmas event, the *Posada*, will be coordinated by a sub-committee. Two members from Religious Education (Ric Forste and another to be named) and two members from Hospitality (Joel Hildebrandt and Cindy Trueblood) will coordinate this year's event. We will add this sub-committee to the agenda for future Business Meetings. Children will continue to arrive at Meeting For Worship for the last fifteen minutes. In addition, 3-5 year olds will be with us on the second Sunday of each month.

Hospitality (Joel Hildebrandt): Joel emphasized that by staying with our traditional *Posada* theme, the annual event will take less effort and provide more fun. There will be a baby welcoming for Nia Marie Patterson-Rivera (Barbara Graves' god-child) at 1 pm on October 24, 1993 at the home of Cindy and Peter Trueblood. There will be a picnic at Cedar-Rose Park after Meeting For Worship on October 26, 1993.

Worship And Ministry (Julie Russell): The committee is looking at adult education opportunities and work with Peace And Social Order Committee regarding the subject of violence. A Pendle Hill weekend with Elise Boulding will be held in October. The minute on solicitations was read and approved. The next meeting of the committee will be on September 13, 1993 at the home of Bob Burnett and Kathy Berry.

Oversight (Joyce Samati): The "Planning Ahead Committee" is drafting a document of local resources to assist individuals with planning for death of themselves or those near to them. Andrew Seacrest will represent Friends Church on this committee. The committee now has a representative of each of the Friends groups in Berkeley. Membership committees for Judy Lightstone and James Ham will continue to meet. The committee will sponsor a Meeting For Sharing about membership in the Religious Society of Friends on October 24, 1993. The committee received a request for scholarship funds to help Melinda Glines attend the Gathering of Young Friends of North America in Maine this August. She was one of two representatives from Pacific Yearly Meeting which made a substantial contribution toward her expenses. Newcomers' brunches will be held both in the Fall and Spring. The next meeting of the committee will be September 14, 1993.

New Business

Moscow Friends Center (Carl Anderson): This effort is undertaken by many Friends around the world who see an opening to help develop democratic institutions in Russia. The East/West Relations Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting has sent us a minute asking for support and contributions to this effort. One Friend noted that other international Friends Centers have been joint projects of AFSC and FWCC, while this effort is not following a similar process. This matter was referred to Peace And Social Order for further consideration.

The meeting concluded at 1:30 pm with a period of silent worship.

The next Meeting For Business will be held on Sunday, October 3, 1993 at 11:15 pm at Friends Church.
Respectfully submitted, Jed Appelman, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS
First Day, the third day of the Tenth Month, 1993
at Berkeley Friends Church
Susan Burr, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:20 a.m. Twenty six Friends were present.

Responses to the Advices and Queries on Participation in the Life of the Meeting (Leslie Leonard for Overseers): We look forward to the Meeting's upcoming discussion on the meaning of membership. We are first and foremost a spiritual community and the meeting for worship is at the center of our participation. We also are grateful for the range of gifts that members bring to the life of the Meeting.

Minutes: The minutes for Ninth month were read and approved with the following corrections: meeting for business meets in the morning; the picnic was in September (not October); the School of the Americas trains in counter-revolutionary activities; and the "Planning Ahead Committee" is drafting a document that will list the local resources available to assist individuals in making arrangements in the event of a death, of either themselves or those near to them.

Clerk's Correspondence: The official transfer of membership for Robin Standish was received from Palo Alto Meeting. She was officially welcomed into the Meeting by Barbara Graves and Leslie Leonard.

Old Business:

Finance (David Leonard): Substantial contributions were received in September, so that the General Fund now has a balance of \$4,098.81. (The September financial report is attached to these minutes, together with an analysis of the Meeting's expenditures over the last year.) It is evident that the Meeting can support its budget and the Finance Committee recommends that the budget for 1993-94 be accepted as presented at last Monthly Meeting. The budget was approved. Finance Committee will write to members and attenders in November about stewardship, calling attention both to the Meeting's needs and to the updated pamphlet on Friends organizations, to which individuals may wish to contribute.

Committee Reports:

Oversight (Joyce Samati): An after-meeting discussion on the meaning of membership will be held on October 24. A newcomers' brunch will be held on November 14. The committee would like to purchase multiple copies of Faith and Practice

for resale to members and attenders. Gerry Maynard noted that it is nice to present copies of Faith and Practice to high schoolers when they "come of age." The meeting approved the suggested purchase and asked that it be handled through the Library account.

Worship and Ministry (Barb Tittle): A new "sunflower" banner has been prepared under which the Meeting's young people can collect money for school and other projects. A discussion of the Peace Testimony will be held Thursday evening November 4. The committee is deeply concerned with disruptions to meeting for worship, both by late-comers and by those coming and going. The committee proposed that after 9:30 a.m. people enter meeting through the church, be met by a meeting greeter, and come in together at 9:45. Those who come still later would enter with the children at 10:15. Concerns were expressed about where late-comers would worship while they are waiting to come in and about the unfriendliness of blocking people's entrance into meeting. Others felt that being on time and being settled were important statements of the centrality of the meeting for worship in our individual and collective lives. Friends asked that this matter be seasoned for a month before the final decision is made. In the meantime it will be announced after meeting for worship that this proposal is under deliberation and Worship and Ministry will consider it further.

Peace and Social Order (Jane Terry): The East-West Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting is helping to establish a Friends Center in Moscow, Russia. Peace and Social Order will make a contribution of \$110 out of its own funds to this worthy cause. Should continued support seem appropriate next year the committee will ask for regular budgetary support from the Meeting.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Jane Terry): EBSC is going through a major transition as it changes its key staff person. Office volunteers are needed. There also is a need for those willing to accompany refugees returning to Guatemala.

Retreat (Kathy Barry): The next retreat will be on January 22, followed by the spring retreat from May 6-8.

Hospitality (Joel Hildebrandt): A baby welcoming is planned for October 24 and the Posada is tentatively set for December 18.

New Business: Judy Lightstone and Joel Hildebrandt hope to join in a co-housing project in Berkeley and would be happy to talk to others about it. They are seeking loans to enable

them to get the project underway.

Bob Burnett spoke on behalf of the Christmas card project of the Berkeley Ecumenical Chaplaincy to the Homeless. He would like to advertise it through the newsletter (at no cost to the Meeting) and put up a sign after meeting for worship. The meeting approved the announcement of both projects.

The meeting ended with a period of worship at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



David Leonard
for the Recording Clerk

**Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting For Business
First Day, the Seventh day of the Eleventh Month, 1993
at Berkeley Friends Church
Susan Burr, Clerk, Presiding**

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:15 am. Twenty-six Friends were present.

Minutes: The minutes for Tenth Month were read and approved without correction.

Clerk's Correspondence:

- Nancy Salzman, Clerk of College Park Quarterly Meeting reminds us that the next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Friends Church on Saturday, January 15, 1994. She requests assistance with arrangements for the meeting. Carl Anderson, who is our representative to the Quarterly Meeting and also a member of our Facilities Committee, will "liaise" for us.
- Melinda Glines requests membership in our Meeting. Her request was forwarded to Oversight.

Old Business

Worship And Ministry – Care of the Meeting For Worship (Barb Tittle): Barb reported on the committee's work during the past month. Comments from several individuals were reviewed regarding a change in the process of entry into Meeting For Worship which was proposed at the last Business Meeting. Comments ranged from appreciation for the reminder to arrive on time to concerns about limiting access to the Meeting. After seasoning the comments and ideas from the last Business Meeting, and those received subsequent to it, the committee proposed a two-stage change in the process of entry to the Meeting: First, for the remainder of November, a "greeter" would welcome Friends at the ramp door. Then, during December, the "greeter" would welcome Friends at the ramp only until 9:30 am. After 9:30 Friends would be directed to the Church foyer to gather until 9:45. At that time they would enter the Meeting room. Friends who arrived after 9:45 am would be asked to wait until 10:15, and would enter the Meeting when the children arrive. One Friend read a letter expressing his thoughts about the community's efforts to address the issue of late arrival at Meeting. This Friend requested a threshing session to allow Friends to consider the various ways that we experience punctuality and Meeting For Worship. In response to this letter, a Friend quoted from Faith And Practice "When meeting for worship has a central place in one's life, regular and punctual attendance follows." (Advices and Queries on Participation in the Life of the Meeting) This Friend encouraged us to work together to create worship that is absolutely compelling. Another Friend noted a widespread practice among Friends Meetings for late-arriving Friends to gather outside the Meeting room during the first fifteen minutes and enter together. He noted that entry into Meeting later than the first fifteen minutes is rare in other Meetings. In addition, this Friend reminded us that it is Friends practice to delegate to Worship And Ministry Committee the responsibility to evaluate and implement decisions regarding the care of the Meeting For Worship. One Friend expressed appreciation for the letter and voiced support for a threshing session. At least one Friend noted that there might be problems using the foyer to gather late-arriving Friends. Following this discussion, Barb said that the committee will consider plans for a threshing session and delay implementing the proposed changes.

Committee Reports

Peace And Social Order (Jane Terry): The committee heard a presentation of the Dorothy Day House program to feed the homeless. Jim Barnard introduced the committee to the work of Cry For Justice in Haiti. Sandy Hoffman discussed EBSCs response to recent immigration law issues. The next meeting of the Committee will be on November 16 at the home of Jim Barnard and Anna Graves.

Jim proposed the following Minute of Support for Cry For Justice. This minute was approved.

Minute of Support For Cry For Justice November 7, 1993

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting expresses its support for the Cry For Justice campaign. This campaign is sending international observers to Haiti to accompany Haitians in their struggle to non-violently restore democracy to Haiti. An international presence reduces the likelihood of violence by the Haitian military, police and military sponsored "attaches". When violence does take place, they make possible accurate reporting of the crimes to the world community. Cry For Justice represents a courageous expression of Quaker values of non-violence and social justice in a very violent context.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laura Cornell): Laura mentioned a letter-writing campaign regarding anti-immigration legislation and a proposal for a sister community in Guatemala. A Friend proposed a meeting to review immigration issues.

Religious Education (Kathy Fink): Caroline Duhem has been added to the *Posada* Committee. Stuart Smith and Lois McClure relocating to Grass Valley has impacted the program for high school Friends. The committee will review the current every-other-week arrangement with parents.

Treasurer (David Leonard): David presented the Financial Report for the end of fiscal year 1992-1993. We finished the year with a small surplus after Friends responded to requests for additional contributions. He noted that the Federal tax code includes changes in rules governing donations beginning in 1994. This could affect the way Friends might wish to make contributions.

College Park Quarterly Meeting (Carl Anderson): Carl mentioned that the scholarship fund for Dharma Yamaguchi was held over for consideration until January, 1994.

Worship And Ministry (Barb Tittle): Barb reported on a discussion about the Peace Testimony which was held on November 4.

Hospitality (Joel Hildebrandt): Work by the *Posada* Committee continues.

Nominating (Mary Miche): The committee noted that, as is our custom, the Pacific Yearly Meeting observer becomes the representative at this time of year and a new observer is nominated. Stephanie Kennedy, who is our current observer would become representative. Elsa Glines was nominated as observer. This nomination will be held over until next month. The committee will contact each committee clerk to update job descriptions. These descriptions are due in December.

Oversight (Joyce Samati): About forty people attended a tender and thoughtful meeting on membership. A followup meeting will be held on January 30, 1994. Esther Morgan's support group continues its work and Friends gather with her for mid-week Meeting For Worship. The next meeting of the Oversight Committee will be on November 16.

New Business

- Carl Anderson announced that the Northern California Ecumenical Council will be considering a response to recent immigration legislation.

- Andrea English announced an unprogrammed Meeting For Worship with Friends Church on Thanksgiving at 9 am.
- Mary Miche announced that Food Pantry volunteers are needed prior to Thanksgiving.
- Joyce Samati asked if there were plans for Christmas or New Years Meetings For Worship. The Worship and Ministry Committee will explore the idea.

The meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 1:15 p.m.

The next Meeting For Business will be held at 11:15 a.m., on Sunday December 5, 1993 at Berkeley Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted, Jed Appelman, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting For Business
First Day, the Fifth Day of the Twelfth Month, 1993
at Berkeley Friends Church
Susan Burr, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:15 a.m. Thirty-four Friends were present.

Advices And Queries On Mutual Care -- Religious Education (Kathy Fink): Mutual Care is basic to what we want to teach our children in First Day School. We need to know something about each other in order to care about them. Our Meeting provides an opportunity for small groups of Friends to develop bonds of mutual interests and care. The committee observed that there are obstacles which many Friends face when attempting to gather in small groups. As part of mutual care, Friends are encouraged to help each other to gather in small groups. For example, Friends might assist with child care arrangements to enable a Friend to participate.

Minutes for Eleventh Month were read and approved with the following corrections. The College Park Quarterly Meeting is considering financial assistance not only for Dharma Yamaguchi, but also for other students. Announcements were placed, in error, under the heading, "New Business".

Clerk's Correspondence

- Minutes were received from the most recent gathering of College Park Quarterly Meeting.
- The agenda was received for the January gathering of College Park Quarterly Meeting. It will be placed in the newsletter.
- An announcement was received of a Christmas Witness at Livermore Labs. Interested Friends were encouraged to contact Carl Anderson.
- Friends House in Santa Rosa announced that they are recruiting a Head Nurse. The Board wishes to increase Friends' presence among staff and Friends are encouraged to apply.
- A Friend from Cambridge (MA) Meeting sent a notice of his slide shows on cross-cultural topics. His announcement was accompanied by a traveling minute from Cambridge Meeting. Stephanie Kennedy and Robin Standish will coordinate with Bob Harris of Vine Street Meeting and American Friends Service Committee. They will attempt, on short notice, to organize a venue for his presentation.

Old Business

Care Of Meeting For Worship -- Worship And Ministry (Barb Tittle): The committee wants to maintain a focus on ways to nurture the Meeting For Worship. Friends did not appear ready to implement the plan for managing arrival at Meeting For Worship which was discussed last month. Members of the committee will contact individually Friends who arrive late for Meeting For Worship. The approach will be to nourish tenderly these Friends and the Meeting For Worship. There will be no threshing session regarding this issue.

Committee Reports

Religious Education (Kathy Fink): Members of the committee wished to have the children participate in reading the Advices And Queries on Mutual Care. This will occur next First Day during Meeting For Worship. The high school program will continue for the next few months with the current every-other-

week schedule. *Posada* planning is coordinated by Joel Hildebrandt. The sub-committee on curriculum presented a proposal for an extended curriculum planning process at the last meeting of the entire committee. The committee will continue discussion during this month and next. There followed a brief and light-hearted discussion calling Friends attention to the fact that those Friends who arrive late to Meeting For Worship can be helpful in First Day School classes. Ken Leonard, a member of the sub-committee on curriculum, emphasized that the committee wishes to involve Friends in developing a long-term (three year) curriculum. Friends of all ages will be encouraged to share their ideas.

Pacific Yearly Meeting (Stephanie Kennedy): Stephanie raised the issue that the Yearly Meeting mailing list is always one year behind. Materials are sent to the outgoing representative. Stephen McNeil, who has been participating in our Meeting, is in charge of the mailing list for the Yearly Meeting. He promised to correct this for us.

Nominating (Mary Miche): Clerks of committees, representatives and officers will be updating their job descriptions in time for these documents to be used by the new Nominating Committee in January. Mary mentioned that helpful hints for clerks would be appreciated by many Friends who are considering participating in committees. She encouraged Friends with advice for clerks to send her some ideas to be distributed to Friends. The committee will consider drawing up an abbreviated list of committee descriptions for use by Friends during the nominating process. One Friend suggested that the full job descriptions might be incorporated in the Meeting library as a permanent and accessible reference for Friends.

Oversight (Joyce Samati): Joyce asked Andrea English to report on Esther Morgan. Esther has been diagnosed with ALS (Lou Gherig's Disease), a degenerative neurological condition. She was recently admitted to the respiratory unit at Alta Bates Hospital. She will need twenty-four hour care and she is considering whether she might move to Friends House in Santa Rosa. Esther appreciates and desires short visits from Friends. Barbara Graves is coordinating a mid-week Meeting For Worship at the hospital with Esther. Friends are encouraged to contact Barbara if they are interested. Susan Burr suggested that Friends take a moment to hold Esther in the light. Following a brief period of silence, Joyce continued presenting for the committee. A newcomers' brunch was held on November 14 at the home of the Leonard family. A membership committee has been formed to consider Melinda Glines' request. Leslie Leonard will clerk. She will work with Chris Hogness and Laura Cornell. Larry Perry is compiling a list of members and attenders with infrequent contact with the Meeting. As time allows, Overseers will attempt to reach out to these Friends. Friends are encouraged to contact Overseers regarding Friends they know of who might appreciate some outreach. The next discussion about membership will be held on January 30, 1994 after rise of meeting. The membership committee for Judy Lightstone has made its report to Overseers. The committee will continue to season her request. The work of the membership committee for James Ham continues. The next Oversight meeting will be December 14.

Peace And Social Order (Jane Terry): The most recent committee meeting was on November 16. There were three topics covered.

- The committee held a discussion about the November Business Meeting's request for a liberation forum, that is a panel presentation of changes in US immigration policy. Sandy Hoffman will help organize this effort. The committee hopes to target a Sunday in February, 1994 after rise of Meeting For Worship. The committee will contact Mark Miller, of AFSC, as a resource. He is currently working with the National Network on Immigrant and Refugee Rights. The committee will post a sign-up list to determine the level and extent of Friends' interest in such a presentation.
- Diana Dawn Buell, a young Friend from the Bay Area, attended the November committee meeting. She will be traveling to Cuba for two weeks with Global Witness. The committee drafted a short letter recognizing her trip and her intent to prepare a film presentation for the committee and the Meeting.

- Jim Barnard will contact Victor Lewis of the Oakland Men's Center, to lead a discussion about urban violence after rise of Meeting For Worship on January 23, 1994. Kathy Berry commented that Victor is inspirational.

.The next committee meeting will be on December 14 at the home of Jim Barnard and Anna Graves.

New Business

Ad Hoc Committee To Nominate The Nominating Committee (Susan Burr): Because the Recording Clerk forgot to put this on the agenda at a prior Business Meeting, we have gotten a late start. Friends approved a "fast track" process for seasoning the new Nominating Committee so that the new committee would be able to start in January. The ad hoc committee will be clerked by Barbara Graves. Bob Burnett and Mike Hartmann will server with her. They will make announcements at rise of Meeting For Worship, and Friends are encouraged to share their concerns with these committee members.

Earlham School Of Religion (Dick Emmons): Dick reminded Friends that Earlham is the only Quaker seminary in the country. He sits on the Board of Directors and encourages Friends to become familiar with the school. Dick proposed that Finance Committee consider adding a line item in the budget for a Meeting contribution to the school. He will place an item in the newsletter about Earlham.

Friends Bulletin (Susan Burr): Susan had received a renewal packet for Friends Bulletin. This will be forwarded to Don Groom, who keeps the Meeting Directory. Friends were in agreement that the Friend who keeps the Meeting Directory manages this activity for the Meeting.

A Question About The Retreat (Joyce Samati): Joyce wanted to know how the retreat would make use of both large and small group gatherings. Kathy Berry, speaking for the Retreat Committee, said the committee wants to encourage gatherings that promote greater sharing and intimacy among Friends. If the number of Friends at the Retreat is large, some of the day will be spent in smaller groups for this purpose. All Friends will gather at the end of the retreat in a large group. The retreat is scheduled for Saturday, January 24, 1994.

Announcements

The next Business Meeting was placed on the newsletter calendar as January 2, 1994. However, due to the holiday weekend, the Business Meeting will be held the following week.

Susan Burr asked Friends who have Business Meeting Agenda items to contact either herself or the Recording Clerk prior to the meeting.

Carl Anderson distributed a pamphlet which contains a list and description of the groups we have budgeted for contributions.

Andrea English announced that Patti Erickson's paintings will be on display at Friends Church next Saturday (December 11) and Sunday (December 12).

Tom Yamaguchi announced that he had received a letter from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting stating that they have made a contribution of \$1,300.00 toward Dharma's education at Delaware Valley Friends School. Their contribution was based on our Meeting's \$800.00 contribution. Tom noted that due to cutbacks of public school programs, Dharma's educational needs were not being addressed. Delaware Valley Friends School has a unique program for students with learning disabilities. Dharma has found that Delaware Valley Friends School better address her needs. Tom thanked Friends for their support of Dharma's education.

Bob Burnett briefly discussed his work on an Alameda County commission to develop plans for military and other government properties facing closure. This commission is addressing the urgent need to

develop innovative employment possibilities and environmental cleanup processes for several sites in the county. Friends are encouraged to contact Bob for more information and to share their ideas which he will bring back to the commission.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 12:45 p.m.

The next Meeting For Business will be held on Sunday, January 9, 1994 at 11:15 a.m. at Friends Church in Berkeley.

Respectfully submitted, Jed Appelman, Recording Clerk

**Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting For Business
First Day, the Ninth Day of the First Month, 1994
at Berkeley Friends Church
Susan Burr, Clerk, Presiding**

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:20 a.m. Thirty-two Friends were present.

Advices and Queries

Two Friends shared brief responses to the Advices and Queries on Home and Children .

Minutes

Minutes from the Twelfth Month were read and approved with the following corrections: Victor Lewis works for the Oakland Men's Project and the retreat will be held on January 22, 1994.

Clerk's Correspondence

- We received an announcement for a job opening at Friends House in Santa Rosa for the position of Resident Services Coordinator.
- Donna Hamilton writes from Redlands, California. Her address was sent to the directory coordinator
- Ramona Silapo writes to request consideration of membership in Strawberry Creek Meeting. Her request was sent to Oversight.

Old Business

Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee (Barbara Graves): Barbara reported that several Friends commented on the process which was used to solve the late start for nominating this committee, in the hope that all concerned would attend to established Quaker process in the future. Those nominated and approved for the new Nominating Committee are: Bob Maynard, Clerk (one year, continuing), Laura Cornell (one year, continuing), Mary Mische (one year, continuing), Rich Tittle (two years, new to this committee), Dick Emmons (one year, continuing) and Roxanne Seagraves (two years, new).

Committee Reports

Friends In Unity With Nature (Barbara Graves): The Pacific Yearly Meeting Committee on Unity With Nature requests input from Friends with special passion for environmental issues. This committee meets four times each year. Our representatives have been chosen on the basis of this. Strawberry Creek Meeting is urged to strengthen the connection between the PYM committee and our own Unity With Nature representatives.

Retreat (Judy Lightstone): Due to last minute sign-ups in the past, organizing childcare has been difficult. Friends with childcare needs are encouraged to contact members of the retreat committee as soon as possible.

Treasurer (David Leonard): David distributed a report of the first two months of the current fiscal year. Contributions are now at twenty-four percent of those budgeted, due in part to end of calendar year contributions. David mentioned several special funds: Nicaraguan Sojourner Fund disbursed \$1300.00 for the Ericksons, there is a shortfall of \$525.00 in the fund for Dharma Yamaguchi, a fund was established for the work of Larry Perry and Oversight to prepare Planning Ahead materials.

Hospitality (Joel Hildebrandt): The Posada in December was a successful community event. The committee is looking for new ways to support community. They would like to try a Sunday evening potluck. They will coordinate with the Church and Young Friends to find a date in February. The committee suggested a gesture of support from the Meeting to Esther Morgan which would involve the children making a chain of paper strawberries which Friends could sign.

Worship And Ministry (Barb Tittle): The Christmas Day Meeting For Worship was a successful event. Renewal of our contract with Friends Church was discussed. Last year our rent went from \$300.00 to \$330.00 per month. This year the rent was increased from \$330.00 to \$360.00 per month. The increase was largely due to increase in the cost of utilities. The increase was anticipated in our current budget and it was effective January 1, 1994. The committee discussed the State of the Society Report, which will be addressed in the next two months. The committee proposed a gathering for sharing about the meaning of worship on February 27, 1994 at rise of Meeting For Worship. Two "Friendly Eights" gatherings focused on the meaning of worship will follow. These gatherings will be held on March 20 and on April 17.

Nominating (Mary Miche): The committee again requested Friends to submit updated job descriptions.

Oversight (Joyce Samati): The committee will hold a second gathering for sharing about our expectations of membership in the Society of Friends. This gathering will be on Sunday, January 30 after rise of Meeting For Worship. The committee established emergency contacts after the Berkeley/Oakland Hills firestorm. The new contacts will be David and Leslie Leonard, with Amy Joy as backup. The committee will name its representative to the State of the Society report committee at their next meeting. The next meeting of the committee will be on Tuesday, January 11, 1994. Barbara Graves reported on Esther Morgan. Her sister visited for two weeks in December. Lois Hoxie noted that Esther will stay at the "Herrick Campus" of Alta Bates Hospital.

Peace And Social Order (Jane Terry): Victor Lewis of the Oakland Men's Project will present on Sunday, March 13 after rise of Meeting For Worship. The committee will use their bulletin board to develop a resource for Friends who wish to become engaged in immigration issues. The next meeting of the committee will be on January 18, 1994 at the home of Jim Barnard and Anna Graves.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laura Cornell): The EBSC will establish a sister city relationship with a returned community in Guatemala. There followed discussion of current events in the Mexican state of Chiapas.

New Business

SHARE Group (Jane Terry): Jane presented the results of the group's efforts since Business Meeting last addressed their organizational issues during the summer. The group continues with active participation of community members. Friends requested further seasoning of the group's request to become a committee of the Meeting.

State of the Society Report (Susan Burr): Susan reviewed the nature and process of this annual report to Pacific Yearly Meeting. We have established that each year a committee will be drawn from Oversight, Worship And Ministry and one additional Friend from our Meeting. Friends will gather for sharing about their experiences during the past year on Sunday, February 13 after rise of Meeting For Worship. Gerry Maynard volunteered to work with representatives from the two committees.

Announcements

One Friend noted that Meeting For Business often extends into the afternoon and asked if the starting time could be made earlier. Several Friends mentioned the importance of social and clean-up time prior

to Business Meeting. Friends recommended that Meeting For Business could be more expeditious to avoid running later.

College Park Quarterly Meeting will be held on Saturday, January 15, 1994 at Friends Church.

The next Meeting For Business will be held on Sunday, February 6, 1994 at 11:15 a.m. at Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted, Jed Appelman, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting For Business
First Day, the Sixth Day of the Second Month, 1994
at Berkeley Friends Church
Susan Burr, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:25 a.m. Thirty Friends were present.

Advices and Queries

Kathy Barry read responses from the Retreat Committee on Simplicity

Minutes

Minutes from the First Month were read by Tom Whiteman and approved by the Meeting

Clerk's Correspondence

- Food Pantry acknowledged our contribution
- Friends Bulletin acknowledged our contribution
- Quaker Heritage Day at Friends Church: Margaret Benafiel will give a presentation on spiritual nurturing on April 30, 1994

Old Business

State of the Society Report (Susan Burr): A meeting for sharing of Friends' experiences in Strawberry Creek Meeting during the past year will be held on February 13, 1994 after rise of Meeting For Worship. The purpose of this meeting is to assist the three Friends who will be writing the report. The three Friends are: Bob Burnett, Gerry Morris Maynard and Elsa Glines.

College Park Quarterly Meeting (Andrea English): Andrea reported on the Quarterly Meeting held at Friends Church in Berkeley in January. Three announcements were relayed:

- Friends House in Santa Rosa has a fund to assist Friends who wish to live there
- Peace Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting will organize a Meeting For Worship with the Shoshone people near the Nevada Test Site to focus on healing the land, air and water. The Meeting will occur from April 1-3, 1994.
- The Quarterly Meeting, along with AFSC and Quaker Center, will sponsor a weekend on service from March 11-13, 1994.

SHARE Project (Jane Terry): Jane presented the results of a meeting of current and past Strawberry SHARE volunteers. She proposed that the Meeting take on the responsibility to officially sponsor the current SHARE distribution site at Friends Church. The Meeting approved this after considerable discussion. Nominating committee was directed to fill one coordinator position in the future, as Jane wishes to continue as SHARE coordinator. Friends expressed a wish to keep this position flexible so that it might be filled by one or more Friends if needed.

Committee Reports

Religious Education (Kenneth Leonard): Kenneth described the current work of the curriculum development group. Andrea English has joined Kenneth and John McCarthy on this sub-committee. They have begun discussing curriculum concerns with parents. Bob Burnett and John McCarthy have worked with the high school group to develop a program.

Retreat (Kathy Barry): The day retreat was held in January and was well received by thirty-one adult Friends and eleven children. There was a \$147.00 surplus. The Meeting expressed thanks to the entire Retreat committee for their efforts.

Worship And Ministry (Barb Tittle): There will be a series of meetings for sharing:

- February 13, 1994: State of the Society
- February 27, 1994: The meaning of worship
- March 27 and April 24, 1994 from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.: Friendly sevens gatherings focused on queries about the meaning of worship (sign-ups will be available in advance)

The next meetings of the committee will be March 2 and March 28, 1994.

Nominating (Mary Miche): Mary encourages Friends new to our Meeting to contact herself and Dick Emmons to express interests in service to the Meeting. Roxanne Seagraves has asked not to serve on the committee due to her other responsibilities. The committee will not ask for a replacement.

Oversight (Joyce Samati): A meeting for sharing on expectations of membership was held on January 30. The membership committee for Ramona Silipo will be Barbara Voorhees-Emmons, clerk, Andrea English and Don Groom. There will be a joint meeting with Worship And Ministry on March 20, 1994 at rise of Meeting For Worship. The next scheduled meetings of the committee will be February 15 and March 15, 1994.

Peace And Social Order (Jane Terry): The committee discussed the Quaker response to conflict and violence and thanks the First Day School for the montage which was finished in January. Victor Lewis, of the Oakland Men's Project, will give a presentation on his work on March 13, 1994 at rise of Meeting For Worship. The committee will work with Sandy Hoffman to gather materials for a bulletin board on emigration issues. The next scheduled meeting of the committee will be February 15, 1994 at the home of Jim Barnard and Anna Graves.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Laura Cornell): Laura noted that a bus will take those interested to the Interfaith Witness Day in Sacramento. The sister city with a returned community might be changed to a commitment to a yearly visit from the Bay Area congregations to a returned community. Laura also reviewed how she and Sandy Hoffman are sharing the EBSC representative duties: Sandy attends the EBSC meeting and Laura presents to our Business Meeting. She noted that there has been an informal relationship between EBSC representative and the Peace And Social Order committee. She suggests that the EBSC representative be drawn from the committee in the future.

New Business

Friends Committee On Legislation (Liz Freelund): Liz is seeking input from Friends regarding Friends Committee On Legislation's efforts to formulate a policy on legislative initiatives addressing immigration issues.

April Meeting For Business to be held on April 10 due to Easter on the prior week.

Announcements

- **Potluck** scheduled for tonight (February 6, 1994) at Friends Church.
- Andrea English mentioned that **Esther Morgan** appreciated the card from the Meeting. Mid-week Meeting For Worship continues on Wednesday mornings (contact Andrea or Barbara Graves).
- **Habitat for Humanity (Kenneth Leonard):** Strawberry organized participation will be on the third Saturday of each month. Strawberries are encouraged to meet at Friends Church at 8:15 a.m. or call Kenneth for directions. The minimum age for participation is 14 years.

The Meeting concluded at 12:55 p.m. with a period of silent worship.

The next Meeting For Business will be held on Sunday, March 6, 1994 at Berkeley Friends Church at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Jed Appelman, Recording Clerk

**Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting For Business
First Day, the Sixth Day of the Third Month, 1994
at Berkeley Friends Church
Susan Burr, Clerk, Presiding**

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:20 a.m. Thirty-two Friends were present.

Advices and Queries

Barbara Barkovich read responses from the Finance Committee on Peace

Minutes

Minutes from the First Month were read by Lois Hoxie and approved by the Meeting with the following correction: immigration to be used in section on Peace And Social Order Committee report. Friends approved publishing February and March minutes in the next newsletter.

Clerk's Correspondence

- Delaware Valley Friends School acknowledges our contribution
- Andrea English and Tom Whiteman requested to be married under the care of the meeting. Their request met with warm approval by Friends present. Their request was given to Oversight Committee.

New Business

State of the Society Report (Elsa Glines): Two of the three writers, Elsa and Gerry Morris Maynard, were present to receive Friends responses after Elsa read the draft. Considerable discussion followed. Elsa and Gerry will take Friends' comments back to re-work the draft with the third writer, Bob Burnett. Friends asked for clarification of the time period covered by this annual report. Friends agreed on the following:

State of the Society Report is a report to the Quarterly Meeting which is then sent to the Yearly Meeting. It is drafted before the end of April of the current year and covers the period from May of the prior year through April of the current year (example, the current report covers the period from 1 May, 1993 through 30 April, 1994).

Committee Reports

Retreat (Judy Lightstone): Theme of community building through the deepening of spirit will be explored in the spring retreat. The spring retreat will be held at Quaker Center in Ben Lomond on May 6 - 8, 1994. The committee is attempting to plan the children's program in advance and requests parents' suggestions and input.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard for David Leonard): Expenses are currently 38 percent of budget while income is 39 percent of budget. Dues for Pacific Yearly Meeting increased by \$3.00 per member which is an increase of \$189.00 for this line item. Rent increase at Friends Church increased this line item by \$250.00. The new total budget is \$13,613.50. These figures were approved.

Hospitality (Joel Hildebrandt): The committee is hoping for a Saturday, April 5 Easter potluck to include egg decoration, with an Easter egg hunt to follow the next day. Final plans will be announced at rise of Meeting For Worship during March. The Valentines dinner attracted forty Friends.

Worship And Ministry (Susan Burr): Friendly sevens will be an opportunity for Friends to gather in small groups to share fellowship and consider queries about worship. The dates are March 27 and April

24. Friends will find a sign-up list on the "back table" in the meeting hall at rise of Meeting For Worship. Several Friends asked about arrangements for children at these meetings. Susan said the meetings were intended for adults. Last week (February 27, 1994) Friends gathered for a meeting for sharing about worship. Friends heard from a panel which included Dick Emmons, Kenneth Leonard and Laura Cornell. The committee will consider holding another such meeting in the future. The committee engaged in an extensive discussion about the First Day School curriculum as requested by the Religious Education Committee. Susan noted that the main job of the Worship and Ministry is to care for the Meeting For Worship. Committee members have been calling on individuals to discuss arrival times for Meeting For Worship. The next meeting of the committee will be on March 28, 1994.

Finance Committee (Barbara Barkovich): The committee recently met to consider the Advices and Queries on Peace. The next meeting of the committee will be on April 26, 1994 at the home of Maggie Ely.

Oversight (Joyce Samati): Joyce introduced Leslie Leonard who clerks the membership committee for Melinda Glines. Leslie read a report from the membership committee about Melinda's interest in becoming a member of the Society of Friends in her own right. Melinda's membership committee recommended that the meeting approve her request for membership. Melinda's request for membership will be seasoned until next month's Meeting For Business. The next meeting of the Oversight Committee will be March 22, 1994. The Oversight Committee will hold a joint meeting with Worship and Ministry Committee on March 20, 1994.

Facilities (Peter Trueblood): The committee has developed a plan for set up and clean up for Meeting For Worship through June, 1994. The committee brought the issue of neatness of meeting bulletin boards to the Meeting For Business. The following was discussed:

Bulletin Board content will be approved by Worship And Ministry Committee. Facilities will look after the boards and keep them looking "cared for".

Peter announced that the Friends Church office has been burglarized and that many doors in the facility have been re-keyed. In addition, the office now has an alarm system. Tom Yamaguchi added further concerns about the bulletin boards and noted that more seat cushions will be ordered.

Peace And Social Order (Jane Terry): Jane discussed the committee's most recent meeting on February 15, 1994. At that meeting Bob Maynard discussed current work of FCL on legislation regarding immigration issues. There are currently twenty-eight bills in the state legislature addressing this issue. There is a diversity of opinion among friends about immigration issues. The committee is considering a forum with speakers at some future date. The next meeting of the committee will be on March 15, 1994 at the home of Jim Barnard and Anna Graves.

Religious Education (Kenneth Leonard): Kenneth briefly reported on the progress of the sub-committee on curriculum. The entire Religious Education Committee will hold a threshing session about curriculum next week. The committee has been asking parents about the monthly visit of children to the last fifteen minutes of Meeting For Worship. The committee will bring this issue back to the Meeting For Business in the future.

Friends Committee On Legislation (Liz Freelund): Liz will host a meeting for sharing on immigration issues to gather ideas from Friends in her work with the FCL to draft a policy statement on the issue.

Announcements

- **“Movers And Quakers”** (Larry Perry): Contact Larry to assist Kate Buckner and Dee Rossman when they relocate.
- **Jobs For The Homeless Consortium** (Tom Yamaguchi): This group provided homeless people with job placement services. They have lost their funding. Contact Tom to find out how you can help gather support for this service.
- **Memorial Meeting For Sam Cox** (Lynne Bird): The Memorial Meeting will gather at 2 p.m. on March 27, 1994 at 234 Hutchinson (near State Highway 116) in Sebastopol. Betty Miller is coordinating.
- **Inter-Faith Peace Service** (Carl Anderson): An inter-faith peace service will be held at 7:30 p.m. on March 18, 1994 at the Berkeley Zen Center, 1931 Russell St. in Berkeley.

The next Meeting For Business will be held on April 10, 1994 at 11:15 a.m. at Berkeley Friends Church.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 12:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Jed Appelman, Recording Clerk

**Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, the Tenth Day of the Fourth Month, 1994
at Berkeley Friends Church
Susan Burr, Clerk, Presiding**

The Meeting began with a period of silent worship at 11:15 a.m. Thirty-four Friends were present.

Minutes

The minutes from the third month were read with the following corrections: Sam Cox's Memorial Meeting was on Hutchins Avenue, the potluck was on April 2nd, and the request for marriage was met with warmth, not official approval, and Melinda Glines' membership was recommended by Oversight as well as the membership committee.

Clerk's Correspondence

- Delta Monthly Meeting writes to notify us of their annual witness at Lawrence Livermore Labs for Mother's Peace Day, on Sunday, May 8, 1994 at 10:30 a.m.
- Honolulu Monthly Meeting wrote, notifying us that Tom Huff and Barbara Downs have requested clearness for marriage under the care of their Meeting and requesting Strawberry Creek's permission to proceed with the clearness process.
- Tom Huff also wrote, saying that Honolulu Meeting had requested that he write notifying us of his desire to marry -- hopefully in June. An old Quaker tradition was remembered in which Meetings which don't know a person well can apply for information from the Meeting which has more knowledge of a member, to facilitate their clearness process.
- The clerk notified us that she has registration forms for the workcamps at John Woolman School. There are two weeks, starting June 19th and 26th, the second being a week to which younger people are especially invited.
- The clerk has information on Friends General Conference, which will be at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, July 2-9, 1994. There will be many workshops, and worship, but no business. Many recommend this special experience.
- The clerk also has registration forms for Quarterly Meeting, which will be at Ben Lomond Quaker Center, May 20-23, 1994.

Old Business

The State of the Society report was read, and a few additions corrections were made and its forwarding to Quarterly Meeting was approved.

The membership of Melinda Glines, having been seasoned, was warmly approved. The committee to welcome her includes Liz Freelund, Joyce Samati and Mary Miche.

Committee Reports

Pacific Yearly Meeting (Stephanie Kennedy): PYM will be at the Cal State

campus in Chico this year. A registrar's report was distributed, indicating costs per day to be the same as last year, but that it will be one day longer. The Representatives are very concerned that PYM attenders may become a financially self-selecting group, so established a special fund for those who may wish to go from small Meetings and encouraged larger Meetings to provide financial support to those who wouldn't otherwise go. The clerk of Overseers will consult with the clerk of Finance to consider whether the Sharing Fund or the Scholarship Fund would be used for that, or whether a special fund might be earmarked, and report back.

Monthly Meetings are encouraged to hold pre-yearly-meeting discussions of issues which are to be considered at PYM. One which is particularly relevant is the working paper on the core of our faith. Stephanie will find a date for such a meeting.

Stephanie noted that the difficulties of finding a site large enough to house and camp and feed the numbers who attend PYM are increasing, so perhaps it is time to begin considering the possibility of splitting PYM into two groups.

The FWCC 18th Triennial will be held at Ghost Ranch, New Mexico, starting August 15th. If there are those who would like to provide transportation and/or hospitality to travellers from many parts of the world, please contact Stephanie.

Worship and Ministry (Barb Tittle): The Friendly Sevens on the subject of worship went well, and another is planned for April 24th. Childcare is not feasible in this context, but apologies were made to those with children at other W&M events recently. At a joint meeting with Overseers we discussed recent growth in Strawberry Creek's committee structure. An ad hoc committee of 2 Overseers (Lois Hoxie and Leslie Leonard) and 2 members of W&M (Bob Burnett and Andrea English) will meet to consider this issue. W&M committee discussed the working paper on the core of our faith, and agreed that sensitivity around Christian language is needed. The committee is continuing to be in touch with individual friends regarding the importance of being on time to Meeting for Worship, an action which nourishes the life of the Meeting. The sunrise Easter Service was organized by Tom Whiteman and Rachel Findley as a gesture of support to Friends Church at a difficult time.

Consideration of the queries on Equality showed how core this concept is to Quakers, that there is that of God in all. It is a challenge to live it fully, as it is not integral in our society. Reaching out to the violator as well as the violated also is very difficult, historically and currently.

Nominating (Bob Maynard): The initial report of new nominations was presented, and vacancies noted, with 85 people filling 100 positions. During the month of seasoning, those with concerns were advised to contact members of Nominating Committee, rather than individual nominees. Approval of the slate in May will allow plenty of time for old and new committees to meet together in June.

Oversight (Joyce Samati): The membership committee for Ramona Silipo (Barbara Emmons, clerk, Andrea English, and Don Groom), met and reported back to Overseers. A biographical sketch was read, and Oversight Committee recommended her membership. This will be seasoned for a month. The marriage clearness

committee for Tom Whiteman and Andrea English (Barbara Emmons, clerk, and Dick Emmons, Barbara Graves, Ralph Murphy, and Joyce and Bijan Samati) found them to be free of encumbrances, and joyfully surprised by the ordinary and extraordinary aspects of commitment to lifelong partnership. The committee and Overseers recommend this marriage, and see the month of seasoning as a positive time for action. Overseers found no concerns regarding Tom Huff's plans for marriage, and the Meeting heartily approved Honolulu Meeting's moving ahead with the marriage process. A gathering of incoming clerks of committees will be hosted by Overseers on May 23 or 29. Esther Morgan is still at Herrick Hospital, and appreciates short visits of 10 minutes or so. Julian Frederick is recuperating from a stroke and would appreciate calls or visits at his home. Overseers is not planning a Newcomer's Brunch this spring, so extra efforts to welcome new attenders by all are encouraged.

Facilities (Tom Yamaguchi): There will be an opportunity for fellowship in maintaining the premises where we worship, a "Work Day", Saturday, May 14.

Peace and Social Order (Jane Terry): After appreciating the meeting with Victor Lewis, concern has turned toward the issue of violence in the community. Next meeting will be at 7:30 pm on April 19th at Jim Barnard's house.

Friends in Unity with Nature (Jim Doherty): Earthlight Magazine needs new subscribers to keep this valuable publication alive. April 22nd will be Berkeley's 23rd annual celebration of Earth Day.

Retreat (Barbara Graves): The registration forms are in the newsletter for the Spring Retreat at Ben Lomond on May 6,7,&8.

Friends Committee on Legislation (Lee Andresen): FCL will meet at Berkeley Friends Meeting Friday to consider propositions on the June ballot. FCL will present an evening on the California Criminal Justice System on Thursday, April 28th at St Joseph the Worker Church. John Vasconcellos will be a keynote speaker.

New Business:

Tom Yamaguchi tells us that his daughter, Dharma, will graduate from Delaware Valley Friends School in June -- her last report was all A's. Indicating his gratitude for Strawberry Creek's support, Tom suggested that a continuing fund be established to support people with special needs. This was referred to the Finance Committee clerk.

Announcements:

- We hope to hear from Eric Joy, from the staff of John Woolman School, on May 15th. He will be speaking about Friends Education.
- Congratulations are in order to those who are soon to graduate: Dharma, as noted, Adrienne Maynard from Simon's Rock College, Melinda Glines from UC Santa Cruz, Joanna Bird from Sonoma State and James Leonard from Williams College.

- Joyce Samati noted that this month's Friends Bulletin has articles by Andrea English and Barbara Graves.
- The funding for the Jobs for the Homeless Consortium has been extended through August, but continued contact with the city councils of Berkeley and Oakland noting the value of this endeavor is needed.
- Andrea English reported on the Religion and Psychology weekend, and noted that George Ellis, a Quaker from South Africa, will be at Berkeley Friends Church for an informal discussion on April 19th.

We closed in silence at 1:25 p.m.

For the Recording Clerk,
Julie Russell

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting For Business
First Day, the First Day of the Fifth Month, 1994
at Berkeley Friends Church
Susan Burr, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:20 a.m. Twenty-two Friends were present.

Minutes: The following corrections were noted from the minutes for Fourth Month: Clerks' meeting was to have been May 22 or May 29, 1994 (see below), and Pacific Yearly Meeting will be held at Craig Hall near the campus of California State University at Chico (in Chico California). The minutes were approved as corrected.

Clerk's Correspondence

- Two proposals from the Committee on Ministry and Oversight of College Park Quarterly Meeting:
 - a) a fund to assist Friends with scholarship needs
 - b) a policy and procedure to lay down a Meeting

- John Woolman school introduces its new principal, Elee Hadley, a member of Eugene, Oregon Meeting

- Neil Fullagar, a Friend from Alameda, California, will ride a bicycle to Friends General Conference in Amherst, Massachusetts, to raise funds for American Friends Service Committee and multiple sclerosis research

Old Business

Nominating (Dick Emmons): Dick presented changes to the "slate" of Friends placed in nomination during Fourth Month. Friends agreed to hold over for approval these changes until next month's business meeting. Dick read the "slate" presented last month and these nominations were approved. Friends noted the importance of publishing the newsletter in time to reflect and comment on nominations.

Marriage of Andrea English and Tom Whiteman was officially approved. Leslie Leonard was named as clerk of the arrangements committee. The date of June 25, 1994 was mentioned as a day to set aside for this wedding.

Membership of Ramona Silapo was approved. The welcoming committee will be clerked by Lynne Bird, and Gerry Morris and Leslie Leonard will also welcome Ramona into membership in the Society.

Committee Reports

Religious Education (Kathy Fink): The curriculum will focus on topics each season as follows: autumn--community, winter--spirituality and spring--unity with nature.

Pacific Yearly Meeting (Stephanie Kennedy): Application for PYM to be placed in the June newsletter. Considerable discussion focused on the need to assist Friends who wish to attend PYM but can not for financial reasons (*topic covered below in Finance Committee/Treasurer report and further in Oversight report*). A Friend noted that PYM scholarships are a Meeting responsibility and should not be defined by special contributions.

Worship and Ministry (Andrea English): The next meeting of the committee will be held on Monday, May 2, 1994.

Finance Committee/Treasurer (David Leonard): David distributed the statement for half of the current fiscal year: we have spent 52 percent of our budget and raised 47 percent. There followed discussion of four issues:

- There is a shortfall of \$140.00 in the fund for Dharma Yamaguchi's tuition at Delaware Valley Friends School. We had pledged \$750.00 in order for Dharma to receive matching funds from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. Friends agreed to use the general fund to make up the difference.
- David noted that (*a propos* the **PYM financial assistance** issue raised earlier in the meeting) scholarship and sharing funds already exist. No separate budget item is needed. Friends wondered if the small amount available in these funds deter Friends in need from asking for more assistance.
- David proposed changing our fiscal year to start on January 1 each year. This would facilitate accounting for tax-deductible donations as well as budgeting for rent increases which occur at year end. Friends are encouraged to contact the Finance Committee with concerns.
- A final issue was consultation with Friends about the new budget, which has traditionally occurred during the summer in preparation for a new fiscal year in November. The clerk asked Finance Committee to review the budget with Friends to assist us in a transition if approved.

Oversight (Joyce Samati): Incoming, outgoing and ongoing clerks will meet with Overseers on Sunday May 29, 1994 after rise of Meeting For Worship at the home of David and Leslie Leonard. Readings will include: Sheehan, M. *Beyond Majority Rule* (pp. 63-71 and 90-106); *Faith And Practice* (pp. 28-36).

The Planning Ahead sub-committee has compiled information to prepare for one's own or a family member's death. They have begun to distribute printed materials. Francia Welker-Tatar and Larry Perry worked with Friends from Vine Street and Friends Church to develop these materials. They will be available to Friends for \$1.25, to defray printing costs. The amount of \$212.00 was provided from our budget to produce two hundred copies.

Arrangements for the now officially approved marriage of Andrea English and Tom Whiteman will be coordinated by Leslie Leonard.

The membership committee for James Ham's transfer of membership continues to meet. Oversight Committee has invited Judy Lightstone to let the committee know how she wishes to proceed in her membership process.

More on PYM financial assistance: Friends are encouraged to contact Oversight Committee when in need. Friends should not be discouraged from asking for scholarships or other financial assistance by the small amount that appears in the budget. Oversight will request additional funds as needed. Stephanie Kennedy and Susan Burr will work together on a newsletter announcement about PYM financial assistance.

Melinda Glines was welcomed as a new member last Sunday. Oversight will acknowledge new graduates and solicits input from Friends. Joyce asked Friends to hold Andrew Seacrest and his family in the Light, during his transition to a new job. The next committee meeting will bring together incoming, outgoing and ongoing committee members on Tuesday, May 17.

Facilities (Tom Yamaguchi): The next workday will be Saturday, May 14, 1994.

Peace And Social Order (Bob Reis): Bob reported on a successful Cuba night with young friends, a letter writing campaign about immigration issues and interest in the committee about co-counseling. The next meeting of the committee will be Monday, May 16, 1994 at the home of Jim Barnard and Anna Graves.

Friends Committee On Legislation (Lee Andresen): Lee reported on a successful meeting about immigration issues.

Announcements

South African Friends (Andrea English): Andrea reported on a recent meeting with George Ellis, a member of Johannesburg Meeting. Friends are encouraged to hold in the Light those Friends who live in South Africa under such challenging circumstances.

Gerry Morris is now using her maiden name.

Seeking Justice (Eric Moon): A program at Oakland First Presbyterian Church (27th and Broadway) co-sponsored by AFSC on Saturday, May 7, 1994.

Elections In South Africa (Joyce Samati): Friends acknowledge the historic occasion of the first democratic elections in South Africa. At rise of Meeting For Worship, a First Day School class presented a cake for this occasion.

The meeting closed after a period of silent worship at 1:45 p.m.

The next Meeting For Business will be held Sunday, June 5, 1994 at 11:15 a.m., at Berkeley Friends Church.

Respectfully Submitted, Jed Appelman, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting For Business
First Day, the Seventeenth Day of the Seventh Month, 1994
at Berkeley Friends Church
Susan Burr, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:20 a.m. Twenty-one Friends were present.

Responses to Advices and Queries on Stewardship (Carl Anderson, Facilities): Our Meeting has been a tenant of Friends Church for about ten years. We should cherish our relationship with the Church and be good stewards of it. Friends have noticed long-term deterioration of the Church facility in areas heavily used by our Meeting. Perhaps we should set aside a fund for these repairs and maintenance.

Minutes: The following corrections were noted from the minutes for Sixth Month: Our dear friend Francia Welker-Tartar noted the correct spelling of her name. Susan Burr, and not Larry Perry, sent corrections of the Meeting Directory to College Park Quarterly Meeting. The minutes were approved as corrected.

Old Business

Nominating (Susan Burr): changes and additions to nominations from last month were read and approved.

Committee Reports

Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative (Stephanie Kennedy): Friends are encouraged to attend a discussion after rise of meeting for worship on Sunday, July 24, 1994 on "The Core of Our Faith". One Friend noted that the Discipline Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting has been seasoning the minute to be discussed. Friends are encouraged to review materials on this minute, which are available from Stephanie. Francia Welker-Tartar volunteered to provide childcare for this event.

Considerable discussion followed regarding scheduling of the picnic during the same time as this important meeting. Friends agreed that the Hospitality Committee will be asked to delay the starting time of the picnic to permit Friends to attend the discussion. In addition, the Clerk agreed to work with the Newsletter Clerk to clear schedule conflicts.

Oversight (Joyce Samati): Oversight Committee thanked Friends who served on the arrangements committee for the wedding of Tom Whiteman and Andrea English. A membership committee for Frederic Forste will be clerked by George Russell. Other members of the committee will be Peter Trueblood and Caroline Duhem.

The committee wished to call our attention to the participation of Laura Cornell at Friends General Conference in Amherst. Laura served as a teacher in the third and fourth grade program. She was assisted by a grant from our Scholarship Fund.

Accusations of misconduct raised during meeting for worship on June 12, 1994 were discussed by the Oversight Committee. The essence of the minute from Overseers which was read after meeting for worship the following Sunday is:

- Strawberry Creek Overseers met to consider the question as to who is welcome to worship with us in meeting for worship. Overseers have concluded that we should maintain the long held view of Friends, and specifically the view of our Meeting, that we will exclude no person who can worship with us in an appropriate manner. Friends

who wish to discuss this matter further are invited to seek out any of the Overseers individually.

There followed a lengthy discussion about a request from the daughter of our member, Esther Morgan, for funds to buy her a communication device. Esther has been hospitalized with ALS, and is no longer able to vocalize or write. The Ministry and Oversight Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting has sent our Meeting a letter informing us of their intent to send a check for \$1,500.00. This amount is intended to cover a portion of the cost of a communication device. Esther's daughter requested this assistance of the Ministry and Oversight Committee. Several Friends suggested that our Meeting's role in this process should be to review the request with appropriate professionals who could aid in determining the best device to meet Esther's needs. Friends were clear about their wish to support Esther in whatever manner possible. Oversight Committee was asked to review the proposed device with appropriate professional assistance. The committee was encouraged to proceed as soon as the way seemed clear, even if this were to occur before the next scheduled Meeting For Business in September, 1994.

The next meeting of Oversight Committee will be Thursday, August 18, 1994.

Peace And Social Order (Tom Whiteman): Tom brought two concerns associated with East Bay Sanctuary Covenant.

Friends are encouraged to contribute toys for a CRECE holiday celebration. Toys should be of good quality, in serviceable condition, wrapped and labeled for gender and age. Friends suggested that First Day School children could become involved with this activity.

Our Meeting recently approved a minute in support for Cry For Justice, a human rights organization working in Haiti. We were asked to extend our sanctuary commitment to the people of Haiti, as have several EBSC congregations. After discussion, the following minute was approved:

- As a member of East Bay Sanctuary Covenant, Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting affirms, supports and unites with those other congregations of East Bay Sanctuary Covenant which have extended sanctuary to the people of Haiti.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): Bob raised a concern about immigration issues which will appear on the November ballot. One Friend suggested that Peace And Social Order Committee obtain a copy of the EBSC newsletter, "Exodus", which has options for individuals to engage in the issues of Haiti.

There followed a discussion, initiated by Julie Russell, about our Meeting's process for managing EBSC supermarket script. Friends agreed that we should review with EBSC staff the risks they are willing to accept if script is sent through the mail. In addition, Friends agreed to increase the budget for postal expenses, should Julie decide to send script through the mail.

Religious Education (Francia Welker-Tartar): First Day School re-convenes on Sunday, September 11, 1994. She distributed a memo from the First Day School Curriculum Sub-committee requesting input from Friends on topics to be covered by the First Day School Curriculum during the next academic year. Friends are encouraged to respond to the sub-committee by August 7, 1994. The next meeting of the Religious Education Committee will be on Sunday, August 21, 1994.

Retreat (Susan Burr): Since the last Business Meeting the Retreat deficit has been retired.

Treasurer (David Leonard): We are now two thirds through our current fiscal year. We have spent less than two thirds of our budget and raised less than two thirds of our income. We raised \$850.00 to support

Dharma Yamaguchi's education at Delaware Valley Friends School. One Friend suggested that we change the name of the Nicaraguan Sojourner Fund to the Central American Sojourners Fund, and Friends approved of this change.

Worship And Ministry (Andrea English): The committee is considering new messages to be delivered by the closer for the meeting for worship, such as encouraging Friends to take seats away from the meeting house door to leave seats for those who arrive later. The committee will be working on ways to assist those new to our Meeting to become familiar with the ways of Friends during meeting for worship, and more generally, with the Quaker sub-culture, in which such elements as punctuality for worship have been considered important. The committee will be planning additional opportunities to share our spiritual lives, such as we have tried to do with "Friendly Sevens" gatherings. Response to these plans of the committee are welcomed.

Facilities (Carl Anderson): A work day was held at Friends Church last Saturday, July 9, 1994. Preparations for the wedding of Tom Whiteman and Andrea English, such as weeding and window washing, were noticed and appreciated. Repairs are needed for the bulletin boards. There was further discussion about the committee's recommendation for a fund for long-term repairs to the Church. Friends agreed that the committee should review this with our liaison to the Church, to safeguard the boundaries of our tenant/landlord relationship.

Friends Committee On Legislation Representative (Lee Andresen): Lee distributed a list of committees for the FCL Harvest Festival. The Harvest Festival, a traditional Friends gathering, always occurs on the last Sunday of September of each year.

Database Keeper (Don Groom): Don has been transitioning database management from Ken Orvis. The database program is a property of Lawrence Berkeley Lab. Don wants to transfer the license to himself from Ken. Don called Friends' attention to the extensive work Ken did to develop the database management scripts. Friends expressed their appreciation for Ken's efforts with the database.

Clerk's Correspondence

- Ministry and Oversight Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting sent a letter regarding our Meeting's work with Esther Morgan's daughter about Esther's communication needs. The committee is planning to send our Meeting a check in the amount of \$1,500.00 toward a possible purchase of a communication device.
- Jane Timberlake, a member of our Meeting, requests to lay down her membership. Her request will be sent to Oversight Committee.
- Friends Committee on Legislation annual dinner in Sacramento will be held on August 17, 1994. Our Meeting regularly purchases two tickets. We had budgeted \$85.00 for this contribution, but the ticket price has been increased to \$60.00 per ticket. Friends approved a contribution for the additional amount (\$120.00).

Announcements

- Hospitality is needed for two Friends prior to Pacific Yearly Meeting: from July 30 through August 2, 1994.
- The Food Pantry needs stronger leadership. A 1/4 time coordinator position has been created and Friends are encouraged to apply.

The Meeting closed with a period of silence at 1:35 p.m.

The next Meeting For Business will be held on Sunday, September 11, 1994 at 11:15 p.m. at Berkeley Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted, Jed Appelman, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting For Business
First Day, the Eleventh Day of the Ninth Month, 1994
at Berkeley Friends Church
Susan Burr, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:20 a.m. Twenty-four Friends were present.

Responses to Advices and Queries on Participation in the Life of the Meeting (Andrea English): Members of Worship And Ministry Committee considered the advices and queries at the committee's most recent meeting. Friends are encouraged to recognize the variety of gifts individuals bring to the meeting. The committee will work to encourage Friends to feel part of the life of the meeting. The Clerk mentioned that these advices and queries are reflected in the nominating process. Another Friend noted that it is often easier to see other's gifts than our own.

Minutes From Seventh Month: The minutes from Seventh Month were approved with the following corrections. The starting time of the next Meeting For Business should have been 11:15 a.m., the Meeting has committed to purchase two tickets for the FCL annual dinner and no specific cost has been committed for that, nominating committee will produce a list of current committee members and clerks.

Clerk's Correspondence

- Roxanne Seagraves writes informing us of her need to resign from Worship And Ministry Committee. This matter has been refereed to the Clerk of Worship And Ministry.
- Pacific Yearly Meeting has sent a survey about the welfare of members of sexual minorities as well as a minute to be discussed on the subject of sexual minorities. These two matters have been refereed to both Oversight and Peace And Social Order Committees.
- Friends Christian Fellowship of Northern California has sent an announcement of its initial gathering. Several Strawberry members attended the initial gathering and have offered to announce future gatherings.

Old Business

- **Religious Education** (Francia Welker-Tartar): First Day School started this week with enthusiasm from both students and adult participants. The Religious Education Committee continues to urge Friends to offer suggestions regarding the First Day School program.
- **Pacific Yearly Meeting** (Stephanie Kennedy): Stephanie was particularly moved by several presentations from Friends from afar. Stephanie shared her thoughts and impressions of the week at PYM. There will be an increase in fees per member to PYM for next year.
- **Business Meeting** (Susan Burr): Susan presented a short review of the process of Business Meeting. She stressed that our work together should be undertaken as truth-seeking. She noted the importance Friends have placed on speaking when led and the importance of discernment when considering when to speak.

Committee Reports

Facilities (Carl Anderson): Carl presented a short review of the play area traffic flow issues. Carl observed that the gate at the bottom of the ramp is often locked but that unlocking it would also provide access to the street. One parent requested that the Meeting set up a consistent traffic flow for this area. Worship And Ministry Committee will review this issue.

Peace and Social Order (Tom Whiteman): A discussion will be held next week about three important propositions on the state ballot for November, 1994.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reiss): The EBSC will participate in the campaign against the "Save Our State" initiative on the November, 1994 ballot. In addition, Bob announced that he has a copy of a video tape about Haiti.

Treasurer (David Leonard): Our income is now \$1,000.00 behind our expenses. This is anticipated because contributions often slow down over the summer months. However, Friends are encouraged to contribute to make up this shortfall.

David distributed the current balance sheet and income/expense statement, which accounts for seventy-three percent of our current fiscal year. The Meeting has decided to extend our fiscal year for two additional months in order to align our fiscal year with the calendar year. The Finance Committee will consider an interim budget for the two additional months. Those committees which have used up less than or up to seventy-three percent of this year's budget are encouraged to extend their budgets through the end of this calendar year. Those committees which have used more than seventy-three percent of their budgets are encouraged to review their needs with either David or Maggie Ely, Clerk of the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee will present the 1995 budget at the November, 1994 Business Meeting.

One Friend asked about the per-member cost to the Meeting, which, David said, is approximately \$200.00 per member. David noted, that many attenders also make significant financial contributions to the Meeting.

Worship And Ministry (Andrea English): The most recent newsletter contains the list of Advices And Queries to be considered by committees during the next year. The committee has made some changes to closing Meeting For Worship. Committee members hope these changes will assist Friends on welcoming people who are new to our Meeting. Friends are encouraged to use the announcement and introduction time as a transition from the worship time to the social hour. In addition, Friends who close Meeting For Worship will present brief messages about worship after the manner of Friends.

The committee's charge from the Meeting is care for the Meeting For Worship. Friends are encouraged to think about vocal ministry. Are messages the result of seasoned reflection, given to the Meeting with an attitude of reverence?

The committee will soon begin a series of gatherings for learning and discussion about worship and Friends practices. These gatherings will occur on the third Sunday of each month.

Part of our contract with Berkeley Friends Church requires a small fee for use of downstairs classrooms. Committees are asked to inform Andrea English about their use of these rooms so that we can keep accurate records of payments due.

Oversight (Joyce Samati): The committee is awaiting the results of professional consultations before proceeding with plans for a communication device for Esther Morgan. Stephanie Kennedy and Larry Perry will meet with Jane Timberlake to discuss her request to lay down her membership. Kenneth

Leonard and Joan Lynch have requested a committee to discuss their plans to marry. Francia Welker-Tartar will facilitate a discussion of the Planning Ahead materials now available to Strawberries. This gathering will happen on Sunday, October 30, 1994, after rise of Meeting For Worship. The committee received a pamphlet about sexual harrassment and abuse in Friends Meetings from PYM. This pamphlet will be placed in our library. The committee plans a discussion about clerking which will be open to all interested Friends. This gathering will be announced when a date and location are set. The next meeting of the committee will be Thursday, September 15, 1994.

Announcements

- **Quaker Peace Center in Cape Town, South Africa** (Andrea English): The Quaker Peace Center has programs on behalf of women and children and programs to encourage non-violence. Friends might be interested in supporting their work and may contact Andrea English for further details.
- **Nathan Secrest** was air-lifted out of Yosemite to a Modesto hospital due to severe asthma. He has stabilized but is still in the hospital.

The meeting concluded with a period of silence at 12:50 p.m.

The next Meeting For Business will be held on Sunday, October 2, 1994 at 11:15 a.m., at Berkeley Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted, Jed Appelman, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, the Second Day of the Tenth Month, 1994
At Berkeley Friends Church
Susan Burr, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:15 a.m. Fifteen Friends were present.

Response to Advices and Queries: Overseers will report on their deliberations on this month's query next month.

Minutes: The minutes from Ninth Month were read and approved.

Old Business: Finance: David Leonard presented the Financial Report for September and a proposed revision to the budget to extend the financial year to the end of the calendar year, a total of 14 months. (The combined document is attached to these minutes.) To date the Meeting has spent \$1,900 more than it has raised this year. Although the Meeting does have a reserve fund, it would be best if those who can do so were to increase their giving so we can end the financial year in balance. David proposed that for the 14 month budget we make the smallest possible additions to our original 12 month budget necessary to meet our likely needs. Only those committees whose spending over the last 11 months suggests the need for additional resources before the year's end were given additional allocations. In the ensuing discussion an further increment of \$100 was added to the Newsletter budget to meet expenses that have not been fully reported yet. Overseers also requested that the spendable balance available in the Scholarship and Sharing Funds be restored to the full amount that had been in them at the beginning of the financial year. Overseers wish to have financial authority to respond quickly and adequately to the needs of members as they arise. The meeting noted that it wishes to be a community of mutual support, assisting us to help one another when we are in need. In the past the Meeting has been able to meet requests such as this one from Overseers for a restoration of the balance on these two funds and it approved doing so again this time. With these revisions the budget proposal was accepted. This would take the Meeting from a twelve month budget for a financial year ending in Tenth Month of \$13,613.50 to a 14 month budget ending in Twelfth Month of \$15,209.50. The Finance Committee will present the proposed budget for 1995 at the next Monthly Meeting.

New Business

Meeting Structure (Leslie Leonard): At a joint meeting of the Committees on Oversight and on Worship and Ministry a concern arose for the structure of the Meeting. The two committees appointed a sub-committee of Leslie Leonard, Andrea English, Bob Burnett, and Lois Hoxie to discuss the issues in greater detail and to develop proposals for consideration by the Meeting. The sub-committee's recommendations are attached to these minutes and are intended as starting points for discussion, not as finally formed proposals. The sub-committee proposed and the meeting approved that each of the three sets of proposals be discussed separately, beginning with a discussion of Part I at the November Monthly Meeting for Business. It may be necessary to hold a threshing session to discuss the proposals further,

depending on how the November deliberations go. Copies of the recommendations are to be distributed to the Meeting.

Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee: The meeting approved the appointment of Barbara Graves (convener) and Tom Yamaguchi to a three person ad hoc committee to nominate new members to the Nominating Committee at the next monthly meeting. The clerk was asked to approach Bob Maynard, Mary Miche, and Gerry Morris (in that order) to fill the one remaining position on the ad hoc committee.

Christmas Celebration: The Meeting's Christmas celebration has been tentatively scheduled for the late afternoon and early evening of Saturday December 17th.

Committee Reports:

Friends Committee on Legislation (Lee Andresen): The FCL's All-State meeting of representatives will be held at Berkeley Friends Church on December 3rd. Input on livening up the FCL Newsletter is needed. There is concern about the relationship of FCL to its Quaker constituency, as attendance by representatives at meetings has been diminishing and as financial support by Friends is disappointing.

Worship and Ministry (Tom Yamaguchi): A schedule for committees to present their consideration of the Queries to the Meeting is published in the October Newsletter. A "Dear Strawberries Column" also begins in this issue of the Newsletter. The committee is negotiating a new lease with Berkeley Friends Church. The committee has decided that Roxanne Seagraves, who has just resigned from the committee, need not be replaced.

Facilities (Carl Anderson): The gate to the children's play area will be unlocked when the Meeting room door is opened and relocked when clean-up is completed. The participation of Meeting members and attenders in workdays at the Church is greatly needed.

Oversight (Joyce Samati): The committee is delaying action on purchasing a communications device for Esther Morgan, as her treatment team feels that she is satisfied with the devices she is now using and that when she tried a computer she did not like it. The need may change in the future. This information is being communicated to the Pacific Yearly Meeting Committee on Oversight.

The committee approved a scholarship to assist Kelci Cell attend two seminars at Ben Lomond. It also met a request for assistance from the Sharing Fund. The committee asks Meeting members to hold Nancy Wolf-Jackson in the Light at the death of her father.

Planning Ahead (Larry Perry): It can be quite traumatic when there is a death in the family for which no planning has been done. The committee will hold a session after Meeting for Worship on October 30th to jog people's thinking, planning, and recording of their intentions about their final affairs.

Booklets from New England Yearly Meeting on "Addressing Sexual Abuse in Friends Meetings" and from Pacific Yearly Meeting on a "Handbook for Monthly Meetings on Sexual Abuse and Harassment" have been added to the Meeting library.

Clerk's Correspondence: Helen Grinstead will be here after Meeting for Worship on November 20th to sell knitted goods to benefit Friends Committee on Legislation.

Barton-Glover Friends Meeting (Vermont) has a project of providing peace-oriented school book covers as an alternative to the one's provided free by the military. The project was referred to the Peace and Social Order Committee.

The library has received a Spanish-English pamphlet by Jane Walters Peers entitled A Covenant for Friends.

Other Business: Barbara Graves called our attention to two special Meetings for Worship for Friends who are unable to attend regular Meeting. On the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 7:30 p.m. there are Meetings at the home of Kate Buckner. Wednesdays at 11 a.m. Friends gather to worship with Esther Morgan in her room at Herrick Hospital. Friends also are encouraged to visit her at other times..

Ramona Silipo has been asked to be the Northern California correspondent for the Friends Bulletin.

The meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m. with a period of silent worship, to meet again on November 6th at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Leonard", written over a horizontal line.

David Leonard
for the Recording Clerk

**Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting For Business
First Day, the Sixth Day of the Eleventh Month, 1994
at Berkeley Friends Church
Susan Burr, Clerk, Presiding**

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:20 a.m. Thirty-one Friends were present.

Responses to Advices and Queries

The Finance Committee (Shelly Tanenbaum) responded to advices and queries on unity. The Oversight Committee (George Russell) responded to advices and queries on mutual care.

Minutes from Tenth Month were read and approved.

Old Business

Meeting Structure (Leslie Leonard):

Oversight and Worship And Ministry had created a joint sub-committee to review the structure of our Meeting. Two members from Oversight were Leslie Leonard and Lois Hoxie. Two members from Worship And Ministry were Andrea English and Bob Burnett. Last month their report to the Meeting was briefly presented and attached to the Minutes.

The first part of their report was read and discussed. The following concerns were raised:

Some Friends think that Religious Education works well as a large committee. At its next meeting, the committee will discuss the advantages and disadvantages of its current size.

Several committees have difficulty scheduling meetings because there are so many committee members. This concern is balanced against the wish to use committee assignments as an opportunity for new regular attenders to integrate themselves into the life of the meeting. However, this goal can be frustrated if their committee is not able to meet.

The role of FASE representative was clarified: it had once been done by a Friend who was on the FASE board and had been perpetuated in our meeting structure. This organization is an entity of our Quarterly Meeting and does not need a Strawberry representative.

When the meeting decided to have coffee after every Meeting For Worship (rather than once each month), members of Hospitality Committee thought they were unable to handle both coffee and other fellowship activities. Loaves And Fishes devolved from Hospitality in order to better focus on the dual roles of fellowship and the after Meeting social hour.

Friends were enthusiastic about the joint committee's suggestion to give Friends occasional time off from committee assignments.

One Friend suggested we have a nominating cycle every two years.

The role of our representatives to various organizations deserves further consideration.

The discussion concluded with approval of the following recommendations:

- Each year Nominating Committee will check with the current and/or past committee clerk about the right size of the committee. Nominating Committee will not assume the past number of members is required.
- We will focus on finding the right membership on a committee rather than on filling a certain number of "slots".
- Retreat Committee will include one member of Worship And Ministry to facilitate communication between the two committees (already in place in 1994-1995).
- We will eliminate the FASE Representative and ask our Quarterly Meeting Representative to keep us informed about Friends' House, as with other items reported from Quarterly Meeting.
- Each year some number of Friends should be allowed to rest from assignment to committees. These Friends will be available for short-term responsibilities, or to serve, for example, as Religious Education teachers without belonging to the committee. It will be to the Meeting's advantage to be able to call upon uncommitted Friends for special tasks.

The remaining recommendations will be held over and seasoned for further discussion.

Budget For 1995 (Finance Committee, Shelly Tanenbaum): The budget for the next fiscal and calendar year was presented. Increases in budget were noted for newsletter postage and expenses, rent increase, Pacific Yearly Meeting dues. The Meeting approved that Worship And Ministry childcare expenses will be budgeted as "spending as needed" for the remainder of this fiscal year. The committee prepared and distributed a pamphlet describing the work of organizations which receive nominal donations from the Meeting. The purpose of the pamphlet is to familiarize Friends with these groups. Our nominal donations serve to remind Friends of the work of these organizations and encourage them to contribute independently to their work. **This year we will need to raise \$220.00 per member to meet our budget.** Approval of the budget was held over for seasoning until next month. The budget is attached to these minutes.

Ad Hoc Committee To Nominate The Nominating Committee (Barbara Graves): The committee members are Barbara Graves, clerk, Tom Yamaguchi and Laura Cornell. They will present names for the new Nominating Committee next month.

New Business

Christmas Celebration (Andrea English): The *Posada* play will be held on Saturday, December 10, 1994 at 5 p.m., with a potluck supper to follow. This event will be held at Friends Church.

Quarterly Meeting (Carl Anderson): A one-day Quarterly Meeting will be held in San Francisco on January 14, 1995. There has been some interest in a teen group at Quarterly Meeting. Our Meeting's support of Dharma Yamaguchi has led the Quarterly Meeting to approach Pacific Yearly Meeting to discuss the establishment of an ongoing scholarship fund.

Committee Reports

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): Bob stressed the need for covenant congregations to show solidarity with the people of Haiti. Bob announced that he is now Treasurer of EBSC.

Religious Education (Francia Welker-Tartar): Friends are encouraged to bring new toys unwrapped to Meeting. First Day School children will wrap and label these presents to be donated to the CRECE Christmas celebration. One Friend mentioned that a Strawberry, Nancy Larson O'Sullivan, is a distributor for Discovery Toys.

Friends Committee On Legislation (Bob Maynard): The FCL annual meeting will be held at Friends Church on Saturday, December 3, 1994. Bob noted that a number of public interest groups have disbanded due to lack of support in the past several years. Morale at FCL is low because of the lack of public concern about policy issues. Friends are encouraged to lend their support to FCL.

Worship And Ministry (Andrea English):

On the third Sunday of each month Friends will be encouraged to gather for discussions after rise of Meeting For Worship. The next two discussions will be:

- November 20, 1994: Kim Lacey, of the Faith And Practice Revision Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting will present and lead a discussion on new testimonies.
- December 18, 1994: Quakers, Culture and Christmas, a discussion of simplicity and gifts.

Our contract with Friends Church is currently under annual review. Friends noted that we have a minimal contract with Friends Church supported by good communication between our two groups. Friends also noted that our relationship as renters is often ambiguous. Some Strawberries are unclear about how we contribute to upkeep and maintenance of the Church. Our liaisons with Friends Church perform a vital role in this relationship. The liaisons for 1995 will be: Andrea English, ongoing, and Barbara Voorhees Emmons, new. One Friend asked that our rent be established in twelve monthly increments. This is because we currently pay for five meetings per month. On some months our Business Meeting is covered under this fifth meeting, while on other months we have five Meetings For Worship and pay extra for Business Meeting. It was also noted that we need to account for all of the keys we have for Friends Church.

Finally, the committee suggests that we consider establishing a "Committee Sunday" for those committees which want to hold their meetings on First Days after rise of Meeting For Worship. In the interest of clearing the Meeting calendar for other programs, committees could plan their regular meetings on the same Sunday, either at the Church or in the usual members' homes. (Friends Church possibly has up to three classrooms available -- use would need to be cleared in advance) Some committees will prefer their current pattern of weekday evening meetings. This suggestion received considerable discussion, but was held over for further discussion until next month.

Oversight (Joyce Samati):

The committee expressed appreciation to Francia Welker-Tartar for the Planning Ahead meeting which was held last week (October 30, 1994). It is hoped that this will become an annual Meeting event.

Oversight committee concurs with the Worship And Ministry suggestion of a "Meeting Sunday".

The committee recommends that the Meeting approve roll over of unused balances in the scholarship and sharing funds, at the end of the fiscal year, into an ongoing fund. Friends could also contribute individually to an ongoing inreach fund. Since need is variable, unused funds could be accumulated until a need arises. In recent years the inreach fund has been replenished several times by the Meeting when so requested by the Oversight committee. This matter was held over for further consideration next month.

An updated Meeting Directory was distributed with the most recent newsletter. It is hoped that a three-Meeting directory will be ready for distribution in December, 1994.

The next meeting of the Oversight Committee will be held on Thursday, November 17, 1994.

Clerk's Correspondence

Peter Trueblood requested transfer of his membership from Gwynedd Meeting to Strawberry Creek Meeting. His request was given to the clerk of the Oversight committee.

The Meeting concluded with a period of silence at 1:20 p.m..

The next Meeting For Business will be held at 11:15 am on Sunday, December 4, 1994 at Berkeley Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted, Jed Appelman, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting For Business
First Day, the Fourth Day of the Twelfth Month, 1994
at Berkeley Friends Church
Susan Burr, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:20 a.m. Twenty-four Friends were present.

Responses to Advices and Queries

Susan Burr responded for Worship And Ministry Committee on Advices and Queries about Worship.

Minutes for Eleventh Month

The minutes for Eleventh Month were read and approved with the following correction: under Meeting Structure, the FASE Representative item will read: *We will eliminate the FASE Representative position.*

Old Business

Meeting Structure (Leslie Leonard):

At last month's meeting, we did not arrive at unity on the following issues:

- ex officio members of Oversight and Worship And Ministry committees
- combining Loaves and Fishes and Hospitality Committees
- placing new attenders on committees
- representatives to other organizations

Leslie read part two of the report on meeting structure, which was attached to the minutes for tenth month. Part two addresses committee functioning. Religious Education Committee had prepared a report concerning their structure. This was presented by Rachel Ann Elder. The committee supports the current composition of the committee comprised of teachers. They note that this decreases the number of committee meetings and facilitates continuity for the children. As currently structured, volunteers act as aides in classrooms.

Considerable discussion followed the report of Religious Education Committee. The discussion focused on various considerations about the nominating process for this committee. Nominating Committee had taken to nominating each of the teachers on Religious Education Committee. This was done because past members of this committee had difficulty recruiting Friends to teach in First Day School classes. One Friend noted that there is a distinction between nominating and recruiting. Another Friend noted that with the current structure there is a lack of boundary between teaching and decisions about curriculum. Friends suggested that some of the key issues to consider in the design of the Religious Education Committee are:

- develop a core committee separate from teachers
- maintain continuity for children
- find optimal committee size

Friends agreed to continue working with the problem at next Business Meeting.

Budget (Finance Committee -- David Leonard): Friends approved the budget for 1995. An adjustment was discussed and approved: surplus left in accounts will be credited to next year's budget, not rolled into the contingency fund

In addition, Friends requested clarity about disposition of funds received from Ministry And Oversight Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting toward a communication device for Esther Morgan. Esther has decided not to pursue acquisition of a communication device. Friends were encouraged to submit their final donations for 1994 by December 25 in order to facilitate issuing receipts for tax purposes.

Ad Hoc Committee To Nominate The Nominating Committee (Laura Cornell): The following Friends have aged to serve, if asked: Rich Tittle, clerk, continuing; Gerry Morris, Lynne Bird, Elsa Glines and Jed Appelman, new members with a commitment to serve for two years. Friends noted that it has been our tradition for the clerk of Nominating Committee to be a member of our Meeting, but that this has not been required. The Meeting asked Bob Maynard to search the committee's files for any policy that might guide us in our selection of a clerk for this year's committee.

Scholarship/Sharing Fund (Oversight -- Joyce Samati): The committee's proposal for these funds was read and is attached to these minutes. One Friend suggested that this fund could be called "Personal Aid Fund" so Friends will know that it is available. Friends approved the following:

- The Meeting will establish a separate Sharing Fund for special financial needs of members and regular attenders. As needs arise, Overseers will draw first from budgeted funds until they are exhausted, then from the separate Sharing Fund. At the close of the fiscal year, unspent balances in the budgeted funds will be transferred to the Sharing Fund.
- The balance in the Sharing Fund will carry forward from year to year. Funds left in the fund at the end of this year (1994) will be carried forward into 1995.

One Friend noted that we should make it a priority to appeal for funds when there is a need in our Meeting.

Committee Sundays (Worship And Ministry -- Andrea English): Discussion of this issue was deferred until next Business Meeting.

New Business

Nominating (Dick Emmons): Elsa Glines has agreed to serve as our Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative, after serving as our Observer this year. It is a practice of our Meeting for the Observer to become our Representative the following year. The committee is not able to put forward a name for Observer at this time.

Committee Reports

Religious Education (Rachel Ann Elder): The next meeting of the committee will be on the January 22, 1995.

Friends Committee On Legislation Representative (Lee Andresen): Lee reported on the committee's recent meeting at Friends Church. The committee anticipates an active year due to recent political changes.

Oversight (Joyce Samati): The Following Friends will serve on the committee for transfer of membership for Peter Trueblood: Lynne Bird, Lee Andresen and Dick Emmons. The committee has received surveys from Pacific Yearly Meeting about sexual minorities and AIDS. The committee is working for clarity about the goals for these surveys. The committee and Friends present, expressed their thanks to Leslie Leonard for her work on the proposal about the Scholarship/Sharing Fund. The next meeting of the committee will be December 15, 1994.

Facilities (Carl Anderson): The committee requested that we discontinue use of the signs reserving chairs for children during Meeting For Worship. This request was referred to Worship And Ministry.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): EBSC will be engaged in issues raised by changes in asylum policy for Salvadorans.

Clerk's Correspondence

- American Friends Service Committee has begun to distribute Peace Conversion Notes, a periodic report about the activities of the Peace Conversion Committee. Interested Friends are encouraged to contact Bob Burnett.
- College Park Quarterly Meeting will sponsor a teen retreat on the weekend of December 16 to 18, 1994.
- San Francisco Meeting is asking all Meetings in College Park Quarterly Meeting to consider moving the spring Quarterly Meeting to April to avoid conflict with their annual family retreat in May.

Announcement

Worship And Ministry Committee will present a discussion about simplicity and gift giving during the holidays on December 18, 1994, after rise of Meeting For Worship.

The Meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 12:50 PM.

The next Meeting For Business will be held on Sunday, January 8, 1995, at 11:15 am, at Berkeley Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted, Jed Appelman, Recording Clerk

**Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting For Business
First Day, the Eighth Day of the First Month, 1995
at Berkeley Friends Church
Susan Burr, Clerk, Presiding**

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:15 a.m. Twenty-four Friends were present.

Responses to Advices and Queries

Stephen McNeil responded for Peace and Social Order Committee on the Equality Advices and Queries.

Minutes for Twelfth Month

Corrections: Religious Education Committee will meet on Sunday, January 15, 1995. Oversight received a survey about sexual minorities and a draft minute (A Loving Response To Hostility Against Sexual Minorities) from the Sexual Minorities Sub-committee of the Pacific Yearly Meeting Ministry And Oversight Committee. The minutes were approved as amended.

Old Business

Nominating: The committee has not yet put forward a name for Pacific Yearly Meeting Observer.

Ad Hoc Committee To Nominate The Nominating Committee (Susan Burr): Susan read a minute from our Meeting dated December, 1988, which is attached to these minutes. This minute provides guidelines for membership status of the members and clerks of Nominating, Oversight and Worship And Ministry. In brief, our Meeting minuted that the clerk of Nominating Committee should be a member of the Society, and hopefully a member of our Meeting. One friend noted that the spirit of this guideline suggests that our Meeting seeks Friends for this serious position who are seasoned, devoted to the life of our Meeting and familiar with our Meeting. Another Friend asked that Rich Tittle be approved as clerk of Nominating Committee as an exception to this ~~guideline~~ ^{minute} because his qualifications conform to the spirit of this guideline. Friends approved Rich as clerk of Nominating Committee as an exception to the minute from December 1988. Friends also thanked the Ad Hoc Committee for the slate: Rich Tittle, clerk, for one year (continuing on the committee from last year), Gerry Morris, Lynne Bird, Elsa Glines and Jed Appelman, for two years (new to the committee).

Meeting Structure (Susan Burr led this discussion, with Bob Burnett presenting from the sub-committee):

A summary of the sub-committee's review of our discussions from November and December, 1994 was distributed and is attached to these minutes. Bob read the summary in sections and invited Friends' responses.

Regarding the sub-committee's observations and recommendations about business meeting (Section I), Meeting agreed:

- Committee reporting should be left to each clerk's discretion, but reporting to Business Meeting should not be required each month.
- The Clerk and Overseers should pursue further training and written resources for committee clerks.
- The Clerk is not bound by a set agenda format and should shape and time the agenda to reflect the work at hand.

Regarding Section II on previously considered recommendations Meeting agreed that:

- *Ex-officio* members may count as contributing and available members of their respective committees (currently Treasurer is *ex-officio* on Finance, Clerk of the Meeting is *ex-officio* on Worship And Ministry, and Alternate Clerk of the Meeting is *ex-officio* on Oversight). The extent of the participation of these *ex-officio* members is to be worked out among Nominating, the clerks of these committees and the nominee in discussions about the composition of these committees.
- A Strawberry already active in an organization should be approached to be that organization's representative or equivalent.
- A succinct summary of job descriptions should be placed in the newsletter.

There was considerable discussion about how Nominating Committee should approach new attenders regarding membership on committees. Two friends agreed to review this issue and report back to Meeting.

Meeting also agreed we should have a process for annual reports from and reviews of committees. We need to decide what form this process should take.

Finally, discussion of meeting structure was concluded for this month. Nominating Committee was asked to proceed with current job descriptions for use this year in their nominating process. The committee was asked to review job descriptions after the nominating process has been concluded.

Committee Reports

Religious Education (Francia Welker-Tartar): The next meeting of the committee will be on Sunday, January 15, 1995 after rise of Meeting For Worship.

Retreat (Kathy Barry): The next meeting of the committee will be on January 18, 1995. The retreat will be held on January 21, 1995.

Finance (Leslie Leonard for the Treasurer): Leslie distributed the report for the end of the extended fiscal year. Contributions in excess of expenditures in 1994 have been carried forward into the current fiscal year.

- Friends agreed that Leslie should act as Treasurer while David Leonard, the current Treasurer, is abroad. Susan Burr, as Clerk of the Meeting, and Maggie Ely, as clerk of Finance Committee, have signing authority for the accounts.

Worship And Ministry (Susan Burr): Barbara Graves was asked to Clerk the Business Meeting as Susan stood down in order to report for the committee. Friends are invited to send questions to the clerk of the committee to be answered in the "Dear Strawberries" column in the Newsletter. Families who wish to use "reserved for a child" signs in Meeting For Worship should contact the committee.

The issue of late arrivals at Meeting For Worship has been of concern to many Friends and actively pursued by the committee for over a year. Susan read a proposal for a new procedure for entering Meeting For Worship:

Friends would enter Meeting from the Church foyer rather than the ramp. The ramp door would remain available for Friends with mobility limitations. Friends who arrive after 9:30 a.m. would be invited to worship together in the hallway adjacent to the Meeting hall until 9:45 a.m. At 9:45 am, Friends gathered in the hallway would be invited to enter the Meeting hall as a group.

Friends arriving after this time would be encouraged to worship in the hallway or visit classrooms until 10:15 a.m. At 10:15 a.m., Friends would be invited to enter the Meeting hall with those ~~children~~ ^{young persons} from First Day School who would be joining Meeting at that time. Friends would be reminded to use the ramp to exit the Meeting hall to minimize disruption to the Church after rise of Meeting For Worship.

This proposal will be the subject of a threshing session on January 29, 1995 after rise of Meeting For Worship. The committee will follow up after the threshing session.

Susan then resumed the Clerk's duties and announced that the annual discussion about the State of the Society Report will be held on Sunday, February 26, 1995 after rise of Meeting For Worship.

Oversight (Joyce Samati): The committee recommended transfer of membership for Frederic Forste and Peter Trueblood. Peter read the report of Ric's membership committee, and Lynne Bird read the report of Peter's membership committee. The Meeting will season these recommended transfers of membership until next month.

Joyce read the response of the committee to the survey on sexual minorities from Pacific Yearly Meeting. The committee's response is attached to these minutes.

The Sharing Fund rollover from prior years will be called the Reserve Sharing Fund, as appears on the current end of year report. The newcomers' brunch will be held on Sunday, February 12, 1995 after rise of Meeting For Worship.

Friends discussed the proposal from last month to establish a Committee Sunday on the second Sunday of each month for committees to meet after rise of Meeting For Worship.

Friends agreed to a trial period during the months of February, March and April prior to a review by the Meeting For Business in May.

The next committee meeting will be held on January 19, 1995.

Facilities (Carl Anderson): Donation pamphlets will be given to the Finance Committee to store for future distribution.

Peace And Social Order (Tom Whiteman): The committee will next meet on January 9, 1995.

Announcements

Make A Wish (Lois Hoxie): Mary Comstock, a Friend of Strawberry Creek Meeting, is soliciting business cards on behalf of a child who is dying of cancer who wishes to get into the Guinness Book Of Records.

A Friend expressed concern about our recent change in making announcements at rise of Meeting For Worship. This concern was referred to Worship And Ministry Committee.

Quarterly Meeting will be held at San Francisco Friends Meeting House on January 14, 1995.

Meeting closed after a period of silent worship at 1:35 p.m.

The next Meeting For Business will be held on Sunday, February 5, 1995, at 11:15 am, at Berkeley Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted, Jed Appelman, Recording Clerk

**Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting For Business
First Day, the Fifth Day of the Second Month, 1995
at Berkeley Friends Church
Susan Burr, Clerk, Presiding**

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:20 a.m. Thirty-two Friends were present.

Responses to Advices and Queries

Carl Anderson responded for the Facilities Committee to the advices and queries on Simplicity.

Minutes From First Month

The minutes from First Month were read and approved with the following corrections: Rich Tittle was approved as Nominating Clerk as an exception to the 1988 Minute, not the guidelines; the description of the late arrival plan will read "young persons" where "children" was used.

Old Business

Membership Transfers (Joyce Samati): The Meeting approved transfer of membership for Frederic Forste. He will be welcomed into the Meeting by Francia Welker-Tartar and Mary Miche. The Meeting approved transfer of membership for Peter Trueblood. He will be welcomed into the Meeting by Rachel Ann Elder and Barbara Graves.

Nominating (Rich Tittle): The committee will continue to search for a Pacific Yearly Meeting Observer. It was the sense of the Meeting that the Observer need not be named before the committee has completed its work on all nominations for the new committee year. This is because the Observer's participation is required at Pacific Yearly Meeting in August, but not before.

Meeting Structure (Susan Burr): Susan reviewed the work of the sub-committee on Meeting Structure and discussions in recent Business Meetings. Discussion of these issues and recommendations was concluded with consideration of the following two issues:

- **Annual report and review of each committee:** The Clerk of the Meeting will coordinate the timing of each report and review with the appropriate clerks and place the reports to Business Meeting on the calendar.

Nominating committee's approach to new attenders: Susan Burr read statements about the process which had been developed by two Friends since the last Business Meeting. She will consider these statements further and report back to the Meeting next month.

New Business

State of the Society Report (Susan Burr): The Meeting will gather to discuss the life of the Meeting during the past year on Sunday, February 26, 1995 after rise of Meeting For Worship. The following Friends have agreed to document our views: Oversight -- Stephanie Kennedy, Worship And Ministry -- Tom Yamaguchi, also Lois Hoxie.

Quarterly Meeting (Carl Anderson): Carl reported on the quarterly meeting of January 14, 1995. Appleseed Monthly Meeting is new to College Park Quarterly Meeting. A teen wilderness experience will be held immediately prior to Pacific Yearly Meeting this summer. The next quarterly meeting will be held in Ben Lomond on May 20 through 21, 1995.

Retreat (Kathy Barry): Kathy presented the financial report of the retreat committee. She raised the issue that as costs for spring retreat have risen, income has not kept pace. Whereas in the past, the fall or winter retreat has generated a surplus that could cover our shortfall for the spring retreat, this is no longer the case. The committee has recommended that the Retreat have a line item in the budget of \$400.00 to enable the Meeting as a whole to assist Friends who might not be able to afford to attend retreats. This issue was held over to next month.

Spring Retreat will be held on the first weekend in May: May 5 through 7, 1995, at Quaker Center in Ben Lomond.

Worship And Ministry (Andrea English): The "reserved for a child" signs are no longer needed for Meeting For Worship. The Cedar Creek Montessori School whose classrooms we use has requested that all materials and equipment used by Friends be returned in the places they were found. Closing Meeting For Worship has been reviewed by the committee, following concerns expressed by a Friend about our new practice. The committee will continue to evaluate this practice on the basis of:

- conveying friendliness and fellowship
- facilitating a transition from Worship to social time

The committee reported on a discussion held after rise of Meeting For Worship on January 29, 1995 about the issue of late arrivals to Meeting For Worship. The committee sensed that the Meeting was ready to proceed with a trial of the plan described in last month's Business Meeting Minutes.

However, after considerable discussion, the Meeting amended and approved the wording of the plan as follows:

Friends will enter Meeting from the Church foyer rather than the ramp. The ramp door will remain available for Friends with mobility limitations. Friends who arrive after 9:30 a.m. will be invited to worship together in the hallway adjacent to the Meeting hall until 9:45 a.m. At 9:45 a.m., Friends gathered in the hallway will be invited to enter the Meeting hall as a group. Friends who arrive after 9:45 a.m., will be encouraged to be mindful of the gathered meeting and will be offered the opportunity to worship in the hallway, visit First Day School classrooms, or to very quietly enter the Meeting For Worship if the person feels so led. At 10:15 a.m., Friends will be invited to enter the Meeting hall with those young persons from First Day School who will be joining Meeting at that time. Friends will be reminded to use the ramp to exit the Meeting hall to minimize disruption to the Church after rise of Meeting For Worship.

- The Meeting approved a trial period for this plan from March 5, 1995 through the Business Meeting for Eleventh Month (scheduled for November 5, 1995). Friend Rachel Ann Elder stood aside.

Oversight (Joyce Samati): Newcomers' Brunch will be held next Sunday, February 12, 1995 after Meeting For Worship, at the home of David and Leslie Leonard. The committee will present a gathering on clerkship on Sunday, March 26, 1995, after rise of Meeting For Worship. All interested Friends are invited to participate. The committee has been working on a revision of a minute from the Sexual Minorities Sub-Committee of the Pacific Yearly Meeting Committee on Ministry And Oversight that will be brought to Business Meeting next month. The next meeting of the committee will be on Thursday, February 9, 1995.

Facilities (Carl Anderson): The schedule for workdays is not available yet. Newsletters from other Meetings will be available in a binder on the "back table". The Friends Church is planning to remove the platform at the north end of the Meeting hall. Friends are encouraged to contact Carl with questions or concerns about this project.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): Eight hundred children received toys at the CRECE Christmas party. Our Meeting provided 120 toys. The EBSC will hold a retreat on March 4, 1995 to consider a change in structure. On Friend encouraged Strawberries to sell EBSC script at our workplaces. Julie Russell is our contact for this activity.

Clerk's Correspondence

- Helen Grinstead thanks us for participating in buying her hand made items to benefit Friends Committee on Legislation.
- Susan Sanford requests transfer of membership to Appleseed Monthly Meeting. This was referred to Oversight Committee.
- Quaker Center will hold a retreat "For Clerks And Attenders Alike" on March 10 through 12, 1995, with Katherine Smith, presenter.

Respectfully submitted, Jed Appelman, Recording Clerk

**Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting For Business
First Day, the Fifth Day of the Third Month, 1995
at Berkeley Friends Church
Susan Burr, Clerk, Presiding**

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:15 a.m. Twenty-five Friends were present.

Responses to Advices and Queries

Cindy Trueblood responded for the Hospitality Committee on the advices and queries on Stewardship.

Minutes For Second Month

The minutes for Second Month were read and approved without correction.

Old Business

Retreat (Kathy Barry):

Last spring the costs for the retreat were \$2,700.00. The income for the retreat was \$2,300.00. The \$400.00 shortfall was retired in August through donations. One-third of those attending did so without making a contribution. Costs will increase this year. The committee proposed a line item in the budget of \$400.00. Any contributions above total costs will go back to the general fund.

- The meeting approved a line item of \$400.00 for the retreat for this year's budget.

New Business

State of the Society Report (Susan Burr): Lois Hoxie will be unable to serve on the committee preparing the report. Robin Standish offered to assist Tom Yamaguchi and Stephanie Kennedy. The Meeting approved Robin's participation.

Committee Reports

Hospitality (Cindy Trueblood): The following events have been planned:

- April 15, the evening before Easter, a pot-luck supper
- April 23, noon, Craig Olson and Ramona Silipo's home, New Member welcome for Ric Forste. Robin Standish and Peter Trueblood.
- April or May, farewell gathering for Dick Emmons and Barbara Voorhees-Emmons

Worship And Ministry (Andrea English): The committee reported on reviewing our new contract with Friends Church. The Church requests an increase of \$36.00 to \$396.00 per month. There will be no other extra-room fee change. Our liaisons are discussing long-term maintenance with Church contacts. The Church is ready to move ahead with the removal of the platform in the Meeting Hall, with possible costs of refinishing the hardwood floor in that area to be shared by Strawberry Creek Meeting and the Church. Andrea clarified the various liaisons: Strawberry Creek Meeting liaisons are Andrea English and Barbara Voorhees-Emmons; the Church has designated the entire Board of Trustees as liaisons. One Friend wanted to know why the liaison positions are not filled by two members of the Worship And Ministry Committee. It was noted that our relationship with the Church requires care in communication, the need to reduce the number of Strawberries contacting Church people, and the need for both groups to have designated individuals who are aware of each group's concerns. The committee will consider a replacement for Barbara Voorhees-Emmons, who will be leaving the area this year. The Meeting approved the new contract with Friends Church. The next meeting of the committee will be on Sunday, March 12, 1995.

Oversight (Joyce Samati): About twelve new Friends attended a Newcomers' Brunch in February. The Meeting approved transfer of membership of Susan Sanford to Appleseed Meeting. Overseers approved Mindy Brown's request for associate membership in our Meeting. Mindy will be welcomed into the Meeting by Lee Andresen and Barbara Graves. Joyce noted that a membership committee is not required for associate membership, and that no Meeting approval was needed. She and Susan Burr briefly described the origin of our associate member category after Pacific Yearly Meeting stopped granting "junior" memberships for children. The associate membership was created in order to satisfy a wish of some member families to formalize their children's relationship with our Meeting. Susan noted that our Meeting conceived of associate membership as a way to formalize our relationship with young adults to about age twenty-five and was intended to maintain our connection with Friends during their young adult years. A discussion of clerking will be held after rise of Meeting For Worship on March 26, 1995. Eric Moon will help facilitate the discussion. Joyce will bring material from an upcoming weekend at Quaker Center on bringing spirituality into our Meetings For Business. The next meeting of the committee will be on Thursday, March 16, 1995.

Facilities (Carl Anderson): Carl noted future workdays on March 11, May 13 and July 8, 1995. The committee will review issues Friends had about the platform removal before proceeding.

Peace And Social Order (Tom Whiteman): The next meeting of the committee will be on Monday, March 6, 1995 at the home of Jim Barnard and Anna Graves. Wilson Riles, Jr., Executive Director of the Pacific Intermountain Region of the American Friends Service Committee will discuss his recent trip to Haiti.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Tom Whiteman): Bob Reis, our EBSC representative, is attending a weekend conference on re-orienting the organization to current concerns.

Religious Education (Ric Forste): The committee recently met and discussed how teachers and the curriculum prepare young Friends to participate in Meeting For Worship. The recent change in entry into Meeting For Worship was discussed. The next meeting of the committee will be on March 12, 1995.

Clerk's Correspondence

- Patricia Dienstfrey requested membership. Her request was given to the clerk Oversight Committee.
- John Woolman School requested donations for production costs for their yearbook.
- Earthlight Magazine requested a Meeting donation of \$360.00 per year to help them cover ongoing expenses. After discussion, this was referred to Finance Committee. Bob Burnett and Susan Burr will draw up an announcement for the newsletter informing Friends of the magazine's need for individual contributions to cover short-term expenses.

Announcements

- Work day, Saturday, March 11, 1995 at Friends Church
- Peace Walk during the week prior to Easter from Lawrence Livermore Laboratory to Richmond. Andrea English will coordinate a Strawberry contingent
- Quaker Heritage Day at Friends Church on April 29, 1995. Vail Palmer will speak on early Friends
- Couples' Enrichment Weekend at Quaker Center in Ben Lomond, September 29 through October 1, 1995

- Fiftieth anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki: a vigil will be organized at the University of California Berkeley campus by the American Friends Service Committee Peace Conversion Project. Organizers are hoping to attract two thousand people to form a ring around the campus at 3 p.m. on August 6, 1995.

The Meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 1:00 p.m.

The next Meeting For Business will be held on Sunday, April 2, 1995, at 11:15 a.m., at Berkeley Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted, Jed Appelman, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting For Business
First Day, the Second Day of the Fourth Month, 1995
at Berkeley Friends Church
Susan Burr, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:15 a.m. Twenty-nine Friends were present.

Minutes For Third Month: The minutes were read and approved with the following corrections: Wilson Riles, Jr., Executive Director of Pacific Mountain Region of the American Friends Service Committee appeared on radio station KPFA to speak about his recent trip to Haiti.

Old Business

State of the Society Report (Tom Yamaguchi): Tom read and made note of Friends' reactions to a draft of the report. The report writers, Tom, Stephanie Kennedy and Robin Standish, will integrate these comments and report back at next month's business meeting.

Nominating (Rich Tittle): Rich presented nominations for 1995-1996. Friends with concerns were encouraged to review them with a member of the Nominating Committee. These nominations were held over until next month's business meeting.

Pacific Yearly Meeting (Elsa Glines): Elsa reported on the Representative Meeting which was held in San Jose on March 5, 1995. Two dates to note are:

- Teen Wilderness Experience - July 22 to August 2, 1995, prior to Pacific Yearly Meeting
- Pacific Yearly Meeting in Chico - August 2 to August 6, 1995

There followed discussion of interest within the Yearly Meeting to find and purchase a permanent site for Pacific Yearly Meeting. Two representatives of the Yearly Meeting, Walt Jones and Mark Koenig will be in the Berkeley area to discuss Friends' interest in this project.

New Business

Friends Committee On Legislation Fundraising (Lee Andresen): When the Harvest Festival was laid down this placed on each Monthly Meeting a responsibility to raise up to \$1,500.00 to support the work of Friends Committee On Legislation. An ad hoc group to brainstorm fundraising ideas was formed. Lee will work with David Leonard and Rachel Ann Elder. Other Friends will be contacted for their ideas.

Committee Reports

Treasurer (David Leonard): David presented the January through March, 1995 Financial Report and Budget, which is attached to these minutes. An amount of \$400.00 approved at last month's business meeting to cover Retreat shortfall was not included in this report. David asked for clarification of the status of the funds received from Pacific Yearly Meeting toward the purchase of a communication device for Esther Morgan.

Worship And Ministry (Andrea English): The committee proposed that Barb Tittle replace Barbara Voorhees Emmons as one of two contacts from our Meeting to Friends Church. The platform in the Meeting Hall was removed by Friends Church prior to the most recent work day. The committee noted that Friends seem to be arriving earlier for Meeting For Worship since the new arrival plan was implemented at the beginning of last month. The committee seeks responses from Friends about the arrival plan. The next meeting of the committee will be on April 22, 1995.

Facilities (Carl Anderson): Carl announced a work day in May at Friends Church.

Oversight (Joyce Samati): Joyce reviewed the recent discussion about clerking. She noted that she had brought back information, from a Quaker Center retreat about clerking, which she will provide to interested Friends. Joyce expressed thanks to Eric Moon for his presentation at the discussion. Joyce read the committee's response to "A Loving Response To Hostility Against Sexual Minorities" (attached) which was sent to our Meeting from the Sub-committee on Sexual Minorities of the Ministry And Oversight Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting. The membership committee for James Ham continues to meet. The committee includes Joyce, Mary Miche, George Russell and Tom Whiteman. Joyce also reported that the scholarship fund had made two disbursements: she had used funds to assist her in attending the Quaker Center retreat on clerking and a Friend who wished to remain anonymous also used funds. A gathering of incoming and outgoing clerks will be held on June 11, 1995. The next meeting of the committee will be held on April 20, 1995.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): Bob reported on the brainstorming retreat to develop new projects which was held last month.

Religious Education (Dick Emmons): A curriculum developed by the American Friends Service Committee was presented to the committee by Jane Terry. On Saturday, April 15, 1995 the First Day School will hold an Easter event.

Clerk's Correspondence

- Scattergood Friends School in Iowa is searching for a director

Announcements

- Lynne Bird invited Friends to her home for her fiftieth birthday celebration
- Peace walk between Livermore and Richmond from April 14 to April 22 -- contact Andrea English

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:15 p.m.

The next Meeting For Business will be held on Sunday, May 14, 1995 at 11:15 a.m. at Berkeley Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted, Jed Appelman, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting For Business
First Day, the Fourteenth Day of the Fifth Month, 1995
at Berkeley Friends Church
Susan Burr, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:25 a.m. Seventeen Friends were present.

Minutes For Fourth Month: Minutes were read and approved with the following corrections -- FCL fundraising and Oversight section includes note that Friend who used sharing funds sought assistance for attendance at a Quaker Center event.

Friends wished to note that attendance was small due to Mothers' Day. Friends expressed appreciation for the work of the Clerk of the Meeting, who presided over her final Business Meeting of this tenure.

Old Business

Nominations (Rich Tittle): Ellen Weis was added to Finance, College Park Quarterly Meeting (CPQM) Representative remains open. The 1995-1996 Nominations were approved without the CPQM Representative.

State of the Society Report (Stephanie Kennedy): Stephanie distributed and read a revised report. Friends engaged in extended review of the report. Several changes were made and the corrected final copy is attached to these Minutes. Announcements regarding this annual activity will assist Friends in focusing on the process of reflecting on the life of our own Meeting.

Finance (David Leonard): David reported on the committee's discussion about the proposed Meeting contribution for Earthlight Magazine. Earthlight Magazine is a project of Pacific Yearly Meeting which focuses on environmental issues. In previous Business Meetings, the Clerk had read a request for a substantial annual contribution (\$600.00 per year for three years) from our Meeting to assist the staff in establishing the journal. The committee noted that our policy for contributions to outside entities has been symbolic. Our small contributions to outside entities is currently \$110.00 per year. The purpose of these small, symbolic contributions is to encourage individuals to contribute to those entities which they are moved to support. The committee recommended to Business Meeting that we not make an exception for this cause. Extended discussion followed, but the Business Meeting did not approve a minute regarding this issue.

Friends Committee On Legislation Fundraising (David Leonard): David met with Barbara Barkovich and Lee Andresen for a brainstorming session. Plans are afoot for a breakfast fund-raiser to which one of our elected representatives will be invited, as a "draw". This plan would provide Friends with an opportunity to make personal contact with an elected official. Friends expressed encouragement to the ad hoc group for their efforts.

New Business

Retreat: Friends expressed appreciation to the presenters (Laura Cornell, Barb Tittle and Tom Whiteman) as well as to Susan Maynard and Sherrin Loyd for their excellent child care program.

Worship And Ministry (Andrea English): Andrea reported that the Friends Church Board has asked our Meeting to refrain from using the Church foyer before and after Meeting For Worship. The Board has made this request to safeguard the boundaries between our two Meetings. There followed considerable discussion and some intense feelings about our Meeting's continued relationship with the Church. Friends were encouraged to note that the Church Board is asking our Meeting to engage in a prayerful

and careful dialogue to discern the Worship needs of each Meeting. As of next First Day, Strawberry Friends will once again use the ramp for entry into Meeting For Worship prior to 9:30 a.m. After 9:30 a.m., Friends will be directed through the gate at the bottom of the ramp and through the lower hallway, using the stairs to gain access to the Meeting Hall. The committee will carefully consider the many comments which were expressed during this discussion and will present a more complete plan for entry into Meeting For Worship at a future Business Meeting. The next meeting of the committee will be on Sunday, May 21.

Oversight (Joyce Samati): Joyce announced the membership committee for Patricia Dienstfrey. Peter Trueblood will clerk. In addition, Barbara Graves and Stephanie Kennedy will serve on this committee. A joint meeting of incoming, outgoing and continuing clerks will be held after rise of Meeting For Worship on Sunday, June 11, 1995. The Librarian notes that several copies of the Pacific Yearly Meeting Faith And Practice have been checked out and appeals for their return. The next meeting of the committee will be a joint meeting between the old and new committees on Wednesday, May 17, 1995.

Peace And Social Order (Stephen McNeil): At the committee's last meeting, Jane Terry reported on the hands around UC planned for August 6, 1995. Mary Anderson is working on the Peace Wall. Our Meeting sponsored a Haitian dinner last night. Stephen expressed appreciation for both Jim Barnard and Tom Whiteman who are going off the committee after many years of dedication to its work.

Facilities (Carl Anderson): Bulletin boards in the Meeting Hall are deteriorating. Carl is considering a \$100.00 - \$150.00 expense to repair the bulletin boards. Carl asked about the correct process for approving this expense. Carl will contact the committee to review the expense.

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (Bob Reis): The EBSC is working on a sister city relationship with a village in Guatemala. The Haitian dinner at the Friends Church last night was a success.

Clerk's Correspondence

- Marloma (Long Beach, California) Meeting sent a letter of introduction for Jean Flores in anticipation and approval of her request for transfer of membership. Jean's letter requesting transfer of membership was read and given to Oversight Committee.
- Miftah Leath requested membership. Her letter was read and given to Oversight Committee.

Announcements

- David Leonard noted that we need to appoint an auditor prior to the transfer of the Meeting financial records to the new Treasurer. Friends suggested the Clerk contact Bob Maynard and Peter Trueblood.
- Mary Miche and Andrew Secrest will lead a couples' enrichment workshop at Quaker Center in September.

The meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 1:30 p.m.

The next Business Meeting will be held on Sunday, June 4, 1995, at 11:15 a.m., at Berkeley Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted, for the Recording Clerk, Jed Appelman

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, the Fourth Day of the Sixth Month, 1995
at Berkeley Friends Church
Joyce Samati, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:15 a.m. Twenty-two Friends were present.

Response to Advices and Queries. Barb Tittle responded on behalf of Overseers to the Advices and Queries on Home and Children.

Minutes for the Fifth Month. Minutes were read and approved with the following corrections:

- Regarding the Finance Committee recommendation on Earthlight Magazine, the last sentence of the paragraph was deleted and the following was added: "In accepting this recommendation, the Meeting approved a \$110 contribution and also expressed the hope that Friends would personally support this worthy cause. Barbara Graves and Andrea English will work with the editor of Earthlight on an appeal letter."
- In the Facilities Committee report, the \$100-\$150 expense was not for bulletin boards, but was in fact to purchase a quieter closing mechanism for one of the interior doors.
- The EBSC Haitian night was a "rousing success."

Old Business:

FCL Fundraising (Lee Andresen): The FCL breakfast fundraiser is scheduled for Saturday, September 30th, at Berkeley Friends Church from 8:30-11:30 a.m. Senator Nicholas Petris, Assemblyman Tom Bates and Assemblywoman Barbara Lee will be invited. The planners of the event are hoping that 200 people will attend; the cost will be \$20 per person.

New Business:

PYM Finance Committee: The Meeting has received a request that we review the 1995-96 PYM budget, including its contributions to Quaker causes, its support of PYM's 17 standing committees and its fraternal connections with other groups. Friends pointed out that this is an opportunity both to educate ourselves as a Meeting about PYM and to begin to think about our 1996 Meeting budget and how we respond to similar issues. The PYM budget materials will be reviewed by the members of our Finance Committee, with the addition of Andrea English, Susan Burr, and Gerry Morris. Elsa Glines will also be invited to join the group. The expanded committee's considerations should be brought back to our next Business Meeting. Our response is due by July 15th.

CPQM M&O Scholarship Fund: CPQM Ministry and Oversight writes to advertise the existence of a scholarship fund available for attendance at Quaker primary and secondary schools. The scholarship fund, established with a \$2,000 initial allocation, is a result of Dharma Yamaguchi's need for assistance to attend Delaware Valley Friends School. It will be distributed in \$500 grants as contributions allow. CPQM calls attention to the fund as an available resource and as a worthy cause for donations. Copies of the letter were referred to Overseers and to Finance Committee.

Committee Reports:

Worship and Ministry (Andrea English): Andrea distributed the Meeting's pamphlet on Meeting for Business.

In the future, someone from the committee will announce at Meeting the name of the person providing childcare at Business Meeting to make the transition easier for parents of small children.

Andrea explained the current Meeting entrance plan. As we arrive at the ramp off Cedar Street, we have a choice: if we are accompanying a child or if we arrive after worship begins at 9:30, we should go through the garden gate to the ground floor of the Church. Otherwise, we go up the ramp to begin worship in Fellowship Hall. Those who arrive after 9:30 should wait at the foot of the stairs until 9:45, at which time they enter Meeting as a group. After 9:45, individuals should listen for vocal ministry and enter the Meeting room quietly and with respect for the gathered meeting. There is appropriate signage with these instructions.

Concerns were expressed about Friends worshipping in the hallway in the midst of the children's program, although it is recognized that during the summer period this will be less of a problem as the children are at the Park.

The problems of entrance to the Meeting were entrusted to the Worship and Ministry Committee for its careful consideration. The Committee will continue to review the issue during its meetings each month and invites comments during this experimental period – both suggestions for changes in the procedures and expressions of support for the plan. The Committee is mindful of the community as a whole and the quality of worship of all Friends, both those who are late and those who are on time. The next Worship and Ministry Committee meeting is June 17th.

The Meeting will be considering these arrangements formally at the November Meeting for Business.

Oversight (David Leonard): Membership committees for Miftah Leath and Jean Flores have been formed. Miftah's committee is David Leonard (clerk), Gerry Morris, and Cindy Trueblood. Jean's committee is Caroline Duhem (clerk), Larry Perry, and Lois Hoxie.

Overseers recommends that the Meeting establish a scholarship fund for Mindy Brown, who will be attending Earlham in the fall. The fund would receive individual contributions for Mindy. Meeting approved the establishment of the Fund.

The next Overseers Meeting is June 15th.

Facilities (Carl Anderson): A workday in July at the Church will be announced. The new clerk of Facilities Committee has recently taken another job and will have difficulty assuming duties immediately. The matter has been raised with Nominating Committee.

EBSC (Joyce Samati): Joyce attended a recent EBSC luncheon for constituent congregations where information was shared on EBSC's role in Central America and Haiti. The materials from that luncheon have been given to Peace and Social Order.

Religious Education (Francia Welker-Tartar): The last day of regular classes will be the 18th, after which children will have activities in the Park. Next Sunday the children will be awarded certificates honoring their participation for the year. The three themes of Community, Spirituality, and Nature worked well throughout the year as focus points for the curriculum. The next committee meeting is June 17th.

Retreat (Charlie Blanchard): The attached report was distributed. Between the Winter and Spring retreats, the committee broke even. Between 25% and 30% of the participants needed some financial help. This year the committee made sure the actual cost of the Retreat was clear to the participants, and people who canceled at the last minute paid for their meals. Nevertheless, the Retreat Committee recommends that the special budget provision continue next year; they will discuss their needs with the Finance Committee when the 1996 budget is being considered. The committee also encourages the Meeting to continue discussion of the fruitful Retreat topic. Feedback on the Spring Retreat should be given to the committee. Meeting thanked the committee for the Retreat, their report, and their facilitation of carpooling to Quaker Center.

Treasurer (David Leonard): David distributed the Treasurer's report through May (attached). Although we are slightly behind in our donations for this time of year, there seems no cause for concern.

Hospitality (Craig Olson): The Emmons family will be leaving for the Pacific Northwest late in June. Craig encourages Friends to write special memories of the family in a book he will bring to Meeting.

Clerk's Correspondence:

- Ken Orvis writes with news of the family in Knoxville, Tennessee, and requests transfer of his membership to the West Knoxville Monthly Meeting where they are attending.
- We have received the acceptance of Susan Sanford's transfer of membership to Appleseed Meeting.
- Friends General Conference registration forms have arrived. An announcement of employment opportunities with FGC will be posted.
- Friends Bulletin writes to remind us that subscriptions are subsidized; although individuals pay only \$16 a year to subscribe through the Meeting, the real costs of a subscription are \$30. The Bulletin encourages us to send donations.

Announcements:

- The deadline for discounted applications to PYM is June 13th.
- On July 23rd Julian Frederick will be leading an after-Meeting discussion on Forgiveness, based on a weekend he spent at Ben Lomond.

The Meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 1:05 p.m. Sixteen Friends were present.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday, July 9, 1995, at 11:15 a.m., at Berkeley Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted,


Leslie Leonard
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, the Ninth Day of the Seventh Month, 1995
at Berkeley Friends Church
Joyce Samati, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:15 a.m. Eighteen Friends were present. There were no responses to July's Advices and Queries.

Minutes for Sixth Month were read and approved.

Old Business:

Review of the PYM Budget (Shelley Tanenbaum): Members of the Finance Committee, joined by Susan Burr and Elsa Glines, met to consider PYM's proposed 1995-96 outreach budget. Although the Committee would have preferred to see how this portion of the Yearly Meeting's proposed expenditures fit into the whole budget, they felt that the contributions outlined were reasonable. The issues to be considered in the Yearly Meeting budget are in many ways similar to those in Strawberry Creek: the needs are so great that it is difficult to address them all or to make significant changes in the roster.

The Committee recommends this review process as an occasion to learn about the Yearly Meeting, its summer gathering, and its role in relation to constituent Monthly Meetings. Several members who had never been to PYM now want to attend in the future. The Committee is aware that some families find the expense of PYM prohibitive, and reminded us again of the importance of publicizing the financial help available from both Yearly Meeting and our Monthly Meeting for this purpose.

Shelley will return our responses by the requested date, noting the enthusiasm expressed for PYM and the hope that we will have an opportunity to review the budget again.

New Business:

Minute of Travel for Robin Standish: Meeting asked the Clerk and the Recording Clerk to meet with Robin Standish to compose a Traveling Minute from Strawberry Creek Meeting for Robin as she attends the U.N. International Women's Conference in Beijing at the end of August. The Minute will express our support for Robin. In addition to attending the gathering, Robin will be meeting with groups of like-minded women and expressing her concern about the exclusion of Asian women activists from the Meeting by the Chinese government.

Committee Reports:

Nominating (Rich Tittle): George Russell has asked to step down as Clerk of Facilities because of personal obligations, and Francia Welker-Tartar will be leaving the Clerkship of Religious Education because the family is moving to Davis in the Fall. Nominating hopes to bring us nominations for these two positions in September.

Treasurer (Leslie Leonard for David Leonard): Leslie distributed the Treasurer's report through June (attached). The Retreat Fund now shows a positive balance. We are half-way through the year and have spent 49% of our budget. As our income level is only at 39% of budget, there may be some cause for concern. Susan Burr is arranging for an audit of the books as they pass to our new Treasurer.

Oversight (Robin Standish): Friends are encouraged to contribute to the Mindy Brown Fund to assist her with expenses at Earlham College.

A letter from Overseers was read recommending the membership of Patricia Dienstfrey. The recommendation will be seasoned and considered in September.

On the request of their parents or grandparents, the following young people were granted Associate Membership by the Overseers Committee: Kristen Burnett, Casey Loufek, Nathan Secrest, Anna Tittle and Robin Tittle.

Ken Orvis's request for transfer of his membership to the West Knoxville, Tennessee, Monthly Meeting was approved. Meeting wishes the family well in their new life there.

Overseers brought a proposed minute to the Meeting which restates our policy on inactive membership. The minute would be included in a loving and personal note from Overseers to a long inactive Friend whose membership Overseers feels needs clarification. As the minute states, a person would be dropped as a member only after careful and lengthy consideration by Overseers and with agreement from the Monthly Meeting. Meeting approved the following minute:

An individual who becomes a member of the Meeting comes "to share in the responsibilities, difficulties and joys of its community." Faith and Practice continues,

Membership is a practical matter and indicates a commitment to attend regularly meetings for worship, including those for the conduct of business; give service through committees...; and share in financial responsibility....Friends may go through periods, sometimes prolonged, when their association with the life of the Meeting is tenuous; membership, however, whose only basis is nostalgia, status, or inertia should not be continued.

Some reasons for a member's inactivity, such as distance and other unavoidable commitments, may be temporary and justify continued membership. However, those who no longer meet any of the responsibilities of membership and who have little prospect of returning to active participation in the Meeting should change their status to one that more accurately reflects their condition. The Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting asks that Overseers work with such inactive Friends to find a more appropriate status for them - by their either transferring to another Meeting or denomination, joining the Wider Quaker Fellowship, or simply ending their membership. The Meeting asks that the Committee on Oversight, after having consulted with the inactive Friend if at all possible, recommend to meeting for business the action it deems appropriate.

The next Overseers Meeting is July 12th.

Retreat (Charlie Blanchard): Strawberry Creek has been invited by Berkeley Friends Meeting to participate with them in the planning of a joint workshop on teaching Quaker faith and practice in the home. Berkeley is asking whether three Strawberries could join a planning committee for the workshop, which might be given in late September or early October. There was considerable interest in the topic, and Religious Education, Worship and Ministry and Retreat Committees will explore the possibilities of support at their next meetings. Charlie will coordinate this effort.

EBSC (Bob Reis): EBSC is establishing a sister community relationship with Panamaquip, Guatemala. Anyone interested in joining a group from the Bay Area visiting the community from August 10-21 should contact Bob. On September 17th Queremos Paz will be hosting an Indian meal to benefit the EBSC and CRECE. Information will be in the newsletter. Sandy Hoffmann is writing a summary of the discussions at the Immigration Retreat which occurred recently at Quaker Center.

Hospitality (Lee Andresen): The first summer picnic at Cedar-Rose Park was on July 2nd; the second will be July 30th. August 27th has been tentatively chosen as a date for a joint picnic with Berkeley Friends Church and Berkeley Friends Meeting. The committee is continuing to consider how to help newcomers feel welcome and how to promote community at Strawberry Creek.

PYM Representative (Elsa Glines): Half the PYM children's supplies were lost to storm damage this winter. The Yearly Meeting welcomes contributions of new or used books, games, dress-up clothes, paper and other supplies. In response to PYM's request for information concerning our witness as a

Meeting in Latin America, Elsa will speak with Bob Reis about EBSC and with Barbara Graves about the Ericksons in Costa Rica.

Interest was expressed in our providing an opportunity for Friends who go to next month's PYM to share their experiences with those who have not yet attended. Friends thought that scheduling such a meeting in the early Fall would mean that the experience was still fresh and that prospective attenders would have ample time to plan for the 1996 Yearly Meeting.

Religious Education (Francia Welker-Tartar): The Church and Strawberry Creek are currently searching for a replacement for Mindy Brown as paid childcare provider in the nursery. Meeting empowered Francia to represent us in this process. The children bought additional school supplies for Haiti with the remaining cash collected at the dinner earlier this summer. A warm thank-you note from the AFSC for the previous shipment will be passed on to the children.

Clerk's Correspondence:

- Dick and Barbara Emmons send greetings from their new home in Vashon, near Seattle.
- We received the schedule of 1995 summer lectures from the Berkeley Friends Meeting Adult Education Committee. Information will be published in our newsletter.
- The groundbreaking (or, more appropriately, wall-bashing) celebration heralding the new San Francisco Quaker Center will take place on Sunday August 13th, beginning with a Meeting for Worship at 11:00 a.m. Information will be in our newsletter.

Announcements:

- Barbara Graves will be moving soon; a portion of her library will be available for sale with proceeds to go to a worthy cause.
- The annual FCL fundraising dinner will be on Thursday, August 31st, in Sacramento. Nick Petris will be the speaker. Meeting will buy two tickets to the dinner; funds are already included in the budget.

The Meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 1:10 p.m. Twenty-one Friends were present.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday, September 10, 1995, at 11:15 a.m., at Berkeley Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted,



Leslie Leonard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, the Tenth Day of the Ninth Month, 1995
at Berkeley Friends Church
Joyce Samati, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:15 a.m. Twenty Friends were present.

Response to Advices and Queries. Andrea English responded on behalf of Worship and Ministry to the proposed new Advices and Queries on Meeting for Worship.

Minutes for Seventh Month were read and approved.

Old Business:

Membership of Patricia Dienstfrey: Friends approved Patricia Dienstfrey's membership with enthusiasm. Elsa Glines (coordinating), Rachel Ann Elder and Beth Wrightson will meet with Patricia to welcome her personally to the Meeting.

New Business:

Recent Developments with Berkeley Friends Church (Andrea English): Andrea English reported that she was contacted by the Clerk of Trustees of Berkeley Friends Church in mid-summer about their facilities requirements this Fall. After some conversation, it was determined that at this time the Church needs four of the five classrooms for use at 10:15 each Sunday morning. In addition to the nursery, Strawberry Creek will continue to have one room available for our children until 10:30.

Andrea contacted the First-Day School Committee for its consideration of the effects of this change on our Religious Education program. The Committee indicated that it was uncomfortable with the shorter class time available to the 6-10 year-olds, but that it could begin its First-Day program fifteen minutes earlier (at 9:15) in order to provide the necessary time for the children. That scheduling change was in effect this week.

With no Meeting for Business scheduled in August, a small group of concerned elders met with some members of the Berkeley Friends Church. The meeting was informal and unofficial for both Church and Meeting; its purpose was to clarify some of the issues and to insure that both congregations understood the implications of these space decisions. Andrea and others who attended this meeting reported that it was a frank, helpful, and very cordial discussion, with deep respect expressed for the needs and expectations of both groups. Although the communities would wish for more fellowship with one another, the first priority for each is the integrity of its own Meeting, one of the hallmarks of which is a vigorous First-Day School Program. While the Meeting and First-Day School are currently quite small at Friends Church, members are nonetheless enthusiastically committed to a plan of sustained growth in both Church and First-Day School attendance. They will need all the First-Day School rooms by next Fall, and will be beginning their classes at 10:00 rather than 10:15 to allow time for a more meaningful program.

Considerable reflection followed Andrea's report, during which the events of the summer were clarified and concerns about the difficulty of finding suitable and affordable alternative sites were expressed. While no formal decision is required of us at this point, Friends recognized the strong probability that we will need to relocate by September of 1996 and the urgency of clarifying our available options as soon as possible. In response, Meeting decided the following:

- An *ad hoc* Sites Committee will be formed to explore the options available to us in the vicinity. A core committee of Peter Trueblood, Bob Burnett, John McCarthy, Elsa Glines and Tom Yamaguchi was suggested. The Clerk will entertain names of additional volunteers for this effort over the next month.

Although this core group should begin initial explorations as soon as possible, these names will be seasoned, and final approval of the membership of the Sites Committee is deferred until the October Business Meeting.

- A Threshing Meeting was scheduled for October 8th at 11:15 at which the Sites Committee will facilitate a full discussion of the Meeting's needs in a new site. At this meeting, Friends will develop and prioritize a list of the Meeting's minimum and ideal needs for any new facility. This discussion will be an opportunity for us to think creatively about how we would like to function as a community.
- Stephen McNeil and Andrea English will prepare a mailing to our members and attenders summarizing the developments of the summer and announcing the October 8th meeting.
- As the official liaison between Strawberry Creek Meeting and Berkeley Friends Church, Andrea was asked to keep the Church informed of our deliberations as they proceed.

PYM Report and Calls to Action (Elsa Glines, Beth Wrightson): PYM took place this year in Chico during the first week in August. Approximately 500 Friends attended. One controversial issue this year was the consideration of the purchase of a permanent site. The Sites Committee was authorized to continue exploration of the possibility of a purchase, including an assessment of available funding. Concerns on this issue should be brought to the attention of Harry Bailey in Grass Valley Meeting. Beth and Elsa will lead an after-Meeting discussion about PYM in the near future. Next year's PYM may take place in San Luis Obispo.

Several calls to action were enclosed with the packet of PYM minutes mailed to Meetings; Joyce has copies of these available, and Elsa and Beth will facilitate discussion of these calls at our October Meeting for Business.

Committee Reports:

Facilities (Richard Leath): Worship and Ministry and Facilities Committee have changed the seating arrangements in Meeting. Their purpose is to leave the south area more available for latecomers.

Nominating (Rich Tittle): Rich expressed appreciation on behalf of the Committee to Friends who are ready to take on additional jobs at this point in the year. Rich brought the following new nominations for our consideration: Richard Leath (Clerk, Facilities), Gerry Morris (member, Facilities), Mike O'Sullivan (Clerk, Religious Education), Leslie Leonard (Religious Education/Nursery), Hollister Landel (Religious Education/3-6 year olds), and Mary Anderson (Religious Education/High School). These nominations will be seasoned for the month. We still need an additional member of the Hospitality Committee and one or two Middle School teachers.

Oversight (David Leonard): Oversight continues to be attentive and responsive to the spiritual and material needs of individual members.

Overseers recommends the memberships of Jean Flores and Miftah Leath. Jean is requesting transfer from Marloma (Long Beach, CA) Monthly Meeting. These recommendations will be seasoned for a month.

As approved by Overseers at their July meeting, Joyce Samati has written letters of introduction for Larry Perry, Roxanne Seagraves and Clifford Ham.

Treasurer (Carl Anderson): Carl read the Treasurer's Report of income and expenditures through August, 1995.

Worship and Ministry (Andrea English): The Advices and Queries read in Meeting this year will be from the proposed new version for Pacific Yearly Meeting. Andrea has copies of these. Comments should go to Worship and Ministry or to the PYM Faith and Practice Revision Committee clerked by

Laura Magnani. A schedule of committees responsible for reading Queries will appear in our newsletter

Worship and Ministry will be hosting some adult education meetings this Fall and a new version of Quakerism 101 in the Spring. They will also be assisting Hospitality Committee with Friendly 7's.

Hospitality (Julie Russell): On September 24th Hospitality will host a big welcoming party for all children who have not been formally welcomed into the Meeting. The party will be at Lake Anza after Meeting.

Peace and Social Order (Stephen McNeil): Strawberries were active in the August 6th "Hands Around the University" demonstration against nuclear weapons. We will need to continue to reflect on how we should relate to this issue in the future. Stephen reminded us of the FCL fundraising pancake breakfast on September 30th, and the FASE Day on the Green at Friends' House on October 7th.

EBSC (Bob Reis): Bob announced the Indian dinner for EBSC on September 17th at St. John's Presbyterian. A small group visited sister city Panamaquip, Guatemala in August.

Retreat (Charlie Blanchard): Retreat Committee has decided to continue the tradition of the Winter Retreat in mid-January. The Spring Retreat will be the first weekend in May at Ben Lomond. Mary Wood, Clerk of Pendle Hill, will be in Berkeley in October. Charlie is trying to set up an October 12th worship-fellowship group with her on the daily practice of our Quaker faith.

Retreat Committee discussed Berkeley Meeting's proposed workshop on teaching Quaker faith and practice in the home. Retreat Committee is more interested in a workshop oriented to how parents act as Quakers on a day-to-day basis, but this does not make the topic a Retreat Committee issue. Two individuals from Retreat Committee and one person from Religious Education may be interested in the original workshop.

Clerk's Correspondence:

- An announcement from FWCC for a Quaker Youth Pilgrimage in July and August of 1996 will be posted.
- The 1995 College Park Quarterly Meeting Directory is available.
- Meeting asked the Clerk to write a letter of introduction for Francia, Sherif and Mary Welker-Tartar to Davis Meeting.

Announcements:

- Quarterly Meeting will be on October 14-15 at John Woolman School.
- Bob Vogel, PYM's 1995-96 Brinton Visitor, will be in Berkeley on Tuesday evening, October 24th.

The Meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 1:55 p.m. Twenty-three Friends were present.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday, October 1, 1995, at 11:15 a.m., at Berkeley Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted,



Leslie Leonard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, the First Day of the Tenth Month, 1995
at Berkeley Friends Church
Joyce Samati, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:15 a.m. Twenty-four Friends were present.

Response to Advices and Queries. Charlie Blanchard responded on behalf of the Retreat Committee to the Advices and Queries on Spiritual Life. Noting the quality and depth of recent reflections on the queries, a Friend suggested that these responses be included more fully in the Minutes or published in the newsletter. Worship and Ministry will consider asking committees to submit written responses for this purpose.

Minutes for Ninth Month were read and approved with the inclusion of the reading of the Treasurer's report by Carl Anderson. It was also noted that the FCL fundraiser was a brunch rather than a pancake breakfast, and that the purpose of the new seating arrangement in Meeting for Worship was to make the circle smaller rather than to accommodate latecomers.

Old Business:

Membership of Jean Flores: Friends enthusiastically approved the transfer of membership of Jean Flores from Marloma Monthly Meeting in Long Beach, California. Shelley Tanenbaum (convenor), Lee Andresen and Barbara Graves will meet with Jean to welcome her to the Meeting.

Membership of Miftah Leath: The membership of Miftah Leath was also heartily approved. Miftah's welcoming committee will be Ramona Silipo (convenor), Julie Russell and Mary Anderson.

Report on Strawberry Creek Meeting Site Discussions (Peter Trueblood). The proposed Site Committee members have met to begin their deliberations. At this time they are limiting their discussions to possible rental (not purchase) arrangements. They also have not explored alternative schedules for Meeting for Worship.

A joint meeting of Worship and Ministry and Overseers Committees has planned the October 8th threshing session on our site needs. The threshing meeting will be clerked by Joyce Samati and will begin with a general discussion of site issues. This initial period of the meeting will be an opportunity for us to reflect on ourselves as a community wherever we are located. While we make no assumptions that we will be leaving Friends Church, this discussion may provide the context for a later decision. Following this period of reflection, John McCarthy, who has been serving as convenor of the Site Committee, will report on the committee's deliberations and lead a discussion concerning our Meeting's priority needs in a facility. The Committee will also bring to the meeting information about possible financial implications of a move.

A Friend expressed strong concern about the importance of keeping good order in this process and maintaining clear, written communication between Strawberry Creek and the Friends Church. She reported that some members of the Church were surprised to learn that we were considering a move without formal notice that such a move was necessary. Another Friend noted that we have begun that formal communication process by including our understanding of the Church's intentions in our minutes. We welcome their response to us and will continue to keep them informed as we proceed.

Having seasoned the proposed *ad hoc* Site Committee membership for a month, Meeting approved the following members of the committee: Bob Burnett, Elsa Glines, John McCarthy, Peter Trueblood and Tom Yamaguchi. Mary Anderson has also volunteered for the committee; her name will be seasoned until the next Meeting for Business. It was agreed that we will revisit the issue of a name for the committee after the October 8th threshing meeting.

PYM calls to action and report of the PYM Sexual Minority Subcommittee (Elsa Glines, Beth Wrightson). The Northern California Ecumenical Council's calls to action on racism and affirmative

action were distributed with the 1995 PYM minutes. Strawberry Creek's Peace and Social Order Committee will be sponsoring programs in January and February on these issues; we will publish materials in preparation for the programs in our newsletter.

Beth and Elsa are planning an after-Meeting forum on PYM on November 12th. At that time we will have an opportunity to consider more fully the PYM epistle, calls to action, reports and minutes proposed for seasoning by constituent meetings. Joyce Samati has prepared a binder of relevant materials which will be available on the table in Fellowship Hall. At the November 12th forum we hope to develop a process for consideration of and response to the issues brought to our Meeting by PYM.

The state legislature of Hawaii is currently considering giving legal status to same-sex marriages. Honolulu Meeting has asked PYM Meetings for copies of minutes approving same-sex marriages within the context of our faith. Joyce will forward our minute to them.

Nominating (Elsa Glines). The following nominations, held over for the last month, were approved: Richard Leath (Clerk, Facilities), Gerry Morris (member, Facilities), Mike O'Sullivan (Clerk, Religious Education), Leslie Leonard (Religious Education/Nursery), Hollister Landel (Religious Education/3-6 year olds), and Mary Anderson (Religious Education/High School). Julian Frederick's nomination as Representative to College Park Quarterly Meeting was inadvertently omitted from September's list; Meeting asked Julian to represent us during this month's Quarterly Meeting while we season his name until November.

New Business:

Ad hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee. Meeting asked Mary Miché, Robin Standish, and Tom Whiteman to bring to November's Meeting for Business the nominations for our 1996 Nominating Committee. Robin Standish will convene the *ad hoc* committee.

Committee Reports:

Facilities (Richard Leath): Saturday, October 14th is a workday at Friends Church. Facilities will be working with Worship and Ministry on the bulletin boards. The committee is developing a list of possible improvements to our worship area.

Finance (Shelley Tanenbaum): Members of the Finance Committee will be contacting committee clerks as they prepare a draft of the 1996 Meeting budget for our consideration in November. The Committee is also revising our brochure listing the organizations we contribute to as a Meeting. Tom Whiteman will help prepare the listing for Earthlight; other revisions should be given to Shelley. Friends agreed that the brochure should be included in a general finance letter sent to Meeting members and attenders once our budget is approved. This letter will clarify what is expected of Meeting members financially and invite us as Friends to reflect on the use of our resources.

Hospitality (Julie Russell): On October 22nd there will be a welcoming for Julia Lockett at the home of the Russells. The first of three Friendly Sevens gatherings will be on November 19th.

Treasurer (Carl Anderson): Carl presented the financial report through September. We now have \$2,200 in the General Fund, a healthier balance than last month's. The Meeting has made a \$419 payment towards the lease of computer equipment for Esther Morgan. The balance of the Mindy Brown Fund (about \$500) will be reserved for her needs during Winter and Spring terms.

Retreat (Charlie Blanchard): The October 12th worship-fellowship gathering with Mary Wood of Pendle Hill will take place at the Russells. Saturday, January 27th is the tentative date of the Winter Retreat.

Worship and Ministry (Ramona Silipo): With so many opportunities for reflection already scheduled for the Fall, Worship and Ministry is working on a program in the Spring. We have until the 1996 PYM to season the new Advices and Queries. Comments should be given to Worship and Ministry.

Overseers (David Leonard): Overseers will be working with Vine Street Meeting on the workshop on Quaker parenting, a topic originally considered by the Retreat Committee in consultation with Worship and Ministry and Religious Education. Interested Friends should contact David.

Clifford Ham is asking Friends interested in reflecting with him on their universalist faith to correspond with him in Nigeria.

Religious Education (Mary Miché, Mike O'Sullivan): The room changes for the children seem to be working out well so far. The Middlers have been given a choice about where to go at 10:15. Friends interested in working with Religious Education on the December Posada should be in contact with the Religious Education Committee.

Newsletter (Ramona Silipo): Both adult and youthful Friends are encouraged to submit reflections, artwork, poetry to the newsletter. Meeting thanked Ramona for her work on the newsletter, which fills such an important need for us as a community.

Clerk's Correspondence:

- The Clerk read a letter from Carol Wagner requesting membership. The letter was passed on to Overseers.

Announcements:

- The January Meeting for Business will take place on January 7th.

The Meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 1:40 p.m. Twenty-one Friends were present.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday, November 5, 1995, at 11:15 a.m., at Berkeley Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted,



Leslie Leonard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, the Fifth Day of the Eleventh Month, 1995
at Berkeley Friends Church
Joyce Samati, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:15 a.m. Thirty-five Friends were present.

Response to Advices and Queries. The proposed Advices and Queries on Meeting for Business were read. Because these queries are especially relevant to our community gathered for business, several Friends were asked to respond: David Leonard on behalf of Overseers, Susan Burr as Alternate Clerk, and Eric Moon as Clerk of Pacific Yearly Meeting.

Minutes for Tenth Month were read and approved with the following revisions:

- Regarding communication with Friends Church about our site discussions: "Another Friend noted that we have begun that formal communication process by including our understanding of the Church's intentions in our minutes."
- PYM calls to action: Our Peace and Social Order Committee (not NCEC) will be sponsoring programs in January and February.

Old Business:

Nominations: The nominations of Julian Frederick as College Park Quarterly Meeting Representative and Mary Anderson as a member of the Site Committee were approved.

Finance Committee Request (Shelley Tanenbaum): Meeting approved budgeting \$100 in the current year for costs associated with the Finance Committee's approved mailing later this month. This mailing will include a letter reminding Friends of our 1995 financial responsibilities to the Meeting's activities and a brochure describing the organizations to which we contribute as a Meeting.

Site Committee (John McCarthy): John will post the list of site criteria developed at the October 8th threshing meeting. The Committee is working actively to identify possible sites. At this time they are looking in the Berkeley and North Oakland areas at places no more than 6-8 blocks from a Bart Station. They have made approximately 30 different contacts and are still exploring others. The Committee is finding some good possibilities, particularly schools, in the \$1,000 - \$1,200/month range for use on Sundays.

At our next Meeting for Business, the Site Committee expects to present us with three possible sites to give us an idea of what might be available if we should leave Friends Church. We will then begin to reflect on advantages and disadvantages of different locations, including Friends Church. This will give us a better opportunity to clarify the range of options available to us, identify other factors which need to be considered, begin to assess our willingness and ability to pay any increased costs, and plan future steps in the process.

A Friend urged us to think of purchase only as a long-term possibility, limiting our current considerations to rental at the Friends Church or elsewhere. A purchase would require many years of planning and fundraising.

Liz Freelund was nominated to the Site Committee. Her nomination will be held over for a month.

New Business:

1996 Meeting Budget (Shelley Tanenbaum): The proposed 1996 budget (attached) includes an increase of about \$800, primarily due to increased activity and/or additional expenditures anticipated by Finance, Hospitality, Loaves and Fishes and Newsletter Committees. The rent is projected for Berkeley Friends Church, so if we move to a more expensive place, the budget will need to be reviewed again.

Friends suggested that three additional organizations be included as line-items to receive our standard contributions of \$110: Friends Center, Moscow, the PYM Brinton Visitor Fund, and the Scholarship Fund at PYM or CPQM. These suggestions will be seasoned until December. Friends with concerns about the budget or the inclusion of these additional organizations should contact Finance Committee in the meantime.

Some concern was expressed about the gap between income and expenditures indicated by the Treasurer's report included in the budget document. At a point 83% through the year, expenditures are 78% of budget but our income is only 67%.

Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee (Robin Standish): Lynne Bird, Elsa Glines, Gerry Morris and Jed Appelman are nominated as continuing members of the Nominating Committee, with Lynne nominated as Clerk. The Ad Hoc Committee will be looking for an additional member. These nominations will be seasoned until December.

Review of Entry Plan (Andrea English): Our current plan for entry into Meeting invites those who come to Meeting after 9:30 to worship in a room next to the Nursery downstairs until 9:45, after which they enter the gathered Meeting for Worship with the greeter. Worship and Ministry proposed a minute (attached) adopting this current procedure. There was considerable discussion about the wording of the minute, which will be seasoned until the December Meeting for Business.

Julian Frederick will present the report from **Fall Quarterly Meeting** in December. In the meantime, he will post materials on the bulletin board.

Committee Reports:

Hospitality (Julie Russell): Julie reviewed recent Hospitality events and announced that Friendly 7's will begin on November 19th. The Posada will take place on December 16th at 5:00 p.m., and a new member welcoming is planned for January. Meeting approved extending an invitation to Friends Church to participate with us in the Posada celebration.

Library (Mark Schaeffer): Friends are invited to return books which have been checked out or removed without notice from the Library. Mark will be calling around to remind those who have had books out for an extended time.

Nominating (Rich Tittle): Nominations were brought for Carol Wagner (Hospitality), Patricia Dienstfrey (PYM Observer) and Beth Wrightson (PYM Representative). Job descriptions distributed to committees and officers should be returned with revisions to Nominating by the end of November.

Overseers (David Leonard): Esther Morgan's family reports regretfully that she can no longer use the communication device leased for her. The equipment is being returned and unused funds will be sent back to Pacific Yearly Meeting.

Overseers are reviewing membership rolls and contacting inactive Friends. Among those contacted recently are Bob Cooter and Blair Dean, whose family has not been active for some time. Although they have warm memories of Strawberry Creek, Bob and Blair have made strong connections with a church in the area and ask that they be released from membership. This request will be seasoned over the next month.

Religious Education (Mike O'Sullivan): Mary Anderson, Allison Elliott, and Kathy Barnhart are working on the Posada. Liz Freelund will be coordinating food this year on an international theme. Cindy Trueblood is assisting with Hospitality arrangements.

Parents are encouraged to discuss First Day School programs with their children.

The Middlers have been given the choice at 10:15 of entering Meeting for Worship or assisting with the 3-5 year olds; they are no longer entering the Nursery at that time.

The second Sunday of the month is the regular meeting time for the Religious Education Committee.

Retreat (Barbara Graves): January 27th is the probable date of the Winter Retreat.

Clerk's Correspondence:

- A wonderful, newsy letter from Mindy Brown to the Meeting will be posted on the "This Week" bulletin board.
- PYM invites Friends to make pledges to support a permanent site for Pacific Yearly Meeting. They now have 50 pledges for a total exceeding \$40,000. Young Friends have pledged labor to improve the site. The pledge material will be included in our next newsletter.

Announcements:

- Mary Miche announced the schedule for food-packing for the Thanksgiving week Food Pantry distribution.

The Meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 2:20 p.m. Twenty Friends were present.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday, December 3, 1995, at 11:15 a.m., at Berkeley Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted,



Leslie Leonard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, the Third Day of the Twelfth Month, 1995
at Berkeley Friends Church
Joyce Samati, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:15 a.m. Thirty-two Friends were present.

The Minutes for Eleventh Month were read and approved.

Agenda. The Clerk announced that the CPQM report and the Site Committee Report will be deferred until January.

Old Business:

Budget (Shelley Tanenbaum and Carl Anderson): Finance Committee proposed the following revisions to line items in the current (1995) budget: Finance Committee, from \$100 to \$140; Hospitality Committee, from \$200 to \$400; Newsletter Committee, from \$1,800 to \$2,050, and Rent, from \$4,790 to \$5,200. Meeting approved the first three revisions. The proposed rent figure included the January, 1996, payment, which Meeting asked the Treasurer to hold until the first of the new year. Total approved revisions raise the 1995 budget by \$490 to \$15,981.

With a view towards possible reduction of the newsletter costs, Meeting asked that Overseers review the mailing list and the length of the newsletter.

The Treasurer reported that we need to receive donations of \$3,000 in the next month to break even in the 1995 fiscal year. The Meeting holds sufficient reserves to meet its current commitments, but Friends need to give special attention to their contributions as we close the year. The Treasurer was asked to make announcements at the rise of Meeting.

Finance Committee proposed the following revisions to the proposed 1996 budget reflecting more recent knowledge of expenditure patterns: Finance Committee, from \$100 to \$150; Hospitality, from \$350 to \$400, and Newsletter Committee, from \$2,000 to \$2,200. Three \$110 additions to the Outreach Donations were also laid before the Meeting: Friends House Moscow, the CPQM Student Scholarship Fund, and the PYM Brinton Visitor Fund.

Meeting approved the three committee increases, but laid over consideration of the outreach donations until the fiscal health of the Meeting is clearer with the final report of the 1995 fiscal year. In the meantime, Overseers will consider whether a new line item is the most appropriate approach for the CPQM Scholarship Fund. The approved total 1996 budget is \$16,547.

Nominations: The following nominations to the Nominating Committee were approved: Lynne Bird (Clerk), Elsa Glines, Jed Appelman, and Gerry Morris. The Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee also brought forward the names of Lee Andresen and Larry Perry. These nominations will be seasoned until January. The Committee also wishes to nominate Don Groom but has been unable to reach him in Chile. If Don is willing to serve on the Committee, Meeting will consider him nominated.

Meeting also approved the following nominations: Carol Wagner to Hospitality, Patricia Dienstfrey as PYM Observer, and Beth Wrightson as PYM Representative. Liz Freelund's nomination to the Site Committee was laid over until her ability to serve is clearer.

Release of Memberships: Meeting approved the release of Bob Cooter and Blair Dean from membership in Strawberry Creek. Overseers will write to Bob and Blair expressing our warm regards and fond memories of their long association with the Meeting.

Review of Entry Plan (Andrea English): Recognizing that individuals so moved may enter the Meeting for Worship as led, Worship and Ministry presented the following Minute as a recommendation for the Meeting as a whole:

Since the time of beginning our current plan for entering meeting, a new and marked deepening of the meeting for worship during the first fifteen minutes has been widely felt among us. This uninterrupted period has encouraged our centering and readiness for God's Spirit among us, in the reverent listening we so want to practice. And when the time has come for those downstairs to enter, they have done so with quiet purpose. This fall the arrival of teachers and beginning of children's classes at 9:15 have also contributed to our gathering and settling in by our appointed time.

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting now adopts as its practice: to begin worship at 9:30 and to designate a quiet waiting room for any who arrive up to 9:45, who will then, at the greeter's signal, enter the meeting room to join, as the Advices and Queries invite, "in expectant waiting for the promptings of the Divine Spirit." Friends who arrive after 9:45 will be encouraged to join the meeting for worship, being mindful of the gathered meeting.

Meeting approved the Minute with Rachel Ann Elder and Kathy Barry standing aside.

New Business:

The Clerk reminded Worship and Ministry and Overseers that each committee will be naming a member of the Ad Hoc Committee to write the State of the Society Report at the January Business Meeting.

Committee Reports:

Peace and Social Order (Stephen McNeil): The City of Berkeley has received a proposal from UC Berkeley regarding their use of People's Park. Peace and Social Order did not feel clear to join a coalition of religious organizations opposing the proposal, but invites informed Friends to discuss the issues with them.

Peace and Social Order will be sponsoring forums in January and February regarding the NCEC calls to action on racism and affirmative action .

EBSC (Bob Reis): EBSC is pleased to note an improved success rate in asylum cases in the country. The Oakland City Council has also passed a resolution opposed to the new anti-immigration legislation.

Overseers (David Leonard): Overseers recommends the membership of Carol Wagner to the Meeting. Carol's committee was composed of Robin Standish (clerk), Leonard Joy, and Patricia Dienstfrey. The recommendation will be seasoned until January.

The Clerk read a letter from Howard Curtis requesting membership. Overseers had already received a verbal request and has asked Peter Trueblood (clerk), Elsa Glines, and Lynne Bird to meet with him.

At the request of a Friend, Overseers agreed to consider how the Meeting might address the issues surrounding the recent anonymous letter sent to several Friends regarding late arrival at Meeting for Worship. Friends who wish to discuss the letter with Overseers should contact a member of the committee.

Worship and Ministry (Andrea English): Friends General Conference is taking pre-publication orders for the new Friends Hymnal. Checks made out to FGC can be given to Andrea. The cost is \$18 per hymnal.

Two new FGC pamphlets – "Deepening the Spiritual Life of the Meeting" and "The Practice of Quaker Worship" – are available in the Library.

The committee has been considering how to help raise Friends' awareness of long-standing and effective Quaker practices regarding the expression of concerns to committees and individuals. Meeting encouraged Worship and Ministry to find a way to state these processes formally so that they are widely available to members and attenders of the Meeting.

Hospitality (Larry Perry): Hospitality asks that Friends who attended the November 19th Friendly 7's speak to Cindy Trueblood or Craig Olson with feedback on the gatherings. The current plan is to hold these events quarterly.

There will be a new member welcoming towards the end of January.

Religious Education (Mary Miché): The committee was responsible this month for consideration of the proposed advices and queries on Home and Personal Relationships. The committee was uncomfortable with parts of the queries and requested that Worship and Ministry give particular consideration to these queries in their review.

Concerns were expressed that we are reading and publishing in our newsletter queries which are still in the proposal stage. Worship and Ministry will consider the best process for dealing with these concerns.

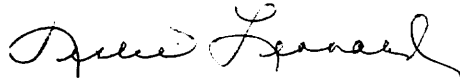
Clerk's Correspondence:

- The cost of *The Friends Bulletin* will increase in 1996 from \$16 to \$19 for those subscribing through their Monthly Meeting.
- Some of the local Habitat for Humanity homes worked on by Strawberries are now available for occupancy. The application deadline is January 30, 1996.
- The Western Young Friends New Year's Gathering will take place from December 28th through January 2nd.

The Meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 1:45 p.m. Seventeen Friends were present.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday, January 7, 1996, at 11:15 a.m., at Berkeley Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted,



Leslie Leonard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, the Seventh Day of the First Month, 1996
at Berkeley Friends Church
Joyce Samati, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:20 a.m. Twenty-five Friends were present.

Response to Advices and Queries. Julie Russell responded on behalf of the Hospitality Committee to the proposed Advices and Queries on Peace. The Committee recommended a number of editorial changes.

The Minutes for Twelfth Month, 1995 were read and approved with the following corrections:

- In the item regarding approval of the 1996 budget: "With a view towards possible reduction of the newsletter costs, Meeting asked that Overseers review the mailing list and the length of the newsletter."
- In the item on EBSC: "EBSC is pleased to note an improved success rate in asylum cases in the country."
- The previous group-subscription cost of *The Friends Bulletin* was \$16.00, rather than \$18.00.

Old Business:

Site Committee Report (Peter Trueblood): Andrea English read a letter to the Meeting from Sally Laidlaw Williams on behalf of Berkeley Friends' Church, summarizing their understanding of the status of our use of the building (attached). Friends expressed appreciation to the Church for the communication. Meeting agreed that we can assume that the reference to a "substantial increase in rent" implies that rent would approach actual market value.

Peter read the report of the Site Committee (attached). The committee will not be able to report further on the four options listed until March. These possibilities are the only viable places so far identified – if Friends are aware of other potential sites, they should contact a member of the committee. Friends were appreciative of the hard work of the committee.

College Park Quarterly Meeting (Julian Frederick): Julian reported on the CPQM which occurred October 13-15, 1995 at John Woolman School. He encouraged Friends to attend Winter Quarterly Meeting in Santa Rosa on January 20th.

1996 Budget. Overseers recommended that the CPQM Student Scholarship Fund be included as a \$110 line-item in our outreach donations. This Fund supports scholarships to Quaker schools for elementary and high-school students. Meeting approved the recommendation.

Meeting approved including Friends House Moscow as a \$110 line item in our outreach donations for three years. This project is in keeping with our custom to include donations to Quaker organizations with which one or more of our members has significant involvement.

Meeting also approved reinstating the PYM Brinton Visitor Fund in our annual donations.

Nominations: Lee Andresen and Larry Perry were approved as members of the Nominating Committee; Don Groom was unable to serve. Lee and Larry will serve two-year terms. The Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee recommends that next year's Ad Hoc Committee attempt to balance the terms of the Nominating Committee members so that half the Committee continues from the previous year.

Meeting thanked the outgoing Nominating Committee for its service.

Membership of Carol Wagner: The membership of Carol Wagner was approved. Elsa Glines (convenor), Lee Andresen and Mary Miché will meet with Carol to welcome her informally to the Meeting.

New Business:

Ad hoc committee to write the State of the Society Report. Worship and Ministry has asked Barbara Graves to sit on the committee, and Cindy Trueblood will serve as a member at large. Overseers will name a third member, and Larry Perry will contribute as Recorder.

Committee Reports:

Worship and Ministry (Andrea English): There will be a discussion on the State of our Society on February 25th after rise of Meeting. This will be an opportunity for us to reflect on our Meeting community over the last year.

Worship and Ministry is preparing a course, "Quakerism 102," as a follow-up to "101." The class will meet for five or six weekday evenings, beginning in mid-March.

The Committee has scheduled an opportunity to meet with Laura Magnani on Sunday, February 11th, to discuss our responses to the proposed Advices and Queries we have considered thus far. Laura is Clerk of the PYM *Faith and Practice* Revision Committee. In addition to the opportunity presented at this gathering, Friends can be in touch with the Revision Committee directly, speak with someone on Worship and Ministry, or bring responses directly to Meeting for Business.

After considerable discussion, Meeting agreed that we should no longer read the proposed Advices and Queries in our Meetings for Worship. We should continue to publish them in the newsletter as proposed advices, however, and should set aside time for reflection in our Meetings for Business. Worship and Ministry was asked to consider how we might structure this consideration and whether the old queries should be read in Meeting for Worship.

Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative (Beth Wrightson): There will be a discussion at rise of Meeting on January 21st on the proposal that PYM acquire a permanent site. Beth read a letter from Eric Moon, as Clerk of PYM, announcing that the 1996 PYM will take place at Chico during the first week of August. PYM hopes to hold its 1997 session at San Luis Obispo, although several matters need further consideration.

Overseers (David Leonard): Referring to the Overseers letter read after Meeting for Worship, David invited Friends with concerns about process issues to contact members of the Committee. After they hear from Friends in response to the letter, Overseers will bring a report to the Meeting.

Overseers approved a grant to Melinda Glines to help her attend the New Zealand Friends Summer Gathering.

Overseers has been considering revisions to the proposed Advices and Queries on Meeting for Business.

Overseers recommends release of the membership of Chris Emmons and the associate memberships of Esther and Anna Emmons, at their requests. Esther is currently contemplating joining University Meeting in Seattle, and the Clerk will write to her affirming her previous relationship with Strawberry Creek. The remaining Emmons children – Stephen, Maria, and Toki – are still within our customary age-range for associate members. These recommendations will be seasoned until February.

Overseers recommends to the Meeting the membership of Howard Curtis. Howard's committee was composed of Peter Trueblood (clerk), Elsa Glines, and Lynne Bird. This recommendation will also be held over until February.

Nominating (Lynne Bird): Lynne presented the following nominations, to be seasoned over the next month:

- Facilities: Rich Tittle to replace George Russell.
- Loaves and Fishes: Jed Appelman to replace Rich Tittle.
- Overseers: Leonard Joy as an additional member.
- Religious Education: Nancy Wolfe Jackson to assist with the Middlers.

EBSC (Bob Reis): Bob thanked Friends for their ongoing support of EBSC and CRECE activities, including their contribution of 50-60 Christmas toys and \$240 for crafts sold after Meeting.

Treasurer (Carl Anderson): Strawberries responded generously at the end of 1995, and our income comfortably exceeded our expenses. Carl estimates that 77 individual donors contributed to our General Fund last year. With the Meeting's approval of the three additional line items, our total 1996 budget is \$16,877.

Carl will send receipts for the IRS to individuals who contributed \$250 and above in 1995 and to others who request them.

Meeting expressed appreciation to Carl for his financial report.

Retreat (Charlie Blanchard): The Winter Retreat, "Living in Spiritual Community: Where we are now and where we might be led," will take place on Saturday, January 27th, at the Hillside Community Church.

Clerk's Correspondence:

- Chris Hogness and Leesa Linck have written from Portland. Chris is attending Multnomah Monthly Meeting.
- A certificate of removal of membership for Clifford Ham and Jamie Ham has been received from Ottawa Monthly Meeting. The matter was referred to Overseers.
- Edwin Stephenson writes from FASE that there is space available at Friends House in Santa Rosa.
- Friends House Moscow is looking for permanent staff.
- Clifford Ham has sent a tape to the Meeting describing his life in Nigeria. Friends who wish to borrow the tape should speak to Joyce.

Announcements:

- Leslie Leonard would like to gather Strawberry Creek Meeting historical records and store them in a single place. Friends who have records of this nature, or who have a place to store them, should let Leslie know. When she has a sense of space needs, she will make a proposal to Meeting for Business.

The Meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 1:35 p.m. Fourteen Friends were present.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday, February 4, 1996, at 11:15 a.m., at Berkeley Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted,



Leslie Leonard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, the Fourth Day of the Second Month, 1996
at Berkeley Friends Church
Joyce Samati, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:20 a.m. Twenty-three Friends were present.

Response to Advices and Queries. Bob Reis responded on behalf of the Peace and Social Order Committee to the proposed Advices and Queries on Civic Responsibility.

The Minutes for First Month, 1996, were read and approved with one correction: Bob Reis thanked Friends for their ongoing support of both EBSC and CRECE.

Old Business:

Nominations: The nominations of Rich Tittle to Facilities; Jed Appelman to Loaves and Fishes; Leonard Joy to Overseers; and Nancy Wolfe Jackson to Religious Education were approved. These individuals are nominated to serve through May of this year.

Membership of Howard Curtis: The membership of Howard Curtis was approved. Andrea English, Rachel Findley (convenor), and Ric Forste will meet with Howard to welcome him informally to the Meeting.

Release of Chris Emmons from membership: The release of Chris Emmons from membership in the Meeting was approved. The Clerk will write to express our warm regards to Chris, as well as to Esther and Anna Emmons on the release of their associate memberships.

Site Committee report (Peter Trueblood): The committee will not be prepared to make a recommendation for a new site until next month, but outlined briefly the three options which may remain to us: (1) The Seventh Day Adventist Church at Parker and Fulton. The Church Board has not yet met to consider whether to invite Strawberry Creek to worship there. (2) The Shelton School at 3339 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way, near Alcatraz. (3) The Friends' Church, with a substantial time change for our usage. The Site Committee has not considered what would be involved in the third option. The committee will try to arrange a visit to the first two sites for the clerks of Worship and Ministry, Religious Education, and Facilities. Next month the committee will bring further information on rent and comparability to our earlier site criteria. If the alternatives do not meet our needs or seem less attractive, we will want to explore more actively the possibility of remaining at Friends Church.

New Business:

College Park Quarterly Meeting (Julian Frederick): Julian summarized the January 20th Winter Quarterly Meeting hosted by Redwood Forest Meeting. The Minutes will be posted in the Meeting room. Spring Quarterly Meeting will be on May 18th and 19th at Ben Lomond.

Committee Reports:

Retreat (Shelley Tanenbaum, on behalf of Charlie Blanchard): A more formal report of the January retreat will be presented in March. The Spring Retreat will take place the weekend of May 4-5 at Ben Lomond Quaker Center.

Overseers (David Leonard): Overseers has asked Charlie Blanchard to serve as their representative on the ad hoc committee to write the State of the Meeting Report. He will join Barbara Graves and Cindy Trueblood.

Overseers recommends the release of Anna Bruff (formerly Anna Cox) from membership in the Meeting. Although Anna continues to have fond memories of our Meeting, she is currently a member of a church in Oregon, and will be joining Wider Quaker Fellowship to maintain her strong personal ties to Friends. This recommendation will be seasoned until next month.

Overseers encourages Friends who wish to respond to their letter about process to contact them. The letter has now been published in the newsletter.

The committee will be bringing a proposed revision to the draft Advices and Queries on Meeting for Business to the February 11th forum. David asked that Friends consider whether Overseers should seek Meeting's approval of the proposed version before sending it on to the PYM Revision Committee.

Overseers invites clerks of committees to let them know how the concept of a "committee Sunday" is working for them. January, 1995, Business Meeting Minutes reflect that we set aside the second Sunday of each month for committee meetings for a trial period only. Clerks should talk to a member of Overseers before their February 21st meeting, and the committee hopes to make a recommendation to the March Business Meeting.

Worship and Ministry (Susan Burr): Susan will be convening the February 25th meeting on the State of the Meeting. All Friends are encouraged to attend the meeting, but she asks that each Meeting committee ensure that at least one of its members is present.

Worship and Ministry recommends the following procedure regarding our consideration of the draft PYM Advices and Queries:

- The draft Advices and Queries for the month be printed in the newsletter clearly labeled as proposed.
- These Advices and Queries be read and responded to at Meeting for Business. (If these are particularly long in a given month, the Clerk may read only the Queries.)
- No Advices and Queries should be read in Meeting for Worship until we have finished the current round of considerations, after which Worship and Ministry will bring a further recommendation to the Meeting.

Meeting approved this procedure.

Nominating (Lynne Bird): Nominating is contacting individual Friends about their Meeting service for next year. Friends who are inadvertently missed are encouraged to speak to a committee member.

The committee has received a request that Meeting consider appointing a calendar coordinator. Friends reminded us that our previous experience with a coordinator other than the newsletter editor has been both problematic and duplicative. Our current newsletter editor is also concerned about having to consult with another individual during the preparation of the newsletter calendar. Friends hope that the current difficulties with conflicting events will be alleviated when we make a more formal decision about "committee Sunday."

Religious Education (Mike O'Sullivan): Religious Education Committee has rewritten its job description, which was seriously out-of-date. Their major suggestion, accepted by the Monthly Meeting, was that they be referred to as the "First-Day School Committee," to distinguish their concern for children rather than all religious education. A second consideration was the size of the committee. They are requesting that Nominating Committee appoint 3 teachers for each of 4 classes, 3 teachers for the nursery, 1 or 2 members to address curriculum, 2 to lead the summer program, 1 to take responsibility for the Christmas program, and a Clerk. Some members may wish to fill more than one of these roles. Not all members would be active at a given time, with committee meetings usually including only current teachers. Meeting asked that Nominating fill these positions, although concern was expressed that we have not yet resolved the matter of whether there is a difference between the committee and the faculty of First-Day School. Friends were reminded that everyone in the Meeting has a responsibility to the children, although we should also keep in mind the need for a unified curriculum and teachers who are familiar to the children over time. Mike will post the revised wording of the job description for Meeting's consideration.

Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative (Beth Wrightson): PYM Finance Committee has asked constituent meetings to send them a list of their outreach donations. They are also asking for comments about paying the costs for PYM delegates to fraternal organizations. Our Finance Committee will forward responses received before February 15th.

Beth will be writing up a summary of the Meeting's forum on a permanent PYM site. Support from the Friends who attended ranged from cautious to enthusiastic.

Peace and Social Order (Bob Reis): Peace and Social Order recommends that the Meeting approve a Minute supporting Affirmative Action and encourage other related activities. The recommendation is a result of the January 14th Meeting forum on the NCEC call to conscience, but Friends asked that the Peace and Social Order recommendations be available on the back table throughout the next month and brought for our consideration in March.

EBSC (Bob Reis): EBSC is in the process of applying for its own non-profit status apart from St. John's Presbyterian Church. A visit to EBSC sister city Panamaquip, Guatemala, is being planned for August. Interested Friends should be in touch with Bob.

Hospitality (Cindy Trueblood): The Welker-Tartars have thanked the meeting for the book of remembrances put together by Craig Olson. Friendly 7's will meet again on March 10th. Craig has written up the procedures for these events. Cindy reported that more than 90 people attended the December Posada, including several guests from the Friends Church. At the new member welcoming on January 21st, Patricia Dienstfrey and Miftah Leath received subscriptions to the *Friends Journal* and Jean Flores was given a subscription to the *Friends Bulletin*.

Future planned events include new member welcomings for Howard Curtis and Carol Wagner and a baby welcoming for Geoffrey Broque.

Clerk's Correspondence:

- A letter from Beth Wrightson requesting membership in the Meeting was warmly received and referred to Overseers.
- The John Woolman School Yearbook staff is requesting funding assistance.
- Friends General Conference will take place June 29 - July 6, 1996 in Hamilton, Ontario.

Announcements:

- The forum to consider the State of our Meeting will be on February 25th at rise of Meeting.
- Barbara Graves reminded us that a midweek Meeting for Worship is held each Wednesday at noon with Esther Morgan at the Alta Bates Herrick extension on Milvia.
- Beginning February 21st, Berkeley Meeting (Vine Street) will be holding a six-week course covering the major schisms in the Religious Society of Friends in the U.S. Information is posted.
- Information on joint service projects between the AFSC and Intermountain Yearly Meeting will be on the back table in the Meeting room.
- We have received a new Pendle Hill pamphlet: "Traveling In," by Douglas Steere.

The Meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 1:35 p.m. Fourteen Friends were present.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday, March 3, 1996, at 11:15 a.m., at Berkeley Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted,


Leslie Leonard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, the Third Day of the Third Month, 1996
at Berkeley Friends Church
Joyce Samati, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:15 a.m. Thirty-three Friends were present.

Response to Advices and Queries. Lynne Bird responded on behalf of the Nominating Committee to the proposed Advices and Queries on Reaching Out.

The Minutes for Second Month, 1996, were read and approved with one correction: First-Day School Committee prefers the expression "Christmas program" to "Posada," to leave room for a different kind of celebration if we so choose.

New Business:

SCM liaison with Friends Church: Worship and Ministry recommended and Meeting approved the appointment of Leslie Leonard as our second liaison with the Friends Church. Andrea English is the other liaison.

Old Business:

Release of membership of Anna Bruff: The release of Anna Bruff from membership in the Meeting was approved. The Clerk will write to Anna to express our warm regards.

Site Committee report (John McCarthy and Peter Trueblood): John distributed a written report of the Site Committee (attached). The Seventh Day Adventist Church was not in fact available on Sunday mornings, and the committee is recommending that the Meeting seriously consider the Shelton Educational Center at 3339 Martin Luther King Jr. Way as our new site. This recommendation comes to us after a thorough investigation of the other Berkeley and North Oakland facilities which met our constraints of proximity to BART, Sunday availability, and space comparable to Friends Church. The Shelton School is a family-owned and operated predominately African American primary school.

John and Peter led the Meeting through a discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of the Shelton School as a Meeting site. Friends identified several areas which will need to be addressed if we proceed, including the probable need for additional custodial services, possible use of the building for SHARE, and vehicle security.

Meeting asked the Site Committee to arrange two Meetings for Worship at the Shelton School so that we can try out the new facilities: one on March 31st, and one on April 14th, followed by a Business Meeting. At that Business Meeting, we will have a discussion of our experience with these new premises and decide whether to consider the site further or explore other alternatives. Other alternatives include locating possible new sites farther from BART, proposing a change in our Meeting time (either at the Friends Church or elsewhere), or considering the purchase of property.

The Site Committee will prepare a mailing to all members and attenders announcing the two dates and including a map to the new site. Meeting for Worship on those two dates will begin at 10:00 a.m. to allow those who come to the Friends Church in error to drive to the School.

The Site Committee was thanked for its thorough work and careful preparation of the materials. We were reminded that this is an unusual opportunity for us to consider what we want to become as a Meeting community.

Minute on Affirmative Action (Bob Reis): Meeting requested an opportunity to discuss the issue of affirmative action more fully before addressing the minute directly. Peace and Social Order will make arrangements for a guided forum with Californians for Justice.

Committee Reports:

Worship and Ministry (Barbara Graves): Barbara previewed the Quakerism 102 series beginning March 14th at 7:15.

Overseers (David Leonard): The membership committee for Beth Wrightson will be Leonard Joy (convenor), Patricia Dienstfrey and Ken Leonard.

The Committee provided scholarship assistance for Allison Elliott to attend the Religion and Psychology Conference at Ben Lomond.

Overseers continues to be aware of and to provide appropriate assistance to members and attenders in need. At this time the Meeting needs to raise another \$800 for the Sharing Fund for needs already identified. Checks can be written to the Meeting earmarked for the Fund.

Overseers has been considering our trial practice of reserving one Sunday a month for "Committee Sunday." As two large committees expressed a strong preference for continuing the arrangement, Overseers recommends that we set aside the second Sunday of each month for after-Meeting committee meetings, and that we not schedule other events on this day. Meeting approved the recommendation.

Charlie Blanchard reported on the workshop on teaching Quaker values to children given jointly by Strawberry Creek and Berkeley Meeting. The workshop was very successful, and one or two more will probably be offered. There was also interest in setting up a parent support group.

Hospitality (Cindy Trueblood): Mindful of the importance of personally welcoming visitors to Meeting, Hospitality will organize a system of identifying two people each Sunday to speak with newcomers. Of course each of us is encouraged to take time from our "post-Meeting business" to greet visitors.

There will be a pre-Easter gathering on Saturday, April 6th at the Church for dyeing eggs, a potluck, and other celebrations appropriate to the religious holiday. Meeting approved inviting Friends from the Church to join us.

Retreat (Charlie Blanchard): Twenty-three adults and eleven children attended our Winter Retreat in January. The Retreat was the occasion of sharing of strong feelings of warmth and support for the community and a ripening of social concerns. Our income exceeded expenses. The necessary childcare was difficult to arrange, unfortunately, and the committee is concerned about childcare in the spring. The Spring Retreat will be May 3-5th at Ben Lomond.

Nominating (Lynne Bird): Lynne sought clarification on the membership restrictions for the Worship and Ministry Committee. Our practice is that only the Clerk on Worship and Ministry need be a member of the Society, although all members should have a seasoned experience of Quakerism.

The committee is having some difficulty finding a SHARE coordinator. We are aware that the possible change in venue may affect our participation in SHARE. Jane Terry will check to see if another church in the area could be a distribution site if we do not continue. In the meantime, Nominating is asked to find a coordinator only if someone volunteers.

Treasurer (Carl Anderson): Carl submitted a Treasurer's Report, which is attached. Meeting approved increasing the budget item for extra meetings from \$500 to \$800, to cope with probable charges for our trial period at the Shelton School. The Finance Committee will consider how we should report the carry-forward balance at the end of our 1995 financial year.

Clerk's Correspondence:

In the interests of time, the Clerk's correspondence was referred to the appropriate committees.

Announcements:

- Bojana Mladenovic, co-founder of the Balkan Peace Project, will be speaking at the Palo Alto Friends Meeting House at 7:30 p.m. on March 13th.
- Quaker Heritage Day is April 13th at the Berkeley Friends Church. Arthur Roberts will be the speaker.

The Meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 2:15 p.m. Sixteen Friends were present.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday, April 14, 1996. We anticipate that it will be at 11:45 a.m. at the Shelton School.

Respectfully submitted,


Leslie Leonard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, the Fourteenth Day of the Fourth Month, 1996
at Shelton Educational Center
Joyce Samati, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:45 a.m. Thirty-five Friends were present.

Response to Advices and Queries. The proposed Advices and Queries on Personal Conduct were read and considered.

As is our custom, the **Minutes for Third Month** were published in the newsletter. In the interests of time, only the portions of the Minutes relevant to Fourth Month Business Meeting were read by the Recording Clerk. The Minutes were approved.

The Clerk reminded us of our need to proceed carefully but expeditiously through our substantial agenda.

New Business:

Nominating Committee (Lynne Bird): Nominations for 1996-97 were presented (see attached). As no one has come forward to represent the Meeting with the AFSC or with SHARE, no nominations for these positions were made. We currently have several Meeting members active in the AFSC, so in accordance with our previous agreement, we will forgo a separate individual representative. We will want to return to the issue of the SHARE coordinator, however, when we have clarity about our future worship site.

These nominations will be seasoned until the May business meeting. Concerns about specific nominations should be presented to a member of the Nominating Committee.

State of the Meeting Report: Cindy Trueblood read the draft State of the Meeting report prepared by Charlie Blanchard, Barbara Graves, and herself. A few suggestions were made for the committee's consideration, and great appreciation was expressed for the inclusiveness of the report and the tenderness with which the writers addressed difficult issues in the Meeting. The report will be seasoned during the next month.

Old Business:

Site Committee report (John McCarthy): The Site Committee has spoken with a number of Friends and with the First Day School Committee about their experience of the Shelton Educational Center. With the exception of two individuals, the response has been quite positive, and the Center continues to be very interested in having us there. The Site Committee does not yet have definitive answers to two issues raised by members — the nearby availability of large park space for the summer program and personal and property security — but given the enthusiasm expressed for the site, coupled with the short time-frame for a decision, the Committee recommends that Strawberry Creek begin regular worship at Shelton in July or August this summer.

There was considerable discussion about the recommendation. Several Friends expressed their experience of Shelton as a life-affirming space. The acoustics in the worship room are better and the accommodation of late-comers is much less cumbersome than at Friends Church. At least one Friend, however, voiced a strong concern about safety issues in the neighborhood, and some reservations were expressed about the aesthetics of the worship room.

The Site Committee has received an alternative recommendation: the Hillside Spiritual Growth Center (formerly the Hillside Community Church), where we have often gathered for retreats. John reminded us that Hillside does not meet two of the Meeting's primary criteria: it is far north of the geographic center of our Meeting's population, and it is not within walking distance of a BART station. There may also be a substantial deferred maintenance problem with the building which the current residents cannot finance.

Many Friends expressed the strong conviction that in spite of some of the problems with the Shelton site, the careful process we have observed as a Meeting, the identification of our primary needs as a community, the Committee's finding that this is the only place which met our criteria, the welcome we have experienced from the school management, and the affirming experience most of us have felt here, are all strong indications that this is the place to which the Spirit is leading us at this time in our Meeting's life. As one Friend observed, this is a place "where we can grow into ourselves."

Friends agreed to season a decision on the Shelton site for another month, during which Friends will also reflect on the importance of a Meeting site which is convenient to public transportation. We are not at this time considering several factors which will need to be decided independent of the site, including time of worship, the schedule for children's entrance into Meeting, or the location of our evening meetings. These and other details will be decided over the next few months, as we will need a clear and explicit contract wherever we go.

Committee Reports:

Overseers (David Leonard): Overseers warmly recommends the membership of Beth Wrightson. Beth's committee was composed of Leonard Joy (convenor), Patricia Dienstfrey, and Ken Leonard. The Meeting will season this recommendation until May.

Overseers has had a useful sharing with several members and attenders about the process issues which were raised around the recent anonymous letter regarding lateness to Meeting. Although Overseers has been unable personally to assure the still-anonymous letter writer that this Meeting is a safe place to express concerns and feelings, they will at this time lay down the issue. They also wish to remind Friends again of their Minute stating that although individuals in the Meeting are encouraged to speak with others about personal concerns, only the Committees of Overseers or Worship and Ministry may speak on behalf of the Meeting. The Minute which addresses this process is included in our State of the Meeting report.

Retreat (Charlie Blanchard): Charlie reminded us of the Spring Retreat at Ben Lomond on May 3, 4, and 5. Registration forms should be returned as soon as possible.

Peace and Social Order (Bob Reis): Bob reminded us of the importance of addressing our involvement in the SHARE program in the near future. EBSC is in the process of incorporating as a non-profit corporation, after which our representative will serve as a member of their Board of Directors.

Hospitality (Cindy Trueblood): There will be a gathering at Cedar-Rose Park next week after Meeting for Worship to welcome new children to the Meeting. Hospitality has assigned two people to serve as welcomers after Meeting; there will be a sign-up available for volunteers for this service.

Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative (Elsa Glines for Beth Wrightson): Friends interested in scholarships for PYM this summer should contact Overseers. Friends who wish to propose interest-sharing groups for PYM should contact Andrea English by May 15th. PYM Clerk Eric Moon needs to know by June 1st of documents which should be included in mailing to PYM registrants. Friends who wish to help with the children's program (for remuneration) should contact Rhea Farley.

Clerk's Correspondence:

- A letter from Manuel Marks requesting membership was read and referred to Overseers.
- Palo Alto Meeting is seeking a part-time employee to help with their First Day School. The job description will be posted in the Meeting room.
- The AFSC Executive Committee is in the process of establishing a search committee for their Clerk and Associate Clerk.
- John Ives writes that he knows of a 13 year-old Czech girl looking for a pen-pal. The letter was referred to the First Day School Committee.
- Friends General Conference will hold its 1996 meeting, "Journeys in Truth," at McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, from June 29th to July 6th.

Announcements:

- The Meeting's Spring Retreat will be at Ben Lomond Quaker Center, May 3 - 5.

- Leslie Leonard is still working on the project of gathering Strawberry Creek Meeting records. We have identified a safe place to store them, but Leslie has been unable to locate our pre-1989 records. Friends who know of their whereabouts should contact her.

The Meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 2:40 p.m. Nineteen Friends were present.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday, May 12, 1996 at 11:15 a.m. at Berkeley Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted,


Leslie Leonard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, the Twelfth Day of the Fifth Month, 1996
at Berkeley Friends Church
Joyce Samati, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:15 a.m. Thirty-six Friends were present.

Response to Advices and Queries. Shelley Tanenbaum responded on behalf of the Finance Committee to the proposed Advices and Queries on Vocation.

As is our custom, the **Minutes for Fourth Month** were published in the newsletter. In the interests of time, only the portions of the Minutes relevant to Fifth Month Business Meeting were read by the Recording Clerk. The Minutes were approved as published.

Old Business:

The **membership of Beth Wrightson** was enthusiastically approved. Tom Yamaguchi (convenor), Patricia Dienstfrey, and Howard Curtis will meet with her to welcome her informally to the Meeting.

Nominations for 1996-97, seasoned during the last month and presented on the attached report, were approved. The following names were added to the slate, to be laid over until the June Meeting: Julian Frederick, Carolyn Marks (AFSC representatives), Mary Anderson (Facilities), Barbara Graves (Loaves and Fishes), and Leslie Leonard (First Day School: nursery).

No formal liaison between Worship and Ministry and Retreat committees has been named; the two committees will make a special effort to keep their communication open during the year.

Nominating requested that next fall the Meeting revisit the work of the Sub-committee on Meeting Structure. Several issues arose again during this nominating season, including the numbers of nominations required and length of service on committees.

Friends were reminded that committees are appointed to ensure that the work of the Meeting is accomplished, rather than to do all the work themselves. Long-time attenders who have not applied for membership in the Meeting were also gently reminded that they are limiting the pool of candidates for several positions which are restricted to members of the Society.

Nominating Committee was thanked for its work. Appreciation was expressed both for Friends who have served the Meeting this last year and for those who have agreed to serve next year.

The **State of the Meeting Report**, revised to include comments from last month's discussion and augmented with a new paragraph from our First Day School Committee, was approved by the Meeting with thanks to the authors.

Site Committee report (John McCarthy): John reported that several questions about the Shelton site have been answered:

- Bushrod Park, although further away from the School than our current park facility, is suitable and available for our children during the summer.
- Inquiries with another church in the area and an investigation of police reports indicate that there have been no problems with security on Sunday mornings.
- With regard to the alternative suggestion of the Hillside Spiritual Growth Center, several Friends have indicated that they are dependent on public transportation. Unfortunately there is no Sunday bus service to that area.

The Site Committee recommends that this summer we move to the Shelton Educational Center for two years, with the understanding that we will review our experience with the Center after one year.

Andrea English reported on behalf of Worship and Ministry that committee reflections on the School as a site, with specific reference to suitability for Meeting for Worship, were quite consistently positive. As a committee they are united in their readiness to recommend the move.

David Leonard reported that Overseers concentrated on the process by which we have been making this decision and feel that the Meeting has been successful in seriously considering all points of view.

During the lengthy discussion which followed these reports, Andrew Secrest asked that he be recorded as being in opposition to the proposed minute regarding the move. In response to the request of another Friend, Andrew stated that he was unable to articulate the reasons for his opposition. A Friend asked and Meeting agreed that the minutes reflect Andrew's membership in the Berkeley Friends Church. Friends then approved the following Minute:

Meeting agreed that beginning in August or September, 1996, we will hold our regular worship and other First Day activities at the Shelton Education Center. We are not at this time considering several factors which will need to be decided within the next few months, including time of worship, the schedule for children's entrance into Meeting, or the location of evening meetings. We approve this move for two years, with a review of our experience at the Center after the first year.

Over the next month, Overseers will meet with three individuals who have expressed opposition to this decision. The Meeting is concerned that these valued Friends feel lovingly included in our community as we make this important move as a Meeting.

A committee of Peter Trueblood (convenor), Barbara Graves, Richard Leath, and Shelley Tanenbaum was appointed to work on a contract with the Center. They will speak with our First Day School summer program staff to determine whether August or September is a better time to move.

Peter Trueblood will let Sharon McGaffie know that we have made a decision to move to the Center, and the Clerk will inform the Trustees of Berkeley Friends Church that we will be leaving. Friends again expressed appreciation for the tenderness of our relationship with the Church.

New Business:

PYM Representative Report (Beth Wrightson): Beth reported from the March PYM Representative Committee meeting that the PYM Site Committee is laboring intensively with their own site issues. Their feasibility study is available in the PYM binder in the Meeting room, as are the Minutes of the March meeting. PYM will take place this year from August 5-10 (Monday through Saturday) at Chico. The children's program is looking for help, and the Faith and Practice revision committee welcomes written suggestions for changes.

Committee Reports:

Overseers (David Leonard): Overseers is organizing a workshop for experienced and inexperienced clerks on Sunday June 16th at the home of the Leonards. This will be a Sunday brunch at the rise of Meeting.

Stephanie Kennedy will clerk the membership committee for Manuel Marks. The remaining members are still to be confirmed.

Treasurer (Carl Anderson): Carl presented the financial report through April. He also distributed for the Meeting's consideration a proposal to assist us in monitoring the adequacy of our donations by calculating an "expense coverage ratio." Carl and the Finance Committee welcome comments on the proposal.

EBSC (Bob Reis): There will be a short trip in August to EBSC's sister city of Panamajop, Guatemala. Friends who are interested in joining the delegation should contact Bob.

Clerk's Correspondence:

- Melinda Glines has a letter published in the recent Friends Bulletin.
- Marloma Meeting has sent the certificate of transfer of membership for Jean Flores.

Announcements:

- Several fliers announcing events at Ben Lomond Quaker Center are posted.
- Quarterly Meeting will be held May 17-19 at Ben Lomond.
- The deadline for items for the June newsletter is May 15th.

The Meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 1:55 p.m. Fifteen Friends were present.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday, June 2, 1996 at 11:15 a.m. at Berkeley Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Leonard
Leslie Leonard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, the Second Day of the Sixth Month, 1996
at Berkeley Friends Church
Joyce Samati, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:20 a.m. Thirty-one Friends were present.

Response to Advices and Queries. Richard Leath responded on behalf of the Facilities Committee to the proposed Advices and Queries on Stewardship and Oneness With Nature.

The **Minutes for Fifth Month** were read and approved with the exception of the Site Committee report. The Recording Clerk was asked to confer with Andrew Secrest to determine whether he wished to be recorded as standing aside from the approved minute.

Meeting agreed that if Andrew asks to be so recorded, the May minutes reflect Andrew's membership in the Berkeley Friends Church.

Having conferred with Andrew, the Recording Clerk proposes the following addition to the Site Committee discussion after the reference to the reports of Worship and Ministry and Overseers regarding the new site:

"During the lengthy discussion which followed these reports, Andrew Secrest asked that he be recorded as being in opposition to the proposed minute regarding the move. In response to the request of another Friend, Andrew stated that he was unable to articulate the reasons for his opposition. A Friend asked and Meeting agreed that the minutes reflect Andrew's membership in the Berkeley Friends Church. Friends then approved the following Minute: ..."

Old Business:

Nominations. Five nominations for 1996-97, seasoned during the last month, were approved: Julian Frederick, Carolyn Marks (AFSC representatives), Mary Anderson (Facilities), Barbara Graves (Loaves and Fishes), and Leslie Leonard (First Day School: nursery).

Meeting asked Nominating Committee to clarify the status of two additional nominations to the Facilities Committee. These names were included in the April report but omitted from the May report. As these names were seasoned during April, if Nominating wishes to bring them forward in July, the individuals can be approved without further seasoning.

Report from the ad hoc contract committee (Richard Leath): Richard presented a draft contract between the Shelton Primary Education Center and Strawberry Creek to begin in September, 1996. The committee used our current contract with Berkeley Friends Church as a framework for the proposed contract. The draft has been reviewed by Sharon McGaffie of SPEC, who is in agreement with its provisions.

Several revisions were suggested for the contract:

- that it be termed a "Rental Agreement," rather than a "Rental Contract."
- that the provision referring to SCM's liabilities be revised to ensure that the school's insurance will continue to cover major property damage, and that as renters we will not be responsible for normal "wear and tear".
- that we clarify our liability if the building is not properly secured when SCM vacates it.
- that we explore the possibility of leaving later than 3:00 on Sundays.
- that #3 read: "SCM shall name one or more individuals as the formal liaisons with SPEC."
- that #5 begin: "SCM shall have the exclusive use of the SPEC building..."
- that the third section of #5 read: "...1st floor room as a welcoming and gathering area for latecomers."
- that #8 not include the sentence referring to specific times and costs of evening meetings, but that the last sentence begin with "Scheduling of these sessions and use of the facility shall be subject to the scheduling requirements of SPEC..."
- that #13 include "on Sunday."

Following this discussion, Meeting approved the agreement in principle, but will wait until the July Meeting for Business to give final approval to the revised agreement. The ad hoc committee was asked to inquire whether SCM could use the same insurance company as the school to assure the compatibility of the two coverages.

Meeting approved the committee's proposal that we move to SPEC on September 1, 1996. Appreciation was expressed to the committee for their thorough work on the draft contract.

At the suggestion of the Clerk, Meeting asked the following committees to bring recommendations to the Meeting regarding the matters which are still to be decided:

- Time of Meeting – Worship and Ministry
- Timing of children's entrance into Meeting – First Day School & Worship and Ministry
- Location of evening meetings – Worship and Ministry
- Location of Meeting for Business (at SPEC) – Worship and Ministry
- Closure of the facility procedures – Facilities
- Liaison(s) with SPEC – Worship and Ministry

New Business:

CPQM Report (Julian Frederick): Julian summarized the agenda and proceedings of the May 17-19 College Park Quarterly Meeting at Ben Lomond. The full report will be posted in the Meeting room. One highlight of the meeting was the announcement that Mendocino Preparatory is now a Monthly Meeting.

Proposed Minute from the PYM Ministry and Oversight Sexual Minorities Subcommittee. The Clerk read the proposed minute on equality of marriage rights and referred it to Peace and Social Order for consideration. The committee will need to contact the PYM subcommittee to clarify what they need from us regarding this minute, which will be brought to a plenary session of PYM. It was also suggested that P&SO compare the proposed minute to our own and that of San Francisco Meeting.

Committee Reports:

Overseers (David Leonard): The membership committee for Manuel Marks is Stephanie Kennedy (convenor), Julie Russell, and Stephen Lockett.

David read a letter from Jane Rubin requesting that she be released from membership in the Meeting. Jane expressed her continuing strong attachment to Strawberry Creek and to individual members, but wrote also of her deep involvement in a Jewish community in Berkeley. This request will be seasoned by the Meeting for a month.

Overseers requested an increase of \$250 for the Scholarship Fund. The committee is pleased to note that this request is necessitated by an increase in assistance provided to Strawberries for attendance at yearly and quarterly meetings. Meeting approved the augmentation.

Meeting recently referred to Overseers a concern about the lack of diversity in our member- and attendership. David reported back from the committee's discussion of this issue. First, he invited the Meeting to celebrate and affirm the diversity we do have among ourselves. In contrast to earlier times in Quaker history, Strawberry Creek includes a wide variety of ethnic backgrounds, religious traditions, and gender preferences. The committee also expressed some discomfort with the fact that when we speak of diversity, we often are speaking only of African-Americans. That said, Overseers is concerned that we do have a tendency to "hide our light under a bushel" in our effort not to proselytize. Overseers is considering how we might reach out to others in a kind of public relations campaign and is gathering material from other Friendly examples. The committee reminds us that when we do find newcomers amongst us, we have special obligations to help them feel welcome and educate them into the Society.

Worship and Ministry (Andrea English): The outgoing and incoming committees have met together. Following Andrea's announcement in Meeting, extra contributions were made which covered the Quakerism 102 series deficit.

Retreat (Charlie Blanchard): 34 adults and 15 children attended the Spring Retreat. There is currently a shortfall of about \$400 between income and expenses, but the committee is anticipating further contributions. The Retreat Committee has explored the possibility of holding the Retreat earlier next year, but there are no openings available in April, so a reservation has been made for the first weekend in May, 1997. The committee is planning a Fall, 1996 retreat rather than a winter retreat in 1997.

FCL (Lee Andresen): Meeting agreed to purchase two tickets to the annual FCL dinner on August 15th. Funds are already available in the budget for this purpose. Bob and Susan Maynard will use the tickets.

Treasurer (Carl Anderson): Carl presented the financial report through May and a proposed budget to include the \$4,400 in additional costs for rent and the shed at SPEC. This addition includes the rent for January, 1997, the check for which will need to be written in December. Meeting approved the increased budget. It was agreed that the inclusion of the January rent is an accounting convenience, and if we fall short this amount at the end of the year we should not be concerned that our expenses have exceeded our income. This budget does not yet include additional costs for Berkeley Friends Church in July and August or any change in child care arrangements.

Carl announced that the certificate of deposit is now maturing every three months rather than annually, so the funds are more available to us without penalty.

First Day School Committee (Barbara Ferretti Stradcutter): Barbara reported that at their last meeting, the Committee considered its purpose, how to encourage regular attendance of the children, and how to plan lessons. There will be an all-day curriculum-planning session in the near future.

Clerk's Correspondence:

- The Meeting has received a note from Lauren Herbert, who is well settled with her family in Oregon.

Announcements:

- There will be a workshop for clerks on June 16th at the Leonards after Meeting. Childcare will be arranged.
- Meeting agreed to hold a Meeting for Business on August 4th if it is needed to ensure that the details of the move have been cleared. Our September Meeting for Business will be on the 8th.

The Meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 1:50 p.m. Nineteen Friends were present.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday, July 7, 1996 at 11:15 a.m. at Berkeley Friends Church.

Respectfully submitted,


Leslie Leonard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, the Seventh Day of the Seventh Month, 1996
at Berkeley Friends Church
Joyce Samati, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:15 a.m. Thirty Friends were present. The Clerk encouraged Friends to invite the Spirit to be present during our consideration of the matters before us.

Response to Advices and Queries. The proposed Advices and Queries on Social and Civic Responsibility were read and responded to by Friends present.

The **Minutes for Sixth Month**, which included a revision to Fifth Month Minutes, were read and approved.

Old Business:

Nominations. The nominations of Ric Forste and Gerry Morris to Facilities were approved.

The **release of Jane Rubin's membership** was approved. The Clerk will write to Jane to express our continuing good wishes.

Proposed Rental Agreement (Richard Leath): Richard presented the revised Rental Agreement with Shelton's Primary Education Center (SPEC). The insurance company for SPEC will not be available to us, but our present company can continue to cover us fully, at an annual premium of approximately \$600, rather than the present \$453. The increase is due to our expanded square footage at SPEC.

Meeting approved the revised Agreement with two minor editing changes. It was pointed out that we will want to ensure good communication between SPEC and SCM, as there is only a three-month window between May 30, 1997 (the deadline for the Center to give us a written request to leave) and August 31, 1997 (when we would need to vacate). Strawberry Creek has minuted its intention to stay at the site for two years.

The Clerk will write to the Center to convey Meeting's minuted approval of this Agreement and to say how much we are looking forward to the move on September 1. Peter Trueblood will sign and date the Agreement on behalf of the Meeting. The emergency numbers listed in the Agreement will be published in our Directory.

Remaining matters to consider at Shelton School. Ken Leonard reported on behalf of Worship and Ministry. The Committee will bring a recommendation about location of evening meetings at a later time, but has recommendations about four items now:

(1) Worship and Ministry and First Day School recommend that children attend Meeting for Worship for the first fifteen minutes and leave at the same time latecomers enter, returning at the close of Meeting for Worship for introductions. Teachers would be available in their rooms before the beginning of worship, so that children who do not choose to attend Meeting will have a place to go. This new practice will be reviewed by the two committees in their January meetings, with a recommendation to the February Meeting for Business to follow. Meeting approved this recommendation.

(2) Worship and Ministry recommends that the time of Meeting for Worship remain at 9:30. At least four Friends who attend at present would be seriously inconvenienced if our Meeting were held later. Considerable discussion followed this recommendation. Several Friends expressed a strong preference for a later time. Recognizing that unity will be difficult to achieve, Meeting requested that Worship and Ministry and Overseers develop a process for our consideration of this issue at the October Business Meeting. As we settle into this new location, new factors and opportunities may open to us which are hard to anticipate. In the meantime, Meeting approved that we continue to worship at 9:30.

(3) The Committee recommends that for the time being we use the west end of the first-floor worship room at SPEC for Meeting for Business. (Other rooms on the first floor are unsuitable, and the room on the second floor is not accessible to the disabled.) This room is not ideal, but the Committee will endeavor to make it work as best it can. The south-west doors of the room will be locked and the south-east doors will be used by those exiting the playground. Meeting agreed to this recommendation.

(4) The Committee recommended, and Meeting approved, naming Peter Trueblood and Richard Leath as the liaisons between SCM and SPEC. As Clerks of Worship and Ministry and Facilities, these Friends have been active in the transition to the new site, but the Committee is not recommending that they hold this position by

virtue of their roles in the Meeting. Peter and Richard were asked to help coordinate with appropriate committee clerks the logistics of the move to the new site. "Movers and Quakers" also offered to participate.

On behalf of Facilities Committee, Richard Leath proposed and Meeting accepted the following arrangements for developing a procedure for closure of the SPEC facilities on First Days: (1) Richard will learn the security procedures for closing the building and will teach them to others, particularly members of the Facilities Committee. (2) At the end of September, when the procedures are clear, Richard will write them down and present them to the October Meeting for Business. (3) We will establish a firm time of closure so that people will leave on time. (4) Richard will develop a calendar of individuals responsible for closure, with one person clearly assigned for each First Day.

SHARE (Elsa Glines): Roxanne Seagraves and Marta Vides have agreed to coordinate SHARE through May 31, 1997, the end of this nomination period. Their appointments will be seasoned until the September Meeting for Business. Meeting agreed that Leslie Leonard or Andrea English should ask the Friends Church if the Church can continue to be the distribution site for this Strawberry Creek project. SHARE signups would take place on distribution day. We were reminded that we must take active responsibility for this project as we ask the Church for the use of their site.

Proposed Minute on Same-Sex Marriage (Stephen McNeil): Peace and Social Order presented a revised minute on Same-Sex Marriage for the PYM Ministry and Oversight Subcommittee on Sexual Minorities. The Committee has included Strawberry's 1992 minute to provide the spiritual context for our decision. The statement would be helpful as our State and Federal legislators consider the passage of laws opposed to the legal recognition of same-sex marriage. David Leonard reported that Overseers supports the revised minute and finds it consistent with our Meeting's previous decision.

Carl Anderson asked to be recorded as standing aside. His objections are similar to his objections in 1992 with additional concerns regarding the issue of legal status and the process associated with this decision at Pacific Yearly Meeting. Deep appreciation was expressed to Carl for his willingness to engage in dialogue, to discuss these issues openly, and to stand aside. After considerable discussion, Meeting approved the following Minute as proposed. Peace and Social Order was asked to arrange a time to educate us further on these issues.

In 1992, SCM approved the following minute in its Meeting for Business:

SCM recognizes and affirms the Light in all sincere and loving relationships which are characterized by growth and in which faithfulness and trust, hope and truth abide. We affirm the goodness of committed, loving relationships and offer recognition and support to those who share this ideal and desire to enter into a lifelong partnership based on it. Friends recognize committed union in a celebration of marriage under the care of the Meeting. After careful consideration in the Light, we have been led to decide that from now on the same loving care and consideration will be given to both same-gender and heterosexual requests for marriage, as outlined in Faith and Practice.

Recently, the Hawaii Commission on Sexual Orientation and the Law found that depriving same-sex couples of the right to marry denies these couples equal treatment by the law, equal economic advantages, equal privileges and equal responsibilities. Many states have since proposed legislation that would deny recognition to same-sex marriages performed elsewhere.

As Quakers, our commitment to equality requires that same-sex couples have the same rights and privileges enjoyed by heterosexual couples, including legal marriage and all its privileges and responsibilities. We believe that the state must permit gay and lesbian couples to marry and share fully and equally in the rights and responsibilities of marriage. We also support nonviolent means of establishing and protecting the civil rights of everyone, regardless of their sexual orientation.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer (Carl Anderson): Carl presented the financial report through June. Revenues for the year are still somewhat low. Our rent at Friends Church has been raised \$200 per month for July and August. Meeting approved raising the Rent budget to \$9,730 to accommodate this increase. We do not yet have a firm number for the new insurance premium.

Peace and Social Order (Stephen McNeil): The Committee recommends, and Meeting approved, setting up a Fund for Reconstruction of burned-out places of worship. The Committee will be showing the film "Skin Deep" to help raise money, and encourages Friends to make individual contributions as well. The Committee was authorized to determine the most effective disbursement of the funds raised.

First Day School Committee (Miftah Leath): The Committee needs additional volunteers to help with the children. There will be a curriculum meeting at Barbara Stradcutter's on July 13th. On September 1, the children will meet at the Shelton Center, but full classes will not begin until September 8th. During Barbara's absence in August Kathy Barnhart will clerk the committee. The committee is actively considering the future of the teen program as we move into the new facilities.

Nominating (Lynne Bird): Lynne presented five new nominations to be seasoned until the September Meeting for Business: Clifford Ham (Facilities), Beth Wrightson (Overseers), Caroline Duhem (FDS: 3-5), Stephanie Kennedy (FDS: 6-9), and Sherrin Loyd (Retreat). There is still one open slot in First Day School with the Middle School.

Overseers (David Leonard): Overseers recommends to the Meeting the membership of Manuel Marks. This recommendation will be seasoned until the September Meeting for Business.

Overseers received a request from the campaign of Janet Gastil, a Friend from San Diego, who is the Democratic Party nominee to the Assembly. The campaign would like to use our mailing list to solicit donations. Overseers recommends that we decline the request, but suggests that the need for donations be announced after Meeting for Worship and in our newsletter; that Friends who wish to receive literature sign a list for release of their addresses; and that literature be available after Meeting. Peace and Social Order considered the same request with the same conclusion. Meeting approved this recommendation.

David reported that the June 16th workshop for Clerks was very successful, and that Susan Burr and Leslie Leonard have been asked to write up their remarks from that workshop.

Clerk's Correspondence:

- Doug Gwyn writes that he is leaving Pendle Hill and will be out of the country for the next year.
- Barton Glover Meeting in Vermont sent materials about the sale of peace-oriented high school book covers. The materials were referred to the teen First Day School program.
- Melinda Glines has an article published in the recent *Friends Journal*.

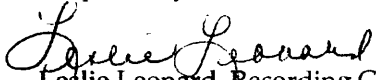
Announcements:

- Friends Christian Fellowship will meet at Berkeley Friends Church on July 20 and August 24th.
- Upcoming Pendle Hill events are posted in the Worship room.
- PYM will take place in Chico August 5-10th.

The Meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 2:35 p.m. Sixteen Friends were present.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday, September 8, 1996 at 11:15 a.m. at the Shelton Center.

Respectfully submitted,


Leslie Leonard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, the Eighth Day of the Ninth Month, 1996
at Shelton's Primary Education Center
Joyce Samati, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:20 a.m. Thirty Friends were present.

Response to Advices and Queries. Ken Leonard responded on behalf of Worship and Ministry to the proposed Advices and Queries on Education. Meeting asked that First-Day School Committee bring its own responses to those queries specifically related to the education of our children as background to a general Meeting discussion of our Religious Education program.

The **Minutes for Seventh Month** were read and approved with one correction: the First-Day School group is 3 to 5 year-olds rather than 3 to 4 year-olds.

Old Business:

Nominations. The following nominations, held over from July, were approved: Clifford Ham (Facilities), Beth Wrightson (Overseers), Caroline Duhem (FDS: 3-5), Stephanie Kennedy (FDS: 6-9), and Sherrin Loyd (Retreat). Roxanne Seagraves and Marta Vides were approved as coordinators for the SHARE program.

The **membership of Manuel Marks** was approved. Mary Anderson (convenor), Barbara Graves, and Howard Curtis will informally welcome Manuel to the Meeting.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer (Carl Anderson): Carl presented the financial report through August. He expressed concern about our current financial status, given the increased costs of our new rent and insurance. As a rule-of-thumb, individuals should consider increasing their contributions to the Meeting by a third. It would also save postage if Friends picked up their newsletters after Meeting. Meeting agreed that the new directory should be available at Meeting rather than sent out with the newsletter, and that the newsletter should include a Meeting contact for those who wish to have a copy mailed.

The Shelton School will not be charging us for the new shed, as the cost to build it was considerably less than their \$1,000 estimate.

First Day School Committee (Miftah Leath): The general theme for the Fall for all classes is Worship. Miftah outlined the plans for each of the four classes: 3-5's, 6-9's, Middlers, and Teens. Meeting asked that these plans be included in the newsletter, so that parents and others are aware of the children's activities. The committee was thanked for its thorough work. The committee is establishing a list of substitute teachers to fill in when necessary; lesson plans will be available for these occasions.

Overseers (David Leonard): Overseers has purchased a large indoor plant for the Berkeley Friends Church, as an expression of our Meeting's great appreciation for our time there.

As requested by the July Business Meeting, Overseers and Worship and Ministry will be meeting jointly to consider a process for determining a time for worship. They will not be ready to present the process until October, due to scheduling difficulties over the summer and the very full current agenda for Overseers. The committees want to develop a procedure in which they can hear from everyone, both those who express themselves directly and those who absent themselves from worship.

Given the great care being taken by the two committees to establish a thoughtful process, Meeting asked that the newsletter not publish solicited letters on the topic of Meeting time until the process is clarified.

Worship and Ministry (Peter Trueblood). Peter reported that the transition to the new site was a smooth one, thanks in large part to Sharon McGaffie's help. The committee has decided that the infant room on the first floor is a better site for Meeting for Business than the main worship room, which they had proposed earlier.

Nominating (Elsa Glines). The committee nominates Peter D'Angelo to the Facilities Committee. The nomination will be held over until October.

Retreat (Charlie Blanchard). The deficit for the Spring Retreat is now \$107.75, leaving \$300 in the Retreat budget. The Fall Retreat is tentatively scheduled for November 16th.

Peace and Social Order (Philippa Barron). Philippa announced the showing of "Skin Deep" at Berkeley Meeting (on Vine Street) on September 15th. The film raises our consciousness of racism. Funds collected at the showing will be used towards the rebuilding of burned out places of worship. The committee has notified a number of churches in the area of the event.

Facilities (Richard Leath). A number of arrangements in our new site still need to be worked out, including the optimal set-up for worship, the re-establishment of the bulletin boards, and the standard time for the closing of the facility. Friends are invited to share ideas with members of the Facilities Committee, which will bring recommendations to the Meeting for Business.

SHARE (Elsa Glines). The Friends Church is willing to continue to serve as a distribution site. Signups will continue there from 11:00-11:30 a.m. on first and second Sundays of the month.

FCNL (Clare Galbraith). Every three years FCNL conducts a grass-roots process to determine its priorities for its work in Washington. Clare distributed a list of topics, and Meeting asked that she work with Peace and Social Order to determine our response. Friends were encouraged to give individual input to the committee.

New Business:

PYM (Beth Wrightson). Strawberry Creek was well represented at PYM, with the greatest number of families in attendance. Two major minutes were approved: the minute on same-sex marriage, and a minute to form a non-profit corporation to pursue the possibility of a permanent PYM site. With less time committed to business this year, there was more opportunity for interest groups. Junior Yearly Meeting was particularly active, with a profound impact on the Meeting as a whole. The 1997 PYM will take place at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo on August 10-16th.

Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Meeting Structure. In the Spring, Nominating Committee asked that the subcommittee's report be revisited, with particular attention to the numbers and terms of committee members. Worship and Ministry and Overseers will consider the next step in this process at their joint meeting.

Clerk's Correspondence:

- Cindy Trueblood has asked that her membership in West Knoxville, TN, Meeting be transferred to Strawberry Creek. Her letter was referred to Overseers.
- Requests for funding have been received from the *Friends Bulletin*, John Woolman School, the Earlham School of Religion, the *Friends Journal*, and the St. Petersburg, Florida Meeting on behalf of the Sarajevo Project. The Clerk was asked to refer these to appropriate committees. Individuals in the Meeting with a strong concern about these requests should contact the committees.

Announcements:

- There will be an FCL fundraising at the Friends Church in October. This will be an opportunity for Friends to hear about the November ballot propositions.
- Individuals wishing to express their personal appreciation to the Berkeley Friends Church can do so by sending a check to the Food Pantry.
- Several upcoming events were announced. They will be included in the October newsletter.

The Meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 1:33 p.m. Twenty-five Friends were present.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday, October 6, 1996 at 11:15 a.m. at the Shelton Center.

Respectfully submitted,


Leslie Leonard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, the Sixth Day of the Tenth Month, 1996
at Shelton's Primary Education Center
Joyce Samati, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:25 a.m. Twenty-four Friends were present.

Response to Advices and Queries. The Advices and Queries on "Meeting Community" were read and responded to by Friends present.

The **Minutes for Ninth Month** were read and approved. Eric Moon reported that the 1997 Pacific Yearly Meeting will probably take place August 12-17th rather than 10-16th as announced last month.

Old Business:

Nomination. The nomination of Peter D'Angelo to the Facilities Committee was approved.

New Business:

Meeting appointed Lois Hoxie (clerk), Tom Yamaguchi and Manuel Marks to the **Ad hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee.** The ad hoc committee will report back in November, with final approval of the 1997 Nominating Committee in December.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer (Carl Anderson): Carl presented the September 1996 financial report. Our bank balance is healthier than in August, but is still low. At this point in our financial year we have spent as much as we did during the whole of 1995. Carl has investigated the possibility of investing our funds where they will receive a higher interest return, but has discovered that the additional administrative complexities do not warrant the change.

Finance Committee (Shelley Tanenbaum): To encourage additional donations to the Meeting, the Finance Committee plans to make regular announcements, to include an item in the newsletter, and to send a letter to members and attenders in December. The committee is currently searching for someone to audit the books. Several suggestions were made, and Meeting asked Finance Committee to make the final selection.

Facilities (Richard Leath): Richard presented the attached proposed security plan for SCM at Shelton School. The proposal spells out responsibilities in detail. In general, it calls for closure of the facilities 90 minutes after the end of Meeting for Worship when no other organized activity is scheduled. After Meetings for Business, the building will be closed as soon as possible, and on Sundays with other activities, arrangements will be made between organizers and the member of the Facilities Committee in charge of closure for the day. Closing instructions, as well as a list of those responsible for each Sunday, will be posted. It is important that Friends organizing special events after Meeting (other than committee Sunday and Meeting for Business Sunday) notify the clerk of Facilities Committee at least a week in advance. Meeting approved the proposed procedures.

Friends are asked not to use the telephones in the building. Even local calls result in a charge to the School. Tom Yamaguchi and Ric Forste will organize the bulletin boards after coordinating with Worship and Ministry. Sharon McGaffie indicates that she is pleased with how things are going so far.

First Day School Committee (Barbara Stradcutter): Barbara distributed the First Day School News, a report of activities in each age group; the report was inadvertently left out of the October Newsletter. Allison Elliott will be in charge of the Christmas program, which will take place on December 21st at Berkeley Friends Church. Friends with ideas for the program should be in touch with Allison.

Retreat (Shelley Tanenbaum for Charlie Blanchard): The Fall retreat will take place on November 16th, at either Berkeley Friends Church or the Hillside Spiritual Growth Center. The Retreat Committee is looking for one or two individuals for paid childcare.

Worship and Ministry (Peter Trueblood): Peter reported that Worship and Ministry and Overseers held a joint meeting in September to discuss the process for our deliberation about time for Meeting for Worship. The committees decided that a consideration of Meeting time *only* was too narrow, and framed a process to

open the discussion up to the wide variety of possibilities available to us in our new site. They have planned a threshing session at the rise of Meeting on October 20th entitled "Sunday Mornings: Choices and Changes," led by Rachel Findley and Bob Burnett. The October newsletter contains an announcement of this meeting with some issues to consider, and Rachel distributed additional written material to help Friends prepare for the session. The facilitators will write a report of the discussion to present to Business Meeting on November 3rd.

Overseers (David Leonard): Cindy Trueblood's membership committee is composed of Robin Standish (convenor), Lois Hoxie, and Laura Cornell. At the joint meeting with Worship and Ministry, the two committees considered the request of the Meeting to reconstitute the Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Meeting Structure. Andrea English and Bob Burnett have agreed to serve. As the Clerk of Nominating, which originally requested the reconvening of the committee, Lynne Bird has also been asked to serve. Peter Trueblood will be the liaison to Worship and Ministry. This committee has been asked to address the numbers and terms of Meeting committee members; Friends with concerns about these issues should contact Andrea, Bob, or Lynne.

Nominating (Elsa Glines): The committee nominates Marta Blanchard to the Newsletter Committee and Laura Cornell to the Retreat Committee, with both nominations to be seasoned until November.

Peace and Social Order (Philippa Barron): The money raised at the showing of "Skin Deep" will be sent to Washington Quaker Work camps. The committee is considering supplementing the donations from their own budget; Meeting agreed that this would be an appropriate use of their funds if the committee decides to do so.

New Business (continued):

Finance Committee (Shelley Tanenbaum): The committee has begun work on the 1997 budget and is checking with committees on their needs for next year. A preliminary budget will be presented in November.

Clerk's Correspondence:

- The Clerk read a card from the Clerk of Berkeley Friends Church expressing warm thanks for our gift and fellowship.

Announcements:

- Susan Burr is collecting outstanding keys to the Friends Church.
- CPQM Fall meeting will be held at John Woolman School October 12-13th.
- Our January Meeting for Business will take place on January 5, 1997.

The Meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 1:05 p.m. Twenty Friends were present.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday, November 3, 1996 at 11:15 a.m. at the Shelton Center.

Respectfully submitted,


Leslie Leonard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, the Third Day of the Eleventh Month, 1996
at Shelton's Primary Education Center
Joyce Samati, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:15 a.m. Thirty-two Friends were present.

Response to Advices and Queries. The Advices and Queries on "Meeting for Worship" were responded to by Susan Burr on behalf of Worship and Ministry and by several Friends present. As we have now completed the cycle of considering the proposed new Advices and Queries, the Clerk encouraged Friends with comments about the Advices to contact either Worship and Ministry or Laura Magnani of the PYM Faith and Practice Revision Committee.

The **Minutes for Tenth Month** were read and approved with the following addition: in the section about the procedure for closing the Shelton facility, the sentence should read "It is important that Friends organizing special events after Meeting (other than committee Sunday *and Meeting for Business Sunday*) notify the clerk of Facilities Committee at least a week in advance."

Old Business:

Nominations. The nominations of Marta Blanchard to the Newsletter Committee and Laura Cornell to the Retreat Committee were approved.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer (Carl Anderson): Carl presented the October, 1996 financial report. The month's income exceeded expenditures, but 1996 income is still well below total expenditures. Friends approved the following revisions to the 1996 budget: "Newsletter" was increased from \$2,200 to \$2,500; "Rent" was reduced from \$9,730 to \$9,000.

Retreat (Charlie Blanchard): The theme of the Fall retreat, which will take place on November 16th at Berkeley Friends Church, is "Transitions: Our Own and our Community's."

Overseers (David Leonard): David reminded Friends that Overseers are quietly but actively engaged in the work of looking after the welfare of the Meeting community and its individual members and attenders. Friends are encouraged to bring concerns to the committee.

The membership committee appointed over three years ago to meet with James Ham recommended to Overseers that James become an Associate Member of the Meeting. This recommendation was approved by Overseers, and James was welcomed to the Meeting at the October 27th Meeting gathering. The committee, composed of Mary Miché, George Russell, Joyce Samati, and Tom Whiteman, had been meeting with James regularly, and their recommendation has the concurrence of both James and his father Clifford. Clifford reported that he and James have very much appreciated the care and consideration of the committee during this process.

Nominating (Lynne Bird): Mark Schaeffer has resigned as Meeting Librarian. Nominating Committee is seeking volunteers for this position.

Worship and Ministry (Peter Trueblood): Now that Meeting has completed its consideration of the proposed new Advices and Queries, we will return to the current ones as published in Faith and Practice. We will continue reading the Advices and Queries and responding to them in Business Meeting; Worship and Ministry will publish in the newsletter the list of committee assignments for the next year.

New Business:

The Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee (Lois Hoxie): Lois reported that the current Clerk of Nominating believes that a Nominating Committee of five (rather than six) might be sufficient. The Ad Hoc Committee proposed that Lee Andresen and Larry Perry continue as members of Nominating for one more year, that Andrea English be appointed as a new member for one year, and that Tom

Yamaguchi and Mark Lambert be appointed for two years. Tom Yamaguchi was nominated as Clerk of the Committee. These names will be seasoned for the next month, during which Friends with comments should be in touch with the Ad Hoc Committee.

1997 Budget (Shelley Tanenbaum): On behalf of the Finance Committee, Shelley presented the 1997 budget, which was included in the October financial report. There have been some adjustments among the committees, but no other major changes are proposed. The Committee is concerned about the costs of the newsletter. The Newsletter Committee has made a serious effort to keep expenditures low, but Meeting may want to examine whether there are further efficiency measures possible. The First Day School may be able to lower its budget with decreasing childcare costs, and we may not need to budget separately for extra meetings in the future. Overseers will speak with Finance Committee about the latter issue.

Report from the Threshing Meeting—"Choices and Changes" (Peter Trueblood and Bob Burnett): Bob presented a draft report of the threshing meeting summarized by the theme "Taking Back our Sundays." Friends made the following suggestions to the "Synthesis" section:

- eliminate the reference to proposed times
- replace the terms "primary" and "secondary" with "early" and "later" Meetings for Worship
- add a statement that the Meeting's intention is that First Day School and Adult Education would take place at a time parallel to one or more of the three proposed time slots.

Peter presented the Worship and Ministry recommendation that this amended Report be circulated among individuals and committees for consideration and comment during the next several weeks. Each committee should provide a forum for individuals to give worshipful consideration to the issues involved as well as a place to address specific committee concerns which might arise given the proposed expanded set of activities. Friends who are not members of committees or who are on committees which do not meet in the next month should join with other committees for these discussions.

Worship and Ministry requests that all comments be made in writing to their committee before their mid-December meeting, the date of which will be announced. Worship and Ministry, with Bob Burnett as a liaison from Overseers, will make a recommendation regarding Sunday morning activities and times to the January Meeting for Business.

Meeting approved this proposed process. Although the decision about Meeting time is now postponed until early 1997, we believe that the thoroughness of this process will ensure a better and more inclusive community decision.

Report from College Park Quarterly Meeting (Julian Frederick): Julian summarized the proceedings of the Fall Quarterly Meeting, held at John Woolman School October 12th and 13th. There is a proposal that in January, 1998 four regional mini-meetings take place rather than the traditional single Winter Quarterly Meeting. In the John Woolman School Report, it was pointed out that last year Meetings contributed only \$4,600 toward the \$600,000 budget. Winter Quarterly Meeting will take place on January 18th, 1997 at Palo Alto Friends Meeting.

Clerk's Correspondence:

- The Clerk has received minutes and other materials from Pacific Yearly Meeting. They are available in the PYM binder.

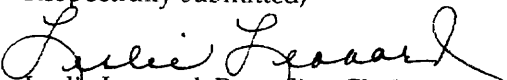
Announcements:

- Eric Moon announced the AFSC project "Community Conversation": discussions among victims, ex-offenders, their families, prison officials and activists. The discussions will take place as part of "The Table of Voices" events on Alcatraz Island on Saturday, November 23rd and December 14th. For reservations, call 510-238-8080.
- The Fall Retreat will be on November 16th at Berkeley Friends Church.
- The Christmas program will take place December 21st at Berkeley Friends Church.
- Announcements for several interesting Fall weekend workshops at Ben Lomond are posted.

The Meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 1:10 p.m. Twenty-eight Friends were present.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday, December 1, 1996 at 11:15 a.m. at the Shelton Center.

Respectfully submitted,


Leslie Leonard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, the First Day of the Twelfth Month, 1996
at Shelton's Primary Education Center
Joyce Samati, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:15 a.m. Thirty-one Friends were present.

The **Minutes for Eleventh Month** were read and approved.

Old Business:

1997 Budget (Shelley Tanenbaum and Carl Anderson): In response to revised estimates from committees and new information about our insurance premiums, the Finance Committee recommended three changes to the proposed 1997 budget:

Facilities Committee:	\$ 100 (from \$150)
First Day School Committee	\$ 1,000 (from \$1,400)
Insurance	\$ 750 (from \$600)

The total proposed budget is now \$23,757, rather than \$24,057. Meeting approved the 1997 budget as amended.

The Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee (Lois Hoxie): Lois reported that she had spoken with Overseers about the proposed nominations to the Nominating Committee. In carrying out the charge of the Monthly Meeting to examine Meeting structure, Overseers has been impressed with the many difficulties the Nominating Committee is having in adequately staffing Meeting committees. As a result, Overseers recommended to the Ad Hoc Committee that the clerk of Nominating have previously served on the committee and thus that the proposed slate be expanded to include an experienced member who could serve as clerk. In addition to the three previously nominated and two continuing names, the Ad Hoc Committee proposed Bob Burnett as a sixth member to serve as clerk of the committee. Bob has agreed to serve in this capacity if approved by the Meeting, and has asked that he be allowed to serve out his term on Overseers as well. Meeting will season this nomination until January.

Meeting approved the nominations of the three Friends held over from November: Andrea English to be appointed for one year, and Tom Yamaguchi and Marc Lambert to be appointed for two years. Lee Andresen and Larry Perry will also continue as members for one more year.

Worship and Ministry: "Sunday Mornings – Choices and Changes" (Peter Trueblood): Peter reported that Worship and Ministry has met twice over the last month to consider the letters received from committees and individuals about the range of choices available to us on Sunday mornings. While all committees indicated a willingness to work with two full Meetings for Worship, they also each identified several problems with such a schedule. After prayerful consideration of the letters, Worship and Ministry concluded that at this time there would be an overwhelming burden of logistics with two fully-supported Meetings for Worship. The committee presented the attached interim report, which discusses the pros and cons of two Meetings and recommends that for a trial period of three months, we hold one structured Meeting for Worship at 10:30, with a smaller, less structured early worship at 9:00. Community activities and adult religious education would follow the main Meeting for Worship. This recommendation is an effort both to recognize the diversity in the Meeting and to preserve the community. Worship and Ministry recommends that we view our Sunday morning schedule as an evolutionary one, and that we take on new activities only as the energy to support them arises.

Several issues were raised by Friends present, concerning primarily the between-meeting time: whether we could encourage Friends worshipping at 10:30 to come earlier to socialize with Friends coming out of the 9:00 meeting; whether there are enough rooms available for any meaningful activity during that time; whether between-meeting activities would disrupt the Meetings for Worship, etc. Concern was also raised about the viability of an adult education program at the proposed hour. Friends with additional feedback on the

interim report should contact Worship and Ministry, as they will be preparing a recommendation for January's Meeting for Business. The committee agreed to arrange for childcare for the first few 9:00 a.m. Meetings.

Friends thanked the committee for the thoroughness and care expressed in the interim report and asked that the committee also bring to the January Meeting for Business a recommended process for deciding what to do after the three-month trial period.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer (Carl Anderson): Carl reported that as of November 30, we have expended 80% and received 68% of our 1996 budget. A donation to the Meeting to meet a special need for Teresa Lambert will be channeled through the reserve sharing fund. Meeting asked Finance Committee to decide whether the CD should be rolled over for 3 or 12 months.

First Day School (Shelley Tanenbaum for Barbara Stradcutter): Shelley reported on the children's activities. Allison Elliott would like help with the 3-5 year olds in January, and the teen group needs drivers to Berkeley Friends Meeting.

Retreat (Barbara Graves): There were 24 adults and 7 children at the Fall Retreat. As often happens at our retreats, our deepest experiences occurred in the small group sharing. Great appreciation was expressed to the committee for their work on the retreat.

Nominating (Lynne Bird): Nominating brought forward the names of Beth Wrightson as PYM Representative, Manuel Marks as PYM Observer, and Clifford Ham as Librarian. Clare Galbraith will be leaving Berkeley and cannot continue as FCNL Representative. Our custom is to appoint a representative only if one comes forward. The Facilities Committee has experienced two resignations (Clifford Ham and Gerry Morris), and has asked for a list of volunteers to help with set-up.

Overseers (David Leonard): Overseers recommended to the Meeting the membership of Cindy Trueblood. Cindy's committee was composed of Robin Standish (clerk), Laura Cornell and Lois Hoxie. This recommendation will be held over until January.

Worship and Ministry (Peter Trueblood): Peter distributed a list of committee assignments for the Advices and Queries. The list will be sent to clerks and published in the newsletter.

Peace and Social Order (Philippa Barron): In January or February, Peace and Social Order will sponsor a series of workshops by Bill Moyer on unlearning the dominator model. The Berkeley Ecumenical Chaplaincy to the Homeless has invited us to become a member organization and to appoint one or two representatives to serve on their Board. The committee is unable to take on this project itself and asks that interested Friends contact them.

FCL (Lee Andresen): Lee announced the December 7th statewide meeting to consider FCL legislative priorities.

Clerk's Correspondence:

- Bob Maynard has requested that his membership be transferred to San Francisco Meeting, as he has moved permanently to the city. His letter was referred to Overseers.

Announcements:

- Hospitality is sponsoring a hike on the first Saturday of each month. Times and places will be announced.
- Friendly Sevens gatherings are being held once every three months. The next event is January 19th.
- Several announcements of upcoming events at Pendle Hill and Ben Lomond are posted on the bulletin board.
- The Christmas program will take place December 21st at Berkeley Friends Church.

The Meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 1:40 p.m. Twenty-four Friends were present.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday, January 5, 1997 at 11:15 a.m. at the Shelton Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Leonard
Leslie Leonard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, the Fifth Day of the First Month, 1997
at Shelton's Primary Education Center
Joyce Samati, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:17 a.m. Thirty Friends were present.

Responses to Advices and Queries. The Advices and Queries on "Participation in the Life of the Meeting" were read and responded to by Barbara Graves on behalf of the Retreat Committee.

The **Minutes for Twelfth Month** were read and approved.

Old Business:

The **membership of Cindy Trueblood** was approved. A committee of Elsa Glines (convenor), Larry Perry, and Julie Russell will welcome her informally to the Meeting.

The **nominations** of Beth Wrightson as PYM Representative, Manuel Marks as PYM Observer and Clifford Ham as Librarian were approved by the Meeting.

Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee (Lois Hoxie): Lois reported that several Friends had contacted her during the last month regarding the nomination of Bob Burnett as Clerk of Nominating. Friends expressed great support for Bob personally, but voiced concern about one Friend serving both as an Overseer and as Clerk of Nominating Committee. Lois reported that Bob has indicated that if Meeting prefers him to serve in only one capacity, he wishes to continue on Overseers. Meeting confirmed its preference that one person not serve in two such demanding roles concurrently.

Meeting asked that the five approved members of Nominating Committee meet to begin work, with Larry Perry acting as convenor.

The Ad Hoc Committee nominated Mary Miché to serve as the sixth member of Nominating and as Clerk of the Committee.

Meeting reaffirmed its practice regarding nominations: Friends with concerns about a nomination should contact the committee placing the name in nomination rather than speak with the nominee directly.

Worship and Ministry: "Sunday Mornings – Choices and Changes" (Peter Trueblood):

Peter circulated the attached proposed minute on our Sunday morning schedule. Friends suggested the following changes:

- I (heading): Revise to read "Change from current schedule."
- I C.1: Underline "simple" in "simple meal," in hopes that we will indeed be able to start Meeting for Business at 12:15, as indicated.
- II B: To "Each such group will be expected to do its own setup and cleanup" add "being mindful not to disturb the worship."

Meeting approved the revised minute, aware that in the future we will want to review our experience with the new 10:30 time. Peter will speak with Richard Leath, Clerk of Facilities, about the arrangements for closing, now that there will be later activities each Sunday. With committee meetings now on the third Sunday of the month, clerks will need to be sensitive to the newsletter deadline, which is usually that day. Mary Miché reported that Hospitality will take responsibility for the simple meal before Business Meeting.

Friends expressed great appreciation to Worship and Ministry for their thorough considerations. The new schedule will take effect the first First Day of next month, February 2nd.

Report from the Sub-committee on Meeting Structure (Bob Burnett): Emphasizing the importance of committee life to the fabric of the Meeting, Bob presented the attached report of the sub-committee for seasoning. The committee wishes particularly to underline the recommendation that we regularly set aside time as a Meeting to discuss each committee and consider what we expect from it. One Friend suggested that the queries might afford this opportunity. Friends with further considerations about the report should contact Bob, Lynne Bird or Andrea English, during the next month.

Committee Reports:

First Day School (Barbara Stradcutter): Meeting expressed its appreciation to Allison Elliott for the Christmas Program. Barbara reviewed the classes and curriculum for First Day School. Attendance currently is relatively low, averaging 10-14 per week, including the teens. The committee will be looking at appropriate nearby parks for summer activities.

New Business:

Epistle from Western Young Friends Gathering (Melinda Glines): Melinda presented a delightful epistle in song from the New Year's Gathering. This year marked her tenth gathering with these young Friends, her central spiritual community. Over 35 Friends were present, aged 10-50+. Next year's gathering will be at Camp Myrtlewood in Oregon.

Committee Reports (continued):

Treasurer (Carl Anderson): Carl presented the attached Treasurer's Report, which indicates that we closed 1996 with income exceeding expenses by \$1,480. Because of an injury to his hand, Carl will do only essential treasurer's business over the next two months.

Overseers (David Leonard): Overseers recommended approval of Bob Maynard's request to transfer to San Francisco Meeting. Meeting approved, and asked the Clerk to write a note of appreciation to Bob. We will miss this valued member.

Patricia Dienstfrey has written that she regrets that she is unable to continue as an Overseer because of personal work pressures, although she will continue as liaison to Maggie Ely. Given the time it would take to replace her, Overseers is not requesting a new member at this time.

Peace and Social Order (Philippa Barron): Philippa reported that the lecture series with Bill Moyer is on hold. The committee is continuing to explore the possibility of a Strawberry serving as a representative to the Berkeley Ecumenical Committee on the Homeless. On January 19th after Meeting there will be a discussion about the US position at the recent food summit, with Leonard Joy as moderator. There will be a series on "Making Peace" on KQED on Sundays, beginning January 12th. Details will be announced.

New Business (continued):

Appointment of the Ad Hoc Committee to write the State of the Meeting Report: Overseers appointed Leonard Joy, with Beth Wrightson as backup, to serve on the ad hoc committee. Worship and Ministry will also appoint a member, and Miftah Leath was nominated and approved by the Meeting. Leonard Joy will convene the committee, whose first task will be to establish a time for the community to consider the State of our Meeting.

Clerk's Correspondence:

- Letters were read from Shelley Tanenbaum, Mary White and Carolyn Marks requesting membership in the Meeting. The letters were referred to Overseers.
- A letter from Jim Kimball requesting transfer of membership to Corvallis Meeting was read and referred to Overseers.
- Friends House announced a video about their facilities. Friends who wish to see it should contact Peter Trueblood.

Announcements:

- Winter Quarterly Meeting will take place on January 18th, 1997 at Palo Alto Friends Meeting.
- Eric Moon announced that PYM Representative Committee will meet Saturday, March 1st, in San Francisco. Friends who can accommodate out-of-town visitors that weekend should contact Eric. There is a strong possibility that both the place and time of this summer's PYM will need to be changed.
- Friends General Conference will take place at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia, June 28-July 5th. The topic will be "Be Open, Be Transformed, Be Faithful."
- Ben Lomond Quaker Center has agreed to keep a calendar of Quaker dates. If you have an event which might appeal to Friends outside the Meeting area, but within Northern California, you might wish to contact the Center.

- Announcements of several upcoming Ben Lomond events will be posted.

The Meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 2:00 p.m. Seventeen Friends were present.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday, February 2, 1997 at 12:15 p.m. at the Shelton Center.

Respectfully submitted,


Leslie Leonard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, the Second Day of the Second Month, 1997
at Shelton's Primary Education Center
Joyce Samati, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 12:19 p.m. Thirty-three Friends were present.

Responses to Advices and Queries. The Advices and Queries on "Mutual Care" were read and responded to by Miftah Leath on behalf of the First Day School Committee.

The **Minutes for First Month** were read and approved.

Old Business:

Report from the Sub-committee on Meeting Structure (Bob Burnett): There was wide-ranging discussion of the first two of the Report's recommendations, which address establishing a process for consideration of each Meeting committee and our expectations of it. Friends agreed on the need for such a function: it would provide opportunities for each committee to reflect intentionally on its purpose, activities, and process; for Meeting to consider anew the kinds of committees we need; and for all of us to be educated about the roles of our committees. With this understanding, the discussion focused on timing and content. Several issues and suggestions emerged:

- Committee reports at the time of our consideration of the State of the Meeting Report might focus on the activities of the committee.
- The Meeting for Business at which a committee responds to the Advices and Queries might be an appropriate time to give special attention to the purpose of the committee and its place in the spiritual life of our Meeting. One Friend suggested an appropriate query: "How is this committee an experience of Quakerism?" A difficulty with this schedule might be in the timing: committees whose queries occur earlier in the June-to-May corporate calendar will not have had enough experience to address the questions; those with later queries may not have time for a mid-course correction.
- The role of Overseers with regard to committees has traditionally been to offer help to clerks whose committees are not functioning smoothly.

Meeting agreed that this Report should be seasoned further and asked the sub-committee to consider comments from this discussion. Friends with further concerns are encouraged to be in touch with Bob, Andrea English or Lynne Bird. Friends again expressed great appreciation for the work of the subcommittee. We were reminded that these are difficult issues for many Meetings.

Friends also asked that our regular practices and guidelines for nominations be made more available. If a committee is clear after careful consideration that the guidelines are not appropriate at a particular time, it should report its clarity to the Meeting. Friends agreed that we need to trust the work of our committees.

Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee (Lois Hoxie): Lois reported that Andrea English has asked to be excused from the Nominating Committee. Meeting approved the nomination of Mary Miché to the committee for a two-year term and her appointment as Clerk of Nominating for 1997. Friends also approved leaving the membership of the committee at five for the coming year.

New Business:

Share (Roxanne Seagraves): Roxanne reported that she, Marta Vides and Elsa Glines continue Strawberry Creek's management of Share at the Berkeley Friends Church site. Fifty to sixty families purchase Share food packages each month; most of these participants are elderly without their own transport. A driver is paid each month to collect the food from the Share warehouse, and although many participants make a small contribution towards this cost, we are now falling \$15-\$20 short a month. (This shortfall is due primarily to the fact that the number of Share distribution sites has increased, causing a reduction in the number of families served at each site.) Roxanne asked us to consider over the next month whether Meeting would make a monthly contribution of \$15-\$25, as needed, to meet this shortfall.

Roxanne asked whether a Friend with a truck, van or stationwagon could help transport the boxes used for food distribution once a month. She also needs one to three additional volunteers to help on a rotating basis

with loading the food from the warehouse in the early morning of distribution day. Friends who are interested in helping should contact Roxanne, Marta or Elsa.

Committee Reports:

First Day School (Miftah Leath): First Day School has successfully made the transition to the new schedule. Lee Andresen will help organize curriculum materials for the committee. Julie Russell has asked for an additional volunteer for the nursery, and a teacher is still needed for the 3-5's. Barbara Stradcutter will be attending the CPQM training concerning sexual abuse and harassment at Berkeley Meeting on February 22nd.

Retreat (Charlie Blanchard): Our Spring Retreat will be at Ben Lomond on the May 2-4 weekend.

Worship and Ministry (Peter Trueblood): The committee plans to offer adult religious education activities twice a month as a part of our new schedule. Their hope is to encourage "cross fertilization," with sessions frequently moderated by Friends from other Meetings. The two February sessions will be February 9th, with Eric Moon leading a discussion "On Speaking out of the Silence," and February 23rd, with a discussion on the State of our Meeting in preparation for our report to the Quarter.

Rachel Findley will be serving on behalf of Worship and Ministry on the committee to write the State of the Meeting Report.

Overseers (David Leonard): The following membership committees have been formed:

For Carolyn Marks: David Leonard, Lee Andresen, Carl Anderson.

For Shelley Tanenbaum: Bob Burnett, Rachel Findley, Patricia Dienstfrey.

For Mary White: Robin Standish, Barbara Graves, Peter Trueblood.

Overseers regretfully recommends that Barbara Perry be released from membership in Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting. Barbara was an active and valued founding member of the Meeting. This recommendation will be seasoned during the next month.

Overseers recommends that we approve Jim Kimball's request for transfer of his membership to Corvallis, Oregon. Meeting approved and asked the Clerk to write to Jim to express our continuing good wishes.

Treasurer (Carl Anderson): Carl reported that receipts for 1996 donations have been issued.

New Business (continued):

College Park Quarterly Meeting Report (Julian Frederick): Julian summarized the proceedings of the Winter Quarterly Meeting on January 18th at Palo Alto Friends Meeting. The FASE report projected a significant shortfall in income due to changes in MediCal and an increase in the average age of Friends House residents. During a session on "Faith in Action," four Friends spoke movingly of their experiences. Spring Quarterly Meeting will be May 17-18 at Ben Lomond.

PYM Budget. Jean Malcolm, Clerk of PYM's Finance Committee, has asked for input on the PYM Budget by February 21st. Our Finance Committee will draw up a letter; interested Friends should speak with Shelley Tanenbaum.

Clerk's Correspondence:

- The Clerk read letters from Peter Klement and Julian Frederick requesting membership in the Meeting. The letters were referred to Overseers.
- Paul Mackinney from CPQM's Ministry and Oversight has requested an opportunity to meet with us about Quarterly Meeting as part of an outreach effort of the Quarter. The offer was referred to Worship and Ministry as a possible adult education topic.
- Elaine Wadle notified us of the Quarter's training concerning sexual abuse and harassment. Peter Trueblood and Barbara Stradcutter will be attending.
- We have received a minute from Edward Broadfield, Clerk of the Fellowship of Friends of African Descent, calling for an end to the "Underground Railroad Game." The minute, which brings our attention to important sensibilities on racial matters, will be published in the newsletter.

- We have received from Pendle Hill their recent publication "There is a Fountain – A Quaker Life in Process," by Helen Steere Horn. The notice that our subscription to the Pendle Hill pamphlets is due for renewal was referred to our Librarian.


Announcements:

- Marc Lambert thanked Friends for their contributions to the Teresa Lambert fund.
- The State of the Meeting discussion will take place at 12:15 p.m. on Sunday, February 23rd.
- On Saturday, April 19th there will be a workshop on "Basic Training to Abolish the Death Penalty" at Golden Gate University. Further information is posted.

The Meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 3:00 p.m. Nineteen Friends were present.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday, March 2, 1997 at 12:15 p.m. at the Shelton Center.

Respectfully submitted,


Leslie Leonard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, the Second Day of the Third Month, 1997
at Shelton's Primary Education Center
Joyce Samati, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 12:17 p.m. Twenty-seven Friends were present.

Responses to Advices and Queries. The proposed Advices and Queries on Education were read and responded to by Barbara Stradcutter on behalf of First Day School Committee. These Advices and Queries were considered at Ninth Month, 1996, Monthly Meeting by Worship and Ministry. At that time Meeting requested that First Day School Committee share their own considerations on the Advices with us.

The **Minutes for Second Month** were read and approved with the addition of recording the Meeting's approval of Jim Kimball's transfer to Corvallis Meeting.

Old Business:

Share (Roxanne Seagraves): There was a lengthy discussion of Share, its history, and Meeting's involvement with the program. Although Share was conceived as a self-supporting cooperative food-buying program without regard to income level, Roxanne described the current participants at the Berkeley Friends Church site as primarily the poor and working poor, the elderly and disabled living on fixed incomes. Three requests are being made at this time for Meeting assistance: a) Funds to meet the \$10-\$20 monthly short-fall to pay the driver; (b) additional volunteers who can help with the physical work at the Share site, and c) new coordinators for next year to replace Roxanne and Marta Vides. Several Friends reminded us that Share is not technically a project of the Meeting and that we agreed to take responsibility only if there are volunteers willing to become involved.

Several issues were identified which need resolution: Could the financial needs be met if more Friends purchase shares? Can the price of the shares be raised? Are there alternative distribution sites? Meeting asked Roxanne, Marta, and Elsa Glines to meet with the Share regional staff to explore alternative solutions to these problems. Leslie Leonard volunteered to meet with them. The group was asked to report back to Meeting within the next four months. In the meantime, Meeting agreed to support the financial request for four months, with a total commitment not to exceed \$80. Roxanne and Marta will announce when Shares are available for Strawberry Friends to purchase.

Release of Barbara Perry's membership: Meeting approved the release of Barbara Perry's membership. The Clerk will write to Barbara conveying our decision, our appreciation for her important work in the early history of our Meeting, and our hope that she will wish to worship again with us in the future.

Committee Reports:

Peace and Social Order (Manuel Marks): The committee will be working with Worship and Ministry to coordinate a discussion series with Bill Moyer. The committee has also been considering how the Meeting can become more involved with the community around Shelton School. Several other clerks present in Meeting expressed their committees' interest in this matter as well, and Manuel Marks on behalf of Peace and Social Order and David Leonard agreed to convene an after-Meeting discussion of this topic. We have several Friends who live nearby and who are active in the neighborhood.

Joyce mentioned receipt of a letter from Arden Pierce, Clerk of PYM Peace Committee regarding committee activities at this summer's PYM. Their primary focus will be on peace within the family, but the committee seeks feedback on topics for one or two additional workshops. The letter was referred to Peace and Social Order.

First Day School (Barbara Stradcutter): The committee suggests that the summer program take place in the north yard of Shelton, with special equipment and games available for the children. The committee has informed Nominating that they no longer require a curriculum sub-committee, as there are ample materials and ideas available. The committee has been concerned that our First Day School attendance is relatively low; Friends agreed that we should have an after-Meeting discussion about this topic and others raised during Barbara's response to the Advices and Queries on Education.

Overseers (David Leonard): The following membership committees have been formed:
For Peter Klement: David Leonard, Beth Wrightson, Stephanie Kennedy.
For Julian Frederick: Bob Burnett, Lois Hoxie, Elsa Glines, Gerry Morris.

Overseers warmly recommends the approval of Shelley Tanenbaum's membership in Strawberry Creek Meeting. Shelley's membership committee consisted of Bob Burnett, Rachel Findley, and Patricia Dienstfrey. Meeting will season this recommendation until April.

Worship and Ministry (Peter Trueblood): Peter reported briefly on the workshop on sexual abuse and harassment, sponsored by College Park Quarterly Meeting. Peter, Joyce Samati and Jean Flores attended from our Meeting. Attendees agreed that the session was very helpful but realized that Friends have a long way to go in addressing these topics. Participants would like to have similar sessions for Monthly Meetings so that we are prepared if the issues should arise within Meeting. Strawberry Creek has received written resources which will be made available.

Worship and Ministry has made some changes to the calendar of Advices and Queries. The revised list will be published in the newsletter.

Treasurer (Carl Anderson): Carl presented a Treasurer's report through February.

New Business:

State of the Meeting Report (Rachel Findley): A draft of our State of the Meeting report will be published with the next newsletter and discussed at our April Business Meeting.

Clerk's Correspondence:

- The Clerk read a letter from Kathy Barry requesting membership in the Meeting. The letter was referred to Overseers.
- The Clerk has received acceptance of the transfer of membership form for Bob Maynard to San Francisco Monthly Meeting.
- The Meeting received notice of a "State of the Meeting Clinic" offered as a service of College Park Quarterly Meeting's Ministry and Oversight Committee to growing meetings in the Quarter. Visiting Friends will facilitate a full-day workshop as participants explore together the state of their Meeting. The pamphlet describing the clinics was referred to the subcommittee writing our State of the Meeting report.
- Carin Anderson and Carmen Broz of Palo Alto Meeting write to describe Carmen's work in El Salvador with small rural communities affected by US-supported violence during the 1980's. Carin is requesting financial assistance towards her travel to El Salvador this month. The letter was in the last newsletter and will be posted on the Meeting bulletin board.
- *Friends Journal* is offering three free issues to new subscribers. Copies of past issues are available for the taking in the Meeting Library.

Announcements:

- Pacific Yearly Meeting will take place August 4-9, 1997.
- There is an AFSC Open House on Saturday, April 12th, 1:30-4:30 p.m. at 65 9th Street, in San Francisco. A second Open House will take place on June 7th from 1:30-4:30 p.m. at 1515 Webster Street in Oakland.
- The Strawberry Creek Spring Retreat will take place May 2-4 at Ben Lomond Quaker Center.
- Paul Mackinney will join us for an after-Meeting discussion on March 9th at Shelton School.
- Saturday, March 29th is Quaker Heritage Day at Berkeley Friends Church.
- Several Ben Lomond announcements will be posted on the bulletin board.
- Information on John Woolman School workcamps will be posted.
- Brochures are available for the Earlham College two-week "Explore-A-College" summer school for high school students.

The Meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 2:30 p.m. Seventeen Friends were present.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday, April 6, 1997 at 12:15 p.m. at the Shelton Center.

Respectfully submitted,


Leslie Leonard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, the Sixth Day of the Fourth Month, 1997
at Shelton's Primary Education Center
Joyce Samati, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 12:20 p.m. Twenty-five Friends were present.

Responses to Advices and Queries. The Advices and Queries on Simplicity were read and responded to by those present.

The Minutes for Third Month were read and approved.

Clerk's Correspondence:

- Rachel Findley has written to request transfer of her membership to Strawberry Creek from Princeton Friends Meeting. The letter was referred to Overseers.
- Reno Friends Meeting has written to announce a "sheet rock working" weekend at the Reno Meeting House during the weekend of April 18-20.
- The Clerk has received the FWCC calendar of yearly meetings.
- Friends General Conference has sent information about activities and recent publications; the material will be posted.

Old Business:

The Membership of Shelley Tanenbaum was approved by the Meeting. Bob Burnett (convenor), Rachel Findley and Lee Andresen will welcome her informally to the Meeting.

Report of the Subcommittee on Meeting Structure (Bob Burnett): Bob presented the attached report from the subcommittee. Items 2-6 have already been considered. Meeting approved these sections of the report. Item 1 – a proposed process for consideration of the activities and purpose of our committees – is newly formulated, based on our discussion of the issues in February. Item 1b suggests a two-stage process in Meeting for Business: after the reading of the Queries, a committee will present its job description and reflect on its experiences as a committee. During the "committee reports" section of the agenda, the committee's job description and report will be the topic of an open discussion.

Several changes were made to this section of the document:

- The first sentence in 1b ("In years past...") was eliminated.
- The second half of the next sentence was changed to read "...included would be their reflections on the activities, concerns and experiences of this committee's work in light of the Queries and their job description."
- The third sentence of the next paragraph was changed to read "A time would be set aside and would include time for responses to the Queries by other attenders at the meeting."

Meeting approved Item 1 of the report for a one-year trial period. Worship and Ministry was asked to consider when this new process might begin and to review the current query assignments in light of the changes. The Clerk will be responsible for overseeing the process, and ensuring that committees are reminded of their assignments in ample time.

Friends expressed great appreciation to Bob, Andrea English and Lynne Bird for their work on the Report.

New Business:

Nominating Committee Report (Mary Miché): Mary presented the attached slate of nominations for 1997-98 for seasoning until May. A question-mark next to an individual's name indicates that he or she is considering the position, and we should season the nomination contingent on the individual's acceptance. Several nominations are not under consideration, but have already been approved: PYM Representative and PYM Observer; Bob Burnett and Beth Wrightson as Overseers; and Jean Flores and Susan Burr as members of Worship and Ministry. First-Day School Committee may in fact need a pre-school teacher; the committee is meeting this month and will be in touch with Nominating. Friends interested in coordinating Share should contact the Nominating Committee.

Officers of the Meeting, including clerks of committees, are being nominated for one-year terms.

Friends were reminded that concerns about individuals should be expressed to the Nominating Committee and not to the nominee.

Committee Reports:

Facilities (Richard Leath): Facilities Committee is considering how best to organize the Meeting binders and miscellaneous materials. The committee would like to purchase a large calendar on which announced events are marked in order to keep the 9:00 a.m. meeting informed of upcoming events. They would also like to designate a section of the bulletin board an area for "Strawberry classifieds." Meeting approved both of these suggestions. There has been some concern expressed by the school that the infant room is occasionally not returned to its original configuration: Richard will arrange for a picture or diagram of the room to facilitate this. Richard will also be in touch with Sharon McGaffie to determine if other similar issues have arisen, particularly with regard to the kitchen.

Retreat (Sherrin Loyd): The Spring Retreat will be entitled "Our Kinship with the Natural World – Evolving Ideas of Faith and Practice." Registration forms are in the April newsletter. The Retreat Committee is looking for someone to work with the children; they are planning for well-integrated adult and children's programs. There is modest pay, and no charge for room and board. There was a request that the committee arrange for transportation coordination, as is their custom.

Worship and Ministry (Ken Leonard): Ken reported that the adult education session with Paul Mackinney was well-attended. On April 13th at the rise of Meeting, Bob Burnett will facilitate a meditation on "Celebrating our Spiritual Diversity." Worship and Ministry is reviewing the new Sunday schedule and will present a more formal report in the future. They encourage comments and suggestions from Friends. The early meeting is well-attended each Sunday, but with a different group of people each time; there is need for childcare for that meeting. Volunteers should speak with Mary Miché or Ken Leonard.

Overseers (David Leonard): Overseers presented a report recommending the membership of Julian Frederick, which Friends will season until May. Julian's membership committee consisted of Bob Burnett, Lois Hoxie, Elsa Glines and Gerry Morris.

Beth Wrightson presented to the Meeting a set of advices and queries which Overseers has developed for itself. Because the committee's work is primarily confidential, much of its process is not open to the Meeting, and these advices and queries are intended both as internal guidelines and to let the Meeting know how the committee sees its own work. Warm appreciation was expressed to the committee, particularly to Beth and Leonard Joy who developed the initial draft. This may be a model for other committees as they consider their own functioning. Friends asked that the document be printed in the newsletter with a brief contextual comment, and that a period of time be reserved in the next Meeting for Business for consideration of the document.

Peace and Social Order (Philippa Barron): The committee continues to work with Bill Moyer to develop a series on "overcoming the dominator model and developing peaceful relationships." The series will probably take place in the Fall. Leonard Joy's notes from the Meeting's discussion of the food summit issues will be made available. Peace and Social Order and Overseers will be working together to develop an after-Meeting discussion on outreach to our new neighborhood community.

New Business (continued):

PYM Report from Representative Committee (Beth Wrightson): Pacific Yearly Meeting will take place in Chico August 4-9, 1997. Registration forms should be available soon. The PYM Sites Committee has been asked to secure San Luis Obispo for 1998 or 1999. In the future, the Sites Committee will be given more discretion in emergencies, rather than having to wait for Representative Committee's approval when changes in venue are necessary. PYM M&O has budgeted for a retainer for a mental health professional during PYM this year. Yearly Meeting will be considering the formation of a small committee to advise the Clerk on agenda items, rather than using the whole Representative Committee. Friends who wish to send materials or request space or equipment for PYM presentations should contact Assistant to the Clerk Margaret Mossman by the end of May. Strawberry Overseers asks that Friends who need scholarships to PYM contact them as soon as possible.

State of the Meeting Report (Rachel Findley): Rachel presented the attached draft of the State of the Meeting report. Because of its length, the report was not included with the newsletter, but has been available after Meeting. Several comments and suggestions for changes were made. While there was some concern about the length of the document, Friends decided not to concentrate on reduction, but to suggest to next year's writing

committee that the report not include all details of activities. The report will be seasoned until May. Thanks were expressed to the committee for this full and reflective document.

Announcements:

- Sherrin Loyd reported that Lois Hoxie has not been feeling well, but sends her greetings to the Meeting.
- The Strawberry Creek Spring Retreat will take place May 2-4 at Ben Lomond Quaker Center.
- Spring Quarterly Meeting will take place May 16-18 at Ben Lomond Quaker Center.

The Meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 3:30 p.m. Sixteen Friends were present.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday, May 11, 1997 at 12:15 p.m. at the Shelton Center. (The change in date is due to the Spring Retreat.)

Respectfully submitted,


Leslie Leonard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, the Eleventh Day of the Fifth Month, 1997
at Shelton's Primary Education Center
Joyce Samati, Clerk, Presiding

The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 12:17 p.m. Eighteen Friends were present.

Responses to Advices and Queries. The Advices and Queries on Peace were read and responded to by those present.

The **Minutes for Fourth Month** were read and approved.

Clerk's Correspondence:

- Lynne Bird and Peter D'Angelo have written to request marriage under the care of the Meeting. Their letter was joyfully referred to Overseers.

Old Business:

Nominating Committee Report (Mary Miché): Mary circulated a copy of the slate of nominees, which included some revisions from that brought to April Meeting for Business:

Additions:

- Gerry Morris to a two-year term on Worship and Ministry
- Julie Russell on First Day School Committee/nursery
- Shelley Tanenbaum as co-clerk of Retreat (already nominated to the committee)

Withdrawals:

- Manuel Marks from Peace and Social Order
- Nancy Wolfe Jackson from Overseers
- Gerry Morris from Loaves and Fishes and First Day School
- Julie Russell from Worship and Ministry
- Jeremy Groom from First Day School/summer program

There are still openings for several positions: clerks or co-clerks of Hospitality, Loaves and Fishes and Newsletter; a Share volunteer, First Day School members to work with the Middlers and the Posada; and a member of Peace and Social Order. Nominating will check with Overseers about the need for an additional member, and in the fall with First Day School Committee about the need for teachers for the pre-schoolers.

Meeting approved the nominations carried forward from the April Business Meeting and expressed appreciation to the Nominating Committee for their work.

The Meeting also minuted appreciation to Friends who served the Meeting so ably during this past year.

Committee Reports:

First Day School (Shelley Tanenbaum on behalf of Barbara Stradcutter): The committee has acquired several copies of "Opening Doors to Worship," which is highly recommended for prospective teachers. Allison Elliott will be attending the teacher training at Berkeley Friends Church on May 17th. The committee has written to Worship and Ministry to suggest some simple measures to provide greater safety to the children: These procedures are now in place: after 10:45 a.m., when the entrance room is empty, the gate to the street is closed (but not locked). The door to the Meeting room remains open, with a member of the committee sitting with a view of the outside door.

Retreat (Charlie Blanchard): Charlie reported that there was considerable interest in the theme of the Spring Retreat: "Our Kinship with the Natural World – Evolving Ideas of Faith and Practice." Several Friends participated as presenters, as leaders of activities and storytelling, and as childcare volunteers. Rachel Findley has promised to write up her opening remarks about Friends' practice. Thirty-seven adults and eleven children attended from Strawberry; a concurrent teen retreat had eight teens and two Berkeley Meeting adults. The two groups joined for Sunday's Meeting for Worship. With such a large turnout, the retreat's finances were about

"even." Several Friends indicated how much they enjoyed the Retreat, and Meeting thanked the committee for its work.

Old Business (continued):

Membership of Julian Frederick. The membership of Julian Frederick was enthusiastically approved. Lee Andresen (convenor), Ric Forste, and Barbara Graves will welcome him informally to the Meeting.

Committee Reports (continued):

Treasurer (Carl Anderson): Carl presented the financial report through April. Although income is lagging behind expenditures, there does not seem to be cause for concern this early in the fiscal year. Meeting agreed to close the Reconstruction Fund, those funds having been fully disbursed.

Overseers (David Leonard): Overseers recommends Mary White to membership in the Meeting. Mary's membership committee was composed of Robin Standish, Barbara Graves and Peter Trueblood. This recommendation will be seasoned until June.

Rachel Findley's membership committee will be Beth Wrightson, Lois Hoxie and Jean Flores.

Overseers is continuing to work on the issues of outreach and diversity, including organizing with Peace and Social Order an after-Meeting discussion on the topic.

Worship and Ministry (Peter Trueblood): Our adult education sessions, which are now offered once a month, have been well attended.

Peter reported the following preliminary review of the 9:00 a.m. meeting. Worship and Ministry had been asked to assess the viability of the early meeting after three months, and Peter plans to take back to the committee comments made at this Meeting for Business and return in June with a committee recommendation.

- Attendance at the 9:00 a.m. meeting averages 12 to 17, with lower attendance on Meeting for Business day. Concurrently, attendance at the 10:30 meeting has dropped, with an average of about 40.
- Vocal ministry is very light in the early meeting, and lighter now in the later meeting. Both meetings seem to have deeper worship than the single meeting did.
- "Set" groups seem not to have evolved; people move back and forth between the two meetings.
- No infrastructure has evolved for the early meeting; Worship and Ministry still opens the building, sets up chairs, and closes meeting.
- No organized approach for announcements has evolved, nor has childcare been arranged, although one attender frequently brings a child and would like childcare.
- First Day School teachers have expressed appreciation for having the opportunity to attend the early meeting.
- While several people have reported that they like very much being able to attend the early meeting, one attender (generally of the early meeting) is concerned that having two meetings could ultimately create a "split," and one attender (generally of the later meeting) is concerned that one of the meetings could emerge as a "spiritually elite" group.

Several comments were made following Peter's report. Some Friends were concerned about separate meetings and the possible divisive impact on the Meeting community. Others were troubled about the lateness of the second Meeting, which causes late Sunday afternoons when there are activities after Meeting. One Friend was concerned about the facilities work now required by Worship and Ministry. Peter will take these comments back to Worship and Ministry, but reminded us that the committee was charged at this time with reviewing the early meeting, not with the time of the later meeting.

Old Business (continued):

State of the Meeting Report (Rachel Findley): Rachel presented a report which included the changes in wording suggested in April. No other substantive changes have been made, but some streamlining has been achieved. Friends approved the report as presented. Rachel will give a copy of the report to Eric Moon for delivery to Quarterly Meeting. Gratitude was expressed to Rachel, Leonard Joy, and Miftah Leath for their excellent work.

Advices and Queries for Overseers (David Leonard): Friends again expressed appreciation to Overseers for these queries, which have now been published in the newsletter. Friends were reminded that pastoral care –

which these advices and queries address – is only a part of the responsibility of Overseers. The committee is also charged with oversight of the Meeting's processes.

Clerk's Correspondence (continued):

- Princeton Meeting has sent a certificate of transfer for Rachel Findley. The certificate will be held pending the outcome of the membership deliberation.
- Berkeley Friends Church announced the teacher training taking place May 17th. BFC is also looking for childcare workers for Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings.
- John Woolman School, AFSC, *Friends Journal* and *Friends Bulletin* wrote about their fundraising efforts.
- Several Quaker Center announcements will be posted, as will material about the 1997 Friends General Conference.

Announcements:

- Susan Burr and Leslie Leonard will lead a workshop for new clerks at the home of the Leonards on June 8th following Meeting for Worship.
- Carl Anderson reported that on Wednesday, May 14th at Friends Church an FCL video will be shown which recognizes legislators with a positive record.
- Carl announced an action of witness on May 29th against the Livermore Lab's National Ignition Facility.
- Barbara Graves announced the Religious Witness with the Homeless action on Sunday, May 18th at the Presidio.

The Meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 2:25 p.m. Fifteen Friends were present.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday, June 1, 1997 at 12:15 p.m. at the Shelton Center.

Respectfully submitted,


Leslie Leonard, Recording Clerk

**Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS**

First Day, The First Day of the Sixth Month, 1997

Rachel Findley, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 12:15 pm. Thirty Friends were present as the meeting began.

The Queries on Home and Children were read. Overseers shared their responses. Our children are hugely important to us as a Meeting. There is a deep emphasis in the Society of Friends on the centrality of children, which helps Quaker fathers and mothers to be better parents. Not only have large numbers of Meeting adults devoted their time to an excellent First Day School program, but we feel greatly enriched by the many ways the children share with us as well. We have appreciated having the participation of children in Meeting for Worship. We noted that children follow examples of behavior even more than words -- First Day School can assist our children in their spiritual and moral development only to the extent that our lives speak the same message. Members of the Meeting affirmed the support they receive from the Meeting in raising their children. For those who are not parents the Meeting is the place where they have their closest connection with children. Many of the Meeting's children are now teenagers and not present in Meeting very much. We hope that they and their parents continue to be held in the light. No matter what the formal relationships may be between family members "a heart connection is never broken."

The May minutes were read and approved. Appreciation was expressed for the excellent job Leslie Leonard has done as Recording Clerk.

OLD BUSINESS:

Nominations: The following nominations that had been made at the last meeting for business were approved: Gerry Morris to Worship and Ministry, Julie Russell to First Day School, and Shelly Tannenbaum to co-clerk Retreat.

Membership: The membership of Mary White in the Meeting, having been recommended by Overseers and seasoned by the Meeting, was approved. Leslie Leonard, Elsa Glines, and Carolyn Marks volunteered to welcome her into the Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Next Meeting for Business: The next meeting for business will be held on Sunday July 27 at 12:15 pm.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Nominating (Lois Hoxie for Mary Miche): The following additional nominations were made: Mary Anderson to clerk of Hospitality, Rich Tittle and Melinda Groom as co-clerks of Loves and Fishes, and Ramona Silipo as clerk of Newsletter. Other openings will be filled later.

Overseers: David Leonard read the reports recommending the memberships of Carolyn Marks and Kathy Barry. These will be seasoned for a month. He also reported that Marta and Rees Blanchard have been recorded as Associate Members of the Meeting.

Elizabeth Perry has asked to be released from membership. This request will be seasoned for next Monthly Meeting.

Overseers has appointed a Clearness Committee to consider the application of Peter D'Angelo and Lynne Bird to marry under the care of the Meeting. The committee consists of Tom Whiteman (convener), Joyce Samati, and Peter and Cindy Trueblood. The committee's report will be considered at the June Overseers meeting and submitted for final consideration by monthly meeting at its July meeting for business.

Overseers brought drafts of four possible advertisements for the Meeting that they have developed out of a large set used by other meetings over the last 35 years. Overseers found four possible. Most Friends do feel that some form of advertising is appropriate for reaching some groups, for it is not easy to locate us even if one is interested. At least a simple newspaper listing is definitely needed. We are comfortable with helping people who have a parallel leading to find us. We should advertise in a variety of media, targeting a wide range of groups that might be comfortable among us. We might want to invite Berkeley Meeting at Vine Street to join with us in this effort. Friends were most drawn to ad C and then B and not comfortable with D and A. Those with editing suggestions on B and C should speak to Overseers. The text of these ads is attached to these minutes. With this advice the matter was referred back to Overseers for action as they see fit.

A Meeting discussion on ways to reach out to our immediate community in the Shelton School area will be convened by Overseers and Peace & Social Order. Bob Burnett is working with Philippa Barron to set a date.

Treasurer (Carl Anderson): Bills for the food for meeting for business are needed. The meeting on Project Share will be held this Thursday.

Worship and Ministry (Peter Trueblood): The committee recommends (1) that we continue to have a 9 am meeting for worship; (2) that we continue with a "no infrastructure" approach to the early meeting, so that (a) whoever attends sets up the chairs, (b) whoever attends closes the meeting at 10 am., and (c) no childcare is provided; (3) that another committee assumes responsibility for opening the building at 9 am.; and (4) that we continue to regard this meeting for ~~a~~ worship as a trial, convene a "threshing session" to discuss our worship times, and bring the matter back to meeting for business in 4 months. The "default" if we fail to reach a consensus is a single meeting for worship. The meeting accepted these recommendations and asked the new Facilities and Worship & Ministry Committees to consider arrangements for opening the building.

Library (Clifford Ham): The library is gradually being reorganized. Friends who have library books are urged to return them.

Announcements:

- A workshop on clerking for new (and outgoing) clerks of committees will be held at 12:30 on June 8th at the home of David & Leslie Leonard and led by Leslie Leonard and Susan Burr.
- On June 22nd, at the rise of meeting for worship, there will be a potluck farewell gathering for Ken and Joan Lynch Leonard.
- On June 15 there will be an Adult Education session at which Rachel Findley will present her retreat talk on "Friends Tradition and Unity with Nature."

The meeting ended with a period of silent worship at 2:27 pm. with 27 Friends still in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leonard,
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, The 27th Day of the Seventh Month, 1997

Rachel Findley, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 12:18 pm. Fourteen Friends were present as the meeting began.

The minutes for Sixth Month were read and approved. It was noted that the favorable report of the Clearness Committee appointed to consider the proposed marriage of Peter D'Angelo and Lynne Bird was presented by Overseers in a specially called meeting for business on July 6th and was to be seasoned by the Meeting until today's meeting for business.

OLD BUSINESS:

Nominations: The following nominations, having been seasoned by the Meeting for a month, were approved: Mary Anderson as clerk of Hospitality; Rich Tittle and Melinda Groom as co-clerks of Loaves and Fishes; and Ramona Silipo as clerk of Newsletter.

Memberships: The recommendations of Overseers having been seasoned for a month, the new memberships of Carolyn Marks and Kathy Barry and the release from membership of Elizabeth Perry were approved. The meeting asked Barbara Graves, Roxanne Seagraves (convener), and Larry Perry to welcome Carolyn Marks into the Meeting and Carolyn Marks, Leslie Leonard and Robin Standish (convener) were asked to do the same for Kathy Barry.

Marriage: The meeting joyfully received again the recommendation of Overseers that the proposed marriage of Peter D'Angelo and Lynne Bird under the care of the Meeting be allowed and gave its warm approval. Robin Standish (convener), Jed Appleman, Kathy Barnhart, Betty Hall, Mary Miche, Joyce Samati, and Tom Whiteman constitute the arrangements committee. The ceremony will take place on September 13 at 1:30 pm at the Sequoia Hills Lodge in Oakland.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Oversight (Barbara Graves): Contributions to the Sharing Fund are being received for Micki Graham and the family of Nancy Springer, following the latter's death in an auto accident.

Worship and Ministry (Susan Burr): The early meeting for worship is not yet self-organizing and Worship & Ministry is still opening the building for the time being.

We are returning to the practice of having the month's Queries read in meeting for worship, followed by the designated Meeting committee's presenting to meeting for business its reflections on the Queries together with a consideration of its job description. Worship & Ministry will notify all committees of

their assignments.

Worship & Ministry and Hospitality were asked to make a proposal as to how refreshments at meeting for business are to be handled. Friends were encouraged to refrain from "munching" during the worship time.

Finance and Treasurer (Carl Anderson): The financial report (attached) for May and June was received. It is minuted that the signatories on the Meeting's bank accounts have changed to Carl Anderson, Rachel Findley, and Leslie Leonard with the change in the Meeting's officers.

NEW BUSINESS:

Quarterly Meeting: Julian Frederick reported on the Quarterly Meeting sessions held in May at Ben Lomond Quaker Center (attached). Friends were encouraged to contribute to the "Strengthening the Center" campaign for Ben Lomond Quaker Center. The next Quarterly Meeting will be October 18 & 19 at John Woolman School.

SHARE: A report was received from Roxanne Seagraves on behalf of the organizer's of Friends SHARE. In June a small committee met to consider the future relationship between Friends SHARE and the Meeting, after 10 years of existence. The project is separate from the Meeting, although it enjoys Strawberry Creek Meeting support. Four members of the Meeting constitute the organizing committee for the Project. The project has not needed to draw all of the \$80 the Meeting agreed to contribute this spring. The organizers would like to have similar funds for the future as a base on which it can fall back and would like to request up to \$200 per annum. The committee is working to expand those who are working with and benefiting from SHARE. There also will be an on-going announcement in the Meeting newsletter. These recommendations will be seasoned until our next meeting for business. Elsa Glines and Leslie Leonard were asked to meet with Roxanne to bring a specific dollar recommendation to our next meeting.

CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE:

Thomas Murray has written requesting that his membership in the Society of Friends be transferred from 57th Street Meeting in Chicago to Strawberry Creek. The letter was referred to Overseers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Meeting's **Fall Retreat** is currently scheduled for December 6th, but this is still a tentative date.

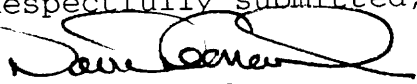
The Friends Committee on National Legislation urges all Friends to send postcards to their members of **Congress** urging ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and full payment of U.S. dues to the United Nations.

In September there will be a **block party** for the Shelton School neighborhood.

The meeting noted the birth of **Matthew Evans Trueblood** last Monday and is holding him in its prayers.

The meeting for business closed with a period of silent worship at 1:45 p.m. with 17 Friends in attendance, to meet again at 12:15 pm on Sunday September 7th at the Shelton School.

Respectfully submitted,


David Leonard,
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, The 7th Day of the 9th Month 1997
Rachel Findley, Clerk, Presiding

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 12:20 PM. Twenty-one people were present when meeting began.

Approval of Minutes The minutes of eighth month were read and approved. It was noted that Betty Hall should be Betty Miller.

Query (Worship and Ministry) Susan Burr distributed the job description for Worship and Ministry Committee (attached) and reflected upon the importance of thinking of meeting as a whole entity. Members of Worship and Ministry have been exploring how they as individuals prepare for worship. Worship and Ministry will be assigning monthly queries to each committee. Queries that are assigned are from Faith and Practice 1985. It was noted that we have returned to the former practice of having queries read during Meeting for Worship of the first Sunday of the month.

Susan Burr requested that we think about how having two meetings for worship is affecting us as individuals and as a Meeting of the whole. Please communicate in writing to someone on the Committee.

Old Business

SHARE A report on the request to raise the funds allocated from Meeting was heard. A letter from Leslie Leonard was read explaining her reasons for initial concern and opposition to this request and also explaining why she now supported the request. After much discussion, the following was minuted:

Strawberry Creek Meeting will increase the funds for SHARE this year from \$80.00 to \$140.00. SHARE funds will be set aside in a special contingency fund and drawn upon as needed to support the cost of transporting food. People may choose to support SHARE by writing a check to Strawberry Creek and designating it specifically to SHARE, or they may buy a SHARE or contribute by volunteering. It is noted again that SHARE is not a project of Strawberry Creek Meeting, that we urge SHARE to continue to work to become self sufficient financially, and that SHARE members will be asked to contribute toward the true cost of transportation. One Friend stood aside.

New Business

Pacific Yearly Meeting Report The site for PYM next year will not be Chico. PYM will be held at Mt. Madonna Center from July 27- August 1. Concerns about the Center include the increased cost. While there will be fantastic vegetarian food supplied to those who stay at the Center, those who camp can not bring milk, eggs or sugar on site.* Also, there is a concern that the site may not be wheelchair accessible. These things will be looked into.

The Faith and Practice Committee of PYM has delayed the schedule for a draft of Faith and Practice. It is expected that the new publication will appear in 2001.

Pacific Yearly Meeting continues to ^{assess} recommend \$30.00 ^{per person} a year ^{as a} or monthly meetings. ~~contribution.~~ PYM has established a clerks advisory committee for yearly meeting. PYM has also established a new committee for Latin American concerns.

Nominating Committee Carolyn Duhem has been nominated to Oversight committee; the nomination will be seasoned for approval next month.

First Day School Committee The Committee reported that their first meeting of First Day School was held today and that they chose to meet all together

**(although no such restrictions apply to the second, off-site camping place)*

and spent much time helping the children get to know each other. This year there will be two class groupings, ages 6-9 and 10-13, plus the teens and the room for infants, toddlers and preschoolers. Attendance of children has been somewhat unpredictable and it is urged that people should make a commitment to bring their children regularly. The committee also encourages potential volunteer substitute teachers to visit classes. If no Posada coordinator is nominated, we may have a simple Christmas celebration.

Oversight Committee The request by Peter Klement for membership in meeting has been approved by Overseers and will be seasoned for approval next month.

Oversight Committee pointed out that it has been one year that Strawberry Creek Meeting has been at Shelton School and that we had committed ourselves to doing an evaluation after one year. Worship and Ministry will take on this task.

Finance and Treasurer Carl Anderson distributed the financial report (attached). He pointed out that even though we were two thirds into the year, *less a bit more* than a third of the needed revenue had come in. He stated that he would be making a friendly reminder of this fact at Meeting for Worship.

Announcements

The wedding of Catherine and Jessica at Quaker Center is planned for September 20, 1997

College Park Quarterly Meeting will be held October 18-19, 1997 at John Woolman School

Respectfully submitted

Pat Marrone Bennett

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the 5th Day of the Tenth Month, 1997
at the Shelton School, Berkeley

Rachel Findley, Clerk, Presiding

I. The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 12:15 pm. Twenty-three Friends were present as the meeting began.

II. Reflections on the **Queries** on Participation in the Life of the Meeting were presented by Mary Miche for the Nominating Committee. We are encouraged at the number of new applications for membership. Most people feel they are in preparation for membership, but not all. Attendance is a way of nurturing but also can be a way of avoiding responsibility. Some feel that their priorities might change and take them away from the Meeting. When Nominating contacts Friends they should be encouraged to become more active in the Meeting, in whatever way they can. Nominating does well in giving people jobs and making them feel desperately needed. Our Meeting does well in spreading responsibilities around and not keeping people in positions for a long time.

III. **The minutes** for Ninth Month were read and approved with a few amendments. The Advices and Queries the Meeting will be using are from the 1985 (not 1995) Faith and Practice. The eating restrictions at the proposed location of Pacific Yearly Meeting will not apply to the second, off-site camping place. Yearly Meeting dues are a per person assessment on the monthly meeting and are \$30. Contributions received by September were a bit more than a third. Friends expressed appreciation to Pat Marrone Bennett for acting as Recording Clerk last month.

IV. **Old Business**

A. The **nomination** of Carolyn Duhem to Overseers was approved.

B. The **membership** of Peter Klement in the Meeting was approved. Lee Andresen (convener), Barbara Graves and Shelly Tannenbaum were appointed to welcome Peter into the Meeting.

V. **New Business**

A. Joyce Samati (clerk), Rich Tittle and Lois Hoxie were appointed to constitute an **Ad Hoc Committee** to Nominate the Nominating Committee.

B. A process for the **evaluation** of having two times for Meeting for Worship is needed. Written comments from a number of Friends have been received and more would be welcome. A committee of Lynn Bird D'Angelo and Barbara Graves (Overseers) and Rachel Findley, Jean Flores (convener) and Susan Burr (Worship and Ministry) were appointed by the two committees to decide on a

process whereby this issue and the issue of our site could best be considered.

A brief sharing of opinions about the site followed. Two Friends feel that this site would not be good for Meeting in the long term. The room for meeting for worship and BART are not conducive to worship and at least two Friends are no longer attending because of it. Another Friend suggested steps that we might take to make the space more suitable for worship. One Friend pointed out that "the place is not the thing;" early Friends met in quite improbable spaces as need arose. But perhaps we ought to start looking at acquiring our own Meeting House. Such a course might now be within our financial means. Still another Friend spoke with appreciation about the fact that the Shelton School is a site that is loved and cared for by its staff. One has felt a lift in being at this site and in this location. It was noted that we also have gained in independence in being here and that this is an important neighborhood for us to be a part of. One observed that this sharing of opinions was spontaneous and may not be reflective of all the views in the Meeting. The important issue is the state of our Meeting and what arrangements are conducive to the long-term health of the Meeting. We have had increased membership applications since we have been here, yet the number of children in attendance at First Day School seems to have declined.

VI. Committee Reports

A. **Nominating** (Mary Miche): Carl and Marla ^{Browning} Thiermann were nominated to a single position on Loaves and Fishes; Thomas Murray to Peace and Social Order; Manuel Marks as Representative and Jerry Morris as Observer to Pacific Yearly Meeting (commencing in January); and Jerry Morris to the nursery for First Day School Committee. These nominations will be seasoned for a month.

The committee is very concerned about the Facilities Committee, as this is a big job at this site and there are only three people currently serving on the committee. Mary Anderson suggested that we might pay some of our teenagers to do set-up.

The committee presented its job description. It recommends the Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee be appointed in September. One Friend asked that before canvassing members and attenders Nominating check with Overseers to discover if there are any who should not be called and that when the canvas is completed Nominating call to the attention of Overseers any in the Meeting community who were found to need further contact. Another Friend asked that we keep in mind the importance of this committee to the life of the Meeting. The meeting approved the job description.

B. **Retreat** (Shelly Tannenbaum): Next month's retreat will continue to consider our relation with nature. It will be held at the Botanical Gardens and will include some outside meditations. The children will be involved with the preparation of the lunch. Parking will be limited, so car pooling will be needed. The site is wheel-chair accessible.

C. **Worship and Ministry** (Susan Burr): Jed Appelman and

David Leonard will run a series of adult education sessions tentatively titled "Genesis to Isaiah: The Development of Monotheism and our Personal Relationships to God." The first session will be held at 12:15 p.m. on October 26.

D. **Peace and Social Order** (Philippa Barron): The Berkeley Ecumenical Chaplaincy to the Homeless has asked for a minute to the City opposing the use of pepper spray by the Berkeley Police Department. The committee will be considering what it wishes to recommend to the Meeting on this matter.

The committee is considering a series of workshops by Bill Moyer on "Creative Peaceful and Cooperative Relationships," also described as un-doing the dominator model. The series would be done jointly with Berkeley Meeting, but Moyer's charges are such that the committee is worried about adequate participation. Friends share this concern and suggest that Peace and Social Order consider paying Moyer to do a single adult education session after meeting for worship, after which individual Friends can decide whether to attend one of his workshops.

The committee announces after meeting for worship events of which it has been notified. It does not necessarily know enough about each issue to be able to offer an endorsement. Friends would appreciate knowing when the committee does endorse an event or position.

E. **Hospitality** (Mary Anderson): The committee is providing vegan food after meeting for worship on monthly meeting Sundays, for which the Meeting is very appreciative.

F. **Oversight** (Elsa Glines): Overseers recommends the membership of Thomas Murray in the Meeting. The membership committee that met with Thomas was Julian Frederick, Leonard Joy, and Elsa Glines and its report is attached to the official copy of these minutes.

Bob Burnett reported on how the two Meeting ads that were discussed in monthly meeting could be placed in the Daily Californian or the East Bay Express. The ads previously discussed would cost about \$1,000 each. An abbreviated ad of 35 words would cost \$9.50 a week in the East Bay Express. It would read: "SPIRITUAL AWARENESS/ SOCIAL ACTIVISM/ SILENT WORSHIP: Strawberry Creek Friends (Quaker) Meeting: Sundays 9:00 and 10:30 am, Shelton School, 3339 Martin Luther King, Berkeley (2 blocks south of Ashby BART). More information 524-9186." The committee will continue to deliberate on this matter and would appreciate input.

G. **Treasurer** (Carl Anderson): The financial report for September was presented and is attached to the official copy of these minutes.. At this point the Meeting has spent 68% of its annual budget but received only 42% of its budgeted contributions. Thus our funds are somewhat low and Friends are encouraged to consider contributing at this time.

VII. **Announcements**

A. The **AFSC** will hold a celebration in San Francisco on

November 1st to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the award of the Nobel Peace Prize to the Society of Friends.

B. The **next Meeting for Business** will be held on November 2nd at the Shelton School.

VIII. The meeting closed with a period of worship at 2:37 p.m. Sixteen Friends were present as the meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted,

David K. Leonard,
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the 2nd Day of the Eleventh Month, 1997
at the Shelton School, Berkeley

Rachel Findley, Clerk, Presiding

I. The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 12:15 pm. Nineteen Friends were present as the meeting began.

II. The **Queries on Unity** were considered by the meeting: In Quaker process unity is not a simple concept; it is much more subtle than unanimity; the clerk has to be sensitive to the movings of the Spirit in the meeting as a whole; when done well it is one of the glories of Quakerism. The process has a lot to do with the issue; the search for unity is most important on the big and contentious issues. The voice of a "weighty Friend" carries influence only because of the wisdom that has been associated with it in the past and might well be there in the present, not because of the particular Friend. The early Friends were united by their understandings of the divine life, despite the superficial differences of expression. We sometimes find it hard to distinguish between a squeaky wheel and the voice of God. We must let the Holy Spirit lead us to unity, for our problems often defeat simple rationality. Diversity is essential to us, for it is fundamental to creativity and leads to a higher form of unity.

III. **The minutes** for Tenth Month were read and approved, with the following amendments: "Being an attender is a way of nurturing" The names nominated to Loaves and Fishes should read Carl Thiermann and Marla Browning.

IV. **Old Business**

A. The following **Nominations**, having been seasoned for a month, were approved: Carl Thiermann and Marla Browning to a single position on Loaves and Fishes; Thomas Murray to Peace and Social Order; and Manuel Marks as Representative and Jerry Morris as Observer to Pacific Yearly Meeting (commencing in January). Jerry Morris has withdrawn her name from the First Day School Committee.

B. The **membership** of Thomas Murray in the Meeting, which was recommended last month by Overseers, was approved. Julian Fredrick, Larry Perry (convener) and Carolyn Marks were appointed as a committee to welcome him into the Meeting.

C. The **Ad Hoc Committee** to Nominate the Nominating Committee (Joyce Samati) nominated the following for two year terms beginning in January 1998: Leslie Leonard and Charlie Blanchard. Leslie Leonard was nominated to serve as clerk of the committee for 1998. She will resign as clerk of Finance Committee when she takes up the new office. (Mary Miche, Mark Lambert, and Tom Yamaguchi are continuing members, for another year.) The meeting expressed its

appreciation to the Ad Hoc Committee for its work.

D. **The Committee for the evaluation of the times and site of Meeting for Worship** (Susan Burr) proposed the following process for the Meeting's consideration of these issues: A "Listening Meeting" will be held on Sunday evening at 7 pm November 23rd at the home of the D'Angelos'. The committee's report is attached to the official copy of these minutes. It was noted that a number of positive comments about our site are recorded in the minutes of the October meeting for business in addition to those given in the report.

V. **New Business**

A. **Finance Report for 1997 and Budget for 1998** (Carl Anderson and Leslie Leonard):

1. The committee recommends that the San Francisco Meeting House fund be added to the outreach donations for three years, beginning with 1997. The Meeting approved a 1997 contribution of \$110.

2. The Financial Report through October is attached to the official copy of these minutes. More money was received than spent in October, but we are still running short of contributions for the year.

3. The Budget for 1998 was presented. It has no major changes. It implies average contributions of \$350 per member and \$250 per donor. Of course Friends vary considerably in their capability to contribute. Note that the rent at Shelton School could be increased in July, which would have significant budgetary implications. Outreach donations are raised to \$120 each, to account for inflation. The budget will be seasoned for a month.

4. The pamphlet on organizations to which the Meeting encourages Friends to contribute is being updated and will be circulated in December.

5. Susan Burr will audit the 1997 Meeting accounts when they are completed.

B. **Christmas Celebration:** Jerry Morris is concerned that arrangements for a Christmas event have not yet been made. She and Carolyn Marks will work with Hospitality on an event that might include doing something with the neighborhood. The decisions on what to do, when and where were delegated to Hospitality Committee.

VI. **Committee Reports**

A. **Peace and Social Order** (Philippa Barron): The potential minute on pepper spray is still under consideration but now for a larger audience than just the City of Berkeley. The committee would like to consider changing its name from "Peace and Social Order" to "Peace and Social Concerns." Friends noted that the term "order" does have a positive history in the Religious Society but that may not be a good reason to keep it. We will consider this matter again when the committee's job description is considered by the Meeting in June.

B. **College Park Quarterly Meeting** (Julian Frederick, representative): A detailed report was presented. John Woolman

School is now in the black after three years in the red. The Quarter decided that it was valuable to continue to see Quarterly children's programs as the responsibility of the Quarter's committee, rather than delegating them to the host monthly meeting.

VII. Clerk's Correspondence

A. A request was received from some eastern Friends to reprint an old Strawberry Creek Nominating Committee document, which was approved.

VIII. Announcements

A. The **next Meeting for Business** will be held on December 7th at the Shelton School.

IX. The meeting closed with a period of worship at 2:11 p.m. Nineteen Friends were present as the meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted,



David K. Leonard,
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the 7th Day of the Twelfth Month, 1997
at the Shelton School, Berkeley

Rachel Findley, Clerk, Presiding

I. The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 12:20 pm. Twenty-one Friends were present as the meeting began.

II. Reflections on the **Queries on Mutual Care** were given by Betsy Morris for the Facilities Committee. Our pride sometimes stands in the way of our receiving care, but when others offer to help us we should be able to receive without shame. We care for one another both through direct personal sharing and through our committee service to the Meeting community. We need to do Friendly Sevens again to bring new attenders into our circle of caring. We might have a list of things that Friends need and are able to do for one another, to facilitate networking and sharing.

III. **The minutes** for Eleventh Month were read and approved, with the following amendments: Gerry Morris' name is spelled with a G.

IV. **Old Business**

A. The following **Nominations**, having been seasoned for a month, were approved: Leslie Leonard and Charlie Blanchard for two year terms on the Nominating Committee beginning in January 1998 and with Leslie Leonard serving as clerk of the committee for 1998.

B. **Finance Report for 1997 and Budget for 1998** (Carl Anderson and Leslie Leonard): The only change proposed to the budget for 1998 presented last month is an increase in the Scholarship fund to \$500. The budget was approved. An updated version of the donations pamphlet was distributed. Corrections and additional information can be given to Leslie Leonard. Copies will be made available after Meeting for Worship. A request was received from an individual Friend that we budget an additional \$200 a year to purchase more comfortable chairs. The matter has been referred to the Facilities and Worship & Ministry Committees. There is a gap between the monies received and those spent (because we are in a more expensive location) this financial year. Additional contributions would be welcome. Finance Committee was thanked for its work.

V. **Committee Reports**

A. **Facilities** (Stephen Lockett): The committee's job description was presented and is attached to the formal copy of these minutes. A discussion ensued as to who is responsible for dispensing with outdated postings and literature. The librarian is willing to play an increased role on this matter. The Facilities Committee's and Librarian's job descriptions will be amended accordingly. Warm appreciation was expressed for the work of the

Facilities Committee.

B. **Overseers** (Elsa Glines): We have started advertising the Meeting in the *Express*.

Lois Hoxie's condition is fluid; presumably she will leave the hospital soon but without major surgery. Many issues of care will arise. An informal ad hoc committee is at work on her continuing needs. Friends should be alert to future requests for assistance as they arise. We need to hold Lois in the Light.

C. **Peace and Social Order** (Philippa Barron): The committee is at work on developing discussion sessions on (1) the film "Affluenza" and on simple living, (2) welfare reform, and (3) universal health care. These might be done jointly with other Meetings. Julian Frederick is developing a history of the committee's activities. The committee is at work on a minute on the pepper spray issues, which will be brought to the next meeting for business. The more the committee has worked on the issue, the more complex it has found it to be. Finally, the committee proposed a holiday gift to the Shelton School, which can be purchased out of its budget. The meeting approved this suggestion.

D. **Retreat** (Shelly Tannenbaum): One person has resigned from the committee. The retreat at the Botanical Gardens in November was well attended and went well. The spring retreat will be the first weekend in May.

VI. **New Business**

A. The **Committee for the evaluation of the times and site of Meeting for Worship** (Lynn D'Angelo) held a "Listening Meeting" on Sunday evening at 7 pm November 23rd to learn the range of views of Strawberry Friends. On the basis of this meeting and other consultations with Friends, the committee recommends that there be a single main Meeting for Worship, that it be moved to 10 a.m., that a small, secondary early meeting may continue at a time convenient for First Day School teachers, that Worship & Ministry explore the possibility of a mid-week Meeting, that ways be sought to abate noise at the present site, and that a committee be constituted to explore a broad range of options for a more appropriate site. These recommendations will be seasoned until next month. Concerns should be brought to Susan Burr or Lynn D'Angelo.

VII. **Clerk's Correspondence**

A. A letter of introduction was received for **Pamela Calvert** from Fifteen Street Meeting in New York. She was warmly welcomed.

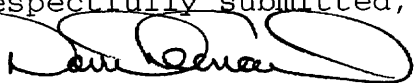
B. Those wishing to renew their subscriptions to **Friends Bulletin** should get their checks to Don Groom.

VIII. **Announcements**

A. The **next Meeting for Business** will be held on January 11th at the Shelton School.

IX. The meeting closed with a period of worship at 2 p.m. Twenty-one Friends were present as the meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David K. Leonard". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent loop at the end.

David K. Leonard,
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the 11th Day of the First Month, 1998
at the Shelton School, Berkeley

Rachel Findley, Clerk, Presiding

I. The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 12:16 pm. Twenty Friends were present as the meeting began.

II. Reflections on the **Queries on Home and Children** were given by Allison Elliott for the First Day School Committee.

"The committee believes that, overall, our families are strong and the children well cared for. All the adults, not just parents, in the Meeting are concerned with our children's well being. We have seen the Meeting come together to support our young people and families with spiritual and emotional as well as practical and financial help....

"For some time now the First Day School Committee has been struggling with an unclear expectation from the Meeting. This has shown itself in the form of difficulty in finding people to serve on the committee and in low class attendance. Yet we feel sure that the Meeting wants more than childcare for their children on First Days....

"Our perception of an ambivalence may be pointing to a greater question concerning the Meeting.... What does it mean to be a member or attender of Strawberry Creek ... and, further, what does it mean to be a Quaker?" These questions are larger than the committee itself can answer.

Members responded to these reflections with the following thoughts: Given the number of teenagers participating in the high school group, there must have been a great First Day School program in the preceding ten years. Overseers will take these matters up in a joint meeting with First Day School Committee. We have so many in the Meeting with such varied backgrounds, it would be well to make an inventory of the things that various adults could bring to the young people.

III. **The minutes** for Twelfth Month were read and approved. One Friend requested that when the regular time of meeting for business is changed that it be announced after several meetings for worship.

IV. **Old Business**

A. **The times and site of Meeting for Worship:** Last month several recommendations were made. Susan Burr reported that a concern has been expressed about the impact a 10 a.m. meeting for worship will have on the teen group that meets jointly with the Berkeley (Vine Street) Meeting. Clifford Anderson feels the earlier time will initially reduce teen attendance but that it would restabilize. Kathy Barnard has spoken with several of the teens and the organizers. The time of the program itself wouldn't change, so the teens would arrive back here a bit longer after the

rise of meeting than they do now. The First Day School committee hopes that the change might enable the teens to attend the first 15 minutes of our (adult or children's) meeting for worship. Concern also was expressed that the change might end the availability of a meeting for worship First Day School teachers. The recommendations on the time of meeting for worship will be seasoned further until next month.

The early meeting for worship continues to be under the care of Worship & Ministry, which arranges for the building to be open. The early worshipers themselves, however, are responsible for set-up and any decisions and arrangements about child care.

A separate discussion ensued with regard to the suggestion that a committee be appointed to consider improvements to this site or choice of another one. Some Friends strongly support remaining at this site. The meeting approved asking Nominating Committee to appoint a committee that would explore and report to the Meeting on a full range of short and long-term options, including ones that might make it possible to remain at the Shelton School.

V. **Committee Reports**

A. **Nominating** (Leslie Leonard): Stephen Nomura, who is already a member of the Finance Committee, is nominated as its clerk to serve out the remainder of the year in place of Leslie Leonard, who has resigned to become clerk of the Nominating Committee.

B. **Treasurer** (Carl Anderson): The Meeting finished 1997 with a small surplus. A special contribution was received for an Education Fund, about which the committee will be deliberating. The Meeting expressed appreciation to its contributors.

C. **Overseers**: Lois Hoxie has been back at Summit Hospital since the weekend after Christmas, but her condition has been improving steadily over the last week. She is expected to be released to a nursing care facility. Tim Saunders has been ill, confined to his home, and in need of visitors. Matthew Trueblood has been recorded as an associate member of the Meeting.

D. **First Day School Committee** (Allison Elliott): The committee presented a revision in its job description. The major changes are: (a) a return to having the committee made up of age group coordinators who will recruit teachers, (b) an expectation that the full Meeting will participate as teachers, and (c) a role for the Curriculum sub-committee in organizing and making accessible to teachers the curricular materials. The new job description was approved and is attached to the official copy of these minutes. Some revision to the teen coordinator position description will be needed.

Berkeley (Vine Street) has proposed a shared program at the junior high level. Sharing regular First Day School seems inappropriate but joint service projects might be appropriate.

The committee also requested that Overseers assist it in exploring with parents the factors contributing to poor First Day School attendance. Worship & Ministry also was asked to consider a "Listening Meeting" on religious education. The matters were referred to the two committees.

E. **Recorder** (Andrea English): Not all members have filled

out the data form for their file with the Meeting. The Recorder will be contacting these Friends. The Meeting also keeps instructions from individual Friends on their final affairs, should they wish to file them. Friends who are interested in recording their wishes should see Andrea.

F. **Peace and Social Order** (Philippa Barron): The committee gave the School a CD Rom on behalf of the Meeting. Philippa also announced her engagement, for which she was warmly congratulated.

G. **Hospitality** (Katherine Jaramillo): There will be a new member welcoming on February 8th and a baby welcoming in March. The committee is considering a Friendly Sevens series in March based on grouping by interests.

VI. **New Business**

Appointment of State of the Meeting Ad Hoc Committee: Worship & Ministry and Overseers will each appoint one person. Stephanie Kennedy will join them. There will be a general Meeting discussion to receive suggestions and analysis.

VII. **Clerk's Correspondence**

A. The Meeting approved a memorial minute for **Esther Morgan**, as follows:

"Esther Marshall Morgan was born in Whittier, California in 1930 and grew up there on an orange and walnut farm. Her parents, Harold and Elma Gregg Marshall, were long-time members of First Friends Church in Whittier. Esther graduated from Scattergood School, attended Whittier College, then received her bachelor's degree from Earlham College, as had her brother, Alan. She married Ken Morgan in 1954 and came to Berkeley for a time while Ken finished his degree in social work.

"Their family was at home in San Fernando, CA during the years of raising their children, Randy, Karen and Jeff. Karen also graduated from Scattergood School, and Jeff graduated from Whittier College, as had Esther's mother and sister, Mary. After the marriage ended, Esther returned to school to study social work, finishing her MSW at USC. She moved to Santa Rosa and began work at Napa State Hospital, where she continued until her retirement. She also began a private psychotherapy practice.

"In Santa Rosa, she served a term as clerk of Redwood Forest Meeting. She also was active in Pacific Yearly Meeting for many years. In the late 1980s she moved to Berkeley, sharing a home with Miki Graham. In 1992 she transferred her membership to Strawberry Creek Meeting.

"In early 1993 Esther was diagnosed with ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis); the disease progressed rapidly, and by the end of the year Esther was hospitalized, where she remained until her death on December 10, 1997, with her close family present. Those at her Memorial Meeting (held under the care of Strawberry Creek Meeting) remembered Esther's love for others, her concern for feelings, and her many occasions of reaching out to those having difficulty.

"Her family includes Miki Graham, Karen, Randy and Jeff Morgan, and Esther's sisters, Mildred Burck and Mary Wood, and brother, Alan Marshall."

The Recorder will send the minute to **Friends Bulletin** and the

Yearly Meeting.

B. **Friendly Folk Dancers** would like to put on a dance for us. The suggestion was referred to Hospitality Committee.

VIII. **Announcements**

A. The **next Meeting for Business** will be held on February 1st at the Shelton School.

B. **Kathleen Louise Leonard** is being baptized today in New York with Chris McCandless as (Quaker) god-father.

IX. The meeting closed with a period of worship at 2:28p.m. Seventeen were present as the meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted,



David K. Leonard,
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the 1st Day of the Second Month, 1998
at the Shelton School, Berkeley

Rachel Findley, Clerk, Presiding

I. The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 12:20 p.m. Nineteen Friends were present as the meeting began.

II. Reflections on the **Queries on Simplicity** were given by Peter Klement for the Retreat Committee. Normally we feel that material things are a large part of this query, but in fact it goes beyond that to our need to have a divine center in our lives which orders all things and needs. The implication is to evaluate our lives in the light of the Spirit and to eliminate what doesn't fit. The query encourages reflection, not guilt.

Members felt that the committee has offered us both a comfort and a challenge by pointing to the essential meaning of the query.

III. **The minutes** for First Month were read and approved, with corrections in the spelling of the names of some Friends.

IV. **Old Business**

A. **The Time of Meeting for Worship** (Susan Burr): Two months ago it was recommended to the Meeting that the main Meeting for Worship be moved to 10 a.m. and that the small, secondary early meeting continue at a time convenient for First Day School teachers. With the benefit of this seasoning, consultation with the high school Friends and further discussion, the Meeting approved the recommendation. Mary Miche asked to be recorded as being in opposition and as not having stood aside. Worship & Ministry has explored the possibility of a mid-week Meeting and feels that this need is being met by the early meeting.

B. **Previous Nominations** (Leslie Leonard): Stephen Nomura's nomination as clerk of Finance Committee for the remainder of the year was approved.

C. **State of the Meeting Report**: The full committee will consist of Stephanie Kennedy, Kathy Barry, and Beth Wrightson.

V. **Committee Reports**

A. **Report of the Quarterly Meeting Representative** (Julian Frederick): Quaker House (FASE) is now in better financial condition; Philippa Barron will join its board of directors. It was noted that most Meetings do nothing for the hard of hearing in their meetings and this will be a subject for a subsequent discussion. The terms of the Reno Monthly Meeting loan have been renegotiated. A young Friend regretted the absence of a program for teens. It is a continuing problem to provide meaningful programs for the non-adults at Quarterly Meeting and greater involvement is needed.

B. **Worship and Ministry** (Susan Burr): The committee has

discussed how to deepen worship and vocal ministry. All Friends should be encouraged in the "ministry of sympathetic listening." We should not make critical comments about one another's messages, for this discourages those new in the ministry. Instead we need to respond by using difficult messages to deepen our own reflection. It is true that sometimes inappropriate ministry does occur, and concerns about such should be brought to the Committee on Worship and Ministry.

The committee has been discussing the concerns raised by the First Day School Committee, which were discussed in the recent joint meeting with Overseers.

C. **Retreat** (Peter Klement): The dates for the Spring Retreat are May 1-3 this year. The committee's job description is unchanged in substance. It is attached to the official copy of these minutes.

D. **Overseers** (Elsa Glines): The committee has been particularly concerned to care for Lois Hoxie, who is going through a difficult time now and is in need of special meetings for worship, and with Tim Saunders, who is bed-ridden and moved last week. The committee is checking in with those who have not been attending recently and it is particularly rewarding when these Friends rejoin us.

E. **Peace and Social Order** (Philippa Barron): There are tapes of the session with Bill Moyers, which are available in the library. The committee is planning two discussions later in the spring -- the first on health care and the second on welfare reform (including immigrant issues). The Meeting approved giving its name as a co-sponsor of two showings of the film "An Act of Conscience," about war tax resistance.

The committee presented a letter it wishes to send to the SF Chronicle on the pepper spray issue. The meeting approved the substance of the letter and its being sent on its behalf with minor editing to be added. It will be published in the Meeting newsletter.

F. **Hospitality** (Mary Anderson): A new member welcoming, Friendly Sevens and a new baby welcoming are planned. The committee needs a budget augmentation to provide food for Monthly Meeting First Days. The request was referred to the Finance Committee. It will not be possible to take advantage of the offer of Friendly Folk Dancers to put on an event for the Meeting this month but the Meeting hopes to do so in the future.

G. **Finance** (Leslie Leonard): An updated description of the organizations to which the Meeting contributes will be distributed next week, in order to encourage Friends to make individual gifts to them.

H. **Audit** (Susan Burr): The Meeting's accounts from 1995 have been audited and were found to be in good order. The report is attached to the official copy of these minutes. We need to find an appropriate place to keep our accumulated official records.

VI. Clerk's Correspondence

A. **A transfer of membership for Thomas Murray** was received from 57th Street Meeting in Chicago.

B. **Dharma Yamaguchi** wrote that she is near the end of her

college studies.

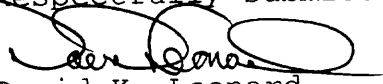
C. A letter of introduction was received from 15th Street Meeting in New York for **Helen Haug**, and her partner ~~Pamela Calvert~~.

VII. Announcements

The **next Meeting for Business** will be held on March 1st at the Shelton School.

VIII. The meeting **closed** with a period of deep silent worship and shared ministry at 2:40 p.m. Twenty-one Friends were present as the meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted,



David K. Leonard,
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the 1st Day of the Third Month, 1998
at the Shelton School, Berkeley

Rachel Findley, Clerk, Presiding

I. The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 12:15 p.m. Twenty-five Friends were present as the meeting began.

II. Reflections on the **Queries on Peace** were given by Rich Tittle for the Loaves and Fishes Committee. It is hard to be a Quaker and pacifist in this society, which is infected by racism within and without and by weapons of mass destruction. Is our peace testimony adequate to this world? The mass media sanitize and impersonalize war and we must seek to personalize its meaning. We can not impose peace on others without first working on it within ourselves. Should we not give greater support to the United Nations as well?

One member felt that instead of loving our enemies we are called upon to have no enemies but simply to love.

III. **The minutes** for Second Month were read and approved, with the correction that the letter from 15th Street Meeting in New York introduced Helen Haug only.

IV. **Committee Reports**

A. **Loaves and Fishes** (Rich Tittle): The committee's job description is unchanged in substance and was approved. It is attached to the official copy of these minutes. The Meeting expressed appreciation to the committee for the wonderful job it does for us.

B. **Finance** (Stephen Nomura): The committee reported that a \$3000 gift has been received to support the children of Meeting members in attending Quaker schools and colleges. The terms governing this gift and its management are attached to the official copy of these minutes and will be circulated separately to members. The Meeting was delighted to learn of this gift and will season the proposed terms until next month.

C. **Treasurer** (Carl Anderson): The financial report for January and February was received and is attached to the official copy of these minutes.

D. **Nominating** (Leslie Leonard): A proposed job description for the Site Committee was presented. It reads:

"The Site Committee, consisting of four to six active members and attenders of Strawberry Creek, will explore short- and long-range options for a site for the Meeting. Options include rental or purchase of space and improvements to the current site at Shelton School. The committee is expected to be aware of the concerns of Friends regarding Meeting sites and to report its findings periodically to the Meeting for Business. The committee may choose to organize listening meetings to provide opportunities for Friends to consider alternatives.

"Although Meeting has not specified a time frame for the committee's activities, it is expected that the committee's work will be reasonably expeditious, without being hurried or inconsistent with Friends' process.

"Members of the Site Committee will be nominated and approved in the normal annual cycle for standing committees. Members will serve one-year terms."

The Meeting felt that should it be necessary for the committee to continue more than one year it would be desirable that some members of the committee be able to continue into a second year in order to provide continuity.

The Meeting approved the above job description as one that provides general direction for the committee, with the understanding that the committee, once appointed, can recommend revisions.

E. **Worship and Ministry** (Susan Burr): The present adult education series on the "Changing Faces of God" will conclude this month and the committee is considering what topics to address next.

The committee is evaluating the date on which the change in the times of meeting for worship will occur, with a probability that it will occur in the second week of May.

F. **Overseers** (Elsa Glines): Lois Hoxie passed away on the 11th of February and a well-attended and rich memorial service was held for her on the 21st. We will miss her. A memorial minute will be presented next month.

A successful and well-attended Newcomers' Brunch was held last week.

G. **Hospitality** (Mary Anderson): The committee asked the meeting to consider the best way for us to provide for food on the days of meeting for business. Worship and Ministry feels that a potluck would overly delay the start of meeting for business; some felt brown bag lunches might be a better middle ground. Others really miss potlucks. Several other options were mentioned, and the Hospitality and Worship and Ministry Committees were asked to bring recommendations back to the next meeting for business.

V. Clerk's Correspondence

A. A letter was received from Sherrin Loyd and Jill Lessing, asking to be married under the care of the Meeting. It was referred to the Overseers Committee for action.

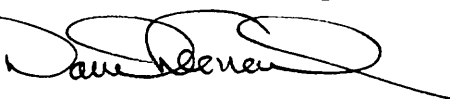
B. A poem on our Meeting was received from Dick and Barbara Emmons, which will be placed in the Newsletter.

VI. Announcements

Friends Church will hold its Quaker Heritage Day on May 16th.

The **next Meeting for Business** will be held on April 5th at the Shelton School.

VII. The meeting **closed** with a period of silent worship at 1:53 p.m. Twenty-four Friends were present as the meeting ended.



Respectfully submitted, David K. Leonard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the 5th Day of the Fourth Month, 1998
at the Shelton School, Berkeley

Barbara Graves, Alternate Clerk, Presiding

I. The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 12:17 p.m. Eighteen Friends were present as the meeting began.

II. The **Queries on Equality** were read. A Friend responded by noting that Bela Abzug was important for her commitment to the equality of women, but this is not the way in which the press remembered her at her death; we have a long way to go to equality.

III. **The minutes** for Third Month were read and approved, with the note that the Scholarship Endowment will be available to the children of attenders as well as members.

IV. **Old Business**

A. **State of the Meeting Report:** The draft of the report is not yet ready, although the notes on the Meeting's discussion are written up and were read. A draft report needs to be circulated to the Meeting as soon as possible, so at least the report to Quarterly Meeting can be seasoned for approval in May.

V. **New Business**

A. **Nominating Committee Report** (Leslie Leonard): The nominations for the year beginning in Sixth Month were presented and are attached to these minutes. There are 69 members and attenders filling 91 positions. The nominations will be seasoned until next month. Anyone having concerns about any of them should speak to a member of the Nominating Committee as soon as possible. Warm appreciation was expressed for the work of the committee.

B. **Representative Committee:** The meeting asked that Jerry Morris report to us next month on the major items of business discussed at the Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative Committee Meeting.

VI. **Committee Reports**

A. **Peace and Social Order** (Tim Saunders): The committee presented a proposed minute on Iraq. After discussion and revisions to the draft, the following minute was approved:

"It is immoral for the world's only superpower to be preparing for a 'punishing attack' against one of the world's most impoverished nations. The combination of the Gulf War, the UN/US economic sanctions and the policies of the Iraqi government for the last seven years has killed over a million people, reducing Iraq to a nation without adequate food, medicine, potable water, or functioning electrical and sanitation systems.

"Quakers have supported the work of the United Nations Special Commission to search and destroy weapons of mass destruction in

Iraq. In addition, because we have opposed all war and violence, we seek the elimination of weapons of mass destruction in all nations, including the United States.

"We call upon President Clinton to refrain from military strikes against Iraq, and instead to continue to support diplomatically an adequate inspection program. Because the sanctions have resulted in tremendous suffering, we also call on President Clinton to lift the embargo on non-military supplies, so as to allow for repairing the Iraqi infrastructure, feeding the hungry, and providing medicine to those who are ill."

The minute will be made public by the clerk and the committee

B. **Overseers** (Elsa Glines): The memorial minute on Lois Hoxie will be presented for approval next month. The new time for Meeting for Worship will be noted in a changed advertisement in the Express and the Friends Journal. The wedding of Sherrin Loyd and Jill Lessing has been postponed until the fall.

C. **Worship and Ministry** (Susan Burr): Beginning May 10th the main Meeting for Worship will be held at 10 am, instead of 10:30.

D. **Treasurer** (Carl Anderson): It would be useful to have a 1990 or later computer donated to the Meeting for the use of the new Treasurer.

VII. **Announcements**

Quarterly Meeting will be held at Ben Lomond on May 16th and 17th.

The **next Meeting for Business** will be held on May 10th at the Shelton School at 11:45 am.

VIII. The meeting **closed** with a period of silent worship at 1:50 p.m. Twelve Friends were present as the meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted,



David K. Leonard,
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the 10th Day of the Fifth Month, 1998
at the Shelton School, Berkeley

Rachel Findley, Clerk, Presiding

I. The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:48 a.m. Thirty Friends were present as the meeting began.

II. Reflections on the **Queries on Witness** were given by Catherine Jaramillo for the Hospitality Committee. The more we try to know truth, the farther we stray from it. We share our Quakerism with our families, but find it hard to do so at work, save when our testimonies make some part of our faith particularly visible. We have been unsuccessful so far in reaching out to the Shelton School neighborhood and its churches. We need to do more with other groups and to be even more welcoming to newcomers. One Friend felt that "places of worship" would be more inclusive than "churches." Another that the fact that these reflections come from the Hospitality Committee reminds us how important that group's work is to our community.

III. **The minutes** for Fourth Month were read and approved.

IV. **New Business**

Rachel Findley read a letter she has written to the Meeting. Charles Kallander has been found to have cancer, and she and he were married on April 26th. Because she needs to be in Sebastopol with him at this time, she wishes to be temporarily replaced as Clerk. The Meeting spoke of its great appreciation for Rachel's clerking and of its intention to hold her and Charles in its prayers.

V. **Old Business**

A. **The State of the Meeting Report** was read by Beth Wrightson. The draft report was published in the Newsletter and has been revised on the basis of the comments received. A sentence on membership statistics will be added. The report was approved with minor revisions and is attached to the official copy of these minutes.

B. **Memorial Minute for Lois Hoxie:** The minute was read and approved, with great appreciation for Lois' life, which ended on February 11th. It is attached to these minutes and will be published in **Friends Bulletin**.

C. **Nominating Committee Report** (Leslie Leonard): The nominations for the year beginning in Sixth Month that were presented last month were approved. Additional nominations, which will be seasoned until next month, are: PYM Observer -- Pamela Calvert and Helen Haug. Other positions remain to be filled. The position of Children's Summer Coordinator is unfillable until

sufficient volunteers for summer are in place. Thus a sign-up sheet was circulated and was successfully filled. All Meeting members and attenders are expected to take their turn.

D. **Representative Committee** (Jerry Morris): The major item of business for us discussed at the Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative Committee Meeting was that Yearly Meeting will be at Mt. Madonna Conference Center in Watsonville from July 27 - August 1. There is a discount for registration by June 5th. Scholarship is available from Overseers.

VI. **Committee Reports**

A. **Hospitality** (Catherine Jaramillo): A new baby welcoming will be held next week. A revised job description was presented and approved, which is attached to the official copy of these minutes.

B. **Retreat** (Shelly Tannenbaum): We had 37 adults, eight teens, and 12 children at the retreat last weekend. The teens had a separate program, which went well. It is likely that the retreat will have broken even financially, although the final accounting is incomplete at this stage.

C. **Worship and Ministry** (Susan Burr): As we begin to meet at 10 a.m. we need to keep an eye out for how this is affecting teens and families for whom this time may be awkward. Please share any observations with the committee. It is unclear what the status of the 9 a.m. worship will be.

D. **Overseers** (Barbara Graves): Dolly Marshall has requested the transfer of her membership to Westfield Friends Meeting in New Jersey. We warmly remember Dolly and approved her transfer. The Recorder will send the appropriate form.

E. **Treasurer** (Carl Anderson): The Financial Report for March and April was presented and is attached to the official copy of these minutes. The Meeting expressed its appreciation to Carl for his service. Signatories for the Meeting accounts were approved to be Barbara Graves, Stephen Nomura and Maggie Ely.

F. **Finance** (Stephen Nomura): The terms for managing the new endowment for the Quaker education of the children of members and attenders of the Meeting, having been seasoned, were approved and are attached to the official copy of the March minutes. The Meeting expressed its thanks to the anonymous donor.

G. **Peace and Social Order** (Philippa Barron): We had a successful session with Assembly Member Dion Aroner on Welfare Reform. She asked us to think of jobs for people coming off of welfare. We are having a speaker on Health Care this next Sunday. The committee would like to include people from other Meetings in our discussion sessions, but they are not coming. A Friend suggested that we might consider taking events to those whom we wish to include, rather than expecting them to come to us.

VII. **Announcements**

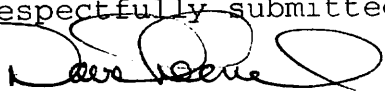
Note was made of Bob Vogel's sudden death.

The **next Meeting for Business** will be held on June 7th at the Shelton School at 11:45 am.

VIII. The meeting **closed** with a period of worship at 1:37 p.m.

Twenty-six Friends were present as the meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David K. Leonard". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "D".

David K. Leonard,
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the 7th Day of the Sixth Month, 1998
at the Shelton School, Berkeley

Barbara Graves, Acting Clerk, Presiding

I. The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:45 a.m. Twenty-seven Friends were present as the meeting began.

II. Reflections on the **Queries on Civic Responsibility** were given by Philippa Barron for the Peace and Social Order Committee. Voting is an entry point to the system and we should take advantage of it to support candidates and propositions that accord with our values. Other measures follow after this, but it is important to pick one's protests carefully and selectively, so that one is focused and is more likely to be heard. It also is important to share concerns in a loving manner, so that one's anger is directed at the system, not the individual. The way we deliver our message is even more important than the message itself. We have sometimes been spread thin and this would be a reason to focus our attention more. But we also want to be able to respond to issues that the times force upon us. Not all concerns need to be carried by the whole Meeting; sometimes personal responses are more effective. Our individual commitments give our lives meaning. There are always difficult trade-offs to be made in our choices of points of witness. One Friend noted how important it is for him to begin where he is. The Meeting expressed its appreciation for the committee's thoughtful responses.

III. **The minutes** for Fifth Month were read and approved, with the note that scholarship assistance for Yearly Meeting is also available from PYM but that it is accessed through our Meeting's Overseers.

IV. **Old Business**

A. **Nominating Committee Report** (Leslie Leonard): The nominations presented last month of Pamela Calvert and Helen Haug to jointly hold the position of PYM Observer were approved. Gerry Morris has withdrawn from the Facilities Committee, but the committee does not feel a need for a replacement at this time. Philippa Barron was nominated as one of the Teen Coordinators. The position of Children's Summer Coordinator remains unfilled and is being performed reluctantly by the First Day School Committee. The Nominating Committee reported that it has been unable to reach unity on the nomination of a new clerk and has asked for direction from Overseers. Barbara Graves will continue as Acting Clerk for the time being.

V. **New Business**

A. **Quarterly Meeting** (Julian Frederick): The May Ben Lomond session of Quarterly Meeting had three Strawberries in attendance. A full report on the many discussions was received with

appreciation. Julian expressed a concern that attendance of Strawberries at Quarterly events is quite small. Friends encouraged him to do more to tell us of the value of Quarterly Meeting.

B. **Quaker Heritage Day** at Friends Church was held the same weekend as Quarterly Meeting and several Strawberries were there instead. Friends spoke appreciatively of the message by Johann Mauer.

VI. **Committee Reports**

A. **Treasurer** (Carl Anderson): The transition process between Treasurers is underway but not yet complete.

B. **Peace and Social Order** (Philippa Barron): The committee presented a slightly revised job description, which is attached to the official copy of these minutes. It was approved by the Meeting with explicit note added of our desire to work with Berkeley Friends Church on matters of joint concern.

The committee would like to change its name to "Peace and Social Concerns." Friends spoke both of the need not to be misunderstood by the larger ~~the~~ civic community as to the nature of our concerns and of the desirability of creating a new social order that the traditional wording reflects. This suggestion will be seasoned until next month.

C. **Hospitality** (Katherine Jaramillo): The new baby welcoming was quite a success. Thanks were expressed to Craig Olsen and Ramona Silipo for hosting it.

A concern was expressed that all Meeting events be wheelchair accessible. While on the issue of disabilities, we also were reminded of the need to assist those with hearing difficulties.

D. **Worship and Ministry** (Susan Burr): At this point of transition the committee reflected on its functions.

The committee has already discussed the need to be sensitive to those with hearing disabilities and is giving it ongoing consideration. In this regard, it is very helpful if Friends stand to speak.

There will be no 9 a.m. Meeting for Worship on June 14 or 21. After that Worship and Ministry will organize an early meeting for a short while to see if there is summer demand.

E. **Overseers** (Elsa Glines): The car of a Meeting member was broken into recently. Park close to the School and don't keep valuables visible.

Overseers recommends that the marriage of Sherrin Loyd and Jill Lessing be approved. It is scheduled for September 12th. The decision will be seasoned until next month.

VII. **Clerk's Correspondence**

A letter was received from Katherine Jaramillo requesting membership in the Meeting. It was referred to Overseers for action with great delight.

VIII. **Announcements**

Barbara Graves will hold a session on Quaker Process on June 21st or 28th.

Those who might be willing to serve on a Pacific Yearly

Meeting committee are urged to speak with Elsa Glines, who is on the PYM Nominating Committee.

A questionnaire from the Friends Committee for the Ageing will be distributed next week by Julian Frederick and the information will be collated by Pamela Calvert.

The **next Meeting for Business** will be held on July 12th at the Shelton School at 11:45 am.

IX. The meeting **closed** with a period of worship at 1:14 p.m. Twenty-nine Friends were present as the meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted,

David K. Leonard,
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the 12th Day of the Seventh Month, 1998
at the Shelton School, Berkeley

Lynne D'Angelo, Presiding

I. The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:45 a.m. Twenty-eight Friends were present as the meeting began.

II. The **Queries on Stewardship** were read. Many Friends responded. This query is so broad that we can't do everything but we can each do something. One Friend spoke of her ~~leading~~^{interest} that the Strawberry Creek (the body of water, not the spiritual community) be re-opened to view where it flows through down-town Berkeley. Another felt that the concept of stewardship may be outdated and that we should be thinking of partnership. Stewardship becomes possible because of simplicity. All that we are and have is a gift from God that is meant to be used for God's purposes, which is the foundation of simplicity. *in seeing/*

III. **The minutes** for Sixth Month were read and approved. It was noted that for the sake of those with hearing difficulties, Friends should stand to speak *if they are capable of doing so.*

IV. **Old Business**

A. **Wedding** (Elsa Glines): Last month Overseers recommended that the marriage of Sherrin Loyd and Jill Lessing be approved. The decision having been seasoned by the Meeting, the marriage was warmly approved. Carl Anderson noted that this wedding does not reflect his understanding of the meaning of marriage, but it is equally clear that it is consistent with the views of this Meeting and he has no objections. Another Friend spoke with appreciation for the role of the late Lois Hoxie in stewarding our Meeting to its position on same sex marriage. The wedding will be held September 12th at 6 p.m.

B. **Peace and Social Order** (Philippa Barron): Last month the committee proposed to change its name to "Peace and Social Concerns." This suggestion has been seasoned and was approved.

C. **Nominating Committee Report** (Charlies Blanchard): Last month Philippa Barron was nominated as one of the Teen Coordinators. The nomination was approved.

D. **Nomination of Clerk** (Elsa Glines): Last month the Nominating Committee reported that it had been unable to reach unity on the nomination of a new clerk and had asked for direction from Overseers. After careful consideration, Overseers feels that it should make the nomination itself and notified each of the members of the Nominating Committee of this intention. The Meeting approved this procedure. Using the criteria established by the Nominating Committee for the office, Overseers then nominated Andrea English to hold the position of Clerk for the next year. This nomination will be seasoned until our next monthly meeting. Those having Concerns any; should speak with a member of Overseers.

V. **Committee Reports**

A. **Overseers** (Elsa Glines): Consideration of the application for membership of Katherine Jaramillo is underway.

B. **Hospitality** (Joyce Samati): For this next year Friendly Sevens will meet on 10-25, 1-24, 4-25, and 7-25. The committee also is seeking a time when we might go together to the beach.

C. **Financial Report** (Richard Leath): The Treasurer's Report for May and June was prepared by Carl Anderson and was presented to the Meeting. The next report will come from Maggie Ely. Our financial balance is somewhat low and contributions would be appreciated at this time.

VI. **Clerk's Correspondence**

A. **Membership**: A letter was received from Jed Appelman requesting membership in the Meeting. Great enthusiasm was expressed and the matter was referred to Overseers.

B. **Death Penalty**: Lee Andresen requested that the Meeting send a fax to the Governor protesting the forthcoming execution. The Meeting approved asking the Peace and Social Concerns Committee to send a letter on our behalf.

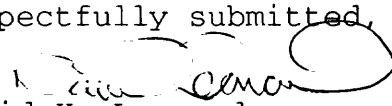
VII. **Announcements**

A. **Dharma Yamaguchi** graduates from Penn State University this summer. Tom Yamaguchi thanked the Meeting for the support it has given Dharma with her education.

The **next Meeting for Business** will be held on September 13th at the Shelton School at 11:45 am.

VIII. The meeting **closed** with a period of worship at 12:50 p.m. Thirty-two Friends were present as the meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted,


David K. Leonard,
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the 13th Day of the Ninth Month, 1998
at the Shelton School, Berkeley

Barbara Graves, Assistant Clerk, Presiding

I. The meeting opened with a period of worship at 11:50 a.m. Twenty-seven Friends were present as the meeting began.

II. Susan Burr responded to the **Queries on Worship** for the Committee on Ministry and Worship. These queries are "old friends" but when we read them each of us heard them in a new way. They provoked additional queries for us, among them the following: Meeting for worship prepares me for the week; do I prepare for Meeting? How do I keep the meeting alive during the week? Would writing my reflections in a journal help? How does the meeting for worship call us to do God's service-- body, mind and soul?

III. **The minutes** for Seventh Month were read and approved, with the clarification that Andrea English's term as clerk is to be through May 1999. A Friend expressed her appreciation for the clear and loving way in which Carl Anderson expressed his concern about the wedding which we approved last month.

IV. **Old Business**

Nomination of Clerk (Elsa Glines): Overseers have received several positive reactions to the nomination of Andrea English as clerk and one dissent. Overseers is clear as to the appropriateness of the nomination. The Meeting approved Andrea English as clerk with one Friend standing aside. This Friend would have appreciated it if Overseers had done more to labor with her over this matter, which she feels is important to finding unity.

V. **New Business**

Pacific Yearly Meeting (Pam Calvert): A written report was received from Pam and Helen Haug, which is attached to the official copy of these minutes and is to be printed in the newsletter. It is hoped that the new Faith and Practice will be approved in 2000. The new Brinton visitor will be Robert Griswold. The relationship of the Yearly Meeting with Friends House Moscow remains to be clarified. The Friend in the Orient committee is being laid down, but its newsletter will continue. A Friend has donated property in the Central Valley as a possible permanent Yearly Meeting site. The Yearly Meeting has not yet found unity as to how to proceed. Leonard Joy noted that 15 Strawberries hold office in PYM, the largest number of any Meeting. Laurie Glass expressed appreciation for the assistance Justin Samudio received to attend PYM. Others spoke of their appreciation for the gathering.

VI. **Committee Reports**

A. **Nominating** (Leslie Leonard): Ric Forste has had to resign from the Facilities Committee. Nominating would greatly

appreciate volunteers and suggestions for someone for every third First Day.

B. **First Day School** (Miftah Leath): The new school year began today. All families received a letter introducing the program. Children over six will attend the first 15 minutes of Meeting for Worship or join a Children's Meeting upstairs. There will be a need for a third permanent facilitator for the teens.

C. **Financial Report** (Stephen Nomura): The Treasurer's Report for July and August was prepared by Maggie Ely, Treasurer, and was presented to the Meeting. It is attached to the official copy of these minutes. Expenditures are exceeding revenues, and contributions would be welcome.

D. **Overseers** (Elsa Glines): The wedding of Jill Lessing and Sherrin Loyd last night was a splendid occasion.

Charles Kallander died on Thursday, and Overseers joined with Appleseed Meeting in providing support to him and Rachel Findley. The memorial service will be held in Sabastapol on Saturday.

Consideration of the application for memberships of Katherine Jaramillo and Jed Appelman are underway.

A grant was made from the new Education Fund for Mary Welker to attend Scattergood School in Iowa.

Overseers has been discussing the process for consideration of applications for Meeting membership. A threshing session on this subject will be held after meeting for worship on October 25th.

E. **Worship and Ministry** (Susan Burr): For the next four weeks there will be an early Meeting for Worship from 9 to 9:45 am, after which time a decision will be made as to how to proceed further.

It is hoped to use the fourth First Days of the month for adult religious education.

Berkeley Meeting (Vine Street) will be doing a "Quakerism 101" on Thursday evenings for seven weeks beginning October 8th, to which attenders of our Meeting are invited.

F. **Site Committee** (Bob Burnett): The committee has had one meeting and will be meeting again this week. It is considering both rental and purchase options. Prospects in Berkeley proper do not appear to be good, and so we may have to look at public-transport accessible property in Oakland. The committee would welcome suggestions.

G. **Hospitality** (Katherine Jaramillo): The Alameda beach party was wonderful, with about 30 people. Friendly Sevens begin October 25th. Julian Frederick would be interested in our having a monthly pot-luck.

VII. **Clerk's Correspondence**

A. A letter of thanks was received from the Berkeley Food Pantry for our Meeting's contribution.

VIII. **Announcements**

A. Leonard Joy expressed appreciation for those who offered hospitality for the recent meeting of the PYM Faith and Practice Committee.


B. Susanna McCandless, formerly of our Meeting, was the recipient of a Pickett Fund Leadership Grant.

C. Registrations for the October 16-18 Quarterly Meeting are due by October 9th. Please contact Julian Frederick for registration forms.

The **next Meeting for Business** will be held on October 4th at the Shelton School at 11:45 am.

IX. The meeting **closed** with a period of worship at 1:30 p.m. Twenty-seven Friends were present as the meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted,



David K. Leonard,
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the 4th Day of the Tenth Month, 1998
at the Shelton School, Berkeley

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

I. The meeting opened with a period of worship at 11:50 a.m. Twenty-eight Friends were present as the meeting began.

II. Mark Lambert responded to the **Queries on Equality** for the Nominating Committee. Each person brings their own special skills to the Meeting's work; no one job or Friend is more valuable to the Meeting than another. When people know that they are valued for themselves they are able to grow into new skills. We do not know the full extent to which Meeting members work for equality outside the Meeting. We are aware of some members who have made this their life's work, however. Multiple Friends responded individually to the queries as well, with the following comments. * In order to speak to that of God in others we must be better acquainted with it in ourselves. * One spoke of his experience in dealing with a soldier who was a refugee from El Salvador and how hard it is sometimes to resist judgement. * Reaching out often is wrapped up with inner work we need to do about forgiveness. * One said that when he sees an oppressor, he seeks to remind himself of how miserable that person must be. * Another felt that this query is the most powerful and difficult, as it calls on us to see the oppressor also as a wounded being. The work starts within. * Attention was called to the fact that when Jesus stopped the crowd from stoning the adulteress, he also told her to "Go and sin no more." Forgiveness does not mean we do not try to change the oppressor. * Finally a Friend feels that we change history by letting go of grudges that the world says that we have a right to, by saying that this stops here with me.

III. **The minutes** for Ninth Month were read and approved.

IV. **Clerk's Correspondence**

A. Andrea English noted that Strawberry Creek became a monthly meeting in October 1979; so we are 19 this month.

B. An announcement was received of the marriage of Philippa Barron and Jeffrey Pilisuk on September 20th.

C. A warm letter was received and read from Barbara and Bill Christwitz.

D. Note was made that the newspaper "Street Spirit" is published by the AFSC program for the homeless and that the homeless people who approach us on the street to buy it earn income from it.

V. **New Business**

A. The meeting appointed Lynn D'Angelo and Tom Whiteman to be the **Ad Hoc Committee to Name the Nominating Committee**. The committee will bring nominations for new members of the Nominating

Committee next month. A Friend suggested that a more appropriate name for this committee would be the "Naming Committee." Another hoped that in the future we might be able to conduct this process in such a way that the names of the suggested members could be seasoned for a month.

VI. Committee Reports

A. **Overseers** (Elsa Glines): The committee recommends that Katherine Jaramillo be accepted into membership in the Meeting. The report of the membership committee (Larry Perry, Miftah Leath, and Robin Standish) is attached to the official copy of these minutes. The recommendation will be seasoned until next month.

B. **First Day School** (Miftah Leath): The pizza party was a success. The October schedule continues with the theme of "Mutual Care" and will include home visits. Feedback is being sought from the teens about their program. A third adult coordinator for the teens is still needed. Leslie Leonard reported that the 4-6 year olds are a delightful group and consideration is being given to creating a separate class for them.

C. **Retreat** (Shelly Tannenbaum): This fall's retreat will concern "Silence within Our Spiritual Community" and will be held at the Vine Street Meeting House on November 14th.

D. **Financial Report** (Carl Anderson): The Treasurer's Report for September was presented. It is attached to the official copy of these minutes. Contributions are needed. The budget process for 1999 is underway and suggestions may be made to Stephen Nomura. The Finance Committee will present the draft budget for our consideration the next month.

E. **Worship and Ministry** (Susan Burr): A series on Quaker women leaders gets underway this month.

Those who enter meeting for worship late are asked to be mindful that worship has begun. It would be helpful if earlier Friends would fill in the seats furthest from the door.

The committee has been discussing whether it would be valuable to hold a mid-week meeting for worship. It also has been considering what it means when we ask that someone be "held in the light." It will sponsor a mid-week meeting for worship on Thursday evenings beginning December 3rd. The first half hour is to be quiet worship; the second half will share prayer concerns. Invitations to attend will be extended to the other Berkeley meetings as well. A Friend hoped that we could offer prayers of praise as well as concern.

F. **Nominating** (Leslie Leonard): The committee has been unable to find an additional member of the Facilities Committee. But it has provided the committee with a list of Friends who are willing to assist a member of the Facilities Committee with set-up on an irregular basis.

Next month the committee will be bringing nominations for the PYM Observer position, which begins in January, and for the post of Recorder, to replace Andrea English now that she is clerk.

G. **Hospitality** (Katherine Jaramillo): Friends who have suggestions for activities are urged to bring them to the committee.

H. **Peace and Social Concerns** (Thomas Murray): Tom is now

the sole clerk of the committee.

I. **Christmas Program:** The clerk noted that no committee bears responsibility for organizing a Christmas event. She asked what Friends would like to plan and whether there might be any volunteers to do it. Friends spoke for a pot-luck and carol singing. One Friend suggested we might like to join the Friends Church pot-luck on December 20th and then pack food for the Food Pantry afterward. Another Friend preferred our doing something for ourselves and feels that the Posada offers an opportunity for the children to give something to the Meeting. Still another Friend spoke of the New Year and of the need for retreat in the midst of celebration. Katherine Jaramillo, Laurie Glass, Helen Haug and Tom Yamaguchi volunteered to make up an "Ad Hoc Celebration" committee to talk over various ideas and report back to the Meeting.

VII. Announcements

A. Mark Lambert announced that the 62nd Street block party is next Saturday and Friends would be welcome.

B. The Quaker Lesbian Conference at Ben Lomond will be held November 13-16.

The **next Meeting for Business** will be held on November 1st at the Shelton School at 11:45 am.

VIII. The meeting **closed** with a period of worship at 1:30 p.m. Twenty-six Friends were present as the meeting ended.

~~Respectfully submitted,~~



David K. Leonard,
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the 1st Day of the Eleventh Month, 1998
at the Shelton School, Berkeley

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

I. The meeting opened with a period of worship at 11:50 a.m. Twenty-seven Friends were present as the meeting began.

II. Tom Yamaguchi responded to the **Queries on Unity** for the Facilities Committee. The query is one of those in longest continuous use. Unity has not been easy for the Society of Friends or for our Meeting. We must love each other, know that God is present in each of us -- even those with whom we disagree -- and trust one another to set aside personal interests to advance the greater good in the making of decisions. As Friends we seek to find unity with God, which is different from reaching consensus. To find unity we must build community. Do we welcome all who come to meeting for worship, newcomer and long-time attender alike? Do we reach out to those who are shy or new?

III. **The minutes** for Tenth Month were read and approved.

IV. **Clerk's Correspondence**

A. A letter has been received from the O'Sullivans, who are now settled in Ireland.

B. Clifford Ham has written that he continues "to feel as a member of Strawberry Creek" and asks the Meeting to receive his transfer of membership from Ottawa Monthly Meeting. His letter was referred to the Committee on Oversight, which will arrange for a visiting committee.

C. Julian Frederick has asked to resign as our representative to Quarterly Meeting. We appreciate the service he has given.

V. **Old Business**

A. **Katherine Jaramillo** was joyfully accepted into membership in the Meeting. Elsa Glines, Helen Haug, and Thomas Murray will welcome her among us.

B. **Ad Hoc Committee to Name the Nominating Committee** (Lynn D'Angelo): The committee made the following nominations for new members of the Nominating Committee -- Leslie Leonard (to continue as clerk), Charlie Blanchard (continuing), Stephanie Kennedy, Richard Leath and Joyce Samati. These names will be seasoned until next month. In addition the committee has received and is considering concerns expressed about our nominating process.

C. **Christmas Program** (Katherine Jaramillo): The committee recommends a simple Posada on December 12 from 6 to 9 pm at Friends Church with a pot-luck and will work to organize them. The proposal and expenditure of \$100 for the Friends Church premises was approved.

VI. **New Business: 1999 Budget** (Stephen Nomura): The Finance Committee presented the attached draft budget for 1999 and the Treasurer's Report for October. The Meeting is very much in need of \$8,000 in contributions at this time. The total budgeted contributions for the year work out to an average of \$350 per member per annum, but this calculation does not include attenders and some members are unable to give this much and others donate more. The budget for 1999 has been slightly tightened. The Planning Ahead and Mindy Brown Funds will be consolidated into the General Fund. The only significant increase is for Scholarships. Leslie Leonard noted that the Nursery will need an additional \$100. The 1999 Budget will be seasoned until next month and comments should be made to Stephen Nomura. In order to make the Meeting accounts more accurately reflect our true costs, Friends are encouraged to submit receipts for expenditures they incur on behalf of the Meeting.

VII. **Committee Reports**

A. **First Day School** (Miftah Leath): There are 5 to 6 children in the 4 to 6 age group, who are receiving special instruction in the Nursery. Attendance in the Primary class enjoys great peaks and troughs. It is helpful if parents let teachers know when their children cannot be present. Miftah would like to hear the views of parents about having their children in the first 15 minutes of Meeting for Worship. The number of leaders for the Teen Group is adequate at this time.

B. **Hospitality** (Katherine Jaramillo): Friendly Sevens was a success, with 21 participating at 3 homes. Suggestions for making the program still better are under consideration. There will be a Meeting potluck on the Sunday after Thanksgiving.

C. **Nominating** (Leslie Leonard): The committee recommends that Andrea English continue as Recorder for this year, but that she be released from membership on the Peace and Social Concerns committee. ^{Haug} Pamela Haug and ^{Calvert} Helen Calvert are nominated to share jointly the PYM Observer and Representative positions.

D. **Overseers** (Elsa Glines): A grant has recently been made from the Special Scholarship Fund for Friends Schools, which uses up the monies available in the fund for this year.

The membership of Jed Appelman in the Meeting is recommended. The membership committee consisted of Elsa Glines, David Leonard and Peter Trueblood.

E. **Quarterly Meeting Representative** (Julian Frederick): The session was well attended and benefited from a full agenda. A full report is attached to the official copy of these minutes.

F. **Retreat**: This fall's retreat will concern "Silence within Our Spiritual Community" and will be held at the Vine Street Meeting House on November 14th.

G. **Worship and Ministry** (Susan Burr): Attendance at the early Meeting for Worship has been insufficient to justify its continuation.

The committee has been considering concerns about the period of transition after Meeting for Worship. A bit more time for greetings before announcements would be appreciated by some, and some announcements do not seem appropriate. There also is a

concern that everyone speak loudly and clearly so that all be able to hear messages and announcements in the main Meeting room. Finally, we need to be attentive to the security of the building and the safety of the children upstairs. The Meeting greeter needs to be able to see if there are any intruders entering the building.

Katherine Anderson gave an adult education session for us on "Quakerism for Newcomers." She had some suggestions for Meeting etiquette, which will be made more widely available.

There will be a discussion session on Lucretia Mott on November 22nd.

H. **Site** (Stephen Nomura): This is a bad time in the real estate market, so that there are few properties available and little to report. The committee continues to actively look for alternative sites. Regular reports from the Site Committee are helpful in giving the Meeting a sense of the dimensions of the search and what the committee may see as new considerations.

I. **Library** (Clifford Ham): The Librarian has been active in encouraging past borrowers to return books to the library and in making the materials we have more accessible. He hopes to add to our collection of books and to fill in the still missing issues of Pendle Hill pamphlets. A full report is attached to the official copy of these minutes. The Meeting expressed great appreciation for Clifford's efforts.

The **next Meeting for Business** will be held on December 6th at the Shelton School at 11:45 am.

The meeting **closed** with a period of worship at 1:45 p.m. Twenty-four Friends were present as the meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted,



David K. Leonard,
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the 6th Day of the Twelfth Month, 1998
at the Shelton School, Berkeley

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

I. The meeting opened with a period of worship at 11:48 a.m. Twenty-eight Friends were present as the meeting began.

II. Shelly Tannenbaum responded to the **Queries on Mutual Care** for the Retreat Committee. The word "mutual" doesn't just mean giving care but also accepting it for ourselves. Sometimes the Meeting doesn't reach out enough to those who require its assistance. Those in need should ask for help, but we also should err on the side of reaching not, not respect for personal privacy. Our Meeting might consider publicly introducing Overseers from time to time, so people know to whom to turn. There are limitations, however, to what we as a Meeting can do, for there are times when people need professional care. Are we aware of our limitations as a Meeting? Do we provide a loving environment for our children, so that children know loving adults within the Meeting community in addition to their own parents?

III. **The minutes** for Eleventh Month were read and approved with the correction the names of Helen Haug and Pamela Calvert.

IV. **Clerk's Correspondence**

A. A petition for "Abolition 2000" was received and forwarded to the Peace and Social Concerns Committee.

B. Charles Groom wrote to thank the Meeting for its scholarship to study at Pendle Hill.

C. Mary Comstock has written from southern California, where she still lives. She asks to resign her membership in Strawberry Creek Meeting, as she can no longer be active with us. The letter was forwarded to Overseers.

D. Pendle Hill wrote to announce job openings, apprise us of its spring program, and to ask for someone in our Meeting to serve as a liaison. Clifford Ham volunteered to fill the latter function.

E. John Woolman School thanks us for our contribution and would like to have a contact person in the Meeting. Michael Hartman and Mary Anderson were suggested and the clerk will follow up with them.

V. **Old Business**

A. **Jed Appelmann** was warmly accepted into membership in the Meeting. Barbara Graves, Howard Curtis and Joyce Samati will welcome him among us.

B. **Nominating** (Leslie Leonard): The nomination made last month of Helen Haug and Pamela Calvert to share jointly the PYM Observer and Representative positions was approved.

C. **Ad Hoc Committee to Name the Nominating Committee:** The

following nominations for members of the Nominating Committee, having been seasoned for a month, were approved -- Leslie Leonard (to continue as clerk), Charlie Blanchard (continuing), Stephanie Kennedy, Richard Leath and Joyce Samati.

D. **1999 Budget** (Richard Leath): The Finance Committee presented again the draft budget for 1999 and the Treasurer's Report for November, which are attached to the official copy of these minutes. The Meeting is very much in need of \$8,000 in contributions for the 1998 budget at this time. The 1999 budget was approved with the understanding that if the funds we raise this year fall seriously short, the Finance Committee will recommend in February how we should proceed.

E. **Nominating Process Concerns** (Tom Whiteman and Lynn D'Angelo): The Ad Hoc Naming Committee reported on concerns and observations about the nominating process expressed by various persons interviewed during the course of their work. Finding those to fill all the Meeting's positions can be a draining experience, as Friends seem to hold back in volunteering for various functions. How can we better encourage affirmative responses to the question, "Will you serve if asked?" The Nominating Committee sometimes feels pressure to solve unarticulated problems in the Meeting. Much energy is taken over too long a time in filling difficult positions. Overseers and the Clerk could be helpful in bearing part of the responsibility for dealing with these problems. Committees that are vital to our operations, such as Facilities, need to be addressed early in the Nominations process. The distinction between members of the First Day School Committee and of its teachers, with Nominating responsible only for the former, has been a positive development this year. Nominating and Overseers have overlapping responsibilities, and it is recommended that they meet together and report to the Meeting how the nominating process can function better. Committee clerks should encourage newcomers informally to participate in the work of committees that interest them and that need extra help, without waiting for the nominating process. In this way newcomers may come to experience a special quality of Quakerism, where worship is action and action is worship.

Friends were reminded that these views are not necessarily those of the present Nominating committee. As the Naming Committee was looking for new committee members its process did not involve speaking with the current committee. Another Friend feels that when newcomers are recruited into helping with a committee task that they be properly supported and preferably first do the task in the company of a committee member. A further observation concerned the value of having experienced Friends on all our committees.

Friends wish to reflect on these rich suggestions before taking action and request that Overseers and Nominating meet together to bring recommendations to the Meeting. Individuals with further concerns and observations might speak to someone on one of these committees.

VI. **Committee Reports**

A. **Hospitality** (Katherine Jaramillo): The Posada and Christmas pot-luck are upon us and will take place next Saturday.

There will be another round of Friendly Sevens on January 24th. The committee is still considering whether to do a monthly pot-luck.

B. **Nominating** (Leslie Leonard): Clifford Ham is nominated as representative to College Park Quarterly Meeting.

C. **Overseers** (Elsa Glines): A Newcomers' Brunch will be held January 17th, with a "newcomer" being someone who hasn't been to one before. The committee has been impressed with the quality of Ben Lomond Quaker Center week-end programs, encourages Friends to go, and has scholarships available for those who need them.

D. **Peace and Social Concerns** (Thomas Murray): The committee would like to add a "micro" dimension to its "macro" concerns, to work to transform lives in our own community. It urges the Meeting to partner with a local service organization and have Meeting members provide volunteer time to it. The committee recommends that we choose between the Victim Offender Reconciliation Program, Adult Literacy Programs, and Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency. The last would have the most volunteer opportunities for teens as well as adults and would give the best chances for us to do work together. An extended discussion of these rich possibilities followed. The meeting asked that the committee consider the various comments made and survey our members individually to see whether they are willing to take advantage of such a volunteer opportunity, with how much time and with what preference among organizations.

E. **Retreat (Shelly Tannenbaum)**: The November retreat was held at the Berkeley Friends Meeting House, was well attended and went very well. The Spring Retreat will be held April 30-May 2 at Ben Lomond Quaker Center.

F. **Site** (Bob Burnett): The committee has explored a number of possible sites but has found no viable possibilities to date. There is some prospect that the property next to Shelton School might become available and create some possibilities for our expanded use of the School site.

G. **Library** (Clifford Ham): Clarification: Facilities Committee, not the Librarian, puts out the pamphlets and announcements in the anteroom and on the bulletin boards.

H. **First Day School** (Miftah Leath): Attendance has averaged 5 to 8 in the Primary class. The theme has been Mutual Care and has involved a number of home visits. The next term's theme will be Peace. Philippa Barron reports that there are a small number in the Teens group; the teachers don't mind this but the teens do. Teens are very busy and many have commitments on Sundays.

VII. New Business

A. **State of the Meeting Report**: The members of the writing committee for the report will be appointed next month and will be listeners at the general Meeting discussion. Worship and Ministry and Overseers should be prepared to nominate members to the committee next month.

VIII. Announcements

A. College Park Quarterly Meeting will be held January 16 at San Francisco Meeting.

B. Bob Burnett is working on several public sector task forces about the impact of the Year 2000 computer problem on government programs. He is most concerned that the welfare system will break down. Overseers will be setting up a forum to discuss this.

C. Philippa Barron is now the manager of ^a small community health facility in Oakland ~~and~~ ^{which} has limited capacity to assist families without health insurance.

The **next Meeting for Business** will be held on January 10th at the Shelton School at 11:45 am.

The meeting **closed** with a period of worship at 2:25 p.m. Thirty Friends were present as the meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted,



David K. Leonard,
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the 10th Day of the First Month, 1998~~9~~
at the Shelton School, Berkeley

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

I. The meeting opened with a period of worship at 11:52 a.m. Twenty-nine Friends were present as the meeting began.

II. Barbara Graves responded to the **Queries on Participation in the Life of the Meeting** for the Committee on Oversight. How diligent are we in being accessible to those who might be interested in membership? One of the ways the Overseers have tried to address this question is through an after-meeting ~~discussion~~ discussion on membership. An insight that came out of that discussion was that membership, through commitment, changes the individual's relationship to the Meeting and it to him or her. We are not as good as we might be in making newcomers welcome; after Meeting we should speak to someone whom we don't know before we turn to our business with those whom we do. We are about to have a joint meeting between the Overseers and Nominating Committees to discuss the way in which the latter facilitates participation. The Hospitality Committee also has made an enormous contribution to making people feel a part of our community. A Friend spoke of the importance of the "pinch hitter" role in the Meeting, of those who are ready to fill in as and where needed.

III. **The minutes** for Twelfth Month were read and approved, with the note that Mary Comstock has found another church in southern California to which she wishes to belong.

IV. **Clerk's Correspondence**

A. A Christmas card was received from Dharma Yamaguchi, who has a strong sense of connection with the Meeting.

B. A letter from Carmen Broz about her work in El Salvador is being circulated by Palo Alto Meeting. She might be available to speak to us in March. The letter was referred to the Peace and Social Concerns Committee.

C. Tom Huff has written asking that his membership be transferred to the Honolulu Monthly Meeting, where it is now clear that he will continue to live and in which he is active. The letter has already been considered by Overseers and the meeting asked the Clerk to send a letter of transfer.

D. Notice of the 1999 Friends General Conference Gathering of Friends has been received. It will be held in Kalamazoo, Michigan from July 3 - 10. Financial aid is available. There will be an FGC High School Friends conference in October. Note was made of several other services FGC provides.

E. Following on a question raised in meeting for business some time ago, the Clerk read the passage in Faith and Practice that explains why prospective members are asked to leave the meeting while the final decision about their applications is being

made. A lengthy discussion followed as to whether or not we wish to follow this procedure in our Meeting. Overseers were asked to consider the matter and bring a recommendation to the next meeting for business.

V. **Old Business**

A. **Nominating:** Clifford Ham was approved as representative to College Park Quarterly Meeting.

B. **John Woolman School** (Andrea English): Mary Anderson was approved as the Meeting's contact person with the School.

C. **State of the Meeting Report:** Mark Lambert was appointed to the Writing Committee for the Report, joining Lynne D'Angelo, from Overseers, and Howard Curtis, from Worship and Ministry.

VI. **Committee Reports**

A. **Nominating** (Leslie Leonard): The committee this month begins its cycle of deliberations for the next year. Friends can expect to receive telephone calls asking how they wish to serve the Meeting.

B. **Overseers** (Barbara Graves): The committee recommends that the transfer of membership to Strawberry Creek Meeting from Ottawa Meeting of Clifford Ham be approved. Barbara Graves and Howard Curtis had met with Clifford to discuss the process and the meaning of this transfer to him. The transfer was approved with delight. Lee Andresen, Howard Curtis and Rick Herbert volunteered to welcome Clifford into the Meeting. Afterward Clifford expressed the concern that words like "request", "apply", and "approve" trouble him in the membership process. Susan Burr then observed that in a Quakerly application we have a "clearness" committee, which is different from a secular "approval" process.

C. **Peace and Social Concerns** (Thomas Murray): Thirty-four people responded to the poll on the Meeting's proposed service project. The distribution of interest among the areas of possible service was relatively even. About 20 are interested in group projects. Twelve were willing to act as coordinators. On this basis the Peace and Social Concerns Committee recommends that we do a service project with the BOSS program. BOSS works with the homeless and provides a wide variety of support services to enable them to function fully in our society. It has the ability to accommodate a wide variety of skills and interests at a good array of times of the week. The meeting agreed to move forward with this commitment and suggested that we ask BOSS to send someone to come and speak to the Meeting. Tom Yamaguchi wondered whether in light of this decision he should continue to represent the Meeting on the Chaplaincy for the Homeless. Peace and Social Concerns will meet with Tom about this concern. Tom Whiteman also expressed a concern about the Meeting's ill-defined relationship to Project Share, with which a half dozen Friends will continue to work.

D. **Worship and Ministry** (Susan Burr): Mid-week meeting for worship is held on Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. at Howard Curtis' home. An adult education session on "Three Women Mystics" will be held on January 24th. The committee has developed queries for the January 31st Friendly Sevens. It would appreciate feed-back on the kinds of queries that would be most helpful for this type of

gathering. Finally, the committee has been considering the transition between worship and any program that follows it. It encourages Friends to "clerk themselves" about their announcements, keeping them brief and of greatest relevance to our Meeting.

E. **First Day School** (Miftah Leath): This quarter the young people will be considering Peace. There has been a great increase in the numbers in the nursery and the pre-school. Volunteers will be needed to assist. A new group has been created for the 5th to 8th graders. The Teens are in need of an additional adult coordinator. The committee is discussing a Friendly Sevens for the older teens.

F. **Hospitality** (Katherine Jaramillo): Friendly Sevens will be on January 31st, rather than the 24th. On February 14th we will have a new member welcoming brunch at Craig Olsen's and Mona Silipo's home.

G. **Finance** (Stephen Nomura): The financial report for December and 1998 was presented. Contributions of \$12,000 came in during December, so that the Meeting ended the year with a moderate surplus. We have a tendency to run behind in our contributions and ought to try to make them more regularly throughout the year. One Friend would like to know whether a large portion of our contributions comes from a very few individuals. The Treasurer was asked to prepare an answer that still protects members' confidentiality.

VII. Announcements

A. **State of the Meeting Discussion:** After meeting for worship on January 31st there will be an open discussion of the state of the Meeting, preparatory to writing the report.

B. The **Yearly Meeting Representative Committee** will be meeting in Berkeley on the weekend of March 6th; Strawberry Creek and Berkeley Meetings are asked to be co-hosts, arranging for overnight accommodations and lunch on Saturday at Friends Church, where the gathering is taking place.

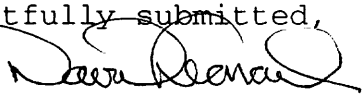
C. Joyce Samati expressed our great appreciation for the success of the **Posada**.

D. Carl Anderson noted that Bob Burnett is mentioned in the East Bay Express for his Y2K work, and Carolina Marks' Peace Wall at Jack London Square will be dedicated today.

The **next Meeting for Business** will be held on February 7th at the Shelton School at 11:45 am.

The meeting **closed** with a period of worship at 2 p.m. Twenty-four Friends were present as the meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted,


David K. Leonard,
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the 7th Day of the Second Month, 1999
at the Shelton School, Berkeley

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

Never forget your experience of God, in whatever way it has come to you. When you leave the meeting for worship, what do you carry with you into your daily life? Attend to what love requires of you, which may not be the same as great busyness.

-- Book of Discipline Revision Committee,
London Yearly Meeting, 1988

I. The meeting opened with a period of worship at 11:45 a.m. Twenty-six Friends were present as the meeting began.

II. Stephen Nomura responded to the **Queries on Simplicity** for the Finance Committee. Simplicity is something to strive for in daily life; it makes our lives uncluttered and helps make one more present. It is too easy to put material things at the center of our lives, rather than our relationship to God. The way in which it involves our relationship to the global economy is also meaningful to us. Other Friends added: The goal of simplicity is not to do without but to free ourselves and to enable us to focus on what is important. There is a lot of joy in getting rid of things. Letting go of the complexity of our lives is difficult but shouldn't be. Do "labor-saving" devices give us more time or commit us to "multi-tasking?" As our spiritual lives evolve our capacity to understand and follow the light changes too. The fact that we could do something easily doesn't mean that we are called to do so; someone else may be called to it instead and we may be called to do something that is difficult to us. Simplicity asks us as well to situate our place in life on the planet. Simple living is not something we do when we are good; it is what we do when we respond to what we truly are.

III. **The minutes** for First Month were read and approved.

IV. **Clerk's Correspondence**

Pamela Calvert wrote requesting the transfer of her membership from 15th Street Meeting in New York to Strawberry Creek. Overseers is appointing a Visiting Committee to meet with her.

V. **Old Business**

Report from Overseers and Nominating Committee Joint Meeting (Leslie Leonard): Issues about the nominating process that had been raised by the Naming Committee were considered. One of the outcomes has been an increased willingness to call on the Meeting for volunteers for discrete tasks. Committees also should report to the Meeting on how well they are doing in getting volunteers and

incorporating the services of new members. The task of attending to malfunctioning committees falls primarily on Overseers, not Nominating Committee. On the basis of the joint deliberations, Nominating Committee proposed several revisions to its job description, which were approved with minor revisions by the meeting and the new version is attached to the official copy of these minutes.

VI. Committee Reports

A. **Overseers** (Elsa Glines): The committee presented for the Meeting's information a new set of guidelines for membership committees that it has prepared. It is appended to the official copy of these minutes.

B. **Peace and Social Concerns** (Thomas Murray): The committee proposed the creation of a directory of the services and possessions that Meeting members and attenders would be willing to share with one another. The Meeting applauded the idea and energy behind the proposal and encouraged the committee to think about how it could help us carry it out with those Meeting members who are interested.

C. **Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative** (Pamela Calvert): **PYM Representative Committee** will be meeting in Berkeley on the weekend of March 6th; Strawberry Creek and Berkeley Meetings are asked to be co-hosts, arranging for overnight accommodations and lunch on Saturday at Friends Church, where the gathering is taking place. Volunteers for accommodation and food preparation are needed.

D. **Quarterly Meeting Representative** (Clifford Ham): A full report was given and warmly received. It is attached to these minutes.

E. **Site Committee** (Mary Anderson): The committee visited the Julia Morgan Theater and had mixed feelings about its use. Other sites are being explored as well.

F. **Finance** (Stephen Nomura): The financial report for January was presented. The committee provided an analysis that shows that, although some people are able to contribute more to our Meeting than others, the Meeting has a broader base of support than do most voluntary organizations and is not unduly dependent on the support of a small number.

G. **First Day School** (Miftah Leath): Attendance in the younger teen group is good and consistent. An event on women's spirituality for the older female teens is being planned. The committee is reassessing the young people's needs for the next school year and is working to make the curriculum more accessible to volunteer teachers.

H. **Hospitality** (Margaret Schneider): A pot-luck to welcome new members' will be held next week.

I. **Share** (Elsa Glines): This cooperative food-buying project involves many of the Meeting's members. Roxanne Seagraves is no longer able to continue as the local project's leader. If a new volunteer for this role cannot be found, this helpful and rewarding project will have to be laid down. Those interested should please speak to Roxanne or Elsa.

J. **John Woolman School** (Mary Anderson): The school is in

need of contributions. Due to having tightened its policies on drug use some prospective students were not admitted, and the school thereby has a smaller student body in the short run and tuition income is down.

VII. **Announcements**

A. **Spring Retreat** will be held at Quaker Center in Ben Lomond on the weekend of April 30 to May 2.

B. Both Jill Lessing and Sherrin Loyd are quite ill at the moment. Speak to Overseers about offering help.

The **next Meeting for Business** will be held on March 7th at the Shelton School at 11:45 am.

The meeting **closed** with a period of worship at 1:30 p.m. Twenty-two Friends were present as the meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted,

David K. Leonard,
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the 7th Day of the Third Month, 1999
at the Shelton School, Berkeley

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

I. The meeting opened with a period of worship at 11:51 a.m. Twenty-four Friends were present as the meeting began.

II. Philippa Barron responded to the **Queries on Peace** for the Peace and Social Concerns Committee. We should strive to walk as lightly upon the earth as possible, not damaging it for others and being actively aware of our multiple inter-connections. There is a difference between our passive (do no harm) and active (do something positive) roles. The committee seeks to help the whole Meeting and our community remove the causes of war from our lives. This involves concern and action on multiple issues. Our actions speak of our beliefs. By transforming ourselves we help to transform others. Other Friends added: It is not only action but the way in which it is done that contributes to change. There is an unconscious hypocrisy that is mesmerizing our society. We are pleased to see the committee taking on the role of opening up possibilities of individual and group action for us. Spirit-led transformation is not accomplished by personal willpower; we do not transform ourselves but open ourselves to being changed. The peace testimony speaks more to some of us than any other, but it also shows us how far we still have to travel. Finally, one said he had learned that emotions are neither positive nor negative -- they just ARE -- but the Peace Testimony challenges him to try to find ways of directing his own strong emotional energies toward positive ends.

III. **The minutes** for Second Month were read and approved.

IV. **Clerk's Correspondence**

A. The Friends Committee on Legislation Annual Dinner will be held in Sacramento on May 18. A Friends Committee on National Legislation gathering on Native American affairs will be held April 29 - May 2 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Details for Quaker Workcamps International opportunities have been received. Friends Church will hold its Quaker Heritage Day with Arthur Roberts on April 24. Those interested in attending any of these events should peruse the announcements.

B. Katherine Youngmeister has written requesting membership in the Meeting and the letter has been referred to Overseers.

V. **Committee Reports**

A. **Peace and Social Concerns** (Philippa Barron): Next week sign-ups will be available for group projects with BOSS.

B. **Retreat** (Shelly Tannenbaum): The committee has been joined in its work by Margaret Schneider and Howard Curtis. Spring

Retreat will be held at Quaker Center in Ben Lomond on the weekend of April 30 to May 2. Those with projects for the children at the retreat are needed. Questions were raised about the possibility of a teen retreat at the same time.

C. **SHARE** (Elsa Glines): A volunteer coordinator is still needed, without which Strawberry Creek's participation will have to be laid down.

D. **First Day School** (Miftah Leath): A meeting of older teen young women was held to discuss spirituality. It proved very valuable and similar meetings are planned for the future. Thoughts are developing about a teen retreat for both genders. Teen service projects also are being investigated with BOSS. Of the many committees in our Meeting, the First Day School offers one of the greatest opportunities for service and personal growth. We invite others to join in this work. Pam Calvert expressed a concern that this Meeting has almost no one attending in their twenties. We are losing our teens. Philippa Barron noted that Berkeley Friends Meeting has become the place for Quakerly young adults.

E. **Friends Committee on Legislation** (Lee Andresen): FCL of California is the only Quaker state lobbying group in the country. It seeks to have representation from every Meeting in California and from this base develops policy positions around which lobbying takes place. Still greater involvement and support from Meeting members is more than welcome.

F. **Nominating** (Leslie Leonard): The committee is in the process of asking Meeting members and attenders to accept specific responsibilities.

G. **Overseers** (Elsa Glines): An up-dated job description of the committee was presented and extensively discussed. Additions and amplifications were suggested and referred back to the committee for its further consideration.

VI. **New Business: State of the Meeting Report** (Lynn D'Angelo): The draft report was read and various suggestions were provided.

VII. **Announcements**

A. Clifford Ham called attention to the historical project reported in Friends Bulletin. Several Friends spoke to the desirability of writing the histories both of Strawberry Creek and the California Quaker tradition of Joel Beane, but no one volunteered for the task.

B. Pam Calvert read a letter written about Randy Reeves to the Gov. of Nebraska by a member of 15th Street Meeting of New York.

The **next Meeting for Business** will be held on April 11th at the Shelton School at 11:45 am. Note that in April and May the Meeting for Business will be held on the second Sunday of the month.

The meeting **closed** with a period of worship at 1:48 p.m. Thirty Friends were present as the meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David K. Leonard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

David K. Leonard,
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the 11th Day of the Fourth Month, 1999
at the Shelton School, Berkeley

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

I. The meeting opened with a period of worship at 11:47 a.m. Nineteen Friends were present as the meeting began.

II. Miftah Leath responded to the **Queries on Home and Children** for the First Day School Committee. When we speak of teaching our Quaker "heritage" do we imply a Meeting of birth-right members? Might it be better to speak of our "example" or "practice"? How do we help our children take on a Quaker identity? Our Meeting's children fortunately do have such an identification and our First Day School program is rich and well-attended. But adult members could do more to support the children and their instruction. Meeting does a good job of helping in those few instances in which families are experiencing trouble, but parents need to be active in incorporating their children into the Meeting when they are young so Meeting members are familiar to them if difficulty does arise in their teen years. (The full text is appended to the official copy of these minutes.) Elise Boulding wrote that early in her childhood she found a sense of quiet spaciousness that was central to her ability to navigate more troubled times in later life. No matter how complicated you expect parenting to be, it is always still more complicated.

III. **The minutes** for Third Month were read and approved.

IV. **Clerk's Correspondence**

A. The clerk has sent Jamie Ham a letter of introduction to Putney Meeting in Vermont.

B. The AFSC multi-faith dinner on the Middle East will take place in San Francisco on May 16th.

C. Karen Street has written about the Friends Energy Project, asking if we might sponsor an after-meeting discussion. Don Groom may help coordinate a presentation.

V. **Old Business:**

A. **Membership:** The transfer of membership of Pamela Calvert from 15th Street Meeting in New York was warmly recommended by Overseers and was approved by the meeting. Robin Standish, Leslie Leonard, Miftah Leath and Katherine Jaramillo will welcome her informally into the Meeting.

B. **State of the Meeting Report** (Lynn^e D'Angelo): The revised report was presented and approved for presentation to Quarterly Meeting. Appreciation was expressed to Lynn^e Bird, Mark Lambert and Howard Curtis for this fine report. D'Angelo

VI. **New Business: Nominations for 1999-2000**

The slate of office holders and committee members for next year was presented for the Meeting's consideration by Leslie Leonard for the Nominating Committee. It is attached to the official copy of these minutes and will be seasoned until next month. Comments should be made to members of the committee -- Leslie Leonard, Charles Blanchard, Joyce Samati, Richard Leath, and Stephanie Kennedy.

VII. Committee Reports

A. **Retreat** (Robin Standish): The committee urges Friends to register for the retreat early, especially those who will be bringing children.

B. **Site** (Bob Burnett): The adjacent property at Shelton School has an unclear title and appears doubtful as a potential addition to be shared by Strawberry Creek. The Site committee has found a possible new site at Alston Way and Bonar in the Berkeley Youth Alternatives building. But there are two difficulties. One is that the room in which meeting for worship would occur would need some improvements. The other is that public funds were used to renovate the premises and the law thus prohibits their use for religious practice. Bob believes, however, that this restriction has been found to be unconstitutional. If this is confirmed to be the case, the Site committee will seek legal approval for our use. Our own decision process will await these clarifications.

C. **Worship and Ministry**: On April 25th Tom Davis will lead a discussion on a Quaker approach to the Bible. On May 23rd Andrea English and Kathy Barnhart will lead a discussion on Elizabeth Watson and Elise Boulding.

D. **Finance** (Richard Leath): The financial report for February and March was presented and is attached to the official copy of these minutes.

E. **First Day School** (Miftah Leath): A second successful meeting was held with the teen girls. A similar gathering for the teen boys is being planned. The middle school group will be starting a project with BOSS, which will require Meeting support.

F. **Overseers** (Lee Andresen): A meeting on retirement is being planned for May 16.

G. **Peace and Social Concerns** (Tom Murray): We now have two BOSS projects with coordinators and committed people to staff them. But more volunteers would be welcome. Bob Reis and Tom Murray also are developing a data base for the sharing of skills among Friends. Finally, a regular Meeting for Worship at San Quentin Prison under the care of Strawberry Creek is proposed. The meeting felt it needed to be clearer as to what such a commitment would require and whether we are able to meet the responsibilities implied. Peace and Social Concerns needs to collect more information before we can move forward. Worship and Ministry should be involved in the deliberations as well.

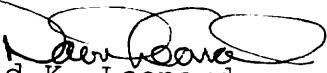
VIII. Announcements

A. Rachel Ann Elder urges Friends to consider going ^{to} the Berkeley Friends Church Quaker Heritage Day on April 24th to hear Arthur Roberts.

The **next Meeting for Business** will be held on May 9th at the Shelton School at 11:45 am.

The meeting **closed** with a period of worship at 1:57 p.m. Twenty-one Friends were present as the meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted,


David K. Leonard,
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS

First Day, the 9th Day of the Fifth Month, 1999
at the Shelton School, Berkeley

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

I. The meeting opened with a period of worship at 11:49 a.m. Fifteen Friends were present as the meeting began.

II. Katherine Jaramillo responded to the **Queries on Witness** for the Hospitality Committee. Everything about being a Quaker is rolled up into this testimony, everything about making decisions, large and small. Witnessing is very natural but very challenging. It involves living our faith every minute of every day. By witnessing we underscore for our children the importance of having a spiritual underpinning. Through this inner and outer practice we learn more about ourselves. We value those Strawberry Friends who make us more visible through their witness. How do we keep Quakerism from being a well-kept secret? One Friend observed that a young Friend when asked what a witness is said it is someone who has observed something and is willing to talk about it. Another remarked that witnessing involves living as if one were in the Kingdom.

III. **The minutes** for Fourth Month were read and approved.

IV. **Clerk's Correspondence**

A. A letter has been received from Margaret Schneider requesting membership in the Meeting. It is being referred to Overseers.

B. Chuck Groom wrote from Pendle Hill to tell of his wonderful experience there and to thank the Meeting for its support. The meeting delighted in his insightful comments.

V. **Old Business: Nominations for 1999-2000** (Leslie Leonard):

The slate of office holders and committee members for next year was presented again for the Meeting's consideration by the Nominating Committee. No new SHARE coordinator was found, so our SHARE site has been laid down from Meeting sponsorship. Margaret Schnieder also has agreed to move from the Retreat Committee to coordinate the pre-primary First Day School class. That particular nomination, being presented for the first time, will be seasoned until next month. Leslie noted that there was one unresolved concern about one nomination, but that the Nominating Committee had given full and careful consideration to it and concluded that it was clear in continuing to recommend all nominations seasoned over the last month. Mary Miche asked that approval for the particular committee on which the individual to which she objects would sit be held over for one month while her concern for that committee is given further consideration. Charlie Blanchard, speaking for the Nominating Committee, felt that the concern actually went beyond a

particular nominated individual, was unlikely to be resolved in a month, and was more appropriately dealt with by Overseers. Following a time of speaking and quiet worship, the meeting felt ready to proceed and approved the recommendations of the Nominating Committee. Mary Miche was not in unity with this decision and another Friend stood aside.

VI. Committee Reports

A. **First Day School** (Miftah Leath): The certificates of participation for the children will be handed out in June. Miftah also expressed appreciation to the Retreat Committee for including one of the teens in the presentations that weekend. It made a great deal of difference for her daughter. She encouraged other parents to keep their children involved in the Meeting. Leslie Leonard circulated a sign-up sheet for help with the children during the summer months.

B. **Hospitality** (Katherine Jaramillo): A baby welcoming will be held on May 16th at 1 p.m. at the Schneiders.

C. **Overseers** (Lee Andresen): On May 16th a discussion will be held on retirement. The committee also has approved a \$1000 scholarship for Sarah Wolcott to attend Haverford College. A fund will be set up for individuals to contribute to her attendance at this Quaker college. Note also was made of the contribution of Strawberry Creek to SHARE over the last decade, but that it was time to surrender the responsibility to other sites. Finally, Overseers recommended the membership of Katherine Youngmeister in the Meeting. The recommendation will be seasoned until next month.

D. **Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative Committee** (Pamela Calvert): Much time was taken with planning for the Yearly Meeting sessions, details of which are covered in the report that is appended to the official copy of these minutes. The process of revising Faith and Practice is nearing completion. Requests for scholarship assistance to attend Yearly Meeting should be made to Overseers as soon as possible.

E. **Peace and Social Concerns** (Tom Murray): Attention was called again to the Meeting "Skills Exchange Bank." Friends are encouraged add their names, talents and items they are willing to lend.

F. **Quaker Center** (Jessica Bucarelli): The 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Center will be celebrated in August. Attention was called to various upcoming events, which are posted on the bulletin boards.

VII. Announcements and Sharings

*** Joyce Samati announced the two week-long workcamps at John Woolman School this summer (June 20-27 and June 27- July 4) and strongly urged that many of us attend. *** David and Leslie Leonard announced the birth on May 7th of Cameron to Christopher and Tameka Leonard. *** Barbara Graves reported on her visit with Barb Tittle, whom we all miss. *** Two Friends spoke of the vigil at the execution last week at San Quentin. *** Jamie Ham will be experimenting with living in the Camp Hill residential home in New Hampshire. *** Howard Curtis is entering into a new phase of his life, caring for his parents. *** Lee Andresen has FCL policy

positions on state legislation to share. *** Tim Saunders is very pleased to be able to join us again, after his long confinement from his surgery.

The **next Meeting for Business** will be held on June 6th at the Shelton School at 11:45 am.

The meeting **closed** with a period of worship at 1:42 p.m. Twenty-five Friends were present as the meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted,

David K. Leonard,
Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Minutes of the Meeting For Business
First Day, the Sixth Day of the Sixth Month, AD 1999
At the Shelton School, Berkeley California

Andrea English, Clerk, Presiding

I. The meeting opened with a period of worship at 11:45 AM. There were twenty Friends present.

II. The Site Committee provided responses to the *Advices and Queries on Civic Responsibility*.

III. Minutes for Fifth Month were read and approved with the following corrections.

Cameron Leonard was born on April 30, 1999. James Ham will be living in the Lucas Residential Community in New Hampshire. It is time to transfer responsibility for SHARE to other sites.

IV. The Clerk read correspondence from:

- β Friends Church -- presentation on Burundi Wed June 9
- β *Earthlight Magazine* -- thanks our Meeting for our annual contribution
- β Don Groom -- asks Friends to inform him of changes in address, phone number or e-mail address when they happen, and not to wait until the fall publication of the Meeting Directory

Information: Quarterly directory deadline is the end of June; our address list will be sent.

V. Old Business

The nomination of Margaret Schneider to First Day School Committee was approved.

Strawberry Creek Friends approved the membership of Katherine Youngmeister with enthusiasm. Howard Curtis will convene a welcoming committee, to include Elsa Glines and Lee Andresen.

VI. Committee Reports

Nominating (Leslie Leonard): PYM observer/representative : Julie Russell to attend PYM this August in place of Helen Haug. For the next few months, Julie will stand in as representative. Julie has agreed to be named as PYM representative for the calendar year 2000.

Oversight (Thomas Whiteman): The committee recommends that Meeting establish a scholarship fund to assist Sarah Wolcott, who will attend Swarthmore College. This fund was approved. The membership committee for Margaret Schneider will include Susan Burr, Mark Lambert and Julie Russell. The committee will host a workshop for clerks on June 27 after rise of Meeting for Worship. Lynne will coordinate the meeting and Susan Burr will preside. The committee announced a listening session for July 11 for evaluating our meeting site. The next meeting of the committee will be on June 16.

Quarterly Meeting Representative (Clifford Ham): Clifford read a description of the discussions of the Quarterly Meeting held at Ben Lomond Quaker Center on May 14-16, 1999. There is a scholarship fund to help students attend Quaker schools (K-12). Friends needing financial assistance to attend Quarterly Meeting are encouraged to approach the Quarterly Meeting registrar directly. Next Quarterly Meeting will be held on the weekend of October 15-17, 1999 at John Woolman School.

Retreat Committee (Shelley Tanenbaum): Twenty children and forty-two adults attended the spring retreat at Ben Lomond Quaker Center over the first weekend in May. The theme of the retreat was leadings and their discernment. Presenters included Sarah Wolcott, a teen whose participation was warmly received. Adults and young people attended the Saturday morning session together. The Retreat committee thought that her presentation added interest for the children and teens, who chose to follow the presentations with Quaker dialog. Shelley asked for guidance from Friends about children's programming for future retreats. There followed comments recommending integration of children and teens into retreat planning, valuing the time the committee spent and encouraging them to continue in this direction.

Finance Committee (Stephen Nomura): Stephen presented the Financial Report and Budget for April and May, 1999. The Expense Coverage Ratio is very comfortable, due to contributions from the end of 1998. However, at the end of forty-two percent of the year, only seventeen percent of the budgeted contributions have been received. Stephen asked for suggestions about addressing the need to make contributions throughout the year. Requests for committee expense reimbursement should be sent to Maggie Ely, Treasurer. The SHARE line item will be deleted from the budget. The spring retreat usually runs a deficit, while the fall retreat usually increases available funds.

First Day School (Miftah Leath): Miftah reported on the end of the academic year transition to a new committee. The committee plans to provide a curriculum description during the next academic year. She provided a list of children who had participated in the first day school during the past two years. She noted that some teens are ready by age 16 to participate in Meeting For Worship. Friends are encouraged to consider how to transition them from First Day School to full adult participation in the life of the Meeting. The committee will encourage formation of a college age Young Friends monthly gathering. Peter Klement will coordinate the summer program.

VII. Announcements:

Tom Whiteman for the Quaker Center Board – Quaker Center will observe its fiftieth anniversary in late August. Capital campaign during the past two years will continue. A silent auction will be included as part of the anniversary observance. Friends are encouraged to participate. The Board requested Monthly Meetings to double the annual contribution in recognition of this anniversary. This matter was referred to Finance Committee.

Next meeting for business will be held on July 18, 1999. We usually do not schedule an August meeting. September 12, 1999 will be the date of the first fall meeting.

The meeting concluded with a period of worship at 1:25 PM. Twenty friends were present as the meeting concluded.

Respectfully submitted, Jed Appelman, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends

Monthly Meeting for Business
18th day of Seventh Month, 1999

Andrea English, clerk, presiding

I. The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:50. Twenty-five Friends were present as the meeting began.

II. Queries on Stewardship: Carl Thierman responded for the Loaves and Fishes Committee. These queries produced sadness among the members of the committee, as all felt we were not doing enough as stewards of the earth. All of us are making efforts in this direction but feel limited by time and money. It also seems easier to live simple lives ourselves than to "preach the gospel" to others. Another Friend commented on how hard it is to be a steward of our time, talents and possessions because it is easy to identify ourselves as being these things. Instead, they are gifts that have been entrusted to us by a higher power, and will fall into their rightful places when we know them as gifts. Other Friends added: that our lives reflect our values, one of which is to tread lightly on the earth; that it is striking how some are made to feel inadequate if not using credit or "partying" with America, rather than living within our means and being frugal; that it is a new idea that we participate with the natural world in caring for it, rather than being stewards over it.

III. The Minutes for Sixth Month were read and approved with the following corrections: Sarah Wolcott will attend Haverford College. Julie Russell is not able at this time to commit to serving as PYM representative for 2000, but will stand in this year. (The final sentence from Nominating Committee's report is to be deleted.)

IV. Clerk's correspondence

-The Ben Lomond Quaker Center intergenerational workcamp will be held August 25-September 2.

-Letters thanking us for our Meeting's recent financial contributions were received from AFSC and Friends House.

-Tim Saunders has sent a letter requesting membership in the Meeting. Overseers are appointing a membership committee.

-Howard Curtis requests a letter of introduction for his upcoming visit among Bolivian Friends. The Meeting asked the clerk to provide this letter.

-Peter Crysdale requests that his membership be transferred from Durham Monthly Meeting (Maine) to Strawberry Creek. The request will be forwarded to Overseers, who will arrange a visiting committee.

-Those interested in the (Quaker) Motto Calendar for the year 2000 should see Andrea English.

V. Old business

The nomination of Julie Russell to attend this year's Yearly Meeting session as Strawberry Creek's representative was approved.

VI. Committee reports

A. Overseers: (Susan Burr) Overseers recommend approving Margaret Schneider's request for membership in the Meeting. The decision will be seasoned until next Meeting for Business. Tom Whiteman continued: Overseers have met with Mary Miche; Marc Lambert will convene the membership committee for Tim Saunders; a further listening meeting regarding our Meeting's site will be held in early fall; Overseers recommend that the Meeting send a letter of concern to Jewish congregations in Sacramento whose synagogues were recently burned (see Peace and Social Concerns report below).

B. Worship and Ministry: (Elsa Glines) The committee invites suggestions on subject matter for adult education. Under consideration already are ministry and the meeting for worship, Quaker history, and our roles in social activism. Input from members of the Meeting would be appreciated.

C. First Day School: (Miftah Leath) The committee is working on the curriculum for next year. Phillipa Barron and Miftah will be hosting a session on Quaker schools and colleges for the teens next week.

D. Hospitality: (Katherine Jaramillo) Planning for an August beach party is underway, and will double as a going-away party for Sarah Wolcott. Our Meeting's 20th anniversary is coming in October. Suggestions for suitable celebrations would be welcomed. Friendly Sevens will start again in September, with hosts especially needed.

E. Quaker Center: (Katherine Jaramillo) The 50th anniversary celebration will be held on August 29th. Friends are urged to attend and to purchase tickets for the evening events (dinner and concert). Check into the silent auction at Yearly Meeting and at <www/QuakerCenter.org>.

F. Nominating: (Joyce Samati) Laurie Glass is nominated to the Peace and Social Concerns Committee; this nomination will be seasoned until next Business Meeting.

G. Peace and Social Concerns: (Thomas Murray) The committee presented a draft letter to the Jewish congregations in Sacramento whose synagogues were recently burned. The committee also recommends that Friends make individual contributions through the Meeting to the rebuilding effort. The Meeting approved asking the Meeting clerk to send the letter with whatever

editorial revisions she deems appropriate. The committee has also continued to consider a proposal for a meeting for worship at San Quentin prison under the care of Strawberry Creek, and has drafted a letter of application to the prison chaplain. *The committee proposed, and the Meeting approved, undertaking a meeting for worship at the prison for at least one year, subject to regular review. The committee assured the Meeting that an adequate number of Friends has already volunteered to carry out this commitment. Training in prison visiting is required for group leaders, and it is anticipated that several Strawberries will be taking this training.* The Meeting approved sending a letter to the chaplain describing Quaker meeting for worship and requesting information about procedures for conducting a meeting and opportunities for scheduling. The final letter will be drafted by the clerk and Thomas Murray. *Friends wish to hold worship safely and respectfully for all involved.* Seasoning of the Meeting's care for this activity will now begin. Should complications arise in moving forward with this initiative before our Sept. 12 Business Meeting, Friends noted that a special Meeting for Business can be called, as has happened in the past from time to time.

VII. The next Meeting for Business will be held on Sunday, September 12 at the Shelton School.

The meeting closed with a period of worship at 1:45 p.m. Twenty-two Friends were present at that time.

Respectfully submitted,
David Leonard, acting Recording Clerk
Andrea English, Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes for the Meeting for Business
Twelfth Day of Ninth Month, AD 1999

The meeting **opened** with a period of silent worship at 11:55 AM. 26 Friends were present. Andrea English, clerk, presided.

Worship and Ministry Committee responded to the **Advices and Queries on Worship**.

The **Minutes** for July 18 were read. The clerk suggested a modification of a portion of the Peace and Social Concerns report, describing the Meeting's decision about worship at San Quentin prison. The amended Minute is attached. Minutes were approved as amended.

Correspondence:

Friendly letters and notes were received during the summer from Francia Welker and Sherif Tartar, Nancy O'Sullivan, and Dick and Barbara Emmons.

Notice was received of Friends House annual "Day on the Green." Dan Seeger from Pendle Hill will present a workshop at Redwood Forest Meeting Nov. 6.

Friends Journal sends notice of reduced rate subscriptions.

Old Business:

Nomination of Laurie Glass to Peace and Social Concerns Committee was approved.

The membership of Margaret Schneider was approved. An informal visiting committee will be convened by Rick Herbert and include Pam Calvert and Shelley Tannenbaum.

Committee Reports:

- Hospitality (Katherine Jaramillo): The farewell picnic for Sarah Wolcott was a success. Friendly Sevens will begin again on Sept 19. A brunch to observe the 20th birthday of our Meeting will be held on October 2, 10:30 AM at the home of Kathy Barry and Bob Burnett.
- Retreat (Robin Standish): The fall retreat will focus on our Simplicity Testimony. The date for the retreat is November 6 at Berkeley Friends Meeting on Vine Street.
- Worship and Ministry (Kathy Barry): the committee will convene an adult religious education session on Sept 26, the topic to be "Speaking in meeting / Holding the silence." Future adult religious education sessions will be convened on the 4th Sunday of each month. Friends are invited to attend a Tuesday evening discussion series at Berkeley Friends Meeting. Chairs have become a concern to some Friends, and the committee urges action from Facilities Committee on this matter.

- Facilities (Tom Yamaguchi): regular volunteers are helpfully assisting committee members. Security is a continuing concern. The committee has purchased two folding chairs for Friends to test before we acquire more. After some discussion the Meeting asked Facilities Committee to consider the logistical and financial issues and proceed with our needs in mind. The committee will consult Peter Trueblood as liaison with Shelton's School, and Worship and Ministry Committee, and report back next month.

- Finance (Stephen Nomura): Stephen presented the current Financial Report. Maggie Ely must resign as our Treasurer. Nominating will work to find her replacement. Our income is only 39 percent of budget at 75 percent of the year. This is a typical lag, but of concern to the committee. A "funds cushion" from last year has permitted us to operate, but contributions are urgently needed. Our budget for next year is under consideration at this time, and clerks are requested to provide input. The committee will bring back a recommendation on increasing our contribution to Ben Lomond Quaker Center in this, their anniversary year.

- First Day School (Miftah Leath): teens are attending our First Day School program. This fall the program will focus on the theme of worship. The committee hopes to include children in Meeting for Worship at least once each month; teens will attend the first 15 minutes of worship every Sunday. The committee expressed a hope that Advices and Queries will be read during the first fifteen minutes in order to permit our children to experience this part of our worship tradition. Program goals are consistency and quality. This has led the committee to hire two resources to provide a continuing presence with two of the classes. Alison Youngmeister will be the consistent presence for the youngest school folk. She will also supervise during early announcement period. Marta Blanchard will develop crafts projects for the next age group. David Leonard will teach Quaker history to the teens. Young adult friends continue to attract the concern of the committee. In July the Leaths hosted a gathering with young Friends, providing those of high school and college age with an opportunity to discuss their Quaker identity and learn about colleges. The Meeting expressed gratitude for this work by the First Day School Committee. Peter Klement expressed satisfaction and appreciation for the opportunity to serve as summer coordinator.

- Oversight (Shelley Tannenbaum): Overseers brought a recommendation for Tim Saunders' membership in Strawberry Creek, and Shelley read a brief biography of Tim. The recommendation will be seasoned over the next month. Overseers have established buddies with committee clerks. A further site discussion will be held on October 6 at the home of Cindy and Peter Trueblood. Tom Whiteman will convene a visiting committee with Rachel Findley and Jed Appelman for Peter Crysedale on his request to transfer his membership to this Meeting. Tom presented a report on ways we can be supportive of each other should there be an interruption of essential services on the New Year. His report is attached to these minutes.

- Pacific Yearly Meeting (Julie Russell): Julie gave a report on the many facets of Pacific Yearly Meeting held in August.

- Peace and Social Concerns (Thomas Murray): Thomas reported that the Manager of Community Resources, and not the Chaplain, oversees requests such as ours; no response to our application has been received yet. A Friend raised the issue of hate crimes, wondering if the Meeting will be considering making a statement of solidarity with local congregations. This concern was referred to the Peace and Social Concerns Committee.
- Site (Bob Burnett): Bob presented a status report from the committee. Peter Trueblood is pursuing further discussions about purchase of property adjacent to Shelton's School. The committee sent out ninety letters to private schools requesting information about use of their facilities for our Meeting. The committee will present a report of their responses at our next business meeting.
- Chaplaincy to the Homeless (Tom Yamaguchi): Tom has been a Board member of this organization, but is planning to resign. His letter is attached to these minutes. The organization is starting up a "community of friends" and he wishes to participate in this rather than as a member of the board. Background: Based on Tom's interest, Nominating committee listed him as representative to this organization, but the Meeting is not a member of the Chaplaincy. If a Friend is led to represent our Meeting they might do so.

Announcements:

- Lee Andresén: FCL — Lee reported on a recent meeting of statewide FCL, noting that six initiatives have already qualified to appear on the March ballot, with possibly 22 more to come.
- Bob Burnett: Bob will participate in a meeting on Y2K preparedness for faith based organizations, on Wednesday, September 15 at the Oakland Municipal Auditorium.
- On behalf of Don Groom: the deadline for changes to the new Meeting directory is imminent.

Next month the Business Meeting will appoint the **Naming committee** for Nominating committee and consider our Christmas program.

Our next Meeting for Business will be held on October 3.

The meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 1:45 PM. There were 18 Friends present.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea English, Clerk

Jed Appelman, Recording Clerk

Minutes for the Meeting for Business
Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Third Day of Tenth Month, AD 1999

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:45 AM. Twenty-one Friends were present. Andrea English, clerk, presided.

The Nominating Committee responded to the Advices and Queries on Equality.

Minutes for September 12 were read, and the following changes were proposed: for clarity, insert the phrase, of San Quentin prison after the title, *Manager of Community Resources*. Marta Blanchard is an art assistant for First Day School, not developing the projects. Minutes were approved as amended.

Old Business

Membership of Tim Saunders was approved. An informal welcome will be arranged by Thomas Murray, Jed Appelman and Tom Yamaguchi, convener.

Facilities Committee will bring a report on new chairs at November Business Meeting.

New Business

Marc Lambert and Barbara Graves were appointed to be the ad hoc Naming committee (to nominate the Nominating Committee) and will bring recommendations in November.

Year 2000 budget considerations: the clerk asked for expression of questions or concerns about our budget for next year. Discussion included suggesting a line item for the Christmas program, since it spans the involvement of several committees, and the question of contingency funds. A sharing fund administered through Overseers exists for helping with special needs. For particular expenditures proposed outside of the annual budget formulation, Meeting practice has been to bring these to the attention of the Business Meeting rather than authorizing "contingent funds."

Christmas program: Participants in last year's planning committee shared their experiences and offered suggestions for this year's effort. Overseers and Worship and Ministry committees were asked to consider this program in relation to the life of the Meeting, and the clerk was asked to gather several volunteers who would like to work on a plan for this year's celebration, in consultation with the above committees, and to report back.

Reports

Retreat (Robin Standish): The fall retreat is planned for Saturday, November 6 at Berkeley Friends Meeting House on Vine Street from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will

include pot luck lunch. The theme of the retreat will be our testimony on simplicity. Retreat Committee is also consulting with First Day School and Oversight committees to draft a statement of our policy that a child whose parents are not attending a retreat must have a responsible adult caretaker designated.

Site (Bob Burnett): Peter Trueblood has no progress to report concerning discussion about property adjacent to Shelton School. The committee is beginning to receive responses to their letters to private schools. Site Committee members will follow up with visits to any promising contacts.

First Day School (Miftah Leath): 1) A committee goal is to have upper primary children join worship for the first 15 minutes (as teens are doing), especially on the first First Day each month when the Advices and Queries are read. The sense of the Meeting concerning children possibly entering after worship has begun was to ask that they and their parents remain in the ante room and worship along with others until 10:15 when the classes emerge. Worship and Ministry is asked to check in with First Day School Committee on how this is working. 2) To facilitate communication with parents and teens about First Day School activities: for important announcements, the committee uses the newsletter and meeting for business. To communicate ongoing procedures (e.g., those involving use of the building), it seems there should be a written list available, so that important information isn't lost. Miftah will start a list. A joint meeting of First Day School and Worship and Ministry committees was requested as appropriate to this concern, and clerks of these committees will confer on the subject.

Hospitality (Katharine Jaramillo): An observance of the twentieth anniversary of Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting was re-scheduled for Sunday, October 17 at rise of meeting. Friendly Sevens met in September with twenty-eight friends participating. A future gathering is planned for January.

Nominating (Leslie Leonard): The committee considered the request by Maggie Ely to be relieved of her duties as Treasurer. However, the committee is not yet ready to bring forth a name to replace her. David Leonard has offered to keep the books until a new Treasurer is approved. The meeting approved this offer with appreciation. Carl Anderson is nominated to sit on the Finance Committee through the remainder of the term. He will begin to meet with the committee now, as a former treasurer and member of our Meeting, to assist while we season his nomination. Until the books are transferred to David (by the end of October), individuals or committees needing to send receipts or expense statements to the Treasurer should continue sending them to Maggie.

Oversight (Lynne D'Angelo): The committee has reviewed the Meeting's database and will delete some attenders who have not been active for several years. The visiting committee for Peter Crysedale reported on their visit with Peter and recommended his transfer of membership. Seasoning will be complete when a letter of transfer is received from Durham Meeting.

Peace and Social Concerns (Thomas Murray): Tom reported on his efforts to establish a connection with San Quentin Community Resources office. He is conferring with Laura Magnani of the American Friends Service Committee Prison Project in hope of establishing contact. The next meeting of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee will be Sunday, Oct 10.

Announcements

Barbara Graves reported that Jean Flores' health is improving at the skilled nursing facility where she currently resides.

The American Friends Service Committee announces two annual joint service projects with Intermountain Yearly Meeting, one to take place in Mexico from Oct. 24-Nov. 6 and the other, during Thanksgiving. Mike Gray from Tucson will lead these again.

Next Meeting for Business: November 7, 1999

The meeting concluded with a period of silent worship at 1:30 PM. Twenty-five Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea English
Clerk

Jed Appelman
Recording Clerk

Minutes for the Meeting for Business
Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Seventh Day of Eleventh Month, AD 1999

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:55 AM. Twenty-five Friends were present. Andrea English, clerk, presided.

Overseers Committee brought responses to the Advices and Queries on Mutual Care, with sharing from others present as well.

Minutes for October 3 were read and modified as follows: Facilities Committee report was inadvertently omitted from the Minutes; the report had advised the Meeting of security concerns and a plan for purchasing more chairs. Lunch was provided by Retreat Committee at the fall retreat. Misspelling of a member's name was corrected. Minutes were approved as modified.

Correspondence

Sebastian Linck Hogness was born in September in Portland to Leesa Linck and Chris Hogness, long-time member of our Meeting.

Durham Monthly Meeting in Maine sent a fond letter and transfer of membership form for Peter Crysdale. Meeting approved this transfer. An informal welcoming committee, convened by Pamela Calvert, will include Howard Curtis and Rachel Findley.

Old Business

Nomination of Carl Anderson to Finance Committee was approved.

Report of the Ad Hoc Naming Committee (Barbara Graves): The committee suggests Joyce Samati as clerk, with Rich Tittle and Katherine Jaramillo each to serve for two years. Richard Leath and Stephanie Kennedy will continue for a second year on the committee. These nominations will be seasoned until next month.

Report on Christmas program (Andrea English): Rachel Findley, Stephanie Kennedy and Andrea have formed the working group requested to consider the Meeting's Christmas program for this year. A new play is still in a growing stage. It is hoped the program will give pleasure and convey the reverent spirit of the time. The date is Saturday, December 18 at 5 PM at Berkeley Friends Church. Hospitality Committee has been asked to take charge of potluck dinner. The Meeting approved spending \$100 for the rental of the Church.

New Business

Budget for Year 2000 and current financial status (Stephen Nomura): Our current Financial Statement and the proposed Year 2000 Budget are attached to these

minutes. We are now eighty-two percent through the fiscal year but have received only forty-nine percent of budgeted amounts. Contributions will be needed during November and December. Stephen outlined the proposed budget and received questions, several of which involved changes or additions to our budget list. Finance Committee will provide additional copies of a Meeting pamphlet encouraging individuals to make their own contributions to those groups to which the Meeting sends small amounts, and other organizations Friends are urged to consider. We reviewed the process for bringing financial or other concerns to the Meeting. Leslie Leonard read our past minute listing criteria for determining Meeting contributions (she will make copies of this available). Finance Committee will review the questions and suggestions raised, and Meeting will season the proposed budget until next Business Meeting.

Reports

Site (Bob Burnett): Hope to expand into space adjacent to Shelton School appears to have ended. The committee had sent letters to private schools in the area between El Cerrito and Oakland, and The Crowden School, a music and academic institution in Berkeley, responded. Site Committee is visiting the school with committee clerks, perhaps to be followed by an exploratory meeting for worship later. Any negotiations on a rental agreement would follow a series of site visits and further discussion by the Meeting.

Worship and Ministry (Elsa Glines): The committee sponsored two adult education programs during October. "A Quaker response to holidays and the sacramental quality of the whole of life" will be the subject of the November session. Discussion about writing down information and agreements about use of the school, security matters, doors to be open or closed, etc., continues. The committee will provide a written procedure for doors to the building, to be posted on the outside door.

Facilities (Tom Yamaguchi): following up on last month's report, ten padded chairs were purchased as a measure to address accessibility concerns. It was pointed out that this expense is a 1999 budget over-run since the Facilities fund has been used up. An additional over-run was noted for Loaves and Fishes expenses this year, now that receipts are being turned in and actual costs for our coffee hours are seen. Finance Committee is asked to look further at these two over-runs and recommend at next Business Meeting their inclusion as additional 1999 expenses, as well as reflecting on ways the Meeting might handle increases or changes, given more accurate expense reporting.

Nominating (Leslie Leonard): Four new nominations were brought: for Treasurer, Don Groom; Database coordinator, Erica Grevemeyer; PYM Representative, Helen Haug, and PYM Observer, Shelley Tannenbaum. David Leonard continues as bookkeeper until our new Treasurer has been approved.

Overseers (Lynne D'Angelo): Jean Flores and Tim Saunders are receiving visitors from our meeting. A future report will summarize site listening meetings held by the committee during past months.

Peace and Social Concerns (Thomas Murray): attempts continue, with no progress to date, to establish opportunity for Quaker worship in San Quentin Prison.

Announcements

Future Worship and Ministry programs---Tom Davis of Santa Cruz Meeting will return in January to present a second session on Quaker Bible study, focusing on Jesus. Sacred circle dancing led by Joan Rawles Davis, also of Santa Cruz Meeting, will occur in February.

The Sixty-second Street Neighborhood Association meets tomorrow evening.

Next Meeting for Business: December 5

Meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:50 PM, with thirty-four Friends present.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea English,
Clerk

Jed Appelman,
Recording Clerk

Minutes for the Meeting for Business

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Fifth Day of Twelfth Month, AD 1999

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:50 AM. Twenty-three Friends were present. Andrea English, clerk, presided.

Retreat Committee brought responses to the Advices and Queries on Unity, with sharing from others present as well.

Minutes for October 3 were read and approved without correction.

Correspondence:

The clerk reported she had provided a letter of introduction to South African Friends for *Louise Todd Cope*, who was preparing to attend the World Parliament of Religions during December.

Friends Committee on Legislation notes the retirement of Ernest Bicknell, and an opportunity to contribute toward a matching grant honoring his many years' service.

College Park Quarterly Meeting: minutes for fall quarter have been received and will be posted.

Western Young Friends - annual mid-winter/New Year's gathering at Camp Myrtlewood in Oregon.

Friends for Lesbian and Gay Concerns - mid-winter gathering for first time on the West Coast at Mt. Madonna 2/18-21.

Old Business:

Following a month of seasoning, Meeting approved these nominations:

Treasurer - Don Groom, Database Keeper - Erica Grevemeyer, Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative - Helen Haug, Pacific Yearly Meeting Alternate - Shelley Tannenbaum.

Leslie Leonard described the work of moving the Meeting database as the reason for a delay in transition of responsibilities to the new Treasurer. David Leonard will continue to serve as interim bookkeeper until Don and Erica complete the database migration.

Nominations for the Nominating Committee were approved:

Joyce Samati, clerk (1-yr. term)

Rich Tittle and Katherine Jaramillo (2-yr. terms)

Stephanie Kennedy and Richard Leath to continue on the committee for a second year.

Nominating Committee will be considering a new Hospitality Committee clerk, to replace Katherine.

Budget for Year 2000 (Stephen Nomura): Stephen distributed the Budget statement (attached to these minutes). Clarification about Pacific Yearly Meeting's Fund for Concerns distinguished between purely scholarship needs and the broader scope of needs of Friends within PYM. Overseers refer to PYM's scholarship fund those needs that exceed our monthly meeting's scholarship fund, and work together with PYM to meet individual scholarship needs. Meeting approved increasing our meeting's scholarship fund by \$150, to \$750, and sustaining our current level of contribution to the PYM Fund for Concerns (\$130). Our 3-year pledge to the San Francisco Meetinghouse fund is complete, and this item was deleted from the list of Outreach Donations. The budget for 2000 was approved as amended.

Finance Committee's recommendations on 1999 over-runs (Stephen Nomura): Cost over-runs will be treated as such. Higher amounts are reflected in the new budget.

New Business:

Overseers' report on site listening meetings (Lynne D'Angelo): Lynne read the report from the committee on the series of listening meetings about our current site. The report is attached to these minutes, and includes this emphasis: "*We would not want to move to improve the situation marginally, and there appears to be no immediate need to move. We would be inclined to move if several areas of concern would improve significantly in a new setting.*" Friends approved accepting this report, noting that a period of seasoning a potential new site is underway. Overseers asked for a working group to consider enhancements to our current site---immediate improvements that could address concerns for the time that we will be using Shelton's School. Clerk was asked to discuss this request with Larry Strain and Peter Trueblood, two Friends who have had continued involvement with site matters, and to gather a small working group to consider and propose changes. Consultation with Facilities Committee and notes from the listening meetings will be helpful resources.

Reports:

Unity With Nature Representative (Sandra Lewis): Sandra reported on ecological issues that currently concern Friends. A forum to discuss these issues will gather after rise of meeting on January 23, 2000.

Worship and Ministry (Elsa Glines): Rachel Findley convened an adult education session on Quaker attitudes toward holidays. Tom Davis and Joan Rawles-Davis will make presentations to our meeting in January and February.

First Day School (Miftah Leath): classes are focusing on the Christmas program. Miftah reported on changes upcoming for the various classes after the New Year. The committee is creating a database that covers curriculum resources.

Announcements:

Leslie Leonard and Charlie Blanchard are now retiring from the Nominating Committee. Friends expressed warm appreciation for their dedicated service.

Peace and Social Concerns announced that letter-writing will occur every month, with twenty letters sent from last month's effort. There is no progress to report about worship at San Quentin.

Pam Calvert mentioned that she had received a solicitation from a Quaker organization, raising concern about privacy and use of our directory. She was asked to speak to Overseers.

The Sixty-second Street Neighborhood Association will meet for a holiday gathering on December 28.

Don Groom will be doing his annual follow up on renewal of Friends Bulletin subscriptions.

The annual Christmas gathering and potluck will be Saturday, December 18 at 5 PM at Friends Church

Next Meeting for Business: January 9, 2000

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:45 PM, with twenty-three Friends present.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea English,
Clerk

Jed Appelman,
Recording Clerk

Minutes for the Meeting for Business

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting Ninth Day of First Month, AD 2000

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:55 AM. Twenty-six Friends were present. Andrea English, clerk, presided.

Facilities Committee brought responses to the Advices and Queries on Peace, with sharing from others present as well.

Minutes for December 5, 1999 were read and approved.

Correspondence:

- *Friends Committee on Legislation* sent us thanks for our contributions.
- *Davis Meeting* newsletter reports that *Sarah Kimball*, who was a young Strawberry, has become a member of that meeting and will be married under its care.
- *American Friends Service Committee* has begun its search for a new General Secretary, and is taking applications and recommendations for this national position.
- *Berkeley Meeting* will begin an educational series on the topic, "Quakers and Anti-slavery", starting 10 January for six Monday evenings.
- *Friends General Conference* will gather 1-8 July in Rochester, New York.
- *Westtown Friends School* in Pennsylvania announces grants of \$2,000.00 each to Quaker boarding students who have been active in the life of their meeting.

Old Business:

Overseers report on seasoning meeting (*Tom Whiteman*): A meeting convened by Overseers was held on 21 December 1999 to season site considerations and site search activities. This meeting expressed the sense that our evaluation of Crowden School should not proceed without the experience of at least one meeting for worship held there. Among other factors, we will be evaluating the difference between a more compact First Day School space at our current site and a more dispersed arrangement at Crowden School. There is potential improvement in the worship space at Crowden. The meeting continued to be concerned by our current burden of facilities set-up, and the Crowden School site also would require some labor in setting up. It is hoped to create a way for First Day School students to help in evaluating the site.

Site Committee (*Bob Burnett*): Bob presented charts showing the location of The Crowden School, the worship space and classroom space. Meeting approved scheduling two visits for meeting for worship, one on 20 February, with an

additional date to be arranged. Friends are encouraged to contact Site Committee members with questions or to seek out members of Overseers Committee to discuss concerns.

New Business

Appointment of ad hoc committee to write the State of the Meeting Report:

Susan Burr, from Overseers, and Kathy Barnhart from Worship and Ministry Committee, have been asked to serve on the writing committee this year, with Charlie Blanchard approved by Business Meeting as the third member. The discussion meeting preparatory to writing the report will be 27 February 2000.

Reports

Worship and Ministry (*Kathy Barry*): The committee will present two adult education programs twice in January, one on Friends in ecology and the other on Jesus and Quakers, with Tom Davis presenting. The State of the Meeting listening meeting is scheduled for 27 February. On 26 March there will be a workshop for sacred circle dance. Worship and Ministry will hold a joint meeting with Overseers Committee in January. The committee has been developing reading materials that explain Quaker worship and welcome visitors, and has discussed how we can be more welcoming toward newcomers.

Finance (*Stephen Nomura*): contributions exceeded our budget by \$1,600.00 in 1999; we received \$9,000.00 during December 1999. This is typical of the flow of contributions in past years. Stephen reminded Friends that site expenses may exceed current budget for the coming year; Finance Committee will be considering establishing a Meeting reserve fund for site purposes. Stephen's goals for this year are to review the list of contributions, encourage monthly contributions, and perhaps to establish a system for Friends to rollover retirement accounts as endowments for the Meeting. The committee also was asked to look into possible new uses for a rebuilt computer provided to our past Treasurer for Meeting tasks.

First Day School (*Mifta Leath*): The first quarter curriculum focused on Quaker worship. The second quarter will focus on equality. Teens are considering a service project with Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency (BOSS). First Day School committee has discussed the Meeting's interest in providing activities for young, single Friends but returns this concern to the larger Meeting, suggesting that Friendly Sevens might be a place to begin.

Overseers (*Marc Lambert*): Responding to the concern of a Friend about private information in our Directory, the committee recommended that the Directory

state "not for use for solicitation". The committee will sponsor a newcomer's brunch on 13 February after rise of meeting.

Nominating (*Joyce Samati*): *Peter D'Angelo* is nominated to serve as clerk of Hospitality Committee, with *Al Thompson* and *Janice Wood* nominated to committee as well. These nominations will be seasoned over the next month. Nominating will be looking for an additional member for Retreat Committee.

Announcements

- *Robin Standish* on our Spring Retreat (scheduled for 5-7 May). Retreat Committee asks Friends to share with them thoughts on spiritual hunger, and how we see the Meeting and its needs.
- *Bob Burnett* will be on the Berkeley Telecommunications Task Force, a panel considering the future of cable access in the city. Bob has a concern that all school children have access available as part of their education.
- *Tom Yamaguchi* reported that a Friend's purse was stolen several months ago during set-up for meeting, and a credit card was used. He cautioned Friends to continue taking security precautions while on site.

The next Meeting for Business will be Sunday 6 February 2000.

Meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:30 PM. Twenty-two Friends were present at the close of Meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

Andrea English,
Clerk

Jed Appelman,
Recording Clerk

Minutes for the Meeting for Business

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Sixth Day of Second Month, AD 2000

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at noon. Eighteen Friends were present. Marc Lambert, Alternate Clerk, presided.

Minutes for January 9, 2000 were read and approved with the following modification: Friends expressed a concern that the First Day School curriculum should provide an opportunity for classes to plan and rehearse the holiday celebration program.

Correspondence

- Clerk Andrea English sent a letter on behalf of Peace and Social Concerns Committee to a person in Sacramento requesting assistance with our interest in holding Meeting for Worship at San Quentin Prison
- FCL solicitation requesting individual contributions to subsidize sending the FCL newsletter to prisoners
- Friends General Conference newsletter, *FGConnections* was presented for Friends interest

Old Business

Nominations of *Peter D Angelo* as clerk, *Al Thompson and Janice Wood* as members of *Hospitality Committee* were approved.

Reports

First Day School (*Miftah Leath*): The committee discussed holiday curriculum planning for the seven weeks following Thanksgiving. The celebration will fit into the curriculum emphasis on mutual care, witness (service at food pantry), modeling simplicity and community. In regard to the service project, kids want personal involvement but this is not available at BOSS. Congregation Beth-El includes children in their monthly service program for the homeless. The committee is planning to involve our kids in Beth-El's meal for homeless hosted at the synagogue on the third Sunday of each month. The teens are currently focusing on Quaker history this quarter.

Nominating (*Joyce Samati*): Liz Wiener, who has been working with Retreat Committee as a volunteer, is nominated to the committee. The Nominating Committee is now looking for an interim clerk for Peace and Social Concerns to complete the year .

Overseers (*Lynne D Angelo*): A newcomers brunch will be hosted by the committee next week. The committee held its joint meeting with Worship and Ministry. The committee will amend its job description to include a statement that the database keeper will consult with committee members at least once each year to assure that Meeting directory information is correct.

Peace and Social Concerns (*Thomas Murray*): Thomas announced his plans to leave the area; he will need to turn over the clerk position. Worship in San Quentin Prison, and our relationship with BOSS have been the focus of the committee. There is a possibility of our involvement in a community garden at 59th Street and San Pablo in Oakland. Letter writing has become a regular monthly activity. Thomas also talked about a project to fast for one meal and send its cost to children in Iraq. The meeting expressed appreciation for Thomas' work.

Retreat (*Robin Standish*): asked Friends to continue to think about a theme for the spring retreat, scheduled 5-7 May.

Friends Committee on Legislation (*Lee Andresen and Betsy Morris*): presented reports on the work of the committee.

Worship and Ministry (*Elsa Glines*): No adult education program in February; the State of the Meeting discussion will be held instead. Late in March the committee will present a program on sacred circle dancing. Friends asked for clarification of sacred circle dancing. Sacred circle dancing was done at PYM, and many Friends were uplifted by it.

Announcements

Susan Burr announced the discussion on the state of our Meeting to be held after rise of Meeting 27 February. The question that is considered is "How has truth fared among us during the past year?"

Next Meeting for Business: 5 March at Crowden School

The Meeting closed after a period of silent worship at 12:45 P.M. Twenty-five Friends were present at the conclusion of the Meeting for Business.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc Lambert, Alternate clerk

Jed Appelman, Recording clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Minutes for the Meeting for Business Fifth Day of Third Month, AD 2000

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:50 AM. Twenty-five Friends were present.

Andrea English, clerk, presided.

Peace and Social Concerns Committee presented responses to the Advices and Queries on Witness.

Minutes for February 6, 2000 were read and approved with the following suggestion, that in future the term "young people" rather than "kids" be used.

Correspondence

- The newly revised *Faith and Practice* will be available at Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative Committee meeting in San Diego this weekend. Helen Haug will be attending.
- Orange County Meeting announces a scholarship fund to assist young PYM friends to attend the annual Friends General Conference in July.
- Marka Carson writes that she has moved from Siskiyou County to New York City and is doing graduate work this year.
- Palo Alto Meeting announces a performance of the Artaria Quartet on March 26 as a benefit for Friends Committee on Legislation.
- Western Young Friends New Year's Winter Gathering epistle was received and will be circulated.
- A letter from *Jane Wolff* requesting membership in Strawberry Creek was read; Overseers will form a membership committee to meet with Jane.

Old Business

Nomination of *Liz Weiner* to Retreat Committee was approved.

Reports

Nominating (*Joyce Samati*): The committee brought forward the name of *Tim Saunders* as interim clerk for Peace and Social Concerns Committee, as Thomas and Thalia Murray move to their new home. This nomination will be seasoned until next month. Thalia Murray will resign from Loaves & Fishes Committee; in lieu of a new

member, this committee requests a volunteer to serve once each month for the next three months.

Overseers (*Susan Burr*): The newcomers' brunch on 13 February had large attendance. The committee calls Friends' attention to the threshing meeting scheduled for 19 March for further discussion of our site. Susan read several small changes to be made in the job description for the committee.

Retreat (*Robin Standish*): reminded Friends of our spring retreat, scheduled for 5-7 May at Quaker Center, on the theme, "breaking open the husk of the heart."

Site (*Bob Burnett*): presented initial observations of the meeting's experience at Crowden School. Friends with concerns or questions may speak to committee members prior to the threshing meeting scheduled for 19 March. Friends expressed appreciation for the committee's detailed work to prepare for our worship at Crowden School.

Worship and Ministry (*Elsa Glines*): Sacred circle dancing, scheduled for 26 March, is a quiet and meditative style of movement. It will be suitable for some high school Friends, but probably not for most young children. The committee will be planning a look at our new *Faith and Practice* over the next several months.

Finance (*Stephen Nomura*): presented the current financial report for the first two months of the year. Contributions are at six percent of budget as we reach the seventeen-percent point of the year. *Don Groom* will assume Treasurer responsibilities as soon as account authorization has been finalized. A question was raised concerning what is covered in the "miscellaneous administrative expenses" line of the budget; Stephen will research this.

First Day School (*Miftah Leath*): provided a general overview of the work of the committee. The committee has been using a nine-subject curriculum rotation based on the *Advices and Queries*. During the past four years we have completed a full rotation and are considering regrouping the subjects. A database of curriculum materials has been developed. Miftah presented the young people's responses to their participation in the Beth-El community meal that revealed a depth of learning and engagement very heartening to those at Business Meeting. Friends expressed appreciation for the care, planning and effort that the committee contributed to this activity.

Quarterly Meeting Representative (*Clifford Ham*): reported on winter quarterly meeting, held in Santa Rosa in January.

Announcements

- Susanna McCandless, former young Strawberry and active Young Friend, will be here soon visiting the University of California.

- Stina Perry announced that Walter Sullivan from Quaker Center will speak on Wednesday, 15 March, at Berkeley Meeting as part of an adult education program.
- Pamela Calvert announced that UC Theatre would be screening *El Ciudad*, a film in which she has had a professional hand, about the lives of Latin American emigrants.
- Miftah Leath told us that Marcella is scheduled for a surgical procedure on March 10.

Next Meeting for Business will be on 2 April 2000

Note: May Business Meeting will be on 30 April 2000

Meeting closed with a period of silent worship at 1:20 PM. Thirty-one Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea English,
Clerk

Jed Appelman,
Recording Clerk

And I will make for you a covenant on that day with the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the creeping things of the ground; and I will abolish the bow, the sword, and war from the land; and I will make you lie down in safety. And I will join you to me forever; I will join you to me in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love, and in mercy. I will join you to me in faithfulness....

[God speaks through the prophet Hosea of God's love for the people Israel]

Hosea 2: 18-20

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes for the Meeting for Business
Second Day of Fourth Month, AD 2000

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship at 11:50 AM. Forty-one Friends were present. Andrea English, clerk, presided.

First Day School Committee read the Advices and Queries on Simplicity and presented responses.

Minutes for March 5, 2000 were read and approved with the following modification: the correct article for *Ciudad* is *La Ciudad*. The Minutes will add that the March Business Meeting was held at Crowden School.

David Leonard clarified the matter of over-spending the budgeted "administrative expenditure": Friends Journal billed the Meeting for the past three years of our ad, having neglected to catch up on this billing earlier. Noting that Don Groom has now assumed the duties of Treasurer for the Meeting, Friends expressed warm appreciation for David's service as acting Treasurer.

Correspondence

- College Park Spring Quarterly Meeting will take place at Quaker Center May 19-21.
- A response was received from the State Department of Corrections, stating that we would be placed on a waiting list for space to begin worship at San Quentin Prison. The letter was referred to Peace and Social Concerns Committee for any further discussion.
- John Woolman School announced hiring a new Head of School and recent approval of a six-year accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.
- Davis Friends Meeting supports a bill to create a federal Department of Peace. They invite other meetings to join with them in study and support. Their letter was referred to Peace and Social Concerns Committee.
- Friends Committee on Legislation annual dinner will be May 23 in Sacramento. Speaker will be Tom Ammiano, current President of San Francisco Board of Supervisors.
- Earthlight Magazine thanked our Meeting for our financial support.

Old Business

The meeting approved Tim Saunders as interim clerk of Peace and Social Concerns Committee.

New Business

State of the Meeting Report (*Charlie Blanchard*): the first draft was distributed and read. Friends received it with appreciation, and will season it during this month. Suggestions for revision should be given to the writing committee.

Nominations for 2000-2001 (*Joyce Samati*): The Nominating Committee presented and distributed the list of nominations. They will be seasoned until next Business Meeting. Any comments should be directed to members of the Nominating Committee.

Strawberry Creek Meeting site (*Lynne D'Angelo*): Overseers reported on the March 19 threshing meeting and follow-up by the Committee. They brought the following recommendation: that our Meeting's over-all needs would be significantly better served at The Crowden School, particularly in providing a larger meeting room and accessibility of all spaces; that therefore our Meeting should begin negotiations with Crowden School regarding rental arrangements; and that a small group be appointed to conduct these negotiations: clerks of Site and Finance Committees, and clerk of the Meeting. Results would be presented at our next Business Meeting.

Friends were in agreement with this recommendation, and specified that the following issues would need to be addressed:

- possible long term lease
- enough classrooms for First Day School, and outdoor space for the children
- storage space
- custodial arrangements
- rental price
- noise management in the Meeting room, with possible use of another part of the building when the current pre-school moves
- amount of time Crowden is available on First Day and at other times
- plans for kitchen
- work party participation requested?

As well as approving the recommendation, Friends gratefully acknowledged the long and diligent efforts of the Site Committee. Overseers also observed, "We have been a nomadic meeting. We recognize the yearning that many of us have for a place of our own."

Reports

Overseers (*Lynne D'Angelo*): a membership committee has been formed for Jane Wolff, convened by Shelley Tannenbaum. Lynne also noted a policy developed by Retreat, Overseers and First Day School committees regarding minors attending retreat without a parent.

Friends Committee on National Legislation (*David Leonard*): David gave a brief history and report about the work of this group. He presented a letter with a proposed minute developed by a group of Strawberries in response to FCNL's request for input on priorities for the next Congressional session. This minute asks FCNL to bring forward an emphasis on "an earth restored" and to explore with Friends who are environmental advocates whether there are new funding sources for lobbying for environmental issues. A number of Friends spoke in

favor of presenting this concern; several were uneasy that a consequence could be a reduction in financial support for priorities already held. The Meeting agreed to season this minute over the month, and expressed support for David's sending his letter to FCNL's Policy Committee in time for their April meeting.

Retreat (*Rick Herbert*): Rick encouraged Friends to attend the May 5-7 spring retreat on the subject of "opening up the husk of the heart".

Worship and Ministry (*Kathy Barry*): Kathy reminded Friends of upcoming plans to discuss the new *Faith and Practice*.

First Day School (*Miftah Leath*): *Marcella Leath* wishes to attend the teen group regularly. The committee will look for a replacement for the paid position in the infant and toddler room.

Announcements

1. A welcoming brunch for new members will be held on May 23 after rise of meeting.
2. A memorial meeting for Laurie Glass will be held on Saturday, April 8, at 2 PM at Friends Church.

Next Meeting for Business will be held on April 30.

The meeting closed after a period of silent worship at 1:55 PM. Thirty-one Friends were present at the close of worship.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea English,
Clerk

Jed Appelman,
Recording Clerk

The gift of simplicity turns the profane into the sacred. Here *profane* does not mean vulgar or blasphemous. Instead it refers to that which is *pro*, "outside of," the *fanum*, which is the Latin word for temple. Those who appreciate the grace that comes with simplicity are free to move both ways across the thresholds of the temple each and every day. They bring the beauty of the sacred into ordinary life and ordinary concerns into the holy place.

-- Martin Marty, 1998

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Minutes for the May Meeting for Business

First Day, the Thirtieth Day of April AD 2000

The meeting opened at 11:50 AM with a reading of the Advices and Queries on Participation in the Life of the Meeting. A period of silent worship followed, out of which responses were offered.

Twenty-four Friends were present. Andrea English, clerk, presided.

Minutes for April 2 were read and approved with the correction that the date for the new member welcoming is May 21.

Correspondence

- Clifford Ham's letter of introduction was returned, signed by the clerk of the New Hampshire Meeting he visited with Jamie.
- Clerk has written letters of introduction for Betsy Morris and for Carl Magruder to carry on their upcoming travels.
- A letter from Jessica Bucciarelli requesting membership in our Meeting was read and will be forwarded to Overseers.

Old Business

State of the Meeting report, second reading (*Charlie Blanchard*): Charlie read the report in its final form. The writing committee, after consultation with Quarterly Meeting, established that the report covers April-to-April. While our Meeting discussion covers activities from year-to-year, the writing committee suggested filling in events that occur after the discussion but before the May due date. They will compose these guidelines and include them in the folder for next year's writing committee. They suggested that we maintain a separate binder for these yearly reports [the Recorder keeps this], and place a copy in the Meeting library as well. Friends asked that this year's report include mention of the memorial meeting for Laurie Glass in April. Meeting approved the report with this addition, and expressed appreciation for the work of the writing committee. (A copy is attached to these Minutes.)

Approval of nominations for 2000-2001 (*Joyce Samati*): Nominations, having been seasoned over the past month, were approved. The committee then nominated Richard Leath to serve as summer coordinator, and Carl Anderson to serve as co-clerk with Tim Saunders on Peace and Social Concerns Committee. These nominations will be seasoned until next month.

Site Report (*Bob Burnett*): Our negotiators consisted of Bob, Andrea English as clerk of Meeting, and Tom Whiteman representing Overseers during the absence of Finance Committee clerk. This team met with representatives of Crowden School. Noting that our list of needs (stated at last Business Meeting) presented no apparent obstacles to Crowden, Bob brought forward two proposals that were discussed with Crowden representatives:

- Monthly rental, probably at \$2,000.00 per month, with a yearly lease agreement still to be worked out.
- Long-term investment, to develop the current pre-school facility when Crowden resumes use of this space; this wing of the building might be remodeled through joint planning between Crowden and Strawberry Creek. The space would be shared, and rent reduced or eliminated.

Following discussion of these two proposals, Meeting felt it more prudent at present to enter into a short-term agreement, while making it clear to Crowden that we would like to continue to keep the idea of investment on the table, though it is premature right now. Friends would like some experience of working with Crowden before committing to future plans. Though rent would be doubling, there is a possibility that rent at Shelton School also would be increasing, in addition to improvements needed for bathrooms and security. Friends expressed general acceptance that Strawberry Creek would be able to pay a higher rental cost at Crowden, noting that it helps individual contributors to know the average cost per member when we consider a change in budget. Friends approved these considerations as guidance for the negotiating team and referred to Overseers a suggestion for an additional threshing meeting as negotiations move forward.

Minute on FCNL legislative priorities (*David Leonard*): David discussed and read a slightly revised Minute from last month's proposal recommending that FCNL explore whether there are additional resources among environmental advocates to undertake extending the work of FCNL. A Friend who previously held reservations about this Minute felt that it properly addressed a concern that FCNL not sacrifice its established priorities. Meeting approved this minute. (Copy attached.)

Reports

Peace and Social Concerns (*Carl Anderson*): Three members recently have left the committee, including Laurie Glass, who was an active participant and will be greatly missed. Carl reported on activities with BOSS/UA Homes and the Good Friday witness at Livermore Lab.

Retreat (*Rick Herbert*): Rick discussed plans for next week's retreat, noting that several committee members have had urgent events intervene in their lives, and that Shelley Tanenbaum has offered to assist the committee during these last days of preparation.

Worship and Ministry (*Elsa Glines*): The committee will convene a discussion on the new PYM Faith and Practice on 28 May after rise of Meeting.

First Day School (*Miftah Leath*): Miftah presented an end of the year wrap-up, noting that certificates of attendance will be passed out to young people on June 11. Summer program begins on June 18. Teens will assist the Congregation Beth El meal on 18 June. The committee requests a volunteer with a Mac to serve as curriculum database keeper.

Overseers (*Lynne D'Angelo*): Shelley Tanenbaum and Betsy Morris will draft a memorial minute for Laurie Glass. All Meeting scholarship funds have been distributed; Overseers invite contributions toward replenishing them. Jane Wolff's membership committee (Rachel Findley and Lee Andresen with Shelley Tanenbaum as clerk) reported on their meeting together. Overseers recommend that the Meeting approve her request for membership. This recommendation will be seasoned over the next month.

Announcements

- *Barbara Graves* spoke of a weekly vigil in Oakland on the effects of sanctions in Iraq.
- *Carl Anderson* asked if anyone knows of modest space for a small peace group's desk and file.

Next Meeting for Business will be held on June 4.

The meeting closed after a period of silent worship at 1:50 PM. Twenty Friends were present at the close of worship.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea English,
Clerk

Jed Appelman,
Recording Clerk

The Spirit calls Friends to be connected to one another and with all creation. This connection strengthens us to minister to one another and the wider community, to test individual leadings, and to witness to the truth as it is revealed to us. In seeking God's will we are reaching for a good which is known through corporate searching and which is greater than the group or the individuals among us.

Pacific Yearly Meeting, *Faith and Practice (Preliminary Edition)* 2000

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting for Business

First Day, 4 June 2000

The meeting opened at 11:50 am with a period of silent worship. Twenty-eight Friends were present. Susan Burr, clerk, presided.

The Site Committee provided responses to the Advices and Queries on Civic Responsibility. Key points of reflection included the observation that our Meeting has been providing education and counsel pertaining to military conscription for young men who are approaching the age of eighteen. At the same time, many members and attenders feel strong obligations to our communities, and volunteer many hours of time for participation in schools and neighborhood groups. A period of silence followed, out of which a rich variety of other responses flowed.

Minutes of the April 30 Meeting for Business were read and approved, with the correction that a probable rent increase at the Shelton Primary Education Center would include improvements to bathrooms specifically to accommodate wheelchair access.

Correspondence

Betsy Morris' letter of introduction was returned, signed by the clerk of the Paris, France, meeting, expressing greetings and appreciation for her visit.

Susan Burr called attention to the newsletters of other meetings that we receive each month, which are available for reading after the rise of meeting each First Day. They are in a binder located in the entry room.

Old Business

Approval of nominations for 2000-2001 (*Joyce Samati*): Two nominations, having been seasoned over the past month, were approved. Richard Leath will serve as summer coordinator for the First Day School program and Carl Anderson will serve as co-clerk with Tim Saunders on Peace and Social Concerns Committee.

Site report (*Bob Burnett*): The site committee has toured the back portion of Crowden School, which is presently unavailable but is expected to become available at a later date. It includes a space that would be more suitable for Meeting for Worship than the room that fronts Sacramento Street. Strawberry Creek Meeting will need storage space of at least 1000 cu. ft., which Bob will discuss with a representative of Crowden School during June. First Day School Committee has identified a need for four separate classrooms, one more than is presently available at Crowden School. First Day School Committee has provided the Site Committee with two alternative configurations that would be workable during a transitional period, and Lee Douglas of FDS Committee will join the individuals who are currently negotiating with Crowden School. Those Friends previously designated to negotiate with Crowden School will continue: Andrea English (immediate past clerk of meeting), Stephen Nomura (Finance Committee), and Bob Burnett (Site Committee). Site Committee reported that our meeting's annual budget would rise from \$26,766 to \$38,766 per year should we increase our monthly rent payments from their current levels to \$2000 per month at Crowden School. The annual contribution per member would then need to rise from \$352 to \$510. Friends offered some additional perspectives on the choice of geographical location and costs associated with moving, with the understanding that such reflections may help the decision-making process at a later time. The possible need for a second threshing meeting was referred to Overseers.

Membership of Jane Wolff (*Andrea English*): Having been seasoned for a month, Jane Wolff's membership was approved. Jane has requested that Carlos Wolff and Nicko Wolff be recorded as associate members. Barbara Graves (host) and Joyce Samati will provide a welcoming for Jane.

Reports

College Park Quarterly Meeting representative (*Clifford Ham*): Clifford presented a brief report from Quarterly Meeting, which was held May 19-21, with 137 Friends in attendance, including three from Strawberry Creek Meeting. Fall Quarter will be October 13-15 at John Woolman School. The entire written report was provided for the minute book.

First Day School Committee (*Rick Herbert*): Certificates of attendance will be awarded June 11. A food service project will be held 3:30 pm on June 18, in cooperation with Temple Beth El. Adults are invited to participate. Berkeley Friends Meeting has expressed an interest in re-starting a joint teen program, to be held at Strawberry Creek Meeting.

Overseers (*Andrea English*): PYM assistance is available and the scholarship fund welcomes contributions. Overseers will host a lunch for incoming and outgoing clerks, co-clerks, and officers on June 18, 11:45 am to 1:15 pm at Shelton School.

Pacific Yearly Meeting representative (*Helen Haug*): Representative Committee meeting was hosted by La Jolla Monthly Meeting on March 4, 2000. One focus of this year's PYM will be on the revised book of faith and practice. Two issues require attention. One is how to best use the gathering time at PYM, with more time for discussion and less devoted to routine reports. The second is the relation of PYM, which has not reached unity on a permanent site, to the Pacific Friends Outreach Society, which is working to develop a conference center and possible permanent PYM site on donated land located near Visalia.

Peace and Social Concerns (*Carl Anderson*): Many Friends have participated in writing letters to our political representatives after meeting. The most recent games night at UA Homes was successful, but would have benefited from the participation of more residents. The next Peace and Social Concerns Committee meeting will be June 11 at the rise of meeting.

Retreat Committee (*Howard Curtis*): The Spring Retreat was held at Ben Lomond Quaker Center May 5-7, with 43 adults and teens and 7 children attending. The theme was "Breaking Open the Husk of the Heart". Income exceeded expenditures by \$350, which was used to pay the deposit for next year's retreat at Ben Lomond Quaker Center.

Worship and Ministry (*Elsa Glines*): The first discussion was held on the revised Faith and Practice. Additional discussions will be held in smaller groups. No adult education meetings are scheduled for July or August. Worship and Ministry encourages Friends to provide suggestions for topics of interest for the fall.

Finance Committee (*Don Groom*): Having fully assumed the position of treasurer, Don provided a report covering the past three months.

Nominating Committee (*Joyce Samati*): Health complications have compelled Robin Standish to withdraw from Retreat Committee. Nominating Committee will search for a new co-clerk and is nominating Cindy Trueblood to serve as co-clerk and interim clerk of Retreat Committee. A sixth person is needed on Facilities Committee to replace Stephen Lockett, who is moving out of the area. Nominating Committee would like to minute appreciation for everyone who has served Meeting during the past year. Meeting for Business added its appreciation for the

work of the Nominating Committee.

Announcements

Carl McGruder thanked Meeting for its scholarship support.

Carl Anderson reported that a small peace group still needs a modest space for a desk and file cabinet.

Clifford Ham reported that the 18 teens at Quarterly Meeting had expressed a desire for support and mentoring.

Bob Burnett recommended the movie "Long Night's Journey Into Day," about the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa, and will try to obtain a copy.

Don Groom reported that Carol Wagner will be leaving her job at the Mt. Diablo Peace Center and moving to Scotland.

Jessica Bucciarelli thanked Meeting for its support following a physical attack on a roommate outside their home.

The next Meeting for Business will be July 9 at 11:45 at the Shelton Primary Education Center.

The meeting closed at 1:50 pm after a period of silent worship. Twenty-five Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Burr, Clerk

Charlie Blanchard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting for Business

First Day, 9 July 2000

The meeting opened at 11:45 am with a period of silent worship. Twenty-nine Friends were present. Susan Burr, clerk, presided.

Worship and Ministry Committee provided responses to the Advices and Queries on Meeting for Worship. A period of silence followed.

Minutes of the June 4 Meeting for Business were read and approved, with the following corrections (in italics): (1) Meeting has been providing education and counsel pertaining to military conscription for young men *who attend our meeting*, (2) the increase in our monthly rent payments from their current levels to \$2000 per month at Crowden School would require that the *average* annual contribution per member would rise from \$352 to \$510; (3) a rent increase at the Shelton Primary Education Center *is probable and additional expenditures would be needed* for improvements to bathrooms specifically to accommodate wheelchair access; (4) Carlos Wolff and Nico Wolff were recorded as associate members.

Correspondence

Letters were received from Earthlight Magazine and Friends Committee on National Legislation expressing thanks for contributions from Strawberry Creek Meeting. These donations were among the regular annual contributions included in our budget.

Full minutes were received from the May 19-21 Spring Quarter of College Park Quarterly Meeting

Susan Burr called attention to the section on Friends World Committee for Consultation in Friends World News.

Old Business

Approval of nominations for 2000-2001 (*Joyce Samati*): The nomination of Cindy Trueblood as co-clerk and interim clerk of Retreat Committee, having been seasoned over the past month, was approved.

Site report (*Bob Burnett*): The site committee has made progress on two issues concerning a possible relocation to Crowden School: allocating sufficient storage space and developing a workable plan to provide four classrooms for First Day School use. Storage would be available in three places. First Day School supplies would be stored in closets adjacent to a classroom facing Rose Street. Hospitality Committee's supplies would be stored next to the kitchen. A new cabinet would be located adjacent to the door of the room facing Sacramento Street, and general meeting supplies would be stored there and in an art cabinet that is also located in the same room. Strawberry Creek's chairs would be co-mingled with those of Crowden School, and both sets would be available for our use. Our display boards would most likely be replaced by reversible display and writing boards, with Crowden School using the writing boards on weekdays.

During the initial period prior to the availability of additional space at Crowden School, First Day School would use two classrooms on Rose Street and the room adjacent to the proposed meeting room. The latter would therefore not be used as an entry room between 10:00 and 10:15; those arriving during this time period would gather in the foyer facing Rose Street. On their departure, the foyer could be used by the teen group. Desks, chairs, and heating are available in the foyer. Other options that the teens may choose include the auditorium, its stage, and the kitchenette.

Crowden School has not renewed its contract with the nursery school to whom it rents space, and is aware of our interest in using that space. Its date of availability is not yet known, but is likely to be within 18 months. The effect on our rent is not yet known.

An extended discussion followed. Friends commented on the importance of not needing to resolve the smallest details at Meeting for Business, since they would be coming up in continuing discussions with Crowden School. As many details as reasonably could be resolved to this point, have been. Friends also raised questions about the length of time that Crowden School would be available to us on Sundays, use of the building on evenings or Saturdays, the order of decision making, and the possible effects on the teen program of meeting in a space perceived to be makeshift. Bob Burnett reported that on most Sundays, the building would be available to us all day, but we would need to vacate by 2:00 pm on days when concerts were scheduled. Crowden School would provide us with a master calendar of events. There is a possibility of our renting space on weekends or Saturdays, but the amount of additional rental fee is unknown. It is not necessary for Strawberry Creek Meeting to decide to move to Crowden School before Crowden School's board has agreed to the proposal, but Friends suggested that our decision should be close in time to that of Crowden School's. Lee Douglas reported that First Day School Committee is comfortable with the proposed arrangement for teens as long as it is temporary.

Further negotiations will occur between Strawberry Creek Meeting's representatives and the principal of Crowden School, who will then request approval from the school's board when agreement is reached. Few details remain, as verbal agreements have been reached on the amount of rent and on all items included in the list of needs that was provided to our Site Committee by Overseers. It is unlikely that significant new information would be provided to us after approval of terms by either the principal or the board of Crowden School.

Susan Burr summarized the sense of the meeting as continuing to move gradually along toward eventual relocation to Crowden School. We have so far placed much trust in the work of our Site Committee and are comfortable continuing to do so as they conduct further discussions with the representatives of Crowden School. The Site Committee's continuing discussions may clarify the next steps and we can proceed accordingly in August. Two dates are available in August, the 13th and the 27th, if significant new information arises requiring further discussion prior to the next meeting for business in September.

New Business

Additional nominations for 2000-2001 (*Joyce Samati*): Katherine Jaramillo will be attending Earlham School of Religion in the fall. Her departure August 25 has necessitated her resignations from Facilities and Nominating committees effective then. Meeting for Business asked Nominating Committee to continue its work from that date until the end of December with its four remaining members. The next Naming Committee will begin its work in October and will nominate five members to the 2001 Nominating Committee, to include one continuing member (Rich Tittle), one member for a one-year term, and three members for two-year terms. The one-year nomination will provide a continuation of Katherine's term and the Naming Committee will seek someone with previous experience on Nominating Committee to help provide continuity.

Peter Lin, M.J. Gentilly, and Laura Cornell were nominated to Facilities Committee. Kathy Chen was nominated to Retreat Committee. These nominations will be seasoned until the next meeting for business.

Reports

Treasurer (*Susan Burr*): A monthly written report was provided by Don Groom and summarized by Susan Burr.

Overseers (*Andrea English*): A committee consisting of Lynne D'Angelo, Barbara Graves, and Leonard Joy met with Jessica Bucciarelli. Leonard Joy presented the report of the committee, and Overseers Committee recommended that Jessica's request for membership be accepted. The recommendation will be seasoned until the next meeting for business.

The meeting of incoming and outgoing committee clerks and co-clerks, previously scheduled for June 18, was postponed until fall.

Overseers will continue its "buddy system", in which each member of Oversight Committee will keep in touch with one or more committee clerks.

Overseers would like to recognize the graduations of five young people this past spring. Charles Groom graduated from Swarthmore College. Graduating from high school were Robin Tittle, Anna McCarthy, Rebecca Anderson-Bergman, and Clifford Anderson-Bergman.

Erika Grevemeyer is in process of updating the meeting directory and Friends should send her any new addresses or other changes of information.

Peace and Social Concerns (*Carl Anderson*): The next games night at UA Homes will be July 28, for which a coordinator is needed. Advices and Queries for the month of August may be read on August 13 rather than on August 6. The next Peace and Social Concerns Committee meeting will be July 16 at 11:45 a.m. at the Shelton School.

Worship and Ministry (*Kathy Barnhart*): Worship and Ministry brought two concerns to Meeting for Business. First, Friends are asked to check their watches so that they do not beep during or at the end of Meeting for Worship. Second, some people experience allergies to fragrances. Discussion of the topic led to suggestions to examine how other meetings have responded to this concern and to develop a list of fragrance-free products. Worship and Ministry will be giving further consideration to the concern, including the possibility of designating a fragrance-free section located in the rows of chairs nearest the windows.

Announcements

- James Ham's birthday will be July 15 and in recognition a cake will be served at the rise of meeting when he is visiting on July 23.
- Carol Wagner will be moving to the Findhorn Community in Scotland and would be happy to share slides before her departure.
- Andrea English described several publications on the topic of marriage.
- Carl Anderson reported that August 6 is Hiroshima Day and in recognition a demonstration will take place at the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory. There will be a meeting of Abolition 2000 afterwards.
- Elsa Glines reported that some suggestions have been received by Worship and Ministry on topics for adult education, and encouraged Friends to offer additional suggestions.

The next Meeting for Business will be September 10 at 11:45 at the Shelton Primary Education Center.

The meeting closed at 1:35 pm after a period of silent worship. Twenty-two Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Burr, Clerk
Charlie Blanchard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting for Business

First Day, 10 September 2000

The meeting opened at 11:50 am with a period of silent worship. Thirty-one Friends were present. Susan Burr, clerk, presided.

Retreat Committee provided responses to the Advices and Queries on Spiritual Life. Friends expressed appreciation for the thoughtful responses.

Minutes of the July 9 Meeting for Business were read and approved, with the following corrections and additions: (1) in addition to those young people listed as graduating from college or high school this past June, Casey Loufek completed his California High School proficiency exam; (2) the spelling of M.J. Gentile's name was corrected; and (3) the next Naming Committee will begin its work in October and will nominate four members to the 2001 Nominating Committee; one continuing member (Rich Tittle) will serve the second year of his two-year term.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

A letter was received from Sandy Farley describing travel plans to Albania and Kosova. Friends were thanked for their past financial support.

Susan Burr called attention to the need to nominate two or three members to the Naming Committee at the October Meeting for Business. The Naming Committee will nominate four new members of the Nominating Committee at the November Meeting for Business. Also, volunteers will be needed to organize the Christmas program beginning in November.

Old Business

Approval of membership (*Andrea: English*): The membership of Jessica Bucciarelli was warmly approved. A welcoming committee consisting of Pam Calvert (convener), Rick Herbert, and Sherrin Loyd will meet with Jessica.

Approval of nominations for 2000-2001 (*Joyce Samati*): The nominations of Peter Lin, M.J. Gentile, and Laura Cornell to Facilities Committee, and of Kathy Chen to Retreat Committee, were approved.

Decision About Relocation to Crowden School (*Susan Burr*): A called information meeting was held August 27, at which Overseers and Site Committee presented a history of the Meeting's process of consideration of the current site and need for relocating, a summary of the draft licence agreement provided by the Crowden School, and a review of the benefits and drawbacks of the Crowden site. Susan Burr summarized the history of the process. Andrea English reported for Overseers that an attorney has reviewed the license agreement for Strawberry Creek Meeting and Peter Trueblood summarized the attorney's comments as being minor clarifications not affecting the spirit and nature of the agreement. The clarifications will be returned to Crowden School for the approval of its governing board. After a short discussion of the information, Meeting approved the following minute:

It being in the best immediate interest of our spiritual community as a whole, Strawberry Creek Meeting approves relocating to Crowden School. The clerk, in consultation with Overseers, is authorized to sign the licensing agreement presented to the Meeting by Crowden School, with the clarifications requested by Strawberry Creek.

Peter Trueblood will continue in his capacity as liaison with Shelton Primary Education Center to arrange for proper termination of our monthly rental agreement with appropriate notice.

An ad hoc committee was appointed to begin arranging details of the move to Crowden School, including specification of the first Meeting date at the new site, arrangements for transporting materials, and purchases of items that may be needed at the new site. The committee consists of clerk of Meeting, librarian, and clerks of the Oversight, Site, Finance, First Day School, Worship and Ministry, and Loaves and Fishes committees, or their designated representatives.

A designated date for the first meeting at Crowden School is needed as soon as possible so that this information can be put on the Meeting's answering machine and in the ad that runs in the East Bay Express.

The Meeting's rent budget for 2000 is \$15,500, which covers 9.5 months at Shelton School and 3 months at Crowden School. A fourth monthly payment to Crowden School will need to be made at the end of December for January's rent.

Tom Whiteman reported that Overseers have heard a consistent theme throughout the consideration of relocation, which suggests that approval of the move to Crowden School does not imply that Meeting is ready to lay down the Site Committee. It will be necessary to reframe this committee's directive.

Reports

Worship and Ministry (*Tom Whiteman*): Adult education this fall will include programs on September 17 with Laura Magnani, who will listen to responses on the revised Faith and Practice; October 8 with the Brinton visitor; October 15 with Anthony Manusos of Friends Bulletin; November 19 with Barbara Graves, Jessica Bucciarelli, Helen Haug, and David Leonard on exploring modern perspectives on the historical life of Jesus; and December 17 with Eric Moon on the Peace Testimony.

Treasurer (*Leslie Leonard*): A written report covering July and August was provided by Don Groom and summarized by Leslie Leonard. Due to the difficulties of maintaining an account at a second bank, the Meeting's CD was cashed out and Finance Committee will consider how to use this money in a long-range financial plan.

First Day School (*Miftah Leath*): Fall First Day School program has begun with good attendance in all four age groups. Jesse Gerstin will be working as the full-time nursery attendant. First Day School Committee is attempting to take on responsibility for child-care needs for more Meeting events. There is a need to coordinate the rate of payment used by First Day School Committee (\$8 per hour) with that used by other committees, such as Worship and Ministry, which uses \$20 per Business Meeting.

Nominating Committee (*Joyce Samati*): Sandra Lewis was nominated as co-clerk of Retreat Committee.

Overseers (*Andrea English*): Overseers received a letter from Katherine Jaramillo requesting that a special fund be established to help provide funds for living expenses while she attends Earlham School of Religion. The request was approved. A memorial minute for Laurie Glass was read and accepted.

Pacific Yearly Meeting (*Helen Haug*): A written report was read and provided to Meeting. In addition, it was noted that four young Strawberries are now serving as JYM officers or on committees. They are Ravahn Samati (co-clerk), Marcella Leath (recording clerk), Dorothy

Russell (Ministry and Oversight Committee), and Marta Blanchard (Ministry and Oversight Committee). Sherrin Loyd noted that she is on PYM Nominating Committee and may be contacted by those interested in serving on PYM committees.

Announcements

- Friends House Fall Festival will be September 23 at Friends House.
- Fall Quarter will be October 13 through 15.

The next Meeting for Business will be October 1 at 11:45 at either the Shelton Primary Education Center or the Crowden School, to be announced.

The meeting closed at 2:00 pm after a period of silent worship. Twenty-two Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Burr, Clerk
Charlie Blanchard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting for Business

First Day, 1 October 2000

The meeting opened at 11:55 am with a period of silent worship. Thirty-four Friends were present. Susan Burr, clerk, presided.

Finance Committee provided responses to the Advices and Queries on "Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business." Additional responses arose out of the silence.

Minutes of the September 10 Meeting for Business were read and approved, with the following correction: "Overseers received a letter from Katherine Jaramillo. After review, Overseers recommended that a special fund be established to help provide funds for living expenses while she attends Earlham School of Religion."

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

Susan Burr reported that an irritating noise that was disturbing to some Friends during Meeting for Worship was temporary and not a feature of the new site. Ryan Enos, who was observing Meeting for Business as the subject of his senior thesis, was introduced. Sara Wolcott sent a letter with her greetings and news from Haverford. A letter was received from Deb Bryant to initiate a request for transfer of her membership from Bethesda Meeting to Strawberry Creek Meeting. Chris Hogness sent a letter requesting a transfer of his membership from Strawberry Creek to Multnomah Monthly Meeting.

Old Business

Approval of nominations for 2000-2001 (*Joyce Samati*): The nomination of Sandra Lewis as co-clerk of Retreat Committee was approved.

Nominations to Naming Committee (*Susan Burr*): Lynn D'Angelo and Katherine Youngmeister were asked to serve on the Naming Committee. Meeting approved these nominations.

Christmas Program Committee (*Susan Burr*): Members and attenders were invited to serve on a committee to organize a Christmas program. Patricia Netherly volunteered to assist. Meeting asked the clerk to invite two or three others to participate.

Reports

Worship and Ministry (*Kathy Barnhart and Tom Whiteman*): Kathy reported that Worship and Ministry will bring a proposal for a fragrance-free section of the Meeting for Worship to the next business meeting. Tom reported that Worship and Ministry, along with Facilities and First Day School Committees, will be trying out differently configured uses of the space at Crowden School during the next few weeks.

Finance (*Leslie Leonard*): A preliminary budget for 2001 will be presented at the November Meeting for Business. Finance Committee will be contacting committee clerks for input during the next month. In addition, Finance Committee will update the Meeting's pamphlet documenting contributions to organizations and will determine how to invest the Meeting's former CD that was cashed out.

First Day School (*Miftah Leath*): The teen group has organized two well-attended Saturday discussions and the upper primary group is working on a gift to present to Shelton School. First

Day School Committee is proceeding with its plan to take on responsibility for child-care needs for all Meeting events. It will try to provide a consistent standard of appropriate and safe child care, beginning with a one-day training session for teen helpers. Adult volunteers are needed to assist Jesse Gerstin, who has been providing excellent care as the full-time nursery attendant.

Overseers (*Andrea English*): Following our usual process, Overseers are working on two requests for membership. A committee consisting of Howard Curtis, Clifford Ham, and Sherrin Loyd will meet with Patricia Netherly to discuss her request for transfer of membership. Leslie Leonard, Peter Trueblood, and Andrea English will meet with Carl Magruder to discuss his request for membership. A committee consisting of Howard Curtis, Kathy Chen, Richard Leath, Ravahn Samati, and Justin Samudio, with assistance from Shelley Tanenbaum, will meet to prepare some guidelines on how we can use the space available to us at Crowden School safely and effectively.

Announcements

- The Brinton visitor, Robert Griswold, will be at Berkeley Friends Meeting on October 7 for a potluck at 6:00 pm and a discussion of "Friends Theology." He will be at Strawberry Creek Meeting at the rise of meeting on October 8 for a discussion of "Friends of Truth."
- Fall Quarter will be October 13 through 15.
- Extra newsletters are available.
- Information is available on the program "Quaker Decision-Making: Its Practice and the Making of Unity."
- A request to list names and phone numbers of committee clerks in the monthly newsletter, in addition to the meeting directory, was made and will be referred to the newsletter editor.
- An exhibit of Edward Hick's Peacable Kingdom series of paintings is at the DeYoung Museum.
- The meeting library is now located in the walk-in closet near the fireplace.

The next Meeting for Business will be November 5 at 11:45 at the Crowden School.

The meeting closed at 1:30 pm after a period of silent worship. Thirty-two Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Burr, Clerk
Charlie Blanchard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting for Business

First Day, 5 November 2000

The meeting opened at 11:55 am with a period of silent worship. Twenty-nine Friends were present. Susan Burr, clerk, presided.

Overseers provided responses to the Advices and Queries on "Vocation." Additional responses arose out of the silence.

Minutes of the October 10 Meeting for Business were read and approved.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

The Christmas Program committee will consist of Susan Burr, Rachel Findley, Marcella Leath, and Patricia Netherly. The program will take place on December 16 at Berkeley Friends Church.

John Woolman School needs updated information to identify our current liaison.

Information letters were received from William Penn House (Washington DC) and Earlham School of Religion and are available from the clerk.

Old Business

Naming Committee (*Katherine Youngmeister*). The Naming Committee nominated Shelley Tanenbaum (clerk), Philappa Barron, and Pam Calvert to the Nominating Committee. Rich Tittle will serve as a continuing member. The nominations will be seasoned for one month. An additional nomination will be brought to Meeting for Business next month and the Naming Committee will also clarify the duration of membership of each nomination with the objective of ensuring that either two or three members will continue on the Nominating Committee in 2002.

New Business

Finance (*Don Groom for Leslie Leonard*): A preliminary budget for 2001 was presented along with the treasurer's report. The 2000 budget was revised to reflect the actual rental costs for use of both Shelton and Crowden schools. Friends should speak with Don Groom if they have suggestions regarding the format of the budget and treasurer's report. The 2001 budget will be seasoned until the next Meeting for Business.

Reports

Overseers (*Andrea English*): The new meeting directory is available. Friends should speak with members of Overseers with suggestions for how to use space at Crowden School. Several membership committees are in process. The Recorder has sent a membership transfer form for Chris Hogness to Multnomah Monthly Meeting. Tim Saunders has been hospitalized and welcomes calls and visitors.

Retreat (*Cindy Trueblood*): The fall retreat will be November 18 at Live Oak Park, 1301 Shattuck Avenue. The theme is "Deepening Community by Lightning Up: Fun for Kids of All Ages." Intergenerational activities will be featured.

Worship and Ministry (*Elsa Glines*): Worship and Ministry continues to consider how to create a fragrance-free section of the Meeting for Worship. The next Adult Education program will be November 19 on "Quakers and Jesus". Friends are encouraged to provide further suggestions for new topics to Worship and Ministry.

Facilities (*Tom Yamaguchi*): The committee is working on setting up the meeting room so that people using wheelchairs can move about more freely. They are also working to improve the visibility of information and other meeting materials, and the use of storage space at Crowden School. The possibilities for using reversible bulletin/white boards appear to be more limited in the center room than in the front room and the committee will reconsider the options as we continue testing different ways of using space at Crowden School. Friends are encouraged to avoid the use of strong scents. Friends expressed concerns about the noise from the adjacent playground during Meeting for Worship. The liaison with Crowden School will make arrangements to discuss the concerns with the nursery school.

Peace and Social Concerns (*Carl Anderson*): The last games night at UA Homes Shelter was successful but the participation of more Strawberries is needed.

Announcements

- Carl Magruder announced that the PYM Education Committee would like to speak with monthly meetings and he will begin by contacting the clerk of First Day School Committee.
- Food pantry packing will take place at Berkeley Friends Church on the Sunday and Wednesday before Thanksgiving, and again before Christmas. Donations of canned goods may be made on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays between 2:00 and 4:00 pm.
- Friends Fiduciary will be conducting a training meeting for treasurers in mid-February.

The next Meeting for Business will be December 3 at 11:45 at the Crowden School.

The meeting closed at 1:45 pm after a period of silent worship. Twenty-one Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Burr, Clerk
Charlie Blanchard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting for Business

First Day, 3 December 2000

The meeting opened at 11:50 am with worship. Thirty-two Friends were present. Susan Burr, clerk, presided.

The draft Advices and Queries on "Home and Personal Relationships" were read. First Day School Committee provided responses, finding that the juxtaposition of nurturing with abusive relationships was jarring in its wording. The committee submitted suggestions for revision to the Faith and Practice Revision Committee. A period of silent worship followed.

Minutes of the November 5 Meeting for Business were read and approved.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

Correspondence has been received from Ben Lomond Quaker Center thanking Strawberry Creek Meeting for its annual donation, and from John Woolman School, which is seeking a funding developer.

Old Business

Naming Committee (*Lynn D'Angeleo*): Meeting approved the nominations of Shelley Tanenbaum (clerk), Philippa Barron, and Pam Calvert for two-year terms to the Nominating Committee. Barbara Graves was nominated for the remaining position, which will be a one-year term. The nomination will be seasoned until the next business meeting.

Finance (*Don Groom*): The budget for 2001 was approved. Friends are encouraged to provide donations on a regular basis, such as monthly.

New Business

Responses to Faith and Practice Revision Committee (*Miftah Leath*): First Day School Committee read its proposed revision of the draft Advices and Queries on "Home and Personal Relationships" and requested that Strawberry Creek Meeting submit a supporting minute. Meeting will season the proposal. Friends are asked to contact First Day School Committee members with concerns or comments. First Day School Committee also requests that Overseers consider and recommend procedures for responding to possible cases of physical or emotional abuse before any occur. The request will be forwarded to Overseers.

(*Shelley Tanenbaum*): Several Friends have been meeting to prepare suggestions to the PYM Faith and Practice Revision Committee on how to include Unity With Nature in the new edition of Faith and Practice. The suggestions consist of a section on applying Friends historical testimonies to concern for the earth, and a draft set of Advices and Queries. A listening meeting was held on November 12, comments were incorporated, and the suggestions and a minute were prepared. They will be sent to the Revision Committee during December. Strawberry Creek Meeting will season them before determining if it wishes to approve the minute as a submission from the meeting as a whole.

Nominations (*Joyce Samati*): Following customary practice, Shelley Tanenbaum will become PYM representative in January after having served as PYM observer this past year. A nomination for observer will be brought to Meeting for Business in January.

Reports

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (*Bob Reiss*): EBSC proposes to expand its steering committee, which presently consists of one representative from each congregation and includes Bob Reiss from Strawberry Creek Meeting, to consist of 50 percent community members. No concerns were raised by Friends.

Overseers (*Andrea English*): Tim Saunders has returned home and hopes to be able to attend Meeting soon. On January 14, Overseers will sponsor a sharing meeting on caring for parents who are in the final stages of their lives. A letter was received from Mary Mikesell's family informing Meeting of her death on November 1 at the age of 85.

Peace and Social Concerns (*Carl Anderson*): Games night at UA Homes Shelter could not be scheduled in November but will take place next on December 22.

Quarterly representative (*Clifford Ham*): Quarterly Meeting was held October 13 through 15 at John Woolman School with 173 Friends in attendance, including 12 from Strawberry Creek Meeting, representing 20 monthly meetings. A written report was provided. Winter Quarter will be held on January 20 at Palo Alto Monthly Meeting.

Worship and Ministry (*Elsa Glines*): Friends are asked to reserve the area near the piano in the meeting room as a fragrance-free area. The most recent adult education session on "Quakers and Jesus" was well attended. The next adult education programs will be December 17, with Eric Moon on the Peace Testimony, and January 21, with Laura Cornell on yoga and Quakerism. Worship and Ministry is considering offering a course on Quakerism.

Crowden School Liaison (*Andrea English*): The director of the neighboring preschool was contacted and confirmed that regular preschool activities are not scheduled for Sunday mornings. Meeting set-up will include placing a sign outdoors requesting quiet in the yard next to the meeting room between the hours of 10 and 11 a.m. Sunday mornings.

Announcements

- A list of organizations receiving donations from Strawberry Creek Meeting is available, so that Friends may consider including these organizations in their personal giving.
- Friends Committee on Legislation will be meeting in San Francisco to discuss its areas of focus, including concerns regarding the death penalty.

The next Meeting for Business will be January 7 at 11:45 at the Crowden School.

The meeting closed at 1:45 pm after a period of silent worship. Twenty-three Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Burr, Clerk
Charlie Blanchard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting for Business

First Day, 7 January 2001

The meeting opened at 11:55 am with worship. Thirty-five Friends were present. Susan Burr, clerk, presided.

The Facilities Committee provided responses to the draft Advices and Queries on "Stewardship and Oneness With Nature". Additional responses arose out of the silence.

Minutes of the December 3 Meeting for Business were read and approved.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

Correspondence has been received from Amy Cook, director of John Woolman School, thanking Strawberry Creek Meeting for its annual donation. The clerk of meeting provided an overview of the process by which each month's agenda is prepared and requested assistance reading mail; Lee Andreson volunteered to help.

Old Business

Naming Committee (*Lynn D'Angelo*): Meeting approved the nomination of Barbara Graves to a one-year term on the Nominating Committee.

Nominations (*Joyce Samati*): Carl Magruder was nominated to serve as PYM observer. The nomination will be seasoned until the next meeting for business.

Responses to Faith and Practice Revision Committee (*Rachel Findley*): The draft minute and suggestions to the PYM Faith and Practice Revision Committee on how to include Unity With Nature in the new edition of Faith and Practice were read again this month. During the past month of seasoning, they were revised to reflect comments provided by Friends, and were then sent to the PYM Revision Committee prior to the December 31 deadline as a submission from a group of Friends within Strawberry Creek Meeting. A discussion with wide-ranging participation revealed the increasing depth of concern for the natural environment that has developed within the meeting over time. Strawberry Creek Meeting approved the minute as a submission from the meeting as a whole.

(*Miftah Leath*): First Day School Committee submitted its proposed revision of the draft Advices and Queries on "Home and Personal Relationships" to the PYM Faith and Practice Revision Committee prior to the December 31 deadline. The revision was read again, following a month of seasoning, and Strawberry Creek Meeting approved a supporting minute as a submission from the meeting as a whole.

New Business

State of the Meeting Writing Committee. The writing committee will consist of Howard Curtis (Overseers), Peter Klement (Worship and Ministry), and Jessica Bucciarelli (meeting as a whole). A listening meeting is scheduled for January 28.

Reports

Overseers (*Andrea English*): On January 14, Overseers will sponsor a sharing meeting on caring for parents who are in the final stages of their lives. Overseers Committee recommends the membership of Carl Magruder, which will be seasoned until the next business meeting. Overseers received a request from First Day School Committee to consider and recommend procedures for responding to possible cases of physical or emotional abuse before any occur. Overseers will season their response, and may consult with members of professional communities with expertise in this area. A Newcomers Brunch is scheduled for February 11.

Treasurer (*Don Groom*): Meeting was thanked for its generous donations during November and December, which provided an excess of income over expenditures of \$5673.48 for the year. Insurance costs will increase to cover the increased amount of space being used. Facilities and Finance Committees will review our use of space and the insurance options available. Meeting approved reallocation of the amount budgeted for insurance to cover the actual cost, which is expected to be about a \$2200 increase. Meeting approved transfer of a portion of the checking account balance to a CD, at the discretion of Finance Committee. The treasurer and clerk of Finance Committee are planning to attend a February workshop on "Treasuring the Treasurer" to be held at Berkeley Friends Meeting. Finance Committee will assume responsibility for making regular requests for donations during the period for announcements after Meeting for Worship.

Worship and Ministry (*Elsa Glines*): The next adult education program will be January 21, with Laura Cornell on yoga and Quakerism. Worship and Ministry Committee is planning to sponsor one two-hour session per month on Quakerism, scheduled for the third Sunday of each month.

Peace and Social Concerns (*Carl Anderson*): The most recent Games Night at UA Homes was December 22 and lacked somewhat in participation by residents following the absence of Games Night in November. The next Games Night is scheduled for January 26. Peace and Social Concerns Committee will meet January 14 after Meeting for Worship.

Announcements

- A letter was received from Brad Hathaway, director of Quaker Missions, thanking Strawberry Creek Meeting for its donations of stamps.
- Friends General Conference will meet June 20 through July 7 in Blacksburg, Virginia. Scholarship funds are available. An FGC bookstore catalog is also available.
- A letter was received from Brian Erickson ^{with news and plans to develop} ~~announcing the availability~~ of internships at his workshop for the cultivation and use of bamboo for furniture and construction projects in Costa Rica.

The next Meeting for Business will be February 4 at 11:45 at the Crowden School.

The meeting closed at 2:15 pm after a period of silent worship. Twenty-seven Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Burr, Clerk
Charlie Blanchard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting for Business

First Day, 4 February 2001

The meeting opened at 11:45 am with silent worship. Thirty-three Friends were present. Susan Burr, clerk, presided.

The draft Advices and Queries on "Reaching Out" were read. Responses arose out of the silence.

Minutes of the January 7 Meeting for Business were read and approved with the following corrections to the announcements:

Friends General Conference will meet June 30 through July 7 in Blacksburg, Virginia.

Several Friends received a holiday letter from Brian and Patti Erickson with news of their lives in Costa Rica over the past year, including recent creation of an internship for working with Brian on the cultivation and uses of bamboo in construction and furniture making.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

Correspondence has been received from Earthlight Magazine and Friends Bulletin thanking Strawberry Creek Meeting for its annual donations. A letter was received from Katherine Jaramillo, with news and her thanks for donations to her scholarship fund. A letter was received from Jane Wolff, with news of her family's plans to stay in Costa Rica for at least another year and a half, and a request that Strawberry Creek Meeting recommend her for sojourning membership at Monte Verde Meeting. The request was approved. A request for membership was received from Al Thompson, which will be forwarded to Overseers.

Old Business

Nominations: Meeting approved the nomination of Carl Magruder to serve as PYM observer.

Overseers: Meeting approved the membership of Carl Magruder. A welcoming committee will meet with him. The committee members are Barbara Graves (convener), Pam Calvert, Helen Haug, and Stephanie Kennedy.

Reports

Nominating (*Shelley Tanenbaum*): Karen Lin was nominated to serve on Newsletter Committee. The nomination will be seasoned until the next meeting for business. Friends were reminded that Nominating Committee will be contacting new and active members and attenders during the next month to ask them how they might like to contribute to the work of the meeting.

Overseers (*Andrea English*): A Newcomers Brunch is scheduled for February 11. Overseers recommends the membership of Patricia Netherly, and a short biography was read. The nomination will be seasoned until the next meeting for business. A follow-up session to the discussion on "Caring for Parents", which touched many people, is under consideration.

Worship and Ministry (*Elsa Glines*): Worship and Ministry Committee is beginning its monthly sessions about Quakerism on February 25, from 11:45 am to 1:45 pm, with Rachel Findley and a discussion of John Woolman. In March, David Leonard will continue with a discussion about Jesus.

Quarterly Meeting (*Pam Calvert*): An informal report was presented about Winter Quarter, which met on January 20 at Palo Alto Monthly Meeting. Six Friends from Strawberry Creek Meeting attended. A minute on drug concerns was received from Redwood Forest Meeting. The minute was approved by Redwood Forest Meeting as written by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, and was forwarded for consideration by College Park Quarterly Meeting and other monthly meetings. The minute expresses concerns about the war on drugs, the abuse of legal and illegal drugs, and the need for drug treatment, research, and education. One Friend felt that the minute does not speak sufficiently to the problems of drug use. The minute was referred to Peace and Social Concerns and First Day School committees.

First Day School (*Miftah Leath*): A report on the activities of each of the First Day School's age groups was presented.

Hospitality (*Larry Perry*): A welcoming for recent new members will be planned. Friendly Sevens will be scheduled for the fourth Sunday in April and again in May.

Peace and Social Concerns (*Carl Anderson*): The most recent Games Night at UA Homes was February 2 and again lacked somewhat in participation due to its having been held in recent months on different days than its normally scheduled last Friday of the month. The next Games Night is scheduled for February 23. Peace and Social Concerns Committee will meet February 11 after Meeting for Worship.

Loaves and Fishes (*Mary Anderson*): Friends are invited to bring contributions of food to share after meeting.

Announcements

- Ryan Enos requested that Friends pick up and return a short survey to aid him with his research project on the Religious Society of Friends.

The next Meeting for Business will be March 4 at 11:45 at the Crowden School.

The meeting closed at 1:35 pm after a period of silent worship. Twenty-eight Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Burr, Clerk
Charlie Blanchard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting for Business

First Day, 4 March 2001

The meeting opened at 11:50 am with silent worship. Thirty-eight Friends were present. Susan Burr, clerk, presided.

Loaves and Fishes Committee provided responses to the Advices and Queries on "Simplicity." Many Friends provided additional responses.

The spring retreat will be May 4 - 6 at Ben Lomond Quaker Center and Pacific Yearly Meeting will be July 30 through August 4 at Mount Madonna Center.

Minutes of the February 4 Meeting for Business were read and approved.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

The clerk provided information on our processing of the minute on drug concerns that was received from Redwood Forest Meeting last month. The minute had been referred to Peace and Social Concerns and First Day School committees, and the input of these committees will be consolidated with review by Overseers, including consideration of the minutes of College Park Winter Quarterly Meeting. Work is continuing on evaluating and updating the computer software used for maintaining the meeting's database. Requests for membership were received from Wilber Hoff and Kristina Perry. Both will be forwarded to Overseers, with the former to be treated as a transfer of membership.

Old Business

Nominations: Meeting approved the nomination of Karen Lin to serve on Newsletter Committee.

Overseers: Meeting approved the membership of Patricia Netherly. A welcoming committee will meet with her. The committee members are Elsa Glines (convener), Sherrin Loyd, and Katherine Youngmeister.

Reports

First Day School (*Miftah Leath*): First Day School Committee proposes that the nursery attendants join meeting for worship at 10:15 if no infants or toddlers have arrived by then. Parents will be contacted to inform them of this change. Adults may join children and teens assisting with food service to the homeless on third Sundays at Temple Beth El. The teens are focusing on learning about meeting for worship, while the upper elementary group is continuing its study of stewardship of time, money, and talent. The lower elementary group is responding well to the stability provided by the regular supervision provided by Jessica Bucciarelli and Margaret Schneider.

Overseers (*Andrea English*): Overseers are forming a membership clearness committee for Al Thompson. Deb Bryant has concluded that her membership request is premature as she is unable to participate actively in meeting at the present time, and she has therefore withdrawn her request. About thirty people, including Overseers, attended the Newcomers Brunch on February 11.

Overseers would like to expand the Newcomer's Brunch to twice yearly and Friends are invited to tell Overseers about new attenders who should be invited. A follow-up session to the discussion on "Caring for Parents" will be held on March 25. Overseers will discuss arrangements for a new member welcoming with Hospitality Committee.

Nominating (*Barbara Graves*): Katherine Youngmeister was nominated to serve on Oversight Committee, filling vacancies left by Jed Appleman's resignation and Shelley Tanenbaum's departure to serve as clerk of Nominating Committee. The nomination will be seasoned until the next meeting for business.

Treasurer (*Don Groom*): The treasurer's report was presented. Friends are encouraged to submit receipts for all expenses to the treasurer, even if they wish to treat the expenses as a donation to the meeting.

Worship and Ministry (*Elsa Glines*): The first monthly session about Quakerism, which had been scheduled for February 25 with Rachel Findley leading a discussion about John Woolman, was postponed because Rachel was ill. It will be rescheduled. In March, David Leonard will continue with a discussion about Jesus.

Peace and Social Concerns (*Carl Anderson*): The next Games Night at UA Homes is scheduled for March 30. Peace and Social Concerns Committee has withdrawn its year-old request to the state prison system for holding a meeting for worship at San Quentin prison. The committee discussed the minute on drug concerns, forwarded by Redwood Forest Meeting, and would like guidance on its next step from Strawberry Creek Meeting. Peace and Social Concerns Committee will meet next on March 11 after meeting for worship. Friends are reminded of the annual witness at Lawrence Livermore Lab on April 13.

Announcements

- The next food service at Temple Beth El will be March 18 from 3:30 to 6:30 pm.
- The treasurer requests that Friends note hourly labor rates when submitting invoices for childcare services.

The next Meeting for Business will be April 1 at 11:45 at the Crowden School.

The meeting closed at 1:15 pm after a period of silent worship. Thirty-four Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Burr, Clerk
Charlie Blanchard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, 1 April 2001

The meeting opened at 11:55 am with silent worship. Twenty-six Friends were present. Tom Whiteman, alternate clerk, presided. Site Committee provided responses to the Advices and Queries on "Integrity and Personal Conduct." Friends provided additional responses. Minutes of the March 4 Meeting for Business were read and approved.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

Correspondence was received from Multnomah Monthly Meeting accepting the transfer of membership of Chris Hogness.

Old Business

Nominations: Meeting approved the nomination of Katherine Youngmeister to serve on Oversight Committee.

New Business

Database Keeper: A revised job description for the meeting database keeper was read and approved. Responsibility for changes in this job or its description rests with Oversight Committee, which initiated the revision of the job description in consultation with the current database keeper and the clerk of Newsletter Committee.

Crowden School Lease and Site Committee: Crowden School is willing to offer either a one-year or a two-year extension of our lease, but a significant rental increase will occur in either case. The rate would increase from the current \$2000 per month to \$2200 per month beginning October 1, 2001, with an additional adjustment for the cost of utilities equal to 10 percent of the monthly PG&E charges, equal to about \$250 to \$300 per month. A further increase of \$100 to \$120 per month would occur beginning October 1, 2002. The lease rates would therefore be in the range of \$2450 to \$2500 beginning October 1, 2001, and \$2550 to \$2620 beginning October 1, 2002. Meeting authorized a four person team to begin negotiating with Crowden School and to provide a progress report at the next Meeting for Business. The members are Susan Burr (clerk), Tom Whiteman (alternate clerk), Bob Burnett (clerk of Site Committee), and one member of Overseers to be designated. After a period of silence, Friends provided reflections on the rental increase and suggestions for working with Crowden School. Tom Whiteman summarized the sense of the discussion as indicating a sense of disappointment with the size of the rental increase, recognition of the vitality of Strawberry Creek Meeting since its move to Crowden School, a need to move with openness and integrity in stewarding our resources as a meeting community, support for the clerk in guiding the process, and a desire to take a firm position while openly and creatively engaging Crowden School in examining all issues including those that are more fundamental than the financial questions. After receiving the progress report, Meeting will season the results during May and hold a threshing session if needed, so that the earliest decision to be made by Meeting for Business would occur at the meeting of June 3. The current members of the Site Committee will continue to serve as needed and the clerk of meeting may ask the Site Committee to examine alternative locations. The clerk will also coordinate with Nominating Committee regarding the need for new nominations to the Site Committee.

Nominating Committee (Shelley Tanenbaum): Nominations were presented. Many people were willing to serve on committees, and some committees have more members than is typical. The nominating process involves balancing the interests and skills of individuals with the needs of the meeting's committees. Nominations will be seasoned until the next Meeting for Business.

State of the Society Report (*Jessica Bucciarelli*): The State of the Society report was read. Friends expressed appreciation for the well-written and substantive report and provided initial suggestions to further emphasize the depth and sincerity of meeting worship and occasions for prayer. Friends are encouraged to speak with members of the writing committee while the report is seasoned.

Reports

Worship and Ministry (*Pam Calvert*): The second monthly session about Quakerism was held with David Leonard, who continued an earlier discussion about Jesus and Christ. On April 22, Andrea English will present a session on Meeting for Worship. Monthly newcomer orientations will continue to be held after Meeting for Worship. Friends were asked about their interest in a summer reading program on "The God We Never Knew", by Marcus Borg; several Friends expressed interest in participating.

First Day School (*Rick Herbert*): The teens met to discuss the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting minute concerning the war on drugs and will give their report to Peace and Social Concerns Committee. Another Friday night teen gathering will be held this spring.

Overseers (*Andrea English*): Three membership committees are in process for Al Thompson (Rachel Findley, convener), Wilbur Hoff (Howard Curtis, convener), and Kristina Perry (Kathy Barry, convener). A new member welcoming will be held April 8 for five new members.

Pacific Yearly Meeting representative (*Shelley Tanenbaum*): Pacific Yearly Meeting representatives meeting was held in Visalia, on the property of a site that is being developed by the Pacific Friends Outreach Society as a retreat center and is under consideration as a permanent site for Pacific Yearly Meeting. This year's PYM will again be at Mount Madonna Center, from July 30 through August 4. Early registration ends July 6 and further information will be forthcoming. The revised Faith and Practice is nearing completion and will be available at PYM.

Hospitality (*Andrea English*): Friendly Sevens will take place April 8.

Peace and Social Concerns (*Carl Anderson*): Friends are encouraged to attend the May 13 meeting of Peace and Social Concerns Committee, which will be set up as a panel discussion on living our concerns. The most recent UA Homes Games Night had higher attendance by residents, attributed to maintaining a regular schedule. The next Games Night is scheduled for April 27.

Announcements

- Tickets are available for the annual FCL dinner. Friends approved a request to submit a letter from Strawberry Creek Meeting opposing pending legislation that would require the California Department of Motor Vehicles to forward information on men, ages 18 through 26, to the U.S. Selective Service Administration.

The next Meeting for Business will be April 29 at 11:45 at the Crowden School.

The meeting closed at 2:20 pm after a period of silent worship. Twenty-four Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Whiteman, Alternate Clerk
Charlie Blanchard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, 29 April 2001

The meeting opened at 11:55 am with silent worship. Forty-one Friends were present. Susan Burr, clerk, presided. Newsletter Committee read the Advices and Queries on Peace, and Friends provided a variety of responses. Minutes of the April Meeting for Business were read and approved with the following corrected dates: Friendly Sevens was held on April 22 and Pacific Yearly Meeting will take place July 31 through August 5 (subsequently it was determined that the correct PYM dates are July 31 through August 4).

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

In accordance with the previous Meeting for Business, the clerk of meeting has submitted a letter from Strawberry Creek Meeting opposing pending legislation that would require the California Department of Motor Vehicles to forward information on men, ages 18 through 26, to the U.S. Selective Service Administration. Quarterly Meeting registration forms are due by May 11. Joint meetings of current and new committee members are encouraged during the next month. A scholarship fund for young people ages 10th grade through 25 years wishing to attend Friends General Conference is available. Membership request letters were received from Rick Herbert and Daphne Clement and will be forwarded to Overseers.

Old Business

State of the Society Report (*Howard Curtis*): The State of the Society report was read for the second time after seasoning for the past month. It was approved contingent on the recorder double-checking the accuracy of membership and other statistics, and including reference to the additional two membership applications received during the present meeting. Friends expressed appreciation for the thoughtful work of the writing committee.

Crowden School Lease (*Bob Burnett*): The four Friends who were authorized last month to re-negotiate the lease with Crowden School are Susan Burr (clerk), Tom Whiteman (alternate clerk), Bob Burnett (clerk of Site Committee), and Katherine Youngmeister (Overseers). A written proposal and response have been exchanged with Crowden School. Strawberry Creek Meeting proposed that increases in the current lease rate of \$2000 per month be based upon the consumer price index and provide for an allowance for energy cost increases computed from Strawberry Creek Meeting's percentage of facility use multiplied by the increase in utility costs between October 1, 2000 and October 1, 2001. Crowden School's reply suggested that lease increases be based upon the Bay Area consumer price index plus seven percent of total utility costs. Friends provided a variety of responses, among which it was noted that consumer price indices include utility cost increases and that Loaves and Fishes Committee has found the kitchen nearly unusable due to overcrowding and an apparent lack of awareness by some other users of Crowden School that use of kitchen space is included within the Strawberry Creek lease. The negotiating group will bring these and other issues to the attention of Crowden School's representatives and will schedule one or more meetings at the earliest time possible.

Nominating Committee (*Shelley Tanenbaum*): The nominations presented at last Meeting for Business were approved. Friends noted that Lee Winkelman and Al Thompson have been working with Peace and Social Concerns Committee this year and will therefore be new members but not newcomers to that committee. Clarifications were provided to note that the newsletter editrix or editor is the clerk of Newsletter Committee, as well as the calendar keeper for the meeting. Additional nominations brought forward this month are Carolyn Marks (Hospitality Committee) and Bob Burnett, Larry Strain, Mona Silipo, Peter Trueblood, and Stephen Nomura (Site Committee). New nominations will be seasoned until the next Meeting for Business.

Reports

Overseers (*Andrea English*): Members from Oversight and Worship and Ministry committees continue to provide newcomer orientations on the second Sunday of each month. Overseers recommends the membership of Kristina Perry, which will be seasoned until the next Meeting for Business. The sorting and updating of meeting records undertaken by Leslie Leonard is continuing. Oversight Committee notes that the scholarship and sharing funds are being used.

Worship and Ministry (*Tom Whiteman*): On April 22, Andrea English presented an adult education session on Meeting for Worship. The next session will be on May 20 with Helen Haug, Mary White, and Marc Lambert on Quakers and the arts. Committees are encouraged to welcome their new members this month. The next meeting of Worship and Ministry Committee will be on May 14 at 7:30 p.m. at 1746 Virginia Street.

First Day School (*Miftah Leath*): Younger children are using their work for the Heifer Project to consider what it means to give help, and what forms of assistance are most helpful. The nursery and summer programs need adult volunteers.

Treasurer (*Don Groom*): An insurance rebate of \$600 was received, as the insurer had not canceled our coverage for use of the Shelton Primary Education Center. With about 80 members of meeting, the current meeting budget can be covered with an average annual contribution of about \$500 per member, preferably provided on a monthly basis. A written report was provided.

Facilities (*Tom Yamaguchi*): Facilities Committee has received comments from some Friends requesting more heat during Meeting for Worship while others have requested less. The committee will try to balance issues of comfort. It is also reading the gas meter before and after meeting to help monitor energy use.

Peace and Social Concerns (*Carl Anderson*): Friends are encouraged to attend the May 13 meeting of Peace and Social Concerns Committee, which will be set up as a panel discussion on living our concerns. The UA Homes Games Nights begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. A recent B.O.S.S. volunteer appreciation included five Friends from Strawberry Creek Meeting; the annual Livermore Good Friday gathering, which many Friends found especially moving, included seven Strawberries.

Announcements

- A congratulations card is available for signing on the occasion of the formal adoption of Nia Graves Patterson by Glendora Patterson and Barbara Graves.
- The usual Meeting for Worship Through Singing on the third Wednesday of the month has been moved to the fourth Wednesday of June.

The next Meeting for Business will be June 3 at 11:45 at the Crowden School.

The meeting closed at 2:00 pm after a period of silent worship. Thirty Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Burr, Clerk
Charlie Blanchard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, 3 June 2001

The meeting opened at noon with silent worship. Thirty-seven Friends were present. Susan Burr, clerk, presided. Nominating Committee provided reflections on the Advices and Queries on Meeting Community. Friends offered additional responses.

Minutes of the May Meeting for Business were read and approved with the following corrections: Pacific Yearly Meeting will take place July 30 through August 4; Nia Patterson has been formally adopted by her grandmother, Glendora Patterson, and Barbara Graves is Nia's godmother; Meeting for Worship for singing met on the fourth Wednesday of May and will revert to the usual third Wednesday in June.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

Correspondence was received from Dick Emmons, a member of Strawberry Creek Meeting currently residing in Washington, recommending consideration of Olney Friends School, in Barnesville Ohio, when Friends are making donations.

Old Business

Overseers. The membership of Kristina Perry was approved. A welcoming committee, consisting of Pam Calvert, Jessica Bucciarelli, and Elsa Glines, will meet with her.

Nominating Committee (*Shelley Tanenbaum*): The nominations of Carolyn Marks to Hospitality Committee and Bob Burnett, Larry Strain, Mona Silipo, Peter Trueblood, and Stephen Nomura to Site Committee were approved. Additional nominations brought forward this month are Richard Leath as Database Keeper, with Tom Yamaguchi serving as interim Database Keeper, and Barbara Graves as co-clerk of Worship and Ministry. Other changes are transfers of Katherine Youngmeister from Overseers to Facilities, Laura Cornell from Facilities to Worship and Ministry, and withdrawal of Wendy Parker from Facilities Committee. Two previously approved nominees to Worship and Ministry, Peter Crysedale and Rachel Findley, will be unable to serve because they are moving out of state. New nominations will be seasoned until the next Meeting for Business.

Site Committee (*Bob Burnett*): The Site Committee has been unable to arrange a meeting with Crowden School representatives. Several other site possibilities have been investigated. The Berkeley Unified School District now has a policy that permits schools to lease space to religious organizations. The committee recommends the Berkeley Alternative High School, located at Martin Luther King Way and Derby Street, for further consideration. The building is new and wheelchair-accessible, is located within walking distance of the Ashby BART station and near bus lines on Shattuck Avenue and Martin Luther King Way, and has parking, classroom space, and a 120-person room with seating. Probable rent appears to be approximately \$1950 per month, comparable to the current \$2000 per month rent at Crowden School. The committee will try to schedule a trial meeting on June 17. Discussion followed. Since the current Crowden School license agreement expires September 30 and may be terminated with a 60-day notice, a decision on relocating is desirable by the end of July. A formal letter restating our request to meet with Crowden School and informing them of our investigation of alternatives will be drafted by John McCarthy and Bob Burnett.

Reports

First Day School (*Miftah Leath*): Children from three classes met and decided to use the donations for the Heifer Project to purchase an ark of animals and plants. The summer program begins June 17.

Overseers (*Elsa Glines*): Two membership committees are in progress for Rick Herbert (with David Leonard, Jessica Bucciarelli, and Andrea English) and Daphne Clement (with Rachel Findley, Joyce Samati, and Elsa Glines). Overseers recommends the membership of Al Thompson, which will be seasoned until the next Meeting for Business. The transfer of membership of Wilbur Hoff was approved and a welcoming committee will meet with him. The committee members are Robin Standish (convener), Barbara Graves, Carl Magruder, Bob Burnett, and Rick Herbert. A new meeting directory is in progress and Friends should provide Tom Yamaguchi with changes.

Peace and Social Concerns (*Carl Anderson*): About 25 Friends attended the May 13 meeting of Peace and Social Concerns Committee, which was set up as a panel discussion on living our concerns. The UA Homes Games Nights are continuing. Monica Fletcher and Nancy Wilkinson are organizing a calendar of political events or organizations with which meeting members and attenders are affiliated, and contact names. The next Peace and Social Concerns Committee meeting will be June 11.

Retreat (*Sandra Lewis*): Several informal new groups are forming as a result of the discussions held at the Spring Retreat. A written report was provided. Friends discussed the roles of the Meeting and Meeting committees in mentoring or overseeing informal groups. Friends expressed their appreciation to Retreat Committee for initiating the process for organizing new groups.

Worship and Ministry (*Lynne D'Angelo*): The transition between the old and new committees has begun. The next adult education session will be on June 24 with Rachel Findley's presentation about John Woolman.

Hospitality (*Joyce Samati*): Friendly Sevens will take place on June 24.

Announcements

- There will be a summer potluck on June 21 from 7 to 10 pm to mark the "Roll Your Own Blackout" event, with further information available from Kristina Perry.
- Kristina Perry is serving as Assistant Clerk of Quarterly Meeting.

The next Meeting for Business will be July 8 at 11:45 at the Crowden School.

The meeting closed at 2:00 pm after a period of silent worship. Twenty-nine Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Burr, Clerk
Charlie Blanchard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, 8 July 2001

The meeting opened at 11:55 a.m. with silent worship. Thirty-three Friends were present. Tom Whiteman, alternate clerk, presided. Worship and Ministry Committee provided reflections on the Advices and Queries on Meeting for Worship. Friends offered additional responses.

Minutes of the June Meeting for Business were read and approved with the following corrections: the First Day School classes came to unity on using donations for the Heifer Project to purchase an ark of animals and plants and the Berkeley Unified School District now has a policy that permits long-term leasing of school space to religious organizations.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

Correspondence was received from Marka Carson, who has completed her M.S. in elementary education with a science specialization in New York. A request for transfer of membership from Adelphi Friends Meeting to Strawberry Creek Meeting was received from Stephen McNeil. It was forwarded to Overseers.

Old Business

Overseers. The membership of Al Thompson was approved on the recommendation of Overseers. A welcoming committee, consisting of Rachel Findley (convener), Shelley Tanenbaum, Tim Saunders, and Janice Wood will meet with him.

Nominating Committee (*Shelley Tanenbaum*): The following nominations were approved: Richard Leath as Database Keeper, with Tom Yamaguchi serving as interim Database Keeper, Barbara Graves as co-clerk of Worship and Ministry, Katherine Youngmeister to serve on Facilities Committee, and Laura Cornell to serve on Worship and Ministry. New nominations were: Steve Evans and Monica Fletcher to share membership on Facilities Committee, Wendy Parker for Loaves and Fishes Committee, and Wilbur Hoff for Retreat Committee. The new nominations will be seasoned until the next Meeting for Business.

Initial Consideration of Site for Meeting. Tom Whiteman reported that consideration of the Berkeley Alternative High School (BAHS) as a possible site for Meeting has shifted from contingency planning to the beginning of a decision process. John McCarthy read part of the letter that was sent to the board of Crowden School summarizing the history of the negotiation process and restating the desire of Strawberry Creek Meeting to work out a mutually beneficial long-term arrangement. Copies of the letter will be made available. The letter was hand-delivered by Tom Whiteman; he spoke with Michael Dalby, the chair of the Crowden Board, who elected to provide an immediate response. Mr. Dalby confirmed that the formal opinion of the Crowden board was that they could not compromise below a monthly base rate of \$2000 plus an increase of \$200 and seven percent of the monthly PG&E bill. The board's opinion was that Strawberry Creek Meeting's hours of use of Crowden space had expanded beyond the original agreement, that the increase of \$200 plus seven percent of utility costs did not represent a double-charging for energy-price increases, and there was no reason to continue the discussion if these terms were a deal-breaker. Discussion followed. Several Friends expressed positive responses about the Berkeley Alternative High School site: the site is large, seats may be arranged in a circle, the enclosed patio is pleasant, the first trial meeting at BAHS was settled, and rental costs are known and predictable. Friends asked if other possible sites were under consideration, if future rent increases could be expected at Crowden, if grounds work or construction at Crowden were affecting the quality of the physical layout there, if storage would be available at BAHS, and when the Berkeley School Board

would schedule approval of a long-term lease. Other potential sites have been investigated and are not satisfactory or not presently available. Space at BAHS could be scheduled every Sunday on a week-to-week basis until a long-term lease is approved. Storage would be arranged with the principal, possibly after moving to the new site. A concern was expressed that the timing of the move does not provide the First Day School an opportunity to prepare children for the transition, and the park at Jefferson School (adjacent to Crowden) provides a better location for the summer program. A desire was expressed to act from a leading to move forward rather than to react too quickly to a cost increase by moving away from Crowden School. Some Friends suggested that further consideration be given to a permanent site. The next trial meeting at BAHS will be July 15. Discussion of the BAHS and Crowden sites is scheduled after the rise of meeting on July 22. A called Meeting for Business will take place on July 29 to consider if meeting should move to BAHS.

Reports

Worship and Ministry (*Rachel Findley*): An adult education session was held on June 24 with the next one scheduled on July 15 with Kristina Perry's presentation on earth activism. Ideas about adult education programs of interest should be communicated to Rachel Findley, Lynne D'Angelo, or Barbara Graves. A list of Advices and Queries by month will be given to committee clerks.

Treasurer (*Don Groom*): A written report was provided.

Overseers (*Andrea English*): A new meeting directory is in progress and Friends should review the draft copy for accuracy. Overseers recommends the membership of Daphne Clement, which will be seasoned until the next Meeting for Business. Overseers has clarified that the new edition of Faith and Practice, unlike the current edition, clearly states that transfers of membership are to be seasoned according to customary practice. In response to a question, it was noted that our submission to the College Park Quarterly directory is prepared from the Strawberry Creek Meeting data base.

Peace and Social Concerns (*Carl Anderson*): Work continues on the calendar of political events and organizations with which meeting members and attenders are affiliated. The next UA Homes Games Nights is July 27, and further help is likely needed as Lee Winkelman will not be able to attend future Games Nights. The next Peace and Social Concerns Committee meeting will be July 15.

Announcements

- Welcoming committees met with Wilbur Hoff and Kristina Perry.
- Contact Shelley Tanenbaum for rides needed or offered to PYM

The next Meeting for Business will be July 29 at 11:45 at the Crowden School.

The meeting closed at 1:50 pm after a period of silent worship. Twenty-eight Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Whiteman, Alternate Clerk
Charlie Blanchard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes of the Called Meeting for Business
First Day, 29 July 2001

The meeting opened at 11:55 a.m. with silent worship. Forty-two Friends were present. Susan Burr, clerk, presided. The meeting was called to decide on a site for Meeting for Worship.

A verbal summary was presented to provide background on the Meeting's discussions with Crowden School and to clarify that the decision presently before the Meeting for Business was to determine where the Meeting should be located beginning October 1, 2001.

Written summaries of the meeting's discussions of the two available sites were presented.

New information received from Crowden School indicates that the rental increase commencing October 1 would be 10 percent (\$200) plus 7 percent of the year-to-year increase in Crowden School's PG&E bills (estimated as \$60 per month), totalling \$2260 per month.

A written summary was presented showing the estimated rental costs at Berkeley Alternative High School. The expected monthly average cost is \$1530.

Committee clerks were asked to provide responses on the relative merits of the two site options from the perspective of the work of their committees. The clerks of Worship and Ministry, Nominating, Facilities, Overseers, and Peace and Social Concerns Committees indicated that a move to Berkeley Alternative High School would have either a positive impact or no effect on the work of their committees. The clerk of First Day School Committee reported that the First Day School is better served at Crowden School, but that Berkeley Alternative High School would be workable. General discussion followed regarding the merits of the sites.

The clerk summarized the sense of the meeting as indicating that Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting would be best served by moving to Berkeley Alternative High School, and extra support would be needed for First Day School to make the new space usable and welcoming for children.

Friends concurred with the expression of the sense of the meeting and asked the clerk of meeting, in consultation with Overseers, to bring a minute to Meeting for Business reflecting the many expressions of interest in opening a discussion on establishing a long-term, stable site.

Meeting will inform Crowden School of its decision. Finance and Site Committees will work with the Berkeley Unified School District to obtain approval of a one-year lease. The clerk of meeting and Overseers will contact each committee clerk to determine committee needs pertaining to the move.

The meeting closed at 1:45 pm after a period of silent worship. Thirty-five Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Burr, Clerk
Charlie Blanchard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, 9 September 2001

The meeting opened at 11:55 a.m. with silent worship. Thirty Friends were present. Susan Burr, clerk, presided. Peace and Social Concerns Committee provided reflections on the Advices and Queries on Social and Civic Responsibility, along with a written report. Friends offered additional responses.

Philappa Barron and Jeff Pilisuk introduced their newborn twins, Caitlin and Jackson.

Minutes of the July 8 Meeting for Business and the July 29 called Meeting for Business were read and approved.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

Facilitators of small groups that are not formally meeting committees are encouraged to communicate with the clerk of meeting on an ongoing basis. Friends who wish to bring a concern to the attention of the meeting should contact the clerk or a member of Overseers to determine which committee would be best to work with. Anyone interested in working on the Christmas program may speak with the clerk. Those who need boxes for the move to the Berkeley Alternative High School should contact Nancy Wilkinson or her husband Randy Matamoros. Committee clerks were asked if new issues have risen concerning the move; none were expressed. Those needing help should contact Susan Burr. The clerk asked for suggestions concerning disposition of the folding chairs. After discussion, meeting directed the clerk of Facilities Committee to retain the chairs for possible future use and to seek interim storage in the homes of Friends.

Correspondence was received from Marcella Leath requesting associate membership. Associate membership was approved and a welcoming committee, Peter Trueblood (convener), Joyce Samati, Rick Herbert, and Kristina Perry, will meet with her. Discussion clarified that there is no minimum age requirement for full membership, and Overseers will communicate this information to Marcella. A request for transfer of membership from 15th Street Meeting to Strawberry Creek Meeting was received from Helen Haug. It was forwarded to Overseers.

Old Business

Overseers. The membership of Daphne Clement was approved on the recommendation of Overseers. Since she will be in Atlanta for up to three years, the clerk will send her a letter and welcoming cards will be sent by Barbara Graves, Leslie Leonard, and Miftah Leath.

Nominating Committee. The following nominations were approved: Steve Evans and Monica Fletcher to share membership on Facilities Committee, Wendy Parker for Loaves and Fishes Committee, and Wilbur Hoff for Retreat Committee.

Site Report (*Bob Burnett*). The clerks of the Meeting, Site Committee, and Finance Committee are working on the details of a lease with the Berkeley Unified School District. The District and Berkeley Alternative High School (BAHS) wish to couple a service agreement into the lease, and the representatives of Strawberry Creek Meeting have drafted a proposal stating that Strawberry Creek Meeting will lease space on Sundays from October 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002 and will create a service relationship with the school through projects such as the Writers' Workshop. Because of the service agreement, rental costs will be based on the use schedule, rather than the public schedule, and will be lower than planned. Susan Burr will serve as liason to BAHS for the

service projects, with help from Tom Yamaguchi and additional assistance available from Patricia Netherly. Several possible storage spaces are available and Andrea English will coordinate storage needs. Finance and Site committees will determine the area of use involved and will adjust the insurance policy to reflect the actual use area. Meeting approved the draft lease agreement.

Reports

Overseers (*Andrea English*): A new meeting directory is available. Overseers recommends the membership of Rick Herbert, which will be seasoned until the next Meeting for Business. There will be a meeting for committee clerks and officers on September 23 after the rise of meeting. A workshop on Considering Leadings will be held September 14 through 16 at Ben Lomond Quaker Center. A welcoming for new members is scheduled October 28.

Pacific Yearly Meeting (*Charlie Blanchard for Shelley Tanenbaum*): State of the Society reports show that PYM currently has over 1000 members and is growing slightly. Three minutes were approved relating to the death penalty, the Iraq sanctions, and the war on drugs. Written copies will be provided when available. The archives in Whittier will be in flux during the next two years and meetings are asked to retain copies of all records. The new edition of Faith and Practice is available for purchase and 50 copies have been ordered. Margaret Mossman ended her three-year term as clerk of PYM and will be succeeded by Shan Cretin of Santa Monica Meeting. The next two yearly meetings will be at the University of San Diego, July 22-27, 2002 and July 28-August 2, 2003. Friends noted that Ravahn Samati had served as a co-clerk of Junior Yearly Meeting and would like to invite him to provide a report from JYM. Carl Anderson and Elsa Glines attended an interest group on ownership of property by monthly meetings; Friends requested a summary of that group's session.

Worship and Ministry (*Lynne D'Angelo*): An adult education session will be held on September 16 with Barbara Graves' presentation on "Living Our Testimonies in the Modern World". A list of Advices and Queries by month will be given to committee clerks.

Hospitality (*Joyce Samati*): A farewell was held in August for several Friends who will be studying or working in other areas during the next year. Friends may call either Joyce or Philappa Barron to offer assistance with Philappa's daily activities as she and Jeff care for their newborn twins. Friendly Sevens will be held September 30.

Treasurer (*Don Groom*): A written report was provided. Friends' contributions have been evening out as many are donating on a monthly basis. With the move to the new location, rental costs will decrease and some money will be available to cover moving expenses.

Peace and Social Concerns (*Carl Anderson*): A written report was provided. Peace and Social Concerns recommends inclusion of Quaker Bolivia Link on the list of meeting donations and has forwarded this recommendation to Finance Committee for further consideration before it is brought to Meeting for Business. The most recent UA Homes Games Nights was August 24, and the next Games Night will be September 28. Friends requested that Peace and Social Concerns Committee develop a relation with the new service provider at UA Homes, as B.O.S.S. will no longer be involved. The focus of letter writing activities may be either on specific issues or on prisoners of conscience. The next Peace and Social Concerns Committee meeting will be September 23.

First Day School (*Miftah Leath*): FDS Committee requests that the Advices and Queries be read during the first 15 minutes of Meeting for Worship, when children are present. Study units for this year are Mutual Care, Witness, and Peace. FDS and Retreat Committees will meet to

coordinate the role of FDS committee in providing childrens' programs. Margaret Schneider and Leslie Leonard will coordinate the 6-10 age group, and Lee Douglas will coordinate the combined preteen and teen group. Marla Browning will coordinate the nursery and Rick Herbert will coordinate after-hours childcare. The fulltime nursery and afterhours childcare provider will be Praggya Chaturvedi.

Announcements

- Pam Calvert is collecting information on how people have used their tax rebates.
- Abolition 2000 will meet September 17.

The next Meeting for Business will be October 7 at 11:45 at the Berkeley Alternative High School.

The meeting closed at 2:20 pm after a period of silent worship. Twenty-six Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Burr, Clerk
Charlie Blanchard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, 7 October 2001

The meeting opened at noon with silent worship. Thirty-one Friends were present. Susan Burr, clerk, presided. Nominating Committee provided reflections on the Advices and Queries on Harmony With Creation. Many Friends offered additional responses.

Minutes of the September ⁹ Meeting for Business were read and approved with the following corrections: Margaret Mossman ended her third year as clerk of PYM and Ravahn Samati had served, and is continuing to serve, as a co-clerk of Junior Yearly Meeting.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

Susan Burr, as liaison to BAHS for service projects, will schedule a meeting with the BAHS principal. Tom Whiteman will serve as liaison for other business. Libby Echlin will work with Susan Burr on a simple Christmas program, and assistance from one other person is requested. The Berkeley Unified School District has not yet approved the Strawberry Creek Meeting lease, and Bob Burnett is arranging for week-to-week approval in the interim. The clerk of Meeting will follow up on questions regarding the availability of rooms within the Independent Studies portion of the site. Correspondence was received from Nancy Wilkinson requesting membership. It was forwarded to Overseers.

Old Business

Overseers. The membership of Rick Herbert was enthusiastically approved. His children, Joe and Gina, will be listed as associate members. A welcoming committee, Tom Yamaguchi (convener), Patricia Netherly, and Barbara Graves, will meet with Rick.

Nominating Committee (*Shelley Tanenbaum*). Kris Schnepf was nominated as Ben Lomond Quaker Center representative, to replace Jessica Bucciarelli who will be in Indiana this year. The nomination will be seasoned. Mona Silipo has resigned from Site Committee. A new list of updated committee memberships was distributed.

New Business

Meeting approved the nominations of Leslie Leonard (convener), John McCarthy, and Peter Trueblood to the Naming Committee. They will nominate two or three new members, as needed, to the Nominating Committee at the next Meeting for Business.

Reports

Hospitality (*Joyce Samati*): Hospitality Committee welcomes feedback on Friendly Sevens. The next Friendly Sevens will take place in a few months, probably in January. Friends are encouraged to continue visiting Philappa Barron and to offer assistance with Jeff and Philappa's daily activities as they care for their twins.

Overseers (*Andrea English*): A welcoming for new members is scheduled October 28. New members include Kristina Perry, Al Thompson, Rick Herbert, Wilbur Hoff, and Daphne Clement. Two transfers of membership, Stephen McNeil from Adelphi Meeting and Helen Haug from 15th Street Meeting, are in process and await letters from those meetings. The meeting for committee clerks and officers on September 23 was well attended. A special Meeting for Worship was held

on September 12 at Berkeley Friends Church with Friends and attenders of Berkeley Friends Church, Berkeley Friends Meeting, and Strawberry Creek Meeting.

Worship and Ministry (*Barbara Graves*): Barbara Graves has begun serving as co-clerk along with Lynne D'Angelo. The next Adult Education will be October 21 with Leonard Joy on "Our New Faith & Practice: the New Queries". As part of adult education, Worship and Ministry will lead discussions of the new Faith & Practice on the third First Day of each month, to be followed by open sessions at homes.

Peace and Social Concerns (*Carl Anderson*): Peace and Social Concerns reports that B.O.S.S. remains involved with UA Homes, though in a different way than before. The committee will clarify the changes and provide further information at a later date. The most recent Games Night was September 28. A written proposal for establishing dialogue groups with local mosques, synagogues, or other congregations was presented. Considerable discussion followed. Friends requested that Peace and Social Concerns Committee proceed with developing its concept by first contacting the American Friends Service Committee and using the resources and expertise available from them. Peace and Social Concerns Committee will provide a progress report at the next Meeting for Business.

Announcements

- Marka Carson sends her regards.
- Opportunities exist for putting in a peaceful presence at demonstrations and vigils. There will be a demonstration against the bombing of Afghanistan at Powell and Market Streets at 5:00 pm tonight and a vigil at the Oakland Federal Building at 8:00 pm. Lake Merritt Neighbors for Peace begins a march at 3:00 pm.
- Clerk of Meeting will follow up on setting up a way to post information during the week on a taped phone message or by other means.

The next Meeting for Business will be November 4 at 11:45 at the Berkeley Alternative High School.

The meeting closed at 2:10 pm after a period of silent worship. Twenty-four Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Burr, Clerk
Charlie Blanchard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, 4 November 2001

The meeting opened at noon with silent worship. Thirty-three Friends were present. Susan Burr, clerk, presided. Overseers provided reflections on the Advices and Queries on Integrity and Personal Conduct. Friends offered additional responses.

Minutes of the October 7 Meeting for Business were read and approved, correcting the date of the last Meeting for Business to September 9.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

The Berkeley Unified School District is scheduled to approve the Strawberry Creek Meeting lease at its meeting of November 14. The patio within the Independent Studies portion of the BAHS site should not be used, even if the gate is open. Susan Burr, as liaison to BAHS for service projects, has information on scheduled orientation meetings for volunteers. The only evening orientation during the remainder of the calendar year will be November 5, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm at 1835 Allston in Berkeley. Elizabeth Strain will join Susan Burr and Libby Echlin in working on a Christmas program, with assistance from the teen group. The program will be December 15.

Old Business

Nominating Committee. The nomination of Kris Schnepf as Ben Lomond Quaker Center representative was approved.

Naming Committee (*Peter Trueblood*). Naming Committee (Leslie Leonard, Peter Trueblood, and John McCarthy) confirmed that Shelley Tanenbaum, Pam Calvert, and Philappa Barron will each continue serving on the Nominating Committee for the second year of their two-year terms, though Philappa's participation may be limited. Larry Strain and Charles Groom are nominated to serve two-year and one-year terms, respectively. The Naming Committee also supports John McCarthy's offer to serve on the Nominating Committee. After discussion, Meeting requested that the clerk ask John to absent himself from further work of the Naming Committee. The three new nominations will be seasoned.

New Business

Nominating Committee (*Shelley Tanenbaum*). Dee Rossman was nominated to serve as PYM representative. The current observer, Carl Magruder, will be attending school out of town the remainder of this year and next, and will be unable to become the new rep. The nomination will be seasoned and a new PYM observer will be nominated later.

Finance Committee (*Don Groom*). The 2002 budget was presented and will be seasoned. Changes in line items are: (1) discontinuation of the Retreat Committee contingency fund, as surpluses have accumulated; (2) inclusion of Quaker Bolivia Link among outreach donations; and (3) elimination of named funds for individuals. The Sharing and Scholarship funds will be used for all individual needs as determined by Overseers. A written minute was provided on this policy and will be seasoned. Finance Committee, with assistance from Overseers, will try to provide new names to better distinguish among the purposes served by the current and reserve Sharing funds, the Scholarship fund (generally used for PYM attendance), and the Education fund. Outreach donations have been increased from \$132 to \$150. Friends requested that Finance Committee determine if the contribution to the Northern California Interreligious Conference still reflects an active involvement of Strawberry Creek Meeting.

Reports

Worship and Ministry (*Barbara Graves*): Worship and Ministry will lead discussions of the new Faith & Practice on the third First Day of each month, to be followed by open sessions at homes later in the week. The first session will be November 18, with Elsa Glines and Howard Curtis facilitating discussion of Quaker history. The second session will be December 16 on Christianity and Quakerism, with Eric Moon and Lisa McKinney facilitating.

Overseers (*Howard Curtis*): Overseers recommends the transfer of membership of Stephen McNeil from Adelphi Meeting. It will be seasoned. Membership of Nancy Wilkinson and the transfer of Helen Haug's membership are in process. The Newcomers Brunch will be November 11 at the home of David and Leslie Leonard. House meetings and two special Meetings for Worship were held since September 11.

Finance Committee (*Don Groom*). A revised committee job description was presented and approved.

Peace and Social Concerns (*Carl Anderson*): A written report was provided. Peace and Social Concerns Committee will be contacting the American Friends Service Committee to discuss establishing dialogue groups with local mosques, synagogues, or other congregations. San Francisco Meeting is sponsoring a forum on alternatives to war on December 4, from 3:00 to 8:00 pm at 65 Ninth Street, San Francisco. The next committee meetings will be November 11 and 25 after the rise of meeting.

First Day School (*Miftah Leath*): Primary attendance is increasing, with ten children present today. Teens and preteens are finishing their examination of Quaker witness. Holiday curriculum will begin after Thanksgiving.

Hospitality (*Joyce Samati*): A potluck will be held on November 25, after Thanksgiving. Friends are encouraged to continue visiting Philappa Barron, especially during afternoons.

Young Friends (*Chaim Finkelman*): Young Friends have enjoyed well-attended potluck dinners on the third First Day of each month. Many would like to attend the discussions of Quakerism after rise of Meeting that are also on the third First Day. Recognizing that some committees meet on the second First Day and welcomings, potlucks, and other events are often on the fourth First Day, Overseers will consider how scheduling may be improved.

Announcements

- Santa Cruz Meeting has closed escrow on purchase of a meeting house, and Salt Lake City Meeting has made an offer on a property for use as a meeting house.
- The Ben Lomond Quaker Center year-end retreat is filling up rapidly.
- Loaves and Fishes needs assistance with temporary storage of food.

The next Meeting for Business will be December 2 at 11:45 at the Berkeley Alternative High School.

The meeting closed at 2:05 pm after a period of silent worship. Twenty-one Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Burr, Clerk
Charlie Blanchard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, 2 December 2001

The meeting opened at noon with silent worship. Forty Friends were present. Susan Burr, clerk, presided. Site Committee provided reflections on the Advices and Queries on Simplicity. Many Friends offered additional responses, touching on inner simplicity and what we value beyond simplicity itself. Minutes of the November 4 Meeting for Business were read and approved, correcting the date of the next Adult Education meeting from December 16 to January 20.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

Some changes are anticipated in the types of work that Meeting volunteers may be doing this year with Berkeley Alternative High School, as the school will not be participating in the Writers Workshop Program until possibly late this year or next year. The school would still like one person to participate in the volunteer training to ensure that a seasoned volunteer is available. A joint meeting of Overseers and Worship and Ministry was held November 27. Agenda items included (1) making changes to the calendar of scheduled activities, (2) evaluating the move to BAHS, (3) discussing concerns for establishing a long-term and stable site for Meeting, (4) reactivating the neighborhood clusters that were originally established in anticipation of potential year 2000 communications or transportation difficulties, (5) welcoming newcomers, (6) considering guidelines for online web groups, and (7) following up on the house meetings that are associated with current events. Quarterly Meeting will be January 19 in Berkeley, at the Community of Christ, Berkeley Peace and Justice Ministry Center at 2079 Eunice Street. Hospitality, including lodging and food, is requested from Strawberry Creek Meeting.

Old Business

Nominating Committee. The nomination of Dee Rossman as Pacific Yearly Meeting representative was approved.

Naming Committee (*Leslie Leonard*). The nominations of Larry Strain, Charles Groom, and John McCarthy to the Nominating Committee were approved. The terms will be two years for Larry and John and one year for Charles, to maintain a balance between continuing and new members next year. Shelley Tanenbaum was nominated to continue as clerk, and Meeting requested that she continue in this capacity while the nomination is seasoned.

Finance Committee (*Leslie Leonard*). The 2002 budget was approved, having been seasoned. The approved budget includes corrections of some numerical errors in the October version of the proposed budget. Policy changes from 2001 to 2002 are: (1) discontinuation of the Retreat Committee contingency fund, as surpluses have accumulated; (2) inclusion of Quaker Bolivia Link among outreach donations; (3) discontinuation of the contribution to the Northern California Interreligious Conference, ~~which is not currently active as an organization~~; and (4) elimination of named funds for individuals. Having been seasoned, the proposed minute on this last policy was discussed and adopted with minor revision to read:

From time-to-time Overseers learn about a Meeting member or attender with specific financial needs. In response, Overseers sometimes propose that contributions be sent to the Meeting Sharing or Scholarship funds in order to augment them for such purposes. While donors may suggest specific uses of their gifts, the Sharing and Scholarship funds are under the care of Overseers, who have the ultimate responsibility for administering them as they see the larger needs of the Meeting community. Meeting cannot accept funds simply to make them tax deductible.

Finance Committee will work with Overseers, to provide new names to better distinguish among the purposes served by the current and reserve Sharing funds, the Scholarship fund, and the Education fund. Rental costs at BAHS will be \$8000 for the next seven months, subject to change in July at the start of the next fiscal year for the Berkeley Unified School District, so Finance Committee recommends allocating \$18,000 for rent for the calendar year.

Reports

Retreat (*Sandra Lewis*): Forty-eight adults and one child attended the fall retreat. A written report was provided. Four types of needs emerged at the retreat: (1) community connection in times of crisis; (2) skills to help Friends witness for peace; (3) ways to reach out to other groups; and (4) ways to address connections between lifestyle and national policy. The retreat generated an excess of income over costs. Meeting approved the committee's proposal to donate \$200 of the excess to AFSC for Afghan relief efforts.

ad hoc Web Group (*Charlie Blanchard*): An ad hoc committee (Andrea English, John McCarthy, Peter Sam, and Charlie Blanchard) has been assigned by the Clerk to review the proposed establishment of an online Internet web group (or groups) for use by members and attenders of Strawberry Creek Meeting. The ad hoc committee is aware of historical concerns in Meeting regarding inclusiveness and privacy. Full participation will initially be limited to members and established attenders of Strawberry Creek Meeting. Development will be approached experimentally, with sub-groups formed as needed depending on level and range of interest. Initial use will focus on sharing and archiving e-mail messages, sharing links to web sites of general interest, and posting files or notices of personal or general interest to Strawberries. The committee ultimately sees that web groups have the potential to touch other functions of the Meeting, such as the newsletter and calendar, and will work with the newsletter editor and others as needed.

Hospitality (*Elizabeth Strain*): The Thanksgiving potluck was very successful. The Christmas program will be potluck; bring food to share. Philippa Barron thanks the Meeting for continuing support and says that it may be time to move to a less formal means of support. Philippa and the whole family love to have casual visits (call first). Friendly 7's will be the last Sunday in February, and not in January because of schedule conflicts. Patricia Netherly has just had knee replacement surgery. Hospitality Committee will coordinate visits and meal support (up to three times a week) when she leaves rehabilitation in about two weeks. She will need help cooking, shopping and driving for a couple of weeks after going home. Patricia enjoys phone calls and short visits. She is currently in Elmwood Convalescent Hospital (near Berkeley Bowl). Her home is in Richmond.

Worship and Ministry (*Barbara Graves*): Worship and Ministry has a concern for the number of Friends who arrive late for Meeting. We are urged to seek for a silent gathering of Meeting without disruptions as a goal. This concern is a continuing item on the committee's agenda.

Overseers (*Andrea English*): Two memberships are pending. Stephen McNeil's home meeting has received his transfer request, but has not yet forwarded the transfer of membership form. Helen Haug's visiting committee report was read by Kathy Barry. The report described Helen's life and experience as a Friend and warmly recommends approval of her request for transfer of membership from New York 15th St. Meeting. The request will be seasoned until the next business meeting.

Last December, First Day School Committee asked Overseers to formalize a policy for promptly responding in the event an incident of personal abuse is noted in Meeting. No current circumstance requires this policy to be prepared. We are seeking to heighten our awareness of damaging abuse that exists in society around us. There are also discussions of this concern in the new PYM Faith

and Practice. After seasoning and consultation with professionals, a written Overseers' policy has been developed and was read. It is intended to facilitate our ability to respond in ways that are potentially healing to all concerned.

Overseers is designing a process to consider the various questions regarding a long term stable site, including seeking the experience of the several meetings in the Quarter who are engaged with building, buying, expansion and maintenance issues.

Overseers and Worship and Ministry met jointly to consider concerns about the structure of the Meeting calendar. The sense of the joint meeting was that Meeting for Business works well with the current scheduling arrangement. The second Sunday (as available) should be considered a potential meeting time for any committees, and Worship and Ministry will continue to schedule adult education sessions on third Sunday. Scheduling remains a concern of both committees and will be monitored. One friend expressed concern about not responding to the request from Young Friends to reschedule Adult Education so that it is not on the same day as their monthly evening potluck supper.

Peace and Social Concerns (*Carl Anderson*): Peace and Social Concerns committee met two times each in October and November, but is now back to a once per month schedule. The committee has clarified that BOSS is no longer involved with UA Homes. The committee is continuing to work on games night, with the next being on December 21. It is anticipated that 8 to 10 Strawberries will attend the Alternatives to War workshop at San Francisco Friends Meeting this week. The PYM Peace Committee sent a questionnaire asking how the Meeting responded to events of and following September 11. In addition to responding to the questions, Peace and Social Concerns will forward the report of the Retreat Committee read today.

Finance Committee (*Don Groom*). A written treasurers report was distributed.

Additional Clerk's business (*Susan Burr*). The State of the Meeting report writers will be Leonard Joy (from Overseers), Robin Standish (from Worship and Ministry), and Phil Obbard (from Meeting as a whole). The nominations were approved, with gratitude for their willingness to serve. Rental costs for use of Friends Church have increased significantly and the budgeted rental costs for the Christmas program will be exceeded. The program committee is working with Friends Church to assure the best possible price.

Announcements

- Renewals for Friends Bulletin are part of the function of the data base keeper and Richard Leath will handle the process this year.
- A work week is being planned by PYM Young Friends at a potential Yearly Meeting site in Visalia during late December.

The next Meeting for Business will be January 6 at 11:45 at the Berkeley Alternative High School. The meeting closed at 2:05 pm after a period of silent worship. Twenty-six Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Burr, Clerk
Tom Whiteman, Alternate Clerk
Charlie Blanchard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting Minutes of the Meeting for Business First Day, 6 January 2002

Meeting for Business opened at 11:50 am with silent worship. Susan Burr clerked. Forty Friends were present. Facilities Committee provided reflections on the Advices and Queries on Meeting for Business. Friends offered several responses, raising additional questions: How much time is enough time to come to unity? How could we help people attend Meeting for Business when other obligations inhibit attendance? Minutes of the December 2 Meeting for Business were read and approved with the following correction: the reference in the Finance Committee report to discontinuation of the meeting's contribution to the Northern California Interreligious Conference should delete the phrase "which is not currently active as an organization."

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

Letters were received from Allison Elliot and Daphne Clement, with news from each. Daphne also sent a book, entitled *The Quiet Eye*, as a contribution to the meeting library. Since Berkeley Alternative High School will not be participating in the Writers Workshop Program until some later date, the school would like volunteers to instead mentor students, assist them with homework, and help them improve reading skills. The times when volunteers are needed are Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 12:30 to 1:10 pm. Quarterly Meeting will be January 19 in Berkeley, at 2079 Eunice Street. Hospitality, including lodging and food, is needed. Teens should pre-register for the teen program.

Old Business

Naming Committee. The nomination of Shelley Tanenbaum to continue as clerk of Nominating Committee was approved.

Overseers. Helen Haug's transfer of membership from New York 15th St. Meeting was approved. A welcoming committee, consisting of Rick Herbert, convener, Stephanie Kennedy, and Larry Perry, will meet with her.

New Business

Photo Directory (*John McCarthy*): A proposal for creating a photo directory was presented. The proposal was previously sent to Overseers, who asked that it be presented to Meeting for Business for wider consideration. In preparation, John McCarthy, Rich Tittle, and Richard Leath met informally this month to discuss the desirability of a photo directory and the options available. They recommend that Meeting produce a photo directory, with further consideration to be given to the means for creating it. Examples and information on commercially available services were provided. Considerable discussion followed, with Friends expressing both interest in the directory and reservations about the suitability of commercially available services. Many Friends expressed interest in linking a photo directory to the database, and in updating photos frequently, such as on a quarterly basis. Some Friends felt that the proposal should be further seasoned through one or more committees. Others noted that some functions of a photo directory had in the past been filled by placing individual or group photos on the meeting bulletin boards that were used at Shelton School or Friends Church, or by an earlier version of the database. The proposal will be seasoned until the March Meeting for Business to provide time to gather more information. Friends interested in helping organize or create a photo directory should speak with John McCarthy.

Reports

Finance Committee (*Don Groom*). A written treasurers report was distributed.

First Day School (*Miftah Leath*): During January, the teens will work on tiles for the Peace

Wall at the former Alameda Naval Base with Carolyn Marks, and continue the peace curriculum with David Leonard in February. The next teen/young adult gathering will be January 12. Margaret Schneider, Lee Douglas, and Phil Obbard will coordinate programs for the primary-age children.

Hospitality (*Joyce Samati*): Food and lodging are needed for out-of-town Friends attending Quarterly Meeting January 19. The next Friendly 7's will be February 24.

Worship and Ministry (*Lynne D'Angelo*): Worship and Ministry Committee discussed scheduling conflicts and has decided that it is best to continue holding adult-education sessions about the new Faith and Practice on third Sundays.

Nominating (*Shelley Tanenbaum, read by Charlie Blanchard*): Sherrin Loyd was nominated for PYM observer for 2002. The nomination will be seasoned. The new nominating committee will begin meeting January 16.

Overseers (*Andrea English*): Overseers has scheduled two meetings to consider questions regarding a long term stable site: January 17 at 7:30 pm at the Berkeley Friends Meeting Education Building and February 10 after Meeting for Worship.

Overseers recommends the membership of Nancy Wilkinson, which will be seasoned until next month. A short biography was read.

Copies of the written Overseers' policy on responding to possible cases of child abuse or other types of abusive situations are available from the clerk of Overseers.

Current storage arrangements at Berkeley Alternative High School were summarized by Tom Whiteman. Meeting will purchase a locker to place in the kitchen and will use a roll-around stacking cart for the library, which will be stored in the school's media room. Discussion followed and Friends noted the need to provide a central, offsite storage arrangement for scattered meeting belongings. Decisions will be made after inventorying offsite belongings, which will be coordinated by Tom Whiteman.

Peace and Social Concerns (*Carl Anderson*): UA Homes games night was December 21 and the committee is discussing how to continue the project. The Alternatives to War workshop at San Francisco Friends Meeting was well-organized and was attended by about 85-90 people, including many Strawberries. Peace and Social Concerns is providing funds for the First Day School to use to purchase tiles for its Peace Wall project. The next committee meeting will be January 13.

Announcements

- The Islamic Cultural Center of Northern California is sponsoring an interfaith dialogue next Sunday at the Berkeley Congregational Church.
- Adults interested in creating tiles for the Peace Wall at the former Alameda Naval Base may contact Carolyn Marks.

The next Meeting for Business will be February 3 at 11:45 at the Berkeley Alternative High School. The meeting closed at 1:50 pm after a period of silent worship. Thirty-one Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Burr, Clerk
Charlie Blanchard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, 3 February 2002

Meeting for Business opened at 11:55 am with silent worship. Susan Burr clerked. Forty Friends were present. Hospitality Committee provided responses to the Advices and Queries on Personal Relationships. In reading these Advices and Queries during Meeting for Worship, Hospitality Committee chose to omit portions that they felt would be confusing and disturbing to young children. The omitted portions were read. Hospitality Committee also expressed a concern that the new query no longer reflects the emphasis placed by the old query on the responsibility of the whole Meeting for nurturing children. Friends expressed additional thoughts on the idea of the whole Meeting's children, and Friends were invited to participate in activities with the teens.

Minutes of the January 6 Meeting for Business were read and approved with two corrections. First, under announcements, replace "sponsoring" with "participating in" to read: "The Islamic Cultural Center of Northern California is participating in an interfaith dialogue next Sunday at the Berkeley Congregational Church." Second, in the section of Overseers report pertaining to storage arrangements, add the note that some Friends missed the bulletin boards with notices and photos used in previous locations.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

Letters were received from Lee Winkelman and Gordon Bishop requesting membership. The letters were directed to Overseers.

Old Business

Nominating Committee. The nomination of Sherrin Loyd as PYM observer was approved.

Overseers. Stephen McNeil's transfer of membership was approved. A welcoming committee, consisting of Wilbur Hoff, convener, Sherrin Loyd, Barbara Graves, and Leonard Joy, will meet with him. Nancy Wilkinson's request for membership was approved. Her welcoming committee will be Cindy Trueblood, convener, Rick Herbert, Stephanie Kennedy, Robin Standish, and Patricia Netherly.

Offsite Inventory (*Tom Whiteman*): Meeting has about 40 boxes of belongings stored offsite, half of which are library materials. There are also 20 folding chairs, cushions, and four bulletin boards. The existing library cart has 15 feet of shelf space. Facilities Committee will investigate possibilities for centralized offsite storage. Friends should provide suggestions or offers of assistance to Tom Yamaguchi.

Photo Directory (*Susan Burr*): Since last month, it has become clearer that Friends are interested in a photo directory, have reservations about commercial services, and are willing to provide volunteer time for preparing a directory. The specific proposal to be seasoned is: "Meeting would like to add pictures of each individual member and attender (including children) to its directory. Meeting wishes to take the pictures and do the picture directory ourselves in order to have control over the manner in which it is done. Volunteers who are willing to help with organization, taking pictures, and publishing a picture directory should contact John McCarthy, who will help put together an ad hoc committee for this purpose." Friends suggested other actions also meriting consideration, including wearing nametags during Meeting for Worship and creating a roll-up photo display to be posted each week. The photo directory proposal will be seasoned and additional information on costs and other concerns will be provided next month.

New Business

Library Cart (*Tom Whiteman*): A study, roll-around cart with large wheels is needed. Having checked five supplier catalogs, the best choice is one with 24.5 feet of shelf space and a cost of \$430 plus shipping. After discussion, the purchase was approved.

Lease Renewal (*Susan Burr*): Our current lease at BAHS runs through June 30 and a lead time of several months may be needed to put the approval of a lease renewal on the calendar of the Berkeley School Board. It was proposed that Meeting now begin the process of seeking a renewal of the lease at BAHS. The proposal was approved.

Reports

Nominating Committee (*Shelley Tanenbaum*). Some committees' jobs, such as Site and Facilities, may change substantially and Nominating Committee is available to help rewrite job descriptions. Marty Malin and Chris Muller were nominated to serve on Loaves and Fishes Committee through the end of May, when current committee terms expire.

Overseers (*Andrea English*): The current job description for Overseers is substantially correct and small changes were sent to Nominating Committee. Overseers is primarily engaged in beginning a process of discernment for developing a long-term stable site. The next site meeting will be February 10 after the rise of Meeting. Notes from the January 17 meeting are available. Friends are encouraged to visit other meetings to observe their sites. A sign-up sheet for carpooling is available.

Peace and Social Concerns (*Carl Anderson*): UA Homes games night was January 26 and the committee has determined that it will be able to continue the project. Carolyn Marks will present slides from her trip to Israel and the occupied territories on February 19 at 7:00 pm at the Berkeley Friends Meeting Education Building. Berkeley Friends Meeting's Adult Education Committee will sponsor Allan Solomonow and Iftekhar A. Hai on "A Muslim - Jewish Response to Terror" at 7:00 pm on February 18. The next committee meeting will be February 10 at 4:30 pm at the home of Tim Saunders.

Worship and Ministry (*Lynne D'Angelo*): Heat and lighting within the Meeting room continue to be issues, with Friends expressing contradictory preferences. Adult Education will continue on third Sundays, with Pam Calvert and Andrea English on Meeting for Worship in February and Barbara Graves on Meeting for Business in March. The topics of Community and Integrity will be covered in April and May. Friends have suggested a change in the format of Friendly 7's, permitting more time to be together after completing dialogue. Worship and Ministry Committee suggests that food-serving be discontinued five minutes prior to Meeting for Business and other scheduled events.

First Day School (*Miftah Leath*): A revised job description was prepared, reflecting the change from nominating teachers to First Day School Committee to nominating teaching coordinators. The change helps encourage wider meeting participation in the First Day School program. The revised job description also includes the responsibilities of the child-care and teen coordinators. The revisions were read and approved.

Hospitality (*Elizabeth Strain*): Quarterly Meeting thanks hosts and food providers. Feedback provided at the State of the Society listening meeting led to the suggested change in the format of Friendly 7's, which will now begin with a simple meal, followed by dialogue and then dessert.

Treasurer's update (*Susan Burr*). Treasurer reports that \$2930 was donated to Meeting after last year's final report was prepared, so that yearly income exceeded expenditures by \$2130. However, the account balances have declined because all the funds in named accounts were spent. This change allows us to begin the year in keeping with the new, minuted policy replacing funds designated for individuals with other funds under the care of Overseers.

Announcements

- Allan Solomonow and Iftekhar A. Hai will be the presenters at "A Muslim - Jewish Response to Terror", the second of three events sponsored by Berkeley Friends Meeting.
- AFSC has now packed and shipped to Afghanistan 74,407 blankets valued at \$1.3 million and weighing about 113 tons. Donors and volunteer packers are thanked.
- The Spring Retreat will be May 3rd through 5th at Ben Lomond Center.
- The writing committee for the annual State of the Society report thanks Friends for their input and asks that further comments be provided to Robin Standish, Leonard Joy, or Phil Obbard.

The next Meeting for Business will be March 3 at 11:50 at the Berkeley Alternative High School. The meeting closed at 1:45 pm after a period of silent worship. Thirty Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Burr, Clerk
Charlie Blanchard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, 3 March 2002

Meeting for Business opened at noon with silent worship. Susan Burr clerked. Thirty-six Friends were present. Helen Haug read the Advices and Queries on Meeting Community. Several Friends provided responses. Minutes of the February 3 Meeting for Business were read and approved, correcting the spelling of Kris Muller's name.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

A letter was received from Ted Obbard requesting a transfer of membership from Palo Alto Meeting to Strawberry Creek Meeting. The request was directed to Overseers.

Old Business

Nominating Committee. The nominations of Marty Malin and Kris Muller to Loaves and Fishes were approved.

Photo Directory (*John McCarthy*): Privacy concerns will be addressed by making participation voluntary and by separating the photo directory from the regular Meeting directory so that pictures would be associated only with names, and not with addresses or phone numbers. The photo directory would be available in printed form or on the web group, but only members and attenders of Strawberry Creek Meeting would have access to the directory posted at the web group site. Volunteers are available for taking pictures and entering them into the database. Costs are primarily for black & white reproduction and are expected to be about \$150 to \$200 total. Meeting approved the photodirectory as proposed. Meeting also requested that this approval be for a trial period of one year after the first publication of the photo directory, with later consideration to be given to ongoing efforts needed for future versions.

New Business

State of Society Report (*Robin Standish*): The report was read. Friends expressed their appreciation for the profundity and eloquence of the report. Friends will provide specific comments to the writing committee (Robin Standish, Leonard Joy, and Phil Obbard). Some Friends asked the committee to either define more clearly certain phrases, or to consider not using them if the committee concludes that they do not actually represent the present understanding of the Meeting. Some Friends felt that the section about developing a search for a new meeting house should note that Meeting was opening a process of discernment to identify the types of facilities that could serve the work of the Meeting. Friends also noted that after September 11, two meetings for worship were held with the Berkeley Friends Church and Berkeley Friends Meeting, and that the regular meetings for worship experienced less silence, rather than little silence. The report will be seasoned until next month.

Reports

Hospitality (*Stephanie Kennedy*): Four groups met for Friendly 7's. Two followed the older format with dinner before dialogue, and two tried a suggested change with Friendly 7's beginning with a simple meal, followed by dialogue and then dessert. Either format may be followed. Patricia Netherly is scheduled for knee replacement surgery on March 11 and will welcome visitors after her move to the Elmwood Convalescent Center.

Overseers (*Andrea English*): Three membership committees are in progress for Lee Winkelman, Gordon Bishop, and Ted Obbard. Overseers has attempted to contact members who have not attended Meeting for Worship for several years. Some want to continue their membership. No contact has been made with Ritva Kaje. George Russell would like to lay down his membership. Overseers will season action on these two memberships.

Larry Perry is recovering from open-heart surgery, attending meeting less than a week after the surgery. Patricia Netherly is scheduled for knee-replacement surgery. Tim Saunders has been away from meeting recently due to a respiratory infection.

Overseers recommends the Pendle Hill pamphlet "Spiritual Discernment: the Context and Goal of Clearness Committees", by Patricia Loring. Overseers has developed new names for scholarship and sharing funds. They are the Quaker Events Scholarship Fund, the Sharing Fund (for urgent need), the reserve Sharing Fund (which accumulates unused amounts), and the Quaker School and College Fund.

Discussions about a meeting site were held January 17 and February 10, and notes are available. Some Friends are visiting other meeting sites and several working groups have been started. The next site discussion meeting is March 24, after which Overseers hopes to form conclusions and recommendations on how to proceed. An additional meeting on April 13 has been scheduled if needed.

Peace and Social Concerns (*David Leonard*): The committee will continue UA Homes games nights. Residents have appreciated Games Night and have asked Carl Anderson to serve as an elections monitor. Peace and Social Concerns Committee brings to the attention of the Meeting a proposed moratorium on the death penalty in California. On the basis of the principles enunciated in the PYM minute of August 2001 on the death penalty, Friends approved the use of Strawberry Creek Meeting's name to be listed among the supporters of a "Resolution for a Moratorium on Executions in the State of California". Copies of both the resolution and the PYM minute were provided.

Treasurer (*Don Groom*). A written report was provided. Friends asked that Finance Committee provide future recommendations on Meeting's contributions to the former John Woolman School, which is now the Sierra Friends Center, and East Bay Sanctuary Covenant, which presently receives both a direct contribution and a contribution to their housing fund.

Worship and Ministry (*Barbara Graves*): Adult Education meetings have been well attended, and the mid-week follow-up discussions have been fruitful even though their attendance has been limited to about six or seven Friends. The next topics will be Meeting for Business and decisionmaking on March 17 and Community in April.

Announcements

None.

The next Meeting for Business will be April 7 at 11:50 a.m. at the Berkeley Alternative High School. The meeting closed at 2:35 pm after a period of silent worship. Twenty-two Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Burr, Clerk
Charlie Blanchard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting Minutes of the Meeting for Business First Day, 7 April 2002

Meeting for Business opened at 11:50 am with silent worship. Susan Burr clerked. Forty-four Friends were present. Helen Haug (Newsletter Committee) read the Advices and Queries on Reaching Out. Friends provided responses. Minutes of the March 3 Meeting for Business were read and approved, with two corrections to the Overseers report. The first correction reads "In consultation with Finance Committee, Overseers has developed new names for scholarship and sharing funds." Second, the date of the next site discussion meeting is April 14.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

Berkeley Food Pantry has experienced a 20 percent increase in need and is assisting 11,000 families annually. Contributions are needed. San Francisco Friends School is on schedule to open two kindergarten classes in September, with eventual plans to expand to a K-8 program with 360 students. Teachers with a Quaker background are encouraged to consider opportunities at the school.

Tom Whiteman reported on a meeting with Alex Palau, principal of Berkeley Alternative High School. Mr. Palau has signed the Strawberry Creek Meeting lease application and it will be sent to the Berkeley Unified School District Board of Education together with applications from other groups later this month. One of the most significant needs at BAHS is to provide tangible and appreciated recognition to students who have achieved academic or citizenship success. Meeting approved a one-time donation of \$400 to purchase T-shirts or event tickets to give to students who are being recognized for their achievements this spring. Meeting stated that a larger amount could be requested if needed. An ongoing liason committee will be needed to coordinate with BAHS to provide awards four time per year. Tutors are also needed.

Two requests for traveling minutes were received. According to Pacific Yearly Meeting "Faith and Practice", a meeting may grant a traveling minute to a Friend who is traveling under the weight of a leading. The meeting affirms the Friend's leading to travel under a concern, though need not unite with it. Pam Calvert will be traveling to the Pacific Northwest Womens' Theology Conference May 30 through June 2 with concerns to reconcile the polarity between liberal and evangelical Friends' traditions and to provide a filmmaking record of the conference. Kristina Perry will be traveling in the eastern United States to visit Quaker and other intentional communities beginning in June, with a concern for spiritual ecology centered around sustainability and radical simplicity. She hopes to share what she has learned with Strawberry Creek Meeting and in her planned work with faith-based co-housing. Meeting provided expressions of support and enthusiasm for both Friends and the requests were directed to Overseers.

Old Business

State of Society Report (*Leonard Joy*). The seasoned report was read and approved with great appreciation for the work of the writing committee. Friends requested that the report be made available throughout the year, in printed form and on the web group site.

New Business

Nominating Committee (*Shelley Tanenbaum*). The nominating committee (Shelley Tanenbaum, Pam Calvert, Chuck Groom, John McCarthy and Larry Strain) have worked to identify the best fits between individuals' interests and the needs of the meeting. The nominations

were read and written copies were provided. Nominations will be seasoned until next month and Friends should contact members of Nominating Committee with concerns. The lengths of term for members of Worship and Ministry and Overseers will be identified next month, after Nominating Committee has considered how to achieve a balance between new and continuing members next year. In response to Friends' questions, it was noted that a Site Committee was not nominated in accordance with guidance from Overseers, to allow time to complete the present discernment process regarding a long-term, stable site. The role to be played by a Site Committee would then be clearer. Some Friends have indicated to Nominating Committee their interest in serving on a Site Committee. In future, it may be decided to establish a nominated position for a webmaster. A child-care coordinator may be needed for First Day School Committee, if the current child-care provider does not continue. The clerks of meeting and of Nominating Committee will consult on the need to establish a representative to the new Sierra Friends Center.

Reports

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (*Bob Reis*). EBSC provided a commendation of support to Strawberry Creek Meeting. Many Strawberries have been active in EBSC over the years. When EBSC was raising funds through the sale of grocery-store paper scrip, Strawberry Creek Meeting provided about one-third of the proceeds from 30 congregations. The EBSC 20th anniversary dinner will be held later this year. EBSC became a nonprofit (501c3) three years ago and now serves as fiscal sponsor for other organizations. While EBSC continues to provide inexpensive legal services for immigrants, the EBSC Housing Fund is not as active as it once was. For more information, Friends may speak with Bob Reis or check at www.EastBaySanctuary.org.

Peace and Social Concerns (*Carl Anderson*): UA Homes games night was held in March. Ten Strawberries attended the Good Friday observation at Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, and one person helped prepare for the event. Peace and Social Concerns Committee meets next on April 14 at 5:00 pm at the home of Tim Saunders.

Pacific Yearly Meeting representative (*DeeRossman and Ravahn Samati*): Pacific Yearly Meeting will be at the University of San Diego from July 22 to 27. About 400 dorm rooms will be available. They are configured with two rooms that share a kitchen and bathroom, and each suite can accommodate four people in bunk beds with space for four more if needed. Additional information on costs and the PYM minutes will be provided at a later date.

First Day School (*Miftah Leath*): The pre-primary group is ending its curriculum on "Peace" and beginning one on "Witness." Teens are continuing their discussions about Peace with David Leonard and are planning a field trip to Sacramento to visit Friends Committee on Legislation. A new pre-primary class will begin with two meetings per month.

Hospitality (*Joyce Samati*). The next Friendly 7's will be May ~~25~~²⁶. Patricia Netherly is recovering well from knee replacement surgery and Friends are encouraged to contact her to help her move into her new apartment.

Overseers (*Andrea English*). Overseers has seasoned its recommendations concerning members who have not attended Meeting for Worship for several years. No contact has been made with Ritva Kaje for about 15 years and a registered letter was unanswered. After speaking with George and Julie Russell, Overseers is clear that George would like to lay down his membership. Meeting approved laying down the memberships of Ritva Kaje and George Russell, with grateful acknowledgment for George's contributions to Meeting over the years. The last of the present series of site discussion meetings will be April 14, after which recommendations for how to proceed will be brought to Meeting for Business.

Facilities (*Susan Burr*). Facilities Committee has inventoried items stored offsite. The clerk of Meeting will work with Tom Yamaguchi and Tom Whiteman to develop a recommendation for centralized offsite storage.

Announcements

- The Islamic Cultural Center of Northern California will host an open house at 1433 Madison in Oakland at 2:00 pm April 7.
- Peace It Together is putting on a fundraiser April 7.
- Quaker Heritage Day was April 6 and a videotape will be made available.

The next Meeting for Business will be May 12 at 11:50 a.m. at the Berkeley Alternative High School. The meeting closed at 2:10 pm after a period of silent worship. Thirty-two Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Burr, Clerk
Charlie Blanchard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, 12 May 2002

Meeting for Business opened at noon with silent worship. Susan Burr clerked. Thirty-five Friends were present. Leslie Leonard provided reflections from Finance Committee to the Advices and Queries on Stewardship and Vocation. Minutes of the April 7 Meeting for Business were read and approved, correcting "intentional committees" to "intentional communities" and the date of the next Friendly 7's from May 25 to May 26.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

Meeting has received a certificate of transfer of membership from Palo Alto Meeting for Ted Obbard and a letter requesting membership from Kathy Barnhart. Both will be forwarded to Overseers.

New Business

FCL Liaison. Lee Andresen has requested that Meeting purchase a sponsorship for the Friends Committee on Legislation 50th anniversary dinner on May 30, as has been done in prior years. Meeting approved the purchase of a \$150 sponsorship, with suggestions that this item could be included in the budget as a regular expenditure and that two Friends be offered the tickets.

Old Business

Nominating Committee (*Shelley Tanenbaum*). Nominations were read and written copies provided. The seasoned nominations were approved. First Day School teachers were not listed because only the teaching coordinators serve on First Day School Committee. Teachers include Howard Curtis, Stephanie Kennedy, and Lee Andresen. The lengths of term for members of Overseers were identified and approved. New nominations were Ted Obbard to Retreat Committee and Joyce Samati as after-meeting child-care coordinator. These new nominations will be seasoned. The clerks of Meeting and of Nominating Committee will consult on the need to establish a representative to the new Sierra Friends Center.

Travel Minutes (*Susan Burr*). Pam Calvert has withdrawn her request for a travel minute. She will still be traveling to the Pacific Northwest Womens' Theology Conference May 30 through June 2 and will lead a workshop there, but will not be filming the conference. A clearness committee (Andrea English, Joyce Samati, and Charlie Blanchard) met with Kristina Perry. The committee recommends that Meeting provide a travel minute to Kristina. Andrea English read a draft minute affirming that Kristina will be traveling with a concern for "sustainability, community, and radical spiritual ecology". Kristina plans to share what she has learned from her visits to intentional communities with Strawberry Creek Meeting. The minute was approved, with suggestions to replace "June" and "July" with "Sixth Month" and "Seventh Month", respectively, and to clarify the geographical focus of the trip.

Reports

Overseers (*Andrea English*). Three membership clearness committee reports were read, recommending membership for Lee Winkelman, Gordon Bishop, and Ted Obbard. The committees were: Elsa Glines, Cindy Trueblood, and Al Thompson (for Lee Winkelman), Leonard Joy, Miftah Leath, and Stephen McNeil (for Gordon Bishop), and Tom Whiteman, Susan

Burr, and Peter Trueblood (for Ted Obbard). The recommendations will be seasoned. Overseers has reviewed the Meeting's "Emergency Response and Mutual Support Locator", dated September 1999, and will ask Hospitality Committee to consider how the document might be updated and used to help Friends interact more with other Friends who live nearby. A report on the recent series of site discussion meetings will be brought to the next Meeting for Business.

Peace and Social Concerns (*Carl Anderson*): A demonstration in San Francisco on April 20, preceded by an Interfaith Service, drew about 14 to 15 Strawberries. UA Homes games night was held in April, and the next Games Night will be May 24. Peace and Social Concerns Committee meets next on May 20 at the home of Tim Saunders. Written copies were provided of a minute from Chico Meeting supporting proposed legislation on the "Religious Freedom Peace Tax Fund" and the minute was read. Meeting requested that Peace and Social Concerns Committee, with help from those able to attend the committee's regular May 20 meeting, draft a minute from Strawberry Creek Meeting.

Retreat (*Kathy Barnhart*). A successful spring retreat focused on the Strawberry Creek Meeting community - past, present, and future. Friends particularly appreciated the small group workshops on visioning the future. Eighty-one Friends attended, including 68 adults, 6 teens, and 7 children.

Hospitality (*Joyce Samati*). A new member welcoming will be scheduled soon. The next Friendly 7's will be May 26. A joint meeting of the old and new committee members will be held the second Sunday of June.

First Day School (*Rick Herbert*): Four of the teens traveled to Sacramento to visit with Friends Committee on Legislation, learn how FCL tracks 7000 bills each year, and hear FCL testimony in the legislature. Friends expressed appreciation for Rick's work as teen-group coordinator.

Announcements

- Up to ten Friends from Strawberry Creek Meeting may participate in a trail maintenance project at Redwood Park on June 1 (see Andrea English for details).
- Friends should send changes in their addresses, phone numbers, or e-mail addresses to Richard Leath, who will be preparing a new version of the Meeting directory.
- Volunteers are needed, especially on Wednesday afternoon, at the Food Pantry at Berkeley Friends Church.
- Adult Education will be May 19 with Leonard Joy and Gordon Bishop.
- The Christian Friends Conference will be June 15 at Walnut Creek Friends Church.
- The Guatemala Monthly Meeting and Guatemala Scholarship/Loan Program are sponsoring a study tour in August 2002.

The next Meeting for Business will be June 2 at 11:50 a.m. at the Berkeley Alternative High School.

Meeting thanked Susan Burr, with deep appreciation, for her centered clerking of the past two years.

The meeting closed at 1:55 pm after a period of silent worship. Twenty-seven Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Burr, Clerk
Charlie Blanchard, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, 2 June 2002

Meeting for Business opened at noon with silent worship. Bob Burnett clerked. Thirty-one Friends were present. Miftah Leath and Rick Herbert provided reflections from First Day School Committee and the teen group to the Advices and Queries on Peace. Minutes of the May 12 Meeting for Business were read and approved, with the following correction to Overseers' report: "Overseers has reviewed the Meeting's 'Emergency Response and Mutual Support Locator', dated September 1999, and asked for a volunteer to consider how the document might be updated, with the intent that Hospitality Committee and others could use it to help Friends interact more with other Friends who live nearby."

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

Tom Whiteman reported that the Berkeley Unified School District has signed Strawberry Creek Meeting's new lease for the period from July 2002 through June 2003. Facilities Committee will explore possibilities for centralized offsite storage for approximately 30 boxes and some chairs and cushions. The Berkeley Alternative High School is designing a T-shirt for their awards ceremony, supported by a donation from Strawberry Creek Meeting.

Old Business

Nominating Committee (*Shelley Tanenbaum*). Meeting approved the nominations of Ted Obbard to Retreat Committee and Joyce Samati as after-meeting child-care coordinator. Ariana was nominated to Loaves and Fishes Committee, and this new nomination will be seasoned.

The memberships of Gordon Bishop, Lee Winkelman, and Ted Obbard were approved. Welcoming committees will meet with each. The committees are Nancy Wilkinson (convener), Tom Yamaguchi, and Patricia Netherly for Gordon Bishop; Miftah Leath (convener), Leslie Leonard, and Barbara Graves for Lee Winkelman; and Tom Whiteman (convener), Andrea English, Larry Perry, and Shelley Tanenbaum for Ted Obbard.

Reports

Hospitality (*Joyce Samati*). Four groups met for Friendly 7's on May 26. Hospitality is considering a dance, to be scheduled in the fall. A joint meeting of the old and new committee members will be held the second Sunday of June.

Overseers (*Andrea English for Elsa Glines*). The joint meeting of the old and new committee members was held. A membership clearness committee has been constituted for Kathy Barnhart, with Lynne D'Angelo as convener. A written report was read and copies provided to describe the conclusions and recommendations from the discernment process about a long-term meeting site. Overseers recommends that Meeting form a committee to develop a job description for a Meeting House Committee. Discussion followed. Susan Burr explained that Overseers' suggestion arose because, over the course of the four discernment meetings, Overseers felt that those present had moved toward keeping the task simpler by focusing primarily on a Meeting House and allowing other possible uses to emerge over time as way opened. Several Friends asked that the job description committee be able to integrate consideration of other uses into the work of the proposed Meeting House Committee. The proposal for creating a job description committee will be seasoned until the July Meeting for Business. A Friend asked for clarification of the process of nominating members of ad hoc committees. One Friend suggested that Nominating Committee nominate members of the job description committee. No decision was made about how to form the job description committee. The Clerk of Meeting will discuss these questions with the clerks of Overseers and Nominating Committee and report back to the July Meeting for Business.

Peace and Social Concerns (*Nancy Wilkinson*): A transition meeting of new and old members of Peace and Social Concerns Committee was held on May 20 at the home of Tim Saunders. The joint meeting affirmed its support of a minute from Chico Meeting favoring

proposed legislation on the "Religious Freedom Peace Tax Fund." Peace and Social Concerns Committee seeks volunteers to help draft a cover letter from Strawberry Creek Meeting. The draft will be reviewed by the committee and brought to the July 14 Meeting for Business. Friends requested that the minute and cover letter be posted on the Strawberry Creek web group page and be made available at Meeting for Worship. Meeting approved the proposed process. A presentation by Karin Anderson and Chris Moore Bachman on peace communities in Columbia is scheduled for June 23. Friends should contact Kris Schnepf for further information on the effort initiated by Santa Cruz Meeting to raise funds through donations of \$3 per person to pay for the U.S. back payment of its United Nations dues.

Retreat (*Ted Obbard*). Retreat Committee recommends that Meeting pay the full registration fees for the Spring Retreat at Quaker Center, which are higher than in previous years (\$3494.25). Nine Friends asked for scholarships, amounting to about \$450, and the retreat deficit was about \$400. The treasurer noted that he had already paid Quaker Center \$3460.25. Meeting approved the request for full payment to Quaker Center and asked Retreat Committee and the treasurer to season the use of the retreat fund. Meeting specifically asked if the fund had accumulated \$2200 as a result of carry-over from year to year; if that were the case, Meeting asked for a recommendation concerning carry-over.

Treasurer (*Don Groom*). A written report was provided. Rent is presently \$1240 per month, but the amount after June 30 is not yet known.

Worship and Ministry (*Tom Whiteman*). Worship and Ministry Committee is concerned about the length of announcements and seeks a balance that allows for adequate sharing of interests without undue length. The committee meets next on June 18. The dates of the next Meetings for Business that are not on the first First Day of each month will be July 14, September 8, December 8, and May 11. Summer outdoor worship opportunities will be scheduled on three First Days in July, August, and September. Friends may contact John McCarthy for further information. Regular religious education meetings will not be scheduled during summer, but one will be held on August 18, with a presentation by Eric Moon on James Naylor.

First Day School (*Miftah Leath*): A joint meeting of old and new committee members was held May 25. Certificates of participation will be presented June 9. During summer, crafts will be prepared to support the Heifer project. First Day School Committee is seeking the summer play equipment. The teen group is working to create its own social activities. Oversight of children sometimes requires two adults, and First Day School would like to have a list of adults who could be available on an as-needed basis. Meeting requested that Nominating Committee provide names in the same way that First Day School teachers are identified, though not nominated as members of First Day School Committee.

Announcements

- A Friend noted that the number of latecomers is a distraction that needs to be addressed.
- Friends interested in Junior Yearly Meeting may contact Ravahn Samati.
- Sierra Friends Center will hold work camps beginning in two and three weeks.
- Larry Perry received a letter from the Friends School in Ramallah requesting financial assistance. Donations may be sent through Friends United Meeting, 101 Quaker Hill Drive, Richmond IN 47374. Friends requested that Finance Committee season a Meeting contribution of about \$1000 in view of the serious need and our monthly rental savings of over \$700.
- Berkeley Friends Meeting picnic will be August 11 - see Joyce Samati for information.

The next Meeting for Business will be July 14 at 11:50 a.m. at Berkeley Alternative High School. The meeting closed at 1:50 pm after a period of silent worship. Twenty-four Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Burnett, Clerk
Charlie Blanchard, Acting Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, 14 July, 2002

Meeting for Business opened at noon with silent worship. Bob Burnett clerked. Twenty-nine Friends were present. Tom Whiteman provided reflections from Worship and Ministry Committee to the Advices and Queries on Spiritual Life.

Minutes of the June 2 Meeting for Business were read and approved with the following clarification under Clerk's Business: Facilities Committee will explore storage for 30 boxes and some chairs.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

Meeting received a letter from Dee Rossman requesting a transfer of membership from Montclair Monthly Meeting and a letter from John McCarthy requesting membership. Both letters will be forwarded to Overseers. A letter from Lyle R. Rocky Neptune, a Friend from San Diego Monthly Meeting and editor of Street Light newspaper, was received. The letter addressed concerns about the disparity between the fees used to support PYM and the poverty in nearby Tijuana, Mexico, and the use of scholarship applications by PYM and thus implicit support of class structure within PYM. Discussion followed on the central issue of economic justice. The Clerk and Dee Rossman (PYM Observer) will bring a report of a meeting with "Rocky" Neptune and others sharing his concern.

Old Business

Nominating Committee (Larry Strain). Meeting approved the nomination of Arianna to Loaves and Fishes.

Job Description Committee for Meeting House Committee (Bob Burnett). Meeting approved the Clerk's proposal to follow the process used for the Naming Committee to form the Job Description Committee. The Clerk proposed Susan Burr, John McCarthy and Robin Standish to the Job Description Committee. Meeting will season these names. The Clerk proposed a job description for the Job Description Committee (attached).

Reports

Peace and Social Concerns (*Nancy Wilkinson*). The cover letter drafted to accompany the Chico Meeting's Minute on the Peace Tax Payer's Fund was approved with minor corrections. The Committee continues to discern priorities, seeking a balance between more inwardly directed questions of Sustainable Quaker Culture and external requests. UA Homes Games night continues. The committee is addressing the list of possible priorities sent by FCNL for Friends' comments.

Nominating Committee (*Larry Strain*). The Committee recommends that representatives of FCL, FCNL, FCUN, AFSC and EBSC be included as ex-officio members of Peace and Social Concerns committee, and that this responsibility be added to their job descriptions for the coming year. Meeting approved this recommendation to be seasoned until the Sept. 8 Meeting for Business. The Committee suggested that the database keeper, newsletter editor, web site manager, events calendar coordinators, recorder and recording Clerk meet to assess whether or not ongoing official coordination of their tasks is desirable. Nominations of Tom Yamaguchi as SCMM Representative to Sierra Friends Center and Patricia Netherly to Hospitality Committee were approved for seasoning.

Facilities (Peter Lin). The Committee requested authorization to rent centralized offsite storage for boxes and chairs. Meeting approved authorization of not more than \$150.00 to cover this rental.

Worship and Ministry (Tom Whiteman). A recommendation was brought to change the Meeting for Business from the first First Day of the month to the second First Day, due to scheduling conflicts observed over several years. This recommendation will be seasoned until the next Business Meeting. The committee seeks to designate a non-scent section of our worship space to ameliorate the experience of persons with chemical sensitivities. The committee requested that people with sensitivities contact a member of the committee to share their experiences and propose solutions before the next Worship and Ministry meeting on August 14. Conflicting traffic flow has been a problem at the 10:15 exit of children and entrance of late-comers. The children will exit through the kitchen door to relieve congestion. An announcement board for posting of details will be placed on the patio on First Days. Eric Moon will present an Adult Education session on James Naylor on August 18th.

Overseers (Elsa Glines) A committee has been formed to process Dee Rossman's request for transfer of membership. A New Member Welcoming and Newcomer's Brunch are being planned for the fall. A joint meeting of Worship and Ministry and Overseers Committees is being scheduled.

First Day (Chaim Finkleman for Miftah Leath) Highlights from the June 9 Teen Meeting for Business were shared. Seven Friends attended and several subjects were chosen for discussion and study, including: Quaker Diversity, Leadings and Worship (through Bible study) and Worship Review (of SCMM worship). Service project possibilities are being researched.

Hospitality (Joyce Samati). An opportunity for outdoor worship is planned for August 4 at 10:30 in Redwood Park. Friends are invited to stay or join for a barbecue afterwards, with childcare provided. Strawberries are also invited to Berkeley Meeting's environmentally-themed picnic on August 11 at 12:30 in Live

Oak Park. Friends are encouraged to bring environmentally responsible activities and materials to share.

Finance (Katherine Youngmeister) Meeting approved the proposal that members and attenders be able to make ear-marked contributions to SCMM for the Ramallah Friends School. It was noted that initiatives to create specific collections should come through the Meeting's programmatic committees. The annual contribution to the EBSC Housing Fund will not be forwarded this year on the recommendation of the SCMM representative. The inclusion of this contribution as a line item in the budget will be considered next year. The 2002 budgeted line item for John Woolman School will be contributed to The Sierra Friends Center; the Committee will consider whether to continue this donation during next year's budget process.

Pacific Northwest Quaker Women's Theology Conference (Pam Calvert). The fourth conference in the seventeen-year history of dialogue involved evangelical and liberal Quaker women in dynamic and unifying interchanges.

Retreat Committee (Dharma Yamaguchi). One hundred members and attenders of Strawberry Creek Meeting gathered at Quaker Center, May 3-5, to explore the theme of "Past and Present and Future" for our community. The weekend included small group activities, a meeting history lesson and creative workshops in Writing, Drama, Singing, Movement and Visual Art.

Announcements

- A "Clerk's Corner" was recommended for the newsletter, to note that Meeting for Business attendance "is expected for members and encouraged for attenders".
- Sierra Friends Center is holding a Family Peace Camp over Labor Day weekend.
- Quaker Center's annual Service Camp is on Labor Day weekend.
- Marcus Borg, Christian theologian, is lecturing on "The Heart of Christianity" on July 20 at the First Congregational Church.
- PYM attenders will gather after Meeting for Worship on July 28th to share experiences with interested Strawberries.

The next Meeting for Business will be September 8 at 11:50 am at the Berkeley Alternative High School. The meeting closed at 2:15 after a period of silent worship. Twenty Friends were present.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Burnett, Clerk

Libby Echlin, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, 8 September, 2002

Meeting for Business opened at 11:50 with silent worship. Bob Burnett clerked. Forty-six friends were present. Kathy Barnhart provided reflections from Retreat Committee to the Advices and Queries on Meeting for Business.

Minutes of the July 14 Meeting for Business were read and approved with the following corrections: Dee Rossman is the PYM *Representative*; Facilities Committee received approval for \$150.00 *per month* in storage rental funds; the Spring Retreat included a *songwriting* workshop.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

None.

Old Business

Job Description Committee for the Meeting House Committee (Bob Burnett) Meeting approved John McCarthy (convener), Susan Burr and Robin It is anticipated that a draft job description will be available for consideration at the October Meeting for Business. Meeting approved a time change for Meeting for Business. Effective immediately we will meet on the second First Day rather than the first First Day of each month. The deadline for the newsletter will now be the last First Day of the month (at sunset), and the newsletter will be available the first First Day. Meeting approved the change of Meeting for Business meeting day to the second First Day from the first First Day, to start immediately. It was noted that the deadline for the newsletter will now be the last First Day of the month (at sunset), and the newsletter will be available the first First Day.

Nominating Committee (Shelley Tannenbaum).

Meeting approved the nomination of Tom Yamaguchi as Representative to The Sierra Friends Center and Patricia Netherly to Hospitality Committee. Representatives to FCL, FCNL, FCUN, AFSC and EBSC were approved as adjunct members of to Peace and Social Concerns Committee. This decision will be reviewed in one year.

Reports

Overseers (Elsa Glines)

A Meeting for Worship will be held at the Friends' Church on September 11 at 7pm. Beginning September 18th, mid-week worship will be held at Quaker House on Wednesday at 7:15 pm for eight weeks. It was requested that Strawberries able to commit to this Meeting for Worship ahead of time contact a member of the committee. A New Member Welcoming will be held on September 29. Clearness Committees met with Kathy Barnhart and Dee Rossman to reach clearness on membership and transfer of membership respectively. Both requests were recommended and received for seasoning.

Treasurer's Report (Don Groom)

The Financial Report and 2002 budget were presented for review. The following changes have been made: EBSC was dropped as a line item; The John Woolman School line item was changed to The Sierra Friends Center; The Ramallah School was added as a special fund for contributions. Rent will change from \$13, 650/yr to \$12,064/yr. The scholarship fund was increased by \$100 to cover last minute disbursements of funds.

Hospitality (Joyce Samati)

The outdoor worship and picnic on August 4 in Redwood Park was well-received. Friendly Sevens will happen on September 29th.

Peace and Social Concerns (Sandra Lewis)

The Committee now meets on the Fourth First Day after rise of meeting. All are invited to a Peace Forum planned for September 22 after meeting. Regular Advocacy Letter-Writing will begin soon: Strawberries with passions for causes are invited to lead sessions with the support of the Committee. A peace petition is being drafted by the committee.

First Day School (Miftah Leath)

Worship is the fall curriculum theme. First Day School attendance today was as follows: Nursery: 6 actual (with 8 potential); Pre-primary: 12 actual (16 potential); Teens: 9 actual (12 potential). In order to maintain a 1:4 adult:child ratio, volunteers are encouraged to sign up in advance to help on First Days. If a volunteer is not needed, he or she can join worship at 10:15. The committee next meets on September 22 after rise of meeting.

Nominating Committee (Pam Calvert)

The Committee has been working to create more detailed job descriptions for the Representatives. A new job description for the EBSC Representative was received for seasoning with some changes. In part 3, the Rep will be an adjunct (not ex-officio) member of Peace and Social Concerns Committee. In part 6, the section under "Decision for Meeting for Business" will read: "When an action item is presented to the EBSC board (for example, an EBSC endorsement of an event by an outside organization) requiring a decision too soon for the rep to bring the item to SCMM for discernment, the rep should vote as s/he believes SCMM would approve." The revised job descriptions for PYM Representative and College Park Quarterly Representative were received for seasoning as written.

Announcements

- The Ad Hoc Committee to name the Nominating Committee will be appointed at the October Meeting for Business.
- The Fall Retreat will be on Saturday, November 16.
- Fall Quarterly Meeting will be held at the Sierra Friends Center October 18-20.

The next Meeting for Business will be on October 13 at 11:50 am at the Berkeley Alternative High School. The meeting closed at 2:00 after a period of silent worship. Thirty-seven friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Burnett, Clerk

Libby Echlin, Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, October 13, 2002

Meeting for Business **opened** at 11:50 AM with silent worship. Bob Burnett clerked. Thirty-four Friends were present. Susan Burr provided reflections from Overseers to the Advices and Queries on Meeting for Business.

Minutes of the September 8 Meeting for Business were read and **approved**, with the following corrections: Retreat Committee provided reflections to the Advices and Queries on Meeting for Worship and the EBSC housing fund was dropped as a line item in the 2002 budget.

CORRESPONDENCE AND CLERK'S BUSINESS

A letter requesting a transfer of membership was received from Daphne Clement, who is now attending Atlanta Monthly Meeting. Hilary McCormick and Steven Holland sent a request for a clearness committee in preparation for marriage under the care of Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting. Both requests were referred to Overseers.

Meeting **approved** Rich Tittle (convener), Gordon Bishop, and Rachel Findley as members of the ad hoc committee to name the Nominating Committee.

Meeting **approved** the membership of Sherrin Loyd, convener, Jenny Ordal, and Jon Burnett to the Coordinating Committee for the Christmas program.

OLD BUSINESS

The membership of Kathy Barnhart and the transfer of membership of Dee Rossman were **approved**. Welcoming committees will meet with each. The committees are Robin Standish (convener), Barbara Graves, and Shelley Tanenbaum for Kathy Barnhart, and Katherine Youngmeister (convener), Elsa Glines, and Julie Russell for Dee Rossman.

Ad hoc Job Description Committee (*Susan Burr and Robin Standish*). An ad hoc committee composed of John McCarthy, convener, Susan Burr, and Robin Standish prepared proposed job descriptions for a Long Range Planning Committee and a Site Analysis Committee. A written report was presented by Susan and Robin. Appointed at the September Meeting for Business, the committee has worked over the past month by incorporating silent worship, discussion, and conversations with Friends. The report was received for prayerful consideration, with several Friends noting that time for reflection was needed to be able to respond to the full depth of the report. Two listening meetings were scheduled on Thursday, October 24 at 7 PM, location to be confirmed, and after Meeting for Worship on November 3. The committee requests that Friends provide responses to the report during worship at the listening meetings. Some Friends requested that further work need not follow the proposed timeline, but be allowed as much seasoning as required. The committee was directed to take more time, as needed, before preparing a second draft of their report, rather than submitting it at the November Meeting for Business as specified in the report's proposed schedule.

Nominating (*Pam Calvert*). Nominating Committee assisted representatives to East Bay Sanctuary Covenant, Pacific Yearly Meeting, and College Park Quarterly Meeting in preparing new job descriptions for their positions. Nominating Committee made these job descriptions available at the web group page in advance of Meeting for Business, but Friends are reminded that all seasoning should involve prayerful reflection, to be followed by directing comments to the clerk of the committee that is responsible for an activity. Discussion should take place within Meeting for Business. The Nominating Committee will revise the job description for the PYM representative by incorporating a general description of the position from two paragraphs on page 175 of Pacific Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice. Also, to better reflect the job description's objective of delineating how the PYM representative may be helpful to the Meeting, without specifying exact requirements of the job, Meeting requested substitution of "may" for "will" when discussing activities such as arranging carpools or

securing adult sponsorship for children and teens. Meeting approved the job descriptions for EBSC and CPQM, again substituting "may" for "will" where appropriate in the latter.

NEW BUSINESS

Berkeley Alternative High School (*Tom Whiteman*). The Berkeley Alternative High School has recognized achievement and citizenship by giving students attractive T-shirts at their awards ceremony, supported by a donation from Strawberry Creek Meeting. The school wishes to participate in the Writers' Room project and is seeking volunteer and monetary assistance. Friends approved a monetary commitment in the range of \$1000 to \$1500 and requested that Finance Committee work out necessary details. Friends wishing to volunteer must be available during weekday, daytime hours, and need to participate in three training sessions of approximately one hour each over a three-week period. One Friend expressed a concern that Strawberry Creek Meeting's response to BAHS concerning volunteer support should not convey a sense of commitment of any specific number of people, as the number of individuals who might actually choose to volunteer is unknown.

REPORTS

First Day School (*Margaret Schneider*): As part of their study of worship, some children recently attended Kehilla congregation's Shabbat services at the Northbrae Community Center. The teens will be visiting another Quaker Meeting, and would like to redo last year's Christmas play at this year's program (an idea that seems fine to the primary-age children as long as there are lots of parts for animals). The pre-primary group is continuing to meet twice a month, and the sign-ups for extra adult participants have been very helpful.

Overseers (*Elsa Glines*). Finance Committee has forwarded to Overseers a Strawberry Creek minute from 1983, which documents that Overseers may authorize expenditure of up to \$150 to Friends requesting emergency funds. Such expenditures are to be reported subsequently to Meeting for Business.

Overseers provided a written minute of exercise to clarify how to circulate agendas and some other items prior to Meeting for Business, and how to distribute reports and other items meant for seasoning after Meeting for Business. Friends are encouraged to use such distributions to enhance their reflections upon issues of concern, so as to attend Meeting for Business better able to seek corporate guidance, rather than as items requiring a form of feedback. Reports meant for seasoning would benefit from wide distribution after being read at Meeting for Business. Portions of a letter from one Friend were read, encouraging the advance posting of agendas and committee reports. Another Friend expressed concern with receiving written suggestions at Meeting for Business and urged Friends to make all possible effort to attend Meeting for Business so as to participate in the corporate process of making decisions.

Worship and Ministry (*Tom Whiteman*). Worship and Ministry Committee is concerned about the quality and frequency of adult education opportunities, and is forming a subcommittee to devote more time and attention to adult education. Friends are encouraged to provide suggestions about available resource people or materials to Worship and Ministry. The committee has reviewed its existing job description and found that much of it is in alignment with the new edition of Faith and Practice. Some changes were made and copies are available.

Nominating Committee (*Pam Calvert*): Nominating Committee assisted the representatives for Ben Lomond Quaker Center and Friends Committee on Unity With Nature (FCUN) in preparing new job descriptions. These descriptions will be seasoned. The FCUN representative is not actually a member of the FCUN. Meeting requested that Nominating Committee investigate if Strawberry Creek Meeting could have a membership if desired, since Meeting membership might be simpler than an individual membership when there is a change in the FCUN representative.

Hospitality (*Elizabeth Strain*). A new member welcoming potluck was held after Meeting for Worship on September 29, and four groups met for Friendly 7's the same evening. Friends have

indicated that they particularly appreciated the queries. The next Friendly 7's will be in February or possibly January.

EBSC representative (*Bob Reis*). EBSC will be hosting a twentieth anniversary conference and workshop, "To Speak the Truth in a Time of Terror," with Helen Caldicott as keynote speaker, from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm on October 19th at the First Congregational Church, 2501 Harrison Street in Oakland. EBSC is also working on a strategic planning process.

Finance (*Katherine Youngmeister*). Meeting approved an increase in the Christmas program budget from \$100 to \$300, in line with actual costs last year. Finance Committee will be contacting committee clerks prior to the November Meeting for Business to receive their suggestions on committee budget needs.

There were no announcements. The next Meeting for Business will be November 10 at 11:50 AM at the Berkeley Alternative High School. The meeting closed at 2:20 PM after a period of silent worship. Twenty-five Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Burnett, Clerk

Charlie Blanchard, Acting Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, November 10, 2002

Meeting for Business opened at 11:55 am with silent worship. Bob Burnett clerked. Thirty-three Friends were present. Chuck Groom provided reflections from Nominating Committee to the Advices and Queries on Stewardship and Vocation.

Minutes of the October 10 Meeting for Business were read and later approved, with two corrections. First, under committee reports, Nominating Committee assisted the representative for Pacific Yearly Meeting Committee on Unity With Nature (PYM CUN) in preparing a new job description; the PYM CUN representative is not a member of the Friends Committee on Unity With Nature. Second, the last sentence under the report on BAHS should read "One Friend expressed a concern that Strawberry Creek Meeting's response to BAHS concerning volunteer support does not convey a sense of commitment of any specific number of people and the number of individuals who might actually choose to volunteer is unknown."

Old Business

The transfer of membership of Daphne Clement was approved.

Ad hoc Job Description Committee (*John McCarthy*). John McCarthy presented a written report from the ad hoc job description committee for a site discernment process (John McCarthy, convener, Susan Burr, and Robin Standish). The ad hoc committee asked Meeting for Business to affirm in principle the creation of a Long Range Planning Committee and a Site Analysis Committee. The Clerk of Meeting set aside 45 minutes for discussion. After discussion, the Clerk summarized. First, the concern that work spent on searching for a long-term site might distract Friends from other work that they are doing is no longer an impediment for Friends, in part because Peace and Social Concerns Committee has been actively helping the Meeting engage in work to address present world circumstances. Second, Friends have consistently indicated a desire to proceed with a Site Analysis Committee to consider practical issues, such as determining how long Meeting will be able to continue leasing space at BAHS. Finally, Friends have substantial concerns about the present quality of worship, and are not clear about the scope of responsibility of the proposed Long Range Planning Committee in relation to the responsibilities of existing committees, such as Overseers and Worship and Ministry. The Clerk suggested that this third set of concerns could be explored at a one-day retreat in January, but that in any event, all three conclusions would be seasoned until the December Meeting for Business.

Nominating (*Shelley Tanenbaum*). Many Friends have expressed appreciation for the format of the committee job descriptions that Nominating Committee has developed, while some have indicated discomfort. The format is not mandatory and Nominating Committee provides it if Friends find it useful. The format helps Nominating Committee answer specific questions that people may have when they are considering serving on a committee or as a representative. Nominating Committee has assisted representatives in rewriting their job descriptions because they do not have committees to help them do so. (*Pam Calvert*). No changes were suggested for the job description of the Ben Lomond Quaker Center representative; it was approved. Last month, Meeting for Business suggested incorporating language from Pacific Yearly Meeting Faith & Practice into the job description of the PYM representative. A written copy with the changes was provided, and was approved. The job description for the representative to the PYM

Committee on Unity With Nature will also be seasoned further to allow Nominating Committee time to determine how to maintain the intent of encouraging links between the PYM CUN representative and the Friends Committee on Unity With Nature.

Committee for Naming the Nominating Committee (*Rich Tittle*). The Naming Committee (Rich Tittle, convener, Gordon Bishop, and Rachel Findley) is nominating Cindy Trueblood (clerk) and Howard Curtis to the Nominating Committee, with Chuck Groom, John McCarthy, and Larry Strain continuing, and will nominate a sixth person in December. A question arose about the length of terms served, and the Naming Committee will bring a clarification in December. The nominations will be seasoned for a month.

New Business

Treasurer's report (*Don Groom*). A written report was provided. Friends' regular contributions during this year have evened out the peaks and dips in the general fund balance and are greatly appreciated.

Finance Committee (*Katherine Youngmeister*). A written copy of the proposed 2003 budget was presented. This budget will be revised to include a donation to BAHS for the Writer's Room Project approved last month. Finance Committee will discuss a contribution to Friends Committee on Unity With Nature with Dee Rossman, an FCUN at-large representative, and the representative to PYM Committee on Unity With Nature.

Reports

Overseers (*Elsa Glines*). The series of eight midweek Meetings for Worship were attended by about seven to eight people on average. Comments on the importance of midweek meetings for the spiritual development of the Meeting should be directed to Overseers or Worship and Ministry.

College Park Quarterly Meeting representative (*Chuck Groom*). Quarterly Meeting was held October 18 to 20 at the Sierra Friends Center in Grass Valley. Carl Magruder, Kristina Perry, and Rachel Findley gave workshops. Chris Moore-Backman and Carin Anderson presented their experiences working with the peace movement in Columbia. Friends had an opportunity to meet the new AFSC regional director. A written report was provided.

Nominating Committee (*Shelley Tanenbaum*). Sherrin Loyd has been nominated to serve as PYM representative, having been the PYM observer this year. The nomination will be seasoned and a nomination for observer will be made in December. Nominating Committee will be looking for a newsletter editor to replace Helen Haug in January. Written copies of a new job description for Nominating Committee were provided; it will be seasoned.

Facilities (*Peter Lin*). A storage space, located along the Eastshore Highway, has been rented. Instructions for access to the facility are available from Facilities Committee.

Worship and Ministry (*Tom Whiteman*). In response to Friends' questions about the quality of worship during recent meetings, the clerk of Worship and Ministry Committee noted that the committee has observed that Meetings for Worship reflect public anxiety and tension. Worship and Ministry is devoting more time to this concern now that the details of adult education opportunities are being handled by a subcommittee. Worship and Ministry and Facilities committees will discuss the possibility of completing room setup earlier to allow more Friends to arrive for Meeting for Worship up to a half hour before 10 am.

Announcements

Terry Doran, Berkeley Unified School District Board member, recently commented that Strawberry Creek Meeting is exactly the kind of tenant desired by the district.

The Christmas program will be Friday, December 20.

The annual meeting of the representatives to the Friends Committee on Legislation will meet at Berkeley Friends Church on December 7. Steve Birdlebough, who is retiring as FCL lobbyist in Sacramento, will be recognized.

Hospitality Committee is sponsoring a potluck after Meeting for Worship on December 1 - bring your Thanksgiving leftovers.

UA Homes repairs from a recent fire have been completed, and a Games Night will take place on November 22.

A Friend requested that information flyers and other written materials be placed on the archives of the Meeting's web group.

The Fall Retreat will be Saturday November 16 at the Berkeley Friends Meeting on Vine Street.

The next Meeting for Business will be December 8 at 11:50 a.m. at the Berkeley Alternative High School. The meeting closed at 2:20 pm after a period of silent worship. Twenty-six Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Burnett, Clerk

Charlie Blanchard, Acting Recording Clerk

**Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, December 8, 2002**

Meeting for Business opened at 11:55 am with silent worship. Bob Burnett clerked. Forty-four Friends were present. Julie Russell provided reflections from the Facilities Committee to the Advices and Queries on Harmony with Creation.

Minutes of the November 10 Meeting for Business were read and approved.

Old Business

Nominating Committee (Shelly Tanenbaum): The new PYM CUN job description was not ready to be presented and will be held over for approval in January. Sherrin Loyd was approved as PYM Rep.

Naming Committee (Rich Tittle) It was clarified that nominations to Nominating Committee are normally for two years and that the Clerk of Nominating Committee is nominated for a one-year term. The following nominations for the incoming committee were approved: Chuck Groom for a second year, Cindy Trueblood as Clerk for a one-year term, and Howard Curtis for a two-year term. Sarah Emmer was nominated as an additional member of Nominating Committee; this nomination will be seasoned for one month.

Ad Hoc Job Description Committee for the Meeting House Committee (John McCarthy) After a period of silence, the committee brought forward their proposal to uncouple the previously concurrent Site Analysis Committee and the Long Range Planning Committee, the later of which will continue to be discussed by the committee. The Meeting approved the formation of a Site Analysis Committee in principle; its proposed job description will be seasoned for one month. It was noted that the proposed six month interim report on the committee's functioning may be too short a time frame. Further concerns should be given to John McCarthy in writing.

2003 Budget

Katherine Youngmeister presented a slightly revised 2003 Budget, noting the changes of \$1,500.00 for BAHS and the continuation of funds for FCUN (Unity with Nature); the budget was approved.

New Business

The Listening Meeting for the State of the Meeting Report was scheduled for February 2, 2003.

Reports:

First Day (Mifta Leath): The Holiday Curriculum, focusing on the production of the Christmas play and raising money for the Heifer Project, continues until January 5 when the Winter Curriculum on Equality will begin. Communications with Nominating Committee are underway about changes in the committee: Jenny Ordal has asked for a leave of absence from the committee as her own family begins to grow. Ten new children have graced the First Day Program recently.

Overseers (Elsa Glines): A Clerking Workshop will be held on January 5th; 17 Meeting clerks and assistant clerks are scheduled to attend. The Web Coordinator position is under discussion. John McCarthy was recommended for membership; the recommendation will be seasoned until next month.

Worship and Ministry (Tom Whiteman)

The committee encourages member and attenders to arrive at Meeting early to provide a firm grounding for worship. We gather in worship to listen to a reality greater than ourselves—not to each other—and we are encouraged to listen carefully for the divine imperative to speak and allow ample time between messages.

Mid-week worship is being reviewed: the committee welcomes feedback. A proposal is under consideration to have worship sharing following the Advices and Queries read in Meeting for Business; feedback and concerns are invited before the next meeting of the committee on December 18.

Hospitality (Elizabeth Moses Strain)

The post-Thanksgiving potluck on December 1st was a success. The Meeting's Christmas event—potluck, play and singing—will be on Friday, December 20th at 6pm at the Friends Church. Children involved in the play are expected at 5pm for a final rehearsal.

Peace and Social Concern (Nancy Wilkinson)

Committee-sponsored letter-writing continues. UA Homes Games Night is set to begin again in December. The committee is seasoning ideas and suggestions that arose in the Peace Forums.

Retreat (Kathy Barnhart)

The fall retreat, Living from the Center in Troubled Times: How Does Faith Lead to Action? was held on November 16. Many ideas emerged, including that of meeting in small groups to develop spiritual friendships and work on shared social causes.

Nominating Committee (Shelley Tannenbaum)

A revised FCL Rep job description was discussed and will be seasoned for one month. Betsy Morris, the current rep, noted that the FCL Rep becomes a legal member of the Board of Directors of FCL. Suggestions and concerns on the revised job description should be brought to Betsy Morris, Shelley Tannenbaum (Nominating Committee Clerk) until December 31 or Cindy Trueblood (Incoming Nominating Clerk) after December 31.

New Nominations (to be seasoned for one month):

- Julie Russell was nominated as Newsletter Editor, with Helen Haug covering the position until mid-February. Leslie Leonard will take over the Calendar until May

2003. Leslie and Julie will discuss the relationship of Newsletter/Calendar positions and will present their suggestions for how to best connect these positions to Meeting for Business in early spring.

- Leonard Joy was nominated as PYM Observer.
- Stephen Holland was nominated to the Facilities Committee (through the end of May).

A new revision of the Nominating Committee's job description was presented; this revision will be seasoned for one month.

Clarification of Terms: Recent confusion over term lengths was dispelled. According to the precedent for term lengths found in the Meetings' voluminous archives, Overseers and Nominating are the only committees with two year terms. Further nominations to those committees (past the initial two year term) will be for one year at a time. Worship and Ministry committee members are nominated for one year terms.

FCL Rep Update (Betsy Morris)

Focus Priorities for the coming year have been identified and include: Ending the death penalty, Reform of the Juvenile and Criminal Justice Systems, Peace and Human Rights and Universal Health Care. FCL ran at a deficit last year, in an effort to stimulate new fundraising efforts. A successful contra dance/fundraiser was held on December 7 at the Friends Church.

Ad Hoc Web Group Committee (Charlie Blanchard)

A report was made to Overseers on the Web Group's first year of use. The web group continues to develop and grow. The Ad Hoc Web Group Committee is currently considering how the Web Group could be used to strengthen SCFM as a worship group. The Committee proposed the creation of a Web Group Coordinator position and the Meeting agreed to season this proposal for one month. If the position is approved, the Ad Hoc Web Group Committee will create a job description for the position.

Announcements

Tom Yamaguchi has agreed to become the Coordinator of the Writer's Room at BAHS. Words of Phillip Berrigan, recently deceased activist priest, were read.

Meeting closed at 2:20 pm with silent worship. Thirty-nine Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Echlin, Recording Clerk
Bob Burnett, Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
January 12, 2003

Meeting opened at 11:50 am with silent worship. Bob Burnett clerked. Thirty-nine Friends were present. Charlie Blanchard provided reflections from the Finance Committee to the Advices and Queries on Social and Civic Responsibility.

Minutes of the December 8 Meeting for Business were read and approved with two changes. In the Nominating Committee Report: "Leslie and Julie will discuss the relationship of Newsletter/Calendar positions and will present their suggestions for how to *fulfill these functions* to Meeting for Business in early spring."

In the First Day School report: "The number of new children in the First Day School Program is *eight*."

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

Letters from Scattered Berries were read. Kat Jaramillo and Jessica Bucciarelli, currently residing in Richmond, Indiana, anticipate Kat's graduation from Earlham School of Religion with a Master's of Divinity degree in May 2003; they plan to return to the Bay Area soon afterwards. Wilbur Hoff and Chris Muller will be living in the Santa Cruz Mountains for the next one and a half years, in a house Wilbur built 23 years ago. Allison Elliot has relocated to Colorado, where she and her partner have purchased a piece of land in Paonia, Colorado. A letter from the head of the San Francisco Friends School was received; a visit with her at our Meeting will be scheduled.

Old Business

Ad Hoc Committee for the Meeting House Committee (John McCarthy) A revised job description for the Site Analysis Committee was read. Concerns were raised with the specificity of the tasks in the job description and with the proposed size of the committee. Two changes were proposed. Under *Responsibilities*: "In order to help us "to ensure that different types of candidate sites are evaluated in terms of their potential, the Meeting should proceed from a sense of discernment with attention given to the following tasks that have been identified by the Meeting over the past year" . Under *Committee Members and Duration*: "This Committee should include around five members." Meeting approved the job description, with one friend standing aside.

Nominating Committee

The following nominations were approved: Sarah Emmer as a two year member of the Nominating Committee; Julie Russell as Newsletter editor; Stephen Holland to Facilities Committee and Leonard Joy as PYM Observer. The Job Description for the PYM CUN Rep. was approved. The revised job description for the Nominating Committee was approved.

Research will be done as to how best to identify and/or cite the phrases in the Nominating Committee's job description that have come from Faith and Practice. Miftah Leath suggested a phrase that could be added to all job descriptions: "...how the gifts of members and attenders may best serve the Meeting *and how the individual's worship might be deepened.*" The suggestion for a general introductory page for new committee members arose in the Clerking Meeting on January 5. Nominating Committee will work with two members of Overseers (Susan Burr and Andrea English) to draft this introductory page.

The membership of John McCarthy was approved. A welcoming committee was named: Rick Herbert (convener), Larry Perry and Shelley Tanenbaum.

Web Coordinator Position

Meeting approved the creation of a Web Coordinator Position. The Web Group Committee, in collaboration with Overseers, will draft a job description for this position, and Nominating Committee will nominate an individual to fill it.

New Business

Meeting approved Andrea English (for Overseers), Barbara Graves (for Worship and Ministry) and Charlie Blanchard to form the committee to write the State of the Meeting Report.

Committee Reports

Overseers (Elsa Glines) Overseers (along with Worship and Ministry) has been considering how best to address the long-range issues raised during our discussions on site over the past year. The committees look forward to the listening process that precedes the writing of the State of the Meeting report as an opportunity to begin to address these issues. The report-writing committee and the clerks of Overseers and Worship and Ministry will meet prior to the February 2nd listening meeting to review materials prepared over the past year.

Peace and Social Concerns (Sandra Lewis) The committee supports Friends' gathered donations to FCNL. Finance committee intends to create "baskets" (instead of line items) for the gathered donations of Friends. It was noted that donations to FCNL are not tax-exempt (except for the Education Fund), and that funneling donations through the Meeting (a tax-exempt organization) might be un-lawful. To allow for group donations, individual checks could be collected and sent in one envelope.

Worship and Ministry (Tom Whiteman) An Adult Education session on Meeting for Worship will be held on January 18. A sub-committee for Adult Education has been formed, convened by Gordon Bishop. Modification to the beginning of Business Meeting to reinstate a period of dialogue sharing following the responses to Advices and Queries

has been considered; with the only feedback being negative, the committee suggests maintaining the current format.

Hospitality (Elizabeth Moses Strain) The Christmas Event was a success. The children gracefully weathered last-minute shifts in adult supervision. Friendly Sevens are scheduled for February 23.

Finance Committee (Charlie Blanchard) A proposal to move the Meeting's checking account from Washington Mutual Bank to Mechanics Bank was approved. A no-fee account will be created. The Meeting Clerk, the Clerk of Finance and the Treasurer are the three signators.

First Day (Miftah Leath) Equality and Simplicity form the spring curriculum. Biographies from Quaker history will be used in the Primary Class. Teens are staying for the full Meeting for Worship on the second First Day of every month, with a review over lunch afterwards. The teens are also drafting a Testimony on Humor. A total of \$718.00 has been collected for the Heifer Project; a change jar will be soon be gathering more!

FCNL Rep Report (Stephen MacNeil) A revised job description was presented and will be seasoned for one month. Goals for the organization include doubling the membership base and fundraising for renovations on the Washington DC FCNL building. FCNL has created a position for an energy lobbyist and will be supporting an Environment and Ecology conference at Pendle Hill. Work to refute the Patriot Act continues.

Announcements

Quaker Center Programs: Laura Cornell leads "Deepening the Sacred Through Yoga" February 14—17. Chuck Fager will lead a workshop on the Peace Testimony the last weekend in March.

The Listening Meeting for the State of the Meeting Report will be February 2.

The next Meeting for Business will be February 9 at 11:50 am at the Berkeley Alternative High School.

Meeting closed at 2:20 pm. Thirty-two Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Echlin
Recording Clerk

Bob Burnett
Clerk

**Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Business
February 9, 2003**

Meeting opened at 11:50 am with silent worship. Bob Burnett clerked. Forty-two Friends were present. Joyce Samati provided reflections from the Hospitality Committee to the Advices and Queries on Reaching Out.

Minutes of the January 10 Meeting for Business were read and approved with the following change: in the Peace and Social Concerns Committee Report, the word "unlawful" was changed to "inappropriate".

CORRESPONDENCE AND CLERK'S BUSINESS

Letters requesting transfer of membership from Strawberry Creek Friends Meeting to Humboldt Friends Meeting were received from Carl MaGruder and Kristina Perry. These letters were forwarded to Overseers. Correspondence from Ramona Silipo announced her marriage to Ian Foster Freer in London, England, where she now lives.

In response to many Friends' request for increased dialogue on the Peace testimony, the Clerk has organized a retreat/threshing session titled: "Wrestling with the Peace Testimony". It will be held on March 8th from 1 to 5pm at the Berkeley Friends Meeting House. Barbara Graves, Carl Anderson, Andrea English, Rachel Findley, David Leonard and Bob Burnett will form a panel, with Tom Whiteman moderating, and a question and discussion session will follow. The Berkeley Meeting and the Berkeley Friends Church have been invited.

OLD BUSINESS

Seasoning of FCNL and FCL Representative Job Descriptions (Chuck Groom) The FCNL Job Description was presented with small changes and **approved**.

REPORTS

First Day School (Miftah Leath) Supervision is needed in two areas. The use of the Berkeley Alternative High School site does not include the use of the pottery wheels, and children need to be prevented from playing on them. Damage to the wheels could jeopardize both the Meeting's lease and the children's safety. The Meeting has purchased a basketball for the children's use after Meeting, but players need to return it to storage after use.

With thirteen Committee members, three paid staff, weekly volunteers and visiting teachers, the First Day School requires 26—28 people for operation, making it the single largest function of the Meeting. The goals of the First Day School are to build community, prepare the children for Meeting for Worship and to ensure that the most fragile child feels comfortable in First Day School activities. Healthy attendance, a well-

rounded curriculum and dedicated teachers has helped build the First Day school into a strong program, serving 40 to 50 children.

Hospitality (Joyce Samati) Friendly Sevens will be held on February 23. A New Member Welcome and Potluck is being planned for the spring. The revised job description was endorsed by the Committee.

Peace and Social Concerns (Nancy Wilkinson) The upcoming panel discussion "Wrestling with the Peace Testimony" is co-sponsored by the Committee. The Committee has been discussing what response to the peace demonstration in January the Committee can provide. Facilitation and coordination of future marches is one way the committee will serve the Meeting. The revised Committee job description is under review.

Overseers (Elsa Glines) Overseers brought a report from the marriage clearness committee that met twice with Hillary McCormick and Stephen Holland. The report recommended that Hillary and Stephen be married under the care of the Meeting. Questions were raised about whether non-members can be married under the care of the Meeting, and about how the Meeting would care for the marriage when Hillary and Stephen leave the area (their move is anticipated in the next six months). It was noted that the deep commitment of membership on the part of the marrying couple is part of what allows a meeting to care for a marriage. Members of the marriage clearness committee noted that these questions had come up in their meetings with the couple, and that way had opened around these concerns. (PYM "Faith and Practice" permits marriage of non-members). The Meeting approved the recommendation that the marriage take place under the care of the Meeting. One Friend stood aside. A song of parting was shared.

Treasurer's Report (Don Groom) The 2002 budget and financial report was presented. The Meeting's bank account has been changed from Wells Fargo to Mechanic's Bank.

Worship and Ministry (Tom Whiteman) An introductory course on Quakerism is beginning soon. The class will be small, and will be repeated as long as need continues. Interest in a reading group has been expressed. Discussion of Four Doors to Meeting for Worship, a Pendel Hill pamphlet, will begin soon.

Nominating Committee (Cindy Trueblood) Shelley Tannenbaum was nominated as Co-Clerk of the Retreat Committee and Sarah Hawthorne was nominated as a member of the Retreat Committee. Caroline Duhem, already a member of the First Day School Committee, was nominated as co-coordinator of the pre-primary group. These nominations will be seasoned for one month. Mary Anderson has stepped down as AFSC Rep and the Nominating Committee will be seeking a second person to work with Betsy Morris as FCL Rep.

College Park Quarterly Meeting Report (Chuck Groom) CPQM met on Saturday, January 18 the San Francisco Meeting House, coinciding with the Peace March in opposition to the war with Iraq. There was continued discussion on the formation of

cluster meetings within the Quarter. The Quarter approved a travelling minute for Chris Moore-Backman's February 2003 trip to Colombia. Other items discussed included work being done on opposing the Patriot Act, and the drafting of a "Quaker Peace Initiative". It was noted by some that the plenary sessions felt rushed and in lacking in spirit.

FCL Representative Job Description (Betsy Mooris) This item of Old Business was presented at the end of the Meeting for Business. Changes were presented in Items One through Four of the Job Description. Questions were raised about whether the Meeting nominates two Reps to serve concurrently. It was clarified that while the Meeting and FCL is best served by two reps serving concurrent and overlapping terms, two reps are not required. The Job Description was approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Jean Flores, a long time member of SCMM, passed away recently. Her Memorial will be held at the Berkeley Friends Church on Sunday, March 2. The address of David and Susan Flores, Jean's children, was made available if Friends wish to send their sympathies.
- Cathy Hunter, the Head of the San Francisco Friends School, will give a presentation for the Meeting on April 6. Families with young children are especially encouraged to attend.
- The next PYM Representative Meeting will be held at the Palo Alto Meeting House on March 1 from 9 am to 8:30 pm.
- Chuck Fager will be leading a Quaker Center Program entitled "Confronting the Peace Testimony, March 28-30.
- Gordon Bishop's trip to Colombia, accompanying Chris Moore-Backman and Jorge Arrous, is currently in flux. February 17 and 24 are potential departure dates.
- Barbara Graves will be attending a Memorial for Dorothy Steere in Philadelphia on March 2nd.

Meeting closed with silent worship at 1:40 pm. Forty-one Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Burnett, Clerk

Elizabeth Echlin, Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting for Business

First Day, Third Month 9, 2003

Meeting opened at 11:50 am with silent worship. Bob Burnett clerked. Twenty-eight Friends were present. Miftah Leath provided reflections from the First Day School Committee to the Advices and Queries on Simplicity.

Minutes of the February 9 Meeting for Business were read and approved with the following changes: Under Old Business, the parenthetical note "(See FCL Report)" was added to the FCNL and FCL Representative Job Description section. In the First Day School Report, the "purchased" basketball was corrected as "donated".

CORRESPONDENCE AND CLERK'S BUSINESS

The Clerk noted that last month's approval of Stephen Holland and Hilary McCormick's request for marriage under the care of the Meeting should have been seasoned for one month. The fact that one member stood aside may have been indicative of rushed process. The Clerk and the Meeting as a whole should remain vigilant that correct, patient process be followed.

The March 8 forum/threshing session on the Peace Testimony was well-attended. Friends noted that the material presented was worthy of publication in the Friends' Bulletin or the Friend's Journal. Individuals who presented will be approached about this possibility.

OLD BUSINESS

Three seasoning nominations were approved: Shelley Tanenbaum as Retreat Committee Co-Clerk, Sarah Hawthorne as Retreat Committee member and Caroline Duhem as coordinator of the First Day School's Pre-Primary program.

NEW BUSINESS

The State of the Meeting Report was read and appreciated. A few additions were suggested: the passing of Jean Flores, the new babies we anticipate arriving before the report is submitted, and the attendance at Quaker schools of two of our young people. Further suggestions and corrections are welcome in writing or in telephone conversations with members of the writing committee (Charlie Blanchard, Andrea English and Barbara Graves).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Overseers (Elsa Glines) The New Member Welcoming will be held on March 23rd. Transfers of memberships for Kristina Perry and Carl Magruder were recommended by the Committee and approved by the Meeting. The Sharing Fund is nearing a zero balance: Friends who wish to donate to the Fund may send an earmarked check to the Meeting.

Worship and Ministry (Tom Whiteman) The Meeting's donation to the Writer's Room Project at BAHS has been received by the School District. Preparations for a joint special Meeting for Worship at 7:30 pm at the Berkeley Friends Meeting House on Vine Street for SCMM, Berkeley Friends Meeting and the Berkeley Friends Church (to occur on the evening of news of an escalation in the proposed war with Iraq) were presented and discussed. There will be a notice of the meeting sent to the web group and committee clerks will notify their committee members by telephone (Co-clerks will function as alternate

contacts. Clerks of committees without co-clerks should notify Tom of an alternate). Members and attenders not on committees should call the Clerk's or the Meeting's phone number for a message announcement or ask a committee clerk to notify them.

Adult Ed Sub-Committee Report (Sarah Emmer) The first of six Quakerism 101 classes met at Peter and Karen Lin's home on March 4.

Nominating Committee (Sarah Emmer) Julian Frederick was nominated to the AFSC Representative position to serve through the end of the nominating year (June 1). Peter Sam was nominated to the Web Group Coordinator Position. These nominations will be seasoned for one month.

Peace and Social Concerns (Sandra Lewis) The Committee is reviewing the old job description and brainstorming functions for a revised job description. A draft revised job description (with queries if necessary) will come to Business Meeting for input about the Committee's mandate. The Committee and the Eco-Berries group will co-sponsor a forum on "Addressing our Dependence on Fossil Fuels" on the last Sunday in April. A project will be presented on how the Meeting can reduce fossil fuel dependence. Coordination of the recent peace marches and other witnesses for peace has proven a task larger than the committee's size. The committee suggests that a group of two to three people in the meeting assume the responsibility of coordinating the Meeting's presence at these events. The Meeting's participation in the upcoming March 15th march in San Francisco is without coordination at this point.

Hospitality (Joyce Samati) Friendly Sevens happened on February 23 and will be held again in three months. Feedback on the queries for Friendly Sevens and ideas for new queries are encouraged.

PYM Representative Committee Meeting (Leonard Joy) Pacific Yearly Meeting will be held August 4—9, 2003 at the University of San Diego. The cost of attending will be slightly higher this year. Financial support in the form of scholarships is available from PYM and lack of funds should not be an impediment to attending. Stipends of \$375.00 are also available to those wishing to teach in the Children's Program. Mount Madonna Retreat Center is the proposed venue for the 2004 Yearly Meeting. Issues about accessibility and food at Mount Madonna are being addressed.

Treasurer (Don Groom) The financial report for January and February was presented.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Spring Retreat will be held at Quaker Center, May 2—4. "Strengthening Our Spiritual Lives" is the working theme.
- A brief report on The Writer's Room Project, a writing skills program intended to be introduced at BAHS, but currently on hold because of budget difficulties, was given. SCMM has been seeking to support this program with volunteer time. Information about whether the program will be forming at BAHS will be available soon.

Meeting closed at 1:40 pm with silent worship. Twenty-four Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Burnett, Clerk Elizabeth Echlin, Recording Clerk

**Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
April 13, 2003**

Meeting opened at 11:50 am with silent worship. Bob Burnett clerked. Thirty-eight Friends were present. Tom Yamaguchi provided reflections from the Loaves and Fishes Committee to the Advices and Queries on Integrity and Personal Conduct.

Minutes of the March 9 Meeting for Business were read and approved.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

A letter from Charlie Blanchard requesting membership in the Meeting was read and forwarded to Overseers Committee. A letter from Andrea English was read, inviting participation in the Good Friday worship and demonstration at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

Old Business

A revised draft of the State of the Meeting Report was read. It was approved with the following suggestion: that the word "responsible" be removed from the paragraph on the Meeting's involvement with the Quarterly and Yearly Meetings. The State of the Meeting Report Committee has prepared a one-page version of the Report to be forwarded to the Quarter, along with the full-length version. Meeting expressed deep appreciation for the work of the writing committee.

Seasoning nominations were approved: Julian Frederick as AFSC Representative for the remainder of the term and Peter Sam as Web Group Coordinator.

New Business

Nominating Committee Clerk Cindy Trueblood presented the initial slate of nominations for 2003-2004. Questions and concerns should be directed to the Committee. Nominations for two positions (CPQM Representative and Unity with Nature Committee Representative) will be presented next month.

Nominating Committee Report (Cindy Trueblood)

A draft of a new document titled "Committee Service" was presented. It will season for one month and will be considered by Overseers (the Committee charged with the care of the Meeting's Committees) during that period.

Committee Reports

Overseers (Elsa Glines)

Preparations continue for the marriage of Stephen Holland and Hillary McCormick on April 26th at 11 am at the Berkeley Friends Church. Friends are asked to notify the arrangements committee of their attendance as soon as possible.

Both the Sharing Fund and the Quaker School and College Fund are depleted. Earmarked checks to the Meeting for these funds are encouraged. Overseers requests that the Finance Committee review the amount of money allocated to these funds.

Worship and Ministry (Tom Whiteman)

A joint meeting for worship on the occasion of the beginning of war in Iraq took place on March 19th at the Berkeley Friends Church. It included Strawberry Creek Meeting, Berkeley Meeting and the Berkeley Friends Church. The Meeting's donation of \$1,500 was deposited into the Berkeley Alternative High School's Principal's discretionary fund.

Peace and Social Concerns (Nancy Wilkinson)

The Committee has agreed to help organize SCMM's involvement in the April 18 Good Friday demonstration at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Discussion of the Committee's job description continues.

Hospitality (Joyce Samati)

New parents Jenny Ordal Eisenmann and Per Eisenmann send a warm "Thank you!" to the Meeting for the food offered after the birth of Solvei Clara Eisenmann.

Retreat Committee (Shelly Tanenbaum)

The Meeting Retreat is on May 2-4 at Ben Lomond Quaker Center. Space is limited: sign up as soon as possible.

Announcements

- FGC, an annual Quaker gathering, will be held in Johnstown, PA this summer. Interested Friends can contact Leslie Leonard for more information.
- News was shared about two more Strawberries attending Quaker schools: Nico and Carlos Wolff attend the Monteverde Friends School in Monteverde, Costa Rica.
- "A pollinator's view of California Natives" : an exhibit of photographs by Maggie Ely is currently showing at the Strybing Arboretum in Golden Gate Park, April 1—June 30, with a reception for the artist on April 24.
- Sierra Friends Center Camps are now enrolling for the summer.
- College Park Quarterly Meeting is May 16—18 at Ben Lomond Quaker Center. Contact Chuck Groom for more information and registration forms.

Meeting closed at 1:15 pm with silent worship. Thirty-nine Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Burnett, Clerk

Elizabeth Echlin, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
May 11, 2003

Meeting opened at 11:50 am with silent worship. Bob Burnett clerked. Thirty-three friends were present.

Minutes of the April 13 Meeting for Business were read and approved with the following correction: in the section on the State of the Meeting report, it was clarified that the short version of the Report was sent to the Quarterly Meeting *Representative*.

CORRESPONDENCE AND CLERK'S BUSINESS

A letter of thanks was received from Stephen Holland and Hilary McCormick for the Meeting's participation in the planning and celebration of their wedding on April 26th.

OLD BUSINESS

Sarah Emmer presented a revised slate of nominees for the 2003-2004 year. Two nominees have requested the withdrawal of their nominations. The slate, which has seasoned for one month, was approved. The document "Notes on Committee Service", which has now been reviewed by Overseers, was presented with slight revisions and approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Nominating Committee nominated Monica Fletcher as Unity with Nature Committee Representative. This nomination will season for one month. Nominating Committee is still seeking a College Park Quarterly Meeting Representative.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee (Don Groom, Charlie Blanchard) A financial report for March and April was presented. In response to the low balance in the Sharing Fund, the Finance Committee recommended that \$5,000 be transferred from the General Fund reserve into the Reserve Sharing Fund. This one-time augmentation of the fund was approved. Finance Committee and Overseers Committee were asked to consider our annual allocation to the Sharing Fund when they prepare the next budget.

Retreat (Shelley Tanenbaum) The Committee presented a report on the Meeting's Spring retreat at Ben Lomond Quaker Center. Attendance was lower by twenty people this year. The price of the Retreat was considered by the Meeting. Quaker Center offers a discount to Monthly Meetings but also seeks to make itself affordable to other non-profits with small budgets. It can offer that discount only if some Monthly Meetings contribute more than the discounted price. The range of price offered to the Meeting was \$2,386 to \$3,561. Retreat Committee suggested that the Meeting pay the base payment of \$2,386

now and decide in the coming months how much of the difference the Meeting will contribute from our Retreat reserve fund. The Clerk recommended, and the Meeting approved, that Retreat and Finance Committees both consider the appropriate contribution, keeping in mind any roll-over from the Fall Retreat. The Meeting expressed great appreciation to the Retreat Committee for the Retreat.

A Friend expressed concern that Committees be given appropriate authority to make decisions.

Overseers (Elsa Glines) The Holland-McCormick wedding was a lovely event. The Committee considered the Nominating Committee's "Notes on Committee Service" and appreciated the work invested in the document. The Meeting approved the resignation of our valued SCMM Member Gerry Morris. The memorial minute for Jean Flores was read and approved by the Meeting. The Committee reported on Donovan Eastman and Megan Thwing's request to be married under the care of the Meeting. A Clearness Committee met with the couple and found them clear to be married. Overseers Committee recommended that the Meeting take this marriage under its care in partnership with Hamilton Monthly Meeting in New York, where Donovan is a member. Hamilton Meeting has agreed to this arrangement and has convened an arrangement committee. This decision will be seasoned for one month.

Announcements

- The next Friendly Sevens will be held on Sunday, June 29th.
- Patti Erickson, a SCMM member visiting from her home in Costa Rica, will be sharing her paintings and experiences at Barbara Graves' home on Wednesday, May 14th.
- College Park Quarterly Meeting will be held May 16-18 at Ben Lomond Quaker Center.
- Pam Calvert will be spending one month in Costa Rica this summer with Radio for Peace International. She begins a PhD program at the GTU in the fall.
- Sixteen Strawberries participated in the Good Friday Demonstration at the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory.

Meeting closed at 1:05 pm with silent worship. Thirty-two Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Burnett, Clerk

Elizabeth Echlin, Recording Clerk

Minutes, Strawberry Creek Meeting for Business, June 8, 2003

Strawberry Creek Friends gathered for Meeting for Business on June 8, 2003. Clerk Bob Burnett presided, with thirty one Friends attending. Nancy Wilkinson, from Peace and Social Concerns, presented the committee's response to the Advices and Queries on Peace.

The agenda was reviewed. Minutes from the business meeting of May 11, 2003, written by the former Recording Clerk, Libby Echlin, were read and approved. Clerk Bob Burnett acknowledged Libby for her service to the meeting as Recording Clerk.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

- A letter from Kristen Schnepf, requesting membership, was read and referred to Overseers.
- A letter from Goshen Monthly Meeting, in Huntington Valley, Pennsylvania, was read. A young Friend from their meeting, Morgan Wajda-Levine, will be arriving in this area in the fall, and bringing a letter of introduction. He is hoping to find a room to rent for nine months.

Old Business

- Monica Fletcher was approved as our new PYM Representative to Friends Committee on Unity with Nature (FCUN).
- Friends approved the marriage of Donovan Eastman and Meggin Thwing, under the joint care of our Meeting and Hamilton Meeting. The wedding will take place in Massachusetts, and Hamilton Meeting will take care of arrangements. Strawberries will celebrate the marriage at the home of Cindy and Peter Trueblood, on a date to be determined.
- The question of the extent of our financial obligation to Quaker Center for the retreat continues to be considered by the Finance and Retreat Committees. They will have a report for us at the July Business Meeting.

Committee Reports

The College Park Quarterly Meeting (CPQM) Report, for May 16-18, 2003, was submitted by Chuck Groom and read by Clerk Bob Burnett. Gordon Bishop and Chris Moore-Backman reported on their work in Colombia, sparking a discussion concerning the nature of Friends' callings and leadings of the spirit, and how we listen, discern, and respond. Finding the right balance of autonomy and oversight for teens attending quarterly meeting was considered. John Woolman School will reopen on a limited basis. Friends' House is celebrating their twentieth anniversary.

Overseers

- Susan Burr thanked those members of Overseers who are leaving the committee and welcomed new and continuing members, all of whom met jointly on May 13. They appreciated having dinner together first, at the home of Lynne and Pete D'Angelo.
- Charlie Blanchard's request for membership has been referred to a clearness committee that includes Peter Trueblood, Kathy Barnhart, and Leonard Joy, Clerk.

- The Overseers and Ministry and Worship committees meet jointly at least once a year to address issues that are of concern to both groups. The next joint meeting is scheduled for June 17.
- A baby and toddler welcoming will be planned soon for our many new babies.

Peace and Social Concerns Committee

- Sandra Lewis read a proposed new job description for the committee, which both old and new committee members had carefully designed over the past months. In addition, she reported that the committee recommends their name be modified to Peace and Social Witness. The goal is to convey the concept of visible action that grows from spiritual discernment, and to build on Friends long, respected tradition of witness. The new job description notes that the committee is responsible for hearing recommendations for witness actions from others, and, for generating them within the committee. The committee will consider the feasibility and priority of recommendations, and assist the meeting in weighing choices. Meeting can then discern a course of action. Friends offered several suggestions to the committee: Resolving conflict is a central concern of Friends and must be included, and also, the maintaining of good order. The committee needs to make sure the job description is flexible enough to "allow for the leadings of the spirit." A Friend asked whether the committee's role is to help us find our corporate witness, or to provide it. In expressing appreciation for the new job description, a Friend noted that it encourages Friends to "light a candle from the light within", and also moves the committee's focus "beyond remedial charity to preventive justice." In response to a request, the committee agreed to provide a copy of the old job description on the web and at the next meeting for business. Key differences between the two will be noted, so that Friends may readily compare the versions. Finally, a Friend noted that the committee's name should emerge from the job description, so the name should be considered last. We will season both the job description and the proposed name change.

- Nancy Wilkinson reported that Meeting's Message Mainstreaming Group, an affinity group under the wing of Peace and Social Concerns, is working on ways to assert a visible Friendly Presence in the community. The hope is to hang a banner or sign in front of meeting each First Day, preferably one comparable to Berkeley Meeting's. Permission to hang a banner at the school has yet to be secured, and practical questions will need to be resolved. Meanwhile, the committee is crafting a message that springs from Friends' Testimonies, and invites Friends to send suggestions.

- World Wall for Peace (WWP): Nancy also reported that Carolyn Marks has described her group's achievements and needs to the Peace and Social Concerns Committee. WWP has presented its Peace Empowerment Process workshops to every 9th grade class at Mc Clymonds High School in Oakland; the training is culminating in student exchange trips to and from South Africa. Students from Mc Clymonds, with Carolyn, their teacher, and other adults, will depart this coming Thursday for South Africa, although they have not secured all the funding they need, and the project is now in debt. Meeting agreed to give them \$150., and individual Friends are encouraged to contribute as well.

Friends Committee on Unity with Nature (FCUN):

Report on the Spring Steering Committee Meeting

Dee Rossman distributed written reports describing the FCUN steering committee's work, and read from it their vision and witness statement. FCUN is working on a response to a NAFTA-like initiative, the Free Trade Area of the Americas, which the United States has proposed. FCUN's response, which may take the form of an Epistle, will appear in their publication, BeFriending Creation. Dee also mentioned that FCUN now has two representatives to the board of Friends Committee on National Legislation.

Hospitality Committee

Joyce Samati reported that the next Friendly Sevens will be on June 28. A baby welcoming is being planned, date to be announced.

Nominating Committee

Cindy Trueblood announced that the committee is continuing to look for a College Park Quarterly Meeting Representative. She asked Friends to think about someone for this role, and send suggestions to her. There will also be a change in our PYM Representative. Sherrin Loyd, our current rep, has informed Nominating Committee and meeting that she is unable to attend Pacific Yearly Meeting (PYM) this year. The committee is nominating Dee Rossman to act as our representative to PYM in August, 2003. Cindy added that Sherrin will be glad to continue with local tasks, such as announcements and dissemination of information. The Nominating committee expressed appreciation for Chuck Groom's contribution to their work.

First Day School

Miftah Leath reported that a total of thirty nine children participated in our meeting's First Day School this past year. By taking part in at least one third of the curriculum offered, twenty-eight children earned the right to have their names entered in the meeting's permanent records. During the summer, meeting will continue to offer nursery care for the very youngest children. Supervised play will be provided for primary age children.

Announcements

Clerk Bob Burnett announced that there will probably be no meeting for business in August; Ministry and Worship will decide and an announcement will be forthcoming.

The University of San Diego will be the site for Pacific Yearly Meeting (PYM) again this year, August fourth through ninth. PYM has advised us that scholarship funds are available. Friends who need assistance should apply to our Overseers Committee.

The meeting ended at 1:30 PM, after a period of silence. Twenty nine Friends were present.

Robin Standish, Recording Clerk

Bob Burnett, Clerk

Minutes, Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting for Business, July 13, 2003

Strawberry Creek Friends gathered for Meeting for Business on July 13, 2003. Clerk Bob Burnett presided, with thirty six Friends attending. Tom Whiteman, Clerk of Ministry and Worship, read the committee's response to the Advices and Queries on The Meeting Community. Clerk Bob Burnett thanked Tom and the committee for their thoughtful reflections.

8

The agenda was reviewed. Minutes from the business meeting of June 13, 2003 were read and approved with the following corrections: Monica Fletcher was approved as our new Representative to the PYM Friends Committee on Unity with Nature (FCUN). Kris Schnepf should be mentioned by her full name, Kristin.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

- Bob Reis announced that he must resign as Meeting's representative to the East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (EBSC). He will be moving to Dixon, and will attend Davis Meeting. Friends expressed appreciation for Bob's long and devoted service as EBSC Representative.
- Clerk Bob Burnett told us that Jane Wolff has requested a transfer of her membership to her meeting in Costa Rica, where she is living now. Jane's request was forwarded to Overseers.

Old Business

- Nominating Committee

Dee Rossman was approved as PYM Representative for this year.

- Retreat Committee: *Quaker Center Payment*

Kathy Barry reported that the old and new Retreat Committees had met together to discuss the appropriate payment to Quaker Center for the Retreat last May, but found they lacked the necessary information to make a decision. They are conferring with Katherine Youngmeister from the Finance Committee, and expect to resolve the issue for the next business meeting. Friends were assured that meeting has already paid Quaker Center the minimum amount owed to them.

- Peace and Social Concerns Committee (PSCC): *Job Description/Name Modification*

Shelley Tanenbaum read the portions of the proposed new job description which the committee had revised since our last meeting for business. The following sentence drew Friends' attention: "The committee functions as Meeting center where, within the context of the historic testimonies of Friends, proposed activities for witness are aired, generated, and seasoned through a process of discernment to help weigh their priority and feasibility for action within the Meeting." A thoughtful discussion followed, concerning our use of the terms "leadings", "promptings" and "seasoned ideas". The intent is to distinguish those words from an impulse or a flash, without setting the bar too high; the danger of seeming to push Friends into a premature use of the term "leadings" was noted. Friends were reminded of the important distinction between individual and corporate leadings. We will season these matters until the next meeting for business. New wording for the sentence quoted above will be drafted by an appointed committee: Katherine Youngmeister, Dee Rossman, Patricia Netherley, and

Sarah Emmer, Convener. The committee will report back to us at the next meeting for business. The question of a possible modification of the name of the Peace and Social Concern's Committee will be postponed until after the job description is settled.

There was no new business.

Committee Reports

Overseers

Lynne D'Angelo reported that Kristin Schnepf's membership committee will include Gordon Bishop, Kathy Barry, and Dee Rossman, clerk. Charlie Blanchard's committee has met and warmly recommends him for membership. The committee included Leonard Joy, clerk, with Peter Trueblood and Kathy Barnhart. Charlie's membership will be seasoned until the next meeting for business. A meeting for clerks is scheduled for September 7.

Joint Meeting of Overseers and Worship and Ministry

Tom Whiteman told us that the Overseers and the Worship and Ministry Committees will meet jointly to consider how to address the future of our meeting. The meeting is scheduled for August 24 at the home of Kathy Barry and Bob Burnett.

Treasurer's Report

Don Groom distributed financial reports, and reported that the amount in the General Fund is lower because \$5000 was transferred to the Sharing Fund Reserve. The Sharing Fund (separate from the Reserve) has received a contribution of \$5000. Don explained that money paid into the Retreat Fund is a payment for services received; it is not a contribution, like other funds. For this reason, the Retreat Fund is treated differently. Our phone expenses are zero for the recent period because requests for reimbursement have not yet been received.

Hospitality

Elizabeth Strain reported that the recent Friendly Seven's was a success. The parents of new baby Oden, Forrest Anderson and Sally Ann Anderson, appreciated the food Friends brought to them. A sign up sheet will be available soon for Hilary McCormick and Steven Holland's baby, who is due soon. There will be a special outdoor Meeting for Worship in Strawberry Canyon August 24.

First Day School

Charlie Blanchard showed us a certificate from the Heifer Project, acknowledging the contribution raised by our First Day School children. A sign up sheet for summer help with the children was circulated, and Friends were encouraged to take part. Our Fall First Day School Program will begin on September 7.

Nominating Committee

Sarah Emmer reported that Clifford Ham has offered to be our College Park Quarterly Meeting Representative. Friends will season this nomination until the next Meeting for Business, in September.

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, September 14, 2003

Meeting for Business opened at 11:55 am with silent worship. Bob Burnett clerked. Thirty-one Friends were present. Peter Klement read the Queries on Spiritual Life and provided reflections from Retreat Committee. One Friend expressed a concern that the Advices and Queries should continue to be read during the first fifteen minutes of Meeting for Worship. The newsletter editor noted that the wrong set of Advices and Queries had been inadvertently printed in this month's newsletter.

Minutes of the July 13 Meeting for Business were read and approved, correcting the spelling of Kristen Schnepf's name and the title of the Alternate Clerk.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

Letters requesting transfers of membership from Springfield Monthly and Berkeley Monthly Meetings were received from Dharma Yamaguchi and Lisa ~~Hubble McKinney~~^{Hubbell Mackinney}, respectively. The requests were forwarded to Overseers as we wait for transfer letters from each of those meetings.

A letter was received from Katherine Jaramillo, who has completed her Masters of Divinity at Earlham School of Religion and will be taking a chaplaincy position in Torrance, California. Her position requires an endorsement from a governing body of her religious institution. Meeting approved provision of a minute that would be prepared by the Clerk of Meeting working with the Clerk of Overseers. One Friend requested that the minute be posted to the web group.

A letter from Tom Whiteman and Andrea English was read, announcing their plans to move to Santa Rosa. A Friend asked that this letter be published in the newsletter.

Letters requesting membership were received from Elizabeth Strain and from Larry Strain. The requests were forwarded to Overseers.

Old Business

Retreat Committee (*Leslie Leonard for Kathy Barry and Elsa Glines*). Strawberry Creek Meeting previously paid Ben Lomond Quaker Center the required minimum payment for the Spring Retreat. The Retreat Committee recommends that Meeting pay an additional \$1000 of the \$1175 optional full payment, leaving \$950 in the Retreat Fund. The \$950 is sufficient to cover the deposit for the 2004 Spring Retreat and the typical financial support needs for Friends attending the Spring Retreat. Our per-person fees increased from \$71 in 2001 to \$91 in 2002 and \$108 in 2003. The committee will consider how to best handle future increasing costs. Meeting approved the committee's recommendation.

Peace and Social Concerns ad hoc job description committee (*Leslie Leonard for Sarah Emmer*). The ad hoc committee (Sarah Emmer, convener, Dee Rossman, Patricia Netherly, and Katherine Youngmeister) provided a revision of one sentence of the proposed job

description. After discussion, Friends approved the job description with the revised sentence, removing the word “generated” to now read “The Committee serves the meeting as a center where, within the context of the historic testimonies of Friends, concerns and leadings for witness are aired and seasoned through a process of discernment to help weigh their appropriateness for action within the Meeting.”

Nominating Committee. The nomination of Clifford Ham as College Park Quarterly Meeting representative was approved.

Overseers. The membership of Charlie Blanchard was approved. The welcoming committee will be Rick Herbert, convener, Leonard Joy, and Bob Burnett.

Reports

Overseers (*Susan Burr*). Overseers recommends approval of the membership of Kristen Schnepf. Susan read the report of Kristen’s membership clearness committee (Dee Rossman, convener, Gordon Bishop, and Kathy Barry). One Friend expressed appreciation for the depth of the report. The recommendation will be seasoned until next month.

Overseers asks that Friends bring requests for clearness committees to Overseers in writing, which will help Overseers handle the increasing number of requests. Most clearness committees meet privately, without reports provided to Meeting for Business.

Overseers Committee received a written report from Nominating Committee concerning what the latter learned during the past year in speaking with people about serving on committees. Overseers have begun to read the report and will continue working to identify issues that should be brought to Meeting for Business.

Overseers and Worship and Ministry met jointly in August. A topic of discussion was the continued development of a process of deliberating who we are becoming as a meeting. Overseers will consult with Retreat Committee on queries on this topic for possible use at the Fall Retreat and will follow up with another joint meeting with Worship and Ministry after the retreat.

A clerk’s meeting was held September 14 and was well attended. A Newcomer’s Brunch will be held November 2.

Worship and Ministry (*Tom Whiteman*). The principal of Berkeley Alternative High School has expressed his appreciation for the end-of-school-year financial support provided by Strawberry Creek Meeting and has asked if the Meeting would be willing to provide another \$1500 donation for the current school year. The school would like to use this year’s donation to provide matching funds for a federal microenterprise grant and to help purchase equipment for physical education. The grant and donation funds would be used to start a student canteen, with emphasis on healthier food than the sodas and chips that students commonly purchase for breakfast. Since the school year and the Strawberry Creek financial year cover different time periods, Meeting approved the \$1500 donation to be made available immediately, with the \$1500 line item for Berkeley Alternative High School that appears in our 2003 budget to continue in the 2004 budget. Friends noted that we might also be able to assist the school by linking the canteen project with possible resources at the Food Pantry and the People’s Grocery.

First Day School (*Charlie Blanchard*). The fall First Day School program began September 7 and volunteers will be needed for both the nursery and the primary class. The units for this year are community, spirituality, and unity with nature, with transitions between these units to cover spiritual communities and ecospirituality.

Treasurer's report (*Don Groom*). As previously approved by Meeting for Business, \$5000 was transferred from the General Fund Reserve to the Sharing Fund Reserve. Current rent is being charged at the rate paid during the 2002-03 school year until the school district finishes re-evaluating its rental rates policy. Meeting will not be charged a higher rent retroactively. A written report was provided.

Hospitality (*Joyce Samati* ~~*Elizabeth Strain*~~). The outdoor Meeting for Worship in August in Live Oak Park attracted about 45 people. A wedding reception for Donovan Eastman and Megan Thwing Eastman will be held on October 5 at the home of the Truebloods. The birth of Laurel McCormick Holland was announced, and a new baby and toddlers welcoming will be held on October 26. Friendly Sevens will be held during the evening on October 26, with details to be announced.

Nominating (*John McCarthy*). Cindy Trueblood will continue as clerk of Nominating Committee, completing her term through the end of December. Robin Standish is unable to continue as Recording Clerk, as her husband has been in poor health. Robin will be able to serve on Worship and Ministry Committee, and this nomination will season until next month. The committee nominates Pamela Calvert to be Recording Clerk. The nomination will season. Meeting approved Pamela's serving as acting Recording Clerk at the next Meeting for Business. Nominating Committee also nominates Leslie Leonard to replace Tom Whiteman as clerk of Worship and Ministry. Additional nominations to Overseers or Worship and Ministry may be brought to Meeting for Business next month. Nominating Committee will also seek a replacement for Tom Whiteman as liaison to Berkeley Alternative High School. Bob Burnett, as Clerk of Meeting, will serve as interim liaison.

Pacific Yearly Meeting representative (*Leslie Leonard for Dee Rossman*). A written report was provided. Two themes were important at Pacific Yearly Meeting (PYM): staffing needs of PYM and the need to resolve the organizational and financial relationships between PYM and the Pacific Friends Outreach Society.

Friends Committee on Legislation representative (*Betsy Morris*). The position of the Friends Committee on Legislation (FCL) representative as an adjunct member of Peace and Social Concerns Committee has been helpful. FCL is working on ways to connect more with monthly meetings, and Betsy is now serving as FCL co-clerk of Development and Outreach. FCL opposes propositions 53 and 54, and is following proposed legislation, especially SB3 on eliminating the death penalty for those who are mentally retarded, AB1219 on prison education reform, and a health insurance measure proposed by John Burton.

Friends Committee on National Legislation report (*Bob Burnett*). The Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) commemoration of September 11 reflected a mood that the peace community is gaining strength on Capitol Hill. There is bipartisan support for eliminating tactical nuclear weapons and requests for supporting Patriot Act II have been met harshly. FCNL has developed a clear presentation on Korea, which emphasizes the 180 degree polarity between policies favored by South Korea and those pursued by the Bush administration.

Announcements

College Park Quarterly Meeting will be October 18-19 at Sierra Friends Center. Registration forms will be made available at Meetings for Worship.

The Naming Committee to Nominate the Nominating Committee will be selected next month.

Planning for the Christmas program will be discussed next month.

A national peace demonstration is being planned for October 25.

The Fall Retreat will be Saturday November 15.

The next adult education meeting will be after rise of meeting on September 21, on "Weaving the Social Fabric of the Community."

Carl Magruder will have a presentation on Sierra Friends Center available during the coffee period on September 21.

The next Meeting for Business will be October 12 at 11:50 a.m. at the Berkeley Alternative High School. The meeting closed at 2:00 pm after a period of silent worship. Twenty-four Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Burnett, Clerk

Leslie Leonard, Alternate Clerk

Charlie Blanchard, Acting Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, November 9, 2003

Meeting for business opened at 11:50 am with silent worship. Bob Burnett clerked. Thirty nine Friends were present. Larry Strain read reflections from Nominating Committee on the Advices and Queries on Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business.

Minutes of the October 12 Meeting for Business were read and approved, with the correction that the report of the Hospitality Committee was unaccountably omitted:

Hospitality (*Elizabeth Strain*). Hospitality Committee held a birthday celebration for Tim Saunders and a farewell to Andrea English and Tom Whiteman. The committee thanks the Truebloods for hosting the wedding celebration for Donovan Eastman and Meggin Thwing. Hilary McCormick and Stephen Holland convey their great appreciation for the meals that Friends delivered after the birth of their daughter Laurel. There will be a new baby welcoming at rise of meeting on October 26 and a Friendly 7s that evening.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business:

A letter requesting membership was received from Amy Clark and forwarded to Overseers.

Old Business:

Nominating Committee (*Larry Strain*): The nomination of Lisa Johnson Zee to Hospitality Committee was approved.

Overseers (*Lynne D'Angelo*): Implementation by the coming year's Nominating Committee of the "Ready Reserves" proposal presented at the October Meeting for Business was approved.

New Business:

Naming Committee (*Miftah Leath*): The Naming Committee presented the following names for the 2004 Nominating Committee: Elizabeth Strain and Beth Wrightson for two-year terms; John McCarthy to continue for a third year; these names will season for one month. Current Nominating Committee members Sarah Emmer and Howard Curtis are unlikely to complete their terms, which run until December 2004. Naming Committee were unable to propose the name of a clerk for Nominating Committee; the committee will continue their work for an additional month, and invite seasoned Friends to consider whether they may be led to serve. The meeting's practice has been to name a member of the Society of Friends to the position of clerk of Nominating Committee, although there have been exceptions. Naming Committee was encouraged to continue to make calls.

2004 Budget (*Katherine Youngmeister*): Friends reviewed the draft expense budget for 2004. Based on total projected expenses of \$37,124 and a membership of ninety three, the share per active member or attender totals \$399, a \$5 increase from 2003. Friends noted that the line item for "Peace and Social Concerns" committee should be changed to the committee's new name, "Peace and Social Witness," and that no line item had been provided for the Site Analysis Committee. Concern was expressed regarding whether the Retreat fund balance will be adequate to cover scholarship need at the coming spring retreat.

Reports:

Overseers (*Lynne D'Angelo*): Susan Burr read the reports of the visiting committee for Dharma Yamaguchi (Bob Burnett, Rick Herbert, Margaret Schneider), and the membership clearness committees for Larry Strain (Bob Burnett, John McCarthy, Nancy Wilkinson) and Elizabeth Strain (Susan Burr, Kathy

Barnhart, Ted Obbard). Overseers recommend approval of all three memberships; these recommendations will be seasoned for one month. We have not yet received a letter of transfer for Lisa Mackinney.

Some fifteen Friends attended the November 2nd Newcomers' Brunch; the next one will be scheduled for March. Meeting welcomed six new babies on October 26. Overseers plans to convene a Listening Session in January for Friends to reflect on our size and where we're going as a meeting.

Worship and Ministry (*Leslie Leonard*): Following up on three items from the last Meeting for Business: (1) Worship and Ministry *invites* committees to post their reflections on the advices and queries to the meeting website *if* they are moved to share their responses, and will get back in touch in a year to discern whether this practice has distorted the intended purpose of prayerful reflection. (2) The committee proposes that we continue with our current practice of consideration of advices and queries at meeting for business for the coming year, but they remain open to hearing from Friends on this concern. (3) With reference to chronically ill latecomers who are unable to wait outside until 10:15, first, the committee urges Friends to try to arrive on time to avoid this problem. Unfortunately, there is no realistic indoor space at this site for latecomers to gather which would allow the greeter to monitor the meeting room door; however, the greeter will of course not deny entry to any Friend in physical distress.

Adult Education events planned include presentations by Lloyd Lee Wilson and Elsa Glines, and a new Quakerism 101 course. Funds are available to underwrite the costs of Adult Ed materials for Friends who cannot afford them. There will be no Adult Ed session in December. A recommendation will be presented at the December Meeting for Business for a possible new Library Subcommittee. Friends may contact Worship and Ministry Committee with any concerns prior to their next meeting, November 19.

Nominating (*Larry Strain*): The appointment of a liaison to Berkeley Alternative High School has been forwarded to Overseers. The following nominations were presented for seasoning: Javaughn Fernanders and Dick Strong as liaisons to East Bay Sanctuary Covenant; Caroline Duhem to Overseers; Chris Morrissey to Retreat; Sherrin Loyd to continue as Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative and Leonard Joy to continue as Alternate. These nominations will season one month. The committee is seeking new members for Peace and Social Witness and First Day School committees.

Peace and Social Witness (*Shelley Tanenbaum*): Nearly \$4,000 was raised at the October Fun-raiser for FCL; many thanks to Betsy Morris for coordinating Strawberry Creek's participation.

The committee is working with Retreat Committee to plan a one-day retreat in January on the theme of the Meeting's corporate witness, with a tentative date of January 10. Input is invited, particularly from Overseers and Worship and Ministry Committees. An Advocacy Workshop coordinated with FCL would follow in February, definitely involving other local meetings and possibly open to the public.

The committee requests that Meeting establish a designated fund to collect contributions for the Friends Committee on National Legislation capital campaign. It is unclear whether donations to FCNL for this purpose are tax-deductible, with implications for checks to Strawberry Creek earmarked for FCNL. Friends noted the importance of FCNL and the clear need for repair of its facility; with this support, Peace and Social Witness will follow up with the Finance Committee.

Upcoming Peace and Social Witness events include a presentation by Carol Wagner on women in Cambodia, as well as possible future sessions with Carolyn Marx, Stephen McNeil, and the FCNL. The next major anti-war demonstration is planned for the spring, with a wider network of sponsors than has been the case in the past; the committee will have more news about this as plans develop.

First Day School (*Charlie Blanchard*): In view of increased attendance, the committee is considering establishing a new class for children ages 3-7; the major consideration will be the availability of adults to cover an expanded program. This fall's subject area in FDS is "Community" and winter will be "Spirituality." Primary class coordinator Lee Douglas has been combining the two in "Spiritual Communities"; they have studied the Amish, visited a Zen monastery, and today visited a cloistered Carmelite order in Kensington. An adult who accompanied today's group noted the children's exquisite questions, minimum movement, and appreciation of the discipline of silence, which she attributed to the "Silence in a Bottle" practice in their class. Many thanks to Lee. Rick Herbert reported that attendance fluctuates in the meeting's teen group, but he considers it a direct reflection of the strong foundations that the First Day program is building that many of the older teens choose to remain in meeting for the full hour of worship rather than leaving after the first fifteen minutes.

Hospitality (*Elizabeth Strain*): There were three Friendly 7s gatherings, and meeting hosted a new baby welcoming on October 26. Friends are encouraged to bring offerings for the post-Thanksgiving potluck on November 30. Plans will be made for the Christmas program when the committee has more details.

Ecoberries (*Al Thompson*): Recognizing a concern within Meeting about the destructive impact of our dependence on fossil fuels, a group of Strawberry Creek Friends who have been meeting under a concern for the environment presented a proposal for a "Dime Per Gallon" fund. Friends would voluntarily impose a surcharge on their use of oil, contributing the money to a fund supporting projects furthering peace, justice and earth care. Friends discussed this proposal with considerable excitement. It was suggested that language be carefully chosen for the project, to maximize the appeal of this idea to non-Quaker individuals and groups. Volunteers from Ecoberries will continue to research the costs of various energy uses as a way to assist Friends in assessing themselves appropriate "tithes." The "ten cents" amount is not fixed; Friends with limited means could contribute less, while others might give a great deal more, recognizing that the true cost of fossil fuel use is far higher than this token amount. A member of Ecoberries emphasized that this exercise in no way addresses the underlying problem of the destructiveness of our current energy use, absolves us of our guilt, or even begins to reflect the "true cost," but is intended to serve as a symbolic reminder, spurring our regular attention to getting ourselves out of this trap. Friends were also admonished not to consider these contributions as an alternative to our regular support of Meeting. Ecoberries will work with Peace and Social Witness Committee on next steps for implementation, and Finance Committee will address the question of establishing a designated fund, with a report to be presented at December's Meeting for Business. A Friend raised the question of why the meeting does not have a standing committee focused on ecological concerns.

Announcements:

The fall Retreat will be November 15 at 9:00 am. Contact Kathy Barry or Elsa Glines for details.

Berkeley Meeting will host a program on the My Lai Peace Park on November 15 at 7:00 pm.

Leslie Leonard is following up with Berkeley Meeting about possible Thanksgiving Day worship, and will announce information at meeting and on the web.

Leonard Joy announced the formation of the Quaker Institute for the Future, a think tank focused on both policy concerns and a prophetic view of the world's future; he encouraged Friends to consider financial support for this new enterprise.

The clerk encouraged Friends to make a special effort to reach out to newcomers.

The next Meeting for Business will be December 14 at 11:50 am at Berkeley Alternative High School. Meeting closed at 2:05 pm after a period of silent worship. Twenty seven Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Burnett, Clerk; Leslie Leonard, Alternate Clerk; Pamela Calvert, Recording Clerk

First, the program will be a... (The text is mirrored and difficult to read, but appears to discuss program goals and objectives.)

Second, the program will be... (Continuation of the text, discussing implementation details.)

Third, the program will be... (Further details about the program's structure and goals.)

Appendix A

The following table... (The text is mirrored and difficult to read, but appears to be a list or table of contents.)

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, December 14, 2003

Meeting for Business opened at 11:50 am with silent worship. Bob Burnett clerked. Thirty three Friends were present. Dick Strong read reflections from Facilities Committee on the Advices and Queries on Stewardship and Vocation.

Minutes of the November 9 Meeting for Business were read and approved with the following corrections: the correct spelling of Carolyn Marks's name, and the corrected reference to "Meeting in a Bottle" in the First Day School report.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business:

A letter was received from Alan Curtis ("Curt") Wands, a member of Fayetteville, Arkansas Monthly Meeting who has been sojourning at Strawberry Creek. Three Strawberry Creek Friends have met with Curt to help him discern clearness to return to peace witness work in Colombia; he now requests the Meeting's ongoing support, including a minute he may carry with him when he returns to Colombia on January 20. Friends were in unity regarding our spiritual support for this leading, and will consider how best to provide practical support. The following actions were approved, and reports will be presented at January Meeting for Business: (1) Overseers will discuss whether a letter of introduction would be more appropriate than a travel minute, given that we are not his home meeting; (2) the clerk will write to Fayetteville Meeting advising them of our concern for their member's leading and asking that they support his ministry by writing a travel minute and holding him in prayer; (3) Peace and Social Witness Committee will consider whether we might take this Friend's ministry under the care of the Meeting. We encourage Curt to be in touch with his home Meeting about how his leading has evolved since he was last with them, and to provide additional information about his work to our Meeting. It was suggested that we contact San Francisco Meeting for their thoughts and experience with caring for the Colombia accompaniment ministry of Carin Anderson and Chris Moore-Backman.

A letter from Dick and Barbara Emmons requesting release from membership was forwarded to Overseers.

A letter was received from Monteverde Monthly Meeting confirming they have received the certificate of transfer for Jane, Nico, and Carlos Wolff.

A certificate of transfer from Berkeley Monthly Meeting for Lisa Hubbell Mackinney was forwarded to Overseers.

Old Business:

Naming Committee (Miftah Leath): Meeting approved the nominations of Elizabeth Strain, Beth Wrightson, and John McCarthy to Nominating Committee. The following names were presented for seasoning: Kathy Barnhart, a two-year term as a Nominating Committee member, in the first year serving as clerk; Robin Standish and Anne Maiden Brown for two-year terms; Micki Graham and James Hosley for one-year terms. Upon the Meeting's approval of Kathy Barnhart's nomination in January, her husband John McCarthy will resign from the Nominating Committee, so as not to have both spouses serving on the same committee. The Naming Committee reports that their work had been hampered by the following factors: (1) There is no job description for their committee; (2) Friends expressed unwillingness to serve because of other commitments or because they felt "unready" to serve on Nominating Committee. The Meeting will address this sense of "unreadiness" through offering a

clerking workshop in March, and Quaker Center will repeat their clerking workshop in February; both are recommended to all. The Naming Committee was thanked for their diligent efforts.

Approval of Memberships: The memberships of Dharma Yamaguchi, Larry Strain and Elizabeth Strain were approved; their respective welcoming committees are Tom Yamaguchi (convener), Bob Burnett, and Helen Haug; Charlie Blanchard (convener), Al Thompson, Leslie Leonard, and John McCarthy; and Shelley Tanenbaum (convener), Leonard Joy, and Barbara Graves.

Nominations: The following nominations were approved: Javaughn Fernanders and Dick Strong as East Bay Sanctuary Covenant liaisons; Caroline Duhem to Overseers; Chris Morrissey to Retreat; Sherrin Loyd as Pacific Yearly Meeting representative, Leonard Joy as PYM Alternate.

Peace and Social Witness (*Shelley Tanenbaum*): The Meeting approved the creation of a fund to collect donations for the Friends Committee on National Legislation Education Fund capital campaign. This fund will be maintained by Strawberry Creek through June 2004. Donations will be tax-deductible; it was not clear to whom checks should be made out.

The committee presented a draft minute for approval on the "Dime A Gallon Dream Fund" originally presented at November Meeting for Business. Friends expressed appreciation to the committee and to Ecoberries for their efforts. The Meeting approved the following plan: (1) A long-term fund to collect energy "tithes" will be established; (2) the committee will convene a meeting to present information on calculating personal energy use; (3) one or more threshing sessions will be held to discern criteria for expenditure of funds and to decide on recipients; (4) the reports from the threshing sessions will be brought to Meeting for Business for approval. The following change was suggested for the proposed minute: to add the words "and impacts" to the final sentence. Consideration of the minute will season for one month.

New Business:

A date is being sought for the State of the Meeting listening session.

Reports:

First Day School (*Charlie Blanchard*): Forty three children and teens are regularly attending. We may need to establish a new age-group class as early as January; the committee urges Friends to consider regular and sustained service to support our current programs as well as this needed expansion. The current coordinators are over-extended, and the committee invites Friends' thoughts on whether it would be easier to make a commitment to teach if specific curriculum materials were provided. They also wish to hear from Friends on the issue of whether our children are being given adequate preparation in the Judeo-Christian tradition.

Overseers (*Lynne D'Angelo*): Kathy Barnhart read the report of the membership clearness committee for Sarah Emmer (Kathy Barnhart, Charlie Blanchard, Pamela Calvert). The committee recommends approval; this will season one month. A membership clearness committee for Amy Clark has been appointed comprising Bob Burnett, Kristen Schnepf, and Al Thompson. Overseers will convene an all-day clerking workshop on March 13. A Listening Session on the growth and development of the Meeting will take place February 1, and the committee is also planning small geographically-based groups to enhance fellowship and support in the Meeting. Overseers is working on a job description for the web communications committee.

Worship and Ministry (Leslie Leonard): Al Thompson reported on the committee's concern for Friends who are hard of hearing. This is a problem common to many Friends meetings, and is not solely a factor of our current location. The committee has considered the possibilities of hanging microphones from the ceiling, as well as using a hand-held microphone for vocal ministry, and although they are actively seeking a solution, way has not yet opened. The committee will make regular announcements urging Friends to speak up when ministering, and encouraging hard of hearing Friends to sit in the center of the room. Al Thompson will be the liaison for concerns or suggestions on this issue.

At the invitation of Nominating Committee, Worship and Ministry proposed the formation of two new committees, which will season one month:

(1) Adult Education, currently a subcommittee of Worship and Ministry. This has been a very successful and spiritually deepening initiative, sponsoring programs including Quakerism 101, Bible study, and book groups. Apart from the convener who is on Worship and Ministry committee, Friends have been invited to join this committee in an *ad hoc* process, which is hindering Nominating Committee's work on behalf of the meeting as a whole. It is proposed that Adult Education and Worship and Ministry share one committee member so as to maintain close contact. The current Adult Education committee will draft the job description.

(2) Library, responding both to interest from Friends in the Meeting and the request of the current librarian. The committee will maintain the current circulation systems, work with the Adult Education committee on acquisitions, and consider ways to coordinate library resources with Berkeley Monthly Meeting and Berkeley Friends Church. Nominating Committee has already provided a draft job description to Worship and Ministry, which will be refined before being presented to Meeting.

Nominating (Sarah Emmer): The committee thanks Worship and Ministry for their work on the proposed new committees. Nominating presented a detailed written report on their past year's work, and its implications for the continued growth and complexity of the Meeting. Ready Reserves are being implemented, and the committee is encouraging more continuity in committee service with terms of two or three years. The Meeting released Howard Curtis from his second term on the committee.

Announcements

The Meeting's annual holiday celebration will take place Saturday, December 20.

College Park Quarterly Meeting is set for Saturday, January 17, in Santa Rosa.

A fundraising event to support the El Salvador work of Carmen Broz will be held January 17 at Palo Alto Presbyterian Church.

The planned retreat on the Meeting's corporate witness will not take place in January; an alternate date has not yet been set.

Miftah Leath offers a potted blue spruce tree to the Meeting's holiday gathering if a Friend will take it afterwards and plant it.

The next Meeting for Business will be January 11 at 11:50 am at Berkeley Alternative High School.

Meeting closed at 2:05 pm after a period of silent worship. Twenty four Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Burnett, Clerk; Leslie Leonard, Alternate Clerk; Pamela Calvert, Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, January 11, 2004

Meeting for Business opened at 11:50 am with silent worship. Bob Burnett clerked. Forty one Friends were present. Katherine Youngmeister read reflections from Finance Committee on the Advices and Queries on Harmony with Creation.

Minutes of the December 14 Meeting for Business were read and approved with the note that Curt Wands is an attender of Fayetteville Monthly Meeting.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business:

A letter has been received from Peter Wafula, a Kenyan Friends pastor currently in the Master of Divinity program at Earlham School of Religion, requesting financial support for his wife's graduate program at ESR. Peter Trueblood, an Earlham board member, will research this Friend's situation and report to the February Meeting for Business.

A letter from Dharma Yamaguchi and Manuel Galang requesting marriage under the care of the Meeting was forwarded to Overseers.

A letter from Zachary Moon requesting membership was forwarded to Overseers.

A letter from Jay Roger Smith requesting transfer of membership to Strawberry Creek from Oread Monthly Meeting in Lawrence, Kansas was forwarded to Overseers.

Old Business:

Finance Committee (*Katherine Youngmeister*): Friends approved a 2004 budget totaling \$37,500; the average share per member or active attender is \$403, a \$9 increase from 2003. The budget does not reflect any rent increase, as we have not yet received this information from the school district. The name of Friends Committee on Unity with Nature is changed to Quaker Earthcare Witness. Fund balance projections were provided; the exact numbers will be available in the Treasurer's report.

Naming Committee (*Mifiah Leath*): The nominations of Kathy Barnhart, Micki Graham, James Hosley, Anne Maiden Brown, and Robin Standish to Nominating Committee were approved. The Meeting released John McCarthy from continued service on Nominating Committee. Naming Committee provided a report summarizing their experience, which will be posted to the webgroup.

Approval of Membership: The membership of Sarah Emmer was approved; the welcoming committee is Rick Herbert (convener), Pamela Calvert, Rachel Findley, and Kristen Schnepf.

Curt Wands Ministry: Fayetteville Meeting has sent us two minutes they approved on behalf of their former attender Curt Wands, affirming their spiritual and practical support of his leading to serve in Colombia. We have also received a letter from Curt expressing his gratitude for Strawberry Creek Meeting's support and advising us of his plans to visit Arkansas to renew his ties to his meeting in Fayetteville; he plans to worship at Strawberry Creek on January 18 and will leave for Colombia on the 25th. Friends were in unity to provide Curt with a letter of introduction to carry with him to Colombia. The following minute was also approved:

It is the sense of the Strawberry Creek Friends Meeting that we publicly express our support for the ministry of Curt Wands, an attender of this Meeting, in his travels and his life's example of

non-violence and peace to all peoples of the world. We hold him in the Light in his next journey to the people of Colombia.

Worship and Ministry Committee will make arrangements for Friends to learn more about Curt's ministry and to express prayerful support on January 18. When we have more specific information on his work in Colombia we will be able to consider practical and economic assistance which we might offer. Bob Burnett and Gordon Bishop will work on formation of a small liaison group to maintain communication with Curt in Colombia, provide information to meeting, and coordinate various kinds of assistance as needed and appropriate. Friends also wished to encourage Curt to consider applying for membership in the Society of Friends so as to deepen the support available to him in his ministry.

More generally, Friends wished to follow up on two larger questions: first, how we can be responsive to the challenges of young Friends whose transient lives make it difficult for them to establish formal membership in a particular Meeting; and second, how Friends may care for those whose ministry calls them outside the United States for extended periods of time and who clearly belong to the Quaker community even if they are not members.

Peace and Social Witness Committee (*Shelley Tanenbaum*): Meeting approved the "Dime a Gallon Dream Fund" minute with the following change: the words "an ongoing fund" replace "a fund" in the third sentence. The committee will convene an educational session on January 25 to introduce the concept and provide Friends with tools to calculate energy usage.

Worship and Ministry Committee (*Leslie Leonard*): Meeting approved formation of the Adult Religious Education and Library Committees.

New Business:

State of the Meeting Report: Meeting approved a State of the Meeting Report Committee comprising Mary White (Worship and Ministry), Tom Yamaguchi (Overseers) and Patricia Netherly (convener). Responding to a concern expressed in last year's State of the Meeting Report, Overseers will convene a listening meeting on the future of the Meeting on February 1, considering two queries: Does our Meeting community provide a foundation from which we can test, support, and exercise leadings of the Spirit? How might a permanent Meeting site help or hinder us as a witnessing faith community? The State of the Meeting listening meeting will then be held on February 29.

Committee Reports:

First Day School (*Charlie Blanchard*): Thanks to all who have signed up to assist in the First Day School and Nursery, and to Katja Samati for filling in for Praggya Chaturvedi in the Nursery. Friends who practice non-Quaker forms of spirituality are invited to share their experiences with the Primary Group.

Overseers (*Lynne D'Angelo*): Upcoming events include the listening meeting on the future of the Meeting on February 1, and a workshop on clerking as a spiritual practice on March 13. The committee is working on the update of the Meeting database, and several clearness committees are in progress. A Berkeley Bowl gift certificate was given to Berkeley Alternative High School custodian Robert Jamison as a holiday gift. Preliminary information was provided regarding a web committee; because it is not yet clear whether the proposal is for a new committee or for a subcommittee of Overseers, it was returned to Overseers for further discernment.

Worship and Ministry (*Leslie Leonard*): There are several Adult Religious Education events planned or under consideration, including continued Quakerism 101 sessions, "Quakers in the Workplace," "Being Peace in Angry Times," Rachel Findley on "John Woolman and Radical Trust," and various possibilities for Bible study.

Retreat (*Kathy Barry*): The fall retreat "Home Sweet Home: Growing into Strawberry Creek Meeting" was a success in spiritual and financial terms. The committee provided a full report, appended to these minutes. Chris Morrissey is a welcome new committee member. The spring Meeting retreat will be April 30 – May 2 at Ben Lomond Quaker Center, all are welcome, most especially newcomers.

Nominating (*Kathy Barnhart*): The committee is beginning their work for the new year; they have some 200 calls to make to currently active members and attenders.

Hospitality (*Joyce Samati*): Thanks to all who made the holiday program a success. The next Friendly 7s will be February 29.

Announcements:

- The listening meeting on the future of the Meeting will be February 1.
- College Park Quarterly Meeting takes place January 17 in Santa Rosa.
- Berkeley Monthly Meeting will hold a Tuesday evening series on writing spiritual memoirs beginning January 20; for more information contact Catherine Anderson, 510/526-1407.
- The next Meeting for Business will be February 8 at 11:50 am at Berkeley Alternative High School. Meeting closed at 2:00 pm after a period of silent worship. Thirty four Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Burnett, Clerk; Leslie Leonard, Alternate Clerk; Pamela Calvert, Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, February 8, 2004

Meeting for Business opened at 11:55 am with silent worship. Leslie Leonard clerked. Thirty Friends were present. Phyllis Malandra read reflections from Hospitality Committee on the Advices and Queries on Social and Civic Responsibility.

Minutes of the January 11 Meeting for Business were read and approved with the correction that Peter Trueblood is not a member of Earlham's Board of Directors.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business:

A letter from Bhavia Carol Wagner requesting transfer of membership from Strawberry Creek to Eugene Monthly Meeting, North Pacific Yearly Meeting, was forwarded to Overseers.

New Business:

College Park Quarterly Meeting Representative (Clifford Ham): Winter Quarterly Meeting was held in Santa Rosa in January. The Quarter's Nominating Committee is seeking names for the positions of Alternate Recording Clerk, Archivist, and Representative to the Northern California Interfaith Council. The Quarter considered the implications of an incidence of sexual aggression among the teens at the Fall Campout, in light of our life as beloved community. Friends presented information on their leadings to witness in Latin America and Iraq. Spring Quarter will be held at Ben Lomond Quaker Center May 14-16.

State of the Meeting (Leslie Leonard): The State of the Meeting listening session will be convened on February 29 following rise of meeting. All are encouraged to attend and participate in this opportunity to reflect on the past year and think forward into the coming one. Childcare will be provided.

Committee Reports:

Finance/Treasurer's Report (Katherine Youngmeister): On behalf of the treasurer, the clerk of the Finance Committee presented the financial statements for 2003. The Meeting is in sound financial condition and fund balances are growing. The financial statement was approved with the understanding that the treasurer will provide information to the Finance Committee regarding a few minor questions.

The Finance Committee proposes that the Meeting invest \$5,000 in the Northern California Community Loan Fund, a non-profit lender dedicated to strengthening the economic base of low-income communities in Northern California. Our checking account balance as of December 31 is \$38,569. We may invest in NCCLF for a period as short as one year, for an interest rate at that term of up to 2%. The organization is 17 years old, and to date their loss rate on investments has been zero; however, they are not federally insured. This proposal will season for one month, during which time Friends may get further information at the organization's website www.ncclf.org or from Finance Committee members Katherine Youngmeister, Stephen Nomura and Laura Cornell.

The Finance Committee proposes an "Attitudes to Money" workshop with Ruth Fraser, formerly on the development staff of the American Friends Service Committee. They will clear a date with the Adult Religious Education Committee and the calendar keeper.

Site Analysis Committee (Larry Strain): The committee has drafted an extensive report, which will be made available in full to the meeting after final committee review. Their research has centered around the following areas:

- (1) **Statistical trends in the Meeting:** Although our numbers in the SCMM directory have been relatively constant for many years, active participation in Meeting has grown, with a large majority of members and attenders centered around Berkeley.
- (2) **The experiences of other Meetings with permanent sites:** Sacramento and Santa Cruz Meetings were most closely studied. Both Meetings visited every member in their home, and devoted extensive time to retreats and called meetings. They found it quite difficult to raise the down payment, and made serious compromises in location and/or in total financial outlay.
- (3) **The facility needs of this Meeting:** Committee clerks were surveyed about current uses and needs, and the Site Analysis Committee developed site criteria taking into account additional factors such as proximity to public transportation, accessibility standards, and environmental impact.
- (4) **Potential properties:** The committee concluded that the meeting required 7,500-10,000 square feet of interior space, 4,000-8,000 square feet of outdoor space and possibly as much as 15,000 square feet of parking.
- (5) **Costs:** In the current Berkeley real estate market, our projected space needs amount to a total purchase price of approximately \$2 million; depending on our down-payment, this could work out to a monthly payment of \$17,000 for mortgage plus insurance. There is potential offsetting income of up to \$5,000 per month from tenants. The committee also considered the alternative of a longterm lease; at current square foot costs of \$1-\$1.75, our monthly rent would be \$7,500-\$17,000. The Meeting has not as yet clarified how much capital we are able to raise for this project, and how much in addition we can make available for monthly expenses. The Site Analysis Committee supports Finance Committee's proposal of an "Attitudes to Money" workshop as a first step in this discernment process.

The Meeting expressed deep appreciation to the committee for their comprehensive research.

Overseers (Lynne D'Angelo): Overseers recommends approval of the transfer of Lisa Hubbell Mackinney to Strawberry Creek from Berkeley Friends Meeting. Hannah Mackinney has also requested to become an associate member of the Meeting. The recommendation will season for one month.

Overseers recommends that Meeting lay down the membership of William (Bill) Cooper, with whom we have lost contact despite several attempts to reach him. This will season for one month.

Nominating (Kathy Barnhart): The committee proposes the names of Elaine Emily and Kate Newlin to serve on Worship and Ministry for fifteen months, and Amy Clark to serve on Loaves and Fishes through May of this year. These nominations will season for one month. Nominating is seeking a new member for Overseers Committee; Meeting is urged to consider more deeply the source of the difficulty of finding Friends who are able and willing to serve on this committee.

Peace and Social Witness (Shelley Tanenbaum): The committee convened a well-attended meeting on the Dime a Gallon Dream Fund. There will be a follow-up meeting on April 4 to consider how to expend funds raised, and recommendations will be brought to Meeting for Business for decision. Committee members are available for tutorials on calculating energy use. On February 22, the committee will host a presentation on election participation by Friends Committee on National Legislation staffer Ruth Fraser. On March 7, Stephen McNeil will make a presentation on the FCNL capital campaign. The committee wishes to hear from any Friends who would be able to help plan and coordinate Meeting participation in the March 20 anti-war demonstrations.

First Day School (*Charlie Blanchard*): It is the responsibility of committee clerks to request childcare support for events outside of Meeting for Business and Adult Religious Education sessions. These requests should be made at least two weeks in advance to either Charlie Blanchard or Joyce Samati. It was suggested that Nominating Committee include this responsibility in committee job descriptions.

Hospitality (*Phyllis Malandra*): Friendly Sevens will be held on February 29; the queries will be thematically related to the advices and queries for the month on civic and social responsibility. A new member welcoming is being planned for the spring.

Worship and Ministry (*Dharma Yamaguchi*): Thanks are extended to Adult Religious Education Committee for their support in getting three Bible Study groups underway: one begins February 12 at Sarah Hawthorne's home on "What is Faith?"; Carl Anderson will convene a group on the Old Testament prophets at Nancy Wilkinson's home beginning March 8; and on February 18 Berkeley Friends Church begins a twelve-week study of the Epistle of James led by Pastor Max Hansen.

Friends Committee on Legislation Representative (*Betsy Morris*): The FCL is currently focusing on the death penalty, criminal justice reform, and single-payer health insurance. It is suggested that the Meeting buy tickets for the FCL's annual fundraising dinner, tentatively scheduled for May 19; this was referred to Finance Committee for a formal proposal. More information on the work of FCL and action alerts on pending legislation are available at the organization's website, www.fclca.org.

Announcements:

- The Meeting will convene a clerking workshop on March 13 presented by Eric Moon and Susan Burr. This event offers the opportunity for Friends to deepen our understanding of self-clerking, to demystify the clerking process, and to expand our willingness to serve in clerking roles. Ben Lomond Quaker Center will also repeat their weekend clerking workshop this spring.

The next Meeting for Business will be March 14 at 11:50 am at Berkeley Alternative High School. Meeting closed at 1:50 pm after a period of silent worship. Twenty eight Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Leonard, Alternate Clerk; Pamela Calvert, Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, March 14, 2004

Meeting for Business opened at 12:00 pm with silent worship. Bob Burnett clerked. Forty seven Friends were present. Charlie Blanchard of First Day School Committee and Chaim Finkelman on behalf of the Teen Group read reflections on the Advices and Queries on Reaching Out.

Minutes of the February 8 Meeting for Business were approved.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

Letters from Jessica Manly Bucciarelli and Katherine Jaramillo requesting transfer of membership from Strawberry Creek to Orange Grove Monthly Meeting were forwarded to Overseers.

A letter from Carl Thiermann requesting membership was forwarded to Overseers.

A letter from Micki Graham requesting that Strawberry Creek Meeting write a minute for consideration at yearly meeting that Berkeley Friends Church and First Friends Whittier be invited join Pacific Yearly Meeting was forwarded to Worship and Ministry Committee.

Old Business

Peter Wafula Request: Leslie Leonard reported that Peter Trueblood had looked into the request for financial support received from Peter Wafula on behalf of his wife. Contrary to the correspondence received by meeting, Mrs. Wafula has not been admitted to a graduate program at Earlham and no fund has been established there for her support. Meeting will take no further action on this request.

Finance Committee (*Katherine Youngmeister*): The complete 2003 financial report was provided, resolving the remaining questions from the last meeting for business. We still have no information from the school district on our 2004 rent. Friends approved investing \$5,000 in the Northern California Community Loan Fund, with the understanding that Finance Committee may return to us with further recommendations for investment of surplus funds in vehicles such as the American Friends Service Committee.

It was reported that Don Groom had resigned as meeting treasurer: Kathy Barnhart on behalf of Nominating Committee recommended that Katherine Youngmeister be named interim treasurer for the coming two months. So that the meeting's financial management should not be interrupted, Friends approved this nomination without the customary month of seasoning, and approved the expenditure of up to \$500 for the purchase of accounting software. Appreciation was expressed to Don Groom for his service as treasurer.

Approval of Membership: The membership of Lisa Hubbell Mackinney was approved. The welcoming committee for Lisa and her daughter Hannah is Margaret Schneider (convener), Barbara Graves, Robin Standish, and Lisa Johnson Zee.

Release from Membership: Meeting regretfully released the membership of Bill Cooper.

Nominations: Meeting approved the nominations of Elaine Emily and Kate Newlin to Worship and Ministry, and of Amy Clark to Loaves and Fishes.

New Business

State of the Meeting Report (*Patricia Netherly*): The State of the Meeting report was presented in draft form, appended to these minutes. Friends expressed their thanks to the committee, and offered reflections and suggested changes. Further written comments may be directed to committee members Patricia Netherly, Mary White, and Tom Yamaguchi during the coming month of seasoning.

Reports

Overseers (*Lynne D'Angelo*): Overseers recommends the transfer of Bhavia Carol Wagner to Eugene Friends Meeting. The recommendation will season for one month. The committee has had further conversations with Dick and Barbara Emmons regarding their request to lay down their memberships, with the result that the Emmons's memberships in the Meeting will continue. After conversations with the committee, Howard Curtis is seasoning his request to lay down his membership.

The March 13 workshop on Clerking as Spiritual Practice was excellent, with thirty-six participants including a few Berkeley Meeting Friends. The newcomers brunch is scheduled for March 28; Friends are encouraged to identify potential participants, who may sign up with Caroline Duhem.

Susan Burr will be acting clerk of Overseers during the month of April while Lynne and Peter D'Angelo are traveling to Ireland Yearly Meeting.

The committee provided a proposal and draft job description for a new Electronic Communication and Resources Subcommittee of Overseers Committee. This proposal will season for one month.

Worship and Ministry (*Gordon Bishop*): A draft job description for the Adult Education Committee was read, and will be posted to the meeting website. The proposal will season for one month. The length of the job description and the effect of these new committees on the nominating process were referred to Nominating Committee for comment.

Peace and Social Witness (*Shelley Tanenbaum*): A volunteer is needed to carry the Meeting banner in the anti-war parade March 20.

At the request of the Friends Committee on Legislation, the committee proposed a minute in support of SB 921, addressing universal access to health care services. This proposal will season for one month. There will be an informational session on SB 921 after meeting on March 28.

Site Analysis (*Larry Strain*): The committee presented a refined draft of their report to meeting, attached to these minutes. They have scaled down their estimate of the meeting's space needs, with correspondingly lower projected costs. The committee proposed the next step be to survey the meeting to determine what resources are available to undertake a permanent site project, as well as researching potential partners and outside sources of funds. They will also investigate options for expanded use of the Berkeley Alternative High School, Berkeley Friends Church and Berkeley Friends Meeting sites, while recognizing that this would not address the currently inadequate facilities of the First Day School. Once the committee has assembled a budget and timeframe to reach our goal, further listening meetings can be convened. Meeting approved continuation of the Site Analysis Committee for the coming year.

Nominating (*Kathy Barnhart*): The committee will bring a proposed slate of nominations for 2004-2005 to the next meeting for business.

Hospitality (*Elizabeth Strain*): There were four Friendly Sevens groups in February, with five to seven participants at each. Last-minute attrition was by and large balanced by last-minute sign-ups. The committee reflects that this turnover is hard on the Friendly Sevens hosts, and perhaps indicates an attitude that the meeting is an "institution" which does not need the same level of consideration as a community comprised of personal relationships. This highlights the importance of the conveners' confirmation calls to participants. The committee suggests that Worship and Ministry Committee review and revise the guidelines for conveners, emphasizing the aspect of convening Friendly 7s as a spiritual practice of pastoral care.

First Day School (*Charlie Blanchard*): The committee anticipates opening a new class for 3-6 year-olds in the coming month. Eleanor Prouty will be teaching a three-month unit on Unity with Nature for the Primary Group beginning March 21. The committee is seeking resource people who would be available to volunteer for 3-4 weeks during this time period, rather than week-to-week volunteers.

Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative (*Sherrin Loyd*): PYM Representative Committee met on March 6 at Orange Grove. The yearly meeting is seeking input from monthly meetings on the composition of a formal peace minute; comments may be directed to Leonard Joy. A Middle East Peace Team is under consideration. Zachary Moon will be travelling in the yearly meeting under a concern for communication between adults and youth among Friends. The yearly meeting archives are running out of room, so Friends are asked to send no new material for the time being. Pacific Yearly Meeting sessions are scheduled for August 2-7, with deadlines as follows: April 1 for information to be included in meeting packets; June 5 for registration at a 5% discount; July 9 for registration without a 10% late fee. Financial assistance is available, and all teachers in the youth program are extended complimentary registration. There will be a new group for middle-school aged children. Kristina Perry, clerk of the Unity with Nature Committee, will be in touch with Strawberry Creek about an interest group on the Dime a Gallon program. Two representatives will be named at yearly meeting to attend the 2005 World Gathering of Young Friends in Ireland.

Announcements

- Sarah Emmer reports receiving word from Curt Wands that he has been continuing his work in Guatemala while he clears his paperwork to return to Colombia.
- Upcoming programs at Ben Lomond Quaker Center include "Living from a Deeply Rooted Trust: Walking with John Woolman" with Rachel Findley April 9-11, and "My Father's Son: A Gathering of Quaker Men" with Gordon Bishop and Joe Franko May 21-23.
- A regular meeting for worship at the home of Tim Saunders is being convened; those who are led to attend may contact Al Thompson.
- Good Friday anti-war observances at the gates of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory will take place April 9; details will be forthcoming from Carl Anderson.
- Quaker historian Hugh Barbour will be the featured guest at this year's Quaker Heritage Day, April 17 at Berkeley Friends Church.
- The public television program "A Sacred Balance," airing the evening of March 14, is recommended.

The next Meeting for Business will be April 11 at 11:50 am at Berkeley Alternative High School. Meeting closed at 2:10 pm after a period of silent worship. Thirty four Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Burnett, Clerk; Leslie Leonard, Alternate Clerk; Pamela Calvert, Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, April 11, 2004

Meeting for Business opened at 12 PM with silent worship. Bob Burnett clerked. Thirty three Friends were present. Rich Tittle of the Loaves and Fishes Committee read reflections on the Advices and Queries on Simplicity. The clerk asked the committee to consider posting their responses to the web group.

Minutes of the March 14 Meeting for Business were approved.

Correspondence And Clerk's Business

A letter was received from Orange Grove Meeting, requesting that Elaine Emily become a sojourning member of Strawberry Creek. The letter was forwarded to Overseers.

A letter from Michele (Micki) Graham requesting membership was forwarded to Overseers.

A letter from Susan Hightower-Palmquist requesting membership was forwarded to Overseers.

Pacific Friends Outreach Society (PFOS) requests that monthly meetings identify potential representatives to PFOS, serving as contact persons in the development of Quaker Oaks Farm. An ad hoc committee comprising Deborah Armitage, Betsy Morris, and Katherine Youngmeister (convener) will make a recommendation at the next Business Meeting.

Old Business

State of the Meeting report (*Patricia Netherly*): The amended version of the report was read and the committee thanked those who suggested revisions. Further changes were suggested: Charlie Blanchard of First Day School said that the class for three to seven-year-olds has been created. The text "There are plans to provide a program beyond child care for the pre-primary group" can be changed to "We have begun a program." In the first paragraph, the phrases "The silence has become richer and more profound" and "vocal ministry has become more thoughtful" were revised to "The silence has been rich and profound" and "vocal ministry has been thoughtful," respectively. On the issue of the cost of living in the Bay Area, Friends agreed that this was a concern of everyone, not just young Friends. The phrase was revised to "Friends are concerned that some Friends are forced to leave the Bay Area because of the high cost of living." One Friend said some teens regularly stay for the entire meeting for worship. The relevant sentence was changed to "The Teens regularly attend Meeting for Worship for the first quarter hour and sometimes through the entire meeting." One Friend asked that the sentence on the marriage of same-sex couples be changed to "The recent civil marriages of several same-sex couples," noting that some of the couples had already been married under the care of their meetings. The Recorder, Leslie Leonard, said she would provide fresh numbers on meeting membership for the final version.

The State of the Meeting report was approved with the above noted changes. Appreciation was expressed for the writing committee: Patricia Netherly, Mary White, and Tom Yamaguchi.

Peace and Social Witness (*Shelley Tanenbaum*): The committee revised the minute on support for SB921 (universal health care services) to the following:

“In the spirit of our testimonies on Community and Equality, Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting believes that universal access to primary care is a fundamental human right. To that end we support SB921, which we believe to a practical and feasible step in this direction.”

The revised minute will season for one month.

The committee is providing support for Peg Morton who is serving a three-month sentence at the women's prison at Ft. Parks for civil disobedience at the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation, formerly known as the School of the Americas. Peg intends to send a request for a meeting for worship in the prison to the prison chaplain. The clerk will send a letter to the prison and work with Worship and Ministry Committee to support this request.

Twenty Friends gathered for the listening meeting on how to spend the receipts of the Dime-a-Gallon Dream Fund. There were a variety of ideas for projects both within and outside of Strawberry Creek; the committee has yet to come to unity on a recommendation to the Meeting. A full set of the minutes is available upon request.

There will be a discussion on the legislative priorities for FCNL for the next two years at the committee's April 25 meeting. The report being discussed has been posted to the web group. The committee is seeking volunteers to help set up education sessions on the subject of a possible return of the draft; several Friends volunteered their expertise.

First Day School (*Charlie Blanchard*): Jay Rogers Smith and Marla Browning are the teachers for the new class for three to seven-year-olds.

Overseers (*Susan Burr*): The transfer of membership for Bhavia Carol Wagner to Eugene Friends Meeting was approved.

Susan reported that the process of selecting a clerk has been added to the job description of the proposed Electronic Communication and Resources Subcommittee: the Overseers Committee representative will serve as the subcommittee's clerk. The meeting approved the creation of the subcommittee with some discussion on the length of its name. Overseers will work on the name and job description at their next meeting.

Adult Education Committee (*Leslie Leonard*): Copies of the job description were provided. One member of Worship and Ministry will also be a member of the Adult Education Committee. Meeting approved the job description, amended as follows in the Reporting section: “All activities will be announced in advance in the newsletter as well as during Announcements on First Day mornings and on the web.”

New Business:

Nominations for 2004-2005 (*Kathy Barnhart*): The list of nominations was distributed. To this list, Emily Thurston is to be added to Facilities. The name of East Bay Sanctuary Covenant will be corrected. The list will season for one month with the note that the PYM Representative and

Observer have already been approved. Stephen Nomura will be the temporary clerk of Finance Committee until the end of this term. Mary White will clerk the committee beginning in the new term until Peter Trueblood returns from Oregon.

Committee Reports:

Finance (*Katherine Youngmeister*): The committee has learned that Meeting does not qualify to invest funds with the Northern California Loan Fund because it does not have \$150,000 in assets. The committee will look for other suitable investments.

Overseers (*Susan Burr*): Meeting approved changing the Meeting's current phone to a voicemail system; Worship and Ministry Committee will be responsible for checking messages. Overseers is revisiting a neighborhood cluster plan originally created to deal with communication emergencies such as an earthquake; the committee is exploring how this plan may be used to strengthen personal connections within meeting. Overseers is also considering an action plan based on the February 1 Listening Meeting on the Future of the Meeting. A copy of the report prepared by Kathy Barnhart, Bob Burnett, and Dee Rossman is available upon request.

The Meeting approved the transfer requests from Katherine Jaramillo and Jessica Bucciarelli with the recognition that their presence is missed by all. Overseers received a letter from Oread Meeting approving the transfer request by Jay Rogers Smith. Susan read the clearness committee's report on Jay's transfer, as well as a letter from Athena Mabel Smith requesting associate membership. Overseers recommends approval; this will season for one month. Susan read the clearness committee's report on the request for membership by Amy Clark. Overseers recommends approval; this will season for one month. Susan read the clearness committee's report on the request for membership by Zachary Moon. Overseers recommends approval; this will season for one month. Susan read the report of the clearness committee on the marriage of Dharma Yamaguchi and Manuel Galang. Overseers recommends the marriage be taken under the care of the meeting; this will season for one month.

Worship and Ministry (*Leslie Leonard*): In the interest of time, this report was postponed until the next business meeting. Ruth Frazier will facilitate an adult education session on Quakers and Money on April 18. The committee will meet again on April 21.

Recorder (*Leslie Leonard*): Important documents are missing from our archives, including membership forms; the recorder will work with individuals whose forms are missing to create new ones.

Announcements:

- Spring Retreat will take place the first weekend in May. The theme is "Turbulent Waters: Becoming Clear." Registration deadline is April 20; forms are available on line.
- The next Meeting for Business will be May 9th at 11:50 am at Berkeley Alternative High School. Meeting closed at 2:10 pm after a period of silent worship and a special request to hold Tim Saunders in the Light. Twenty two Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Burnett, Clerk; Leslie Leonard, Alternate Clerk; Tom Yamaguchi, Recording Clerk *pro tem*

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, May 9, 2004

Meeting for Business opened at 12:00 pm with silent worship. Bob Burnett clerked. Thirty three Friends were present. Larry Strain read reflections on the Advices and Queries on Integrity and Personal Conduct, on behalf of the Site Analysis and Newsletter Committees.

The minutes of the April 11 Meeting for Business were approved with the corrected spelling of Jay Roger Smith's name.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

A letter was received from Dick and Barbara Emmons expressing their gratitude for being retained as members; they will stay as active in Meeting as possible and invite Friends to their Vashon Island home. A letter was received from Friends House offering meetings a traveling program on growing older, to be presented by their residents. A letter was received from Friends Journal announcing their July 2004 issue on "Aging and Life's End." These two items were forwarded to Adult Education Committee.

Old Business

Nominating Committee (*Kathy Barnhart*): Meeting approved the slate of nominations proposed in April Meeting for Business. Nominating Committee brings the following new nominations: Zachary Moon to Adult Education; John McCarthy and Mary Anderson to the Electronic Communication and Resources Subcommittee. These nominations will season one month. Nominating Committee welcomes inquiries from Friends who may be led to serve as a second representative to FCL.

Electronic Communication and Resources Subcommittee (*Susan Burr for Overseers*): A job description was presented and will season for one month. Overseers charges the new subcommittee with discerning a shorter, peppier name. There will be five members in all: one representative each from Overseers and Worship & Ministry Committees, two Friends named by Nominating Committee, and the web group manager serving *ex officio*.

Peace and Social Witness (*Shelley Tanenbaum*): Meeting approved a revised minute in support of SB921, which will now be forwarded to Sacramento:

In the spirit of our testimonies on Community and Equality, Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting believes that universal access to health care is a fundamental human right. To that end we support SB921, which we believe to be a practical and feasible step in this direction.

Pacific Friends Outreach Society (*Katherine Youngmeister*): The ad hoc committee named in April has not yet met, and will report at June Meeting for Business.

Overseers (*Susan Burr*): Meeting approved the membership of Jay Roger Smith and the Associate Membership of Athena Mabel Smith. The welcoming committee is Larry Strain (convener), Patricia Netherly and Joyce Samati. Meeting approved the membership of Amy Clark. The welcoming committee is Pamela Calvert (convener), Bob Burnett, and Sarah Emmer. Meeting approved the membership of Zachary Moon. The welcoming committee is Helen Haug (convener), Rachel Findley, and Nancy Wilkinson. Meeting approved taking the marriage of Dharma Yamaguchi and Manuel Galang under our care in a Meeting for Worship to be held on August 14. Overseers will appoint an arrangements committee.

Reports

Recorder (*Leslie Leonard*): Strawberry Creek Meeting is 25 years old this year. As outgoing Recorder, Leslie presented a summary of systems she has put in place, as well as pending issues. Meeting needs to make multiple copies of vital records and documents, and investigate archiving them in electronic form. We are missing selected issues of our newsletter during the period 1996-98, and the 1984-85 issue of our State of the Meeting report; Friends who may have copies of these documents are urged to contact the Recorder. Leslie has assembled a subject-indexed binder of critical minutes to facilitate ongoing research and reference. Meeting expressed appreciation to Leslie for her heroic service.

Worship and Ministry (*Leslie Leonard*): The committee considered the request brought in March that Meeting write a minute for consideration at yearly meeting that Berkeley Friends Church and First Friends Whittier be invited to join Pacific Yearly Meeting. In light of the significant theological differences between liberal and evangelical Friends in California and following a conversation with the pastor of Berkeley Friends Church, the committee decided not to pursue the matter further, but to explore possibilities for close connection between our meeting and Friends Church, such as cooperative adult education programs. Volunteering at the Berkeley Food Pantry was also suggested as an opportunity for productive interchange. Micki Graham, the Friend who had brought the original concern, was not satisfied that this course of action addressed her point, which was for Pacific Yearly Meeting to consider whether it had the capacity to incorporate a wider span of theological differences, as do certain other yearly meetings in the US. She also considers it a point of good order for monthly meetings to belong to a yearly meeting, which Berkeley Friends Church and First Friends Whittier do not. Friends noted that the Meeting does not have unity to bring this concern forward to yearly meeting, questioned whether this was an individual or a Meeting concern, and suggested there might be other ways for the yearly meeting to undertake this process of theological discernment without direct reference to two specific Friends churches. Friends also spoke in support of further discussion and discernment. Worship and Ministry will meet again with Micki at their July committee meeting.

Leslie provided several brief updates of the committee's work: Worship and Ministry member Al Thompson is working on outdoor worship opportunities. * The committee continues to consider how to address hearing problems in meeting, and encourages Friends to sit in the center circle of seats for the best acoustics. * Laura Magnani of Berkeley Meeting has contacted the chaplain at the facility where Peg Morton is a prisoner, who is willing to provide for monthly Quaker worship on the understanding that this will be an ongoing program for the prisoners and will not end when Peg is released in July. All prison worship participants must be trained as volunteers; those who wish to take part should contact Gordon Bishop as soon as possible. * Elaine Emily presented a workshop on eldering to the committee, which Adult Education hopes to bring to the whole meeting in the fall. * Friends are asked to advise the committee if you have had a car break-in while at meeting, and are reminded not to leave valuables in sight. * Friends are asked to respect Facilities and Worship and Ministry Committees' decisions about the lights in the meetingroom and not change settings according to individual preference; Friends are encouraged to bring any concerns about the lights to these committees. * An Adult Education session will be convened on May 16 on the topic "Centered Ministry in Troubled Times." * The joint meeting of the outgoing and incoming Worship & Ministry Committees will be held May 26.

Overseers (*Susan Burr*): Susan read the clearness committee's report on the request for membership by Carl Thiermann, with associate membership for Ryan and Dylan Thiermann. Overseers recommends approval; this will season for one month. * Meeting approved accepting Pasadena Monthly Meeting's minute of sojourning membership for Elaine Emily. * Friends are invited to make a designated

contribution to our Sharing Fund, as requests have exceeded this year's budget. * The Committee is considering how to lessen schedule gridlock by looking at the Meeting calendar in annual terms rather than one month at a time, and scheduling special events on 5th Sundays whenever possible. * Overseers is seeking facilitators for geographically-based cluster groups, which would support fellowship, witness, a telephone tree, and emergency preparedness. * A new member welcoming celebration is being planned for June.

Treasurer (*Katherine Youngmeister*): The Meeting's financial affairs are continuing uninterrupted while the records are converted to new software.

Peace and Social Witness (*Shelley Tanenbaum*): The Committee is planning a solstice picnic benefiting Friends Committee on Legislation, to take place either June 19 or July 3; attendees will read the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights. * \$300-\$400 has been collected to date by the Dime a Gallon Fund, although the potential exists to raise far more. Meeting approved the Committee's proposal to expend some of the money on long-life fluorescent lightbulbs to be exchanged at Meeting for burned-out incandescents. A Friend requested a technical support session to help Friends calculate energy use and begin to contribute to the Fund. The next listening meeting to discern expenditures will be held October 3. * Meeting approved the following recommendations on priorities to be proposed to Friends Committee on National Legislation: concern for the erosion of civil liberties; advocacy of clean energy; and advocacy of shifting expenditures from the military budget to basic needs. * On August 8, the committee will convene a session on FCNL's Capital Campaign, and Stephen McNeil and Rick Herbert are organizing a session on conscientious objection to be held on October 31. * Susan Strong reported that the Mainstreaming Group is planning to create a banner for display outside the Berkeley Alternative High School on Sunday mornings.

Site Analysis (*Larry Strain*): A draft questionnaire assessing resources available within Meeting for a possible new facility will be presented at the June Meeting for Business; the committee welcomes input. They are also drafting a proposal for expanded use of our current facility and investigating other rental possibilities.

Hospitality (*Joyce Samati*): Thanks to all who helped with the memorial for Tim Saunders. A wedding reception potluck will be held at the home of Bob Burnett and Kathy Barry for the five same-gender couples who married in San Francisco in February and March. A new member welcoming will follow meeting on June 6, and Friendly 7s will take place that evening.

First Day School (*Charlie Blanchard*): Friends assisting with the Nursery should check in both there and with the class for ages 4-7 to discern where they can be most helpful. Volunteers are needed to support the Primary class for 2-3 week spans. The current unit is on Unity with Nature, and the 2004-05 curriculum units are Mutual Care, Peace and Witness; Friends are encouraged to share their perspectives and experiences with these issues with the class so they can connect with more of the adults in Meeting.

Announcements:

- Meeting will hold a celebration of our five same-gender marriages on May 23 at the home of Bob Burnett and Kathy Barry.
- San Francisco Meeting will host a session on AFSC's Planned Giving program on May 30.
- The East Bay Sanctuary Covenant will honor heroes in the human rights struggle at a reception on May 27; Father Bill O'Donnell will be recognized posthumously.

- Pacific Yearly Meeting will be held August 2-7 at Mt. Madonna; registration forms are available at the PYM and SCMM websites.
- Friends are encouraged to attend the FCL benefit dinner in Sacramento on May 19; our rep will make a full report on FCL's current financial situation at the June Meeting for Business.
- Sandra Lewis's program "Close to Home" was named "Best Adult Field Trips" by the *East Bay Express*.
- As the new committee year begins, Friends thanked all who had served the Meeting in the past year, and recognized outgoing Clerk Bob Burnett for his two years of service.
- The next Meeting for Business will be June 13 at 11:50 am at Berkeley Alternative High School. Meeting closed at 2:00 pm after a period of silent worship. Thirty Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Burnett, Clerk; Leslie Leonard, Alternate Clerk; Pamela Calvert, Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, June 13, 2004

Meeting for Business opened at 12:00 pm with silent worship. Shelley Tanenbaum clerked. Thirty nine Friends were present. Betsy Morris read reflections on the Advices and Queries on Personal Relationships on behalf of the Peace and Social Witness Committee.

The minutes of the May 9 Meeting for Business were approved with the correction that Elaine Emily's minute of sojourning membership was received from Orange Grove Monthly Meeting.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

Letters of thanks for SCMM donations have been received from *Friends Bulletin* and the Berkeley Food Pantry.

A letter from Owen Strain requesting membership was forwarded to Overseers.

A letter from Sanjay Pahuja requesting membership was forwarded to Overseers; Shelley Tanenbaum, Al Thompson and Leonard Joy met with Sanjay informally prior to his departure for New Delhi; their report will accompany Sanjay's letter for application for Overseers' discernment.

The clerk read a letter of introduction she has provided to Sanjay Pahuja.

Our current lease at the Berkeley Alternative High School expires June 30, and our application for renewal is currently pending. Because of the school district's financial condition, our rent will increase 19% for the coming year.

Old Business

Nominating Committee (Kathy Barnhart): Meeting approved the nomination of Zachary Moon to Adult Education Committee and John McCarthy and Mary Anderson to the Electronic Communication and Resources Subcommittee.

Electronic Communication and Resources Subcommittee (Rick Herbert for Overseers): Meeting approved the subcommittee's job description. A Friend suggested the alternative name "Online Community" for the subcommittee.

Overseers (Rick Herbert): Meeting approved the membership of Carl Thiermann and the associate memberships of Ryan and Dylan Thiermann. The welcoming committee is Al Thompson (convener), Barbara Graves and Katherine Youngmeister.

Pacific Friends Outreach Society (Katherine Youngmeister): Meeting approved the committee's recommendation to appoint a contact person for PFOS; this is now forwarded to Nominating Committee. The ad hoc committee particularly encourages young people to become involved in the development of the PFOS site in Visalia.

Committee Reports:

Retreat (Kathy Barry): The spring retreat was convened around the theme of finding a spiritual path in turbulent times. 85 Friends attended. The committee notes that scholarship need was exceptionally

high, with \$918 in requests, compared to \$300 in 2003. We have paid Quaker Center the discounted rate, leaving us with a fund balance of \$462; if we pay the full cost, we will have a deficit of \$867. The committee is considering its financial condition and will bring any further recommendations to a later business meeting. The committee provided a full report with suggested areas of improvement for future; this report will be posted on the meeting website. Thanks were expressed to the committee and its clerk.

First Day School (*Charlie Blanchard*): The committee provided an attendance report for the past year: there were 42 children participating, with 11 regular teachers and 3 teen helpers. Friends are encouraged to sign up to help with the summer childcare program.

Worship and Ministry (*Al Thompson*): The committee provided several brief updates on its work. The committee is considering "positive eldering," with particular concern for those who have lost loved ones. They are concerned about latecomers to worship, and have posted a note in the newsletter. Midweek meeting for worship has had good attendance, and will continue in the same location in the coming year. On June 27, there will be an outdoor meeting for worship at Live Oak Park. 4 Friends took the volunteer training necessary to convene worship at Dublin Correctional Facility. Gordon Bishop will accompany Laura Cornell to Friends General Conference for her workshop presentation there. *Faith and Practice* will be regularly offered for sale at meeting. A proposed presentation on Labyrinth Spirituality has been forwarded to Adult Religious Education Committee.

Nominating Committee (*Kathy Barnhart*): Committee clerks are encouraged to review and update their committee job descriptions; a template is available. The new library committee is writing their job description. Meeting approved the nomination of Marcella Leath as summer childcare coordinator in place of Jay Smith. There are now 14 committees, so not every committee will reflect on Advices and Queries once a year.

Overseers (*Rick Herbert*): Ten new members were welcomed on June 6. Meeting approved a travel minute for sojourning member Elaine Emily who is accompanying Christopher Sammond to Illinois Yearly Meeting in her eldering ministry.

College Park Quarterly Meeting (*Clifford Ham*): The Meeting's CPQM representative provided a full report of spring quarter held May 14-16 at Ben Lomond Quaker Center, which is appended to these minutes. Several Strawberry Creek Friends are serving on CPQM committees; the Quarterly Meeting is currently seeking an archivist, and those who may be led to serve in this capacity are encouraged to contact Nominating Committee. Plans are forming for a group of western Friends to travel by train to the 2006 sessions of Friends General Conference in Tacoma, those interested should contact Rolene Walker of San Francisco Meeting.

Treasurer (*Katherine Youngmeister*): Katherine introduced the incoming treasurer Ralph Murphy. Katherine provided a corrected final report for 2003, and a year-to-date financial statement for 2004. As of May 31, the meeting's expenses exceed revenue by \$6,934; Friends are encouraged to make contributions throughout the year rather than waiting until December. The Dime a Gallon Fund has had contributions of \$567 and expenses of \$204 for a net balance of \$362. Friends are urged to provide the treasurer with complete information when submitting receipts for reimbursement so that expenses can be accounted correctly. Katherine has created a report for committees to review the expenses that have been charged to their budget lines and make corrections as necessary. Meeting thanked Katherine for her service as treasurer. Ralph will convey the meeting's request to Finance Committee that it consider initiating an audit of our books.

Announcements

- Places are still available for the annual summer workcamp at Sierra Friends Center.
- Sarah Emmer thanked the Meeting for its support in her decision to attend Earlham School of Religion; we send her to Richmond with our love.
- There are currently no plans to convene a meeting for business in August.
- Friends are reminded of the wedding of Dharma Yamaguchi and Manuel Galang on August 14.
- The next meeting for business will be July 11 at 11:50 am at Berkeley Alternative High School. Meeting closed at 1:40 pm after a period of silent worship. Thirty three Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Tanenbaum, Clerk; Rachel Findley, Alternate Clerk; Pamela Calvert, Recording Clerk

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, July 11, 2004

Meeting for Business opened at 11:55 AM with silent worship. Thirty-nine Friends were present. Shelley Tanenbaum clerked, and in Pamela Calvert's absence Rachel Findley acted as recording clerk. Worship and Ministry Committee gave their reflections on the Advices and Queries on Peace.

The minutes of the June 13 meeting were approved.

CORRESPONDENCE AND CLERK'S BUSINESS

Eugene Monthly Meeting has accepted the transfer of membership for Bhavia Carol Wagner.

A funding request was received from Casa de los Amigos in Mexico City, which is facing financial hardship. Friends may donate individually.

Letters of application for membership were received from Sarah Wolcott and Kathy Chen. The letters were referred to Oversight Committee.

We have received formal confirmation of our rent for the year beginning July 1; it is now just under \$1400 per month [\$1395.85]

NEW BUSINESS

Banner: Susan Strong presented a Strawberry Creek banner design that was prepared by the Mainstreaming Group for Peace & Social Witness Committee. The banner's theme is "Seeds of Peace: Plant, Nurture, Harvest." Comments on the design were noted and will be referred to Peace and Social Witness Committee.

Site Analysis Committee: Larry Strain presented a draft questionnaire regarding the willingness and ability of individuals in the Strawberry Creek community to make specific financial contributions for a permanent site. Comments on the questionnaire were made. It was emphasized that Strawberry Creek has not decided to acquire a permanent site; the purpose of the questionnaire would be to determine what possibilities lie within our financial means. The committee seeks further input regarding the questionnaire.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nominating Committee (*Kathy Barnhart*): The Committee seeks

--Pacific Yearly Meeting observer

--Clerk plus one or two members for Loaves and Fishes

--PFOS (Pacific Friends Outreach Committee) contact person to serve as liaison with the PFOS site being developed near Visalia (need not attend meetings in Visalia)

The committee prepared a written report of its observations from this year's nominating process. Oversight and First Day School committees, whose work is discussed in the report, are asked to review and respond to the comments. The committee recommends that the naming committee be formed in September, but had no other recommendations regarding changes in the nominating committee cycle.

Oversight Committee (*Margaret Schneider*): Carolyn Duhem has agreed to serve as clerk of the Electronic Communication and Resources Subcommittee. The committee recommends membership for Michele "Micki" Graham. The recommendation will be seasoned for one month. Members with concerns or questions should speak to Rick Herbert or Margaret Schneider.

Worship and Ministry Committee (*Al Thompson*): The committee notes that it is important for Friends to leave sufficient time between spoken messages in Meeting for Worship, so that Friends have time to absorb their meaning. Midweek Meeting for Worship continues at 7 AM Wednesday morning in Stephens Hall on the UC Berkeley campus. Four friends received volunteer training so that they could participate in a Meeting for Worship at Dublin Correctional Facility, but Friend Peg Morton was released before they had an opportunity to meet. A committee is meeting with Micki Graham regarding her concern. There was an outdoor Meeting for Worship at 10 AM in Live Oak Park on June 22. Rich Tittle will prepare a list of committee assignments for the monthly reading and response to Advices and Queries. A joint meeting with Oversight Committee will be held this Wednesday, June 14.

ANNOUNCEMENT

There will be an AIDS walk next Sunday in San Francisco. Contact Carolyn Marks for further information.

NEXT MEETING

Our next Meeting for Business meeting will be Sunday, September 12.

Meeting closed at 1:30 with silent worship. Forty-one Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,
Shelley Tanenbaum, Clerk; Rachel Findley, Alternate Clerk (acting as Recording Clerk)

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, September 12, 2004

Meeting for business opened at 12:00 pm with silent worship. Shelley Tanenbaum clerked. Forty Friends were present. Lisa Hubbell read reflections on the Advices and Queries on The Meeting Community on behalf of the Retreat Committee.

The minutes of the July 11 Meeting for Business were approved with the addition that a letter had been read from Dorothy Russell expressing appreciation for the Meeting's support of her education at Westtown School.

Old Business

Peace and Social Witness (*Bob Burnett*): A revised banner design was presented, with the proposal that this be considered solely as a stationary banner to hang from Berkeley Alternative High School on First Days; that the banner theme "Seeds of Peace" be approved; and that details on wording and design be worked out in the Peace and Social Witness Committee with the active participation of Meeting. Friends were in unity that the P&SW Committee could move forward with a peace-focused banner, although the agrarian theme is still open to threshing and further discernment. It was observed that discussions about this one banner were taking on the whole weight of our sense of place and identity as a community, and that this was a topic to which we need to give far more time and thought. Discernment over banner design is an opportunity for us to practice first steps in corporate witness, and may be an opening for the Retreat Committee. The Peace and Social Witness Committee will post this design draft to the meeting website and distribute paper copies; Tom Yamaguchi offers assistance to those who find it difficult to access the internet. All are invited to communicate with the P&SW Committee either in writing or in person, taking an active role in the creation of both this and future banners.

Overseers Committee (*Rick Herbert*): Friends approved the membership of Michele (Micki) Graham. The welcoming committee is Robin Standish (convenor), Lisa Hubbell, Leonard Joy and Joyce Samati.

An ad hoc group of Rick Herbert, Al Thompson, Kathy Barnhart and Leonard Joy is meeting to further season issues arising from Nominating Committee's report at the July Meeting for Business.

Overseers is considering the formation of a standing Visitation Committee to faithfully discharge pastoral care responsibilities for our growing Meeting. An ad hoc group of Rick Herbert, Al Thompson, Kathy Barnhart, and other members of Overseers are working on this and will return to Meeting for Business with an action item.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

A letter has been received from Orange Grove Monthly Meeting confirming the membership transfer of Jessica Bucciarelli and Katherine Jaramillo.

Letters have been received from East Bay Sanctuary Covenant and Friends House Santa Rosa thanking us for our donations.

The clerk has written a letter of introduction for Leslie and David Leonard to attend France Yearly Meeting.

A letter from Sierra Friends Center regarding a loan was referred to the Finance Committee.

The clerk proposed the following Friends for the Naming Committee: Cindy Trueblood, Philippa Barron, Richard Leath.

Committee Reports

Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative (*Rachel Findley*): Yearly Meeting sessions took place August 2-7, with some 26 Strawberry Creek Friends in attendance. Zachary Moon spoke with great power on his concern for the deeper connection of young Friends in the Society of Friends and the need for intergenerational dialogue and connection. Kate Newlin and Darcy Stanley, both of Strawberry Creek, were named the PYM representatives to the 2005 World Gathering of Young Friends. Nine young Friends in all from Pacific Yearly Meeting are hoping to attend the Gathering and active fundraising is taking place to make that possible, although some Friends are uneasy with the implications of this enterprise for right use of resources and the ecological impact of travel. There are three issues which will come up for further discernment at Representative Meeting in March which SCMM will need to consider: (1) the question of the relationship between Pacific Yearly Meeting and the Pacific Friends Outreach Society; (2) the proposal that Yearly Meeting fully reimburse the travel expenses of multiple representatives to other Quaker organizations, in light of budgetary consequences and the impact of travel; (3) the question of whether to move forward with disbursement of an approved \$500 contribution to Friends United Meeting, in light of that organization's policies on employment of sexual minorities. We will schedule a session for further consideration of these concerns. The meeting expressed great appreciation to the representative for this report.

First Day School (*Charlie Blanchard*): The themes for the coming year will be Peace, Witness and Mutual Care. In today's session, the 8-12 year old group found it more interesting to build "Battle Bots" than "Peace Doves," which led to a class discussion on what "Peace Bots" might look like. Friends who are moved to join in "Peace Bot" design or to discuss peace and witness and mutual care with the children are encouraged to contact Charlie.

Praggya Chaturvedi is stepping down as the regular childcare provider, although she will continue to be on-call. The Committee is exploring other alternatives for childcare; Friends expressed a strong sense that a consistent paid employee would ensure the greatest stability of care. Meeting noted its appreciation to Praggya for the quality and dedication of her service; we asked First Day School to give her a gift as a small token of our appreciation.

Nominating (*Kathy Barnhart*): Lila Cassady, Richard Leath, Patricia Netherly and Susan Black are nominated to Loaves and Fishes; these names will season one month. Caroline Duhem is currently acting clerk of this committee; another Friend is urged to step forward so Caroline can be relieved of this responsibility. As the designated L&F committee clerk "buddy" from Overseers, Ted Obbard offers to speak with any Friend who may wish to discuss this possibility further.

Rachel Findley is currently acting as Pacific Yearly Meeting representative; Nominating Committee will bring a recommendation for the PYM representative and observer positions to the October Meeting for Business.

Retreat (*Deborah Marks*): The fall retreat will be November 20 at Berkeley Friends Meetinghouse.

Site Analysis (*Larry Strain*): Considering the lack of unity on the draft questionnaire and after meeting with Stephen McNeil, the committee has decided to drop the questionnaire in favor of meeting face to face with individual Friends representing a fair sample of the economic capacity in the Meeting, to gauge the resources that might be available for various site alternatives. Finance, Worship and Ministry, and Overseers Committees will spend some time in their next committee meetings on this proposal and report back to Site Analysis for further discussion at the next Meeting for Business. At the next Meeting for Business the Committee will present Lee Douglas's research on financing options from which he is developing a computer model allowing us to work through possible scenarios.

Worship and Ministry (*Al Thompson*): To introduce Friends to techniques for centering in worship, the Committee has made copies of Bill Taber's Pendle Hill Pamphlet "Four Doors to Meeting for Worship" available for sale. The Committee is still discussing the question of the relationship with Friends Churches, and will make a report at the next Meeting for Business. The Committee is considering worship responses to the loss of a loved one, including a Memorial Meeting in the manner of Pacific Yearly Meeting. It was noted that this and other initiatives are the fruit of the annual joint meeting between Worship and Ministry and Overseers Committees. Friends are asked to bring any concerns relating to Meeting for Worship to the Worship and Ministry Committee before their next meeting on September 15.

Hospitality (*Phyllis Malandra*): David Lewis is organizing Friendly Sevens, to be convened on September 26. The Committee's clerk, Lisa Johnson Zee, is suffering health problems and will spend several weeks in Illinois, returning in October.

The next meeting for business will be October 10 at 11:50 am at Berkeley Alternative High School. Meeting closed at 1:55 pm after hearing a quotation from George Fox and following a period of silent worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Shelley Tanenbaum, Clerk; Rachel Findley, Alternate Clerk; Pamela Calvert, Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, October 10, 2004

Meeting for business opened at 12:00 pm with silent worship. Shelley Tanenbaum clerked. Thirty two Friends were present. Kathy Barnhart read reflections on the Advices and Queries on Spiritual Life on behalf of Nominating Committee.

The minutes of the September 12 Meeting for Business were approved.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

It is time to begin plans for the annual Christmas program. Friends Church is available December 11, 12, and 26, but not the 18th or 19th. The clerk invites feedback on dates and potential alternative locations, as well as volunteers to plan the program.

A letter has been received from the Berkeley Food Pantry thanking us for past support and requesting bag-packing assistance for the holidays. The need for donations is also particularly acute this year.

Worship and Ministry Committee are considering the question of a banner that would focus on our identity as a meeting; those with thoughts on this concern are invited to contact them.

Old Business

Naming Committee: Friends approved Cindy Trueblood, Philippa Barron, and Richard Leath to serve as Naming Committee for this year.

Peace and Social Witness (*Bob Burnett*): After taking Friends' comments and concerns into account, the committee is moving forward with the "Seeds of Peace" banner, although the word "True" has been dropped. The proposed design will be posted on the meeting website for feedback; comments should be directed to Bob or brought in person to the committee's meeting on October 24.

Nominations: Meeting approved the nominations of Lila Cassady, Richard Leath, Patricia Netherly and Susan Black to Loaves and Fishes. Richard Leath will be the committee's clerk.

New Business

Nominating Committee (*Kathy Barnhart*): Phyllis Malandra was approved as co-clerk of Hospitality Committee. Rachel Findley is nominated to serve as Pacific Yearly Meeting representative; this will season one month. Javaughn Morrissey has to step down as representative to East Bay Sanctuary Covenant, as she has accepted a staff position there; a new representative is being sought, sharing the position with Dick Strong. A new member is being sought for Electronic Resources Committee who is not technologically inclined, so that this perspective can be taken into consideration in the committee's work. All job descriptions are kept in a binder in the library.

Reports

Treasurer/Finance Committee (*Ralph Murphy*): The treasurer presented year to date financial reports. We have expended 72% and taken in 44% of our annual budget, so Friends are urged not to wait until December to make contributions. The meeting presently has approximately \$31,000 in assets; \$10,000 has recently been placed in a 5-year certificate of deposit. The Dime a Gallon fund has received \$1,125 in contributions and expended \$444 for energy efficient lightbulbs. The Finance Committee is currently

contacting committee representatives to gather information for the 2005 budget. An audit will be undertaken with a completion goal of April 2005.

Worship and Ministry (*Al Thompson*): The committee is considering whether the monthly reading of Advices and Queries is contributing to “topical sharing” in spoken ministry and invited Friends’ thoughts. It was noted that this reading provides a valuable opportunity for the meeting’s children to hear our testimonies. There was not a unified sense of whether topical or dialogic ministry is in fact a problem in the meeting for worship, and to what extent if any the reading of the Advices and Queries contributes to the quality of worship. The teens are meeting to consider this question as well. Other thoughts are welcomed.

Worship and Ministry Committee suggests a more worshipful atmosphere at meeting for business. Friends are asked to arrive on time, stay for the whole meeting, make attendance a priority and to sit in closer proximity to one another and the clerks.

A Memorial meeting is planned for Saturday, January 22.

Site Analysis (*Larry Strain*): The committee met with representatives of Worship and Ministry and Finance committees to begin to plan a longterm process of interviewing all Strawberry Creek Friends, starting with a representative sample. The prospective questions will be published in the newsletter so Friends can know in advance what will be asked and can make appropriate preparations. Based on the financial information gathered, the committee will be able to conclude whether a significant building project will be viable. The committee is considering whether it is timely to start a building fund, and invites Friends’ thoughts.

The committee has been in contact with Kehilla, a Jewish community, who are buying a former church building at 1300 Grand Avenue in Piedmont and have invited us to consider partnering with them on the purchase or as a tenant. The meeting expressed interest in learning more specific information about this opportunity, while taking into careful consideration issues such as accessibility and energy impact.

Overseers (*Rick Herbert*): The committee clerk read the report of the membership clearness committee for Kathy Chen (Dee Rossman convener, Charlie Blanchard, Joyce Samati, John McCarthy). The committee recommends approval; this will season one month.

Announcements

- College Park Quarterly Meeting takes place October 15-17 at Sierra Friends Center.
- The meeting retreat takes place November 20 at Berkeley Friends Meeting.
- Peace and Social Witness Committee announces the following events: the regular committee meeting October 24; a presentation by Chris and Javaughn Morrissey on their trip to South Africa on October 31; a program on the military draft and Friends’ participation in conscientious objection on November 7; and an all-day training in Peace Empowerment on January 22.
[Clerk’s note: this date is changed to January 29.]
- Katya Samati has been accepted to attend the Woolman Semester this coming spring.

The next meeting for business will be November 14 at 11:50 am at Berkeley Alternative High School. Meeting closed at 1:20 pm after a period of silent worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Shelley Tanenbaum, Clerk; Pamela Calvert, Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, November 14, 2004

Meeting for business opened at 12:00 pm with silent worship. Shelley Tanenbaum clerked. Forty one Friends were present. Dick Strong read reflections on the Advices and Queries on Meeting for Worship on behalf of the Library and Facilities Committees.

The minutes of the October 10 Meeting for Business were approved. *[Recording clerk's note: The spelling of Katja Samati's name is corrected.]*

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

Meeting expressed its thanks to Friends who had traveled out of state to participate in election work. Strawberry Creek member Pamela Calvert went to Detroit with a letter of introduction; the response from Detroit Friends Meeting was read.

The annual holiday celebration will be held December 11 at Berkeley Friends Church. Charlie Blanchard reported that the First Day School classes are not interested in performing the play that has been presented for the past few years, nor in preparing a new one. There is greater interest among the youngest children in a program of musical offerings; the 8-12 year old group would like to make peace tiles which would be sold that evening to benefit an organization such as the Heifer Project. Lisa Hubbell and Micki Graham volunteered to coordinate the holiday program; other Friends with interest or ideas are encouraged to contact them.

A letter from Sandra Lewis requesting membership was forwarded to Overseers.

The following minute was approved:

Strawberry Creek MM joins with Katja Samati in requesting financial aid from College Park Quarterly Meeting so that Katja can attend the Woolman semester at Sierra Friends Center in the spring, 2005.

The clerk presented information regarding the World Gathering of Young Friends, to take place in Lancaster, England in August, 2005. Four Friends from Strawberry Creek Meeting are applying to attend the Gathering; Kate Newlin and Darcy Stanley were designated the named representatives of PYM. and the other two are Melina Larkin and Sara Wolcott; two other Young Friends from PYM are also applying to attend. As part of the application process, they are required to submit a minute from the meeting demonstrating their connection and commitment to Friends. Several concerns were raised: (1) that we affirm not just these Young Friends' commitment to the meeting, but the meeting's own investment in the development of their ministry; (2) that the decision of six Friends to apply to attend the Gathering did not take into consideration the consequent use of petroleum; (3) that it is inappropriate to send four Friends from our monthly meeting when others from less-affluent areas may be unable to attend; (4) that the discernment process at yearly meeting could have been flawed; (5) that the discernment process through which six PYM Friends were led to attend the Gathering was extensive and Spirit-filled; (6) that these Friends deserve our love and trust as they move forward into an experience that will be transformative not only for them but for the Society of Friends as a whole. The clerk clarified that the proposed minutes are not intended to be an endorsement of these Young Friends or their leadings, but a simple affirmation of their relationship to our meeting.

The following minute was approved:

Kate Newlin is an attender in good standing at Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting in Berkeley, California. She will be in our thoughts as we send her to the World Gathering of Young Friends in August, 2005 and we commend her to your care.

The following minute was approved with one Friend standing aside:

Sara Wolcott is an attender in good standing at Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting in Berkeley, California. She will be in our thoughts as we send her to the World Gathering of Young Friends in August 2005 and we commend her to your care.

The following minute was approved:

Darcy Stanley is a current attender in good standing at Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting in Berkeley, California, and a previous attender of Berkeley Monthly Meeting. She will be in our thoughts as we send her to the World Gathering of Young Friends and we commend her to your care.

The following minute was approved with one Friend standing aside:

Melina Larkin is a current attender in good standing at Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting in Berkeley, California, and a previous attender of Berkeley and Santa Cruz Meetings. She will be in our thoughts as we send her to the World Gathering of Young Friends in August 2005 and we commend her to your care.

Oversight Committee was encouraged to provide spiritual support for these individuals as needed. Meeting affirmed our interest in a listening meeting on travel and the use of oil. The option also exists of "twinning" with a Southern Hemisphere meeting to support their costs in attending the World Gathering. Friends would ideally like to have discussions on these matters before we consider our financial support of Strawberry Creek Friends; Peace and Social Witness Committee will convene this as soon as a date is available. Any Friends who are led to do further work on World Gathering "twinning" should be in touch with the clerk.

Old Business

Worship and Ministry (*Al Thompson*): Worship and Ministry have met with Micki Graham on her concern that meeting send a minute to Pacific Yearly Meeting proposing that Berkeley Friends Church and First Friends Whittier be invited to join PYM. They have concluded that this is not a concern of our meeting as a whole, Berkeley Friends Church is not interested in joining PYM at this time, and individual Strawberry Creek Friends maintain close and positive relationships with the Friends Church; therefore they will not pursue this matter further. However, the committee concluded that the meeting would benefit from a better understanding of the distinctions between the programmed and unprogrammed traditions, and encourage Adult Religious Education to convene a session on this topic.

Nominating Committee (*Kathy Barnhart*): Meeting approved the nomination of Rachel Findley to serve as representative to Pacific Yearly Meeting.

Overseers (*Rick Herbert*): Meeting approved the membership of Kathy Chen with enthusiasm. The welcoming committee will be Dick Strong (convener), Al Thompson and Mary White.

New Business

Finance Committee (*Mary White*): The committee presented a draft budget for 2005 of \$39,000. There are no changes in recipients or amounts of our meeting donations; the meeting clerk will meet with Finance Committee to clarify the criteria for inclusion in this list. Any changes or questions related to the draft 2005 budget should go to the Finance Committee in good time before final presentation and approval at the next meeting for business.

Additional income of \$15,289 is needed before the end of the year to reach the 2004 budget of \$38,600. Based on a total membership of 93, the proportionate share per member is \$415 in 2004 and \$419 in 2005. [*Recording Clerk's Note: These are corrected figures from those presented at meeting.*]

Naming Committee (*Richard Leath*): The committee proposes Stephen McNeil and Micki Graham for two-year terms on Nominating Committee; this will season one month. Kathy Barnhart is named for an additional year as committee clerk. Naming Committee will bring one additional nomination to the next meeting for business.

Reports

Overseers (*Rick Herbert*): The report of the membership clearness committee for Owen Strain (Elsa Glines convener, Gordon Bishop, Amy Clark) was read. The committee recommends approval; this will season one month.

Site Analysis (*Larry Strain*): The committee brought two items for the meeting's consideration: a list of proposed criteria for choosing a site that can be used as a template when new opportunities arise, and a proposal for the establishment of a Building Fund. Friends are asked to review the materials and provide comments to the committee. Friends expressed support for the Building Fund as a community project. The committee raised the question of the meeting incorporating as an independent non-profit organization. We are currently covered by the tax identification number of Pacific Yearly Meeting, which is itself not a 501(c)3 corporation. In this light, the question was raised of the tax-deductible status of contributions to the meeting; the treasurer will explore this further.

The committee clerk presented an update on the church building being purchased by Kehilla Community Synagogue; they are applying for a new use permit allowing an expansion of capacity and use. The offer is still open for us to participate as co-owners or renters. Friends were encouraged to visit the site, at 1300 Grand Avenue in Piedmont, which has limited accessibility by public transit. As overseers further develops the possibilities of community-building through geographic "clusters," we may find that more extensive use of carpooling is possible. A new listening meeting on the question of a permanent site was suggested.

Work continues on the financial model, which will be presented at December Meeting for Business. The site committee's questionnaire for the meeting will appear in the December newsletter; interviews will commence in the coming month, assessing our ability to support a site purchase.

Hospitality Committee (*Phyllis Malandra*): Committee co-clerk Lisa Johnson Zee will be leaving the Bay Area very soon. The committee is currently planning for potlucks on the Sunday after Thanksgiving and at the December 11 holiday program. There will be Friendly 7s at the end of January.

Nominating Committee (*Kathy Barnhart*): Eduardo Martinez is nominated as representative to East Bay Sanctuary Covenant, and Yvonne Charles is nominated to Electronic Resources Committee. These names will season for one month.

Worship and Ministry (*Al Thompson*): A Memorial Meeting is planned for 3 pm on January 22 at Berkeley Friends Meeting on Vine St. The committee notices an increased number of latecomers, and encourages Friends to arrive on time to create a settled, silent space. One Friend suggested that the committee announce that those who arrive after 10:15 check in with the First Day School classes to see if they may serve the meeting in that way.

College Park Quarterly Meeting (Clifford Ham): 109 Friends attended Fall Quarter on October 15-17 at Sierra Friends Center, among them 7 from Strawberry Creek. Difficulties were reported at the Casa de los Amigos in Mexico City; more support is needed in running the Center. The Quarter is establishing new bank accounts and tax identification separate from that of Pacific Yearly Meeting. Worship sharing groups gathered around the themes of relationships and boundaries. The QM's archivist, Tom King of Santa Rosa, is gathering any relevant records which Friends may have to contribute. Winter Quarter will be held on January 22.

Announcements:

Fall Retreat will take place November 20 at Berkeley Friends Meeting on Vine Street; registrations should be sent to Amy Clark. Friends are encouraged to bring sustaining food to the potluck.

The next meeting for business will be December 12 at 11:50 am at Berkeley Alternative High School. Meeting closed at 2:20 pm after a period of silent worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Shelley Tanenbaum, Clerk; Rachel Findley, Alternate Clerk; Pamela Calvert, Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting for Business

First Day, December 12, 2004

Meeting for business opened at 12:00 pm after silent worship. Shelley Tanenbaum clerked. 48 Friends were present. Rick Herbert read responses of Overseers Committee to the Advices and Queries on Meeting for Worship for Business.

The minutes of November 14, 2004 were read with the previously made correction of January 15, 2005 as the date for the winter quarterly meeting.

It was clarified that Electronic Resources is a subcommittee of Overseers.

yvonne charles spells her name with lower case letters.

Some Friends were uneasy with the wording of the discussion that led to the approval of four minutes in support of our young Friends wishing to attend the gathering in Lancaster, England in August, 2005. From the report of Worship and Ministry, Rachel Findley read "Adult Young Friends are an important part of our meeting. At PYM they had a long session on how to decide who would attend the World Gathering of Young Friends from their group. Worship and Ministry would like to express our confidence in the clearness process that Young Friends followed at PYM to decide who would attend the gathering."

Unity was found to change the statement listed as "(4)" to "A concern was raised about the discernment process at PYM and was allayed at the meeting for business by another Friend" and to eliminate item (5). The minutes for Darcy Stanley and Melina Larkin will include the date of the gathering: August, 2005.

The minutes were approved with the above listed changes.

The clerk is still waiting for a volunteer to work on the "twinning" proposal.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

The clerk read a letter from Andrea English, now residing in Santa Rosa. She and Tom Whiteman have been attending several meetings, but they have not yet found a meeting to transfer their memberships.

A letter requesting transfer of membership from Berkeley Monthly Meeting was received from Anne Maiden Brown.

Laura Boles asked for a letter of endorsement for her ministry as a part of her application to be certified as a chaplain. Rachel Findley, alternate clerk, reported a clearness committee met with Laura seven times in 2002, and Laura is clear in her intention to be a chaplain. Rachel introduced the following minute:

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends approves Laura Boles for ministry as a chaplain, following her participation in a clearness process under care of our meeting.

Some Friends questioned if it is appropriate for a meeting to approve the hiring of a paid minister. It was brought to our attention that the issue was examined in approving a similar minute for Katherine Jaramillo. The issue is that state licensing requires such a letter of support. The issue is not specifically addressed in Faith and Practice.

The job title of chaplain was clarified as a person who works in a secular institution in the capacity of a minister. Laura will be requesting a continuing committee that would guide her in the challenges of performing her ministry. The Minute was approved as read.

The clerk thanked Hospitality Committee, Lisa Hubbell, and Micki Graham for their work in organizing the Christmas celebration. The cost for renting Berkeley Friends' Church was \$450 this year (\$150 more than last year). Anyone with concerns about the event should bring them to the clerk, and she will forward those concerns to Worship and Ministry.

Old Business

Mary White of Finance Committee presented the final 2005 budget.

Treasurer Ralph Murphy clarified that, as a church, we do not need to have a formal ruling for tax deductible status.

Some corrections were identified. The 2005 budget was approved as presented. The Finance Committee will make the corrections and report back in January.

The meeting has not collected enough donations to meet our 2004 budget, but we usually collect much of our money in December. We are also under spending our current budget by several thousand dollars. Friends are encouraged to make donations before the end of the year.

Naming Committee (Cindy Trueblood): The meeting approved Stephen McNeil and Micki Graham to serve on Nominating Committee for two year terms. Kathy Barnhart was approved to continue as clerk of Nominating for one more year.

Sarah Wolcott was nominated for a one-year term. Elizabeth Strain is being asked to serve an additional year beyond her current two-year term. Her term would end in 2006. The new nominations will season for one month.

The membership of Owen Strain was approved. The welcoming committee includes John McCarthy (convener), Leonard Joy, Ted Obbard, and Bob Burnett. Owen is expected to be back in Berkeley for the Christmas break.

The nominations of Eduardo Martinez to East Bay Sanctuary Covenant and yvonne charles to Electronic Resources Subcommittee were approved.

New Business

Site Analysis Committee (Lee Douglas): The committee has completed a financial model to examine the feasibility of purchasing a meeting house. The committee is ready to move to the next step, interviewing Friends beginning in 2005. The Site Committee also includes Larry Strain as clerk, Kathy Chen, Patricia Netherly, Jay Roger Smith and Ramon Castellblanch.

Nominating (Kathy Barnhart): The committee does not yet have a nomination for PYM Observer.

Carolyna Marks was nominated to serve on Peace and Social Witness. Her nomination will season for one month.

The position of a meeting representative to serve on the board of the Chaplaincy to the Homeless is currently unfilled. If there is no interest in the position, the committee will ask the meeting to lay that position down. Kathy will report further on this at the next meeting for business.

Nominating has made some modifications to its job description: 1) the committee will maintain electronic as well as printed copies of all job descriptions; 2) the committee would not need to bring issues to Oversight Committee and, would instead, bring those issues directly to the meeting for business; 3) the size of the committee would increase from seven to eight members; and 4) the clerk should bring names for Naming Committee to Business Meeting in September. Copies of the amended job description will be available on the information table at meeting and on the web.

PYM Representative (Rachel Findley): The representative has a number of issues to bring to business meeting, but, in the interest of time, will be bringing them as individual items during the coming months.

At this meeting, she asked that we consider an issue that was raised during one of the plenaries on the relationship of PYM and Friends United Meeting. PYM is not affiliated with FUM, but sends a token \$500 contribution to the organization. FUM has a policy requiring paid staff and volunteers to refrain from sexual relations outside of marriage. In addition, FUM does not recognize the marriages of same-sex couples. These two policies result in discrimination against people in same-sex partnerships or marriages as paid staff or volunteers for FUM. The 2005 contribution to FUM was approved in PYM's budget, but held back until after Representative Committee meets in March to decide whether or under what circumstances to send it to FUM. It is not known to us at this time if FUM specifically prohibits employing gay and lesbian people. Friends spoke of the challenge for FUM to conduct outreach to a wide variety of Quakers with diverse viewpoints, making this issue a difficult one for finding unity.

Rachel will speak with the PYM representative to FUM, Bruce Folsom of San Francisco Meeting. It was suggested that we find time as a meeting to discuss the issue. Rachel will schedule a time when we can discuss this issue further.

Peace and Social Witness (Bob Burnett): The committee asked that the meeting endorse a statement approved by FCNL's General Committee on 11/14/04 that bases setting public policy positions on moral and religious values (attached).

Peace and Social Witness Committee intends to use the endorsement as the first step in a process of adopting a statement by the meeting on moral values. Such a statement might be published in local publications.

After some discussion, the following minute was approved:

Strawberry Creek Meeting unites with the Friends Committee on National legislation in seeking a dialogue about our moral values and how we are attempting to apply them to national policy.

The committee intends to bring a reworded version of the FCNL statement to business meeting for approval.

Work continues on the Strawberry Creek banner, including support from the children in First Day. Sewing will be completed at the home of Robin Standish on January 23 at 3:00 PM. Carolyn Marks will present her Peace Empowerment Process at the home of Betsy Morris on January 15. The listening meeting on Friends' use of oil for travel, especially when traveling on Quaker business, will be held on January 30. The next Peace and Social Witness Committee meeting will be on January 23.

Reports

Overseers (Rick Herbert): A membership clearness committee has been formed for Sandra Lewis. Other clearness committees are in progress.

First Day School (Charlie Blanchard): First Day School Committee welcomes ideas for activities during class time. The banner is a good example of how First Day School can be more involved with meeting projects. Another is the creation of peace tiles to support both the next Peace Wall and the Heifer Project. Everyone is encouraged to sponsor a tile.

The committee will ask parents to volunteer in classes one Sunday every other month.

Katja Samati will end her job as the nursery care provider next month. A replacement is still being sought. The committee would consider hiring Clare Schneider on the condition that there is an adult volunteer present at every class. Volunteer signups for the nursery are strongly encouraged.

The teen group will be exploring the subject of witness beginning in January. They have just finished their sessions on equality, and the committee thanks everyone who volunteered for those sessions.

Worship & Ministry (Rachel Findley for Al Thompson): The committee encourages everyone to be on time for meeting for worship. Those entering late are asked to be mindful of the worship space that has been created and to enter that space as quietly and unobtrusively as possible.

A session is being planned to support vocal ministry.

A meeting for worship at Berkeley Friends' Meeting on January 22 at 3:00 pm will memorialize the deaths of non-Quaker friends and relatives of Strawberry Creek members and attenders.

This Thursday, a worship sharing group will be hosted by Al Thompson.

Announcements

The Peace Empowerment Process training will be held on January 15.

Sierra Friends Center is looking for an Executive Director.

A memorial meeting for Ken Morgan will be held on December 19 at 2:00 pm in the AFSC office in Pasadena.

The 2005 Friends' General Conference Gathering will be July 2-9 in Blacksburg, Virginia.

The next meeting for business will be January 9, 2005 at 11:50 am at Berkeley Alternative High School. The meeting closed with silent worship at 2:30 pm. 27 Friends were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Tanenbaum, Clerk; Rachel Findley, Alternate Clerk; Tom Yamaguchi for Pamela Calvert, Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting for Business

First Day, January 9, 2005

Meeting for business opened at 12:00 pm with silent worship. Shelley Tanenbaum clerked. Forty five Friends were present. The Advices and Queries on Stewardship and Vocation were read, and Friends considered them in silence.

The minutes of the December 12 meeting for business were approved with the correction that the time of the banner sewing session on January 23 is 2-5 pm.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

A holiday card from the McCormick-Holland family was circulated.

Old Business

Naming Committee: Meeting approved the nomination of Sarah Wolcott to Nominating Committee, and the extension of Elizabeth Strain's term through the end of 2006.

Nominating Committee (*Beth Wrightson*): Meeting approved the nomination of Carolyn Marks to Peace and Social Witness Committee. The committee is still exploring the possibility of a nomination for Chaplaincy to the Homeless Representative. Meeting approved the committee's revised job description, with the amendment that the number of committee members will be "up to 8."

Finance Committee (*Peter Trueblood*): The committee presented a revised budget for 2005 reflecting the changes made at the last meeting for business. Meeting approved a further change of increasing the newsletter/directory committee budget by \$200, to \$1700, reflecting increased printing and postage expenses; this was balanced by increasing the line item for unrestricted contributions by \$200.

New Business

State of the Meeting Report Committee: Meeting approved Tom Yamaguchi (Overseers), Katherine Youngmeister (Worship and Ministry) and Sarah Hawthorne to serve as this year's committee to write the State of the Meeting report; Tom Yamaguchi will be the committee's convener. The date for the listening meeting is not yet set, but February 27 and March 6 are being considered.

Nominating Committee (*Beth Wrightson*): Zachary Moon is nominated to serve a one-year term as Pacific Yearly Meeting Observer. This will season one month.

Reports

Treasurer (*Ralph Murphy*): The treasurer will bring a full year-end report to the next meeting for business, but reports briefly that our income exceeded budget by \$2800 and our expenses were \$2500 under budget, leaving us with a net surplus of \$5300 for the year.

First Day School (*Charlie Blanchard*): Adults are encouraged to sign up to volunteer in the nursery. Contact Charlie Blanchard if childcare will be needed for events other than meeting for business and adult religious education sessions. The committee asks that parents try to advise them early if they would like someone to provide childcare for meeting for business, since the teen group normally attends meeting for worship on that First Day and goes out for a lunch discussion afterwards.

Site Analysis (*Larry Strain*): The committee will start interviewing individual members this month, to get a sense of the meeting about a permanent site and possible contribution levels. They will schedule a listening meeting session this spring. They noted that the Site Analysis Committee's name and job description will need to be changed for the coming nominations year, since analysis as such will be finished by the time new committee appointments begin in June. The committee raised the question of how to proceed with starting a building fund; meeting approved the committee working out the details of a proposal with the Finance Committee, and bringing it to a future meeting for business.

Worship and Ministry (*Al Thompson*): A brief notice encouraging Friends to come to meeting on time will be read once a month at meeting; it is attached to these minutes. All are invited to attend the January 22 memorial meeting, to be held at the Vine Street Meetinghouse. Friends considered options for reminding people to turn off electronic devices before entering meeting; the committee will consider this concern further. Other concerns related to meeting for worship or meeting for business should be brought to the committee's attention before their next meeting, January 19.

Retreat (*Kathy Barry*): A full report on the fall retreat is attached to the minutes. Attendance was good, although with some attrition at the end of the day, and feedback was eclectic but positive overall. The committee had taken great care to prepare a full children's program, but only one child attended the retreat; this will be an area for the next committee to give some attention to. The spring retreat is set for April 29-May 1.

Hospitality (*Phyllis Malandra*): The committee has lost their co-clerk, Lisa Johnson Zee, who is now living in Illinois. They are planning another Friendly 7s for the end of January, although they question meeting's continued enthusiasm for the program since only one group met last time. Hospitality Committee asks for volunteers to help with providing a lunch for Pacific Yearly Meeting's Ministry and Oversight Committee meeting to be held on February 5 at the Vine Street Meetinghouse; those who can help should contact Phyllis Malandra.

Overseers (*Rick Herbert*): The clearness committee for Sarah Wolcott will report to the next meeting for business. Committees have been convened for the membership transfer of Anne Maiden-Brown and the membership of Sandra Lewis. The Electronic Resources Subcommittee is exploring an alternate webhost that does not carry advertising but will cost \$10/month. They are also considering options for the listserv including splitting it according to thematic content. It was suggested that the subcommittee develop a protocol and groundrules for posting to the listserv. The committee is concerned that Friends are not fully aware of the degree of control each person ^{was} over email communications she or he receives from the listserv; one can opt to receive no emails but instead read postings directly on the website; receive a daily digest of all messages; or receive messages individually as they are sent. The Electronic Resources Subcommittee is also tasked with addressing questions of security and privacy as they relate to access and distribution of electronic versions of the data in the meeting directory. Friends with expertise or concerns in these areas are encouraged to contact Caroline Duhem, clerk of the Electronic Resources Subcommittee.

Announcements

Following worship on February 6, there will be a listening meeting on Pacific Yearly Meeting items related to Pacific Friends Outreach Society and Friends United Meeting.

This evening there will be a Storytelling program at Vine Street Meetinghouse, presented by Quaker Center.

Following worship on April 3, Worship and Ministry will convene a session on Vocal Ministry.

Friends World Committee for Consultation Section of the Americas Annual Meeting will be held April 14-17 in Arizona; the clerk has details.

Winter Quarterly Meeting will be held January 15 at Palo Alto Meeting.

There will be trainings for the Writer Coach Connection at Berkeley Alternative High School on January 13 and 20; additional sessions are scheduled for February and March. This is a good opportunity for volunteers who are available to work with students during school hours.

The next meeting for business will be February 13 at 11:50 am at Berkeley Alternative High School. Meeting closed at 1:15 pm following a period of silent worship.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Tanenbaum, Clerk; Pamela Calvert, Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, February 13, 2005

Meeting for Business opened at 12:00 pm with silent worship. Shelley Tanenbaum clerked. Thirty six Friends were present. Phyllis Malandra read reflections on the Advices and Queries on Harmony with Creation on behalf of Hospitality Committee.

Minutes of the January Meeting for Business were approved with the corrected spelling of Sara Wolcott's name.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

Two interfaith events in connection with the war in Iraq are in the planning stages, including the formation of a new East Bay interfaith group. The East Bay group will mark the 2nd anniversary of the beginning of the war on March 20 with a service of remembrance and renewal of commitment to work for peace. The second interfaith program includes a March 25 service in San Francisco in connection with the AFSC's "Eyes Wide Open" exhibit. Thomas Markham will attend the initial meeting with the East Bay group and Chris Morrissey will attend the AFSC planning meeting. Other Friends interested in participating in either group should contact Shelley Tanenbaum or Bob Burnett.

Friends General Conference has sent a minute affirming the spiritual gifts of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and queer Friends. Friends considered the minute and offered their own reflections and experiences. It was suggested that this minute should be forwarded to the yearly meeting for adoption, and that it might be a vehicle for dialogue with Friends United Meeting. The minute was referred to Worship and Ministry Committee for further work. When meeting is clear to approve a minute, Peace and Social Witness may be asked to take further steps to publicize it in the wider world, following the example of the United Church of Christ.

A letter from Susan Black requesting membership was forwarded to Overseers.

A letter was read from Susie McAlpine, who shared her experience of interpreting epistles from US yearly meetings at France Yearly Meeting. She noticed that the epistles focused only on US concerns, reflecting the isolation of the United States in the world, even among Quakers.

A card was read from Susan Hightower with her new contact information in Arcata and the news that she will worship with us on February 27.

Old Business

The nomination of Zachary Moon to Pacific Yearly Meeting Observer was approved.

New Business

Site Analysis and Finance Committees (*Larry Strain, Peter Trueblood*): The committees provided a draft proposal for a meeting house fund and capital campaign, which would allow meeting to act on opportunities which may open, as well as providing for contingencies such as losing our current rental space. Provisions are proposed for accepting pledges, dedicated gifts, and convertible interest-free loans; a full description is attached to these minutes. A listening meeting is planned for April 3 to further consider the question of a permanent site. Meeting will season the proposal and consider further refinements at March Meeting for Business.

Library Committee (*Marc Lambert*): The library committee provided a draft job description, which is attached to these minutes. Friends made suggestions for revisions including ordering materials for First Day School, loosening the suggested requirements for committee membership, and adding Electronic Resources to the list of liaisons with other committees. The description will be presented again for approval at March Meeting for Business.

Nominating Committee (*Kathy Barnhart*): Susan Black and Janet Piggins are nominated to Hospitality Committee; Betsy Morris is nominated to Facilities Committee. These names will season one month.

Nominating Committee is concerned by the time demands which our growing meeting is placing on Overseers Committee. The meeting clerk will meet with representatives of Nominating, Worship and Ministry, and Overseers Committees to address this and will bring a proposal back to meeting.

Reports

Friends Committee on Legislation (*Betsy Morris*): The meeting representative shared a summary of the difficult challenges facing FCL and her strong sense of the need for Strawberry Creek to make a sustained commitment to supporting the organization. The full report is attached to the minutes. Nominating Committee plans to fill both FCL representative positions in the coming year. Meeting approved adding a line item to the budget to support the representatives' expenses, which will be \$425 for 2005, offset by adding \$425 to the line item for unrestricted donations. (It was noted in this connection that Strawberry Creek representatives to other Quaker organizations should consider whether meeting should be making similar provisions in the budget to support their service on our behalf.) Specific FCL action items were referred to Peace and Social Witness Committee. The representative was thanked for her efforts on behalf of FCL.

Treasurer (*Ralph Murphy*): The treasurer presented a final year-end financial report for 2004, with income of \$40,477 and expenses of \$34,819, for a net of \$5,548. The Dime-a-Gallon Fund had a net income for the year of \$2,041; Retreat Committee's year-end net income was \$278. The full report is attached to the minutes.

College Park Quarterly Meeting (*Clifford Ham*): Ten Friends from Strawberry Creek attended Winter Quarter at Palo Alto Meeting. The day's activities centered around our need to name and attend to our grief regarding current events in the world. Strawberry Creek Friends Leonard Joy and Sara Wolcott participated in a fishbowl discussion of "fruitfully engaging with life as it is." Tom King of San Jose Meeting is now the Quarter's archivist; Friends with relevant materials should be in touch with him. Spring Quarter will take place in May at Ben Lomond Quaker Center.

Peace and Social Witness (*Bob Burnett*): The committee presented a draft minute on moral values, adapted from the minute sent out by FCNL. A listening meeting will be convened on March 27 to consider this, and a revised minute will be brought to Meeting for Business in April. On approval, the minute will be sent to Bay Area churches across a theological spectrum, inviting dialogue.

Overseers (*Rick Herbert*): Rick read the clearness committee's report on the request for membership by Sara Wolcott. Overseers recommends approval; this will season for one month. Membership clearness committees have met with Anne Maiden Brown and Sandra Lewis, and will report to a future Meeting for Business.

Announcements

- The date of the Adult Religious Education session on Vocal Ministry is now March 20.
- Richard Leath is home from the hospital, but in need of continuing care. Miftah asks for volunteers to help for a few hours this coming week.
- Joyce Samati thanks Friends for their support of Katja, who is studying hard and “having a blast” during the Woolman Semester at Sierra Friends Center. Friends are encouraged to spread the word about this program and to support it financially.
- David Niyonzima of Burundi Yearly Meeting will speak at San Francisco Meeting on March 22 and at Berkeley Friends Church on March 23.
- Friends General Conference will take place July 2-9 in Virginia.
- Friends are encouraged to read the speech on Vietnam delivered by Dorothy Steir, reprinted in the current *Friends Journal*.
- A Friend expressed happy anniversary wishes to same-gender couples who were married in San Francisco one year ago.
- The next Meeting for Business will be March 13 at 11:50 am at Berkeley Alternative High School. Meeting closed at 2:10 pm following a period of silent worship.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Tanenbaum, Clerk; Rachel Findley, Alternate Clerk; Pamela Calvert, Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, March 13, 2005

Meeting for Business opened at 12:00 pm with silent worship. Shelley Tanenbaum clerked. Thirty five Friends were present. Charlie Blanchard read reflections on the Advices and Queries on Social and Civic Responsibility on behalf of First Day School Committee. The clerk expressed appreciation to Charlie for his service as a publicly elected official, and to Friends who participated in the Nevada Desert Experience the previous weekend.

Minutes of the February Meeting for Business were approved.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

A moving letter from Katja Samati thanks the Meeting for our support throughout her life, continuing now as she deepens her spiritual journey as a Woolman Semester student at Sierra Friends Center.

A letter from Darcy Stanley requesting membership was forwarded to Overseers.

A letter has been received from Berkeley Monthly Meeting accepting Anne Maiden Brown's request for membership transfer.

A letter from Quaker Center Ben Lomond requesting a large contribution from the Meeting toward the cost of the renovations of Redwood Lodge was forwarded to Overseers, Finance, and Retreat Committees for their consideration and recommendations to a future Meeting for Business.

Old Business

Overseers: Meeting approved the membership of Sara Wolcott; the welcoming committee will be Joyce Samati (convener), Barbara Graves, and Robin Standish.

Library: Meeting approved the revised new job description for the Library Committee attached to these minutes, with the addition that the committee will liaison with Adult Religious Education Committee.

Nominating: Meeting approved the nominations of Susan Black and Janet Piggins to Hospitality Committee and Betsy Morris to Facilities Committee.

New Business

State of the Meeting Report (*Tom Yamaguchi*): The committee, comprising Tom, Katherine Youngmeister and Sarah Hawthorne, presented the first draft of the State of the Meeting Report, attached to these minutes. Meeting expressed heartfelt gratitude, finding the report thorough, truthful, loving and beautifully written. Friends raised points relating to the report's length, its representation of our corporate witness, the quality of our worship, and other concerns which the committee will take into consideration in composing a second draft for presentation at April Meeting for Business.

Peace and Social Witness (*Chris Morrissey*): The committee presented a proposal for Meeting to sponsor the AFSC's "Eyes Wide Open" exhibit on the human cost of the war in Iraq. Sponsorship will involve both a financial contribution of \$150 to match the amount already contributed by Peace and Social Witness, as well as providing volunteers for the events at Civic Center and Union Square in San

Francisco. Meeting expressed strong support for this opportunity to witness publicly, and approved the \$150 contribution, balanced by adding \$150 to the budget line item for unrestricted donations.

Reports

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (*Eduardo Martinez*): EBSC has successfully sponsored 110 immigration cases in the past year. Volunteers are needed in the coming week to help move furniture so that a new carpet can be installed. A full report will be posted to the meeting listserv.

Treasurer (*Ralph Murphy*): The treasurer presented a report on the first two months of 2005. Expenses exceeded income by \$6000, a normal occurrence at this time of year. Current total assets are \$42,154.

First Day School (*Charlie Blanchard*): The committee clerk thanked the meeting for our support of the Nursery, and asks Friends to sign up for this joyful service. If only one child shows up for Nursery care and two adults are present, one adult is encouraged to see if the 4-8 year old group might need some extra help. The 4-8 year olds are focusing on Building Community, and have done some cooperative projects with the 8-12 year olds, including candle-making. Each age group has discussed what to do with the candle sales proceeds: the older children are supporting Greenpeace, while the younger ones have not yet decided. The 8-12 year olds are focusing on Witness, in the course of which they are learning about Quaker lives and history. The teens have begun discussing the meeting's committees, and have invited representatives to come and make presentations on the ongoing work of the meeting.

Worship and Ministry (*Al Thompson*): A session on March 20 will focus on Vocal Ministry; all are invited, particularly those who have recently spoken in meeting. The session is being organized by Shelley Tanenbaum, Rachel Findley, and Dharma Yamaguchi. After Meeting for Worship on a monthly basis, the committee will be reading selected quotes from a collection provided by Palo Alto MM as a way to inspire and educate us. Friends are again encouraged to arrive for worship prior to 10:00 a.m.

Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative (*Rachel Findley*): Yearly Meeting Annual Sessions will take place the first week of August at Mount Madonna; sessions in 2006 and 2007 will convene in Redlands. The Children's Program Committee needs additional members; those so called should contact Rachel.

Representative Committee considered the question of the \$500 contribution to Friends United Meeting, which was allocated but not expended at Yearly Meeting sessions this past summer. PYM will advise FUM that we find their policy not in accord with Quaker testimonies, insofar as FUM excludes same-gender couples from marriage and then denies these Friends full participation in FUM because they are unmarried; we further unite with FGC in finding spiritual gifts not to be distributed according to gender or sexual orientation. The budgeted \$500 will be used to support the travel costs of two additional PYM Friends, in addition to named representative Bruce Folsom, to attend FUM Triennial sessions to engage FUM Friends in dialogue on this issue. FUM General Secretary Retha McCutcheon is invited to Pacific YM this summer to speak with us about areas where we share common concerns.

An ad hoc committee will be formed to consider Yearly Meeting support of representative travel. Representative Meeting heard information gathered by Strawberry Creek's EcoBerries group on the true social, environmental, and economic costs of fossil fuel use. Those who are led to participate in this discernment within the yearly meeting should speak with Rachel.

Nominating Committee (*Kathy Barnhart*): The committee is in the thick of the annual nominating process and will bring the fruits of its work to the next Meeting for Business. Friends are urged to speak with the Committee if they have not yet been contacted.

Retreat Committee (*Deborah Marks*): The committee is hard at work on the spring retreat, organized around the theme of "Ease." A financial shortfall is possible, as scholarship requests exceeded donations last year and other retreat costs have risen. The committee is working with Finance Committee on this and will report at the next Meeting for Business. In any case, the Retreat will be accessible to all, regardless of ability to pay.

Overseers (*Rick Herbert*): The report was read from the membership transfer clearness committee for Anne Maiden Brown (Elsa Glines, convener, Carl Thiermann, Patricia Netherly). Overseers recommends approval; this will season one month. The report was read from the membership clearness committee for Sandra Lewis (Dee Rossman, convener, Al Thompson, Lynne D'Angelo). Overseers recommends approval; this will season one month.

An ad hoc committee comprising the meeting clerk, alternate clerk, the clerks of Overseers, Worship and Ministry and Nominating Committees, and one additional Friend has met to explore how to structure the work of Overseers Committee so as to benefit the committee and the meeting as a whole. Now that there are some 150 active members and attenders at Strawberry Creek, some discernment is appropriate on how best to do the meeting's work. These conversations are continuing in the three committees, and further developments will be brought to meeting for business by the ad hoc committee.

Site Analysis Committee (*Larry Strain*): The committee is convening a listening meeting on a permanent site on April 3. Information will be presented summarizing data on the meeting's needs, demographics, costs and financing options, and the pro's and con's of various options that have been considered to date. The committee is conducting interviews with Strawberry Creek Friends on potential resources available. If important points should be raised at the listening meeting, Friends are asked to contact the committee.

Announcements

- A Friend asked about the large banner on the wall of our meeting room which memorializes Carlos Acosta, a member of the Berkeley Alternative High School community. Rick Herbert offered to find out details; he notes ~~out~~ that the students at BAHS live in conditions of pain and violence scarcely imaginable to most Friends. Anything we can do to lessen the violence of these young people's lives is deeply appreciated.
- The clerk noted a letter of thanks from Quaker Bolivia Link and circulated photos of an irrigation installation supported by our contributions. The next Quaker Study Tour of Bolivia will take place June 23 – July 14.

The next meeting for business will be April 10 at 11:50 am at Berkeley Alternative High School. Meeting closed at 1:45 pm following a period of silent worship.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Tanenbaum, Clerk; Rachel Findley, Alternate Clerk; Pamela Calvert, Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, April 10, 2005

Meeting for Business opened at 12:00 pm with silent worship. Shelley Tanenbaum clerked. Forty seven Friends were present. Richard Leath read reflections on the Advices and Queries on Reaching Out on behalf of the Loaves and Fishes Committee.

Minutes of the March Meeting for Business were approved.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

A letter from Thomas Markham requesting membership was forwarded to Overseers.

The clerk has received a copy of the Ben Lomond Quaker Center Leadership Directory, a listing of Friends available to present workshops. Anyone who is interested in reviewing it should contact her.

A letter was read from Mark Beach which shares his beliefs on sexual relations with minors and his relationship to the Strawberry Creek community. Meeting welcomes Mark's honesty and openness; Overseers was asked to set up a committee to meet with him.

Old Business

State of the Meeting Report (*Tom Yamaguchi*): Tom read a revised version of the report prepared by himself, Katherine Youngmeister and Sarah Hawthorne. Friends approved the report with the following two changes: a sentence will be added on donations of clothing to AFSC relief projects in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the word "local" will be removed from the sentence about published letters to the editor. The report as presented is attached to these minutes.

Overseers (*Rick Herbert*): Meeting approved the membership transfer of Anne Maiden Brown. The welcoming committee will be Katherine Youngmeister (convener), Beth Wrightson, and Elizabeth Strain. Meeting approved the membership of Sandra Lewis. The welcoming committee will be Amy Clark (convener), Al Thompson, and Ted Obbard.

Site Analysis/Finance (*Larry Strain*): The committees presented a revised proposal for a "Site Contingency Fund," attached to these minutes. A segregated account is proposed, for which irrevocable gifts will be accepted. Since the meeting is not currently considering a specific permanent site, provisions for loans or pledges are not appropriate at this time. The principal in the account may be used as approved by meeting for acquisition, construction, remodeling and furnishing, with the goal of all expenditures being to model ecological sustainability. The account's income will generally be retained, but could be used as approved by meeting to cover a significant increase in ongoing site-related expenses. The fund provisions are to be reviewed at least every ten years beginning in 2015 or at the discretion of the Meeting Clerk. There was general agreement that a Site Contingency Fund was acceptable in principle, with some changes in specific provisions. Concerns were raised that the ten-year review process was too long; that the distinctions between allowed uses of principal and interest might not serve the meeting well; and that the proposal's language around non-cash gifts might discourage Friends from donating tangible goods such as real estate and furnishings. Meeting asked that copies of the proposal be posted on the website and distributed at meeting so that it can be seasoned before May's Meeting for Business. Friends with specific concerns should bring them to Larry Strain and/or Peter Trueblood.

New Business

Nominating Committee (*Kathy Barnhart*): The committee presented the proposed roster of appointments for 2005-06. There are currently fifteen committees; it is possible that within the coming year the Ecology Subcommittee of Peace and Social Concerns may become a freestanding committee, and should perhaps begin consideration of a formal job description. The committee clerk noted the following changes to the attached report: Mary Anderson is moved from Electronic Resources to Loaves and Fishes; there may be a need to add one more person to the Electronic Resources committee. David Leonard will serve as liaison between Finance and Site Committees. Friends are asked to consider service in the following capacities: Facilities Committee (two vacancies), Newsletter Distribution, one additional coordinator for the Teen Program, and coordinators for year-round Childcare and the Summer Children's Program. The nominations will season one month; concerns should be brought to the committee. Meeting thanked the committee for their work.

Reports

Ben Lomond Quaker Center (*Kris Schnepf*): The Strawberry Creek representative reported on the progress and current developments at Quaker Center. There is a renewed focus on programming and attendance is recovering from the downturn of recent years. The Redwood Lodge remodel was completed on time and on budget, and there will be a dedication celebration at the close of Quarterly Meeting on May 15. Sojourner's Cottage has been made wheelchair accessible, due in part to urging from Strawberry Creek Meeting. Fundraising has been going well, with Santa Cruz, Palo Alto and San Francisco Meetings all making a \$5,000 commitment, requested of Strawberry Creek as well. Four Strawberry Creek Friends serve on the Quaker Center board of directors, and a fifth is active in the Coastal Redwood Education Program.

Retreat: The meeting clerk reports that the Retreat Committee endorses Ben Lomond Quaker Center's request for a \$5000 contribution. The committee will address the questions related to retreat finances at the May Meeting for Business. Friends are encouraged to donate funds to support scholarships.

Overseers (*Rick Herbert*): The report was read from the membership clearness committee for Susan Black (Ted Obbard convener, Katherine Youngmeister, Gordon Bishop). Overseers recommends approval; this will season one month.

The report was read from the membership clearness committee for Sanjay Pahuja (Susan Burr convener, Rachel Findley, Leonard Joy, Al Thompson, Tom Yamaguchi). Sanjay now attends New Delhi Worship Group, which is not under the care of any other meeting. After attending and actively participating in Strawberry Creek Meeting for two years, he requested membership immediately before moving to India nearly one year ago. This has raised questions of how meeting can support him as a member and how he can continue to participate in and support the life of the meeting. Following a long and tender process of discernment, the clearness committee and Overseers recommends approval of his request, citing provisions in Faith and Practice for the membership of isolated Friends where there is a "genuine, practical and lasting commitment" on the part of the Meeting. Overseers will recommend that one or more Friends be designated contacts for Sanjay, and that he continue to communicate with the meeting via the listserve. This will season for one month.

Overseers will consider Ben Lomond Center's donation request at the next committee meeting.

Lisa Hubbell will host a potluck brunch for Friends dealing with issues of divorce at her home on April 16 at 10:30 am.

First Day School (*Charlie Blanchard*): Friends are asked to sign up to provide childcare in the Nursery. Friends are also asked to advise Joyce Samati if childcare is needed for events apart from Meeting for Business and Adult Religious Education sessions.

Finance (*Barbara Perry*): The committee does not recommend the request of Ben Lomond Quaker Center for a donation, on the basis of the Meeting's longstanding policy on contributions. This policy provides for small "symbolic" donations, intended to remind Friends of their responsibility to contribute to a number of organizations of which Quaker Center is one. Making an exception in this instance is not appropriate; Quaker Center is one of three organizations under the care of the Quarter, and the other two (Friends House and Sierra Friends Center) are in greater need of financial support at this time. Contributing to Quaker Center with a gift amounting to 10% of our annual budget because it is the first of the three to ask would not be good order. If Meeting wishes to revisit our contributions policies, the committee suggests this take place in the form of a limited discussion at Meeting for Business, at which time it could be seen whether further discussion is warranted. The committee supports Quaker Center keeping Friends updated on its financial position and encourages individual Friends to contribute to the organization. One Friend suggested that the Meeting might consider setting up a dedicated fund, similar to provisions that were made for Ramallah Friends School a few years ago. Another Friend suggested that funds be collected and split three ways between Quaker Center, Friends House and Sierra Friends Center. Overseers will take this discussion into consideration at their next committee meeting.

World Gathering of Young Friends (*Sara Wolcott, Melina Larkin, Darcy Stanley, Kate Newlin*): All four Strawberry Creek Friends have been accepted to attend the Gathering, with Darcy Stanley and Kate Newlin being the named representatives of Pacific Yearly Meeting. The Gathering will take place in Lancaster, England on August 16-24, with an expected 400 Friends ages 18-35 attending from all over the world. The Gathering's themes are "Let us then try what love can do" and "I am the vine, you are the branches. If a man abides in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit." These four Friends reported the extensive and deep testing and study they have done together, both in discerning the leading to attend and since having their applications accepted. They asked for the meeting's assistance in fundraising and in spiritual support for an undertaking they are finding overwhelming. They are holding the concern about their use of natural resources to attend the Gathering, and welcome the opportunity to discuss this with Friends. Friends are asked to host fundraising parties in their homes and to help with a creative arts special event. The fundraising goal for North America is \$200,000 to support both North American Friends and provide assistance to Friends from poorer parts of the world. Meeting asks the Young Friends to send a letter to Overseers before the next committee meeting which outlines the specific ways in which meeting can support them, including the formation of a care committee.

Announcements

- Spring Retreat will take place April 29-May 1 at Ben Lomond Quaker Center. A childcare assistant is needed.
- College Park Quarterly Meeting will take place May 13-15 at Ben Lomond Quaker Center.
- Sierra Friends Center is initiating an online fundraising campaign which will involve auctioning contributed items on EBay. Workcamps will take place in June.

The next meeting for business will be May 8 at 11:50 am at Berkeley Alternative High School. Meeting closed at 2:25 pm following a period of silent worship.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Tanenbaum, Clerk; Rachel Findley, Alternate Clerk; Pamela Calvert, Recording Clerk

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting for Business
First Day, May 8, 2005

Meeting for Business opened at 11:55 am with silent worship. Rachel Findley clerked, with Bob Burnett serving as Alternate Clerk. Thirty Friends were present. Kathy Chen read reflections on the Advices and Queries on Simplicity on behalf of the Site Analysis and Newsletter Committees.

Minutes of the April Meeting for Business were approved with the corrections that the Haven rather than the Sojourner's Cottage at Ben Lomond Quaker Center has been made wheelchair accessible, and the convener for Sandra Lewis's welcoming committee is Ted Obbard.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

A note has been received from Hong Kong Monthly Meeting sending greetings following the visit of Diana Lopez, and warmly inviting other Strawberry Creek Friends to come worship with them.

The clerk read excerpts of a letter from Friends Peace Teams' African Great Lakes Initiative, recounting the experiences of a workcamp participant in Burundi. The accompanying request for funds was forwarded to Finance Committee.

Old Business

Nominating Committee (*Robin Standish*): Friends approved the slate of nominations as presented to the April Meeting for Business with the following changes: Kathy Chen is removed from service on the Site Committee, Darcy Stanley from Overseers, Ellen Levin from Peace and Social Witness, Stephen McNeil and Robin Standish from Nominating Committee, and Betsy Morris from Facilities. The following new nominations will season for one month: Darcy Stanley to Adult Education, Mary White to Peace and Social Witness, Renee Watkins and Peter Lin to Newsletter, Terra and Erik Wilson as Summer Childcare Coordinators, and Lee Winkelman as a short-term Nursery Coordinator. The following positions remain unfilled at this time: Facilities 3 members, Electronic Resources 1 member, coordinators for the Nursery and year-round Childcare, a co-coordinator for the Teen Program, and the possibility of 1 position open in the Oversight Committee.

Overseers (*Nancy Wilkinson*): Meeting approved the membership of Susan Black. The welcoming committee will be Patricia Netherly (convener), Robin Standish, and Barbara Graves. Meeting approved the membership of Sanjay Pahuja. The welcoming committee will be Leonard Joy (convener), Al Thompson, Lisa Hubbell and Peter Trueblood. Overseers will be asked to name a liaison committee for Sanjay; Friends expressing interest in this service include Robin Standish, Dharma Yamaguchi, Leonard Joy, Al Thompson, Kathy Chen, and Peter Trueblood, and the name of Sarah Emmer was additionally suggested.

State of the Meeting Report (*Tom Yamaguchi*): Tom presented the final version of the State of the Meeting Report, which is appended to these minutes. The recorder asked for clarification on how to accurately report membership statistics through the end of May when the report is presented before Spring Quarter. Meeting affirmed that the membership figures in the State of the Meeting report should be accurate as of the date of that report, but that updated statistics should be provided in the recorder's annual report to Yearly Meeting.

New Business

Worship and Ministry (*Al Thompson*): The committee presented a draft minute affirming the Meeting's recognition of spiritual gifts regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, and appreciation and support for the full participation of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and queer Friends, revised from a similar minute from FGC which was read at Meeting for Business in February. Friends suggested the following changes: that straight people be added to the list of those whose contributions have enriched the life of the Meeting; that the overall language of the minute be reframed to avoid the use of "us" and "them"; and that material from the written introduction to the draft minute be incorporated into the minute itself. The draft was sent back to the committee for revision and presentation at the next Meeting for Business.

Reports

Treasurer (*Ralph Murphy*): The treasurer presented an income and expense report for the first four months of 2005. To date, expenses have exceeded income by \$7,367, which is not uncommon at this point in the year. Retreat Committee shows a \$4,718 negative balance because Friends' attendance fees had not yet been deposited at month's end. Finance Committee has approved moving \$10,000 from checking to the interest-bearing CD account, for a new balance of \$20,263.

Worship and Ministry (*Al Thompson*): The committee held a successful session on Vocal Ministry, and plans to prepare a set of printed notes for those interested in the subject. An evening discussion group on membership is being planned, to commence in June. A Friend suggested that those arriving early to meeting for worship should sit in the center of the rows of seats, leaving the seats closer to the aisles open for Friends arriving later.

Overseers (*Nancy Wilkinson*): Bob Burnett clerked the first item of Overseers business.

Overseers Committee is addressing the issues related to Mark Beach's participation in meeting. A committee of Tom Yamaguchi, Nancy Wilkinson, Jay Roger Smith and Jill Lessing is meeting with Mark and with other affected Strawberry Creek Friends, discerning the right way forward in an open-ended and caring process for the Meeting as a whole as we seek clearness together. Friends are invited to communicate individually with any of the members of the committee. The committee is reporting regularly to Overseers, and Overseers will bring a status report to Meeting for Business in June. Several Friends expressed concerns related to this subject and to the manner in which the meeting is proceeding including: that there has been a breach of confidentiality in the process of handling this matter; that the Meeting has legal responsibilities and concerns for the safety of members and attenders to take into consideration; that Meeting should extend care to those for whom this matter has caused significant distress; that timely provision needs to be made for the Meeting community as a whole to gather and consider the situation together; that the Meeting listserv and Meeting for Business are not the appropriate venues for addressing this issue; and that Meeting must support the good order of the committee in trust and prayerfulness. A Friend prayed that we all open ourselves to be moved and changed by the workings of the Holy Spirit. Overseers and the named committee will take all these concerns into account as they continue their labors.

Overseers Committee has approved recommendations of the Electronic Resources Committee related to distribution of electronic versions of the Meeting directory to committee clerks for Meeting business, and the initiation of a second listserv on an ad-free web service for official Meeting business and items of direct Meeting concern.

Overseers Committee is not in unity on the question of a donation to Ben Lomond Quaker Center. The clerk will name a committee comprising representatives of Finance, Overseers and Retreat Committees to bring a recommendation to Meeting.

Sierra Friends Center (*Joyce Samati*): The Meeting representative announced several opportunities to participate in Sierra Friends Center, including workcamps and summer camp.

Recorder (*Helen Haug*): The recorder suggests Friends file “final affairs” paperwork with the Meeting relating to burial/cremation arrangements and family contact information. Nancy Wilkinson notes that as part of her work she has assembled extensive information on local mortuaries which she can share with interested Friends.

Announcements

- Pacific Yearly Meeting will take place August 1-6 at Mount Madonna. Registration forms are available at the yearly meeting website, www.quaker.org/pacific-ym . Printed forms will also be available on our literature table.

The next meeting for business will be June 12 at 11:50 am at Berkeley Alternative High School. Meeting closed at 2:25 pm following a period of prayerful worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Rachel Findley, Clerk Pro Tem; Bob Burnett, Alternate Clerk Pro Tem; Pamela Calvert, Recording Clerk