

## PFF Representative Body Meeting

Charlotte Friends Meeting

August 22, 2010

John Hunter	Durham Friends
David Bailey	Friendship
Kristen Olson-Kennedy	Davidson
Sue Adley-Warrick	Raleigh
Robert Cooper	Fayetteville
Jane Norwood	Rockingham
Patricia Sebens	New Garden
Marian Beane	Charlotte
SuebearHebner	Friendship
Debbie Parker	Durham
Tommy Kagan	Raleigh
Wendy Michener	Fayetteville
Ruth Moeller	Charlotte
Terry Mehlman	Chapel Hill
Karen Gaus Puta	New Garden
Judy Reese	Davidson
Karen McKinnon	Durham

### **Treasurer's Report:** Appended to these minutes:

Robert Cooper, Treasurer, commented in addition that PFF is on the calendar year for budget and there are a good number of meetings who have a different budget, thus we should anticipate additional funds. A copy of his report will be distributed with the minutes to the PFF representative members.

Robert asked how much should a meeting give to PFF? He has figured that a reasonable response to this question is about ten dollars / meeting MEMBER (not including attenders). Friends commented on the expenses for the PFF Annual Report with hopes that initiatives will increase. We do appear to be reaching a point where PFF expenses are just being covered by contributions from Meetings. Friends proposed that a Report from PFF could be composed for distribution to all PFF member meetings to welcome not only funding but participation. Friends noted their appreciation for the clarity of Robert's Treasurer report.

### **NC Council of Churches:**

Sue Adley-Warrick reminded Friends of the previous discussion concerning CoC or other faith-based (not explicitly Christian). Sue's internet search did not identify other specific inter-faith organization. Upon reflection of the NCCoC website revealed two facets:

- 1) Christian unity that tries to create dialog
- 2) Peace and social justice initiatives – The Peace Program has new director David Lamont (originally from Asheville/Swanooa FM ). Non Christian groups are also aligned with NCCoc initiatives which indicates that a number of the programs would be congenial to PFF concerns. However, we note that PFF's role in the past has not been to affiliate with outside organizations with the exception of Friends General Conference.

Monthly Meetings could decide to affiliate with NC Council of Churches without all of PFF doing so. Leaving aside "membership", what does our own PFF literature say? The PFF brochure itself highlights its focus on social justice. These shared concerns seem to draw the individual monthly meetings together in PFF. Why did PFF come together? Can we focus inwardly as Friends to these issues of social justice and do we need a larger

group to do this for our monthly meetings? PFF has never had a standing committee structure, rather PFF has been more about coming together to discuss, not to organize. Themes at the annual meetings have been targeted to think about current hard issues. PFF strives to raise up awareness of topical issues that are broad enough to bring in many Friends but not too limited in scope. As an example, Quaker house did come out of a PFF's conference in 1969.

Report from Clearness Committee for membership of Winston Salem Friends Meeting (FUM) to PFF.

WSFM April 22 formally asked for membership and PFF the committee members Trish Semans, Debbie Parker, David Bailey, and Karen McKinnon met the Meeting after Worship August 15<sup>th</sup>. PFF would be a way to broaden their Quaker contacts beyond NCYM (FUM). Few at WSFM have direct experience with FGC, but they are keenly interested in the issues with social justice. The committee recommends that WSFM to PFF and the PFF Representative Body approves. The committee report is accepted and David Bailey will send the letter of welcome to PFF.

*Current affiliations with PFF are 18 Monthly Meetings or Worship Groups*

*Other affiliations included in PFF: 4 FUM 1 SAYMA 5 NCYMC and 10 independent.*

Salem Monthly Meeting formed while in NCYMC but they have not no longer a part of NCYMC. They want to continue as a member body to PFF.

Boone Meeting is currently meeting at the Universalist. Karen McKinnon will contact Ted Edgerton and Melissa.

#### **Report from the ad hoc committee on yearly meeting concerns:**

Yearly Meeting Report: The report is appended to these minutes: Marian Beane presented the ad hoc committee's report. This report is submitted with a sense of love, inclusivity and openness. John Hunter noted that in this proposal, if a meeting has a yearly meeting already, nothing has to change. For those who do want yearly meeting affiliation, this provides an option. Those meetings will have to decide what will be different. They will need a book of discipline.

Report:

*The ad hoc committee on PFF/Yearly Meeting concerns met by conference call on Sunday evening the 8<sup>th</sup> of August. Following a period of worship and sharing we considered the task before us. We reviewed the charge to the committee from the PFF representative body and the recommendations from the previous ad hoc committee on the question of PFF and Yearly Meeting affiliation.*

*We spoke about the early vibrancy of PFF and its spiritual service to monthly meetings and worship groups for engaging with like-minded Friends and to connect with the larger family of (FGC) Friends. We acknowledged that PFF is at a cross roads – strong enough to continue to plan and carry out a good spring retreat and fall workshops but at low ebb with regard to numbers of participants and energy in general. We recognized that there are several of the PFF meetings and worship groups that are either unaffiliated with a Yearly Meeting and/ or are interested in exploring YM affiliation. This led us to consider a way forward that would support the unaffiliated meetings and worship groups seeking yearly meeting affiliation while at the same time maintain the open and inclusive spirit that has been the foundation of PFF vibrant life over the years and that will, we hope, help in the re-energizing of PFF.*

*We then considered a proposal to address these concerns that being exploring through the formation of a Yearly meeting and association. Such a formation would support those meetings and worship groups seeking affiliation and also provide a way for meetings & worship groups currently affiliated with other yearly meetings to continue to be affiliated with the PFF body. In this proposed formation Friends would not need to choose rather continue in relationship at the level of engagement that was best for their meeting or worship group. We see this as a way to continue to unite and not divide. One friend spoke about the possibilities long term for one or more of the yearly meetings in NC to come together for annual sessions- holding common meetings for worship, adult and children's programs and holding respective meetings for worship with attention to business. It was thought that this could to strengthen the sense of a Friends community and enliven a vibrant and loving spirit among us. As in the early 1970s,*

*our intent is not to compete with the established NC YMs, but to serve the meetings who wish to have a YM home but who do not feel that one of the established YMs is right for them at this time*

*Following a period of deliberation on this proposal the ad hoc committee became clear to recommend to the PFF representative body that PFF take under its care the exploration of forming PFF as a yearly meeting and association. The ad hoc committee recommends as a first step extending an invitation to all PFF meetings and worship groups to come together (or send representatives) to sit with and consider this proposal. We are clear that this should be an open invitation that might extend to other meetings and worship groups in NC not currently affiliated with PFF. If the PFF representative body is clear to support this way proposed way forward the ad hoc committee is prepared to continue to provide the leadership for the work ahead.*

*Submitted for consideration by the PFF Representative Meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of Eighth Month, 2010.*

*Members of the ad hoc committee include: Robert (Bob) Cooper (Fayetteville), John Hunter (Durham), Debbie Parker (Durham), Patricia Sebens (New Garden), Lyle-Adley Warrick (Raleigh), and Marian Beane (Charlotte).*

Amended the report to remove NC (Palmetto is in South Carolina). Ad hoc committee will guide and form a meeting of all Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups first within PFF. Ad hoc Committee is charged to create day, agenda for a meeting of the current members of the PFF and will bring these suggestions before the next meeting November.

**Fall Retreats:** Saturday Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 Alternatives to Violence Program, Surry County. November 20<sup>th</sup> NCYMC nondenominational presentation, Every Church a Peace Church, from Dwight Eisenhower's speech. Greensboro/High Point.

**The Fall Representative Body Meeting** will meet at Winston Salem Friends Meeting at 1 pm November 6<sup>th</sup>. Wendy and Patricia will prepare the flyer out to other meetings. Representatives may be able to attend the Fall Retreat in Surry County and then join with and participate with the Rep Body Meeting which will follow a potluck luncheon at Winston Salem Friends Meeting.

**Annual Meeting:** March 18 – 20

Friendship Meeting will take on Food  
Durham Friends Meeting for Teens  
? middle school  
? elementary school  
Registration:

### **Announcements:**

Raleigh (Amy) organize the Fall Lake Picnic September 11<sup>th</sup> Saturday. If there is an interest please let Tommy know. Jordan Lake – picnic and swimming. Tommy will send out a time line to PFF. Also looking for fall events where young friends can gather. Lock In for young friends.

Karen McKinnon, Recording Clerk

### **Appended Treasurer's report:**

<u>Piedmont Friends Fellowship Treasurer's Report</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>8/22/2010</u>
		<b>2010</b>
Balances as of 8/22/2010		
BB&T	\$ 2,468.91	
Self-Help CU	<u>\$ 5,027.36</u>	
<b>Total Cash Available</b>	<b>\$ 7,496.27</b>	

Prepaid Expenses		
	Deposits for 2011 Spring Retreat	\$ 1,337.50
Receipts		
Members		
Donations		
	Friendship	\$ 350.00
	Chapel Hill	\$ 395.00
	Durham	\$ 666.00
	Fayetteville	\$ 200.00
	New Garden	\$ 325.00
	Rockingham	\$ 75.00
	Upstate	\$ 25.00
	Charlotte	
	Davidson	
	Raleigh	
	Spring	
	Wilkes County	
	Boone	
	<b>Total Members Donations</b>	<b>\$ 2,036.00</b>
Retreats		
	<u>Spring 2010</u>	
	Attender's Fees	\$ 2,631.76
	FGC Bookstore Sales	\$ 697.89
	(Food) Donations)	<u>\$ 99.00</u>
	<b>Total Spring Retreat Income</b>	<b>\$ 3,428.65</b>
Interest Income		
	BB&T	\$ 0.34
	Self Help CU	<u>\$ 36.03</u>
	<b>Total Interest</b>	<b>\$ 36.37</b>
Total receipts		<b>\$ 5,501.02</b>
Expenditures		
Retreat		
Expenditures		
	Spring Retreat	
	2010	
	Leaders	\$ 819.19
	Camp Fees	\$ 4,236.50
	Insurance	<u>\$ 337.50</u>
	Supplies	\$ 65.24
	Food	\$ 264.52
	Child Care	\$ 50.00
	FGC Bookstore costs	\$ 707.33
	<b>Total Retreat Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 6,480.28</b>
Financial		
Assistance		
	FCG Gathering	\$ 600.00
	School of the Spirit	\$ 400.00
	Other Travel	
	<b>Total Financial Assistance</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>
	(stamps, supplies,	
Other Expenses	etc)	<u>\$ 17.90</u>
	<b>Total General Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 1,017.90</b>
<b>Total expenditures</b>		<b>\$ 7,498.18</b>
Excess of Expenditures over Receipts		<b><u>\$(1,017.90)</u></b>