

FRIENDS MEETING OF SAN ANTONIO

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

MINUTES

January 12, 2014

Attendance: Pam Spurgeon, Margarita McAuliffe, , Beth Guajardo, David Bristol, Marian Carter, Susan Schleicher, Tessa Martinez-Pollack, Catherine Schneider, Suzanne Wright Crain, Gretchen Haynes, Janet Southwood, Debra Edmonds, Carol Redfield, Ruth Lofgren, Bill Wilkinson, Ken Southwood

The meeting opened in silence and the clerk read the following quotes:

We do not want you to copy or imitate us. We want to be like a ship that has crossed the ocean, leaving a wake of foam which soon fades away. We want you to follow the Spirit, which we have sought to follow, but which must be sought anew in every generation.

---the Elders of Balby, Yorkshire, England, 1656

We will never assume that there is only one right way to be Quaker. Every life unfolds uniquely, and only by answering to that of God in each do we come to a greater understanding of our own path.

---from the philosophy and goals of Friends Journal

1. Clerk's announcements.

- At the end of this business meeting, the annual corporation meeting will be held, led by the president of the Trustees, Bill Wilkinson.

2. Minutes of December 22, 2013 Business Meeting.

- Approved as read.

3. Ministry & Oversight Committee report.

- The report was read by the clerk of the committee. The report outlined possible changes in our Meeting's committee structure as a way of improving the coverage of ongoing tasks required to provide proper stewardship in maintaining our spiritual community and our physical property.
- A Friend commented on the report's description of the possible new position of scheduler, or coordinator, stating that it could be best to have this position filled by a non-paid member or attender since they will have a better feel for the needs and customs of the Meeting. The M&O clerk responded that we can use a member or attender in the position, but still pay them.
- **Friends approved the following minute as read:**

Minute 2014-01-01: It is with deep pleasure that Friends Meeting of San Antonio accepts Gretchen Haynes into membership after her many years

of devotion to Westbury Monthly Meeting and the wider Quaker community. We look forward to Gretchen's continuing presence among us and offer our support as she continues her transition into our community.

- A friend recommends that a line about the use of the phone for communication be added to the report
- A friend would like to add a comment that the clerks should actively ask for volunteers rather than just wait for volunteers; the request should be specific about the task so that persons being asked knows what they are going to be helping with and how much time the task will entail.
- The clerk noted that she has been ordering and maintaining the supply of tracts for visitors, but this task will now be transferred to Gretchen given her work on new materials with FGC, and her commitment to outreach for our Meeting.
- The Outreach Committee clerk expressed her thanks to the M&O Committee for its thoughtful attention to ways that Outreach could be made stronger and the burdens of this committee be reduced by M&O's recommended changes.
- The clerk of the Meeting expressed her thanks to the clerk of Outreach for her patience and continual diligence in overseeing her committee's many tasks, as described in the 2007 FMSA Handbook now under revision.
- **The report was accepted with the changes as above.**

4. **Religious Education Committee report.** – will be given at the February Meeting for Business.

5. **Peace & Social Concerns Committee report.**

- The report was read by the clerk of the committee, who also read the results of a survey she conducted during the January 5 potluck lunch on ways that our Meeting might become more visible to our neighborhood and our city..
- A Friend commented that it should be noted that it isn't just exposure to the wider community that we need, but service to that community that should make our Meeting more visible. This will be easier with more active members and attenders. These activities and exposure will help to increase the size of the meeting.
- The clerk would like to keep the survey results as a document for the committee clerks to review since it is full of good ideas. She would also like to thank the committee for their work.
- **The report was accepted as read.**

6. **Nominating Committee report.**

- The report was read by the clerk of the committee.
- The following two minutes were approved as read:

Minute 2014-01-02: We approve the following be Trustees for 2014:

David Bristol – clerk

Ruth Lofgren – secretary

Bill Wilkinson – treasurer
Carol Balliet – member
Carol Redfield – member
Ken Southwood – member

Minute 2014-01-03: We approve Bill Wilkinson's appointment as Meeting Treasurer for 2014.

- The newly-approved Trustees will begin their term in May.
- The committee clerk noted that the questions in the Nominating Committee's report were mostly answered by the M&O report given earlier.
- **The report was accepted as read.**

At this point in the meeting, a member fell from a bench to the floor and Friends were extremely concerned, although the member assured everyone that she was not injured and requested that the business meeting continue. The outpouring of love for her was beautiful, and the meeting went into a period of silence before continuing with business. A Friend moved to sit beside her with a loving arm around her shoulders for the remainder of the business meeting.

7. Treasurer's report.

- The report was read by the treasurer.
- Narrative for Dec 2013
 - o It was noted that the \$500k from the development fund has been sent to the Friends Fiduciary Corp but has not yet been credited to the account. Once these funds are credited to the account, a new line item will be created to account for this.
- Narrative reviewing financial matters for Year 2013 was also given.
The December report and review of Year 2013 were accepted as read.
- Budget narrative for year 2014
 - o Add "& Gretchen" to the second to last paragraph, last sentence, that refers to those taking care of our book sales.
 - o **The 2014 operating budget was approved with the amendment above.**
- The clerk of the Meeting expressed heartfelt gratitude to Ken, our treasurer for the past three years, for his conscientiousness and thoroughness in managing our financial affairs during his tenure. She also thanked incoming treasurer Bill, for his willingness to take on this responsibility once again, as he has been a past treasurer.

With no further matters to consider, the business meeting closed with silent worship.

Submitted by:

Carol Balliet - clerk of the Meeting

Susan Farrish - recording clerk