

**Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting**  
**Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business**  
**February 9, 2020 Minutes**

The meeting opened at 11:55 am with silent worship. Elizabeth Moses Strain clerked the meeting. 32 Friends were present. Michelle Bellows read the responses of Mutual Care Committee to the advices and queries on Integrity and Personal Conduct. The Clerk invited Friends to provide more responses out of the silence.

The Recording Clerk read the minutes for the January 12, 2020 meeting for business. A Friend said that the exhibit at the DeYoung museum is not about the Black Panther Party, although the exhibit does include them. The Recording Clerk replied that he recorded what he had thought had been announced and later discovered a more comprehensive description at the museum's web page. He asked if Friends would approve of simply removing the reference to the Black Panther Party and just listing the name of the exhibit. The minutes were approved with that revision.

**Correspondence and Clerk's Business**

The Clerk received a letter from the PYM Clerk and PYM Ministry and Oversight Committee requesting steps to be taken in the preparation for 2020 annual session on the topic of Radical Inclusivity. The Clerk has posted the letter to the meeting's web group and can send it by email to Friends by request.

**Old Business**

**Nomination of Lee Douglas to serve on Nominating Committee, Naming Committee (Peter Lin)**

The nomination of Lee Douglas to serve on Nominating Committee has been seasoning for one month. Peter Lin reported that the Naming Committee has heard no concerns with the nomination. The Meeting approved the nomination. The work of the Naming Committee is now completed.

**Nomination of Nancy Wilkinson for PYM Representative and Philippa Barron for PYM Observer, Nominating Committee (James Hosley)**

James Hosley reported that Nominating Committee has heard no concerns on the nominations of Nancy Wilkinson as PYM Representative and Philippa Barron as PYM Observer. Those nominations have seasoned for one month. The Meeting approved both nominations.

**Paul Jolly Transfer of Membership, Care of Meeting (Rhea Farley)**

Rhea Farley reported no concerns have been raised on Paul Jolly's request to transfer his membership to Strawberry Creek. The Meeting approved the transfer request. The following

Friends agreed to be on the welcoming committee for Paul: Amy Dewey, Shelley Tanenbaum, and Barbara Birch (convener).

**Minute on Engagement to Uproot and Dismantle Racism in Strawberry Creek Friends Meeting, Power, Privilege and Race subcommittee (Susan Burr)**

Susan Burr gave a brief history of the drafting and seasoning process for the minute on uprooting and dismantling racism. She read the revised draft of the minute.

Friends made suggestions to improve the clarity of the text. The Meeting approved the minute with the suggested changes. The approved minute is as follows:

**Minute on Engagement to Uproot and Dismantle Racism in Strawberry Creek Friends Meeting**

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends acknowledges the centrality, depth, and pervasiveness of systemic racism in the United States. Continuing revelations of history, experience, and conscience challenge Friends to live up to the Light, increasing awareness of how we, our communities, and our institutions perpetuate the structure of racism. We must help one another discern what Spirit calls us to do individually and corporately.

We utterly reject the racial *status quo*. People are suffering and dying daily as a result of systemic racial bias within and across institutions and economic structures, which reproduces inequity and discrimination for “people of color” and unearned advantage for “others”. We call upon ourselves as Friends to illuminate, uproot, and dismantle white privilege because it is used to maintain white dominance.

Systemic racism creates a barrier to living fully into our deepest Quaker values as reflected in all of our testimonies. We seek to bring about a truly inclusive, compassionate, diverse Religious Society of Friends through which our individual lives speak to our collective belonging to one another and Creation. We commit to the work of healing and transforming to make foundational change in our Meeting. We commit equally to the work of dismantling the political and economic structures of racism and opening to acceptance of real beauty in human difference.

In response to concerns expressed by Friends, PPR will be looking at the next steps on implementing the minute, including sharing with the quarterly and yearly meetings. One Friend asked that we not just approve the minute and send it off to the archives.

A Friend suggested Strawberry Creek adopt a query that has been used by Friends General Conference to test their business decisions in order to support its work to become an anti-racist organization. A modified version for Strawberry Creek would be “How does this decision support Strawberry Creek Meeting in becoming an actively anti-racist community?”

## **New Business**

There was no new business.

## **Reports**

### **Communications** (Amy Dewey)

The Communications Committee has written new guidelines for posting to the meeting's web group. The guidelines are printed in the February meeting newsletter. Amy asked Friends who forward messages to the IO group to include an explanation of how the message speaks to you and why you chose to send it to the group. Friends who get a daily digest of emails will not see the contents of the forwarded message. Including a brief description of the forwarded message will help them find the archived message on the group webpage. Amy asked that Friends include their names in their posts.

### **Treasurer** (Richard Leath)

Richard Leath gave the report for the end of 2019. The meeting is in the black for \$906.48. Friends thanked Richard for his dedication as treasurer.

### **College Park Quarterly Meeting Winter Session**, CPQM Representative (Tom Yamaguchi)

Tom read his report on the CPQM winter session in Palo Alto, which is attached. Two minutes on climate change were drafted by an ad hoc committee created at the fall session. The first minute titled "Minute of Climate Witness" is being held off until the spring session at Ben Lomond Quaker Center to allow monthly meetings to provide feedback. The second minute titled "Call for Reflection and Engagement on Environmental Crises" was approved. It invites the monthly meetings in the quarter to reflect and engage on the issue outlined in the following topics: Earth Restored Testimonies, Ecological Integrity, and Earthcare Witness. The second minute includes four queries to be considered by the monthly meetings.

### **Nominating Committee** (James Hosley)

James Hosley reported that everyone in the meeting should have been contacted by Nominating Committee by now. Friends who have not received a call are asked to contact Nominating on their ability to serve. Unfilled jobs are currently newsletter editor and members on the following committees: Loaves and Fishes, Mutual Care, and Peace, Earthcare and Social Witness. Friends interested in those jobs may speak to members of Nominating Committee.

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

The committee is considering using Dime-a-Gallon funds for installing solar panels on individual homes. Alice La Pierre of Rebuilding Together will be at the next committee meeting on February 23 to discuss solar projects.

The rest of February 23 committee meeting will be focused on providing FCNL with feedback on its legislative priorities for the next congress.

The committee is also considering a grant for solar panels on the Berkeley Friends Meetinghouse.

David Rutschman and Leonard Joy are planning to convene monthly meetings on how our community may cope with climate disruption.

### **Announcements**

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

Listening Meeting for State of the Meeting Report, February 16 at 11:50 a.m. Berkeley Technology Academy

PPR Field Trip to de Young Museum for "Soul of a Nation: Art in the Age of Black Power 1963-1983, February 22

Quaker Heritage Day, March 28, Berkeley Friends Church

CROP Hunger Walk, March 29 at 1:00 pm, Saint Mary Magdalen Church

Tom Yamaguchi will give a presentation on carbon pricing at Berkeley Meeting on March 15 at 1:00 pm.

The meeting closed with silent worship at 1:45 pm.

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