

Summer Executive Committee Meeting

Southeastern Yearly Meeting

Sixth Month 9, 2012

AGENDA

- 10:00 Worship
- 10:30 Agenda changes/corrections
 - ⊙ Clerk's report
 - ⊙ Secretary's report – Lyn Cope (in writing)
 - ⊙ Committee reports
 - 1. Archives – Peter Day (in writing)
 - 2. Care and Community – Nancy Triscritti
 - 3. Peace and Social Concerns – Warren Hoskins
 - ⊙ Naming Committee
 - ⊙ Young adult membership – Phoebe Andersen
 - ⊙ Treasurer's report
- 12:30 Lunch
- 1:30 Visioning and assessment: YM administration
- 4:30 Worship
- 5:00 Close

MINUTES

- A. Present: Ann Jerome, Executive Committee and IBM clerk (Orlando MM); Elizabeth Croce – acting assistant clerk (Orlando MM); Jan Dahm and Lisa Erasmus - SEYM co-recording clerks (Tampa MM); Susan Taylor – Nominating Committee clerk (Tallahassee MM); Nil Wilkins – Finance Committee clerk (Tampa MM) - morning; Neil Andersen - Treasurer (Tallahassee MM); Cecelia Yocum (Tampa MM); Peter Crockett and Davida Johns – Gathering Committee co-clerks (St. Petersburg MM); Nancy Triscritti – Worship and Ministry co-clerk (Tampa MM); Warren Hoskins – Peace and Social Concerns clerk (Miami MM); Andrea Walsh (Miami MM); Barbara Wolfe (Tampa MM); Elaine Martin (Jacksonville MM); Maurice Kurtz (St. Petersburg MM); Shawna Doran (Gainesville MM); Rolf Hanson (Sarasota MM); Ann Sundberg (Sarasota MM); Laura Winefordner (Gainesville MM); Jean Larson (Gainesville MM).
- B. Regrets:..Joel Cook - Assistant clerk (Palm Beach MM); Lyn Cope - Administrative Secretary (Space Coast MM); Phoebe Andersen - Yearly Meeting (YM) clerk (Tallahassee MM); David Hersh and Kody Hersh – YAQ co-clerks (Miami MM); Chuck Deneen – Membership Recorder (Orlando MM).
- C. Not Present: Barbara Letsch – Committee for Earthcare clerk (Orlando MM); Carl Hersch – Clerk of Trustees (Miami MM); Ellie Caldwell – Committee on Ministry for Racism clerk (Palm Beach MM); Peter Day – Archives clerk (Clearwater MM); Wendy Clarissa Geiger – Worship and Ministry co-clerk (Jacksonville MM).

- D. The meeting began with Open Worship at 10:00 a.m. in the Tampa Meetinghouse, Tampa, Florida.
- E. Ann Jerome, Executive Committee (EC) clerk, made opening remarks out of the silence. Elizabeth Croce, acting assistant clerk, read a reflection from Ephesians 4:1-3 - *“Be humble always and gentle, and patient too, putting up with one another’s failings in the Spirit of love. Spare no effort to make fast with bonds of Peace the unity which the Spirit gives.”*
- F. Report from EC clerk
The agenda was approved without changes or corrections. Ann Jerome stated that two ad hoc committees have been added to EC
1. The Work of the Yearly Meeting – how that should be accomplished comprised of Susan Taylor, Nancy Fennell, and Ann Jerome
 2. Apportionment – still forming, in discernment
- Lyn Cope submitted her resignation as Yearly Meeting Secretary as of Fifth Month 31, 2013. A request was made to begin discernment on a minute of gratitude for her service. The need was raised up for a search committee. Friends were reminded that the official resignation letter had not been submitted, therefore, that action would be postponed until such time as this occurred. The clerk explained the process by which EC typically handled this kind of situation and that further discernment would be forthcoming during this EC meeting as to how to proceed on this issue.
- G. The Secretary’s Report was submitted in writing. The clerk asked Friends for comments or questions regarding this report, adding that Lyn Cope stated via email that she would be available by phone for any necessary communication during the EC meeting or visioning process.
- H. Reports
1. Archive Committee:
The Archive Committee report was submitted in writing (attached). In Peter Day’s absence, the clerk asked Friends for comments or questions regarding this report. A suggestion was made to look into paperless archiving. A reminder was given that digital work was vulnerable to electro-magnetic surges from the sun and other ways that electronic data could be lost. Susan Taylor asked that a minute be written to express gratitude for the tremendous work the Archive Committee has done:

12SEC01 - The Executive Committee expresses deep appreciation to the Archives Committee for the faithful, detailed work they have done and are doing to gather, consolidate, and store documents of the Yearly Meeting and Monthly Meetings. We are grateful for the education and inspiration they provide to support us in following through in our Monthly Meetings with providing documents and doing so in the proper form.
 2. Care and Community Concern:
Nancy Triscritti gave a report on a concern regarding Care and Community for our Yearly Meeting. A need has been discerned for Friends to have access to a group

who would be prepared to help individuals who have issues that need compassionate listening regarding their situation in cases where, for various reasons, they may not feel able or comfortable getting this support from their own Meeting. The group would be made up of people trained in compassionate listening who would be called upon to gather to address these kinds of situations. This could be done via phone or face-to-face. The Clerk asked how EC could help. Two ways would be by discerning who might be called to do this ministry and how it could be financially supported. It was stated that approximately \$750 per presenter would be the proposed cost of this training. A Friend stated that perhaps some of the practices of choosing Clearness Committee members could be used in forming this group of listeners. Being under the care of Worship and Ministry was seen as a necessity for this program due to the weight of what the listener may be carrying for others in this ministry. This was seen as a particular need for our Yearly Meeting and is especially timely since the SEYM personnel structure is being discerned. The clerk reiterated the support of EC for this program and suggested that Worship and Ministry Committee work with Nominating Committee on the discernment necessary for the formation of this group. A minute was written to express the proposed formation of the group:

12SEC02 – Executive Committee receives with appreciation Nancy Triscritti's report on behalf of the past year's open discussions on Care and Community within our Yearly Meeting. We support the efforts to create a listening ministry and await hearing from Worship and Ministry as they seek way forward.

3. Youth Committee:

Ann Sundberg, clerk of the Youth Committee, submitted a written report (attached) and brought requests forward from their Sixth Month 8, 2012 meeting. The Youth Committee is seeking EC support for the following:

- a. A Labor Day weekend service event for youth which takes place in Miami Ninth Month 1-3, 2012
- b. More youth programming (especially juniors and teens) for Half-Yearly Meeting and January Michener events
- c. Encouragement of Monthly and Yearly Meeting support for service related to Quaker values
- d. There was a recommendation that SEYM sponsor a special recognition prize at the Florida History Fair to encourage historical research into peace and social justice issues. There is a need for financial support to make this happen.

EC expressed support for the aforementioned programs as well as appreciation for the good work of the Youth Committee during this past year.

4. Gathering Committee:

Gathering Committee co-clerks Davida Johns and Peter Crockett gave the report for the past SEYM Gathering. There is a new email address for the Gathering Committee: seymgatheringclerks@gmail.com. The evaluations from the Gathering were shared and were generally positive. The financial report from the Gathering was presented. The Walton Lecturer for the 2013 Gathering will be Roy Taylor. The proposed topic for the 2013 Gathering is "Healing the Planet"

5. Peace and Social Concerns Committee:

Warren Hoskins, clerk of Peace and Social Concerns Committee, submitted a written report (attached) and spoke to Friends regarding their meeting on Fourth Month 7, 2012. The concern was brought forward of mass incarceration as a justice policy in the United States. Resources used for information regarding this concern are: Germantown (PA) Monthly Meeting's Mass Incarceration Task Force, as reported in Friends Journal, March 2012, in "A Quaker Stand Against Mass Incarceration" by Friend Richard K. Taylor; and the referenced book, The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness, by law professor Michelle Alexander. Monthly Meetings were asked to discern this concern and to seek way forward. Advice was given to have Friends read the book: The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness, by law professor Michelle Alexander (study guide available) and become aware of the issues. Privatization of prisons may be addressed on the level of the local legislature. It was stated that a good lead time would be beneficial to get this concern on the schedule for the 2013 YM Gathering.

6. Nominating Committee and Naming Committee

Susan Taylor, clerk of Nominating Committee, submitted a written report (attached) and brought forward key elements of the report. The clerk asked Friends for comments or questions regarding this report. The following minute was brought forth regarding this report:

12SEC03 - The Executive Committee accepts the Nominating Committee's nominations of the following people and authorizes them to move forward with their work:

- Cecelia Yocum as an SEYM representative to Friends Peace Teams
- Dustin Lemke as SEYM representative to the Florida Council of Churches
- Dustin Lemke as Half-Yearly Meeting Clerk

Their names will be brought forward for Yearly Meeting approval at the Fall Interim Business Meeting – 6 Tenth Month, 2012

I. Young Adult Membership

In the absence of Phoebe Anderson, clerk of Yearly Meeting, Ann Jerome brought forward the following concern:

- a. Currently, child members need to seek full adult membership at age 25
- b. The concern is that the current policy no longer addresses the needs of this age group

J. Treasurer's Report

Neil Anderson gave the Treasurer's report. The income as of fiscal year end 5/31/12 is expected to be neutral; if it ends up below expectations, there are sufficient reserves to cover deficits. Apportionments have been met to 95% of what was requested. The final report will be made at Fall Interim Business Meeting – Tenth Month 6, 2012 at St. Petersburg Meeting House.

K. After silent worship, the meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:30 pm

L. Visioning and assessment: Yearly Meeting administration

Participants divided into five groups based on the five major tasks listed in the personnel description to engage in a visioning process regarding the Work of the

Yearly Meeting. Each group took notes on display paper (notes attached) and reported to the body upon re-gathering in the large group. Clerk requested the formation of a committee that would fully update the personnel description in the SEYM Operational Handbook and raise up ideas of how tasks would be accomplished as well as staffing recommendations. It is necessary to build in a time frame for a period of training and support of the new hire while Lyn Cope is still in the position. The following minute expresses the Executive Committee request:

12SEC04 – The Executive Committee as Personnel Committee appoints a sub-committee on personnel issues to begin revision of the personnel description in the SEYM Operational Handbook and to envision a variety of ways to engage paid staff and volunteers to accomplish the work of the Yearly Meeting. This sub-committee will consist of Susan Taylor, Nancy Fennell, and Ann Jerome consulting with others as way opens. The committee will report to the Executive Committee at the Fall Interim Business Meeting.

M. The Executive Committee requested the following minute for Tampa Monthly Meeting:

12SEC05 - The Executive Committee expresses heartfelt appreciation for the hospitality and generosity of spirit of Tampa Monthly Meeting.

N. Nancy Triscritti brought forward a project she is working on – a literacy project for children from low socio-economic backgrounds. It would be helpful if Friends in other Monthly Meetings supported this concern.

O. The meeting closed after a period of silent worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Erazmus and Jan Dahm
SEYM Recording co-clerks

SOUTHEASTERN YEARLY MEETING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
June 9, 2012
Visioning and Discernment on YM administration

Because next year will see changes in the staffing of our office, and because it has been five years of change since our Operational Handbook was revised, it is time to begin visioning for next steps.

Attached is the existing Operational Handbook's description of the YM administrator's activities. Today we will review them while asking these questions:

1. Which activities are essential to our Yearly Meeting?
2. Which activities are desirable but not essential?
3. Which activities are neither essential nor desirable - in other words, which activities could we be comfortable doing without?

On the attached copies, please indicate in the left-hand margin your responses to these questions. In the margin beside each activity, write a 1 for those you consider essential, a 2 for those you consider desirable but not essential, and a 3 for those you would be comfortable doing without.

THEN IN THE RIGHT MARGIN (or on the reverse side if you need more room), for the activities you have labeled 1 or 2, write who you think should be responsible for performing them. Should it be a paid staff member? Should it be a volunteer such as a YM officer or committee? If a volunteer, who?

Small Group Reports for the Work of the Yearly Meeting

Group #1 - FUNDRAISING

Essential to be done by Officers, Committees, or Individuals

- Annual assessments of meetings for recurring budgeted expenses (Officers, Treasurer, Meeting)
- Funding for endowments to support SEYM long-term need for transparency with all SEYM (Trustees)
- Support for ongoing initiatives (Individuals)
- Discernment of whether or not to continue programs or lay them down (Committees)

Essential to be done by Paid Staff Member

- Clerical - make sure the money gets to the bank and is recorded
- Maintain security and confidentiality

Essential or at least desirable to be done by paid staff OR volunteer

- Education/communication of financial needs/opportunities with SEYM and Quaker values

Group #2 - PUBLICATIONS (PRINT and ELECTRONIC)

Essential to be done with some scaling back and consistency

- Monthly E-Announcement Publication to individuals
- Periodic Yearly Meeting Newsletter of past event and foci of various MM's
- Lecture publications
 - Pamphlets
 - E-Publications

Group #3 - PUBLICATIONS (WEBSITE)

A web presence is essential to SEYM as an educational and communication tool. Technical functions necessary to maintain the website would best be served by a paid professional.

Matters of content, reporting, and information gathering for the website could be prepared and submitted by a committee of volunteers.

Essential tasks to be performed by a paid web professional

- Keep SEYM website up to date
- Maintain SEYM web calendar and other logistical information
- Provide registration forms for SEYM gatherings
- Post PDF copies of important SEYM documents (minutes, lectures, etc.)

Essential tasks to be performed by paid office staff

- Maintain mail, email, and phone correspondence

Essential tasks to be performed by "communications committee"

- Write and submit reports to DIA (FIBM, WIBM, YM)
- Compile important SEYM documents for posting to website
- Oversee content of website

Desirable

- Be familiar with Quaker literature and online resources

Needs clarification

- Online donations
- Need for resource for Monthly Meeting web clerks

Group #4 - FINANCIAL/BOOKKEEPING

Essential to be done by Paid Administrative Secretary

- Bookkeeping/Data Entry
- Financial Mail Processing
- Pay Bills
- Banking
- Financial Data Base to Finance Committee and Treasurer to be checked monthly
- Communications
- Provide information to SEYM Committee Clerks
- Write and Submit Quarterly EC Reports
- Receive and Deposit Checks for YM events

Essential to be done by Volunteers (Publications Committee and/or person(s) who are committed, called, capable of task)

- Monthly Publications Inventory and Possibly Warehouse when Necessary
- Physical Shipping
- Oversee Publications Sales Tables at Events

Essential to be Done by Committees

- Reports on Trustees Investments - Clerk of Trustees
- Resource to SEYMers re: Financial Resources - Finance Committee

Group #5 - GENERAL OFFICE

Essential to be done by Paid Administrative Secretary

- Handle all correspondence
- Serve as resource person to SEYM
- Send FDLE packets as requested by Youth Committee Clerk

- Maintain SEYM Calendars
- Write and Submit Quarterly Reports
- Receive and Oversee printing of documents
- Post bulk mailings
- Save all DIAs, Minutes, etc. in PDF
- Receive publication orders; fill, pack and ship; maintain inventory
- Provide oversight and interface for YM Gathering Clerk
- Interface as required with YM host and HYM site host
- File State of Florida UBR; pay fees
- File State of Florida tax exemption every five years

Desirable to be done by paid secretary

- Read/skim Quaker literature; save for tables at SEYM

Desirable to be done by Volunteer

- Oversee publication sales at IBMs and YM, HYM optional

Question: What is hourly time as used long term per task?

Archive Committee Report - May 2012

At the last working session at the Smathers Library at Gainesville in March of 2011 it had become obvious that the contents of many of the boxes of records were not accurately described, so that as sorting and collation continued many papers had to be put in temporary folders until they could be placed in folders of related papers. On May 22 and 23 2012 four members of the committee (Connie Ray, Sue Day, Bill Rapp and Peter Day, and on May 24 and 25 Bill Rapp) continued the work of sorting and consolidating the files with the invaluable help and advice of the resident Archivist Florence Turcotte.

SEYM Records

We agreed to begin filing the Yearly Meeting documents by year so that the minutes of Representative Meeting (now called Winter and Fall Interim Business Meeting), Yearly Meeting, and the Executive Committee would be grouped with the relevant Documents in Advance for each calendar year. Although we recognize that the YM observes a fiscal year we agreed that the dates on the documents should take precedence to simplify filing. SEYM Directories, SEYM Newsletters, Michener and Walton Lectures, and ProNica documents are in separate files and boxes. Using this plan for the documents we began the process of consolidating overlapping groups of documents by carefully comparing copies and discarding duplicates. Since we had access to all of the boxes, and had room to work on their contents, we were able to make more accurate descriptive labels of their contents. Several boxes of papers remain to be sorted.

We identified some gaps in the YM documents. There appear to be no minutes for the years 1981, 1983 and 1985-6.

Monthly Meeting and Worship Group Records

The Monthly Meeting collections are varied and include business meeting and committee minutes, newsletters, correspondence, photographs, news clippings, floppy discs, CDs and tape cassettes. They include MMs with largely complete records and other MMs and WGs with few, or markedly incomplete records. There are also MMs and WGs for which there are no records at the Smathers Library. We thought it would be useful to identify those with incomplete records and the major gaps in their collections since it is possible that some can be filled. We list them below. We also list the MMs and WGs with no records in the Smathers Library recognizing that they may store their archives themselves, or deposit them in other collections of Quaker documents, and that some may have no formal minutes. It would help the committee to know of these arrangements so that we are better able to answer questions about the history and records of Friends in SEYM.

Gaps in Monthly Meeting records:

Clearwater - Minutes for November 1980 - December 1992

Fort Myers - Minutes for 2005

Gainesville - Minutes for April 1985 - December 2000

Jacksonville - Minutes for 1981 - 2008

Meetings for which there are no minutes deposited in the Smathers Library:

(Augusta)*
Charleston
Fort Lauderdale
(Daytona Beach)*
Golden Isle WG
Halifax
Lake Wales WG
Managua WG
Miami
Orange City WG (Deland)
Ocala
Orlando
Savannah
Space Coast
St Petersburg
Tallahassee
Tampa
Treasure Coast WG
(Venice)*
Winterpark

* MM or WG that has been laid down.

We remind all MMs and WGs of the importance of their records and keeping them safe for posterity. We also emphasize the lasting value of acid-free paper records. Although most records are now produced in digital form these formats become obsolete. For example we have two computer disks which we are no longer able to read.

For general guidance on meeting records we recommend the Handbook on Records, Their Creation, Maintenance, and Preservation in the Meeting (1996) produced by the Baltimore YM Committee on Records available from Quaker Books, or on line at <http://trilogy.brynmawr.edu/speccoll/bym/Handbook%20on%20Records3.htm>

**SEYM Nominating Committee Report
Executive Committee Meeting, June 9, 2012
Tampa Friends Meeting**

Greetings, Friends, from the Nominating Committee. We continue to be grateful to be able to serve Southeastern Yearly Meeting by working with Friends to fill positions within our Yearly Meeting and to find representatives to Friends' and other organizations. Please hold all of us in prayer.

1. After time spent in deep discernment, Dustin Lemke has laid down his membership on the Nominating Committee, where he has faithfully served in the Spirit with lightness of heart and delightful humor for 2 years. He has been led to serve as clerk of Half Yearly Meeting and will remain on the Youth Committee. We will miss him on the Nominating Committee and are at the same time, grateful for his new leading. Nominating Committee brings Dustin Lemke's name forward to serve as clerk of Half Yearly Meeting for the term 2012-2015.
2. We now have three members of the Nominating Committee who could function more easily with a fourth. The Nominating Committee asks that a fourth member be nominated by the Naming Committee, which is an ad hoc committee appointed annually by the E.C. clerk and approved by the Executive Committee (07YBM12.) * It would be helpful if the new member could be named in time for Fall Interim Business Meeting. This member would fill the unexpired term of Dustin Lemke that ends in 2013. Another person might need to be named for the 2013-2016 term if the person filling Dustin's Lemke's position wishes to only fill the remainder of that term.
2. The Nominating Committee is in discernment over naming two new Board members to the ProNica Board. Melissa Ajabshir, St. Petersburg Meeting and ProNica Stateside Coordinator, reported that the ProNica Committee approved a minute in April, 2012 to increase the size of the ProNica Board from 5 to 7. The majority of Board members must be named by SEYM. One of the 2 new members must be named by SEYM. The Committee is also looking for someone to complete Lyn Cope's term on the ProNica Board. The term will end in 2014. Lyn felt led to lay down her membership on the Board because she did not have time to fulfill the responsibilities that Board membership requires. Melissa spoke very highly of Lyn's invaluable service on the Board as a seasoned Friend with extensive knowledge of Quaker organizations and Quaker process. Lyn will remain available to consult with the Board as needed. The ProNica Board is especially in need of someone to serve as Secretary, though it is not necessary that someone SEYM appoints fill that position. The Board requests that the people named will have attended more than one Board meeting prior to their appointment.
3. In discernment over someone to fill Treasurer's term, which ends in 2013.
4. In discernment over clerk for Finance Committee, whose term ends in 2013.
5. Cecilia Yocum's renewed term on Friends Peace Teams for 2012-2015 was mistakenly omitted from the final Nominating Committee report at our April's Yearly Meeting sessions and must be approved.
6. Dustin Lemke's term renewal as representative to Florida Council of Churches was also omitted in the report to Yearly Meeting in April and must be approved. Term: 2012-2015.
7. There are many other positions to fill with terms that end in 2013.
 - All 6 members of the Archives Committee, including the clerk

- 4 on Committee for Earthcare
- 4 on Worship and Ministry Committee
- 8 on Peace and Social Concerns
- 1 on Yearly Meeting Gathering Committee
- 2 for Youth Committee
- 1 other ProNica Board member
- 2 for American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) Corporation
- 1 FCNL/William Penn House representative
- 1 FWCC Section of the Americas representative
- 2 for Quaker Earthcare Witness
- 2 positions for Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO)
- Contact person for Florida Impact

The Nominating Committee would like to clarify that Friends who are so led, may have their names brought forward for renewed membership on a committee they have served on for more than 2 terms, if after discernment, they are not led to serve in some other capacity within Southeastern Yearly Meeting. It is not mandatory to lay down membership in a committee after two terms. It simply provides an opportunity to see if other doors may be opening.

The clerk of nominating committee received an **Interest Form For AFSC Committee Service**. If Friends are interested in a volunteer position with the AFSC, please see the Nominating Committee clerk for a form.

Thank you, Friends.

Susan Taylor, Clerk, SEYM Nominating Committee- Tallahassee Meeting
for the Nominating Committee

Gary Arthur, Gainesville Meeting
Martha Morris, Winter Park Meeting

*** 07YBM12, which states:**

“YM adopts the practice of appointing a Naming Committee to nominate members of the Nominating Committee. Members of this ad hoc committee shall be appointed annually by the Executive committee clerk and approved by E.C. Names of members of the Naming Committee shall be brought before the Yearly Meeting at Winter IBM. Any nominations arising from the floor at WIBM shall be taken under consideration.”

EMAIL FROM WARREN HOSKINS FOR EC CONSIDERATION
JUNE 7, 2012

Perhaps we can put a few minutes forward at the EC meeting in Tampa day after tomorrow to work on how we are coming to address this growing concern. (May I ask that anyone who is in a position to do so, please provide a print or e-mail copy of this to Cathy Gaskill? Thank you!)

[From the SEYM copy of the report from Warren Hoskins, Clerk of the SEYM Peace and Social Concerns Committee, with any Minutes and notes from the Peace & Social Concerns Committee Meeting at SEYM 4-07-2012, starting over lunch about 12:30 p.m.]

1) As to the Orlando Minute on Mass Incarceration (3-02-12), "Friends unite with Friend Cathy Gaskill in her concern for Friends at SEYM to engage in discernment toward taking a stand against mass incarceration in the United States." Orlando Friends further stated, "The Sense of Orlando Meeting was that Friend Cathy Gaskill speaks our mind on this matter. We commend this concern for your further discernment." Resources: Germantown (PA) Monthly Meeting's Mass Incarceration Task Force, as reported in Friends Journal, March 2012, in "A Quaker Stand Against Mass Incarceration" by Friend Richard K. Taylor; and the referenced book, THE NEW JIM CROW: MASS INCARCERATION IN THE AGE OF COLORBLINDNESS, by law professor Michelle Alexander.

The P&SC Committee unites in support of the Minute and agrees to take up the issues implicated toward eventually having an SEYM Minute and actions. Tim Ray will lead the launch of the initial effort at educating SEYM Friends. We identified several interrelated issues: Our state has mass incarceration and "the new Jim Crow"; state efforts at privatizing of prisons seeks perpetuation of mass imprisonment (massive new commitment of the state to building private prisons was defeated by one vote this year, yet private prisons would not save taxpayers money - quite the opposite); courts appear corrupted, as is our whole "justice system," when enormous pressures are applied to those arrested to plead guilty, and thus be enrolled in mass incarceration and added to giant and growing bodies of those discriminated against as felons, the incarcerated and formerly incarcerated.

To some of you, I've just sent the following - forgive the partial duplication, please!

I commend the article at this link,
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/michael-santos/mass-incarceration-as-a-p_b_1447564.html

"Mass Incarceration as a Public Policy" - I hope we can link to it from the Peace & Social Concerns website and otherwise encourage Friends to read it. The Friends Journal article referred to in the Orlando minute in support of Cathy Gaskill's concern doesn't seem to be available on the Internet, a handicap in referring people to it.

To quote from the article at the link: ...

"Those who wonder how the land of the free became the land of the incarcerated should consult Chapter One of The Oxford Handbook of Sentencing and Corrections. Professor Jonathan Simon, the Adrian A. Kragen Professor of Law at Berkeley Law, authored the chapter, which he titled 'Mass Incarceration: From Social Policy to Social Problem.'

"Professor Simon wrote that few people truly understood the origins of the public policy that led to mass incarceration. His chapter made a powerful case showing that high imprisonment rates were the result of a systematic, deliberate strategy. That logic suggested that our nation's massive prison system wasn't a failure at all, but a resounding success. Legislators and policy makers strove to build more prisons and lock more people in cages, warehousing them for lengthy periods of time. The objective of building a massive prison system didn't include mechanisms that would encourage prisoners to work toward earning freedom, to redeem themselves, or to prepare for a return to society as law-abiding citizens. The public policy didn't concern itself with recidivism rates, but instead aspired to keep society safe with the questionable strategy of simply removing offenders from society for the duration of their sentences. The public policy required the building of many more prisons, necessitating expenditures without accountability that united both political parties at all levels of government. ..."

Peacefully,
--Warren

Proposed SEYM Youth Programming for 2012/2013

Submitted by Ann Sundberg, Clerk of Youth Committee June 8, 2012

1. September 1-3 Labor Day Weekend Service Event for Juniors/Teens in Miami
 - a. we will add elementary age day event for local youth
 - b. youth committee participants: Ann, Rolf, Dustin, Kathy
 - c. proposed local service project at farm in Homestead. Kathy H. writes: "Mario heads up a community garden project in the Homestead area which helps poor people grow nutritious food to supplement their diets." Mario wrote: "We are building 6 acres of beds all together over the next year, so many hands would GREATLY appreciated. Also for the less physically inclined, we will be starting lots of plants in the nursery."
 - d. proposed stop at Coalition of Immokalee Workers en route to learn more about Publix tomato boycott
 - e. need to plan: opening closing events, queries for worship sharing around service
2. November 23-24 HYM - all ages environmental programming on Friday and Saturday
 - a. youth committee participants: Dustin, Josh, Ann, Rolf, Sandy
 - b. Wilderness explorer activities on Friday (led by Sandy/Bruce)
age appropriate wilderness skills: fire building, creating emergency shelter, edible plants, knot tying, orienteering
 - c. Project Wild nature games (led by Rolf)
 - d. Hike (led by Josh)
 - e. living newspaper: friday afternoon/evening
 - f. canoeing trip on Sat morning
 - g. youth cook meal Sat evening, plan locally grown menu and gather food from local gardens CSAs, farmer's markets prior to heading up to HYM
3. January Michener event: elem and junior/ teen (Orlando MM provides childcare for wee)
 - a. Cece and Rolf: Elementary activity to be planned at nearby park
 - b. Ann and Dustin: junior/teen fair-trade/sweatshop scavenger hunt at Millenium Mall (contact Jen Cotter from Gainesville for help planning)
4. Yearly Meeting March 27 -31: YM environmental theme
program coordinator: Ann Sundberg
teen workers: Josh Rumschlag & Susan Taylor
junior workers: Dustin Lemke & Erica Schoon
elementary workers: Cece Yocum & Rolf Hanson
wee workers: Shauna Coolican & Gail Rogers
(Note: We spent quite a bit of time debriefing YM 2012 over Memorial Day event and are forwarding our thoughts directly to Gathering Committee.)
5. June: Lobby/Advocacy Trip to Washington DC with FCNL/William Penn House
 - a. lead up public speaking/letter writing skills training:
 - b. youth committee (led by Dustin Lemke - Professor of Public Speaking) will develop materials and training (offered at HYM & Michner Sat)for MM First Day schoola to prepare juniors/teens for letter writing and public speaking prior to DC trip
6. Gainesville Meeting is looking into a regional youth service project. Youth committee supports this initiative.
7. Researching Florida History Fair Special Prize (Note: e-mailed FHF, waiting for response)
When costs/logistics are determined will bring the following minute to FIBM.
" The SEYM Youth Committee recommends that SEYM sponsor a special recognition prize at the Florida History Fair to encourage historical research into peace and social justice issues."
8. Possible backpacking trip in Ocala forest led by Josh Rumschlag and Sandy Lyon.
To be determined...

Secretary's Report

to EC 06/09/2012 to be held at Tampa Meeting House

An overview of Fiscal Year 2011-2012:

This is a year to cheer, culminating in music celebratory Annual Sessions and Gathering-2012. Being named a Delegate to FWCC's 6th World Conference of Friends, Kenya (Friends World Committee on Consultation) was quickly followed by the QUIP AGM (Quakers Uniting in Publication) at Pendle Hill. This spring, SEYM guests Cece Yocum and Jerry Knutson lead workshops for my local meeting's enrichment hosted by the office/me. I highly recommend SEYM's home page for a link to list of available speakers and workshop leaders: <<http://www.seym.org/Workshops.html>>.

Much has been accomplished this past year, much has been learned, much is left to be done. Following YBM-Gathering I decided to attempt to cut my hours back to 40 hours/week! Task juggling has always been my forte, but aspects of this wonderful SEYM administrative secretary job require both linear and creative thinking without interruptions. However, long hours are the norm to meet the needs of those who work 9-5 elsewhere and with whom the office needs to have contact. I will be handing in my resignation for May 31, 2013 thereby providing SEYM the privilege of having sufficient Quaker-time for a transition year.

Office priorities for summer 2012:

Traditionally, summer time has been publishing time and respite time from demands of busy committee expectations. This summer's work includes:

- 1) Publishing the two lecture pamphlets, *The SEYM Journal*, periodic e-newsletters.
- 2) Combining Financial Reporting to more clearly reflect the entire spectrum of income/expenses into one report (pie chart clarity?) showing the general budget items, the gathering committee budget, the HYM budget, and Michener Lecture budget with income and expenses combined. Actually QBP as set up, does provide this information, but it is massive and not easy to understand. Honing will do wonders.

Since YBM:

This spring provided a whirlwind tour of the Rift Valley and a trip to Pendle Hill.

Stunning. Being at the FWCC 6th World Conference was an absolutely stunning experience. I thank you for naming me to be one of SEYM's three Delegates in Kenya (see seym.org and Face Book for pictures). I left on my actual 26-hour flight three days after YBM-2012 traveling from Melbourne, FL, to Atlanta, to Amsterdam, to Nairobi. I flew over the Rift Valley from Nairobi to Lodwar, Turkana, spending five days in the desert visiting twelve Friends Meetings/Churches including the Meeting in the Refuge Camp. Our group of fourteen included 12 unprogrammed Friends from Australia, Great Britain, Germany, and the USA and two Friends from the programmed tradition. We walked, we talked, we attended meetings for worship, we drank the water, enjoyed the food, experienced the dry winds, our three-jeep tour had several roadside stops: blown tire, photo opportunities, and every few kilometers along the roadside people asking for—not food, not handouts, but—water. We never had sufficient quantity.

A one hour flight took us from Turkana to Eldoret to commence the rainy night five-hour drive to Kabarak University near Nakuru Town for the 8-day World Conference. I don't have all the stats for the Conference but let it suffice to say that translations were offered in English, French, and Spanish. All the colors of God's people were present; all the sounds of God's children singing were heard; all the musical instruments that Friends brought were enjoyed from classical violin and opera, to drums and rap. Reports and programs were given by each of the

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sections: North America, South America, Europe and the Middle East, North and Central Africa, South Africa, the Asians and the Philippines. Home Groups of 12-15 gathered just before lunch for checking-in time to discern how we each were doing. Thread Groups of concerns and subjects for position papers met each afternoon. Tea-time occurred twice a day on the lawns in front of the auditorium and the dorms. All too soon it was over and we were climbing into busses to the airport or to post-conference trips. My trip was to the Ambrosili Lodge in the shadow of Mt. Kilimanjarai where some fifteen of us in three safari vans saw God's critters in an unfenced zoo. We enjoyed a meeting for worship with Bissell Friends Meeting, the only Maasia Meeting in the world, before departing for our homelands.

Home again, for a handful of days, I did bookkeeping and mail, and was off for a weekend trip to Pendle Hill to attend the QUIP AGM. It, too, is international in scope with English and Spanish speaking Friends gathering to support one another's efforts in publishing Quaker words to the wider world of Friends and seekers. This was my last year as Recording Clerk so future attendance is not mandatory. The hot button for me is encouraging Friends to support Quaker Bookstores rather than Amazon and B&N with formats for e-readers.

SEYM greatly benefits by supporting its representatives and delegates to the wider world of Quakerism.

Being respected and visible by adding SEYM voices to the world stage promotes Quaker values to the wider secular world. ProNica., Inc., a beloved organization birthed by SEYM continues/albeit struggles to continue to be a voice for those who seek to empower themselves. We are the richer for helping others; we are richer for the benefits received by being involved .



I may or may not be with you for this EC meeting. Family 'cheers' and sorrows may take precedence. The cheers are for granddaughter Louisa who qualified for the Youth Rowing National Regatta at Oak Ridge, TN, this weekend, and rowing for Princeton this coming year! Daughter Anne is the chaperone for the Mt. Baker women's crews. It would have been nice to see them. The sorrows are the continuing decline of my sister's health with possible hospitalization to be determined tomorrow. I had hoped to drive and take Basil so that my time in Virginia would have had some flexibility returning to FL mid-week—lots of miles to cover after this past grueling work week.

Do enjoy your time together, with or without me; time is precious.

Respectfully submitted by Lyn Cope