

Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Fall Interim Business Meeting
Executive Committee Meeting • September 30, 2016

MINUTES

The meeting began at about 7:00 PM, after a period of silent worship. Assistant Clerk Nancy Triscritti read from *SEYM Faith & Practice* (2013, p. 83-34).

"Keep up your meetings for worship, and your men and women's meetings for the affairs of truth, both Monthly and Quarterly. And after you are settled, you may join together and build a meeting-house. And do not strive about outward things; but dwell in the love of God, for that will unite you together, and make you kind and gentle one toward another; and to seek one another's good and welfare, and to be helpful one to another; and see that nothing be lacking among you, then all will be well. And let temperance and patience and kindness and brotherly love be exercised among you, so that you may abound in virtue, and the true humility; living in peace, showing forth the nature of Christianity, that you all may live as a family." –George Fox, 1676

Announcements: Ellie Caldwell shared basic housekeeping announcements.

Introductions: Attending Friends each introduced themselves, naming their respective meetings and SEYM roles.

Nominating Committee: Kathy Hersh reported (copied from DIA, p.3).

The Nominating Committee continues to seek members of our SEYM family who are willing to lend their gifts, energy and light for the good of all.

We are happy to report that Andrea Hoskins has agreed to serve as Co-Clerk with Stephanie Preston of the Gathering Committee. Andrea is already a member of the committee.

Nominees for AFSC representatives to the Board are Stacey and Chris Lazurek, from Savannah Meeting. They will be mentored by Harold and Sandy Branam, outgoing SEYM reps to the AFSC.

The position of Clerk of SEYM is currently under discernment.

We are awaiting revisions on the responsibilities of the Publications Committee before seeking new members. We have an opening on the Trustees Committee.

We need a new Coordinator of the Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) program. Anyone working with our youth receives this standardized training of one hour, which consists of watching a video and going over operating procedures to protect our children and adults who work with the youth. Ask Nancy Fennell or Ellie Caldwell what is entailed. This training is required by our SEYM insurers, as well as being a moral obligation of our YM. Some of our monthly meetings are also adopting these protocols.

If anyone reading this report feels led to assist in any of the above areas or feels a calling in another service capacity within SEYM, please contact one of us below:

- Ellie Caldwell, Palm Beach Meeting
- Elaine Martin, Jacksonville MM
- Beverly Ward, Tampa MM
- Kathy Hersh, Miami MM

Earthcare Committee (EC): Bill Carlie reported, along with co-clerk Brad Stocker. EC will do another fund-raising appeal following the decision whether or not to hire the Field Secretary for Earthcare (FSE). SEYM currently has funds for roughly 1.5 years. EC has named Bill Carlie and Bonnie Zimmer to the FSE Anchor Committee.

EC has drafted a minute in support of the advocacy activities at Standing Rock. EC and Peace and Social Concerns Committee will collaborate on a final draft to bring to the SEYM meeting for business.

Handbook Progress Report: Phoebe Anderson distributed a handout listing all YM positions for which updated descriptions are still needed (In Progress, Yet to Come, No Changes). The deadline is this weekend, and Phoebe asked Friends to complete their updates.

Preliminary Treasurer's Report: Neil Anderson distributed and described two reports.

Annual Report at end of Fiscal Year 2016-16 (June 1, 2015 thru May 31, 2016):

- Narrative status report, FY16 General Fund Budget vs. Actual, Income & Expense by Class (i.e., general fund, program budgets, etc.), and Balance Sheet.
- The last line of the Income & Expense sheets shows positive or negative totals for each class. Negative values are temporarily covered by general fund income for that year. Negative balance for Publications represents payments to the contractor for catch-up on work not completed in the previous year due to health challenges.

Report at end First Quarter Fiscal Year 2016-17 (June 1 through August 31, 2016):

- Same sequence of documents.
- Little financial activity in first quarter.

2018 Michener Lecture: Clara Diaz reported. The lecturer will be Wess Daniels, Director of Friends Center and Quaker Studies at Guilford College. The topic is "Convergent Friends."

Half-Yearly Meeting Committee (HYM): Carl Hersh reported. HYM will be November 24-27, 2016, at Wekiwa Springs State Park. In addition to the usual family canoeing, Jerry Knutson will lead "adventure canoeing" on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday. There is scholarship money for attendance, so Friends should not hesitate to register. Monthly meetings are encouraged to send people to help build SEYM.

ProNica: Carl Hersh reported. Irene King, based in Philadelphia, will become the new Executive Director on October 1, 2016. Bambi Griffin continues as In-country Coordinator. With this personnel change, ProNica's perspective will change, expanding its support of for educational activities in Nicaragua.

The following Friends were present for all or part of the meeting.

EC members present were:

Phoebe Andersen, SEYM Clerk, Tallahassee MM
Lisa Stewart, EC Clerk, Palm Beach MM
Nancy Triscritti, Assistant Clerk, Tampa MM
Mike Shell, EC Recording Clerk, Jacksonville MM
Neil Andersen, SEYM Treasurer, Tallahassee MM
Joel Cook, Treasurer-in-Training, Palm Beach MM
Dianne Langan, SEYM Bookkeeper, St. Petersburg MM
Bill Carlie, Membership Recorder, Orlando MM
Peter Schmidt, Finance Committee Clerk, St. Petersburg MM
Andrea Hoskins, YM Gathering Registrar, Earthcare Committee, Miami MM
Carl Hersh, Half-Yearly Meeting Clerk, Miami MM
Kathy Hersh, Nominating Committee Clerk, Miami MM
Elaine Martin, Peace and Social Concerns Co-clerk, Jacksonville MM
CeCe Yocum, Peace and Social Concerns Co-clerk, Tampa MM
Clara Diaz, Worship and Ministry Clerk, Miami MM
Vicki Carlie, SEYM Administrative Secretary, Orlando MM

Others present were:

Ellie Caldwell, Ministry on Racism Co-Clerk, Palm Beach MM Clerk
Shawna Doran, Finance Committee, Gainesville MM
Willie Hager, Peace and Social Concerns Committee, Jacksonville MM
Jean Larson, Trustee, Gainesville MM
Bonnie Zimmer, Gainesville MM
Barbara Letsch, FSE Search Committee Clerk
Beverly Ward, Earthcare Committee, Nominating Committee, Tampa MM
Brad Stocker, Earthcare Co-Clerk, ProNica Board, Quaker Earthcare Witness, Miami MM
Joshua Paolino, ProNica Board, Miami MM