

Southeastern Yearly Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends

Yearly Business Meeting 2020
5th Month 16th Day to 6th Month 7th Day, 2020

MINUTES

First Plenary Session – 5th Month 16th Day 2020, 2:00 p.m.

The First Plenary session consisted of a Monthly Meeting and Worship Group forum, which did not lend itself to the taking of minutes.

The session began and ended in worshipful silence.

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Second Plenary Session – 5th Month 23rd Day 2020, 2:00 p.m.

38 Friends gathered via videoconference and settled into worshipful, attentive silence to begin the 2nd plenary session.

Seated at the Clerk's virtual table for this and subsequent sessions were Bill Carlie, (Orlando MM), SEYM clerk; Jack Bradin (Palm Beach MM) assistant clerk; and Richard Frechette, (Fort Myers MM), recording clerk.

The Clerk gave greetings of welcome. He also gave some suggestions for using Zoom most efficiently for our plenaries. He noted that the agenda has been posted, but that he is adding to the agenda a report of an ad hoc committee for establishment of a relief fund relating to Covid-19.

The Clerk asked for volunteers to serve as an Epistle Committee for this gathering. Beverly Ward and Cece Yocum came forward.

ROLL CALL OF MEETINGS:

Members of the various Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups introduced themselves. A list of all those who attended these sessions follows these minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

(See Appendix 1, page 24, for the full report.)

Joel Cook of Treasure Coast Worship Group, Palm Beach Meeting, presented the Treasurer's report for the period ended 2/29/2020. He reported yielded a net loss of \$29,939. Although this sounds dreadful, \$20,000 of the loss relates to our deposit for the 2020 use of Warren Willis United Methodist Camp and Conference Center (WWUMCCC) f/k/a The Life Enrichment Center

(LEC) that will be carried over to 2021. As of 2/29, well over half of the Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups have made at least a partial contribution to SEYM.

Further information was asked about the support for the Field Secretary for Earthcare, which info can be sent to those inquiring.

20YM01: Friends accepted the Treasurer's report for the period ended 2/29/2020.

The Clerk asked for Friends to consider serving on the *ad hoc* committee for the SEYM Epistle. Cecilia Yocum and Beverly Ward volunteered and the Clerk expressed the hope that others will step forward

YEARLY MEETING BUDGET:

Peter Schmidt, Clerk of Finance Committee, made a first presentation of the 2020-2021 budget which was included in the Documents in Advance. He fielded several questions related to the budget. It was noted that this proposed budget was prepared in January - before the pandemic set in and that current circumstances might result in later changes to the budget. Our financial status as a whole is good, so we won't "go broke" as far as the balance sheet.

Clerk Bill Carlie noted that the final presentation and approval of the budget will occur at the final plenary session.

NUMBERED MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE were presented for review:

Summer Executive Committee Meeting

(6th Month 8th Day 2019, Tampa Friends Meeting)

19SEC01 In the absence of an Executive Committee Clerk, Friends approve designating Bill Carlie, YM Clerk, as acting clerk for this meeting.

19SEC02 In the absence of Liz Dykes, EC/IBM Recording Clerk, Friends approve designating Vicki Carlie as acting recording clerk for this meeting.

19SEC03 Signatories *on existing bank accounts*

The SEYM Executive Committee agrees that the SEYM Treasurer, Treasurer of Trustees, Yearly Meeting Clerk, and Administrative Secretary, shall be signatories on the Southeastern Yearly Meeting checking and savings accounts at Bank of America. To this end:

For the checking account:

- Victoria Carlie shall be removed as signatory. Susan Wade and William Carlie will be added as signatories.
- Joel Cook and Neil Andersen will remain signatories.

For the savings account:

- Lyn Cope-Robinson, Caroline Lanker, and Daniel Vaughen, shall be removed as signatories.

- Joel Cook, William Carlie, and Susan Wade, shall be added as signatories.
- Neil Andersen will remain a signatory.

19SEC04 *New bank account for payroll*
Executive Committee of Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends approves the opening of a second checking account at Bank of America to be used exclusively for payroll.

Signatories on this account shall be:

- SEYM Treasurer: Joel Cook
- SEYM Treasurer of Trustees: Neil Andersen
- SEYM Clerk: William Carlie

19SEC05 We are sad to hear that Jacksonville Friends are considering laying down their Meeting. Friends recall how much Jacksonville Monthly Meeting has contributed to the life of SEYM over the decades. We agree to place the concern for support of Jacksonville Meeting in the hands of the Worship & Ministry Committee.

19SEC06 Friends accepted the Secretary's report, presented by Vicki Carlie

19SEC07 The Executive Committee accepts the resignations of Nancy Corindia (Sarasota) as EC/IBM Clerk, and of Nancy Howell (Fort Myers) as YM and IBM Assistant Clerk. We thank them for their valuable service to SEYM.

19SEC08 EC approves the nominations of Vicki Carlie (Orlando) as a member of the Gathering Committee, effective June 1; and of Jim Koopman (Ft. Myers) as a member of the SEYM Earthcare Committee.

19SEC09 Friends accepted the Treasurer's report.

19SEC10 The SEYM Executive committee is in unity with honoring, and not renegotiating, in any way, the contract signed in 2018 between SEYM and Wendy Geiger regarding SEYM's publication of her book. We support the Publications Committee Clerk's plans for completing this project and fulfilling our obligations under the contract. We ask Bill Carlie, as acting clerk of EC, to write a letter to Wendy to relate the Sense of the Meeting.

19SEC11 We ask the Treasurer and Trustees to further investigate whether there are other banks or other financial institutions that are more in keeping with our testimonies than those of our current bank, while also meeting the criteria and needs of SEYM financial operations.

Fall Executive Committee Meeting
(10th Month 4th Day 2019, Tampa Friends Meeting)

- 19FEC01 Cece Yocum, Joel Cook, Susan Taylor, Ellie Caldwell, and Phoebe Andersen, form a WCG Book *ad hoc* Committee to complete the publication of the second edition of *My Life is a Quilt*.
- 19FEC02 Executive Committee expresses its gratitude to Publications Committee and its clerk, Phoebe Andersen, for its work on Wendy Geiger's book to date.

Winter Executive Committee Meeting

(1st Month 17th Day 2020, Orlando Monthly Meeting)

- 20WEC01 In order that the Child Abuse Prevention Program (CAPP) may continue to operate in the absence of a CAPP Coordinator, until a new Coordinator is named and approved:

The registrations of SEYM Youth Workers that are expiring this month shall be extended until the end of the 2020 YM Gathering.

- a. Mira Tanna, as Youth Committee Clerk, and Kody Hersh, as Youth & Young Adult Coordinator, may schedule and oversee the training sessions as needed.
- b. The Secretary will accept and process applications in advance of scheduled trainings.
- c. EC appoints Vicki Carlie to serve on the CAPP Review Committee in absence of a Coordinator, until the new Coordinator is approved.

- 20WEC02 Because we firmly hold our belief that there is that of God in each of us, SEYM Executive Committee calls on Monthly Meetings to become more actively affirming communities for transgender and gender non-conforming persons among Friends. Meetings are requested to report back by the Winter Interim Business Meeting 2021.
- 20WEC03 Executive Committee agrees that the SEYM website will be used as a resource to share educational resources, and will highlight new material in the e-news.
- 20WEC04 Executive Committee approved adding a position of Food Coordinator to Half Yearly Meeting Committee, which will be filled by HYM Committee.

Spring Special Called Meeting of Executive Committee

(3rd Month 11th Day 2020, via videoconference)

- 20SpEC01 Executive Committee of the of Southeastern Yearly Meeting (SEYM) approves cancellation of the SEYM gathering for 2020.
- 20SpEC02 Executive Committee of the of Southeastern Yearly Meeting (SEYM) approves that the Gathering Committee Clerk request Warren Willis Camp transfer our deposit to Easter Week 2021.

SEYM Gathering Executive Committee Meeting

(5th Month 9th Day 2020, via videoconference)

- 20YMEC01 Executive Committee appoints an ad hoc committee of Cece Yocum, Brian Olson, Stephen Riddle, Nancy Triscritti, and Kody Hersh, to coordinate the presentation of virtual workshops that were already prepared for Yearly Meeting Gathering, as well as virtual worship sharing, between now and Winter Interim Business meeting, and to report to WIBM on future possibilities.
- 20YMEC02 Executive Committee appoints an *ad hoc* committee of Jack Bradin, Neil Andersen, Nancy Triscritti, Bill Carlie and a representative to be named from Peace & Social Concerns Committee, to develop a specific plan for the Trustees' funds proposed to assist Friends and Meetings with needs related to the Covid-19 pandemic, to be presented at a YM plenary session in the coming month.
- 20YM02 **Friends approved the numbered minutes of the Executive Committee meetings of June and October 2019 and January, March, and May, 2020.**

NUMBERED MINUTES OF INTERIM BUSINESS MEETINGS were presented for review:

Fall Interim Business Meeting

(10th Month 5th Day 2019, Tampa Friends Meeting)

- 19FIBM01 Friends approve Bill Carlie to serve as acting Interim Business Meeting clerk, and thus as the supervisor of SEYM staff until Winter Interim Business Meeting.
- 19FIBM02 SEYM Friends are grateful for the hospitality of Tampa Friends. The light-filled meeting house, the grounds on which to camp, the spaces inside and out for committees, the delicious lunch, and most of all the loving spiritual care given to us are deeply appreciated.
- 19FIBM03 Fall interim business meeting of SEYM recommends that Monthly Meetings in Florida contact local chapters of the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition to learn how our meetings can support the reentry and restoration of voting rights of formerly incarcerated, returning citizens, and report back to the SEYM Peace and Social Concerns Committee about their findings.
- 19FIBM04 Fall Interim Business meeting directs Peace and Social Concerns Committee to work with the Administrative Secretary to collect the information from meetings about contact with the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition and have a preliminary report by Winter Interim Business meeting.
- 19FIBM05 With the goal of working together with other concerned individuals and groups in Florida to abolish the use of prison labor by governmental entities, the Fall Interim Business Meeting of SEYM encourages all monthly meetings to contact their respective county commissioners and, as a first step, request copies of all county contracts with the Florida Department of Corrections.

Peace and Social Concerns Committee intends to present a report to the Winter Interim Business Meeting and requests that you forward copies of all documents obtained by November 30 to ceceyocum@aol.com. Information and a resource packet can be obtained from Peter Ackerman, 386-203-1512; petequaker@gmail.com.

- 19FIBM06 SEYM Fall Interim Business Meeting approves Kody Hersh, Cece Yocum, Susan Wade, Vincent Cosomano, and Mira Tanna, as the committee to review the CAPP manual.

Winter Interim Business Meeting

(1st Month 18th Day 2020, Orlando Monthly Meeting)

- 20WIMB01 Friends approve Bill Carlie to serve as acting Interim Business Meeting clerk, and thus as supervisor of SEYM staff until SEYM Annual Sessions.
- 20WIMB02 Winter Interim Business Meeting appoints Phoebe Andersen as IBM and Executive Committee clerk effective at the rise of annual sessions.
- 20WIMB03 Winter Interim Business Meeting appoints Jack Bradin as assistant clerk for Yearly Meeting, IBM and Executive Committee.
- 20WIMB04 Winter Interim Business Meeting approved the Nominating Committee report as given.
- 20WIMB05 Winter Interim Business Meeting supports the leading of Orlando MM, endorsed by SEYM Peace & Social Concerns Committee, in asking SEYM to join the “No Way To Treat A Child” Campaign. SEYM Peace & Social Concerns Committee requests SEYM Monthly Meetings to engage in discernment regarding SEYM becoming a signatory on the national letter of faith leaders in support of HR 2407.
- SEYM Monthly Meetings are asked to come to SEYM Annual Gathering sessions in April 2020 prepared to move forward in discernment on this request.
- 20WIMB06 SEYM accepts with sadness the laying down of Jacksonville Monthly Meeting and with joy the creation of Jacksonville Worship Group. An *ad hoc* care committee of Liz Dykes, Jean Larson, Heidi Lowey-Ball, Mike Shell, and Susan Taylor, will assist with the transition.
- 20WIMB07 Winter Interim Business Meeting approves creating an *ad hoc* site selection committee to be appointed by clerk to seek a site and time for annual gathering.
- 20WIMB08 Winter Interim Business Meeting approves sending the letter of objection to the Seven Springs Water Company Permit Application to the Suwannee River Water Management District (attached).
- 20WIMB09 SEYM Winter Interim business meeting appreciates the gracious hospitality of Orlando Friends meeting—the abundant food, comfortable seating, friendly faces, and spiritual surroundings, made our time most pleasant and productive.

- 20YM03 **Friends accepted the numbered minutes of the Fall and Winter Interim Business Meetings.**

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT:

Ed Lesnick (Orlando MM) of Nominating Committee gave the preliminary report from Nominating Committee. He noted a few changes from the list report published in the Advanced Documents; these will be incorporated into a revised DIA to be published before the plenary session on June 6. He also reported on positions that remain to be filled. It was noted that, in addition to the “yet-to-be-filled” slots listed in the DIA, we lack a representative to the national FLGBTQ group. SEYM Clerk Bill SEYM encouraged Friends to consider volunteering for these slots and getting word out to others in their respective Meetings. The final report will be provided at a subsequent Plenary meeting.

TRUSTEES REPORT:

(See Appendix 2, page 33, for the full report.)

Jack Bradin read the report that was included in the DIA. The trustees report included a recommendation for the establishment of a Friends Support Fund in order to facilitate rapid response to requests for financial aid from our Monthly Meetings and/or Friends during the present coronavirus troubles. It was noted that, at the EC meeting in May, an *ad hoc* committee was established to work out a detailed proposal.

20YM04 Friends accepted the report of the SEYM Trustees.

COVID-19 RELIEF FUND:

Clerk Bill Carlie read a proposal developed by an *ad hoc* committee established at the Gathering Executive Committee meeting earlier this month. It was clarified in discussion that the fund would be available to SEYM Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups; that requests from individuals would not be accepted and such individuals would be directed to monthly meetings and worship groups. Also, it was recommended that SEYM solicit additional monies as needed for the Fund from Friends Communities and individuals.

The Clerk noted that changes to the proposal resulting from this discussion will be published in the SEYM website and final consideration will occur at next week’s Plenary session.

Numbered minutes were read.

This session closed with silent worship.



Third Plenary Session – 5th Month 30th Day 2020, 2:00 p.m.

36 Friends gathered via teleconference and settled into worshipful, attentive silence to begin the Third plenary session.

SEYM COVID-19 Relief Fund – second reading:

Clerk Bill read proposal for the SEYM COVID-19 Relief Fund, which has had a few adjustments from the reading at the second Plenary session.

Friends discussed the proposal, and asked questions pertaining to confidentiality and the expected life of the fund. Friends agreed to a modification relating to the confidentiality of names of members and attenders seeking financial assistance.

20YM05 Friends approved the proposal for the establishment of a COVID-19 Relief Fund as follows:

“The Quaker meeting is meant to be a blessed community - a living testimony to a social order that embodies God’s peace, justice, love, compassion, and joy, and is an example and invitation to a better way of life. Like our other testimonies, community can be a prophetic call to the rest of society.”

SEYM Faith and Practice, page 76

The Covid-19 pandemic has had many impacts on our Faith Community. Our meetings have become virtual and our Meetinghouses vacant. Some Friends have lost employment and others have found their income and financial resources reduced. Many of us are among the most vulnerable to the potentially deadly impacts of Covid-19. As we convened this annual gathering, a concern was raised by a number of Friends as to how Yearly Meeting can be of service to our constituent Meetings, Worship Groups, and the Friends that they serve. At Executive Committee, SEYM Trustees presented a concept for a relief fund dedicated to this purpose. An Ad-Hoc Committee of the clerk, and a member of the trustees, Worship and Ministry Committee and Peace and Social Concerns Committee met and have found unity on a proposed SEYM Covid-19 Relief Fund.

SEYM COVID-19 Relief Fund:

Purpose:

The purpose of the SEYM Covid-19 relief fund is to provide financial relief to Constituent Meetings and Worship Groups to support their basic operations and support their efforts to provide relief to Friends who may be members or attenders, to meet their needs for additional funds arising from the economic impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Establishment:

The SEYM Covid-19 relief fund shall be established by an initial contribution of \$15,000.00 from funds under the care of SEYM Trustees. The fund may accept earmarked donations from individuals, Monthly Meetings, and Worship Groups, that may have resources and a leading to contribute to this effort. SEYM Trustees may supplement this initial contribution upon approval of the SEYM Executive Committee should need, available funds, and leading, arise.

Process for disbursement of funds:

Funds shall be disbursed to constituent Monthly Meetings for the Monthly Meeting or Worship Groups under their care. A Monthly Meeting or Worship Group may submit a written request for funding with a description of the quantity of funds needed and purpose for which the funds will be used. Names of members and attenders seeking this support will be kept confidential by the Monthly Meetings or Worship Groups.

To be as responsive as possible to immediate needs, an *ad hoc* Covid-19 Relief Fund Committee will be created. This committee shall consist of the YM clerk, the Assistant clerk, YM Treasurer, a member of the Worship and Ministry Committee, and a member of the Peace & Social Concerns.

Committee. This *ad hoc* committee will work with requesting Meetings and Worship Groups to seek clarity on any request for these funds. The Youth and Young Adult Coordinator may work

with this committee, the Meetings, and Worship Groups, to help connect young adults and families with youth in need of this support to this process. This committee may approve the disbursement of funds up to \$500.00 for immediate needs. In the case where a request for funds is greater than the \$500.00 that can be immediately approved by the *ad hoc* Covid-19 Relief Fund Committee, the committee may issue the initial \$500.00 and approval of the requested funding above this limit may then be discerned by a called meeting of the SEYM Executive Committee.

Reporting:

The *ad hoc* Covid-19 Relief Fund Committee shall provide a written report to Fall Interim Business Meeting, Winter Interim Business Meeting, and Yearly Meeting 2021, in regard to disbursement of funds, contributions received, and the remaining fund balance. The report shall include the amounts disbursed to the various Meetings and Worship Groups and general purpose of the funding. To preserve the confidentiality normally afforded to Friends seeking assistance from their Meeting's Care and Counsel Committee, individuals receiving assistance will not be identified in these reports.

In Closure:

The *ad hoc* Covid-19 Relief Fund shall close with the sense of Yearly Meeting that this emergency has passed and that no further funding will be needed to meet needs arising from this emergency. Residual funds, should such exist, shall be returned to the care of SEYM Trustees. The *ad hoc* Covid-19 Relief Fund Committee will dissolve upon closure of the fund as described above.

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REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO AND FROM ORGANIZATIONS:

Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL):

(See Appendix 3, page 34, for the full formal report.)

Karen Putney (representative to FCNL), quoted Rufus Jones:

"Friends are pledged to another way of life. They will not ally themselves to the way of war, nor to its methods or its deeds. It is difficult, of course, to live in a world which is being made."

London Faith & Practice 1927

Karen often refers to these words and is comforted by the thought that we are living in a world being made and that Quakers have a specific role to play in shaping that future. While we are witnessing our world 'fall apart' it is indeed a time where something new can be made.

Karen reported that, coming out of the 2008 recession, FCNL like many organizations was forced to cut back on staff and program which was both painful and deleterious. Out of this came a lesson that was embraced and FCNL began rebuilding while planning for a future in which such economic problems would undoubtedly come again. Another timely part of that planning was to strengthen the communication capabilities of FCNL. This planning proved itself when the annual Spring Lobby Weekend had to go from bringing 400+ young adults to Washington D.C. to train and lobby, to an entirely virtual program – in three weeks' time.

Another important part of the work of FCNL that we, the members of SEYM, can provide is to be a Quaker presence. Many who come to lobby with FCNL are from other faiths or carry similar

concerns. If we are to maintain the integrity of declaring ourselves a Quaker lobby we need to help them understand our particular way of lobbying and the values that underlie that practice. To be a Quaker presence requires us to center, focus, and not be distracted, despite the daily events that are almost too much to bear.

Karen shared quotes from Heather Cox Richardson, a political historian:

“The old world is dying, and the new world struggles to be born: now is the time of monsters.”

“America feels completely chaotic today.”

Letters from an American, May 29, 2020
<https://heathercoxrichardson.substack.com/>

Karen introduced Alicia McBride, FCNL’s Director of Quaker Leadership, who began by noting that Bev Ward and Brad Stocker are also SEYM representatives to FCNL, before delivering the following message.

FCNL is still working! Advocacy is very important right now - and lobbying is still happening, even if the format has shifted from in-person to phone or video contact. Especially, Congress needs to do more to address the needs of the most vulnerable people in the country in response to Covid-19.

She noted to Friends that Florida’s Senator Marco Rubio is a key decision-maker on making the Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit more available to people to help those struggling financially and encouraged Friends to contact him in support of these programs.

Alicia said that lobbying is both practical and an act of faith - you're putting yourself in a position to share and listen, and opening up both yourself and the person with whom you're meeting to new possibilities. Every Tuesday FCNL offers a live "learn to lobby in 30 minutes" training and also offers one-on-one coaching if you need more support. Find out more and see all FCNL’s tools to help you to lobby virtually here: <http://fcnl.org/virtuallobbying>.

Alicia also invited Friends to participate in a virtual time of silent reflection every Wednesday at 5:15pm. More information can be found at: <https://act.fcnl.org/event/quaker-welcome-center/search/?zip=20002>

Alicia noted that she is new to this role as Director of Quaker Leadership but has worked with FCNL for more than 15 years in a variety of roles, starting as a program assistant/intern. She came to Quakerism through seeing the commitment and courage of people working with FCNL for a better world. She is excited to work with Friends to get them more involved in FCNL, and to better convey the spiritual basis of FCNL's advocacy to those who come to this work from outside of Quakerism. She invited Friends to read more about her journey to FCNL: <https://www.fcnl.org/updates/my-continuing-fcnl-journey-2756>. Alicia can be reached at Alicia@fcnl.org.

Karen Putney closed by saying that she began her report by noting that this chaotic onslaught of news is designed to divide Americans. But there is another possibility. Chaos does not have to destroy us. The leaders creating it are doing so precisely because they know they are not in control and the same uncertainty they are trying to leverage can just as easily be used by their opponents. At this crazy, frightening, chaotic moment, it is possible to reach across old lines and create new alliances, to reemphasize that most Americans really do share the same values of economic

fairness and equality before the law and to rebuild a “government of the people, by the people, and for the people.”

“The old world is certainly dying, but the shape of the new world struggling to be born is not yet determined.”

Heather Cox Richardson, May 29, 2020

Karen said that this speaks to us. We have a role to play in the reaching out across old lines, in creating alliances based on a belief in economic fairness and equality before the law.”

A Friend asked if FCNL had been able to react to the Floyd killing and the protests and disturbances in American cities. Karen explained that FCNL focuses on legislation and that limits their ability to be immediately reactive to current events.

American Friends Service Committee (AFSC):

Kathy Hersh, AFSC representative, reported that she had attended by Zoom the annual board meeting and was able to hear the discussion about a new mission statement and strategic plan for the AFSC. Details are available in the AFSC annual report which is now on their website. She was impressed with the meeting and felt an infusion of Quaker values and process throughout.

Kathy noted that Friends earlier had asked about the FCNL’s reaction to the Pandemic and to the Floyd killing. It was explained that FCNL focuses on legislation and that limits their ability to be reactive to current events. FCNL and AFSC have different functions, and AFSC’s mission allows it to be more immediately reactive to events as they occur. As an example, Kathy reported that AFSC has responded locally and internationally to the coronavirus pandemic. AFSC Miami, organized by acting director Lis-Marie Alvarado, conducted a very successful fund raiser to provide food and aid to local migrant families who have suffered greatly from the crisis, losing jobs and income to feed their families. On an international scale, the AFSC organized an online meeting for learning about the effects of COVID-19 on Palestine.

Kathy read the new mission statement crafted by the AFSC which so succinctly and clearly states its purpose: *“The American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) is a Quaker organization that promotes lasting peace with justice as a practical expression of faith in action. Drawing on continuing spiritual insights and working with people of many backgrounds, we nurture the seeds of change and respect for human life that transform social relations and systems.”*

Kathy mentioned that in SEYM worship sharing that morning, she heard the grief and frustration many of us are feeling, overwhelmed by the pandemic, the George Floyd killing and the uprising in cities across America. She realized how much she relies on hearing about positive things people are doing, to keep hope and faith alive, and how each negative report deflates her sense of hope. To keep a balance in her "hope account," she needs to hear about good people doing good work. She invited folks to visit the AFSC website when they are needing to restore their hope balance and they will see evidence of much good work being done by AFSC staff allied with grassroots justice groups, that is alleviating suffering across the country and in the world.

Note: You may read the AFSC’s presentation on caring for each other during Covid-19 via this weblink: <https://www.afsc.org/content/caring-each-other-during-covid-19>.

Friends General Conference (FGC):

(See Appendix 4, page 35, for the formal report: *Update for Central Committee on FGC Actions & Status During the Covid-19 Crisis.*)

Friends Peace Teams (FPT):

(See Appendix 5, page 38, for the full report.)

Cece Yocum covered some of the highlights from the report that was included in the DIAs and encouraged people to visit the Friends Peace Teams' website <https://friendspeaceteams.org/>.

Friends discussed the matter of funding of these Friends Organizations during and post pandemic. It will be quite challenging. How will Friends' organizations fare? It was suggested that individuals and Friends communities facing limited resources continue to fund these Friends organizations even if at a lesser level.

Florida Council of Churches:

(See Appendix 6, page 45, for the full report.)

Bev Ward, SEYM representative to FCC, reported that the 3rd Assembly of the Florida Interfaith Climate Action Network that had been scheduled for April 28 was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. She will be reporting on recent actions of the FCC relating to COVID-19.

Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW):

Brad Stocker, QEW representative, reported:

- QEW continues to move forward with mission of education, networking, and inspiration.
- QEW Witness and FGC, jointly, are offering monthly worship sharing.
- QEW renewed its relationship with FCNL and has held several meetings with FCNL's Emily Wirzba and Alicia Cannon.
- Beverly Ward and Brad Stocker made a presentation to a regional meeting of FWCC and have been invited to come back to the host Spanish programmed Meeting.
- QEW suffers, as do many small organizations, from a lack of funds. It functions on a budget of approximately \$160,000 with no reserves. There are two paid part time staff. The organization seeks funding support and hopes Friends will contribute even small amounts on a regular basis.
- QEW could use help with grant writing. Perhaps reps from Peace Teams, and other Quaker organizations could form a working group to find grants and learn to apply for them.
- QEW is working on a desperately needed upgraded website.
- Befriending Creation is still functioning as the Quaker Earthcare Witness newsletter. It is available in print and online and is free.
- QEW has mini-grants again and asks Friends to consider applying. Information is on the website. QEW has a Power Point presentation to use explain mini-grants and to motivate Friends apply and donate. It will be available for distribution and can be seen on the website. Friends are invited to find ways to use a mini-grant in current circumstances of pandemic.
- QEW's last Steering Committee meeting was held via Zoom. It was a success technically.

- The organization has decided to holding only one face-to-face meeting a year instead of two unless circumstances prevent even one.
- Quaker Earthcare Witness is in deep discernment about how to best serve the institutional intentions in time of pandemic.
- Friends are invited to watch the video: “Quaker Earthcare Witness: A Panorama”, available at this link: www.quakerearthcare.org/panorama.

Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO):

(See Appendix 7, page 47, for QUNO’s letter on the Covid-19 global crisis.)

Warren Hoskins reported that QUNO has focused attention on the COVID-19 crisis around the world and has issued a letter to Friends on this subject. In addition, QUNO has produced a report on COVID-19 and its impact on families of incarcerated persons: [Covid-19 and the Rights of Children of Parents Who Are Incarcerated](#).

Concerns About the Current Events:

Friends noted that people are on the streets now responding to the recent deaths by police to Black people. Older white people need to join these young people to shine the light on change that needs to happen. One Friend suggested that we bring this matter to the next plenary for discernment. Friends recommended the following reads: “[Our Only Weapon Is Love](#)” by Daniel Berrigan, S.J., and [The Fire Next Time](#) by James Baldwin.

Numbered minutes were read and approved.

This session closed with silent worship.



Fourth Plenary Session – 6th Month 6^h Day 2020, 10:30 a.m.

36 Friends gathered via videoconference and settled into worshipful, attentive silence to begin the fourth plenary session.

Clerk Bill Carlie read from Isaac Pennington.

Liz Dykes substituted for Richard Frechette as YM Sessions Recording Clerk for Plenaries 4 and 5.

Friends and visitors attending their first 2020 plenary introduced themselves.

The agenda was reviewed. There were no additions.

The clerk read a traveling minute from Orlando Meeting for Jerry Knutson (Appendix 8, page 48). The clerk will endorse the minute. Jerry will be presenting a three-day workshop at Pendle Hill (virtual) in August.

Youth and Young Adult Coordinator Report:

(See Appendix 9, page 49, for the full report.)

Kody Hersh gave the report. Things are upended so a lot of Kody’s energy is trying to figure out how things will work in the coming months. He is also in the process of discerning the pastoral care needs for youth, families, and young adults, in these times. Kody asks Friends to share events

with families and young people in their meetings. He finds it difficult to know if Friends are engaged. One of his goals this year is to get as many adults to complete CAPP training as possible. He is working on getting the training portion online and will continue reaching out. If a Friend is interested in taking the training, please contact Kody at yyacoordinator@seymquakers.org.

A friend asked how many youth and young adults are in the yearly meeting. This is a difficult question to answer. He is continuing to keep records to get a more accurate picture.

Friends accepted the Youth & Young Adult Coordinator's report.

Youth Committee Report:

(See Appendix 10, page 52, for full report.)

Cece Yocum presented the Youth Committee Report. Cece and Jennifer Mendoza are the new co-clerks. The committee has provided an evaluation for Kody Hersh and forwarded it to the Personnel Committee. The committee meets monthly. They are reviewing the CAPP (Child Abuse Prevention Program) manual and updating it. There is still a need for a CAPP Coordinator. The committee missed having fundraising opportunities at YM sessions and will need to find ways to raise funds.

Friends accepted the Youth Committee Report.

Worship & Ministry Committee Report:

(See Appendix 11, page 53, for full report.)

Nancy Triscritti reported for Worship and Ministry. The committee has extended an invitation to Petra Doan to give the Michener Lecture in 2021 and are awaiting Petra's response.

Friends accepted the Worship & Ministry Report.

Committee for Ministry on Racism:

(See Appendix 12, page 54, for full report.)

Susan Taylor presented the report. The committee met on Wednesday, June 3, by Zoom. The main agenda item was working on responding to Friends requests for what else we can do during this time of lifting the veil and seeing what horrendous things happen with systemic racism. We want to act. We are grateful for the outpouring of actions and sometimes changes of heart that we see, and we are hopeful that systemic changes can happen.

The committee focused on what we can do as white people. A document is being created but technical glitches have delayed it. Poverty, healthcare, education, and employment, are all areas where we can promote equity. The committee is continuing to develop and season this and will distribute when it is ready.

Susan reminds us that on the website there are already resources. There will be a report to attach to these minutes.

A video of Mark Charles, an indigenous man, on the murder of George Floyd was shared (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fUIBU4YDVQ>).

The Committee has posted statements from NEYM and others on the Facebook page. She called our attention to several other resources and statements.

Friends responded with thoughts and concerns.

Friends accepted the report from the Committee for Ministry on Racism.

20YM06 We would like to express appreciation to the yearly meeting clerk, administrative secretary, youth coordinator, recording clerk, representatives to organizations, all committees that have diligently met and given reports, and all who have participated in any and all ways during these 2020 Yearly Meeting Sessions. The significance of our beliefs and care for all remain clearly visible.

The minute was read back to the body and approved.

Friends closed with worship.



Fifth Plenary Session – 6th Month 6^h Day 2020, 2:00 p.m.

37 Friends gathered via videoconference and settled into worshipful, attentive silence to begin the fifth plenary session.

Clerk Bill Carlie read from Parker Palmer.

The agenda was presented and accepted as proposed.

Peace & Social Concerns Committee:

(See Appendix 13, page 57, for the full report.)

Cece Yocum presented the Peace & Social Concerns Committee report. The committee is working with AFSC and other programs to get emergency aid to people in need. The Jacksonville Meeting returned a grant for AVP which will be used in Nicaragua when the current crisis abates.

Cece explained about the Florida Rights Restoration Project. Friends were interested in SEYM becoming a formal member of the project. Cece will report back tomorrow.

Friends added to information about the Coalition of Immokalee Workers.

Friends accepted the report.

Field Secretary for Earthcare:

(See Appendix 14, page 63, for the full report and amended report.)

Beverly Ward presented her report as Field Secretary for Earthcare. Since her initial report so many things have changed as a result of the pandemic that she submitted an amended report. She has been very busy with Wider Quaker organizations as well as local.

Friends accepted the report.

Publications Committee:

(See Appendix 15, page 68, for the full report.)

Phoebe Andersen presented the Publications Committee Report. She described the plan to bring publications into the 21st century. An *ad hoc* committee helped Wendy Geiger through the

process of publishing a second edition of her book, My Life is a Quilt. She is quite happy. Phoebe thanked the *ad hoc* committee for their work in bringing this project to a successful conclusion.

Friends accepted the report.

Archives Committee:

Phoebe Andersen presented the Archive Committee Report. The committee met early in March and has been working at the UF indexing the papers. They are almost finished with the SEYM papers and are still asking for minutes, newsletters, and other archival materials from monthly meetings and worship groups.

Friends accepted the report.

Earthcare Committee:

Bill Carlie presented the report for the Earthcare Committee. Brian Humphrey has agreed to serve as co-clerk of the committee. Bill updated the situation with the water bottling permit application and the Suwannee River Water Management District.

Friends accepted the report.

Karen Putney asked that we hold Eden Grace (the 2019 Michener Lecturer) in the light. She has been suffering with Covid-19 for several weeks.

The meeting closed with worship.



Sixth Plenary Session – 6th Month 7th Day 2020, 1:30 p.m.

38 Friends gathered via Zoom conference and settled into worshipful, attentive silence to begin the 6th plenary session.

Clerk Bill Carlie gave a reading from George Fox written in 1676.

Peace & Social Concerns:

During the fifth plenary, Friends had asked whether SEYM could formally join the Florida Rights Restoration Project. Cece was unable to get in contact with them, so there is no answer yet regarding that question. She did note that individuals can always join, anyone can join in on the on-line meetings. There is no fee to join.

Friends' Concerns:

Dan Vaughn raised the possibility of reactivating a task force from 40 years ago to explore the possibility of establishing a Friends residential community in Central Florida, including possibly a Friends school. He asked some Friends from Orlando as to whether it resonated with them. There is a particular site that might be available. Peter Schmidt shared his experience in a similar exploration in the San Francisco area, noting that it does take a lot of work. Friends agreed that this should be brought to SEYM Executive Committee for seasoning.

Karen Putney noted that we do not seem have an efficient enough process in place for getting word out to local meetings and getting word back. This will be brought to the attention of Executive Committee for consideration.

Nominating Committee Report, second reading:

(See Appendix 16, page 69, for full report.)

Ed Lesnick, Clerk of Nominating Committee, reports that Katie Green (Clearwater) has been added to the Committee on Ministry for Racism. Otherwise, the Nominating Committee recommendations is the same as that presented in the second plenary.

20YM07 Friends approve the revised Nominating Committee Report.

Annual Budget, second reading:

(See Appendix 17, page 74, for approved 2020-2021 budget.)

Peter Schmidt, Clerk of Finance Committee, reported that there are no changes from the first reading. The total budget is \$86,410

A question was raised about where the COVID-19 fund fits into the budget. It was clarified that it is not part of the General Fund budget, there would be a combination of Trustee funds and other contributed funds.as requested. It was also noted that the apportionment is a suggested fair share contribution amount, Monthly Meetings cannot be required by Yearly Meeting to pay any specific amount under Faith and Practice.

It was noted by a friend that the budget was prepared pre-COVID, and might impact meetings' ability to contribute. Joel Cook, Treasurer, noted that there is not much discretion within our budget, and also that we do not expect much in the way of individual support.

Some friend asked what each meeting's apportionment is and whether everyone has access to the entire apportionment list. It was clarified that each meeting's Treasurer and Clerk usually receive a communication (usually via e-mail) that will identify that Meeting's apportionment amount and will include an attachment of the entire apportionment list. The YM separately reports out (with the Yearly Meeting directory) the statistical chart of members and attenders. Friends are in agreement that this practice should continue.

Friends accept the Finance Committee report

20YM08 Friends approve the 2020-2021 SEYM budget as presented.

Gathering Committee Report:

(See Appendix 18, page 76, for full report.)

Andrea Hoskins reported that the virtual gathering and plenary sessions – albeit unusual – were nevertheless good.

Emily Provence will serve as the Walton Lecturer at the SEYM 2021 Gathering. She is Member of 15th Street Meeting in New York. Kody Hersh added that Emily combines deep spiritual grounding with practical skills and has done work with multi-generational communities

Approximately 112 people participated in the virtual mini gathering, and 61 people participated in some or all of these plenary sessions (plenary registrants are listed at the end of these minutes). We do not have a clear count of attenders at the various virtual mini-gathering online sessions.

Friends accepted the Gathering Committee report.

Future Meetings:

Phoebe Andersen announced that the summer Executive Committee meeting will be held on Saturday, August 8, most likely via videoconference.

The Fall Interim Business Meeting (FIBM) will occur Saturday, October 10, via videoconference. The fall Executive Committee meeting will be held the evening before, Friday, October 9.

Friends expressed their acceptance of this schedule.

Epistle:

Cece Yocum and Beverly Ward presented the SEYM Gathering Epistle:

We are experiencing challenging times.

Yet, we gathered in some part over the last three months, beginning with a virtual mini-Gathering. We participated in worship sharing, workshops, a talent show, and plenary sessions. We even danced the Julia Geiger Memorial Chicken Dance with joy together, each from our homes. We give special thanks to Esme Dellinger for her role as emcee of the All Ages Talent Show.

Friends from Friends Committee on National Legislation filled the gap of the loss of the Walton Lecture speaker with information and inspiration about lobbying online.

We were joined by Friends from other Yearly Meetings to observe and participate in our virtual mini Gathering and plenaries. People who may have been unable to attend in person in the past were able to join us in the online sessions. Some Friends, however, found the technology challenging for various reasons. Feedback from the mini Gathering included appeals for more online content such as movies, Project Drawdown and other workshops, and opportunities for spiritual deepening.

The Gathering Committee and others are planning more workshops, as suggested, at least once per month through 2020. There will be an evaluation after that time of the desire to continue with this format. The first of the workshops will take place on 23 June with Shelley Tanenbaum, General Secretary for Quaker Earthcare Witness. Brian Humphrey will lead a workshop on Collaborative Conflict Strategies for Interpersonal Situations to Earthcare on 28 July. More information and registration will be posted on the SEYM website.

For four weeks, we held Worship Sharing sessions with quotes and queries selected by the Worship and Ministry Committee prior to Meeting with a Concern for Business plenary sessions.

In our first plenary, more than 30 Friends from 11 Meetings and Worship Groups shared how they have blended old and new practices and technologies to meet their needs. Considerations on when and how to resume meeting in person and the extent to which online gatherings might help to maintain ties to distant members or persons in the COVID high-risk group. Many spoke of the desire to continue the practice of living simpler and more sustainable lives—"that in the Simplicity of less busy-ness, they found spiritual growth." A Meeting Clerk shared "...we are uncertain of how long we will live the day we are born; and that we need to live each day in peace and with gratitude."

A number of committees met prior to the plenaries. A leading arose among several committees to develop a relief fund for those experiencing financial hardships as a result of the corona virus. The SEYM COVID-19 Relief Fund will assist individual Meetings and/or individuals identified by the Meetings. Peace and Social Concerns Committee also donated \$400.00 to Miami AFSC to help with farmworker food relief.

Representatives to Quaker and other organizations brought forward concerns, actions, and messages. These provided senses of shared burdens, insights, and aids.

Committees within the Meeting have been responsive, enduring, and provided a special grace throughout. This was witnessed by the rather sudden shift from an in-person Gathering to the creation and delivery of the virtual. Friends have and continue to serve the Yearly Meeting by fully showing up, e.g., the COVID-19 Relief Fund, serving on committees, providing queries, and much more.

Of particular concern are the impacts of climate degradation and systemic racism and the work that is needed to realize the world we seek. During the course of our Yearly Meeting sessions, we were heartbroken to learn of the murder of George Floyd and grieved for his family and friends and all those who have been harmed by racial and police violence, white supremacy, and the ongoing racism in our country.

We are heartened by the call by many to make changes in ourselves, our meetings and our communities for racial justice. We are looking at how we can increase our support to groups such as Florida Rights Restoration Coalition, among other possibilities. This Gathering is a witness to our commitment to do that work. As mentioned earlier, we are already planning how we will focus our energies on transformation.

Technology may provide a new-old sense of intimacy. We saw each other's living rooms and virtual backgrounds. The sense of community within the Yearly Meeting seems to have been strengthened and sustained though we look forward to the hugs, hang-out time over snacks, the table talk, worshipping, singing and dancing together when we see each other in person again.

These quotes spoke to us during Yearly Meeting:

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

John 13:34-35

Integrity forms the basis for covenant relationship in which persons exercise a sense of responsibility and accountability toward one another. Integrity . . . leads to an even deeper sense of community. . . . If the wholeness aspect of integrity leads to a sense of community of persons, likewise it can lead us to an experience of spiritual wholeness in our relationship with God.

Wilmer A. Cooper

20YM08 Friends approved the Epistle which will be shared with other Yearly Meetings and Friends Organizations.

Numbered minutes were read and approved.

This session closed with silent worship.

§ § §

Plenary Attendees

Clearwater Monthly Meeting

Peter Day
Mike Flanery
Barbara Finkelstein
Caroline Kaufmann
Phil Stone
Elizabeth Woodward
Eileen Zingaro

Deland Worship Group

Linda Gurney (Orlando MM)
Ann Jerome (Orlando MM)
Stephen Tonjes (Orlando MM)
Beverly Ward (Tampa MM)

Fort Lauderdale Monthly Meeting

Brian Humphrey

Fort Myers Monthly Meeting

Richard Frechette
Nancy Howell

Gainesville Monthly Meeting

Pete Ackerman
Shawna Doran
Liz Dykes
Jean Larson
Mike Shell

Jacksonville Worship Group

Wendy Clarissa Geiger

Lake Wales Worship Group

Caroline Lanker (Tampa MM)

Quaker Meeting of Melbourne

Hope Asher

Miami Monthly Meeting

Vincent Cosomano
Carl Hersh
Kathy Hersh
Andrea Hoskins
Warren Hoskins

Miami Monthly Meeting continued

David Landowne
Brian Olson
Brad Stocker
Jane Westberg

Orlando Monthly Meeting

Gregory Allen-Anderson
Gary Evans
Minerva Glidden
Kody Hersh
Elizabeth Jenkins
Jerry Knutson
Christine Laning
Ed Lesnick
Stephanie Preston-Hughes
Steve Riddle
Mira Tanna
Mary Jane Williams

Other SEYM Friends

Peter Schmidt

Palm Beach Monthly Meeting

Jack Bradin (Treasure Coast WG)

Saint Augustine Worship Group

Clara Diaz
Eduardo Diaz
Bonnie Eadie
Kathleen Moreau
Richelle Ogle

Saint Petersburg Monthly Meeting

Bill Carlie
Vicki Carlie
Bill Demarest
Nancy Tait
Susan Wade

Sarasota Monthly Meeting

Jennifer Mendoza
Mercedes Soca

Tallahassee Monthly Meeting

Robert Allenson
Neil Andersen
Phoebe Andersen
Susan Taylor

Tampa Monthly Meeting

Marjorie Arnaldi
Jan Dahm
Miki Epperson
Lisa Erazmus
Karen Putney
Nancy Triscritti
Cece Yocum

Treasure Coast Worship Group

Joel Cook (Palm Beach MM)

Baltimore Yearly Meeting

Alicia McBride, Sandy Spring Monthly Meeting, AFSC

Lake Erie Yearly Meeting

Josephine Posti, Pittsburgh Friends Meeting

New England Yearly Meeting

Cathy Day, New Haven Friends Meeting

North Carolina Yearly Meeting

Tom Kennedy, Virginia Beach Friends Meeting

Pacific Yearly Meeting

Gay Howard, Central Coast Friends Meeting

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting

Zackery Dutton, Central Philadelphia Monthly Meeting
Jonathan Rhoads, Germantown Monthly Meeting

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Treasurer's Report

SEYM Yearly Business Sessions 2020
23 Fifth Month 2020

Report for end of First Three Quarters of Fiscal Year 2019–21 (June 1 thru February 29, 2020)

All values are rounded to the nearest dollar.

SE Total Cash Flow not including Trustees

The overall cash flow of the Yearly Meeting (excluding the Trustees' accounts) for this period yielded a net loss (excluding unrealized capital gains/losses of \$1,137 on investments for the Publications program) of \$29,939, including \$8,331 restricted donations for the Field Secretary for Earthcare program. This resulted from an SEYM total real income of \$77,740 against total expenses of \$105,679. [NOTE: The Yearly Meeting paid a \$20,180 deposit to the Warren Willis United Methodist Camp and Conference Center (WWUMCCC) f/k/a The Life Enrichment Center (LEC) for the 2020 sessions that were not held. This deposit has been applied to our 2021 sessions.]

SEYM General Fund for Administration - Cash Flow and Budget Performance

At the end of this period, the General Fund (and the operations fund for which we approved a balance of \$85,720* in out 2019 Yearly Meeting sessions) showed a net loss of \$5,717. This resulted from General Fund total income of \$46,124 (56% of budget) against the expenses of \$51,841 (60% of budget).

Budget Support Apportionments & Contributions Received

During this period, in response to the annual request for support of the approved General Fund Budget (the Apportionments), contributions received from the Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups totaled \$41,999, or 57% of the year's budgeted request of \$73,900.

Sixteen Monthly Meetings and three Worship Groups were included in the Apportionment request this fiscal year. So far, 3 have contributed their entire requested amount, 8 have contributed one-half to three-quarters, 2 have contributed quarter to half, and 6 have not contributed anything.

The unrestricted individual donations received toward the Budget during this period totaled \$410, approximately 21% of the \$2,000 budgeted amount.

Cash Flow Results for Programs

The annual programs for this fiscal year are in progress; cash flow is incomplete.

The Publications program during this period had a net real loss of \$977, excluding unrealized capital gains of \$1,137 on investments for the program.

The SEYM Field Secretary for Earthcare program during this period received \$8,331 in donations and had expenses of \$13,155, yielding a net loss of \$4,824.

Net Worth

The Net Worth of the combined Yearly Meeting and its Trustees at the end of this period was \$578,755, an increase of \$13,785 including \$47,078 in unrealized capital gains since the beginning of the fiscal year.

Joel D. Cook, Treasurer - SEYM 5/19/2020

Southeastern Yearly Meeting
Budget vs. Actual
June 2019 through February 2020

	<u>Jun '19 - Feb 20</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Income				
2000 · Income				
2001 · Donations				
2002 · Indiv.Donations-Classes	410	2,000	-1,590	21%
2003 · Meeting Donations	41,999	73,900	-31,901	57%
Total 2001 · Donations	42,409	75,900	-33,491	56%
2200 · Investment Earnings				
2203 · Savings Account Interest	14	20	-6	70%
Total 2200 · Investment Earnings	14	20	-6	70%
Total 2000 · Income	42,423	75,920	-33,497	56%
2700 · Transfer in FROM other classes				
2712 · Michener Lect. to GF/insurance	150	150	0	100%
2732 · Gath/Walton to GF/insurance	0	900	-900	0%
2752 · HYM to GF/insurance	450	450	0	100%
2815 · for BertscheOutreach Travel	928	1,800	-872	52%
2820 · for Staff Salary	2,173	4,500	-2,327	48%
Total 2804 · from Trustee's Funds	3,101	6,300	-3,199	49%
Total 2700 · Transfer in FROM other classes	3,701	7,800	-4,099	47%
Total Income	46,124	83,720	-37,596	55%
Expense				
2999 · Expenses				
3000 · Operating Costs				
3001 · Bank Service Charges	184	20	164	920%
3002 · PayPal service fee	10	10	0	100%
3080 · Duplication	210	1,500	-1,290	14%
3100 · Insurance	1,367	1,400	-33	98%
3107 · Youth Worker CAP Certification	16	150	-134	11%
3146 · Non-Profit Corporation Fee	61	60	1	102%
3200 · Office Supplies	602	800	-198	75%
3270 · Payroll Expenses	33,311	46,000	-12,689	72%
3272 · Employer Payroll Taxes	2,531	3,300	-769	77%
3380 · Postage/Shipping	139	400	-261	35%
3381 · Post Office Box rental	70	180	-110	39%
3400 · Office Equipment	45	400	-355	11%
3500 · Professional Fees	0	1,400	-1,400	0%
3640 · Rent warehouse/office	2,023	1,650	373	123%
3700 · Repairs	380	200	180	190%
3816 · Software	2,266	1,200	1,066	189%
3840 · Telephone & Inet access	882	1,700	-818	52%
3860 · Travel Administrative	568	2,000	-1,432	28%
3900 · Website	1,021	900	121	113%
Total 3000 · Operating Costs	45,686	63,270	-17,584	72%
4000 · Committees Operating Expenses				
4309 · Archives	0	550	-550	0%
4329 · EC and IBM	0	100	-100	0%
4339 · Faith and Practice	0	50	-50	0%
4349 · Finance	0	50	-50	0%
4359 · Nominating	0	50	-50	0%
4369 · Peace and Social Concerns	0	450	-450	0%
4379 · Religious Education	0	50	-50	0%
4389 · Youth Committee	0	50	-50	0%
4399 · Worship and Ministry	0	150	-150	0%
4429 · Earthcare	0	500	-500	0%
4469 · Racism, Ministry on	0	50	-50	0%
4489 · Young Adult Quakers	0	50	-50	0%
Total 4000 · Committees Operating Expenses	0	2,100	-2,100	0%

05/19/20
Cash Basis

Southeastern Yearly Meeting
Budget vs. Actual
June 2019 through February 2020

	<u>Jun '19 - Feb 20</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
5000 · Donations to Organizations				
5007 · AFSC	0	200	-200	0%
5018 · Earlham School of Religion	0	100	-100	0%
5027 · FCNL	0	300	-300	0%
5028 · QEW (FCUN)	0	200	-200	0%
5030 · FLGBTQC	0	100	-100	0%
5037 · FGC	0	1,200	-1,200	0%
5038 · FLCoalition for Peace & Justice	0	100	-100	0%
5047 · Florida Council of Churches	0	200	-200	0%
5048 · Florida Impact	0	300	-300	0%
5057 · Friends Journal	0	100	-100	0%
5061 · Friends Peace Teams	0	500	-500	0%
5067 · FUM	0	500	-500	0%
5068 · FWCC	0	1,450	-1,450	0%
5077 · Pendle Hill	0	100	-100	0%
5085 · Quaker House of Fayetteville NC	0	200	-200	0%
5087 · Quaker Life	0	100	-100	0%
5089 · QUNO	0	100	-100	0%
5097 · Wm Penn House	0	100	-100	0%
Total 5000 · Donations to Organizations	0	5,850	-5,850	0%
8000 · Travel & Financial Aid				
8160 · Annual Representative	0	4,000	-4,000	0%
8360 · Attend SEYM-approved Activities	655	1,000	-345	66%
8460 · Travel Support to SEYM Business	0	1,000	-1,000	0%
8560 · Other Travel	0	1,000	-1,000	0%
Total 8000 · Travel & Financial Aid	655	7,000	-6,345	9%
8500 · Contingency		2,000	-2,000	0%
Total 2999 · Expenses	46,341	80,220	-33,879	58%
9000 · Transfer OUT TO other classes				
9004 · for Youth Programs	2,500	2,500		100%
9005 · for Gathering Youth	2,000	2,000		100%
9060 · for Triennial Travel	1,000	1,000		100%
Total 9000 · Transfer OUT TO other classes	5,500	5,500		100%
Total Expense	51,841	85,720	-33,879	60%
Net Income	-5,717			

05/17/20

**Southeastern Yearly Meeting
Income/Expenses by Class**
June 2019 through February 2020

	Admin/ General Fund	Gathering/ Walton Lecture	Half Yearly Meeting (HYM)	Michener Lecture	Programs for Youth	Publications	Secretary - Earthcare	Triennial Travel	Trustee's Funds	TOTAL
Income										
2000 · Income										
2001 · Donations										
2002 · Indivl.Donations-Classes	410		76							486
2003 · Meeting Donations	41,999									41,999
Total 2001 · Donations	42,409		76							42,485
2040 · Restricted Donations					970					970
2050 · Restricted - Other	587						8,331		500	2,057
2060 · Donations - Restricted- FSE							8,331		500	8,331
Total 2040 · Restricted Donations	587				970		8,331		500	10,388
2200 · Investment Earnings										
2203 · Savings Account Interest	14									14
2205 · Dividends FFC Gathering Youth									4,288	4,288
2210 · Dividends FFC Michener Fund									454	454
2215 · Dividends FFC Bertsche Outravel									1,874	1,874
2220 · Dividends-FFC Staff Salary Fund									4,389	4,389
2230 · Dividends FFC Walton Fund									1,661	1,661
2280 · Dividends FFC SEYM Publications						557				557
2290 · Investment Capital Gains/Losses										
2206 · Capital Gain(Loss) Gath. Youth										
2211 · Capital Gain(Loss) Michener										
2216 · Capital Gain(Loss) BertscheOTra										
2221 · Capital Gain(Loss) Staff Salary										
2226 · Capital Gain(Loss) Unrestricted										
2231 · Capital Gain(Loss) Walton										
2281 · Capital Gain(Loss) SEYM Publish						1,137				1,137
Total 2290 · Investment Capital Gains/Losses	14					1,137			47,078	48,215
2600 · Sales						1,694			59,744	61,452
Total 2200 · Investment Earnings	203					1,694			59,744	203
2316 · GuideOne Insurance Dividends			2,447	1,615						4,062
2400 · Program Registrations			2,447	1,615						4,062
2430 · Registration Fee										
Total 2400 · Program Registrations			2,447	1,615						4,062
2600 · Publication Sales										
2680 · Publication Sales										
Total 2600 · Sales						803				803
Total 2000 · Income	43,213		2,523	1,615	970	2,497	8,331		60,244	119,393
2700 · Transfer in FROM other classes										
2712 · Michener Lect. to GF/Insurance	150									150
2752 · HYM to GF/Insurance	450									450
2784 · from GF for YouthProgramsClass					2,500					2,500
2801 · transfer from General Fund								1,000		1,000
2802 · from GF for Gathering Youth		2,000								2,000

05/17/20

**Southeastern Yearly Meeting
Income/Expenses by Class
June 2019 through February 2020**

	Admin/ General Fund	Gathering/ Walton Lecture	Half Yearly Meeting (HYM)	Michener Lecture	Programs for Youth	Secretary - Earthcare	Triennial Travel	Trustee's Funds	TOTAL
2804 - from Trustee's Funds		2,123							2,123
2805 - for Gathering Youth				445					445
2810 - for Michener Lecture	928								928
2815 - for Bertsche Outreach Travel	2,173								2,173
2820 - for Staff Salary		822							822
2830 - for Walton Lecture/Gathering					6,000				6,000
2804 - from Trustee's Funds - Other									
Total 2804 - from Trustee's Funds	3,101	2,945		445	6,000				12,491
Total 2700 - Transfer in FROM other classes	3,701	4,945		445	8,500		1,000		18,591
Total Income	46,914	4,945	2,523	2,060	9,470	8,331	1,000	60,244	137,984
	46,914	4,945	2,523	2,060	9,470	8,331	1,000	60,244	137,984
Expense									
2999 - Expenses									
3000 - Operating Costs									
3001 - Bank Service Charges	184								184
3002 - PayPal service fee	10		42	0	5	9			66
3080 - Duplication	210	259							469
3100 - Insurance									
3106 - Liability Insurance	1,367								1,367
Total 3100 - Insurance	1,367								1,367

05/17/20

**Southeastern Yearly Meeting
Income/Expenses by Class**
June 2019 through February 2020

	Adminr/ General Fund	Gathering/ Walton Lecture	Half Yearly Meeting (HYM)	Michener Lecture	Programs for Youth	Publications	Secretary - Earthcare	Triennial Travel	Trustee's Funds	TOTAL
3107 · Youth Worker CAP Certification	16									16
3146 · Non-Profit Corporation Fee	123									123
3200 · Office Supplies	602	19				11				632
3270 · Payroll Expenses	33,311						12,209			45,610
3272 · Employer Payroll Taxes	2,531						847			3,378
3380 · Postage/Shipping	139	50				151				340
3381 · Post Office Box rental	70									70
3400 · Office Equipment	45									45
3500 · Professional Fees										
3566 · Transcribe										79
3586 · E-pub Dist fees										104
3596 · Publications Editing & Publishing										1,805
Total 3500 · Professional Fees						1,988				1,988
3640 · Rent warehouse/office	560									560
3642 · Office Rent	1,463									1,463
3643 · Storage Unit										2,023
Total 3640 · Rent warehouse/office	2,023									2,023
3700 · Repairs										
3740 · Computer Repairs	380									380
Total 3700 · Repairs	380									380
3816 · Software	2,266									2,266
3840 · Telephone & Inet access	882									882
3860 · Travel Administrative	918			0						918
3900 · Website										
3641 · Rent E-Data off-site storage	860									860
3900 · Website - Other	161									161
Total 3900 · Website	1,021									1,021
Total 3000 · Operating Costs	46,098	328	42	0	5	2,150	13,155			61,778
6000 · Production										
6380 · ISBN production										187
Total 6000 · Production										187
7000 · Operating Costs Programs										
7138 · Food purchases				903						903
7200 · Food, snacks			632							632
7500 · Site Fees										
7575 · Site Fees - Lodging		20,180	400							20,580
7500 · Site Fees		20,180	400							20,580
Total 7500 · Site Fees		40,360	800							41,160
7600 · Food/lodging, Speaker				464						464
7650 · Speaker Honorarium			200	500						700
7660 · Speaker travel		764	100	833						1,697
7800 · Youth Program										
7804 · Youth Prg. Expenses/Fees/Other					2,066					2,066

**Southeastern Yearly Meeting
Income/Expenses by Class**
June 2019 through February 2020

	Admini/ General Fund	Gathering/ Walton Lecture	Half Yearly Meeting (HYM)	Michener Lecture	Programs for Youth	Publications	Secretary - Earthcare	Triennial Travel	Trustee's Funds	TOTAL
7805 · Youth Program Leader/childcare					9,450					9,450
7900 · Youth Programs					467					467
Total 7800 · Youth Program					11,983					11,983
Total 7000 · Operating Costs Programs		20,944	1,332	2,700	11,983					36,959
8000 · Travel & Financial Aid										
8360 · Attend SEYM-approved Activities	655									655
Total 8000 · Travel & Financial Aid	655									655
Total 2999 · Expenses	46,753	21,272	1,374	2,700	11,988	2,337	13,155			99,579
9000 · Transfer OUT TO other classes										
9002 · to GF for insurance			450	150						600
9004 · for Youth Programs	2,500									2,500
9005 · for Gathering Youth	2,000							2,123		4,123
9060 · for Triennial Travel	1,000									1,000
9210 · for Michener Lecture								445		445
9215 · for BertscheOutreachTravel								928		928
9220 · for Staff Salary								2,173		2,173
9230 · for Walton Lecture/Gathering								822		822
9000 · Transfer OUT TO other classes - Other								6,000		6,000
Total 9000 · Transfer OUT TO other classes	5,500		450	150				12,491		18,591
Total Expense	52,253	21,272	1,824	2,850	11,988	2,337	13,155	12,491		118,170
Income	-5,339	-16,327	699	-790	-2,518	160	-4,824	1,000	47,753	19,814
Income - Before Unrealized Capital Gains/Losses	-5,339	-16,327	699	-790	-2,518	1137	-4,824	1,000	47,078	48,215
Total 2290 · Investment Capital Gains/Losses						-977			675	-28,401
Income - Before Unrealized Capital Gains/Losses										

05/17/20
Cash Basis

Southeastern Yearly Meeting
Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison
As of February 29, 2020

	Feb 29, 20	May 30, 19	\$ Change	% Change
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Checking/Savings				
0501 · Checking Account BOA				
511 · Checking - Gen'l Fund - General	-17,849	-12,189	-5,660	-46%
560 · Checking-GF-Triennial Travel	8,848	6,848	2,000	29%
566 · Checking-GF-Sufferings	170	170		
610 · Checking-SA-Michener	-155	1,968	-2,123	-108%
630 · Checking-SA-YBM Gathering	-16,572	1,192	-17,764	-1,490%
640 · Checking-SA-Programs for Youth	7,298	8,920	-1,622	-18%
650 · Checking-SA-HYM	804	1,382	-578	-42%
670 · Checking - SA - Earthcare	27,737	21,679	6,058	28%
680 · Checking-SA-Publications	-5,542	-4,565	-977	-21%
690 · Checking - YYAC		1,000	-1,000	-100%
700 · Checking-Trustees				
705 · Checking - Gathering Youth Fund	5,992	3,827	2,165	57%
710 · Checking - Michener Fund	454		454	100%
715 · Checking - Bertsche Travel Fund	946		946	100%
720 · Checking - Staff Salary	3,216	500	2,716	543%
725 · Checking - Unrestricted Fund	1,000	1,000		
730 · Checking - Walton Fund	839		839	100%
Total 700 · Checking-Trustees	12,447	5,327	7,120	134%
0501 · Checking Account BOA - Other	-2		-2	-100%
Total 0501 · Checking Account BOA	17,184	31,732	-14,548	-46%
830 · Checking - BofA Payroll	9,339		9,339	100%
903 · Savings BOA	36,915	55,899	-18,984	-34%
999 · Pay Pal		90	-90	-100%
Total Checking/Savings	63,438	87,721	-24,283	-28%
Accounts Receivable				
1100 · Accounts Receivable	-1,135	-531	-604	-114%
Total Accounts Receivable	-1,135	-531	-604	-114%
Other Current Assets				
1120 · Inventory Asset	15	15		
1180 · FFC SOYM1 Publications Investme	15,779	14,642	1,137	8%
1200 · Trustee Investments				
1205 · FFC SOYMT6 GatheringYouth Fund	121,410	112,663	8,747	8%
1210 · FFC SOYMT3 Michener	25,437	23,605	1,832	8%
1215 · FFC SOYMT2 BertscheTravel Fd	53,066	49,243	3,823	8%
1220 · FFC SOYMT5 Staff Salary Fund	124,254	115,303	8,951	8%
1225 · FFC SOYMT4 Unrestricted	97,378	92,551	4,827	5%
1230 · FFC SOYMT1 Walton Fund	47,018	43,631	3,387	8%
1240 · FFC SOYMT7 Meetinghouse Support	26,696	26,128	568	2%
Total 1200 · Trustee Investments	495,259	463,124	32,135	7%
Total Other Current Assets	511,053	477,781	33,272	7%
Total Current Assets	573,356	564,971	8,385	1%
TOTAL ASSETS	573,356	564,971	8,385	1%

Southeastern Yearly Meeting
Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison
As of February 29, 2020

	Feb 29, 20	May 30, 19	\$ Change	% Change
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Other Current Liabilities				
1300 · Expected/prepaid expenses				
1333 · Future Site deposits, this FY	-21,008		-21,008	-100%
1300 · Expected/prepaid expenses - Other	-305		-305	-100%
Total 1300 · Expected/prepaid expenses	-21,313		-21,313	-100%
1370 · Payroll Liabilities				
1372 · SEYM Payroll Liability	126	1,149	-1,023	-89%
1370 · Payroll Liabilities - Other	-126	-88	-38	-43%
Total 1370 · Payroll Liabilities		1,061	-1,061	-100%
Total Other Current Liabilities	-21,313	1,061	-22,374	-2,109%
Total Current Liabilities	-21,313	1,061	-22,374	-2,109%
Total Liabilities	-21,313	1,061	-22,374	-2,109%
Equity				
1400 · Trustees Funds Equity	296,695	296,695		
1500 · Operational Equity/ Net Assets				
1511 · General Fund Net Assets	29,324	29,324		
1560 · Triennial Travel Net Assets	5,350	5,350		
1580 · Publications Net Assets	14,342	14,342		
Total 1500 · Operational Equity/ Net Assets	49,016	49,016		
1700 · Retained Earnings	208,963	218,754	-9,791	-4%
Net Income	45,394	-556	45,950	8,264%
Total Equity	600,068	563,909	36,159	6%
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	578,755	564,970	13,785	2%

SEYM Trustees Report

SEYM Yearly Meeting Sessions 2020
23 Fifth Month 2020.

In this time of the Covid-19 worldwide Pandemic, Trustees are very heartened over the direct action our YM Clerks and staff have put into place. Our thoughts and prayers are with SEYM members, attenders, and their families; our wonderful youth and all their work for a world free of struggle, and their leadings in Environmental Justice!

The SEYM investments, held by FFC, have had a total drop in Market Value of about 7.4% during the past 12 months. Nevertheless, the FFC “standard distribution rate” (dividends paid in June and December) of 4% this year yielded a total of about \$13,100, which was divided and transferred to the relevant programs to support the Gathering, the Michener and Walton Lectures, and Youth Programs, as well as the Operating Budget, accounts for Staff Salaries and Representative Travel.

In addition, \$6,000 of unrestricted investments principal was redeemed to support the ongoing work of the Youth and Young Adult Coordinator.

Discussion of methods and limits of Trustees’ ability to help meet the anticipated needs for financial assistance of meetings and Friends in SEYM resulted in the adoption of the following:

MINUTE: SEYM Trustees recommends to SEYM that a Friends Support Fund and process be established by the Yearly Meeting in order to facilitate rapid response to requests for financial aid from our Monthly Meetings and/or Friends during the present coronavirus troubles. Trustees will contribute from the unrestricted investments to help initiate the proposed fund.

After consideration, Neil Andersen was proposed and accepted to be the incoming Clerk of Trustees effective June 1, 2020. Jack Bradin agreed to step down, as assistant clerk duties will occupy his attention. Jack will remain on Trustees, while Neil assumes clerkship for the remaining term.

Respectfully Submitted for the Committee,

Jack Bradin
Clerk of Trustees

Friends Committee on National Legislation ~ FCNL 2019 Report to SEYM

Presented 18 First Month 2020 at
Winter Interim Business Meeting, Orlando Friends Meeting

Friends gathered in Washington D.C., November 14-17, 2019, to participate in the FCNL Public Policy Institute (PPI) annual lobby and to participate in the Annual Meeting of the FCNL General Committee. SEYM Representatives to the General Committee in attendance included Sandra Schwartz – Clearwater MM, Aurelio Anderson – Tallahassee MM, and Karen Putney – Tampa MM. In addition, Friend Helen Fox – Fort Meyers MM and Chad Martin – Gainesville MM participated in the PPI lobby visits. Brad Stocker – Miami MM was in attendance as appointed Representative of Quaker Earthcare Witness. We were also accompanied in our PPI lobby effort by friends of Friends, Sita Scheppele and Ormand Derrick, who have lobbied with our Florida delegation in previous years as well as Katie Thurson of New College who is an FCNL Advocacy Corp member.

The FCNL Public Policy Institute began Thursday, November 14th with 400 Friends and like-minded activists gathering for panel presentations and speakers to inform our work of going to our members of Congress asking them to urge Armed Services Committee leadership to include the House provision for repeal of the 2002 Iraq Authorization for the Use of Military Force (AUMF) in the final National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). Representative Barbara Lee encouraged us and we took the words of this staunch Peace advocate to heart as she was the only NO vote to the 2001AUMF in the House. The afternoon was spent gathering in our lobby delegations, organized by state, to prepare our presentations and plan for our lobby visits. We lobbied in the offices of Senators Rubio and Scott. With nine in our Florida delegation we were also able to lobby several House Representatives. Our ask was timely as the NDAA was being negotiated even as we walked the halls of Congress. Combined efforts by those participating in the Public Policy Institute resulted in 227 lobby visits, representing 44 states.

The work of the General Committee began officially with the start of FCNL Annual Meeting Friday the 15th. Over the weekend, we were afforded many workshop opportunities to meet with staff about specific policy issues, to help build our capacity to be informed advocates and representatives of FCNL and in a variety of ways encouraged to deepen our relationship and understanding of the Quaker work and witness FCNL embodies. The most important focus of our discernment in 2019 was the approval to changes and updates in the FCNL Policy Statement, the document that represents the vision that informs our Quaker lobby actions. In the work of our plenaries, General Committee was also charged with approving the budget and nominations to standing committees. It was exciting to learn that after much work in discernment with William Penn House-WPH, FCNL has assumed responsibility for William Penn House and begun needed repairs and updating. When re-opened, WPH will better be able to serve and strengthen the Quaker presence on Capitol Hill.

Friends, please hold in the Light those who work with us in the office on Capitol Hill. As hard as it is for Friends across the country to persist in our work and witness from a distance, to be present and attentive daily to what is happening in our government and our country is a challenge and burden that we have asked the FCNL staff to undertake on our behalf. They are talented, committed and doggedly determined people who deserve our respect, our support and our thanks.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Putney, SEYM Representative to FCNL General Committee



Update for Central Committee on FGC Actions & Status During the Covid-19 Crisis

FGC staff and committees seek to be of service in a myriad of ways during this Crisis. Here is a listing with links, followed by an update on our financial status.

Compiling Yearly Meeting News & Actions

Covid-19 Resources and news from monthly and yearly meetings:

<https://fgcquaker.org/news/coronavirus-prevention-your-quaker-community-fgc-events>

The FGC Gathering

Gathering updates:

<https://www.fgcquaker.org/connect/gathering/coronavirus-and-2020-gathering>

- **The 2020 in-person Gathering was cancelled for 2020 and rescheduled for 2021.**
 - Sites for 2021 (Radford University) and 2022 (Western Oregon University) were approved by Long Range Conference Planning Committee and sent forward to Executive Committee.
 - Patsy and Tony Martin have agreed to serve as Gathering Co-Clerks for 2021 at Radford.
- FGC has received many notes of sadness, understanding, and support around the cancellation of the 2020 in-person gathering. A need for connection and community was clear so **the Gathering organized 3 Worship opportunities for Friends to join together to release the 2020 Gathering.** Between 25 and 55 Friends have participated at each worship.
- **Planning has begun for a Virtual 2020 Gathering**
 - A virtual gathering committee has met twice to discern program and schedule.
 - A theme “Virtual Gathering 2020” rose organically from constituents and stakeholders.
 - It became clear that FGC is the host and site of the Virtual Gathering.
 - Virtual Gathering schedule is in development.
 - There will be adult, Jr. Gathering, High School and AYF programing available.
 - A young clerks training is being explored.
 - Tech training and on-line facilitation training will be available to program leaders.
 - The appropriate digital infrastructure is being established.

Opportunities for Friends to Worship & Share Virtual Fellowship

- Many FGC Friends were seeking workshop opportunities so a weekly Saturday meeting for worship at 9pm EDT for FGC friends was begun. Messages of gratitude come in weekly. Some Friends are attending who do not have weekly access to worship.
 - Committee for Nurturing Ministry members are taking turns hosting this worship opportunity. [Register here to receive the Zoom link and phone numbers.](#)
- Gathering staff is collaborating with various FGC groups including Quaker Earthcare Witness, FLGBTQC, Nontheist Friends, Adult Young Friends, & Friends of Color to offer [worship sharing groups](#) once a month in April, May, and June. There will also be an Open Worship Sharing Group.



QuakerBooks of FGC

- [QuakerBooks](#) is still fulfilling online orders. Spread the word!
- Publications & Distribution put together a collection of books and pamphlets to help Friends with grief and loss <https://quakerbooks.org/collections/support-in-grieving>.
- We'll be offering virtual author events through the online Gathering and at other times.

Feasibility Study:

- The feasibility study has shifted to online group sessions and Zoom/phone confidential interviews.
- We decided to finish the feasibility study and are close to completion; the report will be available by spring Executive Committee meeting. Prior to the crisis, there was much positive feedback.
- At this moment, our consultant sees campaign-related planned giving work as viable in the next several months while a full campaign should not be launched until some level of economic recovery has been achieved. Some donors have independently echoed his recommendations.

Development:

- Conducting Pastoral Care of FGC donors – checking in our supporters and sharing updates. This will be ongoing. (We've been in touch with 35 of our top donors and Development Committee members are checking in with another 20 donors.)
- Applying for small grants for new online programming. We are communicating with funders about grants already received for programs that are no longer being held in person and requesting opportunities to use funds in a different manner since programs are moving online.
- Updated the annual report to reflect recent programmatic changes.
- Planning a special fundraiser focused around Gathering to help fill the gap from lack of registration income/challenges brought on by coronavirus in general.

CNM/Religious Education

- With many Yearly Meetings planning virtual instead of in-person annual session events, the Yearly Meeting Visitors Program is coordinating with FGC staff and Central Committee members to serve as "virtual visitors" to our affiliated yearly meetings. In addition to reporting about the technology and strategies that worked (or didn't work) in offering a virtual annual session, these visitors will prepare the traditional visitor report detailing the successes and challenges facing each yearly meeting. The YMVP serves a key role in helping yearly meetings learn from each other during this time of innovation.
- To serve the spiritual needs of Friends and newcomers experiencing social and spiritual isolation, the Spiritual Deepening eRetreat program quickly organized a Quarantine Calendar of online offerings, including an [eRetreat](#), a weekly [worship sharing](#) group, and a [book discussion group](#).

The Ministry on Racism Program has responded to the COVID-19 Pandemic by:

- [Added to our monthly worship for Friends of Color a weekly one held Wednesday afternoon.](#)
- [Providing a virtual retreat for Friends of Color in Intermountain, North Pacific and Pacific Yearly Meetings on April 18th](#)
- [Organizing weekly worship sharing, an open house for Friends of Color](#) and events for the summer virtual Gathering.



The State of FGC Finances During the Crisis

Like non-profits all over North America, Covid-19 is financially impacting FGC. There are steps we're taking to try to mitigate the damage. Here is where we are, the actions already taken and next steps.

- With the cancellation of the in-person Gathering and the fact that Gathering registration fees would have covered costs already expended such as some staff salaries, the total net loss on the Gathering for 2020 could be as high as \$275k. We are seeking ways to bring that number down.
- The bookstore usually sells \$20-25k worth of books at the Gathering and more through Yearly Meeting annual sessions consignments. While online sales have been a little better than usual, the bookstore will likely require a larger than projected ministerial subsidy this year.
- The \$275k Gathering net loss and additional bookstore subsidies are extra budgetary. The 2020 budget was approved to be \$67k beyond sustainable. Theoretically, we could therefore have to make draws beyond sustainable of almost \$350k this fiscal year on what was originally a \$2M budget.
- In terms of fundraising, we have not seen an appreciable decline in giving to this point. So we're not lowering our expected fundraising total very much for the remainder of this year unless giving changes in the coming months. We are having discussions about what fundraising goals we should have for 2021. This may take time to see whether Friends continue to give in order to come to a good estimate for 2021.
- Like everyone, our investments have lost value. Fortunately, Finance Committee pre-crisis recommended that we move \$300k from investments to a cash position. This means we do not have to liquidate depreciated stock at this time. However, the value of our portfolio in mid-July determines the amount of our recommended sustainable draw for 2021. We do not expect the stock market to have fully recovered by then and therefore, we will likely have a lower draw available to us in 2021 vs 2020. This will negatively impact our budget projections.
- The Friends Pension Fund has also been negatively affected by the stock market decline. We will therefore likely have to pay more to the pension fund in the coming year vs this fiscal year (last year we had to pay \$0.20 on each dollar of salary into the pension which was the highest ever). We will know more later in the year. This will also make the 2021 budget more challenging. The Pension Board will meet in June to talk options.

What are we trying to do about all this?

- We applied for a \$200,200 loan from the federal relief CARES act, the maximum allowed based on our documentation. We were just approved to receive \$200,200 to help cover payroll and keep staff employed. Expecting the loan to be later forgiven, this could help us significantly lower this year's deficit and be close to the original projections approved by Central Committee in October 2019.
- Development staff is planning a special fundraiser to run in late April and early May in an attempt to help cover some of the Gathering losses. Please encourage Friends to be generous if they still have the resources to do so.
- We are in the process of determining a recommended (pay as led) attendance fee for the Virtual Gathering that we hope will make it accessible while providing some needed income.
- We continue to look closely at our expenses.
- Finance Committee had a video meeting this week and agreed FGC should stay the course on the FY 2020 budget for the moment. We should wait to see if loan forgiveness is approved and how fundraising and Gathering fees turn out before shifting course. Finance Committee's full spring meeting will be April 25th. They will then make recommendations to the May Executive Committee meeting on how best to steward our resources during this crisis and for the 2021 budget.

FRIENDS PEACE TEAMS REPORT

SEYM Yearly Meeting Sessions 2020

Thanks for all the support for Friends Peace Teams over the last 25 years from SEYM. As you might know, SEYM is one of the original Yearly Meetings that helped form Friends Peace Teams.

Our Mission:

Friends Peace Teams is a Spirit-led organization working to develop long-term relationships with communities in conflict around the world to create programs for peace building, healing, and reconciliation. We travel and visit with a concern for peace in difficult places – geographically, politically, and emotionally. Wherever we go, we bring people together from different backgrounds, orientations, affiliations, ethnicities, religions, and ages. We contribute to healing the effects of trauma and deprivation in their many forms across boundaries.

Our Approach:

We work in solidarity and parity, listening to and sharing our experiences rather than working or teaching from an agenda. To honor the dignity of every person and to support local peace workers, we exchange experience through active, experiential methods. We work grassroots to grassroots to deconstruct historical legacies of racism, exploitation, and oppression, to preserve peace.

Our Philosophy:

We believe there is good in everyone and we each have the inner capacity to heal. Both victims and perpetrators of violence experience trauma and its after-effects. For healing and empowerment, we seek to share the inner goodness and wisdom of each person. This rebuilds trust.

We aim to integrate spiritual conviction with action and to develop a standard for spiritual accountability. We pay attention to the immeasurable, discern where our work is alive with spirit, and braid love, truth and justice together.

A REQUEST FROM FRIENDS PEACE TEAMS FOR VOLUNTEERS:

Friends Peace Teams is seeking Friends interested in supporting Quaker peace work. We especially need Friends with gifts in the areas of Recording Clerk, Fundraising, Personnel, Communications, Finance, or peace work in Latin America. Interested persons should send a letter that speaks to your gifts, skills, and interests, and includes a brief bio on your Quaker peace, justice, or related experience, to Nominations@FriendsPeaceTeams.org.

To learn more about our teams' vibrant Quaker work for peace and justice visit our website at FriendsPeaceTeams.org.

A REQUEST FROM THE FRIENDS PEACE TEAMS TO NOMINATING COMMITTEES OF MONTHLY MEETINGS AND YEARLY MEETINGS:

Ask your Nominating Committee to:

- Seek Representatives for the Friends Peace Teams Council.
- Nominate more than one Representative from a diversity of ages and backgrounds.

- Notify Council.Clerk@FriendsPeaceTeams.org when a person is approved as a Representative to Friends Peace Teams.

You are invited to become part of this transformative work for peace! Please talk with Cecilia (Cece) Yocum for more information or email ceceyocum@aol.com.

Our Four Initiatives:

Currently, we have four Initiatives, African Great Lakes initiative, Peacebuilding *en las Américas* (PLA), Asia West Pacific, and our most recent initiative, Toward Right Relations with Native Peoples.

AFRICAN GREAT LAKES INITIATIVE (AGLI) MAY 2020 REPORT

by AGLI Coordinator, David Bucura

Like many parts of the world, Africa is being challenged by Covid-19 and most countries in Africa are in lockdown. Interestingly, Burundi, Tanzania, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) did not go into lockdown. Rwanda on the other hand is now in a partial lockdown, Uganda and Kenya are also in lockdown but farmers and groceries are working with strong measures in place.

March and April 2020 were marked by not only the effects Covid-19 in Africa but also a lot of environmental challenges signaling climate change. Floods and landslides took many lives in many countries in Africa, including DRC in South Kivu, Uvira City, Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda, and Kenya.

Burundi has initiated its 2020 presidential election period. However, with Covid-19, the pandemic is having not only negative health effects but also social and economic effects. In order to mitigate the challenges associated with Covid-19 and the upcoming elections, Burundi decided to apply all measures possible to protect the population against Covid-19 without having the lockdown. Everyone is working, different activities are still taking place such as public meetings, workshops, trainings, church services, weddings, ceremonies, schools, and election campaigns.

To contribute to this unprecedented time, IPB-HROC continued peace activities in April 2020 and conducted five (5) HROC basic workshops within Quaker Peace Network (QPN) framework project for prevention of violence before election, during election, and after election. Fifteen HROC facilitators facilitated five three-day HROC basic workshops in five targeted provinces (hot spots) within the framework of QPN Burundi project entitled "Contributing to violence prevention and civilian's protection before, during, and after the 2020 elections in Burundi." This project aims to engage the youth and local authorities in trust building and prevention of violence through trauma healing workshops and establishing EWER mechanisms in five target provinces including: Bujumbura Rural, Bujumbura Mayorship, Bubanza, Cibitoke and Makamba. Twenty-five (25) participants in each province participated leading up to a total one hundred twenty-five (125) participants.

In March, HROC Burundi offered technical and trauma healing services in the community with funds from Catholic Relief service (CRS) Burundi. In March 2020, the following activities were performed: one Training of Trainers (18 days in total), ten Community trauma healing basic workshops, and four Cultural and sport day celebrations between young people.

Ntaseka Clinic:

In Burundi, under NTASEKA CLINIC, the Friends Women Association in Burundi carried out the following activities in April; 489 people received contraceptives from FWA's nurses, including 336 existing cases and 153 new ones: 338 received contraceptive injections, 49 were given pills, 96 received male condoms, and 7 received implants.

Also, during April 2020, 44 women came for prenatal consultation (PNC), including 21 who came for PNC 1, 12 for PNC 2, 6 for PNC 3 and 5 for PNC 4. Sixteen pregnant women came for the ultrasound test. At the end of April Ntaseka Clinic had 330 patients under retro drugs including 267 women and 63 men. Additionally, in April the psychosocial team provided services to 59 people who were tested for HIV and received pre- and post-HIV test counseling. Of the total number of people tested, 39% were women and all 3 HIV people positive were women, with 5% of seropositivity.

With partial lockdown in Rwanda, total lockdown in Uganda and Kenya, AGLI partners are still working from home to prepare activities to implement when the pandemic slows down.

Peace libraries in Rwanda:

Rwanda is still on partial lockdown and everyone is working from home using different technology. However, there is a high demand from parents asking about how they can access books from libraries. Hence, the idea is to find new ways of creating an online platform and library that can help children continue to improve their reading especially as schools plan to reopen in September 2020.

In general, despite the lockdown, in many African countries agricultural services are considered essential and hence agronomists and farmers are allowed to carry on working but follow measures like keeping at least a meter apart, avoiding groups, and sanitizing as much as they can. These measures are to try and reduce the impact of Covid-19 on food security because food insecurity is already on the rise even as governments, private sectors, donors, and some well-wishers are already distributing food to the vulnerable.

Today, hold the world in the light and especially Burundi as they go through the presidential election on May 20, 2020.

For more information see: [Friends Peace Teams/AGLI](#)

ASIA WEST PACIFIC

Asia West Pacific is active in the North Caucasus, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Aotearoa/New Zealand, Australia, and the Philippines. The Philippines, Malaysia, and Indonesia are doing online workshops and support meetings, and Korea has returned to in-person training.

We are hosting two courses for online Cultures of Peace facilitators. We will facilitate AVP online workshops for the National Gatherings of Australia (May 22 & 28) and the U.S.A. (May 24th).

During the pandemic we are sheltering, collaborating with groups for localized responses, opening online workshops, linking people in isolation, coaching parents on how to support children especially those children with disabilities, and continuing activities in peace libraries and outdoor learning centers to love the earth and each other in this slower time.

We also speak out for public health over military responses to meet our needs. Spiritual companion groups have kept us very grounded. As news writing improves, please read the range of stories on [FPT/AWP website](#). Go the FPT home page, scroll down, and check out our work with Cultures of Peace; Power of Goodness; and Peace Libraries, Schools, and Gardens!

We are concerned about the weaponization of religion and law, used to legitimize state-sanctioned oppression or violence. We speak out for the release of Bro Song Kang Ho in Korea and Ding Jiaxi in China, and to oppose the closure of media such as ABS-CBN, the Philippines' largest TV network. Please visit our [Ecological and Social Justice](#) articles.

For more information on Covid-19 responses, see the FPT/AWP website for [Resist Militarization of Covid-19 Responses](#) by Subhash Chandra with the network War Resisters' International.

PEACEBUILDING EN LAS AMÉRICAS

Friends Peace Teams has a new and innovative project underway in Latin America to provide physical, emotional, and spiritual support to many marginalized peoples who are already the most severely affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, and other adverse developments in its wake.

The Peace Baskets (PAN PAV) will be delivered to families in economically marginalized and high-conflict urban neighborhoods (Red Zones) and will include food, disinfectants, hygiene items, messages of peace, and emergency contacts. Women, men, and youth in many of these families have been trained in the Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP). Recipients of the baskets will be encouraged to pass on the peace to others through sharing food and messages of peace with their loved ones and neighbors.

Peacebuilding *en las Américas* (PLA) partners are energized and filled with hope due to their Peace Baskets (PAN PAV) project which offers them the opportunity to address the multiple viruses their societies are facing including the hunger virus and the domestic violence virus. The virtual appeal has gone out and been well received so far.

Honduras will be the first country to begin implementation next week. Like everyone in Honduras, our partner, Ondina Murillo, is only allowed only to go out two days a month as assigned by the government.

El Salvador and Guatemala will begin implementation soon afterwards. Colombia and Ecuador will be the next countries to begin this project. In Colombia the focus will be migrant families and in Ecuador, indigenous families.

Under “States of Exception” and severe lockdowns, all partner countries are vulnerable to human rights violations. We have seen flagrant abuse of civil rights, including the use of tear gas and live bullets to disperse women and children seeking food (Honduras), assassinations of community leaders and their families (Colombia), arbitrary arrests and incarceration of informal sector workers (El Salvador), and police repression of the LGBT community (Ecuador).

The regional situation is ripe for continuation of State abuse on multiple levels with little recourse for redress.

Salomón Medina, National Coordinator in El Salvador, was held with 38 others in a State-sponsored detention center in San Salvador for 39 days upon return from Ecuador. He described manipulation and threats by authorities as well as the non-violent collective actions taken to gain release. Such iron hand policies of the government have only increased.

Our partners extend deep gratitude to all for the moral, spiritual, and financial support they have received. Please continue to hold them in the light. ¡Gracias!

Mónica A. Maher, *Coordinadora para América Latina, Peacebuilding en las Américas.*

TOWARD RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH NATIVE PEOPLES (TRR) (Now under the care of Peace Ministries)

As experiential events, TRR is cautiously piloting “Roots of Injustice, Seeds of Change” and “Re-Discovering America” online, and developing a series of webinars on “The Land Remembers” and other topics. For more information, please visit our page on [Toward Right Relationship With Native Peoples \(TRR\)](#).

The goal of TRR is to build relationships between Native and non-Native communities based on truth, respect, justice, and our shared humanity. They ask that we join them as we learn to challenge and support each other as we work toward right relationships that address more than 500 years of genocide, colonization, and forced assimilation of Native peoples.

Paula Palmer with Toward Right Relationship with Native Peoples program sent this report:

Dear Friends,

It won't be a surprise to hear that TRR facilitators are looking to Zoom and other online platforms to carry our work forward during this period of no-public-gatherings. We're just about ready to pilot-test Zoom versions of our “Roots of Injustice, Seeds of Change” and “Re-Discovering America” workshops. It will be really interesting to see how we can convert the highly participatory kinesthetic learning process of our on-site workshops into an equally moving and meaningful online experience. We'll keep you posted.

Our slide presentation on the [Quaker Indian Boarding Schools](#) (including an interview with Jerilyn DeCoteau during her tenure as president of the board of the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition) is already available online.

In addition, we are creating a new series of participatory webinars based on my article, "[The Land Remembers: Connecting with Native Peoples through the Land](#)" and the Bartimaeus Institute conference, "[Unsettling Histories | Decolonizing Discipleship | hukišunuškuy](#)." Look for these this summer.

If you would like to support these efforts, Friends Peace Teams would very much appreciate your [donations](#) during this time when our usual public presentations are not bringing in income. We also encourage you to support Indigenous communities that are terribly hard-hit by Covid-19. Please read the articles below about Covid-19 on the **Navajo Nation** and donate directly to help the Navajo Nation's Covid-19 response [here](#). At the same time, we need to be teaching Americans why such deep and persistent inequities exist and equip them with resources to build a more equitable society. This is the ongoing work and commitment of [TRR](#). Thank you for joining us.

TRR Articles of Interest:

[A Life on and Off the Navajo Nation](#), by Wahleah Johns, *New York Times*.

[COVID-19 Devastates Navajo Nation](#), by Andrea Germanos, CommonDreams.org.

TRR WEBINARS:

May 18, 10:30 am EASTERN time, [History of the Snowbird Indian Day School for Eastern Cherokee children](#), presented by Swannanoa Valley Museum. This school was founded by Quakers and then operated for seven decades – until 1963 – by the federal government. Former students and family members will share their memories and the legacy of the Snowbird Day School. Registration required.

Below are links to some recent court cases that you might have read about online:

<https://www.courthousenews.com/native-tribe-could-lose-reservation-land-under-new-trump-administration-guideline/>

<https://www.capeandislands.org/post/how-todays-case-over-mashpee-wampanoag-tribal-land-could-impact-country#stream/0>

PEACE MINISTRIES

Friends Peace Teams Peace Ministries Committee invites Friends to join us, share your peace ministry, or learn about and support others' peace ministries. We meet on the first Thursday of the month at 10:30am Eastern time. See the vibrant website at <https://friendspeaceteams.org>

POWER OF GOODNESS (Now under the care of Peace Ministries)

We invite Friends to read and use the Power of Goodness stories online. AVP facilitators will also find the Power of Goodness Community Guide and Agendas for 1.5-hour Power of Goodness sessions (AVP-minis) organized around a theme from cultures of peace and a story.

For more information, please visit our [Power of Goodness](#) website.

Power of Goodness collects stories from the lives of real people that depict instructional moments in how to rely on the power of goodness in difficult situations and the amazing results of doing so. Our vision is to inspire readers, listeners, viewers, and participants to act with courage and to bring good into the lives around them. The stories are written for children and illustrated by children in ways compelling to people of any age, depicting the excitement of action, the joy of seeing from new perspectives, and the encouragement of small acts that make big differences.

CULTURES OF PEACE AVP WORKSHOP

Join us August 1 through 9, 2020, in Buffalo, New York, for the *Creating Cultures of Peace Training*. Practice tools for creating cultures based on ecological and social justice, for teens, young adults, and their adult allies. \$280/person training plus \$170/person for food (3 meals/day). There are a limited number of home stays available.

To register: Send a brief bio and letter of interest to NadineClare@gmail.com, please mention how you're involved in peace and justice.

Sponsored by Friends Peace Teams and Quaker Religious Education Collaborative.

This training workshop will be a hybrid of in person and online participation. We invite anyone age 13 to adults, with a focus on teens, young adults, and adult allies. Adults are asked to reach out to a young person to invite them to attend with you. There is one session on the first day and the last day and two sessions per day during the week. We include an AVP basic with special topics of resiliency, play, conscience, liberation, and discernment. For more information please visit the Friends Peace Teams [Creating Cultures of Peace](#) webpage.

[Quaker Religious Education Collaborative](#) is working with FPT to connect First Day School youth to Quaker Activists around the world. Please ask your youth to contact us at: PeaceMinistries@friendspeaceteams.org.

Submitted by Nadine Hoover

FPT SPEAKERS AVAILABLE

Let us know if your meeting or a group you are involved with would like to have a speaker from Friends Peace Teams by zoom. Translation can be arranged as needed.

Contact Cece at ceceyocum@aol.com for more information.

Again, thanks to SEYM for all your support to Friends Peace Teams over the last 20+ years.

FPT Mailing Address:

Friends Peace Teams

1001 Park Avenue

St. Louis MO 63104-3720

Florida Council of Churches (FCC)

Yearly Meeting 2020 Report

This report focuses on the work of the Council since the 2020 Winter Interim Business Meeting report. The FCC is a partner in the Florida Real Talk Coalition, <https://realtalkfl.org>, a grassroots organization with the goals of improving the outcomes for Florida students by increasing participation of affected communities in the decision making process. (Russell Meyer, FCC Executive Director, is the Coalition's Communications Chair.) As part of this legislative session, members of FCC have been involved in the planning for the Pastors for Florida Children in Tallahassee for a Faith Advocacy Week for Public Education, 24 - 28 Second Month (February) 2020. The goal is to have two teams of two faith advocates, with one team going to the State House and one team going to the State Senate from 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM on 24-27 Second Month and 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM on 28 Second Month. Advocates are urged to be "...prepared to raise our voices in support of those bills which will fully fund early childhood education, increase per pupil spending across the State of Florida, establish meaningful uniform standards for measuring student progress in all schools, and to provide substantial money to pay educators, and those who support them, fair salaries and wages."

FCC is also the fiscal agent for the Florida Interfaith Climate Actions Network (FL-iCAN) and a member of the planning group for the sixth annual assembly. This year's Assembly will take place 13-14 Third Month (March). The theme is "Our Opportunity to Realize Blue Green Neighborhoods: Restorative, Regenerative and Resilient." The times and locations are:

- 13 Third Month, 9:30 am - 8:00 pm, Christ the King Episcopal Church, 26 Willow Drive, Orlando; and
- 14 Third Month, 9:30am - 4:00 pm, Callahan Neighborhood Center, 101 N Parramore Ave, Orlando, FL.

FL-iCAN members:

A Blue Green Neighborhood has its roots in honoring the place of our lives, including the relationships that we cultivate and nurture with both people and environment. It is where we live, work, study, play and pray in full expression of the wholeness in human life that is fulfilling to the human soul. A Blue Green Neighborhood conjoins our sense of beauty and our need for functionality into a place of felt belonging and completeness that flows from connection to Earth and to each other.

As we approach the challenges of environmental degradation, the traumatic consequences of extractive industries resulting from the legacies of colonialism and slavery, which have led to profound and complex impacts of climate change, we must develop resiliency that transforms the current malformed systems. This means that we must regenerate the systems that make our lives possible. These systems include natural systems, social systems, and economic systems.

The opportunity to realize Blue Green Neighborhoods is in the repurposing of the stranded assets from the fossil fuel political economy into a fully participatory society based on renewable energy that empowers and networks local agency for the good of the whole.

Our ability to restore the oceans we rely on for food, the air that we depend on for every

breath, and the Earth that is the foundation on which we walk, and on which both our sustenance and our commerce depend, rests in our ability to:

- Regenerate environmental systems through direct restorative projects and adoption of clean energy solutions, including locally controlled micro-grids that can function independently of the energy grid;
- Regenerate restorative community, so it is able to support robust neighborhood level deliberation and local planetary stewardship; and
- Regenerate systems of trade and commerce by establishing circular rather than extractive economies that enable us to transition to quality of life metrics rather than growth metrics to measure success.

The program information and registration can be found at <https://fl-ican.org/#events>. One day registration and tabling are available. Hope to see you there!

I will provide an update on these and other FCC activities at the Annual Gathering.

Submitted by
Beverly Ward
SEYM Representative to Florida Council of Churches



QUNO

Quaker United Nations Office

May 2020

Dear Friends,

The spread of COVID-19 has changed our world. We hold in the light those made ill by the new virus, their families and friends, and the dedicated people caring for all of us. Our hearts go out to the millions of people who are suffering as societies struggle to respond, including those who have lost their livelihoods and the most vulnerable among us.

As we write at the start of May 2020, much is still unclear. Yet, as we work every day with our UN colleagues and partners as they grapple with the operational and policy demands of a new global crisis, we find that the insights and values that have shaped QUNO's work since the founding of the United Nations 75 years ago continue to support and guide our efforts in ways that remain relevant and effective.

Most clear is the urgent need to strengthen and increase support for the mechanisms of international cooperation, which serve to safeguard the most vulnerable in all our communities. In the face of global challenges, it is imperative to find more ways to come together to work on global solutions, despite restrictions. In the face of a crisis of this scale, our interdependence is self-evident and essential. As Quakers, our deep faith in the value of every individual inspires our work.

While the physical circumstances of QUNO's daily actions have altered, the motivation and need for our work is unchanged. Around the world, people are striving to build communities based on peace, justice and inclusion, and this work deserves the support of a rules-based international system that protects and fosters these efforts. In the midst of rapid change, QUNO staff will continue to work quietly with international policymakers, guided by Quaker principles of peace, truth, justice, equality, stewardship and simplicity, and upheld by your encouragement and support.

In Friendship,

Andrew Tomlinson
Director, QUNO New York

Jonathan Woolley
Director, QUNO Geneva

Quaker United Nations
Office www.quno.org
quno@afsc.org;
quno@quno.ch

4/1/2020 to 3/31/2022 TRAVEL MINUTE FOR JERRY KNUTSON (Pronounced canoe t-son)

Dear Friends,

Greetings from Orlando (FL) Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends.

We ask that you welcome and care for our member, Jerry Knutson, as he travels in the ministry with a concern for teaching about spirituality, discernment, Quakerism, and techniques for Bible study. Since April 2015, Orlando Monthly Meeting has taken his ministry under its care.

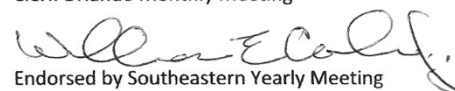
Jerry Knutson is a snowbird and has dual memberships in Quakers of Orlando, FL and Morgantown, WV. He began worshipping with Quakers in the mid 80's. He was a residential student at Pendle Hill in 2002 and 2003. He was a Released Friend from Pittsburgh Monthly meeting from 2005 to 2014. He received a Master of Divinity Degree from Earlham School of Religion in May of 2014 with an emphasis in Christian Spirituality. In 2017, Pendle Hill published his pamphlet (PHP #443) "Individual Spiritual Discernment: Receiving, Testing, and Implementing Leadings from a Higher Power." His pamphlet sold out in 14 months making it Pendle Hill's best-selling pamphlet. He has facilitated/taught workshops in 24 states, Washington DC, Bethlehem, Palestine and Nakuru, Kenya. He is also traveling with FWCC Traveling Ministry Corp.

Jerry's ministry, grounded in his education and experience with Quakers, has enriched our meeting and we trust it will enrich your gathering.

In the Light,


ELIZABETH A. JENKINS
Liz Jenkins,

Clerk Orlando Monthly Meeting


Endorsed by Southeastern Yearly Meeting

William Carlie,

Clerk SEYM

To acknowledge Jerry's visit, please endorse this traveling minute with the date, your comments, your name, and the name of your gathering. Thank you.

Youth and Young Adult Coordinator (YYAC) Report

SEYM Yearly Meeting Sessions 2020

30 Fifth Month 2020

The past year since Yearly Business Meeting 2019 has seen a lot of growth and experimentation in SEYM programs for youth and young adults. The Youth and Young Adult Coordinator, SEYM Youth Committee, and volunteers added two new events to the yearly meeting calendar, and expanded the offerings for youth, young adults, and families at our existing events. I visited several monthly meetings to lead programs for them and build relationships. I initiated and am coordinating an update to our child safety manual. I coordinated the SEYM “Virtual Gathering” when our in-person gathering was cancelled due to the public health crisis.

The ongoing pandemic has introduced significant uncertainty to planning in-person events, which in turn has a significant impact on the YYAC role. I am continuing those parts of my work that can be conducted remotely, trying to step up my direct, individual engagement with youth, young adults, and families, and seeking ways to offer expanded online fellowship opportunities. We are also proceeding cautiously with planning a retreat for youth and families in late July with both in-person and remote participation options.

My main goal for the next year, in addition to supporting youth, young adults, and families and finding ways to stay connected during the pandemic, is to engage more SEYMers in this work with me. I hope to meet with all active SEYM Committees to discuss how their work can support vibrant, inclusive intergenerational community, and to see how I might be a resource to them. I hope to convene and collaborate with event planning committees that include youth and young adults in leadership roles. I want to expand the number of SEYM adults who have participated in the Child Abuse Prevention Policy (CAPP) training process, so that when we are able to meet again in person, we will have a stronger collective capacity to care for our community’s youth. That process will be smoother once we have identified an SEYM CAPP Coordinator. If you are, or know, a reliable Friend with sound judgement and just a couple hours to spare per month, who wants to support SEYM youth programs, please send them Nominating Committee’s direction.

I am mourning the opportunities that have been lost, trying to stay focused and trust God’s leading, and listening with others for how way might be opening.

With love, Kody Hersh
Youth and Young Adult Coordinator
April 2019 to April 2020 Review

In-person Events:

- **April 2019, SEYM Annual Gathering**
Supported the youth program and facilitated fellowship events for youngadults
- **June 2019, Young Adult Retreat**
Hosted by Sarasota Friends Meeting and planned by the YYAC and a planning committee of young adults; 13 participants, about half new to SEYMevents
- **July 2019, Youth and Families Retreat**
Long weekend at Lake Louisa State Park, attended by 26 participants, including two families new to SEYM events
- **September 2019, Monthly Meeting Visits**
Attended Gainesville MM's young-adult-led midweek meeting

Led a workshop for Ft Myers MM about meeting the needs of youth and families
- **October 2019, Fall Interim Business Meeting**
Coordinated with Tampa Meeting to offer an overnight camping option for families. Only one family attended, part time, but we had fun!

“Roots of Injustice, Seeds of Change”

Facilitated Indigenous Peoples Days workshop on colonization at Gainesville MM

- **November 2019, Miami Meeting Retreat**
Led a one-day meeting retreat focused on holding each other and the community in love and gratitude; planned a “pop up” afternoon gathering for local SEYM young adults
- **Half Yearly Meeting**
Worked with HYM committee to support youth and young adult attenders. On the last night, we had a really fun pizza and board games party.
- **January 2020, Winter Interim Business Meeting and Michener Lecture**
Youth attendance was sparse during WIBM, but we had a good crew on Sunday afternoon during the lecture, and took a field trip to the Orlando Women's March.

“Finding Your Role in the Movement for Peace and Justice”

Workshop at Gainesville MM

- Young **Adult Retreat**, planned for spring 2020, postponed

Online Events:

- October 2019, **Virtual Climate Strike**
With Field Secretary for Earthcare(FSE)
- March-May 2020, **Quaker Family Devotionals**
With FSE, and as part of a national team, offered twice-weekly online eco-spirituality-focused worship for Quaker families
- April 2020, **SEYM Virtual Mini-Gathering**
Coordinated event for all ages, including youth, young adult, and intergenerational offerings
- Ongoing since April 2020, **monthly movie nights**
Expanded Orlando Meeting's monthly community night to include Friends from across SEYM

Other:

- Convened committee to begin CAPP manual revision
- Active in the work of the Quaker Religious Education Collaborative
- Individual pastoral care emails and calls with young adults and families
- Supported young adult-initiated Quaker book group
- Shared news about happenings in the Quaker world outside SEYM with youth, young adults, and families

Youth Committee Report

SEYM Yearly Meeting Sessions 2020
5 Sixth Month 2020

Submitted by Cecilia Yocum and Jennifer Mendoza, Co clerks

Activities of the committee include:

- Support work of Kody Hersh, Youth and Young Adult Coordinator and provide a report of Kody's performance to Personnel Committee.
- Meet monthly to discuss activities and issues of the Youth Program with decision making as needed.
- Reviewing the CAPP manual with updates.
- Review guidelines for CAPP Coordinator and conduct search for new CAPP Coordinator and Youth volunteers. Communicate with Monthly Meeting First Day clerks to be sure updates are current and training is available and developing between the First Day clerks and Youth Committee and CAPP Coordinator.
- Help secure funds for the Youth Committee Budget and Payment of YYAC pay- these ideas have included:
 - 1) Add a "Donate to the Youth Program / YYAC" button to the SEYM website so people can make direct donations by PayPal similar to donations directed the Field Secretary for Earthcare Fund.
 - 2) Add a "Donate to the Youth Program / YYAC" request / button / link to the SEYM E-news every time it is published.
 - 3) Develop and send an appeal letter to every monthly meeting to Youth Committee clerk as a liaison.
 - 4) Arrange speaking engagements at monthly meetings and Interim Business Meetings. (As a result of the COVID 19 restrictions, we were unable to develop more fundraising activities at Yearly Meeting.)
 - 5) Request additional monies from the Yearly Meeting General Fund or Trustees, if necessary.
 - 6) Add a "round up" to the Youth Committee option to SEYM registration fees as a donation.
 - 7) Consider a fundraising activity for the Youth Committee such as "Quaker Bakers" sale (include youth in making baked goods for extra fun) or a book sale or other fun activity (include youth in developing ideas for the fundraising).

Worship and Ministry Report

SEYM Yearly Meeting Sessions 2020

6 Sixth Month 2020

Petra Doan has been asked to be our speaker for the 2021 Michener Lecture speaker. We are waiting to hear her response.

Minute of Appreciation

We would like to express appreciation to the yearly meeting clerk, administrative secretary, youth coordinator, recording clerk, representatives to organization, all committees that have diligently met and given reports, and all who have participated in any and all ways during these 2020 Yearly Meeting Sessions. The significance of our beliefs and care for all remain clearly visible.

Committee on Ministry for Racism

SEYM Yearly Business Sessions 2020

6 Sixth Month 2020

You cannot find a corner of this continent that does not hold ancient history, Indigenous value, and pre-colonial place names and stories. And every place we occupy was once the homeland for other people, most of whom didn't leave willingly. (Chelsey Luger, "This App Can Tell You the Indigenous History of the Land You Live On;" Native Lands App. native-land.ca; [yes! magazine online \(yesmagazine.org\)](http://yes!magazine.org) Spring, 2018, The Decolonize Issue.

(Chelsey Luger is a journalist from the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa and Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. She is a contributing editor for Indian Country Media Network and co-founder of the grassroots initiative Well for Culture. Her bio is from the online article)

Land Acknowledgement for Fruitland Park, Florida, where we hold our SEYM Gathering: The information below is directly from the Native Lands App and the websites of the Native American Tribal Republic of Timucua and of the Seminole.

A brief outline of the History of the Native American Tribal Republic of Timucua

Beginnings of Time to 1562 A.D. - We the people of Timucua lived in harmony with nature building a strong nation that lived in harmony with our land. We used the natural resources of our country to provide for the basic needs of our people. We thanked the Great Creator each spring for the new life of our lands and for our crops. We then preserved the bounty of our harvests in the fall to prepare for the coming winter's cold. We shared a beneficial trade system with the Creek and Cherokee tribes to our north, the Calusa, Miami, and Seminole tribes to our south, and with the Appalachian and Choctaw tribes to our west as well as with other nations beyond our shores. This provided a good life for our people as each summer brought trade fairs from all parts of the Western Hemisphere and the winter brought time to work on our construction of canoes and homes. ..."

Seminole

We Seminole have lived in Florida for thousands of years. Our ancestors were the first people to come to Florida. Our ancestors were connected by family and culture to others across North America, from the Atlantic coast to the Mississippi river, from the Gulf of Mexico to the Great Lakes. They are now called the Mississippian Culture, and their traditions still exist among the Seminole and other tribes today.

We were in Florida when the Spanish arrived. They met our ancestors, who they called by different names; the Miccosukee people, the Muscogee people, the Calusa people, and other Native American tribes. The Spanish brought with them diseases that devastated our ancestors. Within one hundred years the new diseases had killed nine out of ten of the Native People of the Americas

We gathered from across Florida, Georgia, and Alabama; those borders did not exist for us. Our culture, our home, and our way of life joined us together. We defended our homes and our people, and we became a refuge for those who sought freedom from conquest and slavery. For this, we were seen as a threat.

Loving Greetings, Friends,

The Committee for Ministry on Racism invites you to attend our committee meeting (look for posted time and place) and one of our two identically titled workshops to be held Friday, April 10 and Saturday, April 11 during our Gathering:

Uncovering Bias with Love and Integrity

Facilitators: Beverly Ward (Tampa), Kathy Hersh (Miami),
Katie Green (Clearwater), Susan Taylor (Tallahassee)
Pronouns for all facilitators: She, Her, Hers

This intergenerational, interactive workshop will be a safe place to discover, explore and learn about the unconscious, or implicit, biases we all have that keep us from embracing our differences and being fully and equitably in community together. The focus in this workshop will be on uncovering implicit biases associated with the social construct of race, though biases operate and intersect in many other areas of our lives as well, e.g. sexual orientation and gender identification, sex, age and ability. Video, story-telling, and interactive scenarios reflecting the Platinum Rule (treat others as they wish to be treated) will be integral to the uncovering process. Beverly Ward will share how she was radicalized through the Birmingham Children's Crusade in 1963 with the empowerment of youth activism, and she will illuminate how structures within our society can be changed to support equity for all. Structural racism and implicit bias are interwoven. We will have the joy of knowing each other and ourselves more deeply by the end of the workshop. Suggested, but not required, reading for the workshop is, "**Explaining White Privilege to a Broke White Person.**" (Gina Crosley-Corcoran, HuffPost, May 8, 2014- updated December 6, 2017.)

https://www.huffingtonpost.com/gina-crosleycorcoran/explaining-white-privilege-to-a-broke-white-person_b_5269255.html?ncid=engmodushpimg00000006

The Committee continues to explore options for effectively supporting the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition as a yearly meeting. We recommend to Friends a video on the boarding school: <https://vimeo.com/192219802/376f2f1ddb>. It includes, "**The Indian Boarding Schools and Pathways to Healing**" an interview with Jerilyn DeCoteau, chair, National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition (10 minutes) and "**The Quaker Indian Boarding Schools: Facing our History and Ourselves,**" a slide presentation by Paula Palmer (56 minutes).

We further recommend to Friends, Paula Palmer's vulnerable, tender personal account in the February 1, 2020, **Friends Journal** (friendsjournal.org), "**The Land Remembers: Connecting with Native People Through the Land.**" "*There is a way that Nature speaks, that land speaks. Most of the time we are simply not patient enough, quiet enough, to pay attention to the story.*" —Linda Hogan, Chickasaw

I think the land can be our connective tissue. Most of us are connected to land somewhere: the land where we live today, the land of our ancestors, the land where we were born, the land where we vacation, the land we love for whatever reason. On the North American continent, all the land

we know and love was known and loved first by Indigenous people. And Indigenous people say the land remembers. If the land we love could tell us what it remembers, what would it say?"

Paula Palmer. **Friends Journal**, February 1, 2020

We look forward to being with you.

Loving blessings,

Susan Taylor (Tallahassee), Co-clerk, for the committee:

Wendy Clarissa Geiger, Co-clerk (Jacksonville)

Cheryl Demers (DeLand Worship Group, Gainesville)

Minerva Glidden (Orlando)

Katie Green (Clearwater)

Kathy Hersh (Miami)

Jean Larson (Gainesville)

Beverly Ward (Tampa)

Jane Westberg (Miami)

Peace & Social Concerns Committee Report

SEYM Yearly Meeting Sessions 2020

7 Fifth Month 2020

Clerk Cece Yocum opened the meeting at 19:00 (7:00 p.m.) with silent worship.

The minutes from the P&SC committee meeting during Winter Interim Business Meeting 2020 were read and approved as corrected.

Cece then called for New Agenda Items:

1. Mike Flannery asked to address the committee regarding a Friends in Need Fund.
2. Lis- Marie Alvarado asked to address the committee on behalf of AFSC Miami.

AFSC/Miami

Lis-Marie Alvarado reported on Homestead area food drive for 200 farm workers (mostly undocumented) to occur on Saturday, 16 May 2020, sponsored by AFSC/Miami office. She added that a local Miami-Dade County commissioner (name not specified) has pledged to distribute \$500.00 in gift cards to those workers.

Lis-Marie requested donations from SEYM Peace and Social Concerns.

Cece noted that the committee has \$400.00 of SEYM-allocated funds that can be directed by the committee toward worthy causes/needs.

Approved: The Committee recommended transfer of \$400.00 to AFSC/Miami for use in farm worker food assistance.

AFCS/Miami will provide SEYM with a PayPal link for transfer of the funds.

Lis-Marie requested that P&SC committee spread the word that AFSC/Miami needs more sponsorship and donations and asked that Friends hold these workers in the Light.

Brian Olson said that he would post AFSC/Miami's request on Facebook.

Brad Stocker introduced a food drive in Miami/Homestead area.

Jacksonville Meeting donation to SEYM of AVP funds remaining in its Meeting account

When Jacksonville Monthly Meeting laid down its meeting it returned \$586.98 to Southeastern Yearly Meeting that was earmarked for Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) work. Friends Peace Teams requested that SEYM allocate these funds to help the Nicaragua AVP Trauma Healing work. This issue was brought to the SEYM Winter Interim Business Meeting 2020 and was approved. Additional funds donated by Miami Friends Meeting and by Tere Campos and Brad Stocker brought the total to \$986.98.

Unfortunately, corona virus lockdowns put the Peacebuilding *en las Américas* (PLA) leader in Nicaragua in medical detention for one month. Because of these lockdowns in many Central American countries the project actions are now “on hold”.

The committee grappled with the question of “What to do with these funds in the interim?” During the discussion that followed Tere Campos reported that in Nicaragua there are 420 Covid-19 cases, hospitals are filling up, and the Nicaraguan government has been unresponsive, failing to provide neither assistance nor information. She stressed that AVP Training is desperately needed during this time. Brad Stocker pointed out that returning funds to donors would create a situation where we would need to collect the same funds, which we don’t want to do.

Cece then asked whether the Friends would be comfortable keeping the funds with Friends Peace Teams.

Approved: P&SC committee will ask SEYM to send the money collected to Friends Peace Teams to hold until the Project for AVP in Nicaragua can restart.

These funds will be mailed to Friends Peace Teams in St. Louis, MO, and designated as funds for Peacebuilding *en las Américas* (PLA)-Nicaragua to be used for AVP trauma healing work.

Cece will keep up with progress on this matter and report back to the committee.

Florida Restoration Rights Coalition (FRRC)

FRRC’s recent work includes raising concern of the high risk to prisoners, guards, and other prison employees during Covid-19 crisis and donating tablets (iPads, etc.) to nursing homes to facilitate communication with loved ones during quarantine.

FRRC recommendations to reduce population in the Florida penal system are :

- commutation of prison sentences
- expediting parole proceedings
- lowering or removing bonds

FRRC also recommends that all interested people assist in voter registration wherever and whenever possible.

The discussion that followed Leslie’s report included the information that St. Petersburg Meeting is gathering contributions. Mike Flanery suggested donation information for FRRC to be placed on SEYM website and Facebook page and Karen Putney suggested that it be included in the SEYM eNewsletter. Lis-Marie mentioned #FreeThemAll has a petition to Florida government officials (for more information, visit AFSC’s website: <https://www.afsc.org/blogs/news-and-commentary/why-we-support-call-to-freethemall>).

The committee recommended this information be forwarded to Vickie Carlie to be included in the SEYM eNewsletter.

Report from Leslie Bouwman, member of SEYM’s and St. Petersburg Monthly Meeting’s Peace & Social Concerns committees:

St Petersburg Monthly Meeting Peace and Social Concerns continues to raise and donate funds to the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition (FRRRC). We were heartened in February when a limited number of returned citizens had their fees waived and registration given the green light. On April 7, 2020, Desmond Meade released this statement:

Today represents a major victory in the fight to restore voting rights to Florida's returning citizens. The decision by the court to certify this case as a class action is a big deal because it drastically expands the number of people who can get immediate relief from 17 to hundreds of thousands. We are pleased that the courts appear to be consistent in placing people over politics, and that's the approach that we have maintained since the start of our Amendment 4 campaign.

In a recent video available on the website <https://floridarrc.com>, Desmond expressed deep concern for incarcerated people and for those who staff facilities. He called for state officials to find **bold solutions** for protecting these populations. He suggests that they

- (1) commute sentences of those most vulnerable who have upcoming release dates,
- (2) release those with permanent disabilities and terminal illnesses,
- (3) expedite parole process for those eligible, and
- (4) lower bond and/or release on own recognizance for appropriate inmates, jailed and awaiting trial.

He also called for us to join FRRRC in donation of masks to these facilities.

COVID19 and Palestinians

Lis-Marie will make a report on AFSC's Response to Covid-19 in Palestine in a Meeting for Learning hosted by Miami Friends Meeting via video teleconference on Thursday, 28 May 2020, at 7:00 p.m. Register here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/337008653928305/>.

AFSC/Miami's response to Covid-19 Crisis in Palestine includes information and how to take action, and is open to everyone.

Lis-Marie asked whether SEYM would want to be listed as a sponsor for this event and be listed on printed flyer?

In discussions on this item Brad reported that he is attempting to get this "Meeting for Learning" designated as a regional ZOOM call. Karen advised that the P&SC committee could sponsor as a committee but can only recommend to the SEYM Executive Committee that SEYM become a sponsor. Lis-Marie clarified that AFSC/Miami will host and that security and registration will be handled by Miami Friends.

Approved: P&SC Committee agreed to be listed as a Co-sponsor for the AFSC/Miami and Miami Friends Meeting for Learning Event scheduled for Thursday, 28 May 2020 at 7 p.m.

Zoom Security discussion

Susan presented the existing protocol by which SEYM conducts ZOOM meetings:

1. The registration email comes to the SEYM Administrator's office and registrant is confirmed as a legitimate attendee at the proposed meeting.
2. Only the Host or Co-host can "screen share" during specific Zoom meeting.
3. Host or Co-host can immediately remove anyone from Zoom meeting and the removed attendee is not allowed to re-enter the meeting.

NOTE: Vicki Carlie has put together a Protocol "Cheat Sheet" for adhering to Zoom security protocols. One example: Do not allow people to self register through a web site.

Members discussed the pros and cons of using audio only but no decision was made on this issue.

Immokalee Organizations

Carolyn Stanley presented information concerning three organizations in Immokalee, Florida, that work closely with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) migrant workers and their families and has provided this summary:

Report from Carolyn Stanley, Clerk of Fort Myers Monthly Meeting, Peace and Social Concerns committee member:

I'd like to let you know about three organizations in Immokalee, Florida, that are working closely with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) and the migrant farmworkers and their families.

1. **Misión Peniel** began as a pastoral ministry of charity and service, providing food, clothing, fellowship and emergency supports to farmworkers in Immokalee, Florida, in September 2006. It is located in a small building right across the street from where many of the farm workers congregate to travel by bus to various farms. During the pandemic they have temporarily discontinued distributing clothing or serving cooked meals. They do continue to distribute food once a week. Their two biggest needs are food donations to help sustain their Friday distribution and funds for their emergency relief account which is being used to assist farmworkers with rent, bill payments, and medical expenses. Fort Myers Monthly Meeting has committed to making additional contributions to them during the pandemic.

You can find more information on their web site www.misionpeniel.com.

2. **Cultivate Abundance** - Working with Misión Peniel staff and using the back yard of the Misión's building, the organization Cultivate Abundance was started by Rick Burnette in 2017 to address food insecurity. A member of FFMM recommended Rick Burnette to us and we contributed to this organization at the very beginning to help them get started. They have been flourishing and are often in need of volunteers to help in the garden at Misión Peniel and to donate extra produce from your own garden. During the pandemic they have put emphasis on their container garden program so that residents can have access right outside their doors during stay-at-home or self-quarantine times.

Learn more at <https://www.cultivateabundance.org>.

3. **Immokalee Fair Housing Alliance** - To help remedy the severe housing problem farm workers face in Immokalee, the Immokalee Fair Housing Alliance (IFHA) was formed in 2019 as a 501 (c)(3) to build 100 units of safe, affordable, worker-designed housing, constructed in multiple phases as funds are raised. The Fort Myers Friends Meeting has been supporting the IFHA through modest

individual donations and an offer to spread the word among Quakers about how more of us can get involved in this exciting project. FMFM's Peace and Social Concerns Committee had planned to begin by inviting a board member to give a presentation at SEYM this spring. Unfortunately, COVID-19 made this impossible.

This new organization has worked closely with the CIW and Mission Peniel (members of these organizations are on the board of the IFHA) They have purchased 10 acres of land in Immokalee close to schools, shopping, and transportation, and completed Due Diligence including surveys, engineering reports, and other studies. They are now working to raise enough money to get started building.

Learn more at <https://www.ifha.info>.

FMMM has supported the Coalition of Immokalee Workers recent campaign to get a field hospital, PPE, and testing, established in Immokalee. As a meeting we sent a letter to Governor Ron DeSantis and Agriculture Commissioner Nikki Fried explaining our support for this campaign. Sunday, May 3, testing began. We have heard that they have a good supply of masks but they still do not have a field hospital. The big unknown is what happens to those who test positive. Where do they go to get treatment? Where do they go to be quarantined? They have no health insurance or sick leave from work. Fort Myers Monthly Meeting believes that our essential farm workers need our support more than ever during this pandemic.

Report from Helen Fox, SEYM Peace and Social Concerns committee member:

After Hurricane Irma devastated southwest Florida in 2017, the town of Immokalee was left with an urgent need for safe and affordable housing for farmworkers and their families. Their substandard, unsafe, and overcrowded, housing had been damaged even further by the storm, and in many cases, rents had tripled and even quadrupled due to unconscionable rent-gouging. To help remedy this, the Immokalee Fair Housing Alliance (IFHA) was formed in 2019 as a 501 (c)(3) to build 100 units of safe, affordable, worker-designed housing, constructed in multiple phases as funds are raised. The Fort Myers Friends Meeting (FMFM) has been supporting the IFHA through modest individual donations and an offer to spread the word among Quakers about how more of us can get involved in this exciting project. FMFM's Peace and Social Concerns Committee had planned to begin by inviting a board member to give a presentation at SEYM this spring. Unfortunately, COVID-19 made this impossible.

The spread of the novel corona virus has also exposed the need for food and basic medical care in Immokalee, where the poverty rate was already more than 43% before the pandemic hit. Currently, farmworkers need groceries as well as free, convenient testing for the virus, contact tracing, safe spaces to isolate those who test positive, and telemedicine for both standard medical complaints and COVID-19 support. The FMMM has supported such initiatives with additional financial support and letter writing. We have been pleased to learn recently that the Governor has responded to local community activism by setting up three days of free, convenient testing in Immokalee and is working with Doctors Without Borders to address some of the other urgent medical issues.

Discussion of these reports included that members of the board of Immokalee Fair Housing Alliance were scheduled to make a presentation at SEYM's Yearly Gathering but had to cancel because the Covid-19 pandemic required cancellation of this event.

Attempts are being made to get an operational Field Hospital in Immokalee. Testing has started but if a person tests positive, there is no place to quarantine due to the cramped housing situations and shortages. Letters to Florida Governor Ron DeSantis and to Agriculture Commissioner Nikki Fried have been sent.

Karen reminded the committee that the large community of farm workers in Homestead are undocumented.

Phil Stone requested that assistance should focus on those in need who are unlikely to get assistance from a government program.

Friends in Need - SEYM Ministry & Counsel

Mike Flanery recommended creating a line item in the SEYM budget of \$10,000, rather than a "Fund". This would speed up disbursement of funds to fill an urgent need more quickly than the lengthy approval process most likely to occur if moneys were in set aside a Fund. A small group of approvers could be gleaned from Worship & Ministry to make up this approval committee.

Phil advised that New England Yearly Meeting has a 100-year-old fund designated for this service which he has experience with but he favors a line item approach rather than a designated "Fund".

Friends agreed to carry discussion forward to next Meeting. Follow up: Several other committees also had similar suggestions. The Yearly Meeting is in the process of developing guidelines for such a program.

The meeting closed with silent worship.

Attending:

Lis-Marie Alvarado, AFSC Miami

Clearwater Monthly Meeting

Mike Flannery, Carolyn Kaufman, Eileen Zingaro

Gainesville Monthly Meeting

Pete Ackerman (Recording Clerk), Peter Harrell

Fort Myers Monthly Meeting

Carolyn Stanley

Miami Monthly Meeting

Tere Campos, Andrea Hoskins, Warren Hoskins, Brian Olson, Brad Stocker

Orlando Monthly Meeting

Chris Laning

Saint Petersburg Monthly Meeting

Leslie Bouwmann, Susan Wade (Zoom Host)

Tampa Monthly Meeting

Karen Putney, Cece Yocum (Committee Clerk)

Field Secretary for Earthcare (FSE)

SEYM Yearly Meeting Sessions 2020
6 Sixth Month 2020

Overview

Provide focus and coordinate efforts on environmental work in the Southeastern Yearly Meeting (SEYM) region.

This report updates activities undertaken since the written Winter Interim Business Meeting report and lists activities planned for the near future.

Communication with the Anchoring Committee

The Anchoring Committee interactions continue through face-to-face and remote communication. Most recently, I met with several members of the Anchoring Committee during Winter Interim Business Meeting. Part of this communication includes putting together a document that chronicles my personal experiences and interpretation of the work of field secretary. Phoebe Andersen has agreed to help with editing the results.

Meeting with Monthly Meetings (MMs), Worship Groups (WGs), and Others

Perform visits to Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups within SEYM to help them discern their leadings in care of the Earth, and to provide information and coordination among Meetings.

As a reminder, "Meetings can issue invitations to the [SEYM] administrative secretary, FSE, or the Anchor Committee [for FSE visits]. We will all conference over the invitation and subsequent planning" (Phoebe Andersen, 3 Tenth Month 2016).

Contact Information

- Email: fsEarthcare@seymquakers.org.
- Facebook: @fsearthcare
- Twitter: @fsearthcare.
- Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/7545638812>.
- Skype: phdant
- Telephone number: 813.928.8823.
- Snailmail: 13705 Lazy Oak Drive, Tampa, FL, 33613.4923.

A Google calendar showing requests for visitation and FSE has been created and shared with the Anchoring Committee and the Co-Clerks of the Earthcare Committee. All prior and upcoming visits are shown below. MMs and WGs continue to request visits, particularly in conjunction with retreats and AVP workshops.

Suggested workshop/event topics:

- Bystander training;
- Climate Justice in Our Community (Location specific climate justice issues);
- Discerning Earthcare Leadings;
- Earthcare audits (baseline assessment of individual or community activities and discernment);
- Permaculture is Not Just Agriculture;
- Transportation, migration, and climate

- Underwater Homeowners Association;
- Water: Sea Level Rise, Flooding, and Water Quality;
- Waterline Communities: Displacement and Gentrification and Why Quakers Should Care; and
- Kody Hersh also might let me tag along on some Youth events/visits.

Miami Monthly Meeting/FWCC Section of the Americas Southeast Regional Gathering, 6-9 Second Month 2020

I co-facilitated two sessions during the regional Gathering. (See also “Field Notes: Britain Yearly Meeting and FWCC Section of the Americas”, click [here](#).) The Gathering venues included Iglesia de Los Amigos (Quaker church) and Miami Friends Meeting. Brad Stocker and I focused on Earthcare within SEYM and our work with Quaker Earthcare Witness. Brad and I were invited to return to Iglesia de Los Amigos to do more presentations on Earthcare.

Eduardo Diaz and I talked about the structure and work of the Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO) and the Quaker United Nations Committee (QUNC), New York. American Friends Service Committee, Britain Yearly Meeting, and Friends World Committee for Consultation provide funding and oversight to QUNO, which has two offices; one in New York and the other in Geneva, Switzerland. (Quaker Earthcare Witness also has been active in the work of the United Nations.)

Lake Wales Worship Group, to be scheduled St. Augustine, to be scheduled

Interactions or Collaborations between and among other SEYM committees

These interactions between and among SEYM committees help to facilitate communication and collaboration of our regional concerns with national organizations and to be a Quaker Presence at specific events.

- The Committee for Ministry on Racism (CMOR): I will assist with the 2020 Gathering CMOR workshop, “Uncovering Bias with Integrity & Love”;
- Earthcare Committee: I will co-facilitate an Earthcare workshop during the 2020 Gathering, “Reversing Global Warming: Introduction to Drawdown for Quakers” with John Heimburg;
- Florida Council of Churches (FCC): I will have an update from the Sixth Annual Florida Interfaith Climate Actions Network Assembly which will take place 13-14 Third Month 2020. Registration and other information can be found at <http://fl-ican.org/#events>. The theme, “Our Opportunity to Realize Blue Green Neighborhoods: Restorative, Regenerative and Resilient.” On 13 Third Month (March), 9:30 am - 8:00 pm, Christ the King Episcopal Church, 26 Willow Drive, Orlando (FL) and 14 Third Month, 9:30am - 4:00 pm, Callahan Neighborhood Center, 101 N Parramore Ave, Orlando. We will perform a play from “Lighting the Way”, the 2019 Climate Change Theatre Action cycle on the 14th. (Please see also the Florida Council of Churches report);
- Peace and Social Concerns: I continue to remain in contact with members of SEYM Peace and Social Concerns Committee and some Monthly Meetings Peace and Social Concerns Committees.
- Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO), AFSC: Kathy Hersh and I share an SEYM appointment to AFSC. More information about QUNO and AFSC is detailed below;

- Right Sharing of World Resources: I continue to share information with Nilufer Wilkins to build links, including QEW United Nations Working Group and AFSC.
- Youth Committee: Kody Hersh, Youth Coordinator, and I continue to look for opportunities to collaborate. We continue to welcome ideas, suggestions, and concerns as we develop programs. Thank you, in advance.

The Wider Quaker World, Interfaith Groups, Other Environmental Organizations

To communicate and collaborate our regional concerns with national organizations including Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW), Earth Quaker Action Team (EQAT), Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL), and Friends General Conference (FGC). To be a Quaker Presence at specific events, including those arranged by others.

In the wider Quaker World, interfaith groups, and other environmental organizations, I have listed existing memberships, partnerships, or collaborations that have been a part of the outreach effort. These include, but are not limited to:

- Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP), I continue to help coordinate and facilitate AVP workshops. We are working to provide training for AVP facilitators in 2020;
- American Friends Service Committee (AFSC): I continue to serve as a corporate member of AFSC and as part of that work am a member of the Quaker United Nations Committee (QUNC). I also am part of AFSC's Third World Coalition. This work is becoming more closely linked with Quaker Earthcare Witness and FWCC.
- Britain Yearly Meeting, Quaker World Relations Committee (QWRC): I participated via Zoom in the QWRC Consultative Forum.
- Broward County Environmental Planning and Community, Environmental Stewardship and Community Resilience: I continue to remain in contact with the staff and others in this Broward County unit;
- Decolonizing Quakers, <https://www.decolonizingquakers.org/>, has posted a "Save the date" for a second conference calling Quakers to a concern for Truth and Healing with Indigenous Peoples, 30 Fourth Month to 3 Fifth Month 2020 at Pendle Hill;
- Florida Interfaith Climate Actions Network (FL-iCAN): as mentioned above, the FL-iCAN! Sixth Assembly is scheduled for 13-14 Third Month 2020. This year's theme, "Blue Green Neighborhoods: Restorative, Regenerative, and Resilient." We will return to the Callahan Neighborhood Center, 101 North Parramore Avenue, Orlando. Please also check out the website, <https://fl-ican.org>. It's not too late to sign up for legislative action alerts, <https://fl-ican.org/action-alerts/>.
- Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL): Brad Stocker and I continue to share a slot as representatives to FCNL for QEW;
- Friends General Conference: the workshop that Cece Yocum proposed for the 2020 Gathering was not accepted. I will continue to work with FGC through other means;
- Friends Peace Teams (FPT): I continue to work with members of FPT linking FPT to QEW UN Working Group, see below;
- Friends United Meeting (FUM): Geeta McGahey and I are continuing to identify opportunities to work FUM. Iglesia de los Amigos, mentioned above, is an FUM affiliate;
- Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC): I continue to work to strengthen links to FWCC through QEW and AFSC.

- National Academies of Sciences, Transportation Research Board (TRB), Environmental Justice Issues in Transportation and the Women’s Issues in Transportation Committees. Work on the transportation equity conference in 2021 continues. I am committed to ensure that the conference includes the faith-based community;
- Organize NOW, Climate Justice Committee: I continue to assist the local committee;
- The Pachamama Alliance: I continue to work with members through the FL-iCAN network;
- QEW: I continue focus on the International Decade for People of African Descent and co-clerking the Water Circle, researching water issues, and planning for the 2020 side event through the UN Working Group. The United Nations High Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development will take place 7-16 Seventh Month 2020. We are seeking to convene the side event on or about 10 Seventh Month.
- Unitarian Universalist Fellowship: Jan Booher, Unitarian Universalist Justice Florida (UUJF), and I continue to collaborate through FL-iCAN;
- University of South Florida, Institute on Black Life (IBL), Advisory Committee and the Patel College of Global Sustainability (PCGS): I continue to work with the University. The Institute will convene a mini-conference on Decolonization in Theory and Practice: Europe and the Americas Otherwise, 25 Second Month, in Tampa.

Social Media

I continue to blog, “fsEarthcare Processing”, for the SEYM website. The SEYM Administrative Secretary also has created a webpage, <http://seymquakers.org/faith-in-action/field-secretary-for-earthcare/>. Currently, the page contains the blog, the job description, and other links. I share “Field Notes”, short pieces on activities, with SEYM Monthly Meetings, Working Groups, the wider Quaker world and others. Please send suggestions for topics, research, etc.

Summary

The work continues and despite the grief, there are many occasions for joy and gratitude for the many people who also are on this path. Thank you, Friends!

May we all be safe.

May we all be healthy.

May we all know joy.

May we all know happiness.

May we all live lives of wellbeing.

Love and Peace,

Beverly Ward, Field Secretary for Earthcare

Addendum to Field Secretary for Earthcare (FSE)

SEYM Yearly Meeting Sessions 2020
6 Sixth Month 2020

Overall, working to be of service while social distancing

Proposed virtual visits

Fort Myers, Land Acquisition Model, Yellow Fever Creek

Lake Wales Worship Group, Multi-use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance (MCORES),

Project Drawdown, extended

Sweet Home Monteverde, Film

Gardening/Farming

Working with Gathering Committee and SEYM staff to identify other content based on mini-Gathering evaluation responses

Kody

CMOR

Earthcare Committee

Peace and Social Concerns, etc

AFSC, Quaker United Nations Committee, statement from QUNO directors (attached)

Decolonizing Quakers, <https://www.decolonizingquakers.org/>, second conference calling Quakers to a concern for truth and right relationship with Indigenous Peoples; Friends Peace Teams

FGC, Institutional Racism Assessment

FWCC, Sustainability

Quaker Earthcare Witness, UN Working Group, virtual side event save the date 15 Seventh Month

Panel on "What Unites Us Is Greater Than What Divides Us", "How do local activists choose their battles and their alliances during the twin viruses of corona and racism and the climate emergency.

Florida Disaster Resilience Network, <https://resiliencesystem.org/dashboards/florida-disaster-resilience-initiative/>

Reference lists

Racism/Imperialism

Permaculture

Climate

Publications Committee Annual Report

SEYM Yearly Meeting Sessions 2020

6 Sixth Month 2020

The Goal of the Publications Committee is to: Bring the Operations and Inventory of the SEYM Publications into the 21st Century.

We plan to:

- A. Inventory & Audit the existing SEYM Publications.
- B. Migrate the SEYM Publications Committee Inventory to a Digital Format.
 - a. Upgrade Storage Space on our existing SEYM Server(s).
 - b. Convert All of our Existing Michener and Walton Lectures to a Digital PDF Format
- C. Sell SEYM pamphlets and Books to Interested Friends Over the internet
 - a. Add a new page to our existing Publications web site for Pay Pal purchases.
 - b. Add and Expand the Publication Descriptions on the website to encourage purchase of our publications.
- D. Mitigate our Expenses by Tracking our Production Costs v Pamphlet and Book Sales.
 - a. Build on to existing accounting software point of sale recording and tracking.
 - b. Bookkeeper Generates Quarterly Reports of Sales and Expenses.
 - c. Treasurer and Publications clerk evaluate and plan for future needs and savings.

We have identified a lot of work going forward that will need to be approved at YBM 2021.

This our vision for the future. At this point, we have accomplished an Inventory of current printed pamphlets and books. Planning is in progress. We have yet to develop a budget to support these plans which you will see in 2021.

The Committee continues to work on the Michener and Walton Lectures. We plan to order no more than 50 printed pamphlets for each lecture to cut cost of production and direct other later purchasing inquiries to the Digital version of the pamphlet.

Phoebe Andersen, clerk
Publications Committee

Nominating Committee Report

SEYM Yearly Meeting Sessions 2020
7 Sixth Month 2020

THE SEYM Nominating Committee members are Ed Lesnick (Clerk), Beverly Ward, Shawna Doran, and Brian Olson. The Committee has met twice prior to the First Plenary.

Directed in the Spirit, the committee has several charges, among them to (1) identify Friends who have gifts and a leading to serve in essential positions, which are central to the success of SEYM and its programs. (2) Contact members whose terms are expiring about continuing to share their gifts as a committee member, officer, or representative. (3) Identify and encourage more members to partake in the operation of SEYM. We continually address these needs. We always need your help!

We encourage Friends who see gifts in others to recommend them to the Nominating Committee. We request all southeastern Friends to consider a commitment to SEYM and also encourage Friends at your monthly meeting or worship group to become active and spiritually enriched by serving others in Southeastern Yearly Meeting.

There are committee memberships and representatives' terms that remain unfilled for 2020-2021. We welcome new contributors and those who can continue in service to the Yearly Meeting. Current needs include:

1. The position of Child Abuse Prevention Program (CAPP) Coordinator and Trainer has been unfilled for more than two years. This role is essential to operating our Youth Program.
2. Worship and Ministry – The committee needs *additional members* to conduct a program whose purpose is to enrich our spiritual lives.
3. Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL). *Three (3) representative positions* are open. Representatives actively participate in the work of FCNL through the annual meeting of the FCNL General Committee held in November. They update SEYM on FCNL plans, programs, and campaigns.
4. Representative to Friends General Conference (FGC) Central Committee. *One additional member is* needed. The member participates in the annual Central Committee weekend meeting held near Baltimore and relates news and information from Friends General Conference to SEYM.
5. Publications Committee seeks *members who have knowledge and experience in this specialized field*. If interested, please talk to Friend Phoebe Andersen, clerk of Publications, for the particulars, and a Nominating Committee member.

To learn more about a committee or representative position, The SEYM Operational Handbook section for “job descriptions” is online at seymquakers.org/organization/policies-handbooks.

Nominating Committee Report to the YM

Slate of Officers, Committees, Representatives, & Appointees
AS OF MAY 19, 2020

OFFICERS

Yearly Meeting Clerk.....	Bill Carlie.....	St. Petersburg.....	2023
Interim Business Meeting (IBM) & Executive Committee (EC) Clerk.....	Phoebe Andersen.....	Tallahassee.....	2023
YM & IBM Assistant Clerk.....	Jack Bradin.....	Palm Beach.....	2023
YM Recording Clerk.....	Richard Frechette.....	Ft. Myers.....	2021
Recording Clerk, IBM/EC.....	Liz Dykes.....	Gainesville.....	2022
Assistant Recording Clerk(s).....			
Treasurer.....	Joel Cook.....	Palm Beach.....	2023
Membership Recorder.....	Ed Lesnick.....	Orlando.....	2023

TRUSTEES

Neil Andersen, Clerk.....	Tallahassee.....	2021
Jack Bradin.....	Palm Beach.....	2023
Mike Flanery.....	Clearwater.....	2023
Chris Laning.....	Orlando.....	2022
Liz Dykes.....	Gainesville.....	2023

APPOINTEES

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAM (CAPP): Program is currently operating according to a **WIBM** approved minute; *Under Discernment*

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS CONTACT: Kody Hersh

COMMITTEES

Archives	Bill Rapp, Clerk.....	Lake Wales.....	2021
	Phoebe Andersen.....	Tallahassee.....	2023
	Neil Andersen.....	Tallahassee.....	2021
Earthcare	Brian Humphrey, Co-Clerk.....	Ft. Lauderdale.....	2023
	Bill Carlie, Co-Clerk.....	St. Petersburg.....	2021
	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.....	2022
	Catherine Price.....	Lake Wales.....	2022
	Beverly Ward.....	Tampa.....	2022
Bonnie Zimmer.....	Gainesville.....	2022	
Faith & Practice	Phoebe Andersen, Clerk.....	Tallahassee.....	2022

(Committee on sabbatical)

Facebook Page	Mike Flanery	Clearwater	2021
Finance	Peter Schmidt, <i>Clerk</i>		2022
	Steve Donachie	Miami	2021
	Shawna Doran	Gainesville	2021
	Carl Hersh	Miami	2021
	Jack Bradin, <i>Clerk of Trustees (ex officio)</i> & <i>Asst. YM Clerk (ex officio)</i>	Palm Beach	2021
	Joel Cook, <i>Treasurer (ex officio)</i>	Palm Beach	2023
	Susan Wade, <i>YM Secretary (ex officio)</i>	St. Petersburg	
Half-Yearly Meeting	Jerry Knutson, <i>Clerk</i>	Orlando	2021
	Brian Olson, <i>Registrar Clerk for 2021</i>	Miami	2021
	Caroline Kaufman, <i>Food Coordinator</i>	Clearwater	2022
	Beeg Camarota, <i>Registrar for 2021</i>	Deland WG /Orlando ..	2021
Ministry on Racism	Susan Taylor, <i>Co-Clerk</i>	Tallahassee	2023
	Wendy Clarissa Geiger, <i>Co-Clerk</i>	Jacksonville WG	2023
	Cheryl Demers	Gainesville	2023
	Mainus Sultan	Savannah	2023
	Jean Larson	Gainesville	2022
	Minerva Glidden	Orlando	2021
	Kathy Hersh	Miami	2021
	Beverly Ward	Tampa	2021
	Jane Westberg	Miami	2021
Peace & Social Concerns	Cece Yocum, <i>Clerk</i>	Tampa	2022
	Phil Stone	Clearwater	2023
	Helen Fox	Ft. Myers	2022
	Caroline Kaufman	Clearwater	2023
	Willie Hager	Jacksonville	2022
	Warren Hoskins	Miami	2022
	John Heimburg	Orlando	2022
	Mercedes Soca	Havana WG	2022
	Peter Harrell	Gainesville	2021
	Eileen Zingaro	Clearwater	2021
Publications	Phoebe Andersen, <i>Clerk</i>	Tallahassee	2021
Worship & Ministry	Nancy Triscritti, <i>Co-Clerk</i>	Tampa	2021
	Ellie Caldwell	Palm Beach	2023
	Jan Dahm	Tampa	2023
	Eduardo Diaz	Miami	2023
	Lisa Erasmus	Tampa	2023
	Nancy Fennell	Ft. Myers	2021
	Nancy Rose Logan	Sarasota	2022
	Richelle Ogle	SAWG/Orlando	2022
YM Gathering	Andrea Hoskins, <i>Clerk</i>	Miami	2022

	Susan Wade, <i>Registrar</i>	St. Petersburg.....	2023
	Caroline Kaufman, <i>Bookstore</i>	Clearwater	2021
	Brian Olson, <i>Asst. Program Coordinator</i>	Miami.....	2023
	Stephanie Preston-Hughes.....	Orlando.....	2022
	Vicki Carlie, <i>Program Coordinator</i>	St. Petersburg.....	2021
Youth Committee	Jennifer Mendoza, <i>Co-Clerk</i>	Sarasota.....	2021
	Cecelia Yocum, <i>Co-Clerk</i>	Tampa.....	2021
	Jenn Ambrose.....	Gainesville	2021
	Aurelio Anderson	Tallahassee.....	2021
	Nico Ashe	Ft. Myers	2023
	Rachel Dellinger	Orlando.....	2023
	Mira Tanna.....	Orlando	
	2021		

REPRESENTATIVES TO ORGANIZATIONS

American Friends Service Committee Corporation, AFSC/Philadelphia

Kathy Hersh.....	Miami.....	2022
Beverly Ward.....	Tampa.....	2022

Friends Committee on National Legislation, FCNL

Karen Putney.....	Tampa.....	2021
OPEN		2023

Friends General Conference, FGC Central Committee

Susan Taylor	Tallahassee.....	2022
Susan Wade	St. Petersburg.....	2022
OPEN		2023

Friends World Committee for Consultation - FWCC

Nancy Rose Logan.....	Sarasota.....	2023
Clara Diaz	Miami.....	2022
Eduardo Diaz	Miami.....	2021

Friends Peace Teams

Cecilia Yocum	Tampa.....	2021
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Florida Council of Churches

Beverly Ward.....	Tampa.....	2021
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Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Queer Concerns - FLGBTQ

<i>Under Discernment</i>		2023
.....		2020

Palmetto Friends Gathering

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

Quaker Earthcare Witness

Jack Braden	Palm Beach.....	2022
Brad Stocker.....	Miami.....	2022

Quaker House

OPEN		2023
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Quaker UN Office (QUNO) Warren Hoskins..... Miami.....2022

APPOINTED OBSERVERS TO ORGANIZATIONS

FUM General Board Observer Eduardo Diaz Miami.....2021
Ellie Caldwell, *Alternate*..... Palm Beach.....2021

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Ed Lesnick, *Clerk*..... Orlando.....2021
Beverly Ward..... Tampa.....2022
Shawna Doran Gainesville2022
Brian Olson..... Miami.....2023

**SEYM Approved Budget
FY 2020-2021**

	Annual Budget \$ FY2019-20	Approved 2020-21 Budget	Comments
Income			
2000 Income			
2001 Donations			
2002 Individual Donations (& In-Kind: GF Acct#2006)	2,000	2,000	
2003 Meetings & Worship Groups - Apportionments	73,900	76,590	
Total 2001 Donations	75,900	78,590	
2200 Investment Earnings			
2203 Savings account interest	20	20	
Total 2200 Investment Earnings	20	20	
Total 2000 Income	75,920	78,610	
2700 Transfers in FROM other classes			
2712 Michener Lecture to GF/insurance	150	150	
2732 Gath/Walton to GF/insurance	900	900	
2752 HYM to GF/insurance	450	450	
2815 for Bertsche Outreach Travel	1,800	1,800	
2820 for Secretary's Salary	4,500	4,500	
Total 2804 from Trustee's Funds	6,300	6,300	
Total 2700 Transfers in FROM other classes	7,800	7,800	
Total Income	83,720	86,410	
Expenses			
3000 Administrative			
3001 Bank Service Charges	20	100	
3002 Credit Card service fees	10	10	
3080 Duplication (& GF Acct#6000)	1,500	1,200	
3100 Insurance	1,400	1,400	
3107 Youth Worker CAP Certification Program	150	150	
3146 State Fee for Non-Profit Corporation	60	70	
3200 Office Supplies	800	800	
3270 Payroll Expenses - Employee Salary	46,000	47,500	
3272 Payroll Expenses - Employer Taxes for Staff	3,300	3,500	
3380 Postage & Shipping	400	400	
3381 Post Office Box Rental	180	180	
3400 Office Equipment	400	400	
3500 Professional Svcs (& GF Accts#3536,3556,5187)	1,400	1,400	
3640 Rent, Office & Offsite Storage Unit	1,650	2,800	
3740 Computer Repairs	200	200	
3816 Software	1,200	1,200	
3840 Telephone & Internet Service	1,700	1,700	
3860 Travel Administrative (& GF Acct#9003)	2,000	2,000	
3900 Website Fees (& Off-site E-Data Storage)	900	900	
Total 3000 Administrative	63,270	65,910	

4000 Committees Operating Expenses			
4309 Archives	550	100	
4329 EC & IBM (& GF Acct#7000)	100	100	
4339 Faith & Practice	50	50	
4349 Finance	50	50	
4359 Nominating	50	50	
4369 Peace & Social Concerns	450	450	
4389 Youth Committee	50	50	
4379 Publications	50	50	
4399 Worship & Ministry	150	150	
4429 Earthcare	500	500	
4469 Ministry on Racism	50	50	
4489 Young Adult Quakers	50	50	
Total 4000 Committee Operating Expenses	2,100	1,650	
5000 Donations to Organizations			
5007 AFSC	200	200	
5018 Earlham School of Religion	100	100	
5027 FCNL	300	300	
5028 QEW	200	200	
5030 FLGBTQC	100	100	
5037 FGC	1,200	1,200	
5038 Florida Coalition for Peace & Justice	100	100	
5047 Florida Council of Churches	200	200	
5048 Florida Impact	300	300	
5057 Friends Journal	100	100	
5058 Friends Peace Teams	500	500	
5067 FUM (often restricted to specific Project(s))	500	500	
5068 FWCC	1,450	1,450	
5077 Pendle Hill	100	100	
5085 Quaker House of Fayetteville NC	200	200	
5087 Quaker Life	100	100	
5089 Quaker UN Office	100	100	
5097 William Penn House	100	100	
Total 5000 Donations to Organizations	5,850	5,850	
8000 Representative Travel			
8160 Annual Representatives	4,000	4,000	
8460 Travel Support to SEYM Business	1,000	1,000	
8560 Attendance at SEYM-approved Activities	1,000	1,000	
8360 Attendance at SEYM-approved Activities	1,000	1,000	8560 Duplicate
Total 8000 Representative Travel	7,000	6,000	
8500 Contingency	2,000	2,000	
Total 2999 Expenses	80,220	81,410	
9000 Transfer out to other classes			
9004 for Youth Programs	2,500	2,500	
9005 for Gathering Youth	2,000	2,000	
9060 for Triennial Travel Reserves	1,000	500	
Total 9000 Transfer out to other classes	5,500	5,000	
Total Expenses	85,720	86,410	
Net Income/Deficit	(2,000)	-	

Gathering Committee Report

Executive Committee Meeting
9 Fifth Month 2020

The Gathering Committee would like to report a couple of key items to the YBM Executive Committee Meeting.

First, some good news: Our clerk, Andrea Hoskins, called the Warren Willis United Methodist Camp & Conference Center after our March 11th EC meeting to cancel the in-person Gathering. After some discussion, the WWUMCC agreed to credit this year's deposits on the camp to our 2021 Gathering. We have a good relationship with them; and they like us as clients, and want to have us come back.

Second, we want to report on the survey we conducted after the Virtual Mini-Gathering (VMG). The survey, [SEYM Virtual Gatherings: Looking Ahead](#), gathered feedback both from Friends who had attended the VMG, and those who had not. About 65 Friends took the survey.

One key takeaway was the overwhelming enthusiasm for SEYM to continue to offer programming online – worship sharing, workshops, and other virtual events – even after we are able to start meeting in person again.

The Gathering Committee, working with Kody Hersh as Coordinator, is offering 4 Worship Sharing sessions this month in support of YBM sessions.

There are a few more workshops, that had been planned for our in-person Gathering, which are 'ready-to-go' to be offered online. However, the committee is not prepared to schedule them at this time.

We feel that the question of offering ongoing online program is beyond the Gathering Committee's responsibilities, and that it would best be addressed by the Executive Committee, and/or the larger body of SEYM.

Shall SEYM continue to offer worship sharing, workshops, and/or other virtual events in the coming weeks and months? For the duration of social distancing? On a continuing basis?

The Virtual Mini-Gathering, held April 8-12, was a huge success. 112 Friends attended the sessions; many were present for almost all the sessions, while others dropped in for workshops that fit their schedule or interests. We also note that many participants were Friends we don't usually see at the in-person Gathering. [See the full report>](#)

YM Gathering Committee

Andrea Hoskins, Clerk
Susan Wade, Registrar
Vicki Carlie, Program Planning (outgoing)
Brian Olson, Program Planning (incoming)
Caroline Kaufman, Bookstore