

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

The meeting opened at noon with silent worship. Ralph Murphy clerked the meeting. 34 Friends were present. Susan Burr gave the response of Care of the Meeting Committee to the Advices and Queries on Civic and Social Responsibility. That report is attached to these minutes. Friends offered their responses out of the silence.

The Recording Clerk read the minutes for the December 9, 2018 Meeting for Business. The minutes were approved with two corrections. In the announcement made by David Rutschman, the word "bail" is being changed to "bond." The report by Susan Burr for Worship and Ministry Committee has the following clarification: "The working group is writing a job description to be approved Worship and Ministry Committee and developing a nominating process in conjunction with Worship and Ministry."

**Correspondence and Clerk's Business**

The Clerk received a thank you letter from Sierra Friends Center for our \$150 donation. The Clerk received a note from Clifford Ham indicating he is doing well at his new home. The Clerk announced the following Friends who are serving on the State of the Meeting Report writing committee: Rachel Findley, Beth Rodman, and Raven Moon. Rachel is the convener of the writing committee.

**Old Business**

**Minute on attending to the suffering of others in our community** (Peace, Earthcare and Social Witness Committee, David Rutschman)

David reported that no concerns have been raised on the minute which has been seasoning for one month. We approved the minute.

**Nominations of Nancy Wilkinson as PYM Representative and Jed Appelman as member of Worship and Ministry Committee** (Nominating Committee, Charlie Blanchard)

Charlie reported that no concerns have been raised regarding those two nominations which have been seasoning for one month. We approved the nominations of Nancy Wilkinson as PYM Representative and Jed Appelman as a member of Worship and Ministry Committee.

**New Business**

**Proposed creation of an events committee** (Care of Meeting Committee, Shelley Tanenbaum)

Shelley reported that currently the coordination of special, meeting events is under the care of the Care of the Meeting Committee. Those have included the annual Spring Retreat, the occasional Fall Retreat, and the annual Twelfth Month Gathering. The committee finds Friends who are willing to serve on ad hoc committees in charge of putting on those events.

Unfortunately, that system has not been successful, leaving Care of the Meeting Committee to

do that work by itself. The committee is proposing the creation of an events committee composed of three people that would be in charge of the Spring Retreat, the Twelfth Month Gathering, and, if possible, a Fall Retreat. In response to a question, Shelley affirmed that the committee would do that work with the assistance of coordinated volunteers.

Susan Burr reminded us that we previously had a Retreat Committee and a Hospitality Committee that were responsible for those meeting events. Those committees were laid down due to the difficulty of finding Friends willing to serve.

Charlie Blanchard said creation of an events committee would make Nominating Committee's work easier, especially in finding people who do not want to do both jobs of serving on Care of the Meeting and being responsible for putting on meeting events.

The Clerk asked if Friends are easy with his asking Nominating Committee to find Friends willing to serve on an events committee. We approved the Clerk's request.

## **Reports**

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

Nominating is currently contacting members and attenders on their interest in committee service and will be bringing a slate of nominees in the next few months. Charlie said that we will be finding replacements for half of our committee clerks and asked us to consider possible service as a clerk.

We still have vacancy in the PYM Observer position. That job involves a two-year commitment, given that the Observer is expected to take the PYM Representative position after one year.

### **First Day Children's Program Committee** (Josh Gallup)

Josh read the report, which is attached. The committee will soon begin recruiting adult volunteers for the First Day Children's Program. Two adults are needed to be in the room with the children and another needs to accompany children to the restroom. The committee would like to see more children in the program.

One Friend asked for inclusion of reading materials that deal with the indoctrination process regarding race, especially during Black History Month. Barb Tittle said her daughter, who has mixed race children, has books that are relevant to that issue and would be willing to donate them for use by the First Day Children's Program.

Shelley Tanenbaum said the children have been responding to the Faith and Practice Advices and Queries. She welcomes suggestions on reading material. The committee has been doing a good job, but that work can always be improved.

### **Loaves and Fishes Committee** (Phyllis Malandra)

Volunteers have been able to step in on Sundays when committee members have been unavailable. We now have compostable plates in bulk. However, it has been difficult to find compostable cups for holding hot liquids. The committee asks Friends to bring our own cups, and then take them home to wash.

### **Shared Resources Working Group** (Beth Rodman)

Beth reported on the activities of the working group which has been in existence for two years and consists of members of Strawberry Creek and Berkeley Meeting. A member from Berkeley Friends Church has just joined the group. The working group meets four times a year. Tom Yamaguchi, who also on the committee, read from the notes for the last meeting on January 6. The working group decided on a permanent name, Bridging the Gap, and on its purpose, which is "to be a platform to exchange information and share resources between and among Friends Meetings and church in Berkeley." Each meeting will on the process for adding its members to the group.

Beth said that the group is maintaining a list of current committee clerks for each meeting. Friends asked how that information will be disseminated and suggested that the lists be printed in the meeting directory. The Clerk said that those looking for contacts can speak to the working group members. Two are on Care of the Meeting Committee, Beth and Rhea Farley. The Clerk added that Rhea is our meetinghouse liaison and has access to the keys to the Berkeley Meetinghouse.

Charlie Blanchard reminded us that Nominating Committee has suggested listing all of the workings group and their current members in the meeting directory. That information can be also placed on the meeting's bulletin board.

## **Announcements**

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

Winter session of the quarterly meeting will be held Saturday, January 19, 2019 at Friends House in Santa Rosa.

Witness at the Border presented by Tomi Nagai-Rothe will be at Berkeley Friends Church on Sunday, January 27, 1 pm to 2:30 pm.

Quaker Heritage Day is on Saturday, February 23. The theme is "The Prophetic Voice of John Woolman," and the speaker is Jon R. Kershner, Ph.D. The cost is \$25 with lunch and \$20 without. Register online by February 13 at [www.berkeleyfriendschurch.org/QHD](http://www.berkeleyfriendschurch.org/QHD).

From Sharon Gates PYM Assistant to the Clerk:

Representative Committee will be held at La Jolla Friends Meeting from Friday, March 1 at 6pm, through Saturday March 2, continuing to Sunday March 3 if necessary. Please register by Friday, February 1 by filling out the form on the PYM website.

Pacific Yearly Meeting is accepting applications to fill the full-time position of Youth Programs Coordinator. The full position announcement, job description, and application process are posted on the PYM website, [pacificyearlymeeting.org](http://pacificyearlymeeting.org). The position will remain open until filled, however priority will be given to applications received by February 15, 2019.

Susan Burr invited Friends to view the movie "If Beale Street Could Talk" on Thursday night with the Power, Privilege, and Race Working Group. A discussion at a local cafe will follow the movie. For information contact Susan, Deborah Marks, or Laura Magnani.

David Rutschman has posted to the meeting's Yahoo Group about two short films on YouTube on the subject of British Quaker conscientious objectors to World War I.

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

Submitted by: Ralph Murphy, Clerk, Rachel Findley, Alternate Clerk, and Tom Yamaguchi, Recording Clerk.