

Piedmont Friends Fellowship  
**Representative Body Meeting**  
**Sixth Month 17, 2012**  
New Garden Friends Meeting

**Attending:**

John Hunter, Clerk  
Marian Beane  
Jane Norwood  
Dan Perry  
Cindy Perry  
Wendy Michener  
Patricia Sebens  
Lyle Adley Warrick  
Karen Garraputa  
Karen McKinnon  
Annette Broadwell  
Martin Doherty  
Bob Cooper  
Tom Kagan

**Meeting:**

Durham  
Charlotte  
Rockingham County  
Spring  
Spring  
Fayetteville  
New Garden  
Raleigh  
New Garden  
Durham  
Chapel Hill  
Charlotte  
Fayetteville  
Raleigh

Regrets:

Kathy Adams	Winston-Salem
Kristin Olsen Kennedy	Davidson
Suebear Hebner	Friendship

The meeting opened after a period of silent worship.

PFF holds tenderly the conflict of Spring Friends Meeting within the Western Quarter of NCYM-FUM and will continue to hold both Spring Meeting and NCYM-FUM in the Light.

**Reports**

The survey of the attenders at the PFF Annual Meeting was conducted and analyzed. Many comments were positive and the suggestions are noted. (*See the PFF website for this appended report.*)

Minutes of PFF Representative Body and Annual Meetings are now posted on the PFF website. Also posted is complete documentation of the Ad Hoc Committee for Yearly Meeting Concerns. Our web address is: <http://www.rtpnet.org/friends/PFF.htm> . PFF looks forward to participating in the upcoming FGC sponsored website program that is intended to help Monthly and Yearly Meetings with their website presence including archiving documents.

New Bern Monthly Meeting, an independent monthly meeting, has contacted PFF with an interest in exploring possible yearly meeting affiliations. John Hunter will continue to stay in touch with New Bern regarding their interests.

Treasurer's Report: Robert Cooper presented the PFF financial report. (*See the PFF website for this appended report.*) Tom Kagan has begun serving as Assistant Treasurer. PFF has given financial

support to FGC to two individuals and one family for the attendance to the FGC Gathering of Friends in Rhode Island in July, 2012. Friends affirmed the value of continuing the FGC Bookstore table at the Annual PFF Meeting. The Treasurer's Report was accepted.

PFF Directory: Friends appreciate the work that Robert Cooper continues to do to keep the PFF Directory up to date. Friends are encouraged to send directory updates to Robert Cooper at: [robertcooper@clis.com](mailto:robertcooper@clis.com)

## **Yearly Meeting**

Marian Beane presented the Report from the Ad Hoc Committee on Yearly Meeting Concerns. (*See the PFF website for this appended report.*) Members of this committee were Lyle Adley Warrick, Marian Beane, Robert Cooper, John Hunter, and Patricia Sebens.

Three Queries were submitted to the Clerk of Each Monthly Meeting for discernment between January and June of 2012. The individual reports from each Meeting that responded were reviewed and summarized. (*See the PFF website for these appended reports.*) There are four Monthly Meetings that have not yet communicated a response to PFF. Friends accepted the report and would like to minute appreciation to the committee their work.

After deep discussion, Friends approved each of the six recommendations in the Ad Hoc Committee report:

1. The PFF representatives approve “moving forward to accomplish those tasks which would lead to the formation of a PFF related yearly meeting“
2. In order to move forward in the good order of Friends, the Ad Hoc Committee for Yearly Meeting Concerns is asked by the Representatives, over the summer or early fall months of 2012, to facilitate some “get acquainted”, educational, and threshing sessions with the meetings and worship groups who have indicated that they are interested in joining a PFF - related Yearly Meeting as a yearly meeting member (and inviting other interested Friends as well.) The purpose of these sessions is to broaden the understanding amongst as many potentially affected Friends as possible of what may be reasonable expectations for the establishment of a Yearly Meeting for the meetings involved in accordance with the proposal.
3. A Yearly Meeting Formation committee will be established by the fall of 2012. This committee will have a charge to (1) Discern a comprehensive plan for the formation of a PFF-related Yearly Meeting that will be presented for informational, discussion, and revision purposes to the PFF representatives, and (2) prepare to execute that plan such that final approval and establishment of a PFF-related Yearly Meeting could reasonably be accomplished on or before a target date of March of 2014; (3) Identify and recommend the relationship between the yearly meeting and PFF.
4. The PFF representatives will continue to serve as the support and nourishing body for the yearly meeting formation work and provide guidance and encouragement as indicated above.
5. To compose the Formation committee, the Ad Hoc Committee for Yearly Meeting Concerns will gather and submit names to the PFF Representatives for the Formation Committee as follows:
  - each of the PFF Meetings and worship groups who has indicated that they are interested in joining a PFF Yearly Meeting as a member appoint up to three Friends to serve on the committee.
  - each of the remaining PFF meetings or worship groups may appoint one representative to the Formation committee if they so choose.
  - invite any other interested meetings to send observers to the Committee as they may wish
  - The ad hoc committee will recommend one member of the formation committee to serve as clerk.
6. With the submission of the names for the Formation Committee to the PFF Representatives, the Ad Hoc Committee for Yearly Meeting Concerns will be laid down.

John Hunter agreed to send out a summary report to the Clerks and Representatives regarding our actions on the recommendations from the Ad Hoc Committee on Yearly Meeting Concerns.

### **Future Dates**

The previously scheduled November Retreat in Davidson, *Quakers and Politics*, will be rescheduled for October 27<sup>th</sup>. John Hunter will contact Kristin Olsen-Kennedy to see if the weekend will work for Davidson and Karen Garraputa will send out the save the date. The next representative body meeting will be August 26<sup>th</sup> at Spring Friends Meeting. January 27<sup>th</sup> 2013 is tentatively set for the following PFF Representative Body Meeting at Rockingham County Friends Meeting.

### **Request for Support**

Cindy Perry requested financial support for Kenyan Quaker Kevin Muhanji to complete his education at North Carolina A&T. Cindy Perry will provide information about Kevin's compelling story regarding immigration issues to PFF Monthly Meetings with hopes for additional support. (*See information appended below.*) Friends approved that PFF designate one thousand dollars to Spring Friends Meeting to support completing Kevin's education.

Friends expressed their gratitude to New Garden Friends Meeting for the hospitality that was extended at late notice. The potluck picnic style lunch was a wonderful start to the gathering in Greensboro, North Carolina. Friends settled out in the good spirit of the day.

Karen McKinnon  
Substitute Recording Clerk

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### **Appended information on Kevin Muhanji from Cindy Perry, Spring Meeting**

Kevin Muhanji Afanda is a young Kenyan student who came to this country in 2005 to attend Guilford College. Kevin's father, John Muhanji, is the director of Friends United Meeting in Africa. Due to funding cuts, his father is unable to assist in the completion of Kevin's education. He is now finishing his undergraduate degree in physics and engineering at A&T State University in Greensboro. In the summer of 2011, as he was leaving his apartment in Greensboro heading to work at a local company, Kevin was arrested by immigration officials due to an issue with his student visa. Held for ten days, and transported from Winston-Salem to Charlotte, to South Carolina and finally to Stewart Detention Center in Georgia, Kevin was within a breath of being deported to Kenya. About the time Kevin was located within the immigration system, he would again be transferred to another of the for-profit detention facilities which hold thousands of persons each day. He had no telephone privileges with his attorney, and no understanding of how desperately friends were trying to find and help him. With the help of many Quakers, Mennonites and a covey of wonderful caring people, Kevin was rescued from the immigration detention and returned to North Carolina. Helped by an excellent and caring immigration attorney in Greensboro, Kevin is now finishing his college degree. He intends to return to his homeland to assist with clean water projects which are desperately needed in Africa in general and Kenya in specific.

(For Friends who want to know more or offer support, contact Cindy Perry at [bdanp@yahoo.com](mailto:bdanp@yahoo.com) )