

**Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends  
Minutes of the Yearly Business Meeting  
Third Month, 27<sup>th</sup> Day to Third Month 31<sup>st</sup> Day, 2013**

**First Plenary Session**

**Fourth Day, Third Month, Day 27, 2013 – 4:15 p.m.**

**AGENDA**

- Opening Worship
  - Reading from Scripture
  - Welcome
  - Roll Call of Meetings and Worship Groups with Milestones
  - Introduction of Visitors
  - General Announcements
  - Agenda review with corrections as necessary
  - Appointment of ad hoc committee for SEYM Epistle 2013
  - Nominating Committee Preliminary Report, Susan Taylor, clerk
  - Open Worship
- A. Friends gathered and settled into worshipful, attentive silence to begin the first plenary.
- B. Seated at the Clerk's table for this and subsequent sessions were Phoebe Andersen, Tallahassee MM, Yearly Meeting (YM) Clerk; Joel Cook, Palm Beach MM, Assistant Clerk; and Jan Dahm and Lisa Erasmus, Tampa MM, Recording co-clerks.
- C. Joel Cook, Assistant Clerk read from Scripture: Romans 12:3-13  
*For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.*
- D. The Clerk opened with words of welcome.
- E. The Assistant Clerk made some announcements:
1. Cheryl Demers-Holton was announced as the medical professional present.
  2. There will be an Executive Committee meeting over dinner
- F. Roll Call of Meetings and Worship Groups with Milestones (See Appendices A and B)
- G. Agenda review with corrections as necessary
- H. Appointment of ad hoc committee for SEYM Epistle 2013
1. Cheryl Demers-Holton
  2. Ellie Caldwell
  3. Barbara Wolfe
- I. Preliminary Report from Nominating Committee: Susan Taylor, clerk of Nominating Committee gave the preliminary report from Nominating Committee (attached)

## Second Plenary Session

Fifth Day, Third Month, Day 28, 2013 – 6:30 p.m.

- A. Friends gathered and settled into worshipful, attentive silence to begin the second plenary.
- B. A threshing session took place speaking to the charitable donations of SEYM to Quaker and non-Quaker organizations
  1. A Friend shared the process by which Gainesville MM fulfilled their intention for a spirit-led process for contributing and truthful use of funds.
    - a. Put beans in jars to represent where people wanted funds to be spent
    - b. Considered fixed categories (apportionment, utilities, etc.)
    - c. Looked at what individuals were involved in and support those
    - d. Desires were threshed around worship.
    - e. Ended with a query: Do we want to cut donations? Do we want to cut donations by a percentage and put the remaining funds elsewhere?
  2. A Friend shared her bias and particular love for and loyalty to the organization that carries her time and spoke to critical nature of time and environmental issues, mentioning the fact that not all organizations have the same pressure of time. A query was brought forward as to the validity of giving by rote and whether or not we should rather discern our giving.
  3. A Friend stated the need that had been discerned to re-examine the work of ProNica through the lens of Quaker testimonies and change the work to remain relevant. Perhaps other organizations might do the same.
  4. The question was raised whether SEYM budgets were available for review. Treasurer, Neil Andersen, provided answers as needed.
  5. A concern was brought forward regarding any discussion of cutting ties with Quaker organizations that further Quaker witness to the wider world.
  6. The query was brought forward: Can we identify a process of queries that can be used by the Finance Committee and the YM body for discernment of our donations?
  7. The idea was brought forward that Friends should get to know the various organizations so that they know to what they are donating funds. An example of where missing information was made available was the missing link on the SEYM web site for Quaker House. That was brought forth and rectified so now Friends can find out more about Quaker House as well as other organizations from the SEYM web site.
  8. A query was brought forward: How do we discern what form of support each organization needs? Members need to be encouraged to take steps to fulfill these needs or make corporate contributions.
  9. A historical view of ProNica was shared.
  10. In discernment by Monthly Meetings as regards donations to various groups, if the MM decides to cut funding for a particular project/organization, does an individual pick it up if they feel strongly the need to continue to support that organization?
  11. Queries need to be established to delineate needs for discernment.
  12. Information was shared that while Quakers don't tithe, actually 11% of the total budget goes to donations. The questions remain of how much we give to which organizations and how much per group.
  13. One Friend brought forth the observation that using existing SEYM queries and advices shows that our donations are reflected in those.
  14. One Friend stated the need to search our hearts to see if we trust each other to follow God's will and if we trust each other it will come out right.

## Third Plenary Session

Sixth Day, Third Month, Day 29, 2013 – 10:00 a.m.

### AGENDA

- Opening worship
  - Reading from Scripture
  - Welcome of Friends and visitors not previously introduced (See Appendix C – YM Registrants 2013 – for full list of those registered for YM – not necessarily attenders of Business Meeting sessions)
  - General Announcements
  - Review and approval of Executive Committee minutes – Ann Jerome, Executive Committee clerk
  - Review and approval of Interim Business Meeting Minutes – Ann Jerome, Interim Business Meeting clerk
  - Treasurer’s Report – Neil Andersen, Treasurer
  - First reading of 2013-2014 budget – Finance Committee
  - First reading of Action Minutes from SEYM committees and representatives
  - Review of minutes for approval
  - Closing worship
- A. Friends gathered and settled into worshipful, attentive silence to begin the third plenary session
- B. Joel Cook, assistant clerk read from Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 5:11-18  
*Encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing. But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labor among you, and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. And we urge you, beloved, to admonish the idlers, encourage the faint hearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them. See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances.*
- C. Joel Cook, assistant clerk read an epistle from the FLGBTQC Mid-Winter Gathering. (attached)
- D. Announcements
1. Anyone seeking pastoral care during YM can see Jerry Knutsen, Nancy Rose Logan, or Sybil Brennan from Worship and Ministry
  2. A reminder of the presence of Cheryl Demers-Horton as the on-site- medical professional should needs arise.
  3. A reminder to not block the fire extinguisher when moving furniture.
  4. Phoebe Andersen, clerk of SEYM and Faith and Practice clerk, announced the publication of Faith and Practice – availability in three weeks online and 6-8 weeks in print.
- E. Roll Call
- F. Minutes were brought forward from the Executive Committee Meetings in the summer as EC, at Fall Interim Business Meeting, and at Winter Interim Business Meeting for the approval of the Yearly Meeting body.

**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.**

**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.**

**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**

**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.**

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

**12FIBM01 - SEYM meeting at FIBM approves the appointment of:**

- **Dustin Lemke of Tampa MM as SEYM representative to the Florida Council of Churches with a term ending in 2015.**
- **Dustin Lemke of Tampa MM as Half-Yearly Meeting clerk for a three-year term ending in 2015.**
- **Cecelia Yocum of Tampa MM as a continuing SEYM representative to Friends Peace Teams for a three-year term ending in 2015.**
- **Reinstatement of Lyn Cope of Space Coast MM as member of the Pro-Nica Board with the term ending in 2013.**
- **Johannes Werner of Sarasota MM as a Board Member of Pro-Nica for a three year term ending in 2015.**
- **Ellie Caldwell from Palm Beach MM to Trustees to fill the unexpired term of Herb Haigh ending in 2015.**

**12FIBM02 – Finance Committee requests the SEYM membership recorder provide the monthly meeting statistics (as received by January 31) to Finance Committee clerk no later than the end of February.**

**12FIBM03 - Youth Committee expresses profound gratitude to Miami Monthly Meeting for hosting out 2012 Labor Day Service Weekend. The experience opened the hearts and minds of the SEYM Youth Program to the Coalition of Immokalee Workers Campaign for Fair Food.**

**12FIBM04 – SEYM at FIBM agrees with the Quaker Youth on their proposals for supporting the fair practices and penny-a-pound-more Campaign for Farmworkers. We ask that monthly Meetings minute their support. We also ask that Friends sign the letter to Publix and submit it locally to Publix, and commit to learning more and acting to improve the conditions affecting farmworkers.**

**12FIBM05 – FIBM wishes to express our gratitude to St. Petersburg Meeting for hosting this year's FIBM. Thank you for your support, effort, caring, and warm hospitality that created a welcoming sense for all.**

**13WIBM01 – SEYM as WIBM accepts, with three additions, the report from SEYM Subcommittee on Personnel Issues and the Work of the Yearly Meeting and expresses its gratitude for the Subcommittee's faithful work. This committee is hereby laid down.**

**13WIBM02 – SEYM as WIBM accepts Executive Committee's process for the formation of a Search Committee for the positions of Administrative Secretary and Bookkeeper. A minimum of three Friends will serve on this committee. Andrea Walsh and Ellie Caldwell volunteered to serve. SEYM as WIBM accepts these volunteers with gratitude. EC Clerk is charged with appointing additional members of the Search Committee.**

**13WIBM03 – SEYM as WIBM approves the formation of an ad hoc committee appointed by EC Clerk to envision SEYM publications, including web and electronic. The committee is to be appointed in time to report at YBM sessions.**

**13WIBM04 – SEYM as WIBM approves the formation of an ad hoc committee appointed by EC Clerk to search for a contract worker to handle completion of 2013 publication of Michener Lecture, Walton Lecture, and Faith & Practice. The committee is to be appointed in time to report at YBM sessions.**

**13WIBM05 – SEYM as WIBM supports the Youth Committee's decision to redirect the committee's funds from a proposed trip to Washington DC to work with FCNL to attendance at FGC Gathering at Greeley, CO. We celebrate the youth and representatives of the committee attending FGC Gathering and presenting a workshop, "Invisible Walls: Advocacy, Strategies, and Skills." This workshop will bring the work of the Fair Food Campaign and a representative of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers to the 2013 FGC Gathering.**

**13WIBM06 – Southeastern Yearly Meeting wishes to express thanks and appreciation to the Orlando Monthly Meeting for hosting the Winter Interim Business Meeting and the Michener Lecture. Your love, warmth and many kind deeds carry us through a wonderful time of gathering as a community. We are especially thankful for your graciousness when things do not go as planned.**

**13WIBM07 – SEYM as WIBM approves the nomination of Barbara Wolfe (Tampa Monthly Meeting), to serve on the Nominating Committee for a term ending at the rise of Yearly Business Meeting in 2014.**

**13YEC01 – Executive Committee as Personnel Committee accepts with gratitude the first report of the search committee to identify candidates for the position of Administrative Secretary and thanks them for their extensive work and deep discernment.**

**13YEC02 – Executive Committee approves the intention to hire Vicki Carlie as SEYM Administrative Secretary. Details of salary and transition logistics will be negotiated and submitted for EC's approval by an ad hoc subcommittee of Ann Jerome, Joel Cook, and Peter Crockett.**

**13YEC03 – Executive Committee as Personnel Committee will review the job descriptions of SEYM Administrative Secretary and Bookkeeper after FIBM 2013, and again annually upon regular personnel review.**

**13YEC04 – Executive Committee approves contracting with a publishing professional to fulfill the design, layout, and publication of the 2013 Michener Lecture and 2013 Walton Lecture pamphlets up to the amount in the approved budget current as of the contract date.**

**13YEC05 – SEYM recognizes the need for staff to have appropriate office equipment and software provided for its working office(s). Therefore, Executive Committee approves purchasing SEYM-dedicated office technology and equipment, and software appropriate to the tasks.**

**13YEC06 – Executive Committee of the Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends minutes appreciation of Lyn Cope's many years of faithful service to SEYM as Administrative Secretary. Her many talents generously shared and her dedication to serving the YM have helped make SEYM a vibrant, loving, and blessed community.**

**13YEC07 – Executive Committee approves supporting Lisa Stewart's ministry in Kenya to the amount of \$500 from the Contingency Fund. It is felt that this witness of loving support expresses the SEYM minute of relationship with FUM.**

**13YEC08 – To support the ongoing activities of the Youth Committee and the need for advance planning, Executive Committee approves having Youth Committee funds carry over from one fiscal year to the next with an annual review by the Finance Committee and the Treasurer.**

**13YEC09 – All funds that carry over will have an annual review by the Finance Committee and Treasurer for reasonableness of the balance that exists in the fund and expenditures from it.**

**13YBM01 – All of the minutes recorded during the 2012-2013 Executive Committee and Interim Business Meeting Gatherings were brought before the Yearly Meeting body and were accepted by SEYM.**

G. Treasurer's Report – Neil Andersen gave the Treasurer's report. (attached)

**13YBM02 – SEYM accepted the Treasurer's Report as provided and explained by the Treasurer.**

- H. First reading of 2013-2014 budget – Finance Committee – Neil Andersen presented the first reading of the budget for Nil Wilkins who was unable to be in attendance due to a family matter. After the report, the floor was opened for questions and comments. Friends were asked to consider the report and all that was brought forward regarding it until the second reading when approval would be sought from the body.
- I. First reading of Action Minutes from SEYM committees and representatives
1. Barbara Letsch from the Committee for Earthcare brought forward a minute on Climate Change (attached). It was proposed that this minute was being read for the first time for seasoning by Friends until next SEYM 2014. It was requested that Monthly Meetings thresh this minute using the Care of God's Creation queries as a foundation.
  2. Joel Cook read the following minute from Orlando Monthly Meeting:  
Orlando Meeting received a letter from Friends at Orange City Worship Group to request that Orange City Worship Group come under the care of Orlando Monthly Meeting. Friends at Orange City Worship Group are members of long standing at Winter Park and Orlando Monthly Meeting. It was the sense of Orlando Friends that they would joyfully accept the responsibility of bringing Orange City Worship Group under the care of Orlando Monthly Meeting. Orlando Friends seek a minute of recognition from SEYM as we take these Friends under our care.
  3. Review of minutes for approval  
**13YBM01 – All of the minutes recorded during the 2012-2013 Executive Committee and Interim Business Meeting Gatherings were brought before the Yearly Meeting body and were accepted by SEYM.**  
**13YBM02 – SEYM accepted the Treasurer's Report as provided and explained by the Treasurer.**  
SEYM approved these two minutes.
  4. Closing Worship

**Fourth Plenary Session**  
**Seventh Day, Third Month, Day 30, 2013 – 10:00 a.m.**

**AGENDA**

- Opening worship
- Reading from Scripture
- Welcome of Friends and visitors not previously introduced
- General Announcements
- ProNica Report – Melissa Ajabshir; Laura Hopps
- Worship and Ministry Report, Nancy Triscritti, clerk
- Second reading of Action Minutes from SEYM committees and representatives
- Second reading of 2013-2014 budget – Finance Committee
- Review of minutes for approval
- Closing worship

A. Friends gathered and settled into worshipful, attentive silence to begin the third plenary session

B. Joel Cook, assistant clerk read from Scripture: Ephesians 4:1-4, 25-32

*I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling. So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make room for the devil. Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another.*

C. Welcome of Friends and visitors not previously introduced

D. General Announcements

1. Anyone seeking pastoral care during YM can see Jerry Knutsen, Nancy Rose Logan, or Sybil Brennan from Worship and Ministry
2. A reminder of the presence of Cheryl Demers-Horton as the on-site- medical professional should needs arise. The First Aid kit had arrived. See Vicki Mariner for information.
3. A workshop on AFSC's work in Florida will take place this afternoon at 4:15-5:30 pm.
4. ProNica has crafts for sale and Worship Shearing is outside
5. Lost and Found items announced.
6. A QEW trifold is available "Earthcare, Our Spiritual Journey Home" co-authored by Mary Jo Klingel, Ft. Lauderdale MM. Please read and share.
7. At the QEW meeting this afternoon, David Millar, our guest from Quebec, will give a presentation on "Living Water: a follow-up to the FWCC Kabarok call for Peace and Economic Justice".
8. Please fill out evaluation forms before leaving the Gathering
9. At least one shawl is still available – proceeds go to the Youth Fund.

E. Youth Committee brought forward a presentation regarding the Coalition of Immokalee Workers Fair Food Campaign. They shared their process of following a leading in the manner of Friends. Minutes of support were received from many Monthly Meetings and acknowledged by the youth. They requested a minute of support from SEYM and offered the following query for Friends to discern in the silence: What does your heart call upon you to do? The following is the proposed minute:

**13YBM03 – SEYM supports the Coalition of Immokalee Workers Fair Food Campaign calling for respect, fair working conditions for farmworkers, and an additional penny per pound for picking tomatoes. We encourage Publix and other food suppliers to agree to the Fair Food Campaign.**

SEYM approved this minute with much gratitude.

A discussion ensued regarding how Friends can respond in a deeper manner and/or engage with Publix, etc. Phoebe Andersen, YM clerk, requested that Friends take the next year to season this information and that the following SEYM committees: Peace and Social Concerns, Racism, and the Committee for Earthcare will work with the youth committee to work on solutions and more modes of support. The following minute was proposed for this work:

**13YBM04 – SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends will take the concern of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers Fair Food Campaign under its care through discernment by Peace and Social Concerns Committee, the Committee for Ministry on Racism, and the Committee for Earthcare seeking way forward with the leading and work of our Quaker Youth.**

F. Trustees Report – Carl Hersh gave the report from the Trustees.

G. ProNica Report - Melissa Ajabshir, Laura Hopps, and Kathy Hersh gave the ProNica report. Financially, the organization is in a deficit but the hope is that the strength of the mission will be enough to keep the organization running and maintain the good work of the “change-makers”. Some of the good work includes: Domestic Violence shelter in Managua, work against human trafficking, closing of the city dump, the “quinchos” program that works with the most marginalized children.

ProNica presented the following two minutes:

1. ProNica wishes to express our deep appreciation for Lyn Cope’s service as a SEYM appointed ProNica board member. Her counsel on Quaker process, sound business sense, and her solidarity were invaluable to ProNica’s continued development.
2. ProNica wishes to note our appreciation to Tim Fogarty for his years of service. His compassion for and knowledge of Nicaragua have been invaluable.

H. Worship and Ministry: Nancy Fennell gave the report for Worship and Ministry (Report in DIA). Additional information since the DIA: The Michener Lecturer for 2014 is Deborah Fisch from FGC, Iowa YM (Conservative). The Intervisitation Project resulted in 50% of the Monthly Meetings/Worship Groups being visited with love and care by traveling pairs of Friends on behalf of SEYM.

The following minute was brought forward for Nancy Fennell:

Worship and Ministry requests approval from the body of Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends for the endorsement of the following travel letter for Nancy Fennell to carry as she travels in the ministry outside of SEYM. (Letter attached)

The minute was approved as follows:

**13YBM05 – SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends approves the request of Worship and Ministry for the endorsement of the travel letter for Nancy Fennell to carry as she travels in the ministry outside of SEYM.**

- I. Second reading of 2013-2014 budget – Finance Committee  
The second reading of the budget was presented by Neil Andersen. He stated that there were no changes or recommendations from the first reading. Neil clarified various points from the first reading.  
**13YBM06 – SEYM approves the 2013-2014 budget as presented by the Finance Committee.**
- J. Second reading of Action Minutes from SEYM committees and representatives  
**13YBM07 – Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends approves with appreciation Orlando Monthly Meeting taking the Orange City Worship Group under its care.**  
**13YBM08 – SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends appreciates Carl Hersh’s years of running the sound and video equipment for the Yearly Meeting sessions. His service enhances the Yearly Meeting sessions and is a blessing to us.**
- K. Review of minutes for approval  
**13YBM03 – SEYM supports the Coalition of Immokalee Workers Fair Food Campaign calling for respect, fair working conditions for farmworkers, and an additional penny per pound for picking tomatoes. We encourage Publix and other food suppliers to agree to the Fair Food Campaign.**  
**13YBM04 – SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends will take the concern of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers Fair Food Campaign under its care through discernment by Peace and Social Concerns Committee, the Committee for Ministry on Racism, and the Committee for Earthcare seeking way forward with the leading and work of our Quaker Youth.**  
**13YBM05 – SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends approves the request of Worship and Ministry for the endorsement of the travel letter for Nancy Fennell to carry as she travels in the ministry outside of SEYM.**  
**13YBM06 – Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends approves with appreciation Orlando Monthly Meeting taking the Orange City Worship Group under its care.**  
**13YBM07 – SEYM approves the 2013-2014 budget as presented by the Finance Committee.**  
**13YBM08 – SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends appreciates Carl Hersh’s years of running the sound and video equipment for the Yearly Meeting sessions. His service enhances the Yearly Meeting sessions and is a blessing to us.**
- L. Closing worship

**Fifth Plenary Session**  
**Seventh Day, Third Month, Day 30, 2013 – 1:15 p.m.**

**AGENDA**

- Opening worship
  - Peace and Social Concerns Committee Report
  - Finance Committee Discernment Session #2 – Discernment on the Need for a SEYM Development Committee
  - Review of minutes for approval
  - Closing worship
- A. Friends gathered and settled into worshipful, attentive silence to begin the third plenary session
- B. Peace and Social Concerns Committee Report  
Eduardo Diaz, Miami MM, reported on the upcoming National Conference of the Alternatives to Violence Project – May 24-27 to be held in Miami.  
Eduardo Diaz also announced: "Ramon Gonzalez Longoria, the Clerk of the World Body of Friends, Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC), and a Quaker who directs the Cuban Quaker Institute of Peace in Cuba, will be hosted on April 4th [2013] at the home of Elaine Petrella, 11409 S.W. 110 Lane, Miami, FL (Sabal Chase). It will be a Pot Luck. FWCC was created after WWI - to keep communications open among Quakers of worship traditions. It is organized in 4 different sections. The sections are: Section of Americas; Africa Section; Section of Europe and Middle East; and Asian and Western Pacific Section. FWCC works for peace among Quakers through a series of regional consultations. We look forward to a dynamic conversation."  
Warren Hoskins gave the Peace and Social Concerns Committee Report. This report included the Committee Report, the Historic Peace Churches Report, and a Remembrance reflection for Scott Herrick (Field Secretary of the Former Miami Peace Education Office of the AFSC in Miami). Copies of all three of these reports are attached to these minutes.
- C. Discernment on the Need for a SEYM Development Committee – Friends held a threshing session regarding the need for a Development Committee to find creative ways to raise funds for various projects that arise.
1. The query brought forward for threshing was whether or not there is a need for a Development Committee and ways it can be effective. Thoughts shared are as follows:
  2. The committee could be charged with reminding Monthly Meetings to pay their apportionments and make Monthly Meetings aware of upcoming events or groups needing funding. This would include interfacing with FGC stewardship regarding planned giving.
  3. The query was raised of when Friends were reminded to contribute as individuals. Finance Committee was asked to consider the use of an appeal letter.
  4. An option was brought forward to seek funds from outside of YM (grants, loans, etc.) but caution was also voiced regarding possible restrictions on donations from outside sources.
  5. The query was raised: Why are we spending so much time discussing money rather than the ways God works through us evidenced by work shared in committee reports.
  6. A suggestion was made to change the apportionment to a flat fee based on groupings of size and percentage.
  7. A separate committee could be formed OR use the existing finance committee who could seek additional individual contributions.
  8. A proposal was brought forward to have a Development Committee for a year to 'try it on for size' to see if it worked.
  9. Could a group write queries about money and what it means to us? A period of silence was given for discernment.
  10. Reminders of needs for funds are helpful at the Monthly Meeting level but would also help at SEYM level.
  11. This concern will be brought to EC for further discernment.
- D. The session closed with silent worship

## Sixth Plenary Session

First Day, Third Month, Day 31, 2013 – 9:00 a.m.

### AGENDA

- Opening worship
  - Reading from Scripture
  - General Announcements
  - Second Reading for approval of the Nominating Committee Report – Susan Taylor, clerk
  - Gathering Committee Report, Peter Crockett
  - Epistles – Wee Friends, Young Friends, Teen Friends (this will occur whenever these Friends arrive in the auditorium)
  - SEYM Epistle – reading and approval
  - Minutes of Appreciation
  - Review of minutes for approval
  - Closing worship
- A. Friends gathered and settled into worshipful, attentive silence to begin the third plenary session
- B. Joel Cook, assistant clerk read from Scripture: Isaiah 55:1-3  
*Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;  
and you that have no money, come, buy and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.  
Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,  
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?  
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.  
Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live.  
I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love.*
- C. Announcements
1. Please remember to fill out an evaluation form before leaving the Gathering
  2. Take copies of reports/documents that had not made it into the DIA
  3. Remember to pick up directories for your Monthly Meetings
  4. Mercedes Soca expressed gratitude to Tampa Monthly Meeting and all others who made possible her participating in the 2013 YM Gathering
- D. Second Reading for approval of the Nominating Committee report: Susan Taylor, clerk, gave the Nominating Committee Second Reading (attached). This final report will be attached to the minutes and should be used to replace the non-updated lists in the directory.  
**13YBM09 – SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends accepts the Nominating Committee Report. Friends express deep gratitude for the faithful work of this committee in listening and responding to the Spirit.**
- E. Gathering Committee Report: Peter Crockett gave the Gathering Committee Report thanking the various people involved in the planning and implementation of the Gathering.  
**13YBM10 – SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends accepts the Gathering Committee Report with joyous thanks.**  
Next year is the 50<sup>th</sup> year of the Gathering – The Gathering is Fourth Month 16-20, 2014. Speaker is Brent Bill, New Meeting Project Coordinator of FGC – “Quakers in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: How do we Address our Traditional Testimonies in a 21<sup>st</sup> Century World?”

F. Yearly Meeting Gathering Epistle: Cheryl Demers-Holton read the YM Epistle (attached) for the Gathering Epistle Committee.

**13YBM11 – Friends approved the 2013 SEYM epistle, which will be posted on the SEYM website and distributed.**

G. Wee Friend Henry, the elementary, and the juniors and teens of the Youth Program read their epistles.

**13YBM12 – SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends accepted the SEYM youth program epistles and the minutes of Young Adult Quakers. These will be posted on the SEYM website and distributed to “Friends Everywhere.”**

H. Minutes of Appreciation

**13YBM13 – SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends expresses its gratitude for the loving service of Lyn Cope as Administrative Secretary. She has become the office of SEYM, managing everything from international communications and networking, fundraising, publisher extraordinaire, bookkeeper, webmaster, and Administrative Secretary. Oftentimes she has been the glue that kept SEYM together, the innovator who has embraced the technology of the 21<sup>st</sup> century to enable and extend our outreach among Friends, and many more things too numerous to mention. Thank you, Friend, for all you have done for SEYM! We wish you peace and contentment in retirement with our love.**

**13YBM14 – SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends expresses their sincere thanks to the Florida United Methodist Life Enrichment Center for their gifts of hospitality and care during our annual sessions.**

**13YBM15 – SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends expresses their deep gratitude to Roy H. Taylor for his generous sharing of hope and witness on the concern for the Earth and its resources during the 2013 Walton Lecture and Workshops.**

**13YBM16 – SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends expresses their appreciation to all who were involved with making the Youth Program a reality and to all those who facilitated the activities of the Youth Program during our Yearly Gathering. You are the heart and soul of our Yearly Meeting and we are deeply grateful for all your work and Spirit-led witness.**

**13YBM17 – SEYM expresses deep and joyful gratitude to the Faith and Practice Committee for its faithful, loving, discernment and Spirit-filled work on drafting and completing our Southeastern Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice. Many, many hours were spent getting the draft ready for publication. SEYM also expresses deep gratitude to our Administrative Secretary who worked over and above her full-time hours to assist the committee in publication.**

I. Clerk expressed gratitude to all the body for the centeredness and love which supports our gifts of witness and work in the world.

J. The session closed with silent worship.

## Appendix A – Attendance – First Roll Call

### **Charleston MM**

Beth Eddy  
Mike Eddy

### **Clearwater MM**

Peter Day  
Susan Day

### **Ft. Lauderdale MM**

Mary Jo Klingel  
George Manion

### **Ft. Meyers MM**

Nancy Fennell  
Tom Fennell

### **Gainesville MM**

Cheryl Demers-Holton  
Tim Ray  
Connie Ray  
Gary Arthur

### **Halifax WG**

Carole McCleery

### **Havana WG**

Mercedes Soca

### **Jacksonville MM**

Elaine Martin

### **Lake Wales WG**

Caroline Lanker

### **Managua WG**

Laura Hopps

### **Miami MM**

Kody Hersh, YAQ – co-clerk  
David Hersh, YAQ – co-clerk  
Carl Hersh  
Kathy Hersh  
Warren Hoskins, Peace and Social Concerns clerk  
Andrea Hoskins  
Eduardo Diaz  
Clara Diaz  
Brad Stocker

### **Orange City WG**

Kathy Gaskill  
Jerry Knutson

### **Orlando MM**

Ann Jerome, Executive Committee and IBM clerk  
Martha Morris  
Bill Carlie  
Liz Jenkins  
Minerva Glidden  
Ed Lesnick  
Kay Lesnick

### **Palm Beach MM**

Joel Cook, YM and IBM assistant clerk,  
Ellie Caldwell, Cmte on Ministry for Racism clerk  
Barb Letsch – Committee for Earthcare clerk  
Lisa Stewart  
Dean Sherwin  
Marty Smith

### **Sarasota MM**

Mimi McAdoo  
Ann Sundberg  
Rolf Hanson  
Carol Bechtel  
Leslie Jacobs  
Johannes Werner  
Freddie Windsilver

### **Savannah MM**

Sandy Branam  
Harold Branam

### **Space Coast MM**

Lyn Cope, Administrative Secretary  
Wendy Wright

### **St. Petersburg MM**

Peter Crockett, Gathering Cmte co-clerk  
Davida Johns, Gathering Committee co-clerk  
Herb Haigh  
Melissa Ajabshir  
Dorothy Eaton

### **Tallahassee MM**

Phoebe Andersen  
Neil Andersen  
Tor Bejnar  
Susan Taylor, Nominating Committee clerk

### **Tampa MM**

Jan Dahm, SEYM recording co-clerk  
Lisa Erazmus, SEYM recording co-clerk  
Nancy Triscritti, Worship and Ministry co-clerk  
Barbara Wolfe  
Karen Putney  
Lou Putney  
Wayne Schucker  
Steve Kinney

### **Other Guests**

Steve Angell – Earlham School of Religion  
Lucy Duncan – AFSC Liaison  
Bill Reid – Guest of St. Pete MM  
Brent Bill – FGC Representative  
Lucio Perez

## Appendix B – Milestones

Many milestones were included in the Yearly Meeting Gathering DIA. A few additional milestones are as follows:

**Miami:** Returned members – Floyd Daniels and Phillip Williams; New member – Brad Stocker; Andrea Walsh (Transfer of membership from Tampa MM to Miami MM); Warren Hoskins and Andrea Walsh were married under the care of Miami Monthly Meeting.

**St. Petersburg:** There were two deaths: Barbara Mahal and Charles Smith, two new members: Peter Schmidt transferred from San Francisco and Susan Wade. Doug McConn and Becky Steele transferred to Portland Maine.

**Tallahassee:** Susan Taylor from Tallahassee MM reported that:

“We joyfully welcomed six new members in the past year -

- Juan Reza
- Mia Shargel
- Daniel Doan
- Angela Prather
- Toni Kirkwood Tucker
- Andree Seitz

We are also mourning the death, after Thanksgiving, of our beloved member of many years, Paulette Bond. As we celebrate her life, we carry in our hearts her radiant, gentle, accepting presence and her deeply Christ-centered life.” Our meeting helped with a memorial service for her on February 2, 2013 held at the Episcopal chapel on the FSU campus, where she and her husband, Per Rikvold were married 20 years ago.

**Tampa:** Cece Yocum and Tom Maciocha were married under the care of Tampa Monthly Meeting. Andrea Walsh (now Hoskins) transferred her membership to Miami MM.

## Appendix C – YM Registrants 2013

### **Charleston MM**

Beth Eddy  
Mike Eddy

### **Clearwater MM**

Peter Day  
Susan Day  
Mike Flanery  
Madelaine Woodman  
Eileen Zingaro

### **Ft. Lauderdale MM**

Cathlene Hammond  
Mary Jo Klingel  
George Manion

### **Ft. Meyers MM**

Nancy Fennell  
Tom Fennell  
Richard Frechette  
Nancy Howell  
Mary Smiley

### **Gainesville MM**

Gary Arthur  
Sybil Brennan  
Michael Canney  
Cheryl Demers-Holton  
Shawna Doran  
Cecilia Haecker\*  
Ella Johnson\*  
Jean Larson  
Sandy Lyon  
Betty Odum  
Catherine Puckett  
Tim Ray  
Connie Ray  
Laura Winefordner

### **Halifax WG**

Carole McCleery  
Richard McCleery

### **Havana WG**

Mercedes Soca

### **Jacksonville MM**

Connie Guenther  
Elaine Martin

### **Lake Wales WG**

Caroline Lanker

### **Managua WG**

Laura Hopps, ProNica

### **Miami MM**

Tere Campos  
Pat Coons  
Vincent Cosomano\*  
Clara Diaz  
Eduardo Diaz

Steve Donachie  
Carl Hersh  
David Hersh, YAQ – co-clerk  
Kathy Hersh  
Kody Hersh, YAQ – co-clerk  
Andrea Hoskins  
Warren Hoskins, P & S Concerns clerk  
April Merleaux  
Derek Merleaux  
Ezra Merleaux\*  
Leo Merleaux\*  
Gerry O'Sullivan  
Peter Schmidt  
Brad Stocker

### **Orange City WG**

Kathy Gaskill

### **Orlando MM**

Bill Carlie  
Vicki Carlie  
Chuck Deneen  
Minerva Glidden  
Sandra Ilardi  
Ann Jerome, EC and IBM clerk  
Jerry Knutson  
Chris Laning  
Ed Lesnick  
Kay Lesnick  
Martha Morris  
Kiran Nwakanma\*  
Priya Nwakanma\*  
Mira Tanna  
Marietta Wilhelm

### **Palm Beach MM**

Jack Bradin  
Ellie Caldwell, Cmt on Min/Racism clerk  
Joel Cook, YM and IBM assistant clerk,  
Shauna Coolican  
Sandra Heys  
Ann Kelley  
Barb Letsch, Cmte for Earthcare clerk  
Jack McGregor  
Lisa Stewart  
Dean Sherwin

### **Sarasota MM**

Natalie Baker  
Carol Bechtel  
Noah Connors\*  
Nancy Corindia  
Maddison Glynn\*  
Rolf Hanson  
Martin Hernandez\*  
Nancyrose Logan  
Steve Logan  
Mimi McAdoo  
Frank Palmeri  
Dave Rakyta  
Ann Sundberg

Kate Sundberg\*  
Lisa Sundberg\*  
Johannes Werner  
Sarah Werner  
Freddie Windriver

### **Savannah MM**

Harold Branam  
Sandy Branam  
Leslie Jacobs  
Frank Perch  
Liz Perch

### **Space Coast MM**

Lyn Cope, Administrative Secretary  
Wendy Wright

### **St. Petersburg MM**

Melissa Ajabshir  
Pamela Butler  
Peter Crockett, Gatherin Cmte co-clerk  
Dorothy Eaton  
Mark Grantham  
Herb Haigh  
Pamela Haigh  
Davida Johns, Gathering Cmte co-clerk  
Maurice Kurtz  
Bill Reid  
Joshua Rumschlag  
Sarah Rumschlag  
Pyotr Rumschlag\*  
Nancy Tait  
Susan Wade  
Emily Wilson\*  
Lin Young

### **Tallahassee MM**

Aurelio Anderson\*  
Neil Andersen  
Phoebe Andersen, YM clerk  
Tor Bejnar  
Elizabeth Firestone  
Suzanne Hodgkins  
Vicki Mariner  
Angela Prather  
Juan Reza  
Susan Taylor, Nominating Cmte clerk

### **Tampa MM**

Jocelyn Benton\*  
Jan Dahm, SEYM recording co-clerk  
Lisa Erazmus, SEYM recording co-clerk  
Steve Kinney  
Dustin Lemke  
Karen Putney  
Lou Putney  
Wayne Schucker  
Nancy Triscritti, Worship & Min co-clerk  
Barbara Wolfe  
Cecilia Yocum

**Other Guests**

Steve Angell, Earlham Sch of Religion  
Brent Bill, FGC Representative  
Daniel Booth, InterMountain  
Diane Byington, InterMountain

Lucy Duncan, AFSC Liaison  
Nadine Hoover, Friends Peace Teams  
William Lefler, Pittsburgh, PA  
David Millar, FWCC  
Lynn Newsom, Quaker House

Steve Newsom, Quaker House  
Lucio Perez, AFSC/SERO  
Eric Schoon, SAYMA  
Roy Taylor, SAYMA