

**Southeastern Yearly Meeting**  
*of the Religious Society of Friends*  
**Summer Executive Committee Meeting**  
18 Sixth Month 2022

**MINUTES**

Friends gathered at 9 a.m. in worship.

Bill Carlie welcomed Friends. Following introductions and announcements, those present in person then met in committees.

The meeting resumed with worship at 1 p.m.

Bill Carlie opened the meeting from the silence with a quote:

Dwell in patience and in peace and love and unity with one another. And be subject in the power, life and wisdom of God, to God and in one another, that ye may be as a pleasant field to the Lord God, as the lilies and the flowers and the buds feeling the pleasant showers, and the streams of life from the living God flowing into you, whereby the presence and blessing of the Lord God Almighty amongst you all may be felt.

George Fox, 1659

The agenda was reviewed. Bill added clerk's report towards the end.

Susan Wade reported as yearly meeting secretary. She read from her report (attached). Friends accepted the report with gratitude.

Friends introduced themselves.

Ed Lesnick reported for Nominating Committee. There are no changes to the committee's report since yearly meeting gathering. The report is attached. Cece Yocum again asks for a new clerk for Youth Committee.

Friends accepted the report.

Kody Hersh reported as the Youth and Young Adult Coordinator. His report is attached. There is a lot happening, and it is controlled chaos! He requests that two more members be appointed to the *ad hoc* Abuse Prevention Committee. The clerk will appoint additional member to the *ad hoc* committee. Friends mentioned that it is supportive for young people, especially those that identify as LGBTQ, to add pronouns to nametags. Kody expanded a little on his mention of his proposal that SEYM work on a longer term plan for Youth & Young Adult work.

Friends accepted the report.

A question was raised about apportionment. Phoebe Andersen is still planning to circulate a report.

Cece Yocum spoke for Peace & Social Concerns. There is no response. The committee has discussed responses to gun violence. They have also discussed upcoming elections. Friends accepted the report.

Jan Dahm reported for Worship & Ministry (attached). She emphasized the work to make our spiritual life deeper. Friends accepted the report.

The clerk will forward a declaration from the Towards Right Relationship with Native People (a part of Friends Peace Teams) which includes a request for an examination of our yearly meeting's involvement in or profit from Indian Boarding Schools to the Committee for Ministry on Racism.

Vicki Carlie reported for Gathering Committee. The committee is contacting a speaker. The dates will be April 5-9, 2023, at Warren Willis Camp (formerly the Life Enrichment Center). Friends accepted the report.

Brian Olsen reported for Half Yearly Meeting. There may be an issue with location. There is no additional report.

Phoebe Andersen reported for Archives Committee. They committee plans to meet at the end of July at the University of Florida to continue work on the archives. Friends accepted the report.

Phoebe Andersen responded to a question about the Publications Committee. They plan to meet soon.

Bill Carlie reported as the clerk. The clerk would like to reach out to St. Petersburg Meeting to host Fall Interim Business Meeting. Friends agreed. Friends wish to continue hybrid meetings. Bill requested that Friends approve a small committee to complete personnel evaluations. Questions were raised about the gender division of the small committee and the personnel.

**22SEC01** SEYM EC approves that IBM Clerk (Bill Carlie), Treasurer (Joel Cook), and Assistant Clerk (Jack Bradin), along with former IBM Clerk (Phoebe Andersen) and Recording Clerk (Liz Dykes) act as *ad hoc* supervisory committee to complete overdue staff evaluations by 2022 Fall Interim Business Meeting. **APPROVED**

Dianna Langan, bookkeeper, reported on the Fund for international worship groups.

The meeting closed with worship.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Dykes  
recording clerk

# Secretary's Report

SEYM Summer Executive Committee Meeting  
18 Sixth Month 2022

This Summer Executive Committee marks the beginning of my fourth year SEYM secretary. As we know, two of those years were pretty much derailed as Covid struck in the middle of my first year. This certainly complicated a smooth transition from Vicki Carlie to me, frustrating us both, I am sure. It has been a steep learning curve but I have made slow and sometimes painful progress. This past year just as I felt I was getting a more firm grip on my tasks and responsibilities, I found that my lessons continue.

There have been many frustrations but just as many joys, causes for celebration, and satisfactions. The 2019 SEC was the last in-person meeting for SEYM until the 2022 Yearly Meeting Gathering this past April.

I learned, together with everyone else, how to meet via zoom. Now it has become an indispensable part of all our lives. Just as I'd gotten used to the rhythms of putting together a zoom meeting, we came together for the Yearly Meeting. Helping to put together our first in-person Gathering since 2019 brought its own lessons and a healthy dose of humility.

In the past three years, in addition to learning the ordinary administrative tasks, I have learned to edit registration forms and all the minutia that entails. I have been able to set up a credit card payment system that can be used at our in-person meetings. But most importantly, I have learned to listen and learn from those who know a lot more than I do about how Quakers work together.

Thank you for this opportunity.

Susan Wade,  
Secretary SEYM  
18 Sixth Month 2022

# Nominating Committee Report

SEYM Summer Executive Committee Meeting  
18 Sixth Month 2022

## SEYM Officers, Committees, Representatives, & Appointees – May 2022

### OFFICERS

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Yearly Meeting Clerk.....	Bill Carlie.....	St. Petersburg.....	2023
Interim Business Meeting (IBM) & Executive Committee (EC) Clerk.....	Bill Carlie.....	St. Petersburg.....	2023
YM & IBM Assistant Clerk.....	Jack Bradin.....	Palm Beach.....	2023
YM Recording Clerk.....	Dan Vaughen.....	Orlando.....	2025
Recording Clerk, IBM/EC.....	Liz Dykes.....	Gainesville.....	2025
Assistant Recording Clerk(s).....	Susan Wade.....	St. Petersburg.....	2024
Treasurer.....	Joel Cook.....	Palm Beach.....	2023
Membership Recorder.....	Ed Lesnick.....	Orlando.....	2023

### TRUSTEES

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Neil Andersen, <i>Clerk</i> .....	Tallahassee.....	2023
Jack Bradin.....	Palm Beach.....	2023
Liz Dykes.....	Gainesville.....	2023
Mike Flanery.....	Clearwater.....	2023
Chris Laning.....	Orlando.....	2025

### COMMITTEES

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<b>Archives</b>	Bill Rapp, <i>Clerk</i> .....	Lake Wales WG.....	2024
	Phoebe Andersen.....	Tallahassee.....	2023
	Neil Andersen.....	Tallahassee.....	2024
<b>Earthcare</b>	Brian Humphrey.....	Ft. Lauderdale.....	2023
	Jack Bradin.....	Palm Beach.....	2023
	Mike Flanery.....	Clearwater.....	2023
	Hollyn Green.....	Savannah.....	2023
	Brad Stocker.....	Miami.....	2023
	Gary Crosby.....	St. Petersburg.....	2023
	Jim Koopman.....	Ft. Myers.....	2025
	Beverly Ward.....	Tampa.....	2025
<b>Faith &amp; Practice</b> (Committee on sabbatical)	Phoebe Andersen, <i>Clerk</i> .....	Tallahassee.....	2024
<b>Facebook Page</b>	Mike Flanery.....	Clearwater.....	2024
<b>Finance</b>	Peter Schmidt, <i>Clerk</i> .....		2024
	Steve Donachie.....	Miami.....	2024
	Shawna Doran.....	Gainesville.....	2024
	Carl Hersh.....	Miami.....	2024
	Asst. YM Clerk (ex officio)		
	SEYM Treasurer (ex officio)		
	Clerk of Trustees (ex officio)		

SEYM Administrative Secretary (ex officio)

<b>Half-Yearly Meeting</b>	Brian Olson, <i>Clerk</i> .....	Miami.....	2024
	Beeg Camarota, <i>Registrar</i> .....	Orlando.....	2024
	Caroline Kaufman, <i>Food Coordinator</i> .....	Clearwater .....	2023
	Beverly Ward (ex officio) .....	Tampa .....	
<b>Ministry on Racism</b>	Cheryl Demers .....	Gainesville .....	2023
	Wendy Clarissa Geiger .....	Jacksonville WG.....	2023
	Katie Green .....	Clearwater .....	2023
	Mainus Sultan.....	Savannah.....	2023
	Susan Taylor.....	Tallahassee.....	2023
	Minerva Glidden.....	Orlando.....	2024
	Kathy Hersh .....	Miami.....	2024
	Brad Stocker.....	Miami.....	2024
	Beverly Ward.....	Tampa.....	2024
	Jane Westberg .....	Miami.....	2024
	Jean Larson.....	Gainesville .....	2025
	Cindy Kwalwasser .....	Orlando.....	2025
	<b>Peace &amp; Social Concerns</b>	Phil Stone, <i>Clerk</i> .....	Clearwater .....
Caroline Kaufmann .....		Clearwater .....	2023
Karen Putney .....		Tampa.....	2023
Helen Fox .....		Ft. Myers .....	2024
Peter Harrell .....		Gainesville .....	2024
John Heimburg.....		Orlando.....	2025
Warren Hoskins.....		Tallahassee.....	2025
Mercedes Soca .....		Havana WG.....	2025
Cece Yocum.....		Tampa.....	2025
<b>Publications</b>	Phoebe Andersen.....	Tallahassee.....	2024
	Vicki Carlie (ex officio) .....	St. Petersburg.....	2025
	Steven Riddle .....	Orlando.....	2025
<b>Worship &amp; Ministry</b>	Jan Dahm, <i>Co-Clerk</i> .....	Tampa.....	2023
	Lisa Erasmus, <i>Co-Clerk</i> .....	Tampa.....	2023
	Richelle Ogle, <i>Co-Clerk</i> .....	Orlando.....	2025
	Eduardo Díaz.....	Orlando.....	2023
	Ed Abraham .....	Miami.....	2025
	Bill Carlie .....	St. Petersburg.....	2025
	Joel Cook .....	Palm Beach.....	2025
	Cheryl Demers-Holton .....	Gainesville .....	2025
	Nancyrose Logan.....	Sarasota.....	2025
<b>YM Gathering</b>	Vicki Carlie, <i>Gathering Clerk</i> .....	St. Petersburg.....	2025
	Andrea Hoskins, <i>Registrar</i> .....	Tallahassee.....	2025
	Caroline Kaufmann, <i>Bookstore</i> .....	Clearwater .....	2023
	Brian Olson, <i>Program Coordinator</i> .....	Miami.....	2023
	Kasper Ronning.....	Orlando.....	2025
	SEYM Administrative Secretary, ex-officio.....	St. Petersburg	
<b>Youth Committee</b>	Jennifer Mendoza, <i>Co-Clerk</i> .....	Sarasota.....	2024
	Cecelia Yocum, <i>Co-Clerk</i> .....	Tampa.....	2023
	Rachel Dellinger .....	Orlando.....	2023

Mira Tanna..... Orlando..... 2023  
 Kathy Hersh ..... Miami..... 2025

**REPRESENTATIVES TO ORGANIZATIONS**

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**American Friends Service Committee Corporation, - AFSC/Philadelphia**

Bill Carlie ..... St. Petersburg.....2025  
 Beverly Ward..... Tampa.....2025

**Friends Committee on National Legislation – FCNL**

Pete Akerman..... Gainesville .....2023  
 Karen Putney ..... Tampa.....2024  
 Eileen Zingaro..... Clearwater .....2024

**Friends General Conference - FGC Central Committee**

Susan Wade ..... St. Petersburg.....2025  
 Dan Vaughn ..... Orlando.....2025

**Friends World Committee for Consultation – FWCC**

Nancyrose Logan..... Sarasota .....2023  
 Clara Diaz ..... Orlando.....2024  
 Eduardo Diaz ..... Orlando.....2024

**Friends Peace Teams**

Cecilia Yocum ..... Tampa.....2025  
 Shawna Doran ..... Gainesville .....2025

**Florida Council of Churches**

Beverly Ward..... Tampa.....2024

**Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Queer  
 Concerns – FLGBTQ**

*Under Discernment*

**Palmetto Friends Gathering**

Phoebe Andersen..... Tallahassee.....2023  
 Neil Andersen..... Tallahassee.....2023

**Quaker Earthcare Witness**

Jack Bradin ..... Palm Beach.....2023  
 Brad Stocker..... Miami.....2025

**Quaker House (Fayetteville)**

Lynn Newsom ..... Bluffton SC WG .....2023

**Quaker United Nations Office  
 - QUNO**

Liz Jenkins ..... Orlando.....2025

**APPOINTED OBSERVERS TO ORGANIZATIONS**

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**FUM General Board Observer**

*Under Discernment*

Ellie Caldwell, *Alternate*..... Palm Beach.....2024

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

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Ed Lesnick, *Clerk*..... Orlando.....2024  
 Beverly Ward..... Tampa.....2025  
 Shawna Doran ..... Gainesville .....2023  
 Brian Olson..... Miami.....2023

## Youth and Young Adult Coordinator

SEYM Summer Executive Committee Meeting  
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Dear Friends,

As I complete my time in the SEYM Youth and Young Adult Coordinator role, there is still lots to do, and so many exciting things to report! We had a small but wonderful young adult retreat in St. Petersburg at the beginning of the month– I am including a photo below. It was a real joy to have a group that spanned the whole young adult age range, 18-35. The group included seekers, convinced Friends, and several people who grew up Quaker.



SEYM Youth Committee is sponsoring a van to take youth and young adults from Orlando to the FGC Youth and Young Adults Gathering in Radford, Virginia at the beginning of July– we've filled a minivan, and I know of at least two other SEYM young adults who are coming, but making separate travel arrangements. We've opened registration for our end-of-summer Youth and Families Retreat, and look forward to welcoming Friends at Camp Chowenwaw, just south of Jacksonville, July 21-24. I have attached the event flyer at the end of my report. Please try to think of a family or two connected to your monthly meeting or worship group who you could share it with right now, even (maybe especially!) if you haven't seen them for a while.

I am struggling to find time to complete revisions of our Child Abuse Prevention Program manual, but am optimistic about completing a draft before my role ends in mid-August.

Similarly, it has been challenging to find time and energy for convening the ad hoc Abuse Prevention and Response Committee. I hope we will be able to meet at least once more before my August departure. **Given my move, and another committee member no longer being available to serve, I recommend that EC appoint two more members to the committee, including someone who might be willing to assist Cheryl Demers-Holton as a co- or assistant clerk.**

As this will be my last report in my role as Youth and Young Adult Coordinator, I would like to take the opportunity to lift up a few key learnings, advices, and observations to Friends.

1. A huge percentage of our SEYM youth and young adult participants identify as LGBTQIA+, including a significant number of trans and non-binary individuals. Our youth and young adult groups also include a higher proportion of People of Color compared to SEYM's older adult population. In general, Gen Z and Millennials often have pretty high standards for how groups they are part of demonstrate a commitment to intersectional anti-oppression work. Our ability to effectively support and include these age cohorts and the individuals within them, and benefit from their gifts in community, is directly related to how actively and rigorously we apply ourselves, as a whole SEYM community, to continued growth in our anti-racism, queer and trans affirmation, and every other area of justice and inclusion.
2. SEYM doesn't currently have the resources or infrastructure to support a staff position focusing on children, youth, families, and young adults. Raising the money to support my position has been challenging, even at a significantly lower cost than might otherwise be true (given that Orlando Meeting donated my residence so that I could be paid less, at my request). Youth Committee in its current condition doesn't really have the capacity to supervise a staff worker. If I hadn't already known SEYM well coming into the job, and had the tools to figure things out as I went, it's unclear to me that I would have been able to be effective in the position. **That doesn't mean we don't need a staff person with specific care for youth, families, and young adults.** As staff, I've been able to provide continuity, personnel capacity to try out new things, and pastoral care and connection for young adults and for parents in between events. I believe, and have been told by others, that it makes a big difference to have a dedicated person in this staff role. **I encourage you to consider what it might look like to create a five or ten year plan focused on building the capacity to support a permanent staff role in SEYM for support of younger generations.**
3. There is a lot of work still to do to get our policies and procedures for general harassment and abuse prevention and response, and child safety, where they need to be. Doing this well will require ongoing, focused attention, *forever*. I encourage Friends to consider how best to support this as ongoing work, and be prepared as Executive Committee to materially and structurally support whatever models are discerned: whether a designated volunteer position, a standing committee, or some other structure. Simultaneous to my work with SEYM, I've been serving in a volunteer role for Community Peacemaker Teams (CPT, formerly Christian Peacemaker Teams) as Ombuds, coordinating implementation of that organization's harassment policy and the response process for any reports of harassment that are received. I have seen that model work well, and would be happy to discuss my experience in the role with SEYM Friends at any time.

It has truly been a joy to get to serve this community, and in particular to work with SEYM youth, young adults, and families, the past few years. I am grateful and excited to continue some parts of the work in a contracted capacity, to continue my connection with all of you, and to work together for the creation of a vital, energized, and transformed Southeastern Yearly Meeting and Religious Society of Friends.

Sincerely,  
Kody Hersh  
Outgoing Youth and Young Adult Coordinator



Southeastern Yearly Meeting  
(SEYM)

# Youth & Families Retreat



July 21-24, 2022

Camp Chowenwaw Park, Green Cove Springs, FL

- **Swimming pool**
- **Campfires**
- **Hiking**
- **Games**
- **All-ages worship**
- **Shared meals**

The weekend will begin with dinner on Thursday, followed by an unscheduled family day for those choosing to arrive early. The official program starts at 7pm Friday, and ends at noon Sunday.

**The retreat is offered on a sliding scale from \$5-300 per family.**

Register at [SEYMQuakers.org](https://SEYMQuakers.org)  
Registration opens June 1, and closes July 10

For questions or more information, contact  
Kody Hersh at  
[YYACoordinator@SEYMQuakers.org](mailto:YYACoordinator@SEYMQuakers.org)

**What should we bring?**

Personal items, plus: bedding, towels, games to share, musical instruments, bathing suits.

**Is this retreat only for Quakers?**

We welcome both Quaker and non-Quaker families who want to build inclusive community and explore Quaker spiritual practices.

**Can youth attend without families? Can families attend without youth?**

This event is designed for youth (under 18) attending with families (parents, grandparents, caregivers, family friends). We welcome whoever you consider to be your family, as long as all youth are accompanied by a sponsoring adult, and all adults are accompanied by a sponsoring youth!

**Is it still possible to register after the July 10 deadline?**

After July 10, contact [YYACoordinator@SEYMQuakers.org](mailto:YYACoordinator@SEYMQuakers.org) to find out if space is still available.



## COVID Precautions

In order to provide a safe environment for all families, registrants eligible for the COVID vaccine will be required to provide proof of full vaccination or a medical exemption. Masks may be required depending on July risk levels and the needs of attendees.

## Accessibility

Housing will be in air-conditioned cabins. Tent camping may be possible for interested families based on site availability. All meals and group activities, plus some housing, will be in ADA-accessible spaces. We will plan meals to accommodate dietary restrictions. Let us know any other access needs when you register, or contact [yyacoordinator@seymquakers.org](mailto:yyacoordinator@seymquakers.org).

SEYM Worship & Ministry Committee  
SEYM Summer Executive Committee Meeting  
18 Sixth Month 2022

Greetings Friends,

We ask Friends to hold on their hearts and in their prayers the victims and families of the recent gun violence, those who suffer discrimination and hate, those who are targeted by harmful legislation, and those who have the ability and power to make positive change.

The SEYM Worship and Ministry Committee is currently discerning the direction toward which we in SEYM are being called during this time in our history, and how Friends find their way through Spirit in response to the various laments of the world. We sense the grief over so many injustices directed at our friends, family, neighbors and know that now is a time for Friends to step up in authentic witness to our testimonies. We cannot hold any of the pain without being grounded in God, and we cannot claim integrity of purpose without a spiritual foundation that anchors us in practice.

According to SEYM Faith and Practice, “the function of the [monthly meeting] Committee on Worship and Ministry is to foster and strengthen the spiritual life of the meeting.” We understand this ministry to include providing education about Friends’ faith life, encouraging spiritual growth, and recognizing and nurturing spiritual gifts in individuals and in the body. Likewise, the role of the Yearly Meeting committee takes under its care the spiritual life of all SEYM. It is increasingly clear that Friends have work in the world to do, and a strong spiritual foundation is how we support those efforts. On 2 Sixth Month, the committee will meet to further discern how we are led to serve. We look forward to nurturing and enhancing a deep sense of spirit in SEYM through programs, prayer, relationship, and intention.

In the Light,  
Richelle Ogle, Jan Dahm, and Lisa Erazmus