

Piedmont Friends Fellowship

**Representative Body Meeting
November 7, 2015 – 1:00 PM**

Winston-Salem Friends Meeting

Attending

John Hunter
Linda Hunter
John Cardarelli
Marian Bean
Martin Doherty
David Bailey
Kat Rice
Bob Mers
Joyce Mers
Virginia Driscoll
Debbie Parvin
Rudy Zalisak
Ted Edgerton
Melissa Myer
David Montane
Naveed Moeed
Jeff Brown

Meeting

Durham
Durham
Salem Creek
Charlotte
Charlotte
Friendship
New Garden
New Garden
New Garden
New Garden
Fancy Gap
Raleigh
Wilkes County
Wilkes County
Statesville
Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill

The meeting opened after a period of silent worship.

Friends had no comments on the Minutes of the Representative Body Meeting on August 23, 2015.

Reports

1. Updating PFF Directory and Listserv Management

Friends are reminded to send PFF Directory updates to Bob Cooper by email to help keep the directory current.

David Montane, Statesville Friends Meeting, is led to serve as Listserv manager for the PFF listserv. Friends approved. Jeff Brown will follow up with David on details.

2. Report from the PFYM Interim Meeting

Marian Beane, Clerk of PFYM, reported that the Interim Meeting continues to work on a Policy and Practice document as well as a Peace and Social Concerns Working Group. Development of a statistical report for member Meetings to fill out is in progress. The body will meet again next Saturday. In planning for the Annual Meeting, Friends are considering two sessions on Saturday afternoon and evening to consider the work of PFYM and take time to sit with it.

John Hunter emphasized the importance of PFF and PFYM continuing to work together as one organization, PFF/YM. Initiatives and activities by PFYM are truly open to all PFF members meetings. The annual spring retreat will serve all.

On the topic of Peace and Social Concerns, Naveed Moeed described a proposal and inquiry concerning a Working Group on Peace and Social Concerns under the care of PFYM. He introduced the concept of “concerned Friend.” He distributed a draft document for Friends to take away and consider. The Working Group would like to hear from Friends about their specific concerns with attention to common concerns within PFF/YM. There will be a secure website for Friends to register and identify one or more concerns as a framework for communication. A digest of email messages organized by concern is proposed. Several levels of involvement will be available for each concern. Lists of names and email addresses will be private.

John Hunter observed that this open-ended, opt-in approach and framework appears well suited to PFF/YM, with all meetings invited to participate in witness. With the intention of inclusiveness, the more meetings involved the better.

The Working Group seeks more Friends to take leadership roles. The proposal is in draft form and will be considered again at Interim Meeting with the intention of distributing with a letter to PFF/YM meetings. How a letter is named and signed will be worked out.

The Representative Body agreed to move forward in support of this proposal.

3. Nominating Committee Report

Lori Fernald Khamala, Friendship Meeting, was approved to serve as a PFF/YM representative on the FGC Central Committee for a three-year term, joining Tony Lowe and Karen McKinnon. The staggered three-year terms for PFF/YM representatives to FGC will be clarified by Nominating Committee.

4. FGC Central Committee Meetings

PFF has been affiliated with FGC since the 1970s. FGC has provided resources and programs for PFF and affiliated yearly meetings. In turn, PFF’s voice has been important to FGC and continues with PFF/YM sending representatives to serve on the Central Committee and its working committees as a full participant in the governance of FGC. The FGC Central Committee annual meetings were held in October in Maryland. PFF/YM was represented by Marian Beane, John Hunter, Lori Khamala, and Karen McKinnon.

PFF/YM Friends were reminded that FGC has excellent programs including the the FGC Gathering which this year was held in Cullowee, North Carolina and was very successful with over 1,300 Friends in attendance. FGC also has additional ongoing programs and services which are offered to its constituent meetings and to Quakerism at large. However, due to a down turn in fund raising, some programs are difficult to sustain, such as the FGC Bookstore which has been a source for Quaker-specific books and related materials for decades. John Hunter asked that PFF/YM Friends consider purchasing books from the FGC Bookstore in order to support its continued existence/ (see <http://www.fgcquaker.org/services/bookstore>).

5. Reporting Membership Mailing Lists to FGC

For purposes of annual fund raising and announcement of the Gathering, FGC asks PFF/YM to share postal mailing lists from member meetings. PFF has sent requests to clerks of member meetings. This is separate from the list obtained by FGC from participants in the Gathering. PFF representatives reported on the status of the request in their respective meetings. Some meetings report that they have complied while others are still considering the request.

6. Joint Children's and Youth Programs

Friends have pursued a joint children's program between PFF and North Carolina Yearly Meeting (Conservative). The initiative stalled after many years. Raleigh and New Garden meetings expressed interest in continuing work on children's programming, and other PFF meetings are invited to consider the initiative.

7. Treasurer's Report

Bob Cooper, Treasurer, submitted a report on financial activities from August 24, 2015 through October 20, 2015, read by the recording clerk. The current total cash balance is \$16,992. PFF has received \$1,158 since the August meeting and has spent \$235. Money received included \$1,150 in donations from Charlotte, Fayetteville, and Friendship, and \$8 in interest. PFF spent \$ 200 supporting PFF representatives to travel to FGC Central Committee, \$31 for new checks needed, and \$4 in bank service charges to continue receiving paper statements.

Friends discussed the balance in the bank account and will consider budgetary items at the next meeting.

Discussion / Decision

8. Fall Retreat

Friends reviewed today's Fall Retreat. Friends noted that young adult Friends this year and last year were particularly dynamic and engaging as presenters. The immigration topic this year was very timely. The interactive structure and the inclusion of young immigrants and their stories was compelling.

The Clerk will send a note of appreciation for the fine program to Lori Fernald Kamala and Hawa, Lek, and Maria.

Friends noted a suggestion for next time: include the address of the location on the flyer. Also, consider the starting time for travel from afar, understanding the time needs for a morning program.

Friends pre-approved contributions totaling up to \$300 to organizations related to the presenters of the program this morning.

8. Program Planning for Annual Meeting

Max Carter, longtime professor at Guilford College, accepted PFF's invitation to be the principal speaker for the adult program of the annual retreat. Karen McKinnon has confirmed the suitability of the Carolina Friends School in Durham as the venue. The theme is

forthcoming. The dates are March 11-13.

New Garden Friends Meeting will look into the possibility of engaging professional help for meal preparation again this spring. Friends will consider simpler menus in the meal planning.

Friends reviewed a list of tasks for the spring retreat. Firm commitments are needed from member meetings to take the lead for each of the tasks before the January meeting of the Representative Body. Tasks are listed in the first column of the attached copy, including current commitments by Meetings noted.

10. Meeting locations and times for upcoming meetings.

Friends reviewed the following dates, subject to coordination with PFYM on certain Saturdays. Representatives will consider hosting a meeting on one of these dates.

Saturday, January 16, 2016	Davidson (to be confirmed)
Fri-Sun, March 11-13, 2016	Carolina Friends School, Durham
Sunday, June 5, 2016	Statesville (tentative)
Saturday, August 20, 2016	to be determined
Saturday, November 5, 2016	to be determined
Sunday, January 15, 2017	to be determined
Fri-Sun, March 10-12, 2017	Carolina Friends School, Durham

Announcements and Other Business

11. Other Business

Friends expressed gratitude to Winston-Salem Friends Meeting for hosting the meeting today and to John Cardarelli and Salem Creek Friends Meeting for providing a fine lunch.

12. Announcements

David Montane invited Friends to worship with Statesville Friends Meeting at 10:00 AM on First Days.

13. Closing Worship

The meeting closed with silent worship.

Jeff Brown
Recording Clerk

Attachment:

Note: The Spring Retreat requires many tasks. In the table, the first column is the major task, the second column is the Friends Meeting or Worship Group that will take responsibility, the third column lists next steps (to be expanded with detail as needed), the fourth column is the Friend serving as contact, and the final column is reserved for status notes. The yellow shading highlights the responsible PFF member meetings. A few are filled in, but most still need task leaders.

PFF Spring Retreat

Task	Lead responsibility	Next steps	Contact
Registration	Chapel Hill	Registration form Excel sheet with names and info. Sign-in sheets Permission forms Print kitchen sign-up sheets Coordinate lodging Submit proceeds to Treasurer	Jeff Brown
Hotel Lodging		Arrange for prepaid rooms	
Home hospitality		Distribute form for hosts to sign up Collect forms and share with registration	
Facility Coordination	Durham		Karen McKinnon
Publicity		Coordinate with Carolina Friends School Prepare email list of past participants Create initial flyer minus schedule details Create registration form Distribute and post on website Finalize the schedule Finalize printable program/schedule Distribute and post on website	
Meals		Plan menus for Saturday and Sunday Coordinate with registration Purchase and transport food Prepare meals	
High School Youth Program			
Middle School Youth Program			
Elementary School Program			
Pre-school			

Infant care



Adult Program

Durham

Coordinate with presenter

Exhibits/Short presentations



Coordinate with presenters

Evening events



Friday

Saturday

PFYM

Representatives

Coordinate program with PFYM