

Piedmont Friends Fellowship

**Representative Body Meeting
August 24, 2014 – 1:00**

Wilkes County Friends Meeting, Wilkesboro, NC

<u>Attending</u>	<u>Meeting</u>
John Hunter	Durham
Karen McKinnon	Durham
Linda Hunter	Durham
Marian Beane	Charlotte
Martin Doherty	Charlotte
Barbara Gardiner	Davidson
Karen Garraputa	New Garden
Doris Wilson	Upstate
Michael Wilson	Upstate
Lyle Adely-Warrick	Raleigh
Suebear Hebner	Friendship
Tony Lowe	Fancy Gap
Ken Bradstock	Fancy Gap
Jeff Brown	Chapel Hill

The meeting opened after a period of silent worship.

Clerk John Hunter welcomed representatives.

Friends had no comments on the Minutes of the Representative Body Meeting on June 8, 2014.

Treasurer's Report and New Bank Possibility

Lyle Adley-Warrick reported for Treasurer Tom Kagan. Total cash and bank accounts amounted to \$17,424.04 as of 7/31/2014. Included in the cash balance are expenses amounting to \$750.00 for PFF's Financial Aid for those attending the FGC Gathering, donations from Member Meetings totaling \$850.00 since our last meeting, and net income from the Spring Retreat of \$479.98. Friends accepted the report. The Treasurer's Report is attached.

Ad Hoc PFF Website Committee

The new PFF website has been operating for four months. Three Friends are supervising the website (John Hunter airplanehunter@hotmail.com, Kathy Staley kathrynlstaley@gmail.com, and Ken Bradstock). The website is relatively static, with periodic updates. With greater visibility, there may be a need for more explanation of Yearly Meeting intentions and affiliations. The supervisors invite comments and suggestions. Friends expressed gratitude for the efforts.

Report of the Yearly Meeting Formation Committee

Marian Beane reported that the Yearly Meeting Formation Committee is making progress. An invitation letter to PFF Meeting clerks brought responses from eight PFF Meetings. At this time, five Meetings wish to affiliate with Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting: Salem Creek, Raleigh, Charlotte, Fancy Gap, and Upstate Worship Group. Three Meetings will remain members of PFF but not affiliate with the Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting at this time: Davidson, Wilkes County, and Fayetteville.

An update letter sent to PFF member Meeting clerks is expected to bring additional responses. Marian appreciated carefully worded responses. From those not affiliating with the Yearly Meeting, Marian senses openness to consider future affiliation. The first meeting of Yearly Meeting Representatives will take place on October 4th at New Garden Friends Meeting to consider preparation for the first meeting of the Yearly Meeting in March.

PFF Representatives expressed appreciation for a fine job by the Formation Committee.

The committee's report is attached.

Listserv

John Hunter reminded Friends to contact Micah Barnhill-Wright if there are any issues about joining the listserv. micah.barnhill.wright@gmail.com

United Church of Christ (UCC) Lawsuit Support

Based on discussion at the PFF representatives meeting on June 8, John composed a Minute of formal support to the United Church of Christ (UCC) lawsuit and distributed it to the Representative Body for review and comment. With unity in the Minute, it was sent on June 10 to PFF Meeting Clerks for their meeting's discernment. The minute has been published on our website as a public document. PFF representatives are satisfied that we followed up as we were led, even though our offer of a Friend of the Court brief was declined by UCC. A ruling in a Circuit Court in Virginia based on the 14th Amendment appears to make the lawsuit moot at this time. We are satisfied to wait for further developments.

Youth Program Coordinator

John Hunter reported that Andrew Wright of Durham Meeting has been active in PFF annual meetings and is active in NC Yearly Meeting Conservative. Andrew took a proposal for a joint effort on a regional youth program to NCYM. The Yearly Meeting agreed to appoint members to an ad hoc committee to explore formation of a joint youth program. PFF previously approved formation of a youth program to include creation of a job description, and hiring a youth coordinator.

John reported that Andrew concluded that youth involvement needs to begin in middle school or as early as 5th grade when bonding starts to occur as a foundation for involvement through high school.

Ken Bradstock emphasized the value of building relationships among youth in PFF

Meetings. Getting together is important in building relationships, particularly for youth in meetings that do not have many youth. Karen McKinnon added that service projects are important in building relationships. Energy is needed to organize projects.

Friends approve participation on an ad hoc committee with NCYM Conservative to explore the possibility of starting a program and its elements. Friends approve appointing representatives to the ad hoc committee.

Friends recognize the value in involving college age Friends for planning at a later time.

Representatives willing to participate are Ken Bradstock, Karen Garraputa, and Karen McKinnon. Andrew Wright is expected to coordinate participation.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee nominates Tony Lowe to the FGC Central Committee for a 3-year term.

Friends approve.

Planning for November Retreat

For the retreat on November 1, John Hunter has contacted Christina Repoley, Executive Director of Quaker Voluntary Service and found that she is interested in presenting a short program on youth and service, but needs to consider logistics with an infant. He is waiting for a response. This may result in PFF costs for travel expenses.

Mary Kay Glazer is another potential speaker who has the date available. Karen Garraputa has information on potential programs. Mary Kay is a candidate for the spring retreat for a longer program.

Another candidate on a service theme is Lori Khamala of AFSC who works around immigrant issues.

Jeff will check with Chapel Hill Friends about a panel about Yoke Fellows and experiences with men in Orange County Correctional Center as a possibility for November. Also, Charlotte Friends Meeting has a program called Life University that serves incarcerated women.

John Hunter will again check with Christina Repoley to ascertain her availability to conduct our program in November. If he is unsuccessful, he will coordinate with Friends to arrange an alternate program from the above suggested possibilities.

Friends set the date for the Annual Retreat, March 13-15, at New Garden Friends Meeting. The first meeting of PFYM will occur then as well.

Yearly Meeting Affiliations

In light of the struggles some of our PFF member Meetings are experiencing, John Hunter will send letters of support and encouragement to Meetings and individuals.

Announcements

Friends thanked Wilkes County Friends Meeting for hosting this meeting. Friends expressed gratitude for the hospitality and learning about the history of the building.

Karen McKinnon reminded Friends that the FGC Gathering 2015 will be held at Western Carolina University. Joe and Terry Graedon are leading the planning and have added a third co-clerk, Amanda Godwin.

New Garden Friends Meeting will post a position for a religious education coordinator.

Martin Doherty described an opportunity to contribute to American Friends Service Committee in Charlotte for “Immigrant Solidarity” efforts. This may be a topic for the next Representatives Body meeting.

Future Meeting Dates

November 1, 2014 in Durham

January 18, 2015 in Hickory (Catawba Valley)

March 13-15, 2015 in Greensboro (New Garden)

The meeting closed with worship.

Jeff Brown
Recording Clerk

Attachments

Summary and additions to the P.F.F. Treasurer's report dated 8/19/2014 for presentation at the 8/25/2014 P.F.F. Representative Meeting.

Our total cash balance as of July 31, 2014, is \$17424.04.

Our outflow was \$750.00 for PFF's Financial Aid for those attending the FGC Gathering, which has already been figured into the above cash balance.

Piedmont Friends Fellowship Yearly Mtg & Ass'n. Statement of Net Worth as of 8/19/2014

Account

Assets

PNC Bank	\$	9,230.85
SHCU	\$	<u>8,193.19</u>
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	\$	<u>17,424.04</u>
Other Assets		
Super 8	\$	-
TOTAL Other Assets	\$	-
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	<u>17,424.04</u>

LIABILITIES \$ -

Net Worth \$ 17,424.04

Retreat Numbers

Spring Retreat Total Income		\$3,396.25
Spring Retreat Expenses		
Food		\$1,283.44
Housing		\$1,143.52
Child care		\$170.00
New Garden reimburse/apprec.	\$	300.00
Misc, copies	\$	19.51
Total Expenses	\$	2,916.47
Retreat Income vs. Expenses	\$	479.98

NOTE: Spring Retreat Numbers have already been figured into the Net Worth shown above!!

Financial Aid to FGC Attenders 2014

Durham Friends requests	\$	350.00
Fayetteville Friends	\$	200.00
Friendship Friends	\$	200.00
Total	\$	750.00

Donations from Members have totaled \$850.00 since our last meeting including donations from New Garden, and Salem Creek, Chapel Hill, Rockingham, and Raleigh monthly meetings. This has also been included in the above cash balance.

Progress Report on Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting

The Yearly Meeting Formation Committee continues to meet bi-monthly to consider matters related to the birthing of Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting. The Committee has identified elements of yearly meeting formation that are the purview of the new yearly meeting and those elements where the Formation Committee can provide support and guidance including some matters concerning PFF/PFYM relationships.

In June a communication was sent by Marian Beane, clerk of YM Formation Committee and John Hunter, clerk of PFF to all PFF monthly meetings and worship groups inviting them to consider affiliation with PFYM. We asked that meetings provide a copy of their minute indicating intention to affiliate with PFYM or to continue the current affiliation with PFF only. If clear to affiliate with PFYM, meetings were asked to appoint up to three (3) yearly meeting representatives. We asked for responses by early to mid-August.

Thus far we have received communications from the following meetings & worship groups related to their discernment on affiliation. We are aware that other meetings continue to discern way forward.

<u>Affiliate with PFYM</u>	<u>YM Representatives</u>
1) Salem Creek Friends Meeting	Appointed 3 representatives
2) Raleigh Friends Meeting	In process of appointing representatives
3) Charlotte Friends Meeting	Appointed 2 representatives
4) Upstate Worship Group (under care of CFM)	In process of appointing representative(s)
5) Fancy Gap Worship Group	In process of appointing representative (s)

- To continue affiliation with Piedmont Friends Fellowship only:

1) Davidson Friends Meeting, 2) Wilkes County Meeting, 3) Fayetteville Friends Meeting.

In early August a follow up communication was sent to the clerks of all PFF meetings & worship groups informing them of the responses that we have received thus far and asking those meetings who are still in discernment to notify us when they are clear. **We also notified them of the first meeting of the PFYM representative body that is scheduled for Saturday, October 4, 10:00-3:00 at New Garden Friends.** Meetings clear to affiliate are asked to appoint up to three representatives. Meetings that are still in discernment are invited to ask one or two individuals to attend the meeting if it is felt helpful in their discernment. The meeting will be under the care of the Yearly Meeting Formation Committee and Marian Beane will clerk the meeting.

The Yearly Meeting Formation Committee expects to continue its bi-monthly meetings in conjunction with the Yearly Meeting Representative body. We anticipate that the representative body will want to meet at a minimum bi-monthly or more often as it focuses on work that needs to be accomplished in preparation for the first annual meeting of the yearly meeting to be held in conjunction with the PFF retreat in March.

The Yearly Meeting Formation Committee continues appreciate the support and seasoning provided by the PFF representative body.

Marian Beane, clerk
Yearly Meeting Formation Committee
08/24/2014.