

## **Numbered Minutes from Yearly Business Meeting 2014**

**14YBM01 – All of the minutes recorded during the 2013-2014 Executive Committee and Interim Business Meeting Gatherings were brought before the Yearly Meeting body and were accepted by SEYM.**

**14YBM02 – SEYM accepted the Treasurer's Report as provided and explained by the Treasurer.**

**14YBM03 – SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends approves distribution of a draft of apportionments. The final apportionments will be sent to Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups during Fifth Month.**

**14YBM04 – SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends approves adding to the 2014-2015 budget a donation of \$200 to Quaker House of Fayetteville, NC.**

**14YBM05 – SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends approves the combining of the donations to AFSC and AFSC-SERO into one line-item of \$200 for AFSC.**

**14YBM06 – SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends approves increasing the individual donation line item by \$200 to make the total \$2200.**

**14YBM07 – SEYM approves the 2014-2015 budget as presented by the Finance Committee with the above minuted changes.**

**14YBM08 – Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, brings this minute forward at a time when climate change is undeniable. The realities and impacts have become obvious as levels of CO<sub>2</sub> continue to rise past 400 ppm and are causing widespread global disruptions. As Floridians, we personally face catastrophic environmental damage from sea level rise, salt-water intrusion, and pollution of our aquifers, rivers, lakes and springs.**

**We as a religious community are called to respond now. We recognize we may feel overwhelmed and fear that humankind may not be equal to the task ahead. Many of us have used denial to protect us from what we see is coming. We understand with compassion that this is our attempt to protect ourselves from feelings of helplessness and hopelessness.**

**We need to remind ourselves that hope can be found in our Quaker faith and practices, in the unflinching presence of the Light, in our testimonies that guide us and clarify behaviors asked of us. We value the process of discerning leadings to give us the joy and determination to carry on. We find in our history that many Friends have found the resolve to bring attention and intention to the daunting work they faced, as we can.**

We acknowledge, with gratitude, the many individual efforts and changes Friends have already made, and the deep spiritual concern that motivates them. It is time we collectively address local, regional, and global climate issues. We can put our faith, completely, in the guidance of the Light to sustain and direct us.

We commit ourselves as a community to the following:

1. We resolve to see clearly the slow moving emergency of climate disruption, to educate ourselves and to seek to see the work that is ours as individuals and as communities.
2. We commit to seeking the Light to guide us in our efforts, to bringing the wisdom of our knowledge and the deep wisdom of our hearts to this work.
3. We commit as monthly meetings to discern our particular leadings and undertake them, especially joining locally with other groups who share our commitment.
4. We commit to provide emotional, practical and spiritual support to those who work to care for the Earth.
5. We will strive to create right relationships with and within Earth.
6. We commit ourselves to the well-being of our children and future generations of all beings whose lives will be so profoundly affected by what we do.

**14YBM09 – The Executive Committee minute regarding Naming Committee’s recommendations to Nominating Committee was approved by SEYM.**

**14YBM10 – Having been informed by SEYM teens of their concern for halting mountaintop removal in Appalachia, and of the connection of PNC Bank with the funding of these highly destructive commercial enterprises, and having heard the support of the SEYM teens minuted by the SEYM Peace and Social Concerns Committee, SEYM urges you (all Friends and those who learn of this Minute) to join in and show this support on Earth Day (4/22/2014) by attending the spirit led action at the PNC Bank shareholders meeting in Tampa.**

**14YBM11 – The SEYM Earthcare Committee joyfully supports the SEYM teens as allies of Earth Quaker Action Teams (EQAT), in peacefully persuading PNC Bank to divest and cease all financial relationships associated with mountaintop removal and invest in green jobs in Appalachia. The Earthcare Committee joins the SEYM teens in supporting spirit-led action at the PNC shareholders meeting in Tampa on Earth Day, 2014. We in the Earthcare Committee proudly recognize the teens who are translating the skills and strategies that they developed with their work as allies with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers Fair Food Campaign into this recent issue, Mountaintop Removal.**

**14YBM12 – SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends expresses gratitude for the witness to the Light within the Havana Worship Group and for sharing that Light with us.**

**14YBM13 – SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends approved the Nominating Committee’s second reading of the new positions being filled. Friends express deep gratitude for the faithful work of this committee in listening and responding to the Spirit.**

**14YBM14 – SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends accepts the Gathering Committee Report with joyful thanks.**

**14YBM15 – SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends accepted the SEYM youth program and YAQ epistles. These will be posted on the SEYM website and distributed to “Friends Everywhere.”**

**14YBM16 – SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends expresses deep appreciation to the Youth Committee, youth workers, and especially Ann Sundberg as clerk of the Youth Committee for their faithful and visionary work among our youth and teens. We are inspired and uplifted by the spirit of love and service we see alive among our youth, thanks to the dedication of these adult Friends.**

**14YBM17 – SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends discerned the leading to send letters of greeting and fellowship to the Managua and Havana Worship Groups as well as to the programmed Meeting in Havana.**

**14YBM18 – Friends approved with joy and gratitude the 2014 SEYM epistle, which will be posted on the SEYM website and distributed widely among Friends.**

**14YBM19 – 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.**