

Piedmont Friends Fellowship
Meeting of the Representative Body

November 7, 2009

Charlotte Meeting

Wendy Michener
Karen McKinnon
Bob Cooper
John Hunter
Tom Kagan
Marian Beane
Joan Tillotson
Sally Ferrell
Deborah
Jane Norwood
Debbie Parker
Cameron
Kristen Olsen-Kennedy
(Spring meeting rep)
Hank Elkins
George Reed

Insurance for the annual meeting retreat was approved in the amount of \$337.50 for the 3 day event. This policy is designed for a large liability, but is the best we can do at the moment. Recommended that the representative body look into a yearly and more economical plan.

Treasurer's Report:

Report submitted to the Recording Clerk. \$3489.21 in BBT and the Self-Help is \$4976.77 total in both accounts is \$8465.98. Friends are encouraged to ask Meetings to increase funding because our expenses are continuing to increase. Asked in the form of a query: Do you feel comfortable with the level of support that you are giving. The ten dollar fee for the Fall Retreat collected is to pay the Winston Salem Friends Meeting once we receive a bill from WSFM and the expenses from FGC facilitators for Quaker Quest will be covered as well.

NC Council of Churches:

George Reed, Executive Director met with the PFF Representative Body:
NC Council of Churches: a state wide ecumenical organization 75 years in existence to model Christian unity across lines of denomination and race. Church leaders didn't know one another from many different denominations. NCCC original vision is to work together in issues of social justice, consumerism, militarism, and temperance. Concerns today include economic justice (not so much temperance). NCYM-FUM is associated, Roman Catholics, Presbyterian, Baptist, Alliance of Baptist, Moravian, Disciples, the AME, CME, AME Zion, UCC. Congregations can join individually as exemplified by the Duke Chapel Congregation (unaffiliated with a denomination). NCCC has a paid staff of 6.5 FTEs. There are 7 program areas of NCCC: mental illness, interfaith power and light, immigration and farm workers, rural economic concerns with sustainable agriculture, issues of Christian units. Roland Russell (United Church of Christ) heads a program moving into more non-Christocentric work. Health and health care Partners in

Health and Wholeness – access to healthcare issues. NCCC vision is to promote church's ability to support the health of congregants thereby decreasing demands on the health care system.

Because Religious Society of Friends is non-credal, the language of membership requires "acceptance of Jesus Christ as the incarnate Son of God and Saviour of the world ...". PFF representative body expresses concern about membership while recognizing the good that this organization intends.

Hank Elkins (Chapel Hill Friends Mtg). Jesus also had that of God or Spirit. Chapel Hill Friends Mtg. also struggles with the questions of the historical Jesus. Many have concluded that the individual was not someone who came to announce the apocalypse but instead to represent Radical Love and the transcendence of strata that separate people from one another. Jesus represented a Way Forward – not the Savior, but a Savior from non-humanism and hate. In some sense, Friends can accept this qualification by the NC CoC. Not all Seekers within the Religious Society of Friends have a unified understanding that becomes polity for all Friends.

PFF recommends referring the question of the North Carolina Council of Churches to PFF Business Meeting between now and the next Annual Meeting.

Annual Meeting March 12-14:

PFF needs to include a charge for day fee in addition to the meal charge. The fee of \$4.50 per person per day was approved. John Hunter will evaluate the expenses and appropriate charges for the annual spring meeting with Terry Mehlman and Bob Cooper.

Karen McKinnon, Recording Clerk

(John Hunter stepped in for Karen McKinnon to recording the meeting.)

2010 Annual Meeting (continued):

Decisions were made with regard to the following issues concerning the 2010 PFF Spring Retreat.

1) Retreat Charges

Given that Camp New Hope has further raised its prices and that we now have to purchase insurance, John Hunter, Bob Cooper, and Terry Melman were named to a committee to establish charges for the 2010 Spring Retreat. Their determinations will be forwarded to Marian Beane and Wendy Michener for final approval.

2) Child Care

Karen McKinnon will contact David Bailey to arrange for infant and toddler child care.

3) Food

Raleigh Meeting and Chapel Hill Meeting will coordinate the food and will let the clerk know of an affirmative commitment by the end of November. John Hunter will share past menus.

4) Friday Evening Program

Charlotte Meeting will conduct the Friday Evening program.

5) Children's Program

Karen McKinnon will supervise the children's program. She expects to work with Durham Meeting to conduct the high school and middle school programs and will check with Terry Mehlman to see if she can assist. Karen will check with Kara VanHouton to verify that she will be coordinating the elementary-age children's program with help from Spring Meeting.

6) Registration

Registration will be handled by Terry Melman.

7) Adult Program

Kristin Olson-Kennedy will plan the Adult Program around themes connected getting to know each other more deeply as Quakers. Kristin is strongly encouraged to consult with two Friends to advise and support her in this endeavor. A title will be decided by the end of November and be circulated to the PFF representatives. Kristin will send out a "Save the Date" message and explanation in early December, with the formal registration flyer to be sent out by mid January coordinated by Terry Mehlman and Kristin.

8) Book Table

Jane Norwood will coordinate the FGC book table.

Next PFF Representative Body Meeting:

The next PFF Representative Body meeting will be held on February 21 in Greensboro. Wendy will contact Friendship Meeting to see if they would be willing to host this meeting (with New Garden as a back-up.) The meeting will commence after lunch (perhaps a potluck) following Meeting for Worship at approximately 12:30.

Request for Feedback:

The request is made that Friends who have attended today's (11-07) program on Quaker Quest for either the morning or afternoon session please provide Kristin Olson-Kennedy feedback on their experience. Such feedback is needed to allow for planning of future events in the fall.

Minutes Distribution:

The request was made that the minutes of this meeting be electronically distributed as soon as possible.

After a period of silence, the meeting adjourned at 3:10pm.

John Hunter
Substitute Recording Clerk