

Piedmont Friends Fellowship
Meeting of the Representative Body
October 25, 2008

Wendy Michener
Tara
Kristin Olsen-Kennedy
David Bailey
Jan Blodgett
Tom Kagen
Jane Norwood
Trish
Virginia Driscoll
Karen McKinnon
Jon
Debbie Parker
Terry Mehlman
Hank Maiden visiting the PFF Representative Body

Wendy first reviewed the agenda for the afternoon discussion.

Discussion of Youth or Youth Programs Sheila Bumgarder (Charlotte) will not continue as PFF from Charlotte FM but will and expressed the energy to handle the website but has Ellen Kepchar (New Garden FM) has agreed to help with this website to support a blog for RE and Youth Activities.

Friends World Committee on Consultation requests a telephone number for PFF. Friends discussed publishing this number with Meetings that have a secretary, or someone who is familiar with PFF who checks Meeting answering machines. Friends decided to ask Wendy, Virginia, and Jan to ask their respective business meetings or the secretaries. Send an email to Wendy within two weeks. When Wendy receives the responses she will send an email to the listserve with the options that are possible.

Annual Support of FGC by PFF. The 3 hundred dollar yearly payment was not made last year. Need to recommend to the Central Cte that Oct. 1 is the beginning of the yearly budget. Do we send reminders to member meetings? No, it is on the agenda on many meetings. After consulting the current balances in PFF accounts (> 8K) the committee decided to send the money for this year and to pay the 2009 three hundred dollars at the May Annual Meeting 2009.

Opportunities for travel and connections within upcoming Friends Conferences. There will be requests for travel funds that result from invitations to conferences.

- 1) Yearly Meeting Clerks meeting in April 2009. Friends request that Wendy Michener April 4,5,6 (3rd through 7th) attend this meeting with financial support for this opportunity from PFF funds.
- 2) Workshop Fit for Freedom not for Friendship. The train the trainer workshop January 9, 10, and 11 for people working with the book for Quaker and Racism. We can nominate a person to attend this workshop, there will be 25 people selected. Facilitating workshop experience for others. The expectation for providing travel from PFF beyond PFF territory. Terry suggested that she and

others will serve as a committee, an elder may be appointed. Friends offered support for Debbie and agree to support the travel in the ministry as need may arise. Present this back to PFF to determine the future direction of this initiative. PFF Representatives need to check the . Wendy will send a letter of nomination stating that PFF will support not only the cost of the travel and workshop, but also the cost of leading workshops within PFF.

- 3) Youth Ministry out of FGC is sponsoring a workshop on racism and discrimination (age, sex, evangelical positions). Bridging different faith traditions. Representatives to PFF need to promote this opportunity within their meeting. Scholarship costs for the retreat. Usual scholarship procedures will apply to Weaving Sacred Wholeness.
- 4) Brethren, Mennonite, Quaker Peace churches. PFF may have a seat on the Peace Church Conference. Wendy wants would like to name Chuck as the PFF representative. Spring. Quaker House picks up Chuck Fager's travel and conference costs. Friends will determine at the representative body in February the level of funding for this initiative by the Philadelphia Yearling Meeting.
- 5) Jesus for President book study: Movement called convergence – emerging and conservative. Retreat follows. Youth Ministry stuff. At Guilford. November 15th at Guilford College. Concern be young adults to come together. Scott Pierce Coleman or Debra Shaw and Max Carter.

Yearly Meeting Discussion:

Chapel Hill, Charlotte, and Raleigh Meetings are considering the possibility of joining yearly meetings. Chapel Hill is being barely discussed. Charlotte would be hoping that PFF would become a yearly meeting. Charlotte not comfortable not being in a yearly meeting. Searching NCYM Conservative, SAYMA, Baltimore Yearly Mtg., PFF has discussed. Raleigh has had a couple of discussions. Minute has been written to the effect that considering would want to be part of the process. FUM, SAYMA, NCYM-C. The perceived benefits include being connected to the greater world of friends, idea that this would represent an increased load of paperwork, and report back to the yearly mtg. The discipline is of benefit.

Many meetings within PFF are considering their associations with Yearly Meetings - FUM, NCYMC, and Evangelical Friends. The role of PFF in these discussions could be potentially more divisive rather than more inclusive. PFF Representatives discussed the role of PFF as a connection to FGC and responded with the realization that interest in NC Yearly Meeting connections to FGC needs to be addressed primarily through the leadings of interested meetings. PFF may continue to be a clearinghouse for these discussions.

Possible Themes for the May Gathering:

1. Learning from the Past Applying to Now (issues to racism, immigration)
2. Learning from the Past - Quaker House
3. Programs for Poor People
4. Crossing Economic Divides addiction, education,
5. Integrity and Poverty

Christina Repoley is no longer the PFF Youth Representative to the Central Cte of Friend GC. Christina is now with the Atlanta Friends Meeting. PFF will pay her recent travel expenses to Central Cte. Tom Kagen will send this check and will include a minute of appreciation for her service to PFF.

Next meeting of the Representatives will be February 22, 2009.

Karen McKinnon, Recording Clerk