

Orlando Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Worship With An Attention to Business and the
Annual Meeting of the Orlando Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, Inc.
First Day
March 10, 2019

The Opening of Worship - Friends were called to gather by Liz Jenkins, Clerk, at 11:50 AM. The Meeting for Worship With An Attention to Business settled with a brief time of silent worship.

Reading – Jerry Knutson shared “Friends Decision-making Process in a Nutshell”

Decision-making in the manner of Friends is a spiritual process, rooted in an understanding that God is present and available to the meeting through each of its members. In naming God’s presence, we often speak of the Spirit.

When making decisions, the meeting invites and relies on the guidance of the Spirit.

Decisions are identified by a sense of the meeting about which there is unity.
...The process is called a “sense of the meeting” process.

- Arthur M. Larrabee

Annual Meeting - Our Meeting today serves as the Annual Meeting for the Orlando Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, Inc. for 2019. To fulfill legal obligations -

2019.03-01 Friends approve the following individuals, having already been approved in previous Meetings for Worship with Attention to Business, and currently serving in the named positions, to be formally registered as officers of the corporation with the State of Florida Division of Corporations until the 2020 Annual Meeting of The Orlando Monthly Meeting of Religious Society of Friends, Inc.

Monthly Meeting Clerk – Elizabeth Jenkins

Support Clerk – Jerry Knutson

Recording Clerk – Ed Lesnick

Treasurer – Gregory Allen-Anderson

2019.03-02 Meeting approves Treasurer Gregory Allen-Anderson to file the Annual Corporate Report for the Orlando Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends and to pay all required fees.

Revised committee description for Worship & Ministry

2019.03-03 Friends approves the revised committee description for Worship & Ministry as presented and amended to include the work of serving *as the Anchor Committee for Friends traveling in ministry under the care of Orlando Meeting*. (Full description is attached.)

The Proposed SEYM draft “Testimony to Earthcare,” which is meant to be a faith statement that reflects our spiritual experience and deeper convictions as well as concerns for the Earth. (Background Information and the draft sent to SEYM meetings are attached.)

Bill Carlie, co-clerk of the SEYM Earthcare Committee, accepted comments from those present. Two Friends spoke of the necessity for the Spirit (or Divine) to be prominent in explaining Quaker beliefs about Earthcare.

2019.03-04 Friends approve the spirit of the “*A Testimony to Earthcare*” (Letter and Testimony Attached) with recommendations to the SEYM Earthcare Committee.

A Friend noted the beautiful and powerful testimony of “*A Testimony to Earthcare*” and gratitude for the SEYM committee's work. "This our faith!" Friends' leadings are being shared with Bill.

Minute of Appreciation. Friends recognized Jerry Knutson for promoting and organizing Christine Wolfe's workshop. Jerry suggested, and Friends approve:

2019.03-05 Friends thank Christine Wolfe for her seminar on her Pendle Hill pamphlet *The Inner Guide Vs. The Inner Critic* provided at OMM on 3/3/2019. Participants found great value in the workshop.

Membership Matters

2019.03-06 OMM approves the transfer of membership Richelle Ogle Providence (PA) Monthly Meeting to Orlando Monthly Meeting. (Attachment)

2019.03-07 Friends approve a clearness committee for membership to be formed by the Care and Community Committee for Steven Ridell. (Attachment)

Steven is a regular attender at Orlando Monthly Meeting. The Clerk has received his request for a clearness committee to discern membership.

REPORTS

Care and Community - Minerva Glidden stated the committee meets monthly. The Committee seeks input from members' regarding care, pastoral activity and other areas. Minerva brought forth a project which Friends have stated their interest. The meeting should pursue a training program for CPR and AED. Members discussed the cost of AED and the factors to consider why both procedures are needed.

2019.03-08 The sense of the meeting is Care & Community research an appropriate training event for CPR/AED use to be held at the meetinghouse with an invitation to the wider community to participate.

2019.03-09 The sense of the Meeting is Care & Community and Property committees work together to research equipment and materials for use in life-saving situations at our meeting.

Treasurer's Report - Treasurer Greg Allen-Anderson stated “Everything seems pretty much on track other than the two items - Worship and Ministry and Treasurer’s Expenses - that were over last month. That will persist most of the year.

Items 6090 and 6110 are over budget. The Property clerk noted there are air conditioning issues in

Webster Cottage causing additional expense.

Also, in the List of Vendors paid there are two negative numbers. One is from a vendor that never cashed their check, and the bank eventually refunded the money. The other is a reimbursement of expenses from SEYM for Michener Lecture. There was a payment to a member, and that is listed as Not Specified.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted as revised with thanks. (Attachment)

Peace and Social Concerns – The Meeting Clerk asked P&SC include the FCNL Request for Participation in the Policy Statement Revision Process, which is due in April. Committee Clerk, Stephanie Preston Hughes, noted that the Peace and Social Concerns Committee is a *committee of the whole*.

To gather input on the policy revision and to increase communication in other areas of concern, Vicki will send an OMM distribution list for the membership's use.

Recording Clerk – The 2nd month minutes were posted before the revised "State of the Meeting" report (approved 2/10) became available. The updated report submitted to SEYM was approved. (Attachment)

Items for the 4th Month Agenda

Trustees will present a financial update (Chris Laning)

Property will give a full update at the April meeting. There are roof repairs and other maintenance issues to be addressed. (Ray Jenkins)

Peace and Social Concerns will give its first committee report and address the committee's potential. (Stephanie Preston-Hughes)

Upcoming Events

A Visit with Marcelle Martin on 03/21/2019

Southeastern Yearly Meeting Gathering will be held 04/17/2019 to 04/21/2019 - Registration is open.

Join Minerva and Jerry Knutson on a visit to St. Augustine Worship Group Meeting, April 10.

Brief, silent worship concluded the Meeting for Worship With An Attention to Business at 1:20 PM.

In attendance: Greg Allen-Andersen, Stephanie Preston-Hughes, Tom Gottshalk, Minerva Glidden, Jerry Knutson, Bill Carlie, Vicki Carlie, Jackie Schroeder, Gary Evans, Chris Laning, Ray Jenkins, Liz Jenkins, Ed Lesnick (Recording Clerk)

Worship & Ministry Committee Description Revision

Concern for the conduct and spiritual depth of Meeting for Worship and Meeting for Business. Responsible for planning adult religious education and programs or activities to deepen the spiritual life of the Meeting. Works with Care & Community to nominate members for the Naming Committee, and for discernment of membership of long-absent Friends. Provides support for OMM Clerk, including finding an elder for Meeting for Business in absence of Supporting Clerk. Young Friends Group, Conversation to Explore, Meeting Greeter, and the Library are all under the care of Worship and Ministry. ***Serves as the Anchor Committee for Friends traveling in ministry under the care of Orlando Meeting.*** Finds Friends to speak about Quakerism to outside groups. Facilitates discernment on leadings to do outreach and spiritual nurture. Brings proposed outreach and spiritual nurture projects and events to Meeting for Business. Responsible for literature and materials for greeting newcomers. Worship & Ministry Clerk serves as an Officer/Director of the OMM Corporation.

Southeastern Yearly Meeting

Quakers in Florida, southeast Georgia & coastal South Carolina

To Clerks of SEYM Meetings and Worship Groups

Greetings Friends,

The SEYM Earthcare committee seeks your Meeting's comments, discernment, or approval for this draft "Testimony to Earthcare," which is meant to be a faith statement that reflects our spiritual experience and deeper convictions as well as concerns for the Earth.

It is our intent to present a final draft of this statement, seasoned by your input and discernment, to SEYM's Annual Sessions for discernment or approval.

Please submit your comments to the Committee by March 25th. The committee will remain open to working with Friends who may have concerns at any point prior to final approval.

Please send comments directly to me at williamcarlie@embarqmail.com.

Sincerely,



Bill Carlie, Co-Clerk
SEYM Earthcare Committee

Background:

The SEYM Earthcare Committee held a retreat session at last Annual Gathering with the intent of discernment toward preparing a "Testimony to Earthcare" as a faith statement that reflects our concerns for this time and our deeper convictions for any time. The draft "A Testimony to Earth Care" was drafted by a small sub-committee of Friends from the retreat session notes and then approved by the full Earthcare Committee for wider distribution and discernment. The draft was included in the Winter Interim Business Meeting with a request for approval to formally distribute the draft to Monthly Meetings for discernment, comment, or approval as Friends may be led.

WIBM approved the following minute:

19WIBM01. Winter Interim Business Meeting of Southeastern Yearly Meeting approves distribution of "A Testimony to Earthcare," as included in the 2019 WIBM Documents in Advance, to the monthly meetings and worship groups for consideration and comments in response.

A Testimony to Earthcare (2nd draft)

Friends experience a deep spiritual connection to the natural world. Our connection arises from and integrates with our Testimonies to Simplicity, Integrity, Community, and Equality and centers on living in Peace as part of the environment.

Friends arrive at this sense of deep connection, as with all things, by many paths. Some Friends find this to arise from a sense of responsibility and stewardship, “that we must take care of the gift on loan to us”. Other Friends express this connection as an understanding that “nature itself is an expression of the Divine”. Some find joy and reverence in the simple experience of the natural world. Others among us study nature and find inspiration in the complexity of interrelatedness, in how each element of nature depends on another. Many of us share in all or most of these paths and we unite in seeking a greater sense of communion with the natural world.

Friends deeply lament the damage already done to the natural world and the continuing process of environmental degradation that is often the result of our search for material gain and individual satiation regardless of cost. Our Testimony to Simplicity expresses itself in this regard in a manner that often unites with the words of George Fox who cautions us to “not waste the creation upon our lusts”. We understand and acknowledge that living in a natural, clean, and safe environment has a far greater value than all the material things that arise from destroying it can ever provide.

Our Testimony to Integrity compels us to live lives that are honest, fair, and just. We find that practices that export the impacts of our excessive consumption to our neighbors in other communities, states, and nations lack this integrity.

Historically, our Testimony to Equality has caused us to object to exploitation with the strength and resilience of Truth. We find the conditions that allow for the exploitation of natural resources and of our human communities to be cut from the same spiritual fabric. We are called to break our silence and refuse to consent when environmental injustice is visited upon those whose voices are consistently ignored. We are led, as Friends have been at other daunting moments in history, to overcome our own despair, to relieve suffering, and to unite with Spirit in ways never before imagined to bring new possibilities to Life.

Daily, we become more aware of the suffering of the planet and its people. We find an increasing demand to do justice, to “let our lives speak” individually and corporately. Living in Blessed Community with each other and the natural world takes more than words, it requires action. We encourage Friends to worship together with deep attention to how they may act to bring forward a sense of peace in our experience of community with each other and in communion with nature.

Richelle Ogle

Dear Elizabeth A. Jenkins, Clerk

Greetings from Providence Meeting.

I would like to slightly amend my note concerning the transfer of Membership for Richelle Ogle.

Richelle has started a Friends Worship Group in St. Augustine as she lives some distance from Orlando. The Group is doing well and is under the care of Orlando Friends Meeting.

We hate to see her leave Providence Meeting but she has clearly found a new spiritual home and faith community. We wish her all the best and will be happy to address any concerns or questions you might have.

Best wishes and in Peace,

Prudence P. Haines and Ruth Leach, Co-clerks

Steven Riddle

[Sent to the Clerk]

I would very much appreciate the opportunity to meet with a clearance committee to consider my desire to join the Religious Society of Friends as a full member. From the first meeting I attended almost two years ago, I have felt at home. I have learned with every meeting and have been avid in pursuing a better understanding of the way that the Religious Society of Friends understand and pursue the life of faith and the Spirit. As I mentioned to you, the form of worship is enormously appealing to me—it is akin to, but subtly different from the contemplative life found in many Christian and Non-Christian Communities the world over, but the focus on communal celebration of this is probably unique.

So, given my affinity and my feeling of being at home, I would deeply appreciate the opportunity to join with Friends in a clearness committee that could help me sort through any doubts I (or they) may have about whether this is the right path for me at this time in my life.

shalom in God's Chesed

Steven

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Profit and Loss

January - February, 2019

	Total
INCOME	
5100 Support Gifts	716.00
5200 Reimbursement/ Use of MH/ Parki	895.00
5500 Trustee transfers, yearly	65,000.00
5600 Trustee transfers for Grants	20,000.00
5850 Donations for Special Ministry	1,000.00
Total Income	87,611.00
GROSS PROFIT	87,611.00
EXPENSES	
6010 Repairs & Maintenance	1,430.00
6040 Housekeeping	1,423.77
6045 Pest Control	156.00
6050 Grounds Care	6,620.00
6070 Phone	88.42
6090 Utilities MH	566.38
6100 Insurance	1,310.30
6110 Utilities, WC	269.96
6155 Treasurers' expenses	144.54
6160 Property Care and Maintenance	1,733.34
6500 Other Property Expenses	219.17
7050 Fellowship & Hospitality	770.81
7210 Young Friends Group	450.00
7230 Worship & Ministry	314.07
7300 Homeless Ministry	50.00
7400 Special Ministry Projects	314.00
8330 Scholarships	321.00
Total Expenses	16,181.76
NET OPERATING INCOME	71,429.24
OTHER INCOME	
Interest Earned	51.82
Total Other Income	51.82
NET OTHER INCOME	51.82
NET INCOME	\$71,481.06

Balance Sheet

As of February 28, 2019

	Total
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
1020 SHARE SAVINGS (XXX -S00)	30,100.64
1022 BUSINESS DRAFT(NON-PROFIT) (XXX)	92,702.78
1023 Special Ministries Fund	1,000.00
1024 Pendle Hill Scholarship Fund	5,900.00
Total 1022 BUSINESS DRAFT(NON-PROFIT) (XXX)	99,602.78
1025 Bento Augie	265.96
Total Bank Accounts	129,969.38
Total Current Assets	129,969.38
Fixed Assets	
1800 Land	7,000.00
1901 Webster Cottage	23,500.00
1902 Acc Depr Webster Cottage	-23,500.00
Total 1901 Webster Cottage	0.00
Total Fixed Assets	7,000.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$136,969.38
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Total Liabilities	
Equity	
30000 Opening Balance Equity	20,656.16
32000 Retained Earnings	44,832.16
Net Income	71,481.06
Total Equity	136,969.38
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$136,969.38

Budget vs Actuals 2019

January - February, 2019

	Actual	Budget	over Budget	Total % of Budget
INCOME				
5100 Support Gifts	716.00	833.34	-117.34	85.92 %
5200 Reimbursement/ Use of MH/ Parki	895.00	775.00	120.00	115.48 %
5500 Trustee transfers, yearly	65,000.00	65,000.00	0.00	100.00 %
5600 Trustee transfers for Grants	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00	100.00 %
5850 Donations for Special Ministry	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	
Total Income	87,611.00	86,608.34	1,002.66	101.16 %
GROSS PROFIT	87,611.00	86,608.34	1,002.66	101.16 %
EXPENSES				
6010 Repairs & Maintenance	1,430.00	1,333.34	96.66	107.25 %
6040 Housekeeping	1,423.77	1,681.00	-257.23	84.70 %
6045 Pest Control	156.00	333.34	-177.34	46.80 %
6050 Grounds Care	6,620.00	7,472.73	-852.73	88.59 %
6060 Bank Service Charges		16.66	-16.66	
6070 Phone	88.42	100.00	-11.58	88.42 %
6090 Utilities MH	566.38	400.00	166.38	141.60 %
6100 Insurance	1,310.30	1,225.00	85.30	106.96 %
6110 Utilities, WC	269.96	200.00	69.96	134.98 %
6150 Professional Fees		166.66	-166.66	
6155 Treasurers' expenses	144.54	33.34	111.20	433.53 %
6160 Property Care and Maintenance	1,733.34	1,733.34	0.00	100.00 %
6500 Other Property Expenses	219.17	616.66	-397.49	35.54 %
7030 Outreach & Adult Education		166.66	-166.66	
7050 Fellowship & Hospitality	770.81	1,000.00	-229.19	77.08 %
7070 Library & Subscriptions		83.34	-83.34	
7080 Archives		8.34	-8.34	
7090 Communications		33.34	-33.34	
7100 Travel		166.66	-166.66	
7110 Travel for SEYM		333.34	-333.34	
7150 Care & Community		166.66	-166.66	
7170 Peace & Social Concerns		166.66	-166.66	
7210 Young Friends Group	450.00	583.34	-133.34	77.14 %
7230 Worship & Ministry	314.07	83.34	230.73	376.85 %
7300 Homeless Ministry	50.00	333.34	-283.34	15.00 %
7400 Special Ministry Projects	314.00	0.00	314.00	
7500 Other Expenses		50.00	-50.00	
8240 Meeting Projects		33.34	-33.34	
8330 Scholarships	321.00	250.00	71.00	128.40 %
8500 Donations		83.34	-83.34	
Uncategorized Expense		16.66	-16.66	
Total Expenses	16,181.76	18,870.43	-2,688.67	85.75 %

	Actual	Budget	over Budget	Total % of Budget
NET OPERATING INCOME	71,429.24	67,737.91	3,691.33	105.45 %
OTHER INCOME				
Interest Earned	51.82	41.66	10.16	124.39 %
Total Other Income	51.82	41.66	10.16	124.39 %
NET OTHER INCOME	51.82	41.66	10.16	124.39 %
NET INCOME	\$71,481.06	\$67,779.57	\$3,701.49	105.46 %

Expenses by Vendor Summary

February 2019

	Total
Ace Hardware	31.92
Albert Moore LLC	-1,450.00
August Muehleman	891.58
Brighthouse Networks	44.21
Florida Department of State	70.00
In Touch Cleaning LLC	400.00
Jorge Arenas Landscaping and Lawnservice LLC	425.00
Marie Florance Rezeau	200.00
Massey Services	78.00
OUC	522.86
Protect America	53.49
Publix	76.13
SEYM	-226.80
Tip Top Roofing Company, Inc.	725.00
Not Specified	635.00
TOTAL	\$2,476.39

Orlando Monthly Meeting Spiritual State of the Meeting 2018

***How has the Spirit been moving among us this past year?
How does love manifest itself in our meeting?***

We continue to feel a strong sense of community. As in 1 Corinthians 12, there are many parts and many gifts, but one body and one Spirit. Love is manifest in the way we work together, listen to each other, appreciate the gifts each brings to the whole, and simply enjoy being together. Fellowship after worship is a time of welcoming hospitality, friendship and laughter. Friends put thought and care, and time and energy into committee work, preparing Conversations to Explore, nurturing our Young Friends Group, bible study, music, and much more.

We have seen the Spirit leading us into greater tenderness, patience and courage.

There are very tangible ways that both our Care & Community committee and members care for those in our Meeting community who may be experiencing health concerns, significant family losses, or tough circumstances. More of this loving care goes on quietly Friend to Friend than we can know.

How does the spirit of worship extend into our committee work and into meeting for worship with a concern for business?

We find that the Spirit of worship extends into working together, not only in listening, love and discernment; but also in coming into that spiritual place of Community. Here we find the fellowship that puts all at ease, as well as a sense of humor. Our committee meetings and meeting for business have not only quiet discernment, but also laughter.

We have seen that understanding Quaker process, seeing problems as shared, and setting aside our personal opinions to discover what Spirit wants for us as we work together in shared discernment creates a 'good order' that empowers us to do work as diverse as hosting the Michener Lecture, resolving legal structures for our Meeting and Trustees, communicating our faith tradition at an interfaith event, and managing our building and grounds with patience, good humor and diligence, and so much more.

Do you have other reflections on the current condition of the meeting--places where you see new life emerging?

We see new life and energy emerging in the increased attendance at worship and in members and attenders contributing to the life of the Meeting. We see it in the growing desire to do outreach and connect with the wider community.

We are discovering how our attention to our spiritual lives and our fellowship ---and the more pragmatic work of putting our property, organization, and Quaker process in good order---has brought us to a place where we can offer more to others and reach out to new possibilities.

We're excited that we could extend ourselves to provide housing for Kody Hersh as he serves as SEYM's Youth and Young Adult Coordinator; to begin a mid-week evening worship to be more open to young adults and others who cannot attend on Sundays; to connect with the interfaith

community; and to host more events, including a dinner for advocates for Temporary Protected Status immigrants.

We are excited about the formation of St. Augustine Worship Group. We are looking forward to a mutually enriching connection with this new group of Friends. They are a wonderful example of 'new life' springing up, and we are happy to be in a place where we can offer our support.

As the new year begins, we will be re-activating our Peace & Social Concerns committee and getting ready to convene a working group on outreach. We have, for years, hoped to find energy to do effective Quaker witness; and we feel that way is opening to do this.

Looking ahead, we know there will be challenges and difficulties. Our hope is that we can pay greater attention to the leadings we feel, to listen for the 'new life, and see the ways that open, not missing the Spirit's invitations to join in on what God is doing.