

Minutes
FMSA Meeting for Business
September 18, 2022

Attending:

- In Person: Bill Wilkinson, Rachael Cundey, Bill Sweet, Julie Crum, Hector Cruz, Val Liveoak, James Mize, Gretchen Haynes, Donna Dickerson, Jim Spickard, Stephen Shearer, Greg Barringer, Danielle Lindy, Michael Lindy
- On Zoom: Lee Gugerty, David Hayes, Sarah Garrett, Dale Keairns, Von Keairns

The meeting opened with silent worship.

Prior Minutes

Friends approved the Minutes from the July 17th Meeting for Business without corrections.

Treasurer's Report: reported by Bill Sweet

JULY

Balance Sheet

- ✓ No unusual activity to report.

Statement of Activities

- ✓ Undesignated contributions in July totaled \$4418.40. Contributions to date are 51.2 % of the 2022 budgeted general contributions at 58.3% of the year.
- ✓ There were no designated contributions.
- ✓ \$1195.00 was received in July for facilities use equals 269.5% of annual budget.
- ✓ The CPS bill in July is \$577.29 (\$538.97 last month) for 4.309 MWh of electricity. The Big Sun Community Solar off-site photovoltaic panels gave us a credit of \$250.88 (\$165.66 last month). After the charges for additional services, the bill totaled \$377.39 (\$424.58 last month).
 - ✓ Expenditure for electricity is 257% of the annual budget at 58.3% of the year.
 - ✓ From the beginning through 11 July, payment for solar-generated electricity totaled \$5252.38. This is an average of \$175.1 per month compared to the amortized capital cost of the panels of \$131.40 per month.
- ✓ The July bill for San Antonio Water System was \$110.80, which is typical.

- ✓ Under Other Types of Expenses:
 - ✓ Bank charges of \$48.00 is the annual safety deposit box rental.
 - ✓ Miscellaneous is for replacement checks, \$44.99.

- ✓ Other expenditures were routine.

AUGUST

A voice mail from a law office representing Bexar County Appraisal District regarding unpaid property taxes was received on 22 August. Investigation determined that the nonprofit status must be renewed every 10 years and should have been done in 2021. A renewal application has been submitted. In addition, application was submitted to combine the two parcels, which had different renewal years, into a single parcel for tax purposes, thus a single renewal date.

Balance Sheet

- ✓ A bequest from the estate of Mark Lee Hickman was credited to Operating Cash.
- ✓ There is no unusual activity to report.

Statement of Activities

- ✓ Undesignated contributions in August totaled \$700.00. Contributions to date are 53.5 % of the 2022 budgeted general contributions at 66.6% of the year.
- ✓ One designated contribution was received. The bequest from the estate of Mark Lee Hickman is credited to Designated Contributions, Miscellaneous. Expenditures are restricted to “improving communication within and outside the group, social outreach, cross cultural bridge building, reading and music for nursing homes or assisted living, help for the sick, mobility impaired, homeless, refugees, or for similar purposes” but may not be used “for buildings or other physical structures”.
- ✓ \$575.00 was received in August for facilities use. Receipts to date equal 327% of annual budget.
- ✓ The CPS bill in August is \$542.00 (\$577.29 last month) for 3.998 MWh (4.309 MWh last month) of electricity. The Big Sun Community Solar off-site photovoltaic panels gave us a credit of \$241.63 (\$250.88 last month). After the charges for additional services, the bill totaled \$351.31 (\$377.39 last month).
 - ✓ Expenditure for electricity is 311.1% of the annual budget at 66.6% of the year.
 - ✓ From the beginning through 1 August, payment for solar-generated electricity totaled \$5495.02. This is an average of \$177.26 per month compared to the amortized capital cost of the panels of \$131.40 per month.
- ✓ The June bill for San Antonio Water System was \$106.95, which is typical.
- ✓ Other expenditures were routine.

DISCUSSION: Friends accepted the Treasurer’s report.

Finance Committee Report: reported by Bill Wilkinson

Minute Regarding the Received Donation from the Estate of Mark Hickman

Upon being notified that the Estate of Mark Hickman would be making a donation of \$25,000 to the Meeting and that it would be “lightly” restricted, the Finance Committee consulted by email regarding its role in working with the funds. Finance Committee has determined that its role in this process is simply to determine if requests to use these funds matches Mark's written instructions and could be justified should anyone question how the money was spent. The general test here is whether or not a prudent person when presented with the request would come to a similar conclusion.

MINUTE 2022.09.01: FMSA is deeply appreciative for the gift of \$25,000 from the estate of Mark Hickman. Mark has asked "that it not be used for buildings or other physical structures, but rather for improving communication within and outside of the group, social outreach, cross cultural bridge building, reading and music for nursing homes or assisted living, help for the sick, mobility impaired, homeless, refugees, or for other similar purposes." As such, any requests regarding the expenditure of these funds from a committee or individual should be routed to the Finance Committee prior to any consideration in Meeting for Business. The Finance Committee will make a determination that the request is consistent with Mark's wishes.

DISCUSSION: Friends approved the minute and accepted the committee's report.

M, C, & G Report: reported by Julie Crum

Ministry, Care, and Guidance met on September 12, 2022. Present were Val Liveoak, Stephen Shearer, James Goslin, Gretchen Haynes, and Julie Crum, clerk.

Query: The query for September is “How are we led to participate in the life of the Meeting, and how can we encourage newcomers and others to do so?”

Donation: Tampa Monthly Meeting sent a donation which we would like to direct to the Sandy Hook Promise Foundation.

MINUTE 2022.09.02: A donation from Tampa Monthly Meeting was received by FMSA in the aftermath of the murderous violence in Robb Elementary School, Uvalde, Texas. The donation was to be used at our discernment. Having learned that donations to the Uvalde community and organizations, thus funds for allied purposes, was appropriate we discerned that prevention of future such events was the appropriate use. The committee directs the Treasurer to forward the donation to the Sandy Hook Promise Foundation, P.O. Box 3489, Newtown, CT 06470. In addition, this committee, acting for the Peace and Social Concerns Committee adds \$50 from its Emerging Issues budgeted line item (63100) to the contribution from Tampa Monthly Meeting.

Review of worship: Attendance has been increasing. We intend engage visitors more consistently, and would like to identify members of the committee at the rise of meeting and to encourage visitors to speak with us.

We are pleased with the increase in vocal ministry and encourage friends to speak loudly enough for all to hear. We ask the clerks to return to the practice of calling for joys and sorrows in the last five minutes of meeting for worship. On the first and third Sundays the children will return a few minutes before that in order to include them.

Forums: On September 11 a forum was held to begin the process of considering how to structure our organization in order to do the things that need to be done. We started by thinking about what needs to be done and what is not presently being done. On September 25 we will continue this discussion. Jim Spickard is facilitating.

We would like to hold a retreat on Saturday, November 12 at the meetinghouse to continue the dialogue around Shared Intent which Gary W. has been facilitating. Is there interest from Meeting in this project?

Potlucks: Potlucks on the porch will resume on October 2. We ask Friends to come 20 minutes early to set up the tables outside, and to stay to clean up.

Wider Quaker Community:

- Peggy McDonald from Live Oak Meeting invites Friends to come via zoom to their monthly Meeting for Worship for healing, every third Saturday. Her email is PMcDonald@sitecoach.com.
- Wednesday, September 21 is the International Day of Peace. Val will see if Celebration Circle would like to observe with Friends. We will prepare for an organized observance in 2023.
- World Quaker Day is October 2. We'll take a group photo, with the banner, at our pot luck. We ask the treasurer to send \$50 to the Friends World Committee on Consultation to help with their communication costs.
- Dream Week: We have submitted a movie night, showing "Brother Outsider: The Life of Bayard Rustin" on January 20, 2023.

Children's program: The children's program will continue on the first and third Sundays through October. There are usually about four children of the twelve who are "on the books", ages 2-7, with three new families.

Concerns for individual Friends: We discussed Friends and will continue to reach out.

Next meeting: Monday, October 10 at 7:30.

DISCUSSION: Friends decided that the \$50 for Friends World Committee on Consultation would be withdrawn from the Emerging Issues fund.

Five Friends expressed interest in attending a 9:30 am-3 pm retreat on our shared intent in worship on Saturday, November 12th.

Friends accepted the committee's report.

Property Committee Report: reported by James Mize

The meeting was attended by Pam Spurgeon, James Mize, Von Keairns and David Hayes

1. September workday (17 Sept) will focus on removing the fallen tree on the Northeast perimeter fence. With milder days, workdays will resume on the third Saturday, October's is on the 15th.
2. A bid for some of the general maintenance was accepted from Luciano Bravo. General maintenance projects were scheduled to begin on Sep 12 but have been delayed by the contractor. Projects include restroom door replacement, sealing and painting of the joints in the meetinghouse, repair of the small parking lot sign and restoration of the wooden entry gate.
3. Fire extinguisher inspection needs to be done for all extinguishers. This should be addressed each workday. Costco has replacements for about \$40
4. Fall HVAC Maintenance visit will be scheduled in October.
5. A new design option was presented by James, which might make the memorial garden area more accessible to handicapped. A bid for the design change was requested, we are waiting to hear from Bob Abel for feasibility and cost.
6. We were sad to learn that David Hayes' term on the committee is ending. We are very grateful for his sunny leadership and spiritual guidance.

These projects await our attention:

- Electrical system update (incl wiring diagram)
- Courtyard refurbishment
- Parking lot resurfacing

w/love

Property Committee

DISCUSSION: A special Meeting for Weeding to prepare the property for the upcoming wedding on the property will be held this Saturday September 24th 9 am-1 pm.

There are fire extinguishers located in the children's room, HVAC utility room, kitchen, and foyer. All extinguishers are currently in working condition.

Friends accepted the committee's report with gratitude.

Report on the Children's Program: reported by Gretchen.

In consultation with parents, we are offering the program on the first and third Sundays, with time for work in the raised garden and making soup. Hannah Evens and Gretchen Haynes are joined by Renata Galindo in reading stories that illustrate the Testimonies.

Other Business:

- Assisted listening system: Jim will be meeting the technician to address issues with the assisted listening system. Currently no sound is coming through using two of the listening methods.

Meeting Announcements:

- **Forum next Sunday (the 25th):** Round Two of our discussions of Meeting organizational structure. Round One identified what we need and what we are currently providing with difficulty or not at all. Round Two will brainstorm creative but effective ways to solve some of these problems. Expect a Round Three in October.

Other Announcements

- Friends are encouraged to hold a moment of silence for world peace on Wednesday to recognize the International Day of Peace.

The Meeting closed with silent worship.