

## Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business, June 12, 2011 Minutes

The meeting opened at 11:50 a.m. with silent worship. Twenty-eight Friends were in attendance. Phyllis Milandra read the reflections of the Loaves and Fishes Committee on the advices and queries on meeting for worship for business.

Larry Strain served as acting clerk and Susan Burr served as acting alternate clerk. The agenda was reviewed and changed. We noted that the Annual Meeting of the Corporation did meet and those minutes will be reviewed and approved at the May 2012 meeting of that body.

The minutes were read, amended, and approved with the following corrections to the draft that appeared in the newsletter: the Nominating Committee had put forward the name of Thomas Yamaguchi as co-clerk of Peace, Earthcare & Social Witness Committee; in the Site Committee report, "concerning seeking a permanent site" was added to the call for a survey of current attitudes in the Meeting and Sandra Lewis had not volunteered to review the draft survey and Clifford Ham's name spelling was corrected; and under Announcements, the correct name for the BFUUs is "Unitarian Universalists."

The Acting Clerk thanked the Meeting for showing good support for AFSC through hosting two tables at the dinner which featured a great speaker, Michelle Alexander on mass incarceration and race.

### Old Business

Nominating Committee (Nancy Wilkinson) The final nominations for 2011-2012 were approved along with the minute of the East Bay Sanctuary Covenant Representative position. Susan Black read the explanatory letter to EBSC. We thanked Susan for drafting the letter.

Mutual Care Committee's Listening Meeting on Marriage Equality (Susan Black) Susan reported that the session was wide ranging and that since no unity sought, none was found on the response to Claremont Monthly Meeting's action to withdraw from the civil registration of marriages until all can marry under State law. The Committee will send a note on the session to Claremont Monthly Meeting. Thomas Yamaguchi will post a write up on the session by Susan to our yahooogroup.

### New Business

Care of the Meeting Committee (Sandra Lewis) The committee had been contacting non-active local and distant Friends to ascertain their current attitudes on their membership. One or two were interested in laying down their membership. The process is either for the Meeting to receive a letter stating that intention or the Meeting itself initiating laying down membership via a letter to the individual. Based on a discussion with Sarah Emmer, the Committee recommended that her membership be laid down as her wish seemed to be to do so. The Meeting approved that the Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends end the membership of Sarah Emmer.

Sandra then reported that the Newcomers Breakfast was held at the Trueblood's home for 16 attenders, some of whom were oldtimers who had not been around to attend previous breakfasts. She noted that the June 25<sup>th</sup> New & Old Clerks workshop welcomes an alternate from committees whose clerk cannot attend.

Nominating Committee (Nancy Wilkinson) Nancy put forward the name of Rhea Farley as clerk of Facilities Committee. This name will season for a month.

### Reports

Treasurer's Report (Beth Wrightson) A report as of May 2011 was distributed that also showed the Dime-A-Gallon balance at \$569.34 and the Site Fund as having a \$200 income in the January-May period.

Finance Committee Report (Beth Wrightson) The committee reported on the status of the question of accepting donations in the form of stock. They proposed a threshing session in the Fall for the Meeting to set out the concerns within the Meeting. Susan Burr read from *Faith & Practice* (p. 136) on the nature of a threshing session. A Friend noted that it is imperative that where critical differences exist that people are genuinely heard. Some within the Meeting feel that an education session is needed first. Katherine Youngmeister volunteered to form an ad hoc group for this under the Finance Committee. We might have the education piece first and then a separate worship sharing session next and then a threshing session. The Finance Committee will report back on a proposal in July.

Site Committee (Joyce Samati, Philippa Baron, and Betsy Morris) Joyce distributed a draft survey of members' current attitudes concerning seeking a permanent site/lease. Phillipa Baron read the first paragraph describing the rationale for the survey. A Friend noted that if there is a Fall discernment meeting on this concern, it should precede that of the Finance Committee on stock acceptance. The Meeting thanked the committee and volunteers for their work on the survey which will go forward.

First Day School (Cynthia Trueblood) Cindy reported that it was a good year and thanked the adults who have been helping out with a steady presence. Certificates for those who attended for a least one-third of the time had been prepared and are going out.

Sierra Friends Center (Cindy Trueblood) Cindy noted that the overall mission of the Center is to bring about peace and justice and sustainability for all life through learning and service. The Center has the Woolman Semester, Sierra Friends Camp, Teen Camp, hosts the Fall Quarterly Meeting, and Family Workcamp. There were 12 students in the Fall and 13 in the Spring Woolman Semesters: people from diverse backgrounds are brought together and amazing growth and connections are made. Cindy read from some Facebook and blog entries of the students. Math and Spanish have been added to the curriculum and applications for next year are strong. She encouraged the Meeting to refer teens who might benefit from this experience to apply to future sessions.

#### Announcements

Cindy Trueblood announced that the Teen Leadership Camp is full but that openings remain in the Family Workcamp at the Sierra Friends Center.

Next Meeting for Business will be on July 10, 2011 at noon, following a Locavore Potluck at the Berkeley Technology Academy. The meeting closed with silent worship.

Respectfully submitted, Larry Strain, Acting Clerk, Larry Strain, Susan Burr, Acting Alternate Clerk, Stephen McNeil, Recording Clerk