

Southeastern Yearly Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends
Specially Called Executive Committee Meeting 2022
26 Second Month 2022

MINUTES

The meeting began with silent worship.

Bill Carlie opened the meeting with a quote from Emily Provance:

What I didn't understand then – what I didn't have language for – was that my longing wasn't just to know that God talks to everybody. If that were all I needed, I never would have searched for a people at all. If the message is "God talks to everybody," then all we have to do is listen to God, and that's the beginning and the end of our journey. But it turns out, God is trickier than that. God is smarter than that. Yes, God talks to everybody, but God doesn't tell everybody – or give everybody – exactly the same things. God gives me a piece, and you a piece, and that guy over there a piece, and expects us to learn how to play well together.

To share.

This is the beginning of covenant.

The best definition of covenant that I know is that we give ourselves to God and God, in turn, gives us to a group of people. And from there, we are expected to care for this group of people, and this group of people is expected to care for us, and as a whole we are expected to be obedient to the will of God. For some covenant communities, this means the will of God as written in a set of commandments, but in Quakerism, it means the will of God as constantly revealed. Continuing revelation. Figure it out as you go."

Emily Provance, 2019

The called meeting was for the purpose of determining whether yearly meeting session in April will be in person. Bill Carlie proposed an order for this consideration, including hearing from Friends who visited the site, the Yearly Meeting Planning Committee, and those with information on current COVID protocols.

22SpCEC01: Friends approved Bill Carlie acting as EC clerk.

APPROVED

Susan Wade reported on the site visit to Warren Willis she and Kody Hersh made. She saw improvements to the roads, as well as some improvements to the rooms. They have not been able to get new roofs. Susan said they did not note any smell of mold or mildew in the rooms, and a recently vacated room had been thoroughly cleaned. Susan noted that she would ask about the air filtration system in the Meeting for Business space.

The camp doesn't have any equipment for live streaming but does have adequate internet access if we bring equipment.

Vicki Carlie and Andrea Hoskins affirmed that the camp has had groups in there in the past year. The camp requires masks indoors for staff and guests. There are plans to have larger spaces for workshops so that Friends can socially distance, as well as tables outdoors of the dining hall for eating. At this time there is no other group scheduled for our weekend.

The Gathering Committee had discussed the idea of a hybrid meeting and decided that there are not enough technical volunteers to achieve a completely hybrid meeting. Kody describes some of the challenges of a completely hybrid meeting.

Friends discussed the financial implications of holding the annual gathering in person or not. We currently have a \$20,000 deposit with Warren Willis, which has been rolled forward from 2020. EC Friends expressed their feelings about meeting in person in April. Friends are concerned for children and families. Friends want the experience of being together. Friends are also concerned for those who will not be able to participate in person.

22SpCEC02: Executive Committee approves holding the 2022 sessions of the annual gathering in person at the Warren Willis Center (formerly The Life Enrichment Center) April 13-17, 2022. Friends who register for the in person gathering will assume responsibility for any risks related to health.

APPROVED

Jack Bradin asked to be recorded as standing aside.

22SpCEC03: Executive Committee requests that arrangements be made for Friends unable to attend to participate in Meetings for Business as well the Walton Lecture, workshops, and committee meetings, as possible and practicable. This request is for adult events and is dependent on the availability and willingness of Friends outside of the Gathering Committee to do the work and to be available for technical support. Bill Carlie, Joel Cook, Brian Humphries, and Liz Dykes volunteered to help with remote participation.

APPROVED

The meeting closed with silence.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Dykes,
Recording Secretary

Participants:

Fort Lauderdale Monthly Meeting

Brian Humphrey

Miami Monthly Meeting

Brian Olson

Orlando Monthly Meeting

Kody Hersh

Jerry Knutson

Christine Laning

Ed Lesnick

Palm Beach Monthly Meeting

Jack Bradin (Treasure Coast WG)

Joel Cook (Treasure Coast WG)

Saint Augustine Worship Group

Richelle Ogle

Saint Petersburg Monthly Meeting

Bill Carlie

Vicki Carlie

Susan Wade

Tallahassee Monthly Meeting

Neil Andersen

Phoebe Andersen

Liz Dykes

Andrea Hoskins

Warren Hoskins

Susan Taylor

Tampa Monthly Meeting

Jan Dahm

Lisa Erasmus

Nancy Triscritti

Cecelia Yocum