

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business
September 9, 2018 Minutes

The meeting opened at noon with silent worship. Ralph Murphy clerked the meeting. 33 Friends were present. Betsy Morris gave the response of Facilities Committee to the Advices and Queries on Peace. The Meeting returned to silent worship to reflect on this.

The minutes for the August 12, 2018 Meeting for Business were approved as written.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

The meeting has received a letter from a person in a California state prison. The letter was referred to Peace, Earthcare, and Social Witness Committee.

The Clerk received a request from musicians Annie Patterson and Peter Blood to host a "sing along" concert on October 21. Berkeley Meetinghouse is unavailable for that date. Berkeley Friends Church has not yet responded to a request to use their facility. The Clerk asked for volunteers to help in securing a place for the event and other support. Tom Rothschild said that he had already been in contact with Annie and Peter and would be willing to help. Jay Cash volunteered to help with arranging for Redwood Gardens to host if that site was acceptable. The Clerk noted that Amy Dewey has volunteered to help get the word out about the event. [Subsequent to the Meeting it was learned that the event will be held at the Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists.]

Old Business

Nominations to the Naming Committee (Clerk)

The nominations to the Naming Committee are Elaine Emily (convener), Elsa Glines, and Nancy Wilkinson. Those names have been seasoning for one month. The nominations were approved.

Request for \$300 increase in Care of the Meeting Committee Budget (Care of the Meeting Committee, Stephen McNeil)

No concerns have been raised for the requested increase of \$300 to the Care of the Meeting Committee budget. Finance Committee has no concerns. The budget increase was approved.

New Business

There was no new business.

Reports

Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative (Lari Keeler)

The theme of this year's annual session at Walker Creek Ranch was "Faithfulness: A Call to Practice Radical Vulnerability and Love." Lari reported that Strawberry Creek Meeting was well represented at the session. "Our voice is important in the yearly meeting," they said.

One of the keynote speakers Carin Anderson said that we need to get uncomfortable when we find our comfort is at the expense of the comfort of others. Carin spoke of how she left Quakerism after years of frustration she had experienced with Quakers. Her leading to work in

Colombia and other countries devastated by war brought her back to Quakerism. Elena Anderson-Williams spoke of her calling to go to Belfast to assist families experiencing domestic violence.

The annual session failed to find unity on a minute to affiliate with Friends General Conference. Concerns were expressed about potential costs and available resources.

Lari is completing their term as PYM Representative. A new representative will be nominated for 2019.

Faith and Practice Revision Process (Clerk)

PYM's Faith and Practice Revision Committee is asking us to comment on proposed revisions. The deadline to respond has been extended to December 1. The Clerk has posted a link to the proposed changes on the meeting's Yahoo Group. Three committees have been assigned to review parts of the revisions and make a recommendation at the October Business Meeting. Laura Magnani reported that the committee is looking at an incremental update of Faith and Practice. The current process is the first stage with sections being revised as concerns are raised. There may be between two and four revisions each year. Periodically, updated paper editions will be printed in cooperation with Western Friend.

Finance Committee (Larry Strain)

The Finance Committee has updated its job description with mostly minor changes. Redundant sections on the duties of the Treasurer have been removed. Larry has copies for those who request them.

Finance Committee will be contacting committee clerks on their budget requests for the next year. Budget requests will be considered at the next Finance Committee meeting.

Next Sunday, Finance Committee is sponsoring an adult education session, Money as a Spiritual Practice. Source material comes from the work of Pamela Haines of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

Treasurer (Richard Leath)

Our deficit is 10% greater than this time last year. He noted that the Quaker Events Support Fund (7120) has spent only \$480 of its \$3,500 budget. He urged committees to consider adjusting their budget requests to more accurately reflect committee spending.

The Retreat Fund has covered for the small deficit from the Spring Retreat.

Announcements

Next Meeting for Business – October 14, 2018 at 11:50 a.m. at Berkeley Technology Academy

Meeting for Clerks and Officers, October 6, 9:30 am-12:30 PM, Berkeley Friends Meeting

World Quaker Day, October 7

College Park Quarterly Meeting Fall Session- October 19-21, Sierra Friends Center

Stephen McNeil announced an adult education session on clerking and self-clerking on October 21. There will be a one-day fall retreat in the Community Room at Redwood Gardens on November 10.

Avotcja Jiltonilro announced that volunteers will be picking up more supplies tomorrow to send to Puerto Rico. She invited Friends to join them and asked for ideas on future donations.

The meeting closed with silent worship at 1:25 pm.

Submitted by: Ralph Murphy, Clerk, Rachel Findley, Alternate Clerk, and Tom Yamaguchi, Recording Clerk.