

**Piedmont Friends Fellowship
Annual Meeting
March 14, 2010**

Held at Camp New Hope, Chapel Hill

Wendy Michener, Clerk, Fayetteville Monthly Meeting
Karen McKinnon, Durham MM
Judy Purvis, Chapel Hill
Rich Van Dellen, Rochester, MN Friends General Conference representative
Bill Jeffries, Durham
Joan Tillotson, Charlotte
John Hunter, Durham
Thomas Kagan, Raleigh
Marian Beane, Charlotte
Jan Blodgett, Davidson
Jane Norwood, Rockingham
Kristin Olson-Kennedy, Davidson
Jim Williams, Durham
Robert Cooper, Fayetteville
Meg Zulick, Salem
Virginia Driscoll, New Garden
Karen Stewart, Durham
Rhonda Lanning, Durham
Lyle Adley-Warrick, Raleigh

Agenda:

Nominating Report for PFF: Marian Beane
Registration report: David Bailey
FGC Booksale: Jane Norwood
Friends General Conference: Rich Van Dellen
Discussion about Yearly Meeting: Marian Beane
Minutes of Appreciations- Rob Lamme and Raleigh Monthly Meeting
Brief Announcements

The PFF Business Meeting opened out of the silence with an Epistle from Young Friends lead by Jessica Barnhill, Andrew Wright, Henry Gavin, Rhonda Lanning, and Jason Childs. Emma Sontag presented the epistle which read: *This weekend was a lot of fun because I met a lot of new people, played a lot of new games, and made a lot of new Friends. We explored new places and we were in nature seeing a lot of new animals. We had a good time visiting the labyrinth; we also enjoyed a treehouse that we found. The bonfire was exciting and delicious. We like worshipping in a big group.*

The PFF Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business would like to minute our appreciation to the leaders and the young Friends who gathered with us this weekend and who wrote and presented such a beautiful epistle to this business meeting.

Report from Central Committee of the Friends General Conference: Rich Van Dellen, Virginia Driscoll, Jan Blodgett and Marian Beane reported from Central Committee of

the Friends General Conference. The October Meeting 2009 approved the Minute of Purpose and goals and the restructuring of FGC with a mind on priorities and budget that still continues its mission and goals. Judy Purvis was the clerk of the committee that guided the following:

Friends General Conference, with Divine guidance, nurtures the spiritual vitality of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) by providing programs and services for Friends, meetings, and seekers.

Major Goals

- 1. Nurture meetings and worship groups.*
- 2. Provide resources and opportunities for meetings, Friends, and seekers to experience the Light, the living presence of God.*
- 3. Help meetings guide Friends to discern the leadings of the Inward Teacher and to grow into ministry.*
- 4. Transform our awareness so that our corporate and individual attitudes and actions fully value and encompass the blessed diversity of our human family.*
- 5. Work to grow and sustain a vital, diverse, and loving community of Friends based on a shared search for unity in the Spirit.*
- 6. Articulate, communicate, and exemplify Friends' practices, core experiences, and the call to live and witness to our faith.*
- 7. Promote dialogue with others, sharing with them our corporate experience of Divine Truth and listening to and learning from their experience of the same.*

The Executive Committee of FGC continues to season the process. There is hope and success in considering budget issues, website improvements, and personnel adjustments to keep the organization in a good place. Rich encouraged PFF participation in both the Gatherings and the new Quaker Quest program. All the program areas including Youth Ministry, Religious Education, Ministry on Racism, Quaker Quest will continue to move forward in spirit. Rich announced that General Secretary Bruce Birchard has announced his retirement and that Rich is the clerk of the search committee. Please refer information about possible General Secretary applicants to FGC's website.

PFF Nominating Committee report: Marian Beane

- ◆ Wendy Michener will continue as PFF Clerk to 2011
 - ◆ A Recording Clerk has not been named and thus it remains an opportunity. Please contact Marian Beane if you are interested in this service to PFF.
 - ◆ The current Treasurer, Tom Kagan, 2009 term has continued to serve until PFF could approve the nomination of Bob Cooper 2010 to 2013.
 - ◆ 3 Friends are serving as representatives of PFF to Central Committee;
 - Jan Blodgett will serve to 2013 second term approved
 - Terry Mehlman continues to serve to 2013
 - A Young Friend or Young Adult Friend is still an opportunity to serve 2010 to 2012 please let Marian know.
- Representative Body will take these nominations forward.

Epistle from Young Friends: Thirty Young friends from NC Meetings gathered this weekend. The Young Friends workshops were a huge success. We had art, guided

mediation, music, and labyrinth workshops. All of these were led by volunteers from the Durham Friends Meeting.

- ◆ In the afternoon we had Capture the Flag, Drumming, and free time that we spend dancing, talking, and playing board games.
- ◆ We all got a chance to meeting new people and grow closer to those we already know. We spend times separated into high school and middle school groups.
- ◆ During this time the high schoolers had worship sharing/discussion when we talked about issues that are important in our lives right now. The middle school group went to the labyrinth and made their way through it.
- ◆ During the evening we were joined by 8 people from the Arthur Morgan School for contradancing, bonfires, and more dancing. We all hope to come back next year for more adventures. Presented to this Annual Meeting by Maddy Lamme Sweitzer.

PFF approves a Minute of appreciation to Rob Lamme and members of the Durham Friends Meeting for organization of an epic Young Friends program.

PFF Annual Meeting Registration statistics: David Bailey submitted the registration information: 120 folk registered, 70 adults and 45 participants that were 18 and younger. \$2600 taken in from which we will need to deduct the cost of food. No children were charged except those who did not come with a parent. Tom Kagan, Treasurer, reported \$3000.00 checking and \$4000.00 in the credit union.

Annual Meeting reaffirmed PFF's support of the Gathering Scholarship of \$200/family, \$150/individual. The PFF representative body will season the financial picture of PFF and what it chooses to support relative to its income.

Book Sales: Jane Norwood approximates six hundred dollars in sales of FGC. The direct cost of the books goes to FGC.

Yearly Meeting Queries reported by Marian Beane

Report on responses to the Queries on PFF becoming a yearly meeting affiliated with FGC is appended to this report. This was a useful exercise for meetings to consider how Yearly Meeting matters. Request that the PFF Representative Body name an Ad Hoc Committee to discern this query further. The committee is charged to be inclusive of Meeting within NC that will be affected by these discussions.

Meetings who have expressed interest, particularly those who do not yet have an affiliation, could see PFF as a service. The sense of being connected to each other at a level that is between the Monthly Meeting and Friends General Conference. The education process changing from where we are now to yearly meeting, put in additional committees that offer opportunities for service.

Meg Zulick, Salem Worship Group reported clearness to become a monthly meeting is coming up soon. This Meeting is currently grandfathered in to NCYM through New Garden Friends. PFF becomes a way to maintain a connection. If Salem becomes a monthly meeting independent of NCYMC, it will need a yearly meeting structure.

Is the way forward to be an intermediary body? Friends spoke support for asking PFF Representative Body to continue searching for clearness with the understandings that

most meetings that have current yearly meeting affiliation are less interested in PFF considering this question.

Announcement: FCNL representative Bill Jeffries celebration at New Garden at 3 pm Joe Volk will speak. Volk is also coming to Chapel Hill at the Carol Woods community room at 7:30 on the weekend. Contact Bill Jeffries.

We minute our appreciation to those who helped with this Annual Meeting including those who prepared the food and the program.

Karen McKinnon, Recording Clerk