

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business, September 12, 2010

Minutes

The meeting opened at 11:45 a.m. with silent worship. Katherine Youngmeister clerked the meeting. Thirty-three Friends were present. Betsy Morris read the reflections of the Nominating Committee on the Advices and Queries on Stewardship and Vocation.

The minutes of the July 11, 2010 Meeting for Business were read and approved with the following corrections: in the minute on Todd Osmundson's membership transfer request, the convener of his welcoming committee will be Margaret Schneider; in the minute on 2010-2011 Nominations, Mary White will serve on the Site Committee and Martin Taber has not been reached about service on Peace, Earthcare and Social Witness Committee; in the report of the Worship and Ministry Committee, the Evening with Sharon Driscoll will be held September 26, 2010 at Berkeley Friends Meeting.

Clerk's Business and Correspondence

The Clerk proposed the following people to serve as the Naming Committee for this year: John McCarthy, Ralph Murphy (convener) and Shelley Tanenbaum. The Meeting approved the nominations.

The Clerk reported that she has appointed an ad hoc committee to investigate steps to reconfigure our committee structure for the coming year. The Nominating Committee has found it difficult to find enough people to fill the current structure and this year promises to be more difficult. The ad hoc committee members are Charlie Blanchard (currently serving on Worship and Ministry Committee) (convener), Susan Burr (Care of the Meeting Committee) and Margaret Schneider (Mutual Care Committee). The committee expects to seek input during the next two months and will report to the Meeting at the November Business Meeting so that changes could be approved at the December Business Meeting. Several friends expressed support for this effort.

The Clerk read a letter from Lynn and Peter D'Angelo requesting a letter of introduction for their planned trip to Cuba October 23 to November 6, 2010 with the Friendly Folk Dancers. The Clerk will write a letter of introduction for them.

Old Business

Travel Minute for Elaine Emily (Worship and Ministry Committee) (Sarah Hawthorne) No concerns have been expressed concerning the travel minute for Elaine Emily. The Meeting approved the travel minute.

Revised Job Description of the Peace, Earthcare and Social Witness Committee (Peace, Earthcare and Social Witness Committee) (Kathy Barnhart) No concerns have been expressed concerning the revised job description of the Peace, Earthcare and Social Witness Committee. The Meeting approved the revision.

New Business

Revised Job Description for the Hospitality Committee (Hospitality Committee) (Larry Perry) A revised job description for the Hospitality Committee was distributed and read. The changes include

revising the purpose clause to make clear that one of the functions of the committee is to reach out to anyone interested in the meeting. The job description will season for one month.

Committee clerks were asked to check the Meeting's Website to see that the job description for their committee on the Site is current. Questions about updating the Site can be directed to Amy Dewey, our Website Coordinator.

Reports

Peace, Earthcare and Social Witness Committee (Kathy Barnhart) Rick Herbert was thanked for attending Pacific Yearly Meeting and being a resource for questions about our Dime A Gallon Dream Fund and Dime-a-saur.

There will be a War Resisters Campaign in 2011 which hopes to get 200 Quakers to send in a protest letter with their tax return.

The FCL Auction will be September 19th. Keven Insko of FCL will be available.

The Meeting's Earthcare Testimony has been sent to the Pacific Yearly Meeting Discipline Committee. Visalia Meeting has adopted the testimony.

The Committee has given Sally Hindman of the Youth Spirit Project \$500 to provide travel vouchers for youth to participate.

350.org is planning a demonstration for October 10, 2010.

A Friend suggested that the Meeting should use a bin to dump green waste from our potlucks. Another friend said that First Day School participants are considering taking up this concern.

Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative (Tom Yamaguchi) Tom presented a written report on this year's Pacific Yearly Meeting. A copy of the report will be posted on the Meeting's listserv. George Lakey spoke on peacemaking. He said we should not be afraid of conflict and that we should engage in conflict resolution with respect for those with whom we disagree. Vanessa Julye talked about racism in the Society of Friends. Sarah Beutel was introduced as the Youth Program Coordinator.

The 2010-2011 budget was approved with an increase in the annual assessment. The new assessments are \$90 per person in California and Nevada, \$40 in Hawaii and Guatemala, and \$10 (unchanged) in Mexico City. The increase was necessary because the Youth Coordinator position budget was \$10,000 more than estimated.

Next year's meeting will be held again at Claremont, California.

Tom raised two issues for consideration by the Meeting. He proposed that the terms of our representative and observer be increased to two years. He also proposed that the Meeting fundraise to allow Vanessa Julye and Janice Domanik to attend next year's Yearly Meeting. The issue of terms of our PYM representative and observer was referred to the Care of the Meeting Committee. The issue of fund raising for travel expenses was referred to Peace, Earthcare & Social Witness Committee.

Facilities Committee (Joyce Samati) Joyce presented the report on behalf of Patrick Foley. The Facilities Committee and the Site Committee have met to determine what should be done about our storage space. An inventory of what is stored there was made. The library cart has been temporarily

stored with Patrick. A smaller storage space was rented which reduced our rent from \$178 a month to \$58 a month. The Facilities Committee intends to clarify what should and should not be stored and prepare guidelines for future storage.

The Treasurer asked that bills from the storage facility should be given to her instead of the informal system currently in effect. A friend also suggested that the space be put into the name of the Meeting if it is not already in its name.

A Friend asked where the records of the Meeting (including the minutes) are kept. A Friend said that he thought that they are kept with the Recorder.

Treasurer (Beth Wrightson) An income and expense report for the period ending August 31, 2010 was distributed. It shows that our meeting has spent \$23,345 more than it received this year. This is a deficit of about \$10,000 more than our meeting usually has at this time of year. Friends are urged to contribute now to the Meeting.

Mutual Care Committee (Margaret Schneider) The Meeting continues to provide care which is both mutual and tender.

The Committee is considering having an intergenerational service project as part of the Holiday Program this year.

The Committee plans to hold a listening meeting to consider the suggestion of Claremont Meeting that meetings decline to sign marriage certificates as long as same sex marriages are not recognized by California.

A Friend expressed appreciation for the work the Committee is doing particularly at this time.

Nominating Committee (Nancy Wilkinson) Nominating is seeking additional members for the Loaves & Fishes and Mutual Care committees.

Announcements

The next College Park Quarterly Meeting will be held October 15-17, 2010 at Sierra Friends Center. The theme will be "Inward Guidance" (from classic Quaker, non-theist and other bases). Families and Young Adult Friends are especially encouraged to attend. Those with questions should contact Rachel Findley.

The next Business Meeting will be held on October 10, 2010 at 12 p.m. at the Berkeley Technology Academy after the locavore potluck.

The meeting closed at 1:55 p.m. with silent worship.

Submitted by: Katherine Youngmeister, Clerk; Charlie Blanchard, Alternate Clerk and Ralph Murphy, Acting Recording Clerk