

Piedmont Friends Fellowship  
**Representative Body Meeting, First Month 27, 2013**  
Rockingham Monthly Meeting

**Attending:**

John Hunter, Clerk	Durham
Marian Beane	Charlotte
Jane Norwood	Rockingham
Lyle Adley Warrick	Raleigh
Karen Garraputa	New Garden
Karen McKinnon	Durham
Annette Broadwell	Chapel Hill
Martin Doherty	Charlotte
Bob Cooper	Fayetteville
Tom Kagan	Raleigh
Jeff Brown	Chapel Hill
Tommy Kagan	Raleigh
Lynn Newsome	Fayetteville
Barbara Gardiner	Davidson
Suebear Hebner	Friendship
Wendy Mitchner (visitor)	Chapel Hill
Isaac Little	Durham
Dan Perry	Spring
John Cardarelli	Salem Creek
Kristin Olson-Kennedy, Recording Clerk	Davidson

The meeting opened after a period of silent worship.

Treasurer's Report

The report was accepted as given. Report is attached to these minutes

Report of Clerk of attendance at recent FGC meetings

The clerk reported on attending the Gathering of Clerks and New Meetings Initiative.

The sense of the meeting was to accept the report as it was presented. The report is attached to these minutes. PFF has an opportunity through these meetings to be a witness to other Quaker meetings how we define a Quaker community and to have an opportunity to make connections with other Quaker meetings and fellowships. PFF has a long history of nurturing new meetings here in North Carolina.

Ad Hoc Committee for Yearly Meeting Concerns

The sense of the meeting was to accept the report as written. The report is attached to these minutes. It was found that representatives that were named to the committee bring many unique gifts with them that will benefit the process of the yearly meeting formation committee. The recommendations in the report are referred to the formation committee.

Other reports

Davidson Friends Meeting has confirmed that they will with joy and eagerness host our Fall retreat this year on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## Establishing a Standing Committee for Conference Planning (Ad Hoc Committee Recommendations)

The report was given with the following recommendation:

To create a standing Conference Planning Committee with responsibilities that are outlined in the report. The report is attached to these minutes. The assumption of the report is that all of their work would be reported to the larger body for their approval. How can the committee of 4 people know what are the resources of all the meetings that can be used for the retreats/conferences? One answer is that these 4 people could contact other representatives of other meetings outside of the representative body meeting. Having a committee of this kind would promote communication and different ways of communication between representatives outside of our regular meetings. This committee would help spread the responsibility to creating a plan for an event, but it is still the body's responsibility to approve all recommendations. The sense of the meeting was to approve the recommendations in the report for the creation of the conference planning committee.

### Planning for Annual Meeting in March 2013

Adult program: Recognizing gifts in self and others. Marian contacted Deborah Fish of Traveling Ministries in FGC for names of people who could lead a retreat on this topic. Two people have been contacted and they are not available. Two more people are still to be contacted to see if they are available.

Teen Program: No specifics have been planned. It will be run very similarly as it was run last year. There will be a planning meeting Feb 10<sup>th</sup>. The teens will be running the first night icebreakers. Wren Hendricks will be helping with the youth. The teens include 6<sup>th</sup> grade through high school.

Children's program: Emily Stewart is taking on this responsibility. Jacob Stewart may also be helping out. Volunteers from Chapel Hill will also help out. Children's program includes Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

Child care: This group includes babies up to Kindergarten. Chapel Hill will find out if their members could provide childcare for pay. Volunteers will help the paid staff.

Saturday evening program: Alternatives to the group dance is needed. Suebear volunteered to help organized Saturday night activities. Martin and Barbara will help Suebear in organizing the evening.

Facility: Karen McKinnon confirms that we have the Carolinas Friend School for the retreat.

Logistics: Tables are needed from the school and from Durham Friends Meeting. CFS has enough chairs. Tableware will come from Durham. Kitchenware needs to come from New Garden. Tables and chairs cannot be used in the gym.

Food: Karen Garraputa is planning the food. She is still making a plan for the weekend.

Housing: We will be using Super 8 again for motel housing. There will be no change in cost for housing. The sense of the meeting is to prepay for 20 rooms. There is concern about the fee for adults and how it was interpreted from the registration form. Last year there were many misinterpretations about the fee. There is a request that we make the fee schedule clearer and simpler. A sub committee of Annette, John, Jeff, and Karen will adjust and clarify the fee schedule. Home hospitality will be managed by Bob and Wendy.

Book store: Jane will order and manage the FGC bookstore.

Registration: Annette and Jeff will coordinate registration.

Presentations: FGC nominating committee and Quaker House would like to make presentations at the retreat. These presentations will take place at 3pm on Sat. for these optional presentations that will take less than one hour.

Publicity: Reps need to publicize this event in their individual meetings. Send out on the reps list information about the planning as it becomes available. Maps will be made available to the Super 8 on the website and at registration. Sign up sheets will be made for volunteer opportunities during the retreat.

Nominating Committee

Treasurer, Jan Blodgett as rep to FGC, recording clerk, and the standing Conference Planning committee need to be nominated at the General Meeting in March.

Kevin Muhanji sent a thank you letter for our financial support of his education. He has earned a Bachelor of Science in Physics and is returning to his home country of Kenya.

We want to minute our appreciation of Springs Meeting of their wonderful and extensive support of Kevin during his time here in the States.

We also want to minute our appreciation of the hospitality the Rockingham County Friend Meeting have provided. Delicious food and a warm welcome were great.

The Meeting ended with a moment of silence.

Submitted by Kristin Olson-Kennedy, recording clerk.

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Attachments

Report to the PFF Representatives

December 2012 and January 2013 FGC Meetings Attended by PFF Clerk

Gathering of Clerks

On the weekend of November 30 - December 2, 2012, I attended the biennial "Gathering of Clerks" meeting in Chicago organized by the FGC and held at the Cenacle center. The weekend was organized around supporting clerks of FGC yearly meetings. Worship, worship sharing, brief presentations, discussions, and small group break-outs were utilized as a format. The focus was on personally supporting the yearly meeting clerks and also included information on resources and practical hints.

I came away impressed at the intelligence, dedication, and interpersonal skills of the yearly

meeting clerks present. It was indeed a supportive group. I also was impressed at the variety of size and circumstances of the FGC yearly meetings and their varied challenges. One of the key benefits of such a meeting was the opportunity to build relationships and alliances.

### New Meetings Initiative

On January 18-19, 2013 I attended a the kick-off conference at Pendle Hill of he FGC New Meeting Initiative project. This is a two-year endeavor to see what new and innovative ways can be discerned and tested to grow the Religious Society of Friends by promoting the the establishment and support of new meetings. All of the FGC yearly meetings were represented in addition to key FGC staff and other committee members. The weekend primarily consisted of structured exercises in small groups designed to generate ideas and increase enthusiasm toward this work. The material elicited was both personal experience "What first attracted you to Quakerism (or has kept you engaged.)" and also included plenty of time for pure brainstorming around a series of questions. FGC Staff Member Brent Bill presented a series of exercises which generated hundreds suggestions and ideas. These ideas will be studied and further developed in the next two years. It was made clear that the FGC would be working closely with yearly meetings to help them advance this project as the yearly meetings would be the first to benefit from new Quakers.

Once again, I was impressed with the vast differences in FGC yearly meetings. The distances and both physical and cultural isolation of some of the meetings in the southwest and Rocky Mountains were key issues. This project has great potential.

John Hunter,  
PFF Clerk

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**Piedmont Friends Fellowsip**  
**Ad Hoc Committee for Establishing a Standing Committee for Conference Planning**

**Report to Representative Body**  
January 27, 2013

This Ad Hoc committee was formed at the meeting of the PFF Representatives in October, 2012 and was charged with presenting specific details as to how such a committee would be structured and what its responsibilities would be. The Ad Hoc Committee's recommendations are as follows.

The Ad Hoc Committee notes that the PFF Representatives identified 4 critical areas appearing in the tenth month 27<sup>th</sup> minutes as follows:

- Take general concepts from the Representative body and work on the details on behalf of the whole committee.
- Facilitate communication and keep the process moving in the weeks between meetings
- Report to the representative body
- Take responsibility to involve other people in our Meetings to assist with planning details and to volunteer for tasks.

The Ad Hoc Committee submits the following recommendations for the formation of a Standing Committee for Conference Planning. These recommendations speak to the four points identified by the Representatives.

1. Recommend that the Representatives approve the establishment of a standing committee for Conference Planning (the "Conference Planning Committee") whose overall charge would be to facilitate planning and execution of PFF conferences. Such facilitation would include:
2. Working with and reporting to the PFF Representative Body to establish satisfactory concepts, overall logistics, and budget for PFF Conferences.
3. Planning and supervising the specific tasks necessary to facilitating a conference in a timely manner including exercising authority on behalf of PFF to engage services as necessary within the overall scope agreed by the Representative Body.
4. Establish a committee calendar with appropriate time-lines for accomplishment of tasks.
5. Solicit and involve meetings, or individual Friends from PFF meetings as appropriate to accomplish the various tasks.
6. Communicate among PFF meetings and publicize the planned events in a timely manner as necessary.
7. Recommend that the membership of the Conference Planning Committee will be four Friends, two appointed in alternating years at the PFF Annual Meeting. (The Nominating Committee will suggest four names initially specifying two with one-year terms.)

John Hunter, Bob Cooper, Karen McKinnon, Karen Garraputa,  
Ad Hoc Committee Members

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November 27, 2012

To : Clerks of PFF Monthly Meeting & Worship Groups

Dear Friends:

This message is for the purpose of keeping you current on PFF representative body's forward movement on a PFF-related yearly meeting and inviting your meeting/worship group to name representatives to the Yearly meeting Formation Committee.

In June the PFF representative body approved a set of recommendations related to *'moving forward to accomplish the tasks which would lead to the formation of a PFF-related yearly meeting'*. A *'get acquainted'* meeting at Charlotte Friends on September 30<sup>th</sup> brought together 22 Friends from six (6) PFF meetings & worship groups for a rich time of learning about yearly meeting history, structures & functions and sharing of visions, desires and concerns in forming a yearly meeting. Those gathered united around the *desire to move forward with the establishment of a Yearly Meeting Formation Committee*.

At its October 27<sup>th</sup> meeting the PFF representative body approved moving forward with the establishment of the Yearly Meeting Formation Committee as follows:

- 1. The task of the Formation Committee is to discern a comprehensive plan for a PFF-related yearly meeting and its relationship to PFF with attention to both substance and structure. The projected date is March 2014.**
- 2. The membership of the Formation Committee includes**
  - a. up to three (3) representatives from meetings/worship groups interested in forming the yearly meeting;
  - b. one or more representatives from PFF meetings interested in supporting the work of forming the yearly meeting;
  - c. individual members of monthly meetings/worship groups who have a leading to support the work of forming a yearly participate
  - d. individuals from meetings outside the PFF family are also welcome
  - e. A clerk will be identified from among members of the Formation Committee
- 3. Monthly Meetings & Worship groups are asked to name representatives for service on the Formation Committee according to the meeting/worship group's level of interest. Names & contact information should be forwarded to Marian Beane ([mebeane@uncc.edu](mailto:mebeane@uncc.edu)) by January 18, 2013**
- 4. Members of the Formation Committee can expect to meet in person 3 or 4 times during the yearly meeting formation period and be prepared to receive electronic documents for review and response. All will be asked to come into this work with open hearts and a willingness to listen deeply to others and to Spirit's leading in this matter.**
- 5. The PFF representative body will continue to hear reports & serve as the support & nurturing body for the yearly meeting formation work**

Members of the ad hoc committee on yearly meeting concerns are available to answer questions or hear concerns as meetings consider naming Friends to the Formation Committee.

Marian Beane [mebeane@uncc.edu](mailto:mebeane@uncc.edu)  
John Hunter [airplanehunter@hotmail.com](mailto:airplanehunter@hotmail.com)  
Patricia Sebens [psebens@vt.edu](mailto:psebens@vt.edu)  
Bob Cooper [quakerbob@gmail.com](mailto:quakerbob@gmail.com)  
Lyle Adley-Warrick [adleywarrick.l@gmail.com](mailto:adleywarrick.l@gmail.com)

[ For background information on PFF related yearly meeting considerations & decisions, go to: <http://www.rtpnet.org/friends/PFF.htm#Documents> ]