

Piedmont Friends Fellowship

**Representative Body Meeting  
April 1, 2018, 1:00**

Carolina Friends School

Present:

Jeff Brown (clerk)	Chapel Hill
Ruth Zalph	Chapel Hill
Dylan Buffum	Durham
Laura Lipps Buffum	Durham
John Hunter	Durham
Linda Hunter	Durham
Karen McKinnon	Eno
Marshall Eddle	Fancy Gap
Mary Luckhaus	New Garden
Virginia Driscoll	New Garden
Bob Mers	New Garden
Joyce Mers	New Garden
John Cardarelli	Salem Creek
Gary Hornsby	Salem Creek
Dick Connell	Salem Creek
Bill Moore	Raleigh
Martin Doherty	Charlotte
Marcel Soopal	Charlotte
Marian Beane	Charlotte
Mary Jo Klingel	Charlotte
Kindra Bradley	Quaker House & Fayetteville

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 January 28, 2018, and the Minutes were approved.

**Reports**

Communications:

Laura Buffum reported that the Directory has been updated, although more revisions will be forthcoming to both the clerks' and representatives' Listserves. Friends who wish to be on both lists need to inform Laura. The treasurers' report, for example, is sent to both listserves.

A committee of PFF reps has looked into the advantages and disadvantages of using the Quaker Cloud. PFYM Interim Meeting clearly and strongly supports our moving to the Quaker Cloud, and the PFF budget would have to be adjusted accordingly. John Hunter reported that the Quaker Cloud is now much better in terms of user friendliness and tech support to correct glitches. FGC has spent many thousands of dollars in setting up this service. The assessment to the user operates on a sliding scale, and the maximum is \$50 per month. Archiving is available. Grant money has allowed FGC to improve the Cloud. PFF/PFYM will need volunteers to manage the transition and ongoing monitoring of the Cloud. Dick Connell agreed to help out with the initial design of the layout and planning for this new website. Bill Moore recommends moving our existing information to the Quaker Cloud with minimal changes. Martin Doherty reminded us that a number of Meeting members and attenders may need some instruction and outreach on how to access the PFF/PFYM website in a friendly and peaceful manner. PFF representatives agreed to set up a working group that would consist of Jeff Brown, John Hunter, Bob Passmore (upon his consent), Dick Connell, and Bill Moore to move us forward to the Quaker Cloud.

#### Nominating Committee:

For information about nominating committee, refer to the Nominating Committee's report to the PFF's annual meeting minutes. It would be very desirable to have the two names brought forward by the June PFF Representative Body meeting. Lori Fernald Kamala will be nominated for one additional year, and a new person will serve a three-year term. The description of the duties and responsibilities will be put together soon by PFF/PFYM nominating committees to be distributed to reps, clerks, and monthly meetings.

#### Treasurer's Report:

We received \$200 since the last report and we agreed that our upcoming budget will be reviewed in June and approved in August. Dylan Buffum will send out the accounting of the annual retreat weekend's income and expenses by email in the near future and will be included in the next Treasurers' report in June.

#### Feedback on this weekend annual Retreat:

Having rooms and space on Friday afternoon was an improvement; this also allowed for no overlap in workshops. The upper school Meeting Room was very much appreciated. PFF reps agreed to give \$250 to Carolina Friends School, plus reimbursement for a broken coffee pot, and \$50 to Dylan Pendergrass for his volunteer service. About 90 people attended this year compared with 110 last year. Overall, the weekend went quite well and all activities were much appreciated. The desirability of location in the Triangle area was raised by John Hunter as a long-term issue, as well as a low attendance at the Saturday concerts as an ongoing issue. Food choices were appreciated, and the quality was very good. A few items were missing from breakfasts

at times. A committee to give feedback on food, and planning for future retreats, is recommended, having someone from each meeting. Sally Freeman will be asked to contact people to join this food planning committee. Online registration worked very well, and only three people showed up who had not preregistered. The Comfort Inn Mt. Moriah hotel was also an improvement, at a minimal increase in cost compared with last year. A US mail is recommended for preregistration in addition to online preregistration. The representatives also recommended a Carolina Friends School map with directions for accessibility. Directions to the CFS site were also recommended.

## **Discussion / Decision**

### Upcoming Meetings – Days and Locations:

June 24<sup>th</sup> in Raleigh  
August 25<sup>th</sup>, place TBD  
October 28<sup>th</sup>, Fancy Gap, VA  
January 27<sup>th</sup>, place TBD

The next Representative Body meeting will take place on Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup> in Raleigh.

Friends discussed a fall retreat, beginning with a report from Gary Hornsby, Salem Creek Friends Meeting. Gary recommends September 7-9<sup>th</sup> due to considerations of quiet camping.

### Announcements

Friends are encouraged to attend the FGC Gathering this July in Toledo, Ohio.

It is possible for Friends to obtain financial support from local meetings as well as Piedmont Friends Fellowship and Yearly Meeting (maximum \$150 for individuals and \$200 for a family) and from FGC through work grants and a specified amount for first-time attenders. Friends are strongly encouraged to ask their monthly meeting for financial support, and a written request for PFF/YM monetary support should come from the Clerk of those monthly meetings, submitted to Dylan Buffum and Laura Buffum, our co-Treasurers. This entire process is explained in detail on our PFF/YM website.

### Closing Worship

The meeting closed with silent worship.

John Cardarelli  
Recording Clerk

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