

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business, March 12, 2017
Minutes

The Meeting opened at 12:00 p.m. with silent worship. Ralph Murphy clerked the Meeting. Thirty-one Friends were present. Rhea Farley shared responses from the Care of the Meeting Committee to the Advices and Queries on Social and Civic Responsibility. One Friend was led to give a further response.

The minutes for the February 12, 2017 Meeting for Business were approved as read.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business:

The Clerk read an announcement of the upcoming Christian Friends Conference March 18 meeting at Berkeley Friends Church. We received thank you notes from the *Friends Journal* and Quaker Center Ben Lomond for the Meeting's annual support. The Clerk read a request for certificate of transfer from 57th Street Meeting to Strawberry Creek Meeting from David Rutschman and Marj Byler. The request was referred to the Care of the Meeting Committee. The Clerk read an offer from Jonathan Vogel-Bourne who is traveling in the ministry to speak at a Berkeley gathering of Friends on April 7th or 8th. The Clerk asked for volunteers to organize the evening with Berkeley Friends Meeting most likely co-sponsoring. Renee Watkins (convener), Rhea Farley and Shelley Tanenbaum stepped forward. Because of the previously expressed interest, the Clerk named Elaine Emily as an additional member of the planning group.

Old Business:

Care of the Meeting Committee: Nancy Wilkinson reported that the Committee had heard no concerns regarding the minute to lay down the Site Committee until further need arises. A Friend expressed some concern regarding the Contingency Site Fund that she will bring forward later.

The meeting approved the minute.

Communications Committee: Amy Dewey reported no concerns on the revised job description for the Newsletter and Calendar Editor.

The meeting approved the job description.

New Business

State of the Meeting Report: Rhea Farley read the report for the Writing Committee consisting of Rachel Findley, Peter Lin, and Rhea Farley. She asked that Friends send in suggestions, edits and word changes to the Committee by March 20. A Friend felt that the report overemphasized the process in arriving at a report at the expense of conclusions naming positive aspects in the life of the Meeting. Another noted that in the past we had included some activities carried out by the Meeting to show how we are building community. A Friend's suggested that we include mention of deaths in the Meeting and the year's statistics. However, the Yearly Meeting's *Faith and Practice* asks that statistics to be submitted separate from the State of the Meeting report. Some mention of Adult Education topics was requested, as well as the creation of the Power, Privilege and Race Group, the Welcoming Group, and the Saturday in the Park meetups. The report will season for a month.

Care of the Meeting Committee: Nancy Wilkinson distributed the Care of the Meeting job description that had been posted on the Meeting's listserv. The revision emphasizes the membership development role of the committee. In addition, the list of special events planned by the Committee are removed from the job description and placed into a separate document. The draft will season for a month.

Nominating Committee: Charlie Blanchard reported that Lisa Hubbell has requested to be released as the Meeting's Representative to College Park Quarterly Meeting. The Committee put forward the name of

Tom Yamaguchi as her replacement. His name will season for a month with any concerns to go to Nominating Committee.

Reports:

Nominating Committee: Charlie Blanchard gave an update on the work of the Nominating Committee whose proposed slate will come before the Meeting in April. As usual there will most likely be some slots unfilled. Sixty-two Friends and attenders have expressed willingness to serve, with two new volunteers. There are 75 positions to fill, excluding the Nominating Committee membership. There were 144 people to contact this year, with ten unreachable. The names of those ten unreachable people were passed on to Care of the Meeting Committee. Thirty-five people definitely did not wish to serve for various reasons. If a third of us don't/can't participate in committee service, there needs to be other avenues for them to participate in the life of the Meeting. Many expressed a lot of energy to take on short-term service assignments. There remains a gap between what we'd like to have the Meeting do, and the energy to serve.

Peace, Earthcare and Social Witness Committee (PESW): Kathy Barnhardt reported that she and Judith Schumacher-Jennings are working on holding an Adult Education with BOCA, the Berkeley Organizing Committee for Action to see where the Meeting might become involved. The Committee will be bringing the exhibit "39 Questions for White People" to the Meeting, and if funds are raised, to a local library. Rick Herbert gave a talk on the current immigration situation. Kathy continues to seek volunteers to join her and others in the Meeting on the third Friday for the Cease Fire Walk. The FCL-CA fundraiser is April 2. Contact Shelley Tannenbaum or Judith Schumacher-Jennings to donate items.

Announcements:

- A. Tom Yamaguchi reminded Friends that the CROP-Church World Service Hunger Walk is April 30th. He and Betsy Morris are on the organizing committee

The Meeting closed at 1:15 p.m. with silent worship.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on April 9, 2017 at 12:00 noon (after the locavore potluck) at the Berkeley Technology Academy.

Submitted by: Ralph Murphy, Clerk, Alternate Clerk Rachel Findley, and Stephen McNeil, Recording Clerk