

Minutes
FMSA Meeting for Business
Nov 17th 2024

Attending:

- In Person: Pat Sweet, Lisa Craig, Julie Crum, Stephen Shearer, Carol Redfield, Gretchen Haynes, Roberta Russell, Denise Wilkinson, Bill Wilkinson, Val Liveoak, Rachael Cundey

The meeting opened with silent worship.

Clerk's Comments: I attended the global Friends Peace Teams meeting last week, and after 18-20 hours on Zoom I may be a little more frazzled than usual. Secondly, Representative Meeting of SCYM is Friday and Saturday this week. No registration is required, and there will be a Zoom link on scym.org. It is useful to get to know Friends from other meetings and observe how they do things. Other Friends within SCYM are as warm and welcoming as we aspire to be.

PRIOR MINUTES

Friends approved the Minutes from the Oct 20th Meeting for Business without corrections.

TREASURER'S REPORT: *reported by Pat Sweet*

Balance Sheet *(attached at the end of these minutes)*

- ✓ \$20,000.00 from Operating Cash, \$10,000.00 from Immigrant Aid and \$5,000 from Relief Fund, a total of \$35,000.00, remains "parked" in the savings account. Because of this "loan", the balance sheet shows a deficit (in parentheses) in Immigrant Aid: the available balance is \$6,156.31 (\$10,000 minus \$3,843.69).
- ✓ There are no other items of note.

Statement of Activities *(attached at the end of these minutes)*

- ✓ Undesignated contributions of \$1854.04 in October brought the year-to-date total to \$17,857.23, being 57.1% of the annual budget through 83.3% of the year.
- ✓ Income for Facilities Use in September is \$524.00, which totals 140% of budget at 83.3% of the year.
- ✓ Cleaning supplies were replenished for \$88.15.
- ✓ Minor Repairs and Maintenance was \$1,100 for replacement of the library door glass.
- ✓ The CPS bill in October is \$301.04 (\$396.99 last month) for 2.406 MWh (3.156 MWh last month) of electricity. The Big Sun Community Solar off-site photovoltaic panels gave a credit of \$197.31 (\$216.08 last month). After charges for additional services, the bill

totaled \$159.71 (\$236.12 last month). Expense for electricity to date is 107% of the 2024 budget.

- From the initial connection through October, payment for solar-generated electricity totals \$9,939.74, which averages \$174.38 per month compared to the amortized capital cost of the panels of \$131.40 per month..
- ✓ Due to billing cycle and change of service, telephone and internet in October is 256.71.
- ✓ San Antonio Water System charge in September was \$112.38, which is about typical.
- ✓ Other expenditures were routine.

DISCUSSION: Friends accepted the Treasurer's report.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: *presented by Pat Sweet*

12 November 2024 Attending: all by Zoom: Carol Redfield, Pat Sweet, Bill Wilkinson; Treasurer, *ex officio* Bill Sweet

1. **Committee Minute:** The funds in the Sinking Fund currently in excess of the goal of \$30,000 will remain in that account until a specific reallocation is Minuted. Whenever expenditures reduce the balance in this account below the goal, \$750 per month will be transferred from Operating Cash into the Sinking Fund until the balance is \$30,000.
2. The present, nearing-year-end financial status was reviewed. Historical trends in national economy and Meeting's income and expenses were analyzed with reference to projected near- and intermediate-term economic conditions. A budget proposal for 2025 is being developed and will be presented at the December Meeting for Business. It is expected to be available for inspection on the Meeting's website for review well before that Meeting.

DISCUSSION: We had been adding \$500 a month to build the Sinking Fund. This committee minute will build it faster when the balance drops below \$30,000. Since the balance is currently above \$30,000, we are not adding to it now.

Friends accepted the committee's report.

MINISTRY & CARE REPORT: *reported by Julie Crum*

James Goslin, Stephen Shearer, Val Liveoak, Bill Wilkinson, and Julie Crum met via Zoom on November 12.

1. Query for December:
In this time of winter darkness and cold, where do you find the light in your life?
2. We are preparing for the memorial meeting for worship for Ken Southwood, which will be on Saturday, December 7 at 1 pm. Ken's children will be attending, as well as distant family via Zoom.

3. Memorial minutes for Ken Southwood, Michelle DiGiacomo, and James Mize will be prepared and sent to SCYM by March.
4. We are very pleased to present this Ministry and Care minute for Meeting's approval:
Minute: Roberta Russell has completed the clearness for membership process. Ministry and Care happily recommends that her membership be approved.
5. We are contemplating getting an AED (automatic defibrillator) for the meetinghouse. We would need training for members and renters in the use of the device, plus CPR and other basic life support. We seek feedback from friends as to whether to pursue this course.
6. It is becoming increasingly critical that FMSA have a frank discussion about its finances, how to plan for economic uncertainty, and the role each of us plays in this discernment. Finance Committee and the Treasurer have been carrying this concern and find that reports in Meeting for Business do not provide time for adequate dialogue. We urge Friends to attend future forums as they arise regarding our financial health.
7. We discussed concerns for Friends.

Our next meeting is proposed for Wednesday, December 4 at 2 pm on Zoom.

DISCUSSION: We are not currently in dire straits financially but need a long-term plan for the Meeting's financial priorities.

MINUTE 2024.11.01 FMSA approves Roberta Russell for membership.

Friends accepted the committee's report.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT: *presented by Stephen Shearer*

We are offering a first reading in [blue](#)

			Nominating Committee [3 years]			Ministry, Care and Guidance Committee [3 years]
Trustee [1 year]			Member Julie Crum	2026		Clerk Julie Crum
Clerk Carol Redfield	2025		Member Stephen Shearer	2026		Member James Goslin
Secretary Pat Sweet	2025		Member Denise Wilkinson	2026		Member Bill Wilkinson
Treasure Bill Sweet	2025		Member Bill Wilkinson	2027		Member Pat Sweet
Member Bill Wilkinson	2025					Member Denise Wilkinson
			SCYM [2 years]			Religious Education [2 years]
Monthly Meeting [2 year]			Member Val Liveoak	2026		Clerk Lisa Craig
Clerk Val Liveoak	2025		Member Bill Sweet	2026		Member Roberta Russell
Rec. Clerk Rachael Cundey	2025		FCNL [2 years]			Member Dale Keairns
Treasurer Bill Sweet	2026		Member Suzanne Cole-Sullivan	2026		Member Gretchen Haynes
Recorder Jim Spickard	2026					Peace and Social Concerns [2 years]
			Property Committee [2 years]			Convener Bill Sweet
Finance Committee [2 years]			Clerk Jim Spickard	2025		Member Karen Ball
Clerk Pat Sweet	2026		Member Julia Hitz	2025		Member Annabelle Ball
Member Carol Redfield	2026		Member Von Keairns	2026		Member Donna Dickerson
Member Bill Wilkinson	2026		Member Rebecca Cole-Sullivan	2026		
			Resource Pam Spurgeon	2026		
Property Usage Coordinator						Librarian none
Jim Spickard			Communications Coordinator			Newsletter none
			Denise Wilkinson			
			Web Master			
			Jim Spickard			

DISCUSSION: For context, the Nominating Committee’s report from last month concerning Peace & Social Concerns is reproduced here:

“Nominating Committee is aware that the Peace & Social Concerns Committee continues to wrestle with its responsibilities. Given that the Meeting is aware of the challenges around member burnout and maintaining healthy active committees in general, the Nominating Committee seeks advice regarding an alternative to staffing the Peace & Social Concerns Committee.

We propose that the Meeting meet as a "committee of the whole" with attention to peace and social concerns at its Meetings for Business in January, April, July, and October. Additional time in Meeting for Business would be set aside during these months to discuss matters related to peace and social concerns.

Friends are often called by a "leading" to engage in a social justice action. As such, it is important to understand that we, as Friends, take these leadings very seriously as they exhort us to act upon the urgings of the Spirit. The South Central Yearly Meeting (SCYM) Draft Faith and Practice defines a leading as, "An inner conviction that impels one to follow a certain course under a sense of divine guidance." Friends with specific leadings would be asked to submit topics to the clerk no less than one week in advance during these designated months and be prepared to discuss their leading during Meeting for Business. Reports from other committees may need to be abbreviated to allow time for discussion except for critical issues.

Friends would be encouraged to speak to the clerk about bringing more urgent matters to Meeting for Business in months not designated for peace and social concerns.

In September, the Treasurer would provide a list of organizations the Meeting has supported financially at any point in the past five years to be posted on the website of the Meeting. Based on the budget for organizational giving, the Meeting would determine which organizations in which amounts it wishes to support during the October Meeting for Business. Any Friends interested in supporting an organization not previously funded would be invited to provide information about that organization for the Meeting's consideration. The list of organizations and the amount of their contribution would be minuted at the October meeting." [end report]

Friends discussed the activity of Peace & Social Concerns this year, which has been limited to their proposal for our yearly charitable giving. Bill Sweet as Convener sent out an email detailing the above proposal and looking for feedback from committee members. He received no response. Nominating Committee feels it is time to invite the Meeting as a whole to bring up concerns as they arise.

The Clerk requests that Friends consider this proposal along with the first reading of nominations and bring any concerns with the proposed plan or the names listed in blue to the committee. Next month Nominating Committee will bring a minute to the December Meeting for Business for our consideration.

A Friend suggested that part of the problem in filling this committee may be that in the past an individual would raise a concern and expect Peace & Social Concerns to address it alone, putting many off from serving on the committee.

Friends appreciate Bill Sweet's efforts in serving as convener for Peace & Social Concerns and at the same time feel that this type of work may need a Clerk to be sustainable for all involved.

Friends discussed the usual functions of Peace & Social Concerns. A Friend suggested the reason for the committee's existence is to bring issues of peace and social justice to the Meeting as a recommendation that we provide support in various ways as a whole or as individuals. Although in recent years the committee's activities have largely been limited to the allocation of donations from the Meeting, in the past the committee would also announce community events such as protests that Friends could participate in or bring a proposed letter to the editor on a social issue to be sent by the Clerk on behalf of the Meeting.

A Friend shared that the Meeting united around the Eyes Wide Open exhibit of shoes representing military personnel and civilians killed in U.S. wars in Iraq and Afghanistan but has seldom coalesced around one social concern-related activity otherwise. While other meetings such as Friends Meeting of Austin have longstanding, active service projects such as prison ministry, a Friend feels this Meeting is more focused on internal spiritual concerns and will only move to social action that rises from a deeply felt and widely held spiritual concern.

A Friend expressed concern that we are missing the point if we do not carry our spiritual growth into action in the wider community, especially under current political circumstances.

Bill Wilkinson would like to remind Friends of the relevance of the situational analysis report which addresses Friends' concerns about burnout, lack of activity, and the need to be more flexible with our committee structure. Friends are encouraged to review the report again as we make this and other decisions about the future of the Meeting.

Friends explored the tension between involving new Friends in the life of the Meeting and trying not to burden new Friends with unwanted and perhaps poorly understood responsibilities. Friends expressed concern both for Friends who left Meeting because it became a place of heavy responsibility when they needed respite and for Friends who "check out" of Meeting life because they are not supported in following leadings they feel strongly. Friends agreed that we want all to feel they can follow their leadings with the Meeting's support and not to feel pressured into activities to which they are not called.

A Friend expressed that the newsletter has been an important vehicle for unity within the Meeting and asked that we seek someone to take it on. Another Friend reiterated the concern expressed above that we want to support Friends in exploring whether they are led to do this but not to pressure someone with no interest or capacity.

A Friend felt that as a Meeting we are emerging from a large period of exhaustion with new energy and strong committees forming, but we need to take care of ourselves to avoid old patterns of burnout.

A Friend expressed that involving all Friends in Peace & Social Concerns work is a positive development that will allow all to consider and weigh in on our responses to important issues without "passing the buck."

Jim Spickard, *in absentia*, suggests that the "Web Master" title no longer describes what he does. "Tech Coordinator" is more apt. Yes, we need a "web master" to coordinate web postings, updates, hosting issues, etc. But we also need to have someone with the-buck-stops-here oversight of all other tech (phones, internet, Zoom, security cameras, Hi-Drive, etc.). The term "Tech Coordinator" covers that plus the web structure and hosting; other people are now able to post, too.

(As usual, 'coordinators' don't do all the work themselves; they just make sure it gets done. We now have numerous people who contribute to this process. Yay!!) [end Jim's comment]

Nominating Committee is happy to make the title change suggested above by Jim *in absentia*.

Friends accepted the report on first reading.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Swannanoa Valley Friends Meeting's meetinghouse was destroyed by Hurricane Helene. The local Presbyterian Church has graciously offered them space to meet. They have

made the hard decision to demolish the building. Many Swannanoa Valley Friends have lost their homes and are in financial need. They have established a disaster relief fund for demolition costs and support of local Friends. Friends decided that time is of the essence for this issue and wish to act today.

MINUTE 2024.11.02 FMSA authorizes the donation of \$5,000 from the Relief Fund to the Swannanoa Valley Friends Meeting disaster relief fund.

The Meeting closed with silent worship.

FMSA Balance Sheet

October 2024

	<u>31-Oct-24</u>	<u>30-Sep-24</u>	<u>Difference +/-</u>
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Checking/Savings			
10000 · Frost Bank - Checking			
10010 - Cash Flow Reserve	\$ 6,000.16	\$ 6,000.16	
10020 - Operating Cash	\$ 19,142.45	\$ 19,384.36	
10030 - Relief Fund	\$ 6,470.75	\$ 6,470.75	
10040 - Sinking Fund	\$ 35,772.45	\$ 35,772.45	
10050 - Immigrant Aid	\$ (3,843.69)	\$ (3,843.69)	
10070 - General Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -	
10080 - Janet Southwood Hospitality Fund	\$ 390.00	\$ 390.00	
10000 - Checking-Other	\$ -	\$ -	
Total 10000 · Frost Bank - Checking	<u>\$ 63,932.12</u>	<u>\$ 64,174.03</u>	\$ (241.91)
11000 · Frost Bank - Savings	<u>\$ 51,330.80</u>	<u>\$ 51,249.19</u>	\$ 81.61
Total Checking/Savings	<u>\$ 115,262.92</u>	<u>\$ 115,423.22</u>	\$ (160.30)
Other Current Assets			
18000 · Friends Fiduciary Corporation			
18100 · FFC Quaker Growth & Income Fund	\$ 656,894.54	\$ 656,894.54	
18200 · FFC Short-Term Investment Fund	\$ 58,531.75	\$ 58,531.75	
Total 18000 · Friends Fiduciary Corporation	<u>\$ 715,426.29</u>	<u>\$ 715,426.29</u>	\$ -
Total Other Current Assets	<u>\$ 715,426.29</u>	<u>\$ 715,426.29</u>	
Total Current Assets	<u>\$ 830,689.21</u>	<u>\$ 830,849.51</u>	
Fixed Assets			
19000 - Fixed Assets			
19100 - Buildings & Land	\$ 812,844.73	\$ 812,844.73	
19200 - Solar Panels w/Big Sun	\$ 34,689.60	\$ 33,112.80	
19300 - Assisted Listening/Zoom integration syst	\$ 6,997.83	\$ 6,219.18	
19990 - Accumulated Depreciation			
19991 - Solar Panels Depreciation	\$ 4,730.40	\$ 6,307.20	
19992 - Assisted Listening/Zoom Depreciation	\$ 788.65	\$ 1,567.30	
Total 19990 - Accumulated Depreciation	\$ 5,519.05	\$ 7,874.50	
Total 19000 - Fixed Assets	<u>\$ 860,051.21</u>	<u>\$ 860,051.21</u>	\$ -
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>\$ 1,690,740.42</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,690,900.72</u></u>	\$ (160.30)
LIABILITIES & EQUITY			
Equity			
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	\$ 1,430,079.42	\$ 1,430,079.42	\$ -
45500 · Investment Inc/Dec	<u>\$ 265,598.30</u>	<u>\$ 265,598.30</u>	\$ -
Net Income	<u>\$ (4,937.30)</u>	<u>\$ (4,777.00)</u>	\$ 160.30
Total Equity	<u>\$ 1,690,740.42</u>	<u>\$ 1,690,900.72</u>	\$ (160.30)
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>\$ 1,690,740.42</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,690,900.72</u></u>	\$ (160.30)

FMSA Statement of Activities

October 2024

	October 2024	2024 YTD	2024 Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
43400 · Contributions			
43410 · General Contributions	\$ 1,854.04	\$ 17,857.23	\$ 31,300.00
43440 · Designated Contributions		\$ -	
43441 · General Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -	
43442 · Immigrant Aid	\$ -	\$ -	
43443 · Meetinghouse	\$ -	\$ -	
43445 · Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ 250.00	
43447 · Relief Fund	\$ -	\$ -	
43448 · Janet Southwood Hospitality	\$ -	\$ -	
43449 · Sinking Fund	\$ -	\$ -	
Total 43440 · Designated Contributions	\$ -	\$ 6,139.79	
Total 43400 · Contributions	\$ 1,854.04	\$ 23,997.02	\$ 31,300.00
45000 · Bank Interest	\$ 81.61	\$ 814.60	\$ 350.00
46400 · Other Income			
46431 · Facilities Use	\$ 524.00	\$ 6,297.04	\$ 4,500.00
46432 · Yard/Online Sales	\$ -	\$ -	
46433 · Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ -	
46434 · Festival	\$ -	\$ 288.20	
46434.1 · Festival In-kind	\$ -	\$ 82.04	
46499 · In-kind	\$ -	\$ -	
Total 46400 · Other Income	\$ 524.00	\$ 6,667.28	\$ 4,500.00
Total Income	\$ 2,459.65	\$ 31,478.90	\$ 36,150.00
Expense			
62100 · Ministry & Oversight			
62110 · FJ/QL Subscriptions	\$ -	\$ -	
62140 · Relief Fund	\$ -	\$ -	
62150 · Travel Fund	\$ -	\$ -	
62100 · M&O Other	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100.00
62199 · In-kind	\$ -	\$ -	
Total 62100 · Ministry & Oversight	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100.00
62500 · Religious Education			
62510 · Childcare	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,080.00	\$ 2,000.00
62520 · Library	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50.00
62525 · Materials & Activities	\$ -	\$ -	
62530 · Supplies & Misc	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50.00
62599 · In-kind	\$ -	\$ -	
Total 62500 · Religious Education	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,080.00	\$ 2,100.00

62800 · Building & Grounds			
62810 · Cleaning Services			
68811 · Supplies	\$ 88.15	\$ 229.61	\$ 350.00
62810 · Cleaning Services	\$ 300.00	\$ 4,158.75	\$ 4,000.00
62819 = Event Cleaning Services	\$ -		
Total 62810 · Cleaning Services	\$ 388.15	\$ 4,388.36	\$ 4,350.00
62830 · Grounds Maintenance	\$ 400.00	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 6,000.00
62840 · Major Repairs	0	\$ 4,539.36	
62870 · Minor Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 8,711.13	\$ 4,000.00
62890 · Utilities			
62891 · Electric & Gas	\$ 159.71	\$ 1,817.78	\$ 1,700.00
62892 · Phone	\$ 256.71	\$ 1,400.61	\$ 150.00
62893 · Water & Sewer	\$ 112.38	\$ 1,102.28	\$ 2,000.00
Total 62890 · Utilities	\$ 528.80	\$ 4,320.67	\$ 3,850.00
62899 - In-kind	\$ -	\$ -	
Total 62800 · Building & Grounds	\$ 2,416.95	\$ 24,559.52	\$ 18,200.00
63000 · Contributions to Others			
63100 · Emerging Issues	\$ -	\$ -	
63200 · Designated Gifts (Unbudgeted)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
63300 · Local Organizations	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
63400 · Quaker Organizations	\$ -	\$ 1,010.00	\$ 1,000.00
63510 - Immigrant Aid	\$ -		
Total 63000 · Contributions to Others	\$ -	\$ 2,010.00	\$ 2,000.00
65000 · Outreach			
65010 · FJ/QL Advertisement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 225.00
65020 · Website/New Media	\$ 3.00	\$ 456.41	\$ 1,400.00
65030 · Publications, Printing, Copying	\$ -	\$ -	
65040 · Supplies	\$ -	\$ -	
65050 · Refreshments	\$ -	\$ 13.92	
65051 - Refreshments - In-kind	\$ -	\$ -	
Total 65000 · Outreach	\$ 3.00	\$ 470.33	\$ 1,625.00
65100 · Other Types of Expenses			
65120 · Property/Liability Insurance	\$ -	\$ 7,906.00	\$ 8,375.00
65140 · Bank Charges	\$ -	\$ 48.00	\$ 50.00
65160 · Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ 271.23	\$ 200.00
65180 · Festival	\$ -	\$ 80.00	
65180.1 - Festival In-Kind	\$ -	\$ 82.04	\$ -
Total 65100 · Other Types of Expenses	\$ -	\$ 8,387.27	\$ 8,625.00
66900 · Reconciliation Discrepancies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
68300 · Yearly & Quarterly Meeting			
68310 · Cielo Grande Quarter	\$ -	\$ -	
68320 · South Central YM	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,500.00
Total 68300 · Yearly & Quarterly Meeting	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,500.00
Total Expense	\$ 2,619.95	\$ 36,507.12	\$ 36,150.00
Net Ordinary Income	\$ (160.30)	\$ (5,028.22)	\$ -
Sinking Fund		\$ 6,000.00	
Net Income	\$ (160.30)	\$ (11,028.22)	\$ -