

Southeastern Yearly Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends
Winter Executive Committee Meeting
19 First Month 2024

MINUTES

The meeting began with worship at 7:00 pm.

Friends gathered in worship at the appointed hour. Clerk Bill Carlie read from George Fox:

...be patterns, be examples in all countries, places, islands, nations, wherever you come; that your life and conduct may preach among all sorts of people, and to them. Then you will come to walk cheerfully over the world, answering that of God in every one; whereby in them ye may be a blessing, and make the witness of God in them to bless you...

George Fox

Bill Carlie asked for announcements. Orlando Friends offered information about the weekend.

Friends reviewed the agenda. We will not have a report from the clerk. Dan Vaughen asked to add an item about the travel policy. Susan Taylor asked to add an item about hosting a virtual FGC Gathering.

Membership Recorder

Ed Lesnick reported as membership recorder. We have received reports from 8 meetings, with 2 that have asked for more time. The reports are due tomorrow.

We accepted the report of the Membership Recorder.

Nominating Committee

Ed Lesnick reported for the Nominating Committee. There were fewer positions that needed filling this year. Archives Committee needs assistance, especially with negotiating stairs. If there is someone able to assist at UF Gainesville, please contact Bill Rath (clerk) or Phoebe Andersen. Ed noted that there are Friends who are stepping down at Yearly Meeting Gathering or before. Brian Olsen will become clerk Nominating Committee.

We accept the report of the Nominating Committee.

Treasurer's Report

Joel Cook gave the highlights of the Treasurer's report. Cash flow looks worse than it is because we have paid an \$18,000 deposit to Dayspring for the Gathering. For a number of years, we have run a deficit. We cannot continue this indefinitely. We need to step up apportionment payments—more than half of the meetings pay nothing or close to nothing. Friends accepted the report with gratitude.

Friends accepted the report.

Ad hoc Organizational Documents Committee

Dan Vaughen reported for on the *ad hoc* Organizational Documents Review Committee. Cheryl Demers-Holton has had to resign. Neil Andersen has been added to the committee.

24WEC01 Executive Committee accepts the resignation of Cheryl Demers-Holton from the *ad hoc* Organizational Documents Review Committee.
APPROVED

24WEC02 Executive Committee appoints Neil Andersen to the *ad hoc* Organizational Documents Review Committee.
APPROVED.

Dan noted that there are lots of places where information or updates are needed from officers and committees are needed. Bill suggested that committee clerks and officers can be directed to the Operational Handbook online and asked to review their section. Dan will draft an email for Susan Wade to send.
Friends accepted the report.

Supplemental report to the *ad hoc* Organizational Documents Committee

Dan Vaughn noted that the *ad hoc* Organizational Documents Committee is not authorized to recommend changes to the policies. There are some policies that are certainly out of step with current realities, for instance the travel reimbursement policy. Friends support the *ad hoc* committee being able to bring recommendations to Executive Committee Meetings, Interim Business Meetings, and Yearly Meeting. These recommendations might include the need for another *ad hoc* committee to address specific issues. Report attached.

Friends accepted the supplemental report.

***Ad hoc* Committee for Quaker Call**

Dan Vaughn reported for the *ad hoc* Committee for Quaker Call. The *ad hoc* committee will be asking WIBM for a more robust charge. There is draft language in the Documents in Advance. The Committee would welcome Friends to the committee, particularly those with experience in education.

Friends accepted the report.

Yearly Meeting Secretary Report

Susan Wade reported as the YM Secretary. We have a new directory for 2023-2024. She welcomes our questions and requests, as always.

Friends accepted the request with gratitude.

Field Secretary for Earthcare

Beverly Ward reported as the Field Secretary for Earthcare. She is planning to convene groups online with Friends about preparedness. She is also preparing for Earth Day. A longer written report will be available.

Friends accepted the report with gratitude.

FGC's Long Range Planning Committee Report

Susan Taylor reported that FGC's Long Range Conference Committee has provided more information about co-hosting the 2025 virtual gathering. She has heard that we are stretched then as a yearly meeting. She also encourages us to hold in our hearts this opportunity to work with other Friends, and where something daunting actually becomes quite spiritually enriching. The full invitation is attached.

Friends accepted the report.

Trustees' Report

Neil Andersen reported for Trustees. Nothing special to report. Investments seem to be doing as well as anything.

Friends accepted the report.

Worship & Ministry Committee

Lisa Erasmus reported for Worship & Ministry Committee and gave a brief recounting of all that W&M committee has been doing. She encouraged everyone to read the report and will go into more detail at Winter Interim Business Meeting. Report attached.

Friends accepted the report.

Committee for Ministry on Racism

Susan Taylor reported for the Committee for Ministry on Racism. The committee is working with youth on a Yearly Meeting Gathering workshop.

Friends accepted the report.

Publications Committee

Phoebe reported for Publications Committee. The committee proposed two minutes of gratitude, for Jonathan Vogel-Borne and Vicki Carlie for our new website. The committee would also propose an honorarium for Vicki Carlie for her volunteer work.

24WEC03 Winter Interim Business Meeting for Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends expresses its appreciation and gratitude to Jonathan Vogel-Borne for his excellent work in redesigning and updating SEYM's website. The web design is fresh, appealing, and easy to navigate. Thank you.

APPROVED

24WEC04 Winter Interim Business Meeting for Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends is deeply indebted to Vicki Carlie for the long hours she invested in this project, serving as a liaison to translate our ideas for Jonathan, searching out the best photos to illuminate the web pages, finding and writing the content for those pages, troubleshooting, and correcting the glitches among many other items involved in this process. Thank you.

APPROVED

24WEC05 Executive Committee approves a disbursement of a \$500 honorarium for Vicki Carlie for her work on the new website from the contingency fund.

APPROVED

The numbered, approved minutes were read back.

The meeting concluded with worship.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Dykes,
Recording Clerk

Present in person and online:

DeLand Worship Group

Beverly Ward

Gainesville Monthly Meeting

Liz Dykes

Orlando Monthly Meeting

Gregory Allen-Anderson

Sue Hilley

Ed Lesnick

Palm Beach Monthly Meeting

John Palozzi

Saint Petersburg Monthly Meeting

Bill Carlie

Vicki Carlie

Susan Wade

Tallahassee Monthly Meeting

Neil Andersen

Phoebe Andersen

Tampa Monthly Meeting

Jan Dahm

Lisa Erazmus

Treasurer Coast Worship Group

Joel Cook (Palm Beach)

Amy Richards

Nominating Committee Report

SEYM Winter Interim Business Meeting

20 First Month 2024

NOMINATING AND YOU

Please encourage Friends at your monthly meeting or worship group to join and become spiritually enriched by serving in the Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends.

You, too, may feel "a moving of the Spirit" leading you to become more involved in the wider Quaker community. Committee membership is open to all members and regular attenders.

We encourage Friends who see gifts in others to recommend them to the Nominating Committee. All meetings and worship groups have participants with gifts (skills and talents) to offer our regional Quaker family.

Committee memberships and representatives' terms are currently open. We welcome new contributors in service to the Yearly Meeting. SEYM committees are the structure upon which our Quaker witness proceeds.

The Nominating Committee would like to thank all of you who have come forward to serve our Yearly Meeting and those who have extended your commitment to SEYM. If you are newly led to serve, we await you.

Contact a Nominating Committee member to explore your interest or recommend a Friend you believe can serve the Yearly Meeting. Also, see the SEYM website - the Operational Handbook Procedures & Job Descriptions in the Resources section. A specific list of committees and nominating needs will appear in the Documents in Advance.

SEYM Nominating Committee members: Brian Olson, Beverly Ward, Ed Lesnick and Shawna Doran.

Preliminary Nominating Report – WIBM 1/14/24

SEYM Officers, Committees, Representatives, & Appointees

OFFICERS

Yearly Meeting Clerk	Bill Carlie.....	St. Petersburg.....	2026
Interim Business Meeting (IBM) & Executive Committee (EC) Clerk – Bil Carlie			2026
Assistant Yearly Meeting Clerk	Ed Lesnick.....	Orlando.....	2027
Recording Clerk, YM.....	Dan Vaughn	Orlando/DeLand	2025
Recording Clerk, IBM/EC.....	Liz Dykes	Gainesville.....	2025
Assistant Recording Clerks:			
IBM and EC	Dan Vaughn	Orlando/DeLand	2026
YM.....	Liz Dykes	Gainesville.....	2026
Treasurer	Joel Cook	Palm Beach/Treasure Coast	2026
Membership Recorder	Ed Lesnick.....	Orlando.....	2025

TRUSTEES

Neil Andersen, <i>Clerk</i>	Tallahassee	2026
Chris Laning	Orlando	2025
Jack Bradin	Palm Beach/Treasure Coast.....	2026
Liz Dykes	Gainesville	2026
Mike Flanery	Clearwater	2026

COMMITTEES

Archives	Bill Rapp, <i>Clerk</i>	Lake Wales WG	2024
	Neil Andersen.....	Tallahassee	2026
	Phoebe Andersen	Tallahassee.....	2026

Earthcare	Brian Humphrey, <i>Clerk</i>	Ft. Lauderdale.....	2026
	Jim Koopman	Ft. Myers	2025
	Brad Stocker	Miami	2025
	Beverly Ward	Tampa.....	2025
	Jack Bradin	Palm Beach/Treasure Coast....	2026
	Mike Flanery	Clearwater	2026
	Hollyn Green	Savannah.....	2026

Faith & Practice (Committee on sabbatical)	Phoebe Andersen, <i>Clerk</i>	Tallahassee	2027
----------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------	------

Facebook Page	Mike Flanery	Clearwater	2027
----------------------	--------------------	------------------	------

Finance	Peter Schmidt, <i>Clerk</i>		2024
	Steve Donachie	Miami	2024
	Shawna Doran	Gainesville	2027
	Carl Hersh.....	Miami/DeLand	2024
	Asst. YM Clerk ((ex officio)		
	SEYM Treasurer (ex officio)		
	Clerk of Trustees (ex officio)		
SEYM Administrative Secretary (ex officio)			

Half-Yearly Meeting	Brian Olson, <i>Clerk</i>	Miami	2025
----------------------------	---------------------------------	-------------	------

	Rosiland Kirupavathy, <i>Registrar</i>	Orlando	2025
	Kathy Hersh, <i>Co-Food Coordinator</i>	Miami/DeLand	2025
	Beverly Ward, <i>Co-Food Coordinator</i>	St. Petersburg	2025
	Asma Roshi	Orlando	2025
Ministry on Racism	Kathy Hersh, <i>Clerk</i>	Miami/DeLand	2027
	Minerva Glidden	Orlando	2024
	Brad Stocker	Miami	2024
	*Susan Taylor	Tallahassee	2024
	Beverly Ward	Tampa	2027
	*Jane Westberg	Miami	2024
	Cindy Kwalwasser.....	Orlando/DeLand	2025
	Jean Larson	Gainesville	2025
	Wendy Clarissa Geiger	2026
	Katie Green.....	Clearwater	2026
	Asma Roshi.....	Orlando	2026
	*Laying down committee membership, March 31, 2024		
Peace & Social Concerns	Karen Putney	Tampa.....	2024
	Helen Fox	Ft. Myers	2024
	Peter Harrell	Gainesville	2024
	John Heimburg.....	Orlando	2025
	Warren Hoskins.....	Tallahassee	2025
	Mercedes Soca	Havana WG.....	2025
	Cece Yocum.....	Tampa.....	2025
	Shawna Doran	Gainesville	2026
	Phil Stone	Clearwater	2026
Publications	Phoebe Andersen	Tallahassee	2027
	Steven Riddle.....	Orlando	2025
	John Palozzi	Palm Beach	2026
	Vicki Carlie (ex officio)	St. Petersburg	
Worship & Ministry	Richelle Ogle, <i>Co-Clerk</i>	Orlando/St. Augustine.....	2025
	Jan Dahm, <i>Co-Clerk</i>	Tampa.....	2026
	Lisa Erasmus, <i>Co-Clerk</i>	Tampa.....	2026
	Bill Carlie	St. Petersburg	2025
	Cheryl Demers-Holton.....	Gainesville/DeLand	2025
	Nancyrose Logan.....	Sarasota	2025
	Clara Diaz	Orlando/St. Augustine.....	2026
	Eduardo Diaz	Orlando/St. Augustine.....	2026
	Joel Cook.....	Palm Beach/Treasure Coast ...	2026
	Ann Jerome	Orlando	2026
YM Gathering	Vicki Carlie, Gathering Co-Clerk	St. Petersburg	2024
	Liz Dykes, Gathering Co-Clerk	Gainesville	2024
	Andrea Hoskins, <i>Registrar</i>	Tallahassee	2025
	John Heimburg, <i>Bookstore</i>	Orlando	2026
	Brian Olson, <i>Program Coordinator</i>	Miami	2026
	Kasper Ronning	Orlando	2025
	SEYM Administrative Secretary, ex-officio.....	
Youth Committee	Jennifer Mendoza	Sarasota	2024

Kathy Hersh	Miami	2025
Hope Ascher	Melbourne.....	2026
Mariah Doran, <i>Gathering Activities</i>	Gainesville	2026
Lewis Kirvan, <i>Gathering Activities</i>	Gainesville	2026
Cecelia Yocum, <i>Gathering Activities</i>	Tampa.....	2026
Amanda Farrar	St. Augustine	2026
Asma Roshi.....	Orlando	2026
Evelyn Schwalb	Orlando	2026

REPRESENTATIVES TO ORGANIZATIONS

American Friends Service Committee Corporation, - AFSC/Philadelphia

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

Friends Committee on National Legislation – FCNL

Karen Putney	Tampa.....	2027
Eileen Zingaro	Clearwater	2024
Dianne Langan.....	St. Pete/St. Augustine.....	2026
Ian McDonald.....	Tallahassee.....	2026

Friends General Conference - FGC Central Committee

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

Friends World Committee for Consultation – FWCC

Clara Diaz	Orlando.....	2024
Eduardo Diaz	Orlando	2024
Nancyrose Logan.....	Sarasota	2026
Joel Cook	Palm Beach/Treasure Coast...	2026

Friends Peace Teams

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

Florida Council of Churches

Beverly Ward	Tampa.....	2027
--------------------	------------	------

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

Under Discernment

Palmetto Friends Gathering

Phoebe Andersen.....	Tallahassee	2026
Neil Andersen.....	Tallahassee	2026

Quaker Earthcare Witness

Brad StockerMiami	2025
Beverly Ward	Tampa.....	2026

Quaker House (Fayetteville)

Seth Moody	St. Augustine WG	2026
------------------	------------------------	------

Quaker United Nations Office - QUNO

Liz Jenkins	Orlando	2025
-------------------	---------------	------

APPOINTED OBSERVERS TO ORGANIZATIONS

FUM General Board Observer

Eduardo Diaz	Orlando/St. Augustine	2026
Ellie Caldwell, <i>Alternate</i>	Palm Beach	2024

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Ed Lesnick (<i>Clerk to 3/31/24</i>).....	Orlando	2027
Beverly Ward	Tampa.....	2025
Shawna Doran	Gainesville	2026
Brian Olson (<i>Clerk 2025</i>).....	Miami	2026

Southeastern Yearly Meeting of The Religious Society of Friends

Treasurer Report for 2024 Winter Interim Business Meeting

Report for end of First Half of Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (June 1 thru November 30, 2023)

All values are rounded to the nearest dollar.

SEYM 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 of \$22,316. This resulted from an SEYM total real income of \$57,729 against total expenses of \$80,044.

SEYM General Fund for Administration - Cash Flow and Budget Performance

At the end of this period, the General Fund (the operations fund for which we approved a balanced budget of \$115,640 in our 2023 Yearly Meeting sessions) showed a net loss of \$11,137. This resulted from General Fund total income of \$43,728 (38% of budget) against expenses of \$54,866 (47% 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 \$35,114, or 34% of the year's budgeted request of \$103,175.

Fifteen (15) Monthly Meetings and seven (7) Worship Groups were included in the Apportionment request this fiscal year. So far, one (1) has contributed between 76% and 100%, three (3) have contributed 51% to 75%, five (5) have contributed 26% to 50%, one (1) has contributed between 1% and 25%, and twelve (12) have not contributed anything.

The unrestricted individual donations received toward the Budget during this period totaled \$2,193, approximately 55% of the \$4,000 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 \$1,588.

Net Worth

The Net Worth of the combined Yearly Meeting and its Trustees at the end of this period was \$559,959.12, a decrease of \$26,622 including \$6,369 in unrealized capital losses since the beginning of the fiscal year.

Joel D. Cook, Treasurer - SEYM 01/16/2024

Southeastern Yearly Meeting
 Budget vs. Actual
 June through November 2023

01/16/2024

Cash Basis

	<u>Jun - Nov 23</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Income				
2000 · Income				
2001 · Donations				
2002 · Indivd.Donations-Classes	2,193.00	4,000.00	-1,807.00	54.83%
2003 · Meeting Donations	35,114.27	103,175.00	-68,060.73	34.03%
Total 2001 · Donations	<u>37,307.27</u>	<u>107,175.00</u>	<u>-69,867.73</u>	<u>34.81%</u>
2040 · Restricted Donations				
2060 · Donations - Restricted- FSE	655.00			
Total 2040 · Restricted Donations	<u>655.00</u>			
2200 · Investment Earnings				
2203 · Savings Account Interest	1.40	5.00	-3.60	28.0%
Total 2200 · Investment Earnings	<u>1.40</u>	<u>5.00</u>	<u>-3.60</u>	<u>28.0%</u>
2316 · GuideOne Insurance Dividends	130.40			
Total 2000 · Income	<u>38,094.07</u>	<u>107,180.00</u>	<u>-69,085.93</u>	<u>35.54%</u>
2700 · Transfer in FROM other classes				
2712 · Michener Lect. to GF/insurance	190.00	210.00	-20.00	90.48%
2732 · Gath/Walton to GF/insurance	1,140.00	1,200.00	-60.00	95.0%
2752 · HYM to GF/insurance	570.00	590.00	-20.00	96.61%
2804 · from Trustee's Funds				
2815 · for BertscheOutreach Travel	1,113.46	1,930.00	-816.54	57.69%
2820 · for Staff Salary	2,620.76	4,530.00	-1,909.24	57.85%
Total 2804 · from Trustee's Funds	<u>3,734.22</u>	<u>6,460.00</u>	<u>-2,725.78</u>	<u>57.81%</u>
Total 2700 · Transfer in FROM other classes	<u>5,634.22</u>	<u>8,460.00</u>	<u>-2,825.78</u>	<u>66.6%</u>
Total Income	<u>43,728.29</u>	<u>115,640.00</u>	<u>-71,911.71</u>	<u>37.81%</u>
Expense				
2999 · Expenses				
3000 · Operating Costs				
3001 · Bank Service Charges	179.70	360.00	-180.30	49.92%
3002 · PayPal service fee	35.12	120.00	-84.88	29.27%
3080 · Duplication	0.00	800.00	-800.00	0.0%
3100 · Insurance				
3106 · Liability Insurance	1,985.70	2,000.00	-14.30	99.29%
Total 3100 · Insurance	<u>1,985.70</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>-14.30</u>	<u>99.29%</u>
3107 · Youth Worker CAP Certification	41.55	160.00	-118.45	25.97%
3146 · Non-Profit Corporation Fee	0.00	65.00	-65.00	0.0%
3200 · Office Supplies	249.99	400.00	-150.01	62.5%
3270 · Payroll Expenses	35,577.14	70,000.00	-34,422.86	50.82%
3272 · Employer Payroll Taxes	3,827.30	4,550.00	-722.70	84.12%
3380 · Postage/Shipping	43.38	400.00	-356.62	10.85%
3381 · Post Office Box rental	293.00	200.00	93.00	146.5%
3400 · Office Equipment	0.00	400.00	-400.00	0.0%
3500 · Professional Fees				
3526 · Accounting	270.00			
3500 · Professional Fees - Other	0.00	500.00	-500.00	0.0%
Total 3500 · Professional Fees	<u>270.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>	<u>-230.00</u>	<u>54.0%</u>
3640 · Rent warehouse/office				
3642 · Office Rent	420.00			
3643 · Storage Unit	1,993.68			
3640 · Rent warehouse/office - Other	0.00	2,125.00	-2,125.00	0.0%
Total 3640 · Rent warehouse/office	<u>2,413.68</u>	<u>2,125.00</u>	<u>288.68</u>	<u>113.59%</u>
3700 · Repairs	0.00	250.00	-250.00	0.0%
3816 · Software	772.88	2,600.00	-1,827.12	29.73%
3840 · Telephone & Inet access	753.68	2,400.00	-1,646.32	31.4%
3860 · Travel Administrative	595.83	1,000.00	-404.17	59.58%
3900 · Website	27.51	3,900.00	-3,872.49	0.71%
Total 3000 · Operating Costs	<u>47,066.46</u>	<u>92,230.00</u>	<u>-45,163.54</u>	<u>51.03%</u>

	<u>Jun - Nov 23</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
4000 · Committees Operating Expenses				
4309 · Archives	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
4329 · EC and IBM	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
4339 · Faith and Practice	0.00	25.00	-25.00	0.0%
4349 · Finance	0.00	25.00	-25.00	0.0%
4359 · Nominating	0.00	25.00	-25.00	0.0%
4369 · Peace and Social Concerns	0.00	450.00	-450.00	0.0%
4389 · Youth Committee	0.00	25.00	-25.00	0.0%
4399 · Worship and Ministry	1,200.00	2,000.00	-800.00	60.0%
4429 · Earthcare	0.00	25.00	-25.00	0.0%
4449 · Publications	0.00	25.00	-25.00	0.0%
4469 · Racism, Ministry on	0.00	25.00	-25.00	0.0%
4479 · SEYM Retirement Committee	499.12	500.00	-0.88	99.82%
4489 · Young Adult Quakers	0.00	25.00	-25.00	0.0%
Total 4000 · Committees Operating Expenses	<u>1,699.12</u>	<u>3,350.00</u>	<u>-1,650.88</u>	<u>50.72%</u>
5000 · Donations to Organizations				
5007 · AFSC	0.00	200.00	-200.00	0.0%
5018 · Earlham School of Religion	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
5027 · FCNL	0.00	300.00	-300.00	0.0%
5028 · QEW (FCUN)	0.00	200.00	-200.00	0.0%
5030 · FLGBTQC	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
5037 · FGC	0.00	1,200.00	-1,200.00	0.0%
5038 · FLCoalition for Peace & Justice	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
5047 · Florida Council of Churches	0.00	200.00	-200.00	0.0%
5048 · Florida Impact	0.00	300.00	-300.00	0.0%
5057 · Friends Journal	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
5061 · Friends Peace Teams	0.00	500.00	-500.00	0.0%
5067 · FUM	0.00	500.00	-500.00	0.0%
5068 · FWCC	0.00	1,450.00	-1,450.00	0.0%
5077 · Pendle Hill	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
5085 · Quaker House of Fayetteville NC	0.00	200.00	-200.00	0.0%
5087 · Quaker Life	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
5089 · QUNO	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
5090 · NNABSHC	0.00	300.00	-300.00	0.0%
5097 · Wm Penn House	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
Total 5000 · Donations to Organizations	<u>0.00</u>	<u>7,050.00</u>	<u>-7,050.00</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
8000 · Travel & Financial Aid				
8160 · Annual Representative	600.00	4,000.00	-3,400.00	15.0%
8360 · Attend SEYM-approved Activities	400.00	1,500.00	-1,100.00	26.67%
8460 · Travel Support to SEYM Business	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
8560 · Other Travel	100.00			
Total 8000 · Travel & Financial Aid	<u>1,100.00</u>	<u>6,500.00</u>	<u>-5,400.00</u>	<u>16.92%</u>
8500 · Contingency	0.00	2,000.00	-2,000.00	0.0%
Total 2999 · Expenses	<u>49,865.58</u>	<u>111,130.00</u>	<u>-61,264.42</u>	<u>44.87%</u>
9000 · Transfer OUT TO other classes				
9004 · for Youth Programs	2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00	100.0%
9005 · for Gathering Youth	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	100.0%
9060 · for Triennial Travel	500.00	10.00	490.00	5,000.0%
Total 9000 · Transfer OUT TO other classes	<u>5,000.00</u>	<u>4,510.00</u>	<u>490.00</u>	<u>110.87%</u>
Total Expense	<u>54,865.58</u>	<u>115,640.00</u>	<u>-60,774.42</u>	<u>47.45%</u>
Net Income	<u>-11,137.29</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>-11,137.29</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

Southeastern Yearly Meeting
Income & Expense by Class
June through November 2023

	Admin/General Fund	Gathering/Walton Lecture	Half Yearly Meeting (HYM)	Int'l WG Support	Michener Lecture	Programs for Youth	Publications	Triennial Travel	Trustee's Funds	Cash Basis	TOTAL
Income										01/16/2024	
2000 - Income											
2001 - Donations											
2002 - Indiv Donations-Classes	2,193.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		2,193.00
2003 - Meeting Donations	35,114.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		35,114.27
Total 2001 - Donations	37,307.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		37,307.27
2040 - Restricted Donations											
2050 - Restricted - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		400.00
2060 - Donations - Restricted- FSE	655.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		655.00
Total 2040 - Restricted Donations	655.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		1,055.00
2200 - Investment Earnings											
2203 - Savings Account Interest	1.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		1.40
2205 - Dividends FFC Gathering Youth	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,547.50		2,547.50
2210 - Dividends FFC Michener Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	533.74		533.74
2215 - Dividends FFC Bertsche OuTravel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,113.46		1,113.46
2220 - Dividends-FFC Staff Salary Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,620.76		2,620.76
2225 - Dividends FFC Unrestricted	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,063.09		2,063.09
2230 - Dividends FFC Walton Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	986.56		986.56
2280 - Dividends FFC SEYM Publications	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	331.09	0.00	0.00		331.09
2280 - Investment Capital Gains/Losses											
2206 - Capital Gain(Loss) Gath. Youth	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-1,676.56		-1,676.56
2211 - Capital Gain(Loss) Michener	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-350.78		-350.78
2216 - Capital Gain(Loss) BertscheOTra	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-733.29		-733.29
2221 - Capital Gain(Loss) Staff Salary	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-1,725.33		-1,725.33
2226 - Capital Gain(Loss) Unrestricted	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-1,456.11		-1,456.11
2231 - Capital Gain(Loss) Walton	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-649.48		-649.48
2232 - Capital Gain (Loss) Meetinghouse	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	222.34		222.34
Total 2290 - Investment Capital Gains/Losses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-6,369.21		-6,369.21
Total 2200 - Investment Earnings	1.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	331.09	0.00	3,495.90		3,828.39
2316 - GuideOne Insurance Dividends	130.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		130.40
2400 - Program Registrations											
2430 - Registration Fee	0.00	0.00	3,905.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		3,905.45
Total 2400 - Program Registrations	0.00	0.00	3,905.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		3,905.45
2600 - Publications Donations											
2640 - Other donations	0.00	51.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		51.98
2680 - Publication Donations	0.00	70.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	173.97	0.00	0.00		243.97
Total 2600 - Publications Donations	0.00	121.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	173.97	0.00	0.00		295.95
Total 2000 - Income	38,094.07	121.98	3,905.45	0.00	0.00	400.00	505.06	0.00	3,495.90		46,522.46
2700 - Transfer in FROM other classes											
2712 - Michener Lect. to GF/Insurance	190.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		190.00
2732 - Gath/Walton to GF/Insurance	1,140.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		1,140.00
2752 - HYM to GF/Insurance	570.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		570.00
2784 - from GF for YouthProgramsClass	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		2,500.00
2801 - transfer from General Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00		500.00
2802 - from GF for Gathering Youth	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		2,000.00
2804 - from Trustee's Funds											
2805 - for Gathering Youth	0.00	2,547.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		2,547.50
2810 - for Michener Lecture	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	533.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		533.74
2815 - for BertscheOutreach Travel	1,113.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		1,113.46
2820 - for Staff Salary	2,620.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		2,620.76
2830 - for Walton Lecture/Gathering	0.00	986.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		986.56
Total 2804 - from Trustee's Funds	3,734.22	3,534.06	0.00	0.00	533.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		7,802.02
Total 2700 - Transfer in FROM other classes	5,634.22	5,534.06	0.00	0.00	533.74	2,500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00		14,702.02
Total Income	43,728.29	5,656.04	3,905.45	0.00	533.74	2,900.00	505.06	500.00	3,495.90		61,224.48

Southeastern Yearly Meeting
 Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison
 As of November 30, 2023

01/16/2024
 Cash Basis

	Nov 30, 23	May 31, 23	\$ Change
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Checking/Savings			
0501 · Checking Account BOA			
511 · Checking - Gen'l Fund - General	7,982.89	3,047.19	4,935.70
560 · Checking-GF-Triennial Travel	21,087.31	20,587.31	500.00
566 · Checking-GF-Sufferings	170.00	170.00	0.00
610 · Checking-SA-Michener	343.74	0.00	343.74
630 · Checking-SA-YBM Gathering	-14,656.96	0.00	-14,656.96
640 · Checking-SA-Programs for Youth	3,860.13	967.31	2,892.82
650 · Checking-SA-HYM	1,852.82	0.00	1,852.82
680 · Checking-SA-Publications	-5,681.68	-4,093.33	-1,588.35
690 · Checking - 690 Covid Relief	500.00	500.00	0.00
695 · Checking - Int'l WG Support	-296.04	226.46	-522.50
700 · Checking-Trustees			
705 · Checking - Gathering Youth Fund	3,391.74	3,391.74	0.00
710 · Checking - Michener Fund	15.00	15.00	0.00
715 · Checking - Bertsche Travel Fund	15.00	15.00	0.00
720 · Checking - Staff Salary	615.00	615.00	0.00
725 · Checking - Unrestricted Fund	3,790.34	3,790.34	0.00
730 · Checking - Walton Fund	15.00	15.00	0.00
750 · Checking -FGC Meetinghouse Fund	331.09	331.09	0.00
Total 700 · Checking-Trustees	8,173.17	8,173.17	0.00
Total 0501 · Checking Account BOA	23,335.38	29,578.11	-6,242.73
830 · Checking - BofA Payroll	8,246.82	4,321.21	3,925.61
903 · Savings BOA	16,929.19	36,927.79	-19,998.60
Total Checking/Savings	48,511.39	70,827.11	-22,315.72
Accounts Receivable			
1100 · Accounts Receivable	-0.06	-0.06	0.00
Total Accounts Receivable	-0.06	-0.06	0.00
Other Current Assets			
1180 · FFC SOYM1 Publications Investme	17,873.09	17,873.09	0.00
1200 · Trustee Investments			
1205 · FFC SOYMT6 GatheringYouth Fund	120,008.56	121,685.12	-1,676.56
1210 · FFC SOYMT3 Michener	25,143.52	25,494.30	-350.78
1215 · FFC SOYMT2 BertscheTravel Fd	52,453.12	53,186.41	-733.29
1220 · FFC SOYMT5 Staff Salary Fund	123,459.80	125,185.13	-1,725.33
1225 · FFC SOYMT4 Unrestricted	99,264.83	98,657.85	606.98
1230 · FFC SOYMT1 Walton Fund	46,475.24	47,124.72	-649.48
1240 · FFC SOYMT7 Meetinghouse Support	26,769.63	26,547.29	222.34
Total 1200 · Trustee Investments	493,574.70	497,880.82	-4,306.12

	Nov 30, 23	May 31, 23	\$ Change
Total Other Current Assets	511,447.79	515,753.91	-4,306.12
Total Current Assets	559,959.12	586,580.96	-26,621.84
TOTAL ASSETS	559,959.12	586,580.96	-26,621.84
LIABILITIES & EQUITY			
Equity			
1400 · Trustees Funds Equity	296,694.99	296,694.99	0.00
1500 · Operational Equity/ Net Assets			
1511 · General Fund Net Assets	29,324.36	29,324.36	0.00
1560 · Triennial Travel Net Assets	5,349.80	5,349.80	0.00
1580 · Publications Net Assets	14,341.85	14,341.85	0.00
Total 1500 · Operational Equity/ Net Assets	49,016.01	49,016.01	0.00
1700 · Retained Earnings	240,869.96	289,715.97	-48,846.01
Net Income	-26,621.84	-48,846.01	22,224.17
Total Equity	559,959.12	586,580.96	-26,621.84
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	559,959.12	586,580.96	-26,621.84

Ad hoc Committee on Organizational Documents Report

SEYM Winter Interim Business Meeting

20 First Month 2024

At FIBM 2023, an Ad Hoc Committee was appointed to review and update SEYM's organizational documents. Insert the exact language from the minutes, if available.

Ed Lesnick, Phoebe Andersen, Cheryl Demers-Holton, and Dan Vaughen were approved as members of the committee.

Since its appointment, the committee has met three times. Dan Vaughen agreed to serve as Clerk and Recording Clerk.

One member, Cheryl Demers-Holton, has withdrawn from the committee for health reasons. Neil Andersen has offered to join the committee. The committee will ask for approval of those changes in membership at Winter Interim Business Meeting.

The committee has collected editable versions of the SEYM Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and the Operational Handbook. It has started work on the Bylaws and the Operational Handbook.

Because the Articles of Incorporation are fairly standard for Florida Not For Profit Corporations, and because the language used to customize them for our purposes is sufficiently broad, the committee plans to work first on the other two documents. Near the end of their work on those two documents, the committee will consider whether any changes in the Articles of Incorporation might be needed.

Persons and committees whose work is addressed in the current Operational Handbook are requested to stay in close touch during this process with the members of this committee. Please let us know how best to contact you. Please also respond promptly to our inquiries.

The committee is considering comments already submitted., We are reaching out to committee clerks and other interested persons to update previously submitted comments, and to provide additional suggestions based on current practice.

The committee is working on provisions in the handbook relating to several committees and officers. We plan to remove provisions relating to Pro Nica, the Life Enrichment Center, and the Pendle Hill Scholarship Fund. We plan to add part-time positions to provide expertise in technology and in Internet marketing, a co-coordinator for the Annual Gathering Youth Program, and to address the recently added position of Yearly Meeting Bookkeeper.

We need a description and mission statement for the Committee on Racism and updated suggestions from those who hold current membership on the Finance Committee, Trustees, and the Treasurer. For the last three, interested persons should communicate directly with Neil Andersen, who has accepted primary responsibility for drafting updates for those sections.

We are hoping to have a first draft of at least some sections of these organizational documents ready for review at WIBM.

Respectfully submitted, Daniel R. Vaughen, Clerk

Ad hoc Committee on Organizational Documents Supplemental Report

SEYM Winter Interim Business Meeting

20 First Month 2024

While working on the SEYM Operational Handbook with the SEYM Ad Hoc Committee on Organizational Documents, I noticed this provision from the section pertaining to expenses and reimbursements for the YM Clerk:

Expenses, Reimbursements, and Budget:

Expenses include costs of traveling to YM events, YBM Gathering, IBM, and EC meetings, phone calls, and postage.

SEYM's policy is that travel expenses (mileage, room, board) to SEYM functions will NOT be reimbursed. Reimbursement is made for postage, supplies, and tele- phone calls from the Executive Committee line item of the YM General Fund budget.

Clerk may make a request to the Executive Committee for full or partial travel funding to the Clerk's Conference; the EC considers the request in light of the YM's ability to pay within the General Fund Budget.

The SEYM *ad hoc* Committee on Organizational Documents is not in unity about the merits of this policy, or whether it is even within their purview to review. The Committee is, however, in unity that this policy is a matter within the purview of EC.

Speaking as an individual, and as YM Recording Clerk, but NOT as Clerk of the SEYM Ad Hoc Committee on Organizational Documents, and NOT on behalf of that Committee, I would ask EC to hold its policy regarding expense reimbursements for its officers, committee clerks, volunteers, and representatives, in the Light. Notice, for example, that the SEYM Operational Handbook DOES provide reimbursement to the YM *Recording* Clerk for travel expenses.

The origin of this policy on the non-reimbursement of the expenses of yearly meeting officers, committee clerks and members, was in part a concern that SEYM would not have enough money to pay those expenses. Before accepting a position, in other words, volunteers should consider the costs. That policy also stemmed from the then-popular notion that no one should benefit economically from any office or role within SEYM. Being honored with approval to serve was enough. Absorbing the costs of such service was no more than an appropriate response.

That was then. This is now.

Now, the Society of Friends is concerned about economic inequality, white privilege, and the accessibility to all, of membership, service, participation, representation, and fellowship.

Now, the Society of Friends is making intentional efforts to open up opportunities of service and participation to persons at all income levels and from all ethnic origins.

Now, membership, activity, and participation in the Society of Friends are all in significant decline.

For those reasons, I believe EC should now re-consider its expense reimbursement policy as it is currently

expressed in the SEYM Operational Handbook. It should continue to encourage voluntary donations to SEYM from all constituent members, volunteers, and monthly meetings. It should not, however, require involuntary expenditures by its volunteers for all reasonable and necessary costs incurred by them in the full performance of their service or duties, as the price for their service to SEYM. Instead, EC should encourage, not discourage, full, and unrestrained voluntary participation.

The existing policy also distorts the financial reporting of income and expense for the Yearly Meeting; it subverts the testimonies of integrity and transparency; it obscures information about SEYM's operational income and expenses, and, most importantly, about its priorities.

Instead, SEYM should generously reimburse all reasonable and necessary expenses incurred by its volunteers, grateful for their donation of their time, talent, experience and judgment.

Such a change in attitude is likely to result in greater participation, greater diversity, greater attendance, greater time, and greater productivity, all without a significant reduction in income.

People will donate money more freely if it is given, rather than extracted. If their service and money are freely donated, they will experience a greater sense of joy and fulfillment. Monthly meetings will likely accept any higher apportionments, knowing that the additional money will be benefit the volunteers serving them at the yearly meeting level. It will come back to them in the form of a stronger yearly meeting community, based upon economic reciprocity.

To that end, I ask EC to authorize the SEYM Ad Hoc Committee on Organizational Documents, to also review, and recommend a new and different expense reimbursement policy.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel R. Vaughn, Recording Clerk

Ad hoc SEYM Quaker Call Committee Report

SEYM Winter Interim Business Meeting

20 First Month 2024

The *ad hoc* SEYM Quaker Call Committee now consists (in alphabetical order) of Friend Valerie Barlow (invited by Mercedes Soca); Suzanne Frechette, Fort Myers; John Palozzi, West Palm Beach; Mercedes Soca, Havana Worship Group/Sarasota; Gail Stallings, Gainesville/Moorestown, New Jersey; Dan Vaughen, DeLand Worship Group/Orlando; and Eileen Zingaro, Clearwater. It has been meeting bi-weekly since October 25, 2023. Dan Vaughen is Clerk and Eileen Zingaro is Recording Clerk.

This Committee was created at the 2023 FIBM:

23FIBM05 Friends agree to establish an *ad hoc* Quaker Call Committee. Dan Vaughen agreed to convene the committee, and Eileen Zingaro, Katie Green, Suzanne Frechette, Mercedes Soca, John Palozzi, and Amy Richards agreed to serve.
APPROVED

No charge to this new committee was approved. To clarify its purpose, therefore, and to evaluate its performance, the committee requests that WIBM provide such a charge. To aid in the drafting of such a charge, the committee proposes the following draft:

The SEYM *ad hoc* Quaker Call Committee is charged with discerning whether, and if so, how, SEYM might now be called to encourage and empower SEYM Monthly Meetings to actively, but non-violently, resist political pressures emanating from governmental entities in Florida intended to counter the principles and values of the Religious Society of Friends. In their discernment, consideration may be given to the establishment of one or more Quaker Schools, Interfaith Conference Centers, or other multiple-Meeting sponsored educational projects likely to benefit the wider community.

During its short existence, the committee has shared experience and research with each other, met with the Executive Director of the Friends Council on Education, and exchanged email with the Chair of the Department of Education, Stetson University, DeLand, Florida.

Having initially inquired about an SEYM partnership with Stetson in the establishment of a Lab School, we are now awaiting word from Stetson about a potential initial collaboration on a summer residency program, located at their DeLand campus.

We are also seeking meetings with representatives from recently established Friends Schools in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and Jacksonville, Florida, in the context of exploring the establishment of one or more Friends Schools in Florida. In that same context, we are considering whether any such Florida schools should be physical, virtual, or hybrid, and at what grade level we should begin.

We will provide updates on these activities at FIBM. We will also ask FIBM to approve the addition of Valerie Barlow and Gail Stallings to this committee, and the withdrawal from this committee of Katie Green and Amy Richards. We will also ask for the authority to add or subtract members on this committee in our discretion, to a minimum of three, and a maximum of nine. Finally, we will ask WIBM to delegate to EC any interim decisions that may be required between WIBM and our Annual Gathering, with respect to any potential

SEYM collaboration with Stetson University.

Respectfully Submitted,
Daniel R Vaughn, Clerk

Field Secretary for Earthcare (FSE) Report

SEYM Winter Interim Business Meeting
20 First Month 2024

Overview

Provide focus and coordinate efforts on environmental work in the Southeastern Yearly Meeting (SEYM) region. This report provides a written update on activities since Fall Interim Meeting with a Concern for Business. Plans to date through Summer 2024 also are included.

Communication with the Anchoring Committee

I continue to communicate with the FSE Anchoring Committee members through email, telephone, or other remote means, and, at times, in person. Work continues to create opportunities or otherwise engage Friends online.

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). As mentioned earlier, I continue to provide online visits, workshops, and talks.

Contact Information

- Email: fsEarthcare@seymquakers.org.
- Facebook: @fsearthcare
- Twitter: @fsearthcare
- Instagram: @fsearthcare
- Telephone number: 813.928.8823.
- Snailmail: P.O. Box 1614, Umatilla, FL 32784.

A Google calendar showing requests for visitation and FSE has been created and shared with the Anchoring Committee.

Suggested Workshop/Event Topics

SPECIAL REQUEST!

I am interested in developing some suggestions for Meetings, Worship Groups, and other communities on responding to various needs that may come about to due extreme events, economic hardships, and so on. This process is anticipated to take place online over a several-week period. To be as inclusive as possible, you can drop in as available or participate via email, snail mail, or one-to-one with me. Volunteers are sought from as many Meetings and Worship Groups as interested; however, it will be helpful to have input from persons with social media skills, youths, and anyone!

- **Angelic Troublemaking:** Beyond Bystander Training - explores anti-racism/decolonization work with emphasis on local concerns and means of accompaniment.
- **Climate Equity/Climate Justice in Our Community:** identifies specific local social justice and equity concerns. Participants identify actions to address concerns;

- **Decolonizing Earthcare:** explores the intersectionality of gender, race, extraction, and harmful economic systems and the adverse impacts to the Earth.
- **Discerning Earthcare Leadings:** listening and sharing experiences to reach individual and group decisions on Earthcare actions;
- **Earthcare audits:** baseline assessment of individual or community activities and discernment;
- **Equality or Equity? What is Our Testimony?:** examines Friends’ equality testimony, the concepts of equity and justice, and the relationship of these to Earthcare;
- **Permaculture is Not Just Agriculture:** introduces permaculture design and domains and ways to bring these practices into Earthcare;
- **Project Drawdown, Introduction and more:** presents information on actions that “drawdown” carbon emissions and ways to promote drawdown choices as individuals and communities;
- **Quakers and Climate Collapse:** shares and builds on a Woodbrooke course led by Jackie Carpenter from 2021 Fifth Month (May), including review of the latest science, worship sharing, and discernment.
 - o I also can build on my Pendle Hill presentation to help with local concerns;
- **Racial Wealth Gap Simulation:** an exercise that helps “... people understand the connections among racial equity, hunger, poverty, and wealth”;
- **Transportation, migration, and climate:** explores access and mobility issues from the local to global perspective and the impacts of climate change;
- **Underwater Homeowners Association:** shares local actions that can be undertaken by communities experiencing sea level rise;
- **Water:** Sea Level Rise, Flooding, and Water Quality explores local, national, and global water issues;
- **Waterline Communities:** Displacement and Gentrification and Why Quakers Should Care drills down to the county or community level on the impacts of displacement; and
- **What the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs AND Inflation Reduction Acts Mean to Me and My Community?** This workshop looks at how funds from the two acts are being dispersed at the local level and provides suggestions on how to get involved in the decision-making process. Special emphasis is given to working with local implementing agencies and collaborating with advocacy groups to address adverse climate and environmental impacts.

Meetings since 2023 Fall Interim Meeting with a Concern for Business and Planned Meetings

SEYM Community Preparedness, Online, Second Month - Third Month, Online

As mentioned above, this is a series of meetings to develop guidance for Friends on responding to various needs that may come about to due extreme events, economic hardships, and so on. The proposed number of meetings at this time is four, but may be adjusted as needed. Participants can drop in as available or contribute via email, snail mail, or one-to-one with me. Volunteers are sought from as many Meetings and Worship Groups as interested; however, it will be helpful to have input from persons with social media skills, youths, and anyone! Notice of the first and subsequent online meetings will be pro-

vided to individual Meetings, Worship Groups, and the SEYM newsletter.

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 continue to work with this committee with special attention to sharing information and other resources from related committees. We are planning a workshop for the 2024 SEYM Annual Gathering;
- Earthcare Committee:
 - As part of our agreement with Wekiwa Springs State Park, I worked with the Half Yearly Meeting committee to provide environmental programming. This included a presentation and invitation to the 2024 National Water Dance, 20 Fourth Month (April) 2024, 4:00 PM, <https://www.nwdprojects.org/>; a presentation by tom kunesh, Standing Rock Lakota descendant, “On Landback & Reparations ~ A Proposal”; and a reading of the Climate Change Theatre Action play, “Undertow”, by Keith Barker, read by the Troupe Bohn Jeverly.
 - I will lead a workshop during the 2024 SEYM Annual Gathering. The work- ing title is “A Friendly Guide to Perma[nent] Culture.” It will be beyond agriculture and incorporate some thoughts on Friends’ testimonies and ad- vices and queries.
- Florida Council of Churches (FCC): The Florida Council of Churches will 2024 Ad- vocracy Days for the Florida legislative session. Training on issues and legislative meetings will be Monday afternoon, 29 First Month (January), 5:00 PM, Florida People's Advocacy Center, 603 N Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Tallahassee, FL 32301. An interfaith prayer service for a just society will be held Monday evening. Meetings with legislative offices and committee appearances will occur on 30 First Month. To register, follow this link, <https://floridachurches.ourpower-base.net/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=2>. Please continue to hold the Council in your hearts due to the challenges mentioned in the Fall Interim Business meeting report, I am serving as interim secretary to FCC;
- Half Yearly Meeting (HYM) Committee: I serve as an ex-officio member of HYM because of our arrangement with Wekiwa Springs State Park. The environmental program activity is described above. Kathy Hersh and I prepared a guide to share with volunteers and other attendees on meal preparation and related activities. This guide will be made available online.
- Peace and Social Concerns (PSC) Committees: I continue to meet with or otherwise support the Yearly and Monthly Meeting PSC committees;
- Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO), AFSC: Bill Carlie and I now share SEYM appointments to AFSC. I am an AFSC representative on the Quaker United Nations Committee (QUNC);
- Right Sharing of World Resources: I continue to share information through the- QEW United Nations Working Group, AFSC, and Quaker United Nations Commit- tee.
- Youth Committee: I continue to work with the Youth Committee. I will be making a special effort to include youth in the efforts to develop preparedness guidance.

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.

I continue to work with the wider Quaker World, interfaith groups, and environmental organizations. These interactions have been virtual and in person during this period.

- Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP): I am working with Kathy Hersh to plan AVP workshops with Volusia County youths who are on parole in the judicial system.
- American Friends Service Committee (AFSC): I continue to serve as a corporate member of AFSC, QUNC and AFSC's Third World Coalition.
- Decolonizing Quakers, <https://www.decolonizingquakers.org/>: The Indigenous and Friends of African descent affinity groups continue discernment on the meaning of "decolonizing";
- Earth Ethics Institute (EEI), <http://earthethicsinstitute.org/>, Miami Dade College: I made a presentation, "Climate Change and Earth Literacy" on 28 Eleventh Month during the 2023-24 Campus Learning Community Earth Literacy & Changemaking Symposium. I am in the process of providing this converting this presentation for posting on the SEYM website;
- Fellowship of Friends of African Descent (FOFAD): the work of Decolonizing Quakers overlaps with the FOFAD activities and the Black Quaker Project, <https://www.theblackquakerproject.org/>;
- Florida Interfaith Climate Actions Network (FL-iCAN): Jan Booher continues to work with the Florida Disaster Resilience Initiative, (<https://resiliencesystem.org/dashboards/florida-disaster-resilience-initiative/>) and share health and environmental information, including COVID-19. The Florida Council of Churches is planning to resume convening FL-iCAN assemblies;
- Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL): Brad Stocker and I continue to share a slot as representatives to FCNL for QEW. Much of the work during this period has been on the Farm Bill. AFSC, FCNL, and QEW have been providing re-sources on this legislation, which is due for reauthorization by 30 Ninth Month.
- Friends General Conference (FGC): I continue to work with FGC, particularly with the Fellowship of Friends of Color, FOFAD, and Quakers Uprooting Racism. At the request of a member of the Workshops Committee, John Heimborg and I have submitted a proposal for the 2024 Gathering.
- Friends Peace Teams (FPT): I continue to work with members of FPT as described above and link FPT to QEW UN Working Group and Towards Right Relationship/ Decolonizing Quakers;
- Friends United Meeting (FUM): I continue to work with Jim Kessler, Grinnell Friends Church, through Quaker Earthcare Witness;
- Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC): I continue to work to strength- en

links to FWCC through QEW, FGC, and AFSC;

- National Academies of Sciences, Transportation Research Board (TRB), Equity in Transportation and the Women’s Issues in Transportation Committees. I continue to work with these committees and to serve on the planning committee for the 2024 Conference on Advancing Transportation Equity.
- QEW:
 - I have rotated to co-clerk with Elaine Emmie and Suellen Lowry.
 - As part of the speakers bureau, QEW Presents!, I visited with Sandy Spring Friends Meeting (MD), 27-29 Tenth Month 2023. This included taking part in the Meeting’s Halloween event.



Sandy Spring Meeting Cemetery 28 Tenth Month 2023

- Quaker House at Chautauqua (NY), Friend of the Week (Chaplain): I am preparing for the chaplain week 10 through 17 Eighth Month. The themes are “Water: Crisis, Beauty and Necessity – A Week in Partnership with National Geographic” and Interfaith Lecture Theme – A Metaphor for Life. Please continue to hold this work close to your hearts. Tri-City NAACP Branch: I continue with the Environmental and Climate Justice Committee. The NAACP will be a sponsor of the third annual 2024 ExoExpo will be held on, 2 Third Month (March) at Lake Square Mall from 8:30 AM to 5 PM. The theme is “Lake County, Let’s Go Green!” I will co-present with Peggy Keller on the local impacts of climate collapse;
- University of South Florida: I continue to work with various colleagues at the University.

Social Media

I share short pieces on activities, with SEYM Monthly Meetings, Working Groups, the wider Quaker world and others. Please send suggestions for topics, research, etc.

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 G. Ward

FGC Long Range Planning Committee Report

SEYM Winter Interim Business

20 First Month 2024

Host Community description for Virtual Gathering

Long Range Conference Planning committee (LRCP) seeks a community of Friends to act as a hosting community for the Virtual Gathering. This could be a yearly meeting or another community of Friends within the wider population of Friends General Conference (for example, People of Color, Adult Young Friends, FLGBTQC, Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts, etc.). Two communities joining together to co-host may work best in some cases.

For now, these are the aspects of hosting that we see:

1. The host community would hold the Gathering in the light and take on a certain sense of ownership, as it helps to shepherd the creative process of building a Gathering.
2. The host community would have the opportunity to broadly share their particular ministries and concerns with the wider Quaker population. This could show up in the theme or could guide the general tone of the Gathering.
3. The host community would help to find Virtual Gathering co-clerks. We have found that the host community knows of the gifts and talents of potential co-clerks in ways that may not be visible to FGC staff and LRCP.
4. The host community would put out a call for Friends to serve on the Gathering Planning Committee. Historically this committee consists of 30-40 Friends, drawn from all across the wider population of Friends, often identified according to their experience or interest in a certain area. Members of LRCP also serve on the Gathering Committee, as well as many who have served on prior Gathering Committees. (Of course, the Gathering Committee for a Virtual Gathering would not have a local arrangements subcommittee, lightening the load considerably for a Virtual Gathering hosting community.)
5. With the host community supplying some members (but not responsible to supply all members) of the Gathering Committee, those members could have a voice in selecting workshops and other presentations, and in providing input about the structure and programming of the Virtual Gathering.
6. The host community would have the opportunity to recruit some workshop proposals for the Gathering. The workshop selection process includes many considerations, and proposals from members of the host community are sometimes given an advantage.
7. Host communities often take an active role in promoting the Gathering within their populations.

Approved by LRCP, 11/11/23

Worship & Ministry Committee Report

SEYM Winter Interim Business Report

20 First Month 2024

Greetings Friends,

As 2023 draws to a close, SEYM Worship and Ministry Committee reflects on work done and that yet to be realized in creating opportunities for all SEYM to deepen their spiritual experience. We find much of our ongoing ministry to be purposeful and engaging, even though we may not always realize how far reaching the impact. We hold our work to be Spirit-led, and offer without attachment or expectation, just a continued leading and prayer that Friends find their way enriched at times and experience a call to seek deeper.

At a recent committee meeting, we gathered with the following reading and query:

Reading:

... Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold...

Matthew 13:5-8

Gathering Query: Where am I withered or choked or scorched or rootless? Where is my good soil? And thus is the query we would put forward for SEYM, whether taken as individuals, or an organization. So many Friends feel exhausted and stretched beyond our ability to find empathy, to reach out with peace, and to listen in love. We ask Friends to acknowledge whether they are withered, with the understanding that they yet have good soil, always.

Worship and Ministry continues to seek to spiritually nurture in the following:

- Extended Meeting for Worship opportunities, once per quarter
- Weekly Queries for the Journey; used by individuals and MMs/WGs
- Bi-weekly Seekers Book Club (next book-- *Listening to the Light: How to Bring Quaker Simplicity and Integrity into Our Lives*, by Jim Pym)
- Online Programs: Emily Provance, NYYM, is scheduled for 26 Second Month, 2024; Tim Gee, General Secretary of FWCC, will be scheduled later in 2024; more to come
- Online discussions of basic Quaker concepts are being discerned
- Pastoral Care—prayer and care for individual Friends as well as holding a concern for Meetings that are dwindling in numbers and energy. A request was made for Friends to join Palm Beach Meeting for Worship, whether in person or via zoom (see link on their website). Zoom is a good way to gather with other Friends in worship, especially if distance is a hardship.

- Michener Lecture 2024 takes place 21 First Month 2024 at Orlando Meetinghouse. Ann Jerome (Orlando MM, Deland WG, Pendle Hill Friend in Residence) will share a ministry that is deeply rooted in Spirit. Her title is “Let it Burn: A Call for Attention to the Fires of Our Faith”.

We again ask Executive Committee, as a matter of integrity, to continue to follow through on recommendations made by the Listening Project that were provided at Summer EC 2023. These requests were made by MMs/WGs and reflect a need for connection and transparency.

We hold all of SEYM in the Light, on our hearts, and in our prayers, that each Friend may find the peace and strength they need each day, in whatever may be needed as God wants.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Dahm, Lisa Erazmus, Richelle Ogle