

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business
October 13, 2019 Minutes

The Meeting opened a little after noon with silent worship. Acting Clerk Charlie Blanchard clerked the Meeting assisted by Acting Alternate Clerk Nancy Wilkinson and Acting Recording Clerk Stephen McNeil. Twenty-nine Friends were present.

Josh Gallup shared responses from the First Day Children's Program Committee to the Advices and Queries on Meeting for Worship for Business. Friends returned to worship for further reflections. A Friend shared a story told by a then 22-year old Guardsman from the Free Speech Movement protest at which a small group of young women sat down and sang before armed National Guard troops. They were joined by the larger crowd that sat and sang. A "sense of settling" occurred and tensions and fear were dispelled.

The agenda was reviewed and additional announcements were added.

The minutes for the September 8, 2019 Meeting for Business were approved with the following correction in the Treasurer's Report: "...the meeting's current deficit of around \$18,000 to date is no greater at this point than in past years.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business

Correspondence and Clerk's Business consisted of three items:

reading of Elaine Emily's August 13, 2018 travel minute endorsements from her work in New England Yearly Meeting; reading of Paul Jolly's request for transfer of membership from Adelphi Friends Meeting (Baltimore Yearly Meeting) and that Meeting's minute of appreciation for Paul Jolly's service; and reading of request from Tom Rothschild for membership. The two membership requests were referred to the Care of the Meeting Committee.

Old Business

Kat Stenstedt's Membership Request has seasoned for a month and her clearness committee convener Rhea Farley reported that no concerns had come forward. The Meeting approved the membership and appointed Rick Herbert (convener), Beth Rodman, and Rachel Findley as her welcoming committee.

College Park Quarterly Meeting Regional Gathering (Care of the Meeting Committee, Stephen McNeil). Lee Douglas has volunteered to work with Berkeley Friends Meeting, Berkeley Friends Church, and possibly San Francisco Friends Meeting on a Spring Bay Area Regional Gathering.

New Business

Membership Request of Ariane Michas (Care of the Meeting Committee, Sarah Hawthorne) Sarah Hawthorne reported that Care of the Meeting Committee united with the clearness committee's recommendation of membership and read a statement of Ariane Michas on why she is seeking to join. The recommendation will season for one month, with any concerns to be brought to the Care of the Meeting Committee.

Reports

Worship and Ministry (Laura Magnani)

Laura Magnani gave two updates: (1) an amplification system is in the works and try outs are coming soon. Meanwhile, please stand if able when speaking and put your hand to an ear if unable to hear a speaker. Do not lower your head when speaking and try not to lower your voice at the end, and (2) we are working with Facilities Committee and the facilities and maintenance person to remedy the lack of enough chairs in the Meeting room. If there are no additional chairs, Friends are welcome to use the children's seats until the children arrive.

Welcoming and Inclusion Working Group (Beth Rodman)

Beth Rodman called attention to the Connection Card samples, 13 of which have been collected from newcomers. The Working Group takes camera photos and does followup. There is a longer report that will be posted on the listserve. Beth noted that their work is a warm and pleasurable activity and they seek additional members. Those interested may contact Beth, Barbara Birch (convener), Ellen Trabilcy, or Al Thompson.

Announcements

Charlie Blanchard noted that the Clerks' Meeting (including Representatives)'s Saturday November 2, from 9:30 to 1:30 at Berkeley Friends Meeting.

Shelley Tanenbaum reported that there will be meeting at her Albany home at 3 pm with Sarah Wolcott on dealing with emergencies, ranging from her experience recently in Ecuador and our experiences with power outages.

Lee Douglas called attention to the Adult Education session of the role of silence in a silent meeting on October 20.

The Meeting closed at about 1:10 p.m. with silent worship

The next Meeting for Business will be held on November 10, 2019, at 11:50 a.m. at the Berkeley Technology Academy.

Submitted by: Charlie Blanchard, Acting Clerk, Nancy Wilkinson, Acting Alternate Clerk, and Stephen McNeil, Acting Recording Clerk.