

Southeastern Yearly Meeting

of the Religious Society of Friends

Yearly Business Meeting 2021
31 Third Month to 11 Fourth Month 2021
via videoteleconference

Numbered Minutes

- 21YBM01** Worship and Ministry would like to express profound appreciation to the Gathering Committee for the amazing job of preparing and developing a well planned and executed Yearly Gathering in a time when it is most needed and most challenging to carry through. We offer our deep gratitude and love. **APPROVED**
- 21YBM02** Friends of Southeastern Yearly Meeting express their gratitude to the representatives of American Friends Service Committee, Baltimore Yearly Meeting Intervisitation Group, Friends Committee on National Legislation, Friends General Conference, Living Mirror Playback Theater Group, and Quaker House, who attended the Gathering and gave reports and/or workshops.
- 21YBM03** Friends approve the Executive Committee minute and accepts the plan of the *ad hoc* Crisis Response Committee. **APPROVED**
- 21YBM04** Friends approve the Executive Committee minute and accepts the statement of the *ad hoc* Crisis Response Committee. **APPROVED**
- 21YBM05** Southeastern Yearly Meeting expresses its gratitude to Emily Provance for her leadership of our Retreat Sessions and her deeply inspired Walton Lecture: *Interuption, Integration, Transfiguration*. **APPROVED**
- 21YBM06** Friends accept the amended report of the Nominating Committee. **APPROVED**
- 21YBM07** Friends accept the proposed budget from the Finance Committee. **APPROVED**
- 21YBM08** Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends adopts the minute of the SEYM Committee for Ministry on Racism: Truth and Healing Commission for Native Peoples. SEYM supports the “Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policy Act” (HR 8420) that was considered by the U.S. House of Representatives in 2019-2020. Although HR 8420 did not become law, CMOR continues to support the establishment of a Truth and Healing Commission. The bill’s purpose was to

set up a Truth and Healing Commission to address the multigenerational trauma experienced by American Indian and Alaska Native children, now adults, who were forcibly removed from their homes between 1869 and the 1960's and placed in Indian Boarding schools far from their homes. Quakers were among the strongest supporters of the federal policy calling for this forced assimilation, and operated some 30 Indian schools. The children were taught to reject their Native languages, cultures, and spiritual practices and adopt Euro-American culture. U.S. Secretary of the Interior, Deb Haaland, has tasked Senator Elizabeth Warren with reintroducing the bill this year. Senator Warren will consult with the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition for wording for the bill. The bill is expected to be similar to last year's bill. SEYM urges all Friends to watch for this bill and give it their support. **APPROVED**

21YBM09

Friends approve the Epistle with minor edits to be sent to Friends around the world. **APPROVED**