

**Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting  
Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business  
August 11, 2019 Minutes**

The meeting opened at 11:55 am with silent worship. Elizabeth Moses Strain clerked the meeting.

31 Friends were present.

The Recording Clerk read the minutes for the June 9, 2019 Meeting for Business. The minutes were approved with no corrections.

**Correspondence and Clerk's Business**

The Clerk received a thank you letter from Friends Committee on National Legislation for the meeting's \$150 donation.

The Clerk received a thank you letter from the Berkeley Food Pantry for contributions to this year's CROP Hunger Walk.

The Clerk received an endorsement from North Pacific Yearly Meeting to the travel minute for Shelley Tanenbaum with a photograph taken at her presentation. The letter is attached to these minutes.

The Clerk received a letter from Richmond Friends Meeting, Richmond, Virginia on the approval of the transfer of membership for Michelle Bellows to Strawberry Creek. The letter was forwarded to Care of the Meeting Committee.

The Clerk has been in communication with B-Tech's site supervisor, Damon, who has requested the meeting appoint one person to handle communications between the school and the meeting. The point person is Erik Wilson, who is clerk of Facilities Committee. If Erik is not available, the Clerk would be the point person.

The Clerk brought forward the following names for Naming Committee: Peter Lin, Philippa Barron, and Margaret Moses Schneider. The names will season for one month. Friends may bring concerns to the Clerk or Alternate Clerk.

**Old Business**

There was no old business.

**New Business**

**Nominations** (Charlie Blanchard)

Charlie brought the name of Michelle Bellows to serve on Mutual Care Committee. He announced that Richard Leath has agreed to serve another year as Treasurer. He is stepping down as co-clerk of Finance. Larry Strain is nominated to serve as the sole clerk of Finance. Their names will season for one month.

## **Reports**

### **Nominating** (Charlie Blanchard)

Charlie read the report that is attached. The Clerk expressed appreciation to the Nominating Committee. One Friend asked Care of the Meeting Committee to consider a paid person to assist the Treasurer. He added that we have not had a recent audit. Charlie responded that Finance Committee is considering ways to assist the Treasurer. Another Friend suggested a handbook of job descriptions to be made available to new attenders, in addition to the listings on the meeting's web site. Charlie said the personal conversations between new attenders and Nominating are important for communicating each committee's responsibilities. New attenders have also been directed to the meeting's web site, which they report to be helpful.

### **Peace, Earthcare, and Social Witness** (David Rutschman, Susan Black)

Susan reported that the minute our Meeting wrote in support of funding for Dorothy Day House and Youth Spirit Artworks was sent to Berkeley City Counsel members, the Mayor, and the City Manager. The council's vote resulted in Dorothy Day House programs being funded, including a cold weather shelter that opens on the day after Thanksgiving. YSA failed to receive funding at this time, but there will be another opportunity to request funding in November. The Mayor acknowledged receiving our letter, as well as letters from individual members and attenders.

David said the committee has not come to unity on the future of the Dime-A-Gallon fund. There have been two listening sessions. The committee plans to lead a study of the Green New Deal on Sunday, September 1, at 9 am. Shelley Tanenbaum, General Secretary of Quaker Earthcare Witness, reported that other meetings have been inspired by our meeting to create their own voluntary carbon tax. Some meetings have used those funds as donations to QEW.

### **Worship and Ministry** (Roberta Schutz)

Roberta reported that the committee is exploring the use of an amplification system for the meeting for worship. This might include a wireless microphone for those giving spoken ministry. The meeting has a limited amount of storage space. A subcommittee clerked by Lee Douglas is soliciting input from Friends on possible solutions. The committee asks that Friends stand when giving ministry in meeting for worship.

Roberta announced adult education sessions for the third Sundays in the fall. Topics will be Vocal Ministry in September and Ministry and Silence in October. Peace, Earthcare, and Social Witness is sponsoring the third Sunday session in November, and Power, Privilege, and Race will sponsor the third Sunday session in December.

There are currently five anchoring committees to support the ministry of the following Friends: Elaine Emily, Shelley Tanenbaum, Sally Hindman, Carl Magruder, and Tom Rothschild. Friends are welcome to ask them about their ministries.

### **Memorial Minute for Jed Appelman** (Lee Douglas)

Lee read the memorial minute for Jed Appelman. The minute had been already forwarded to Pacific Yearly Meeting in order for it to arrive before the 2019 annual session. The minute is attached. Friends spoke in appreciation of Jed.

**Power, Privilege and Race Subcommittee** (Susan Burr)

The minute on Uprooting and Outgrowing Racism in Strawberry Creek Meeting that was presented at the April business meeting is being redrafted. In addition to the listening meeting, PPR has engaged in conversations with individual Friends. More input from Friends on the minute is welcome.

PPR's third session on the book *Mindful of Race* is next Sunday at 11:50 am. Friends who want copies are encouraged to order it through Marcus Books in Oakland.

**Communications** (Ragni Larsen-Orta)

Ragni gave the report for Communications Committee. Librarian Raven Moon is culling old books from the library collection and cleaning up the information folders. Web coordinator Amy Dewey is setting up the meeting's website so that it can be maintained by someone without programming skills. The committee has decided not to end use of the Yahoo group at this time. A test replacement for the group was not successful. The meeting has a Facebook group and a Facebook page.

**Announcements**

Next Meeting for Business, September 8, 2019 at 11:50 a.m. at Berkeley Technology Academy

The meeting closed with silent worship at 1:20 pm.

Submitted by: Elizabeth Strain, Clerk, Charlie Blanchard, Alternate Clerk, and Tom Yamaguchi, Recording Clerk