

# Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Fall Executive Committee Meeting  
3 Tenth Month 2025

Sarasota Friends Meetinghouse  
and Online

## MINUTES

The Clerk opened the meeting from the silence with the following quote:

Central to Quaker process is the understanding that our task is not so much to figure out what to do as to understand what the Spirit is asking of us as a corporate body. When we come to business meeting, committee meetings, or smaller meetings of individuals with this perspective, the focus shifts away from outcomes and towards community. Our task is to seek together, the same way we seek in meeting for worship, the experience of God in our midst.

Westport Monthly Meeting 2006

### **Clerk's report**

Bill Carlie, Interim Business Meeting/Executive Committee Meeting (IBM/EC) Clerk, reported that the estate of Georgia Guin has been closed. Southeastern Yearly Meeting was named to receive 20% of the remaining estate, which will be about \$157,000. Gainesville Meeting will receive about \$78,600. The lawyer says, "the check is in the mail."

### **Nominating Committee Report**

Nominating Clerk Brian Olson gave a brief synopsis of the latest slate of Officers, committees, and representatives. The main concern is finding a co-clerk for the Gathering Committee. Vicki will stay on through 2026 Gathering, but it would be best to find her replacement so they can be trained.

Changes to the report published in the DIAs were noted including:

- Minerva Glidden is added to the Quaker Education Committee.
- Cindy Kwaalwasser is stepping down from being FGC representative.
- We will need a recording clerk for the YM Gathering.
- Hope Ascher is added to Worship and Ministry, and Ann Jerome is off.

**The report was accepted as amended.**

Clerk noted that Liz Dykes, Executive Committee Recording Clerk, is not in attendance this weekend, and asked Friends to approve Vicki Carlie serving in her place.

**25FEC01** Friends approve of Vicki Carlie serving as recording clerk for this Executive Committee Meeting and tomorrow's Fall Interim Business Meeting, in Liz Dykes absence.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Joel Cook gave a summary of the FYE 2024/2025 report. There was an overall cash flow loss of \$6,515.00. The General Fund had a loss of \$10,868. We received 78% of the budgeted income from apportionments; and 112% of the Individual Donations budgeted income.

The Net worth of the Yearly Meeting has had an overall decrease of \$318, which includes unrealized capital gains of \$28,289.00.

Joel reminded Friends to ‘send money;’ and to send in donations for the Youth Program and Youth and Young Adult Coordinator funds. Clerk reminds us all to take these appeals to our meetings.

**The Report was accepted. The full report is in the Documents In Advance (DIAs) and will be attached to the Fall Interim Business Meeting (FIBM) minutes.**

### **Trustee’s Report**

The Trustees are grateful for Joel’s work as Treasurer in compiling the FYE reports.

### **Worship & Ministry Report**

Co-clerks Lisa Erazmus and Jan Dahm directed Friends to the committee’s report in DIAs. They are thrilled to announce that Susan Taylor (Tallahassee Meeting) will be our 2026 Michener Lecture speaker. The topic will be posted on the website soon.

**The Report was accepted. The full report is in the DIAs and will be attached to the FIBM minutes.**

### **DeLand Quaker Meeting’s Minute Regarding the Everglades Migrant Prison**

The Clerk received the minute from Deland Quaker Meeting, published in the DIAs, and asks if we would like to adopt it as a minute of SEYM.

- 25FEC02** Executive Committee recommends that Fall Interim Business Meeting that the minute from Deland Quaker Meeting Regarding the Everglades Migrant Prison be adopted by SEYM.

Friends agreed there is also a need for minutes that more broadly address immigration and the existence of other detention camps in our region. The Peace & Social Concerns Committee will start to write a broader minute in their committee meeting tomorrow morning.

### **CAPP Coordinator Report**

CAPP Coordinator Cheryl Demers Holton has an update to the report published in the DIAs. She widely invited Friends, meetings, and past CAPP registrants to the four trainings she has held recently. Ten Friends attended and nine of these wished to be CAPP registered. There will be another training before end of year, and another in February. She remains available to provide trainings to meetings and worship groups.

Cheryl shared her concern that we don’t have vetting process for paid Youth Workers to be sure they are background checked and trained. Friends suggested putting something in writing. Cheryl will bring a proposed minute to FIBM tomorrow.

**The Report was accepted. The full report is in the DIAs and will be attached to the FIBM minutes.**

### **Organizational Documents Report**

Ed Lesnick, who serves on the *ad hoc* committee, provided a correction to the report in the DIAs: The committee is not close to presenting a final draft to EC. ‘There is a light at the end of the tunnel, but it tends to flicker.’ Phoebe added that the Handbook is only approved by Executive Committee but it requires EC members to read the document and respond to the committee with their comments and approval. If people don’t respond, the committee can’t move forward. They hope to hear from all EC members by Winter Interim Business Meeting.

### **Youth and Young Adult Coordinator (YYAC) Report and Youth Committee Report**

Rachel Dellinger, YYAC, says that for the 2026 Gathering, the Youth Committee would like to hire someone specifically for the Wee Friends, in addition to hiring someone for the teens.

Her report mentions outreach. Friends shared that outreach might be considered a concern of all of us.

**The Report was accepted. The full report is in the DIAs and will be attached to the FIBM minutes.**

### **Peace & Social Concerns Committee Report**

Warren Hoskins, co-clerk, reports that the committee met on Sep 13<sup>th</sup>. Their report is included in the DIAs. They had recommended that SEYM sign on to the Genocide statement; this was done promptly via email.

Friends gathered this evening shared many concerns, which will be taken up in committee tomorrow.

**The Report was accepted. The full report is in the DIAs and will be attached to the FIBM minutes.**

### **Field Secretary for Earthcare (FSE) Report**

FSE Beverly Ward has a full report that was not included in the DIAs but will be included in the Minutes for Fall Interim Business Meeting.

Beverly shared a few things she wanted to highlight at this meeting:

- Half Yearly Meeting is moving forward, with changes to the meals; she is serving as HYM Food Coordinator.
- The Florida Council of Churches will be doing trainings for advocacy.
- She has been in discussion with Woodbrooke about ways they/we can collaborate and support each other. They are exploring not only Earthcare topics, but also reparations and the work of the SEYM Committee for Ministry on Racism (CMoR).
- Beverly and John Heimborg will be going back down to the Everglades detention center vigil after FIBM.

**The report was accepted with gratitude.**

### **Half Yearly Meeting Committee Report**

Brian Olson, HYM Clerk, reported that the major change this year is that we will be preparing our own meals; registration will close a week early to allow for meal planning.

**The report was accepted.**

### **Quaker Education Committee Report**

The committee has not met yet.

### **Representatives to Organizations:**

#### **Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Queer Concerns (FLGBTQC)**

Jan Dahm reported on FLGBTQC. Their steering committee is going thru responses to a survey they sent out. They are holding monthly online worship sharing, which is small but steady. Please hold all LGBTQ people in the Light in these dangerous times.

It was mentioned that Kody Hersh is offering counseling for trans youth, their families and allies. He is certified in this work but is not a licensed therapist. Susan Wade reports that this will be appearing in the eNews.

**The report was accepted.**

We closed in silent worship, the following Friends having been present in person or online:

#### **Deland Quaker Meeting**

Cheryl Demers-Holton

#### **Orlando Monthly Meeting**

Rachel Dellinger

John Heimborg

Ed Lesnick

#### **Palm Beach Monthly Meeting**

John Palozzi

Amy Richards

#### **Miami Friends Meeting**

Brian Olson

Brad Stocker

#### **Saint Augustine WG**

Dianna Langan

**Saint Petersburg Meeting**

Bill Carlie (EC/IBM clerk)  
Vicki Carlie (acting Record. clerk)  
Cynde Mercer  
Susan Wade

**Sarasota Friends Meeting**

Mercedes Soca

**Tallahassee Monthly Meeting**

Neil Andersen  
Phoebe Andersen  
Andrea Hoskins  
Warren Hoskins

**Tampa Friends Meeting**

Jan Dahm  
Lisa Erasmus  
Beverly Ward

**Treasure Coast WG**

Joel Cook (Palm Beach MM)