

Southeastern Yearly Meeting

of the Religious Society of Friends

Fall Executive Committee Meeting 2020

16 Tenth Month 2020

18 Friends gathered via videoteleconference. The meeting began with centered worship at 6:30 p.m. Out of the silence, Bill Carlie read a text from John Woolman written in 1763.

Our Gracious Creator cares and provides for all his creatures. His tender mercies are over all his works, and as far as his love influences our minds, so far we become interested in his workmanship and feel a desire to take hold of every opportunity to lessen the distresses of the afflicted and increase the happiness of the creation. Here we have the prospect of one common interest that to turn all that we possess into the channel of universal love becomes the business of our lives.

John Woolman

Bill Carlie reported that Phoebe Anderson is unable to either clerk or attend this meeting for health reasons, and that she suggested that he serve in her clerking role.

20FEC01: Friends approve Bill Carlie serving as Clerk Pro Temp for this evening.

Jacksonville Quakers: Friends were reminded that it was reported in April that the Jacksonville Monthly Meeting was laid down. It had also been reported that a few of that group joined the Gainesville Meeting and that some Friends were meeting monthly at the home of Heidi Lowey-Ball. But there appears to be no clarity as to whether the group wishes to become a formal Worship Group under the care of another Meeting or of SEYM. At the Winter Interim Business Meeting, an *ad hoc* Care Committee had been named to assist Jacksonville with their transition.

20FEC02: Executive Committee request that the *ad hoc* Care Committee (consisting of Liz Dykes, Jean Larson, Heidi Lowey-Ball, Mike Shell, and Susan Taylor), created to work with Jacksonville Monthly Meeting's transition to Worship Group, continue in its role and to inform SEYM how it can be of further assistance to the committee.

SEYM Faith & Practice Publication Availability: Karen Putney shared her concern about the need to make SEYM's Faith & Practice publication more available, especially on-line. Friends noted that F&P can be downloaded to Kindles and other digital readers, and that the SEYM office usually has paper copies available for purchase (they are ordered in quantities of 22). But Friends recognized that these sources of the publication cost money, an expense which some may not afford or be willing to incur especially if they are seekers and not committed Quakers. We noted that F&P had been available on our website in the form of a readable/downloadable pdf file. Putting the latest publication back on our website would even make it available in libraries.

20FEC03: Executive Committee recommend to Fall Interim Business Meeting that steps be taken to once again place SEYM's Faith & Practice on the SEYM website as a .pdf file accessible to all and asks the Publications Committee to determine how this can best be done.

Quaker retirement community: We discussed the matter of a potential Quaker retirement community. The Clerk read from the report presented in Documents in Advance by Susan and Daniel Vaugh regarding this matter. Some Friends noted that Quaker retirement communities are rarely if at all formally associated with a yearly meeting or even monthly meetings. However, they are often established as a result of active promotion and organization on the part of Friends of a Monthly or Yearly Meeting.

20FEC04: Recognizing that the report presented by Susan and Daniel Vaughn on the matter of a potential Quaker Retirement Community will be reviewed in a threshing session following the FIBM, we feel that any action on the part of the Executive Committee at this time is premature.

Nominating Committee: Ed Lesnick reported that the Committee will be recommending at FIBM that Lynn Newsome serve as SEYM Representative to Quaker House in Fayetteville, NC.

Richard Frechette,
Interim Recording Clerk

Participants:

Fort Lauderdale Monthly Meeting

Brian Humphrey

Gainesville Monthly Meeting

Pete Ackerman

Shawna Doran

Jean Larson

Miami Monthly Meeting

Andrea Hoskins

Warren Hoskins

Orlando Monthly Meeting

Christine Laning

Ed Lesnick

Other Friends

Peter Schmidt

Palm Beach Monthly Meeting

Jack Bradin

Joel Cook (Treasure Coast WG)

Saint Petersburg Monthly Meeting

Bill Carlie

Vicki Carlie

Susan Wade

Tallahassee Monthly Meeting

Neil Anderson

Tampa Monthly Meeting

Karen Putney

Nancy Triscritti

Beverly Ward (Deland WG)