

Piedmont Friends Fellowship

**Representative Body Meeting
August 20, 2016, 1:00**

(Following 10:00 AM Joint Meeting with PFYM Interim Meeting)

Raleigh Friends Meeting

Present:

Jeff Brown (clerk)	Chapel Hill Meeting
Laura Buffum	Durham Meeting
Dylan Buffum	Durham Meeting
Virginia Driscoll	New Garden Friends Meeting
Martin Dougherty	Charlotte Meeting
Craig Daniel	Raleigh Meeting
Rudy Zalesak	Raleigh Meeting
Karen McKinnon	Durham Meeting
John Hunter	Durham Meeting

The meeting began with a period of silent worship, followed by introductions.

Review of Minutes

Friends present found that no changes were necessary to the Minutes for the Representative Body meeting on June 5, 2016 as distributed.

Reports

Listserve: Jeff reports that David Montane will be continuing to maintain the listserve for PFF. Jeff will relay to David our appreciation for this service and will discuss with David the nature of his long term commitment to this role.

Website: Chandlee White and John Hunter will be working together this next week to make sure that the website is accessible to Chandlee for updates.

New Garden PFF Representation: Virginia Driscoll reports that New Garden has no representative to PFF at this time. The NGFM is in a transition process involving NCYM(FUM) restructuring and is not sure how to identify representation to PFF. Virginia expects this issue to be resolved once the focus on NCYM(FUM) is not as intense within NGFM.

Nominating Committee [Karen McKinnon/Virginia Driscoll]: The nominating committee has been seeking a PFF Friend to act as recording clerk. It was suggested that the recording clerk position might appropriately come from the representatives who attend PFF reps meetings and might be rotating for the next several meetings. Friends approved this course of action until a permanent appointment could be made.

Discussion surrounding the recording clerk appointment brought up some issues which were considered, with agreement that such be recorded. Friends present expressed the need for PFF representatives to communicate frequently back to their meetings with regard to the value of PFF to its member meetings and even to other Quaker organizations. One Friend related a conversation that emphasized the importance of FGC (of which PFF is a highly active 40-year member) to other Quaker organizations (e.g., AFSC and FCNL) as they do their valuable service work. The point made by Friends active in these other organizations was that FGC work (including local affiliates such as PFF/PFYM) was providing the fundamental religious and spiritual background which forms the foundation making their work possible. The two programs that PFF annually organizes serve to increase interaction and fellowship among Friends regionally and also to support and educate Friends as to the experiential, spiritual, and historic basis of our religion and witness.

Treasurer's Report: Co-Treasurers Dylan Buffum and Laura Buffum reported that since the last report PFF has received income of \$1,220.00 and has experienced expenses of \$1,883.90. An additional \$150.00 is committed to fulfill promised support for a PFF Friend to attend the FGC Gathering. Friends accepted this report. [The full report is attached to these minutes.]

Discussion / Decision

Planning for the November Fall Retreat: The program for the fall retreat was proposed to be an interactive program about the Quaker House counseling services for GIs. The representatives accepted the program and approved a budget of \$508 to support the three counselors to travel and presert at our mini retreat in Charlotte in November.

Jeff will follow up with Marian with regard to coordination with Charlotte Friends Meeting for the fall retreat preparations.

Initial Program Planning for Annual Meeting: Given time constraints of our meeting this afternoon, Jeff will independently communicate with representatives about the need to begin to focus on organizing the annual gathering in March.

Clerk Training at Pendle Hill: Support for Jeff Brown and Gary Hornsby to attend the Clerking Workshop at Pendle Hill in November was approved by the representatives in the amount of \$750.00 to support this training for these two valued Friends.

Abingdon Meeting Clearness Committee: Marian Beane, Jeff Brown, Karen McKinnon and Martin Dougherty expressed interest in serving on a clearness committee, depending on when a visitation is arranged with Abingdon Meeting. Others will be added through consultation of the PFF and PFYM clerks.

PFF Representatives January Meeting Date Change: The representatives agreed to change the January 2017 meeting date from the January 15th to January 22nd at Chapel Hill Friends Meeting.

Request for Financial Aid for Guilford Students: Dylan Buffum reported that some Guilford College students need financial help to attend a school building service project in El Salvador. The representatives felt more comfortable asking our monthly meetings to see if this is a project that they would individually support, rather than a response

directly from the PFF Treasury. Dylan has more information that he can share with interested monthly meetings.

Announcements

Youth Activity Opportunities: Andrew Wright of Durham Meeting is announcing a middle school camping retreat on September 17-18. It is important to make sure that PFF meetings know of this opportunity so as to build a community among the youth.

Closing Worship

PFYM interim body Friends joined the PFF representatives, bringing our numbers to about 24 for the closing worship of this joint meeting. Before settling into worship, a clear message of thanks to Raleigh Friends Meeting for their hospitality and caring for the PFF/PFYM meetings today.

In addition, there were numerous expressions of how helpful this joint meeting was. Several Friends spoke of how this meeting concretely demonstrated, beyond a theory, the reality that we are two organizations purposefully joined together in the service of our common meetings and that each organization is important for our mutual success.

John B. Hunter
Temporary Recording Clerk

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