

Minutes

SAYMA

Representative Meeting #114

Spring 2006

Note to meetings and worship groups – two copies of SAYMA minutes go to each. Clerks/contacts receive one for their own use, and SAYMA Reps receive one for their use and the use of local f/Friends. Please tell local f/Friends when the minutes arrive and help this copy circulate among interested individuals. (If no Rep, the second copy is sent to the clerk/contact.)

Note to SAYMA appointees – a copy of SAYMA minutes goes to each committee clerk and WQO rep, in addition to officers and other miscellaneous positions of responsibility.

Minutes on the web – available to anyone at www.sayma.org. Click on “Online Documents.” If you'd rather not receive a paper copy of each set of minutes, but instead want to be notified when they're available on the website, please notify the administrative assistant, at AdminAsst@sayma.org.

Representatives to Representative Meeting – Representative Meeting acts in SAYMA's name between sessions. Any f/Friend may participate; those gathered represent the yearly meeting. Representatives are important channels of communication between local f/Friends & SAYMA.

Contact information – SAYMA – POB 2191 – Abingdon VA 24212 – AdminAsst@sayma.org
276-628-5852 (machine) in person Tu/Th 5-7:30 pm – www.sayma.org

Useful Information & Contacts

current per-capita* **SAYMA assessment -- \$60**
(*per member & attender)

send checks to -- David Ciscel, Treasurer
1950 Nelson, Memphis TN 38104-**5418**

**SAYMA website -- calendar, minutes, F&P
revisions, Positions of Responsibility roster**

www.sayma.org

SAYMA's **list-server** – to subscribe or
un-subscribe, visit its website

<http://kitenet.net/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/sayma>
& follow the instructions

SAYMA office &
Administrative Assistant

Mary Calhoun AdminAsst@sayma.org
POB 2191, Abingdon VA 24212-2191
276-628-5852 (mach) in person Tu/Th 5-7:30 pm

SAYMA Directory -- (yearly meeting
"phone book") available **free** to f/Friends needing
it to carry out SAYMA, or
meeting / worship group, responsibilities

contact **Administrative Assistant** (above)

**Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association
Minutes – Representative Meeting #114 (Spring)
Birmingham Friends Meeting, Alabama
Fourth month, Eighth Day, 2006 -- 9:00 am**

114-1 Opening

There was a period of worship closed by Clerk, Kristi Estes.

A solitary human being is a contradiction in terms. We say in Africa a person is a person through other persons. We are made for togetherness, for friendship, for fellowship. We are created to live in a delicate network of interdependence, and we are different precisely in order to know our need of one another. I have gifts that you don't, and you have gifts that I don't have, and you could almost hear God saying, "Voila." – Desmond Tutu, from "God's Dream"

114-2 Introductions

Attendees are listed in **Appendix A**.

114-3 Announcements/Correspondence

All representatives need to take the SAYMA Advance Program home to their Monthly Meetings for distribution. See Errol Hess for your package. There is one month left for registration.

114-4 Agenda Review

No personnel committee report. The finance committee report will be combined with the Treasurer's report. The Agenda was approved.

114-5 Calendar

June 7-11, 2006: Yearly Meeting at Warren Wilson College

Sept 9, 2006: Representative Meeting at Berea, NC

Dec 2, 2006: Representative Meeting at Asheville, NC

March 31st or April 14, 2007: Representative Meeting at Nashville, TN (tentative)

June 6-10, 2007: Yearly Meeting at Warren Wilson

114-6 Treasurer's Report

David Ciscel presented the Treasurer's Report. It is attached as **Appendix B**. Since the SAYMA fiscal year begins October 1st, this is a mid-year review. There is presently a \$5,000 surplus in the budget, and the Treasurer reports that SAYMA is in good economic standing with nearly all monthly meetings and several individuals contributing what is needed. There was a question regarding the Released Friend set-aside fund. It has grown to \$3,150 and is not currently being used. The Treasurer reminded the committees to look at their budgetary line items and give requests to the finance committee at the beginning of yearly meeting.

Minute – Friends approved and accepted this report.

114-7 Administrative Assistant Report

Mary Calhoun reported thanks for the work of the ad hoc computer working group that assisted in the procurement of the new SAYMA computer system. They were: Kristi Estes, Free Polazzo, Mary Calhoun, Turtle McDermott, and Memphis Friends – Shiloh Barnat, Steve Barnat, and Susan Wiley. Mary presented a paper hat to be worn by each member of the committee during rep meeting.

Minute – Friends approved and accepted this report.

114-8 Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee requests that representatives go to their monthly meetings and ask individuals regarding

their gifts and leadings for service within the Yearly Meeting. There is a list of available positions – including Assistant Treasurer, Registrar (to be in training in SAYMA 2006), YM Planning Committee (9 positions out of 11), and at large SAYMA Ministry and Nurture Committee reps.

Minute – The Meeting approved that the Nominations Committee be empowered to temporarily fill the positions of Assistant treasurer and Registrar before being approved by the Yearly Meeting.

114-9 Logo Committee

The Clerk reported for the Logo Committee. Carol Lamm has completed the logo for letterhead and website that was begun by Jennifer Snow-Wolff. This logo is available on CDs. There is a black and white, and color version. For availability, talk to Carol Lamm. [clamm@chpl.net]

Minute – Friends approved and accepted this report.

114-10 Site Selection

Beth Myers is looking into the possibility of holding Yearly Meeting at Berea College in two years time. The clerk suggested that SAYMA consider looking at June 11-15, 2008 for Yearly Meeting. It was approved to tentatively ask Berea and Warren Wilson regarding their availability on that weekend and the weekend previous.

Minute – Friends approved and accepted this report.

114-11 Ministry and Nurture Committee

Nancy Witt presented the minutes from the January 21st meeting of Ministry and Nurture Committee. Minutes follow as **Appendix C**.

The upcoming meeting on M&N will be April 14-16 at Anneewakee Creek Worship Group and Gwinnett Preparative Meeting.

There was discussion regarding the responsibilities and benefits of being a Ministry and Nurture representative. Their work with nurturing worship groups and integrating them into the life of a wider Friends fellowship was highlighted. Friends considering serving on Ministry and Nurture were encouraged to look at both the spiritual and the administrative tasks of this responsibility. Friends discerning a leading to be involved in this work are encouraged to seek a support or clearness committee from their monthly meeting.

Minute – Friends approved and accepted this report.

114-12 SAYF Steering Committee

SAYF is growing and has an increased need for more Friendly Adult Presence's (FAPs) to be with the Young Friends within the retreats. SAYF likes to maintain a ratio of 1 adult per 6 teens, and is expecting at least 60 Young Friends at SAYMA. SAYF currently has a need for more male FAPS. The Steering Committee asks that representatives bring that concern to their monthly meetings.

Being a FAP is a supportive role. FAPs assist Young Friends in creating and implementing their own programs and processes. SAYF conducts 6 regular retreats and 2 steering committee retreats and needs FAPs for all of these events. Kathleen Mavournin will be conducting a 1-2 hour session with interested FAPs at Yearly Meeting. Potential FAPs need to have a letter from their individual monthly meetings.

Historically, the adults who are FAPs at Yearly Meeting have been given work grant scholarships for registration, room, and board to compensate for their full-time volunteer responsibilities. This was not an approved and budgeted line item. There was some discussion regarding this. Friends approved work grant scholarships for the FAPs at Yearly Meeting this year.

The Steering Committee/Nurturing Committee reported that SAYF is having difficulties finding adequate and affordable facilities for retreats that are not in meetinghouses. They are considering having more expensive retreats every other year.

The SAYF guidelines have been streamlined and updated. They are available from Therese Hildebrand [thildebrand@acer-access.com].

There was discussion regarding security of young Friends with appropriate Adult Presence's. Monthly Meetings have differing policies regarding requiring background checks for FAPs. Representatives are encouraged to bring this up with their monthly meetings. Atlanta Monthly Meeting has a background check process for FAPs. For more information, contact Atlanta Friends Meeting at 404-377-2474.

Minute – Friends approved and accepted this report.

114-13 Peace and Social Concerns Committee Report (P&SC)

The rep meeting rejoiced that SAYMA has a revived Peace and Social Concerns Committee. Steve Livingston read the report. The full report of the committee follows as **Appendix D**.

There was discussion. A concern was raised whether minutes could still come directly to the Yearly Meeting from the Monthly Meeting. The P&SC clerk responded that it be phrased that the Yearly meeting "recommended" it go through the P&SC process but that it not be a requirement.

The committee had five different action items for discernment, support, or approval. The yearly meeting rep committee chose to look at the items for discernment only.

1. The committee wished to create a definition of a Yearly Meeting Minute as "a testimony to the world of a new truth that has been discovered through the process of Quaker discernment." There was discussion regarding the phrase "new truth" and whether our minutes could also be seen as an uncovering of an eternal truth. There was discussion about the difference between truth and Truth – things that are true now and things that are always True. There was a general sense of caution regarding the phrasing and a suggestion of replacing it with "the measure of Light that we are given." Another suggestion was "common belief." There was a question regarding the creation of fixed truths possibly inhibiting continuing revelation – and also whether there was anything such as a "new truth." Another Friend asked that we recognize the Quaker history of the word truth and the question, "How does the truth prosper among you?"
2. The committee offered four different queries to be used in the discernment process to decide how seasoned a minute is:
 - a. "Does the minute come from a spiritual place or a political place?"
 - b. "Is the minute affirming or condemning?"
 - c. "Does the minute offer a universal rather than reactionary truth?"
 - d. "Does the minute address the courage of a conviction rather than fear."

A Friend talked about his understanding of the P&SC role in working to reconcile conflicting minutes between monthly meetings. He also offered that a monthly meeting's minute, by nature, is seasoned. He had a question regarding the length of time it would take to shepherd minutes through with this process. The clerk of the P&SC said that the work of the Friends for crisis situations should be done at the monthly and individual level in order to hold to the integrity of Quaker practice. There was discussion of what political and spiritual means (i.e. political is "in response to particular legislation"). Concern was raised about setting opposites against each other and the appropriateness in some situations of having minutes that are condemning.

1. "Deterrent function of committee creating a level of bureaucracy in the Yearly Meeting that would potentially distance some decisions of individual Monthly Meetings from consideration from the Yearly Meeting." Friends responded that they saw this as a "clearness" rather than a "deterrence" function. A Friend from Memphis

- meeting spoke about how this felt discouraging though wasn't a stop. Other Friends spoke in support.
2. "Current role of committee: inform the Yearly Meeting community of the existence and purpose of our committee and encourage Monthly Meetings to engage with our process."
 3. "Seasoning without meeting: one or more of our committee members could assist in the seasoning process using the guidelines we have defined without the necessity of the committee meeting in person."

A Friend spoke about the Peace and Social Concern's calling involving not only articulating concerns but in assisting Friends in rising to action. The Friend spoke of the need sometimes to condemn practices and choices that are opposite to Friends' testimonies and how one's spiritual convictions could be intertwined with one's political convictions.

Another Friend spoke from his experience at FGC shepherding the minute regarding the experience of FLGBTQ Friends and the presence of the Spirit in that work. He shared of how the Spirit led that work without wordsmithing. He recognized how the minute did not tell anyone what to do but spoke from the experience of Friends a whole.

114-14 Ad Hoc Electronic Communications Committee (ECC)

Bill Reynolds reported from the ECC. The report follows as **Appendix E**. ECC includes email, website, listserve, and other technologies. The ECC has addressed the three levels of concerns that have come from SAYMA members by creating three different subcommittees: listserve, website, and general concerns. The listserve subcommittee has created a proposal for several different SAYMA listserves and is getting feedback from monthly meetings. Feedback has been positive. There are three different listserves proposed:

- an open discussion listserve with content guidelines. When content guidelines are not followed, eldering in the Quaker manner will follow with the hope that self-moderation will take place.
- a bulletin service for SAYMA announcements initiated by the Administrative Assistant
- a news listserve for news and action events that are related to Friends' concerns.

There was concern regarding the ability to procure monitors for the listserves. A member from the ECC said that he knew of at least one volunteer.

The ECC is bringing to Yearly Meeting in June a proposed statement about how Quaker Faith and Practice relates to Electronic Communications.

They will bring an edited listserve proposal and also a website proposal. Friends are encouraged to distribute this with the monthly meeting so that all attendees have a first reading prior Yearly Meeting. Suggestions and edits go to Bill Reynolds.

114-15 Clerks Committee Report

The Clerk's Committee met to consider possible changes to YM Meeting for Worship with attention to Business that would encourage the embodiment of an inviting, spirit-led community. Changes to the agenda will be made that hopefully will help us to focus on action items that require more time for a deeper level of discernment. Committee clerks and representatives are asked to come fully prepared and to coordinate with the clerk for items that require decisions to be made. State of the Meeting reports, SAYMA committee reports, and WQO reports will be available to be read and will be in the minutes but may not be on the agenda. Changes to the room setting will be made to bring us closer together. These are practical changes, but the intent is to nurture community at work.

114-16 Faith and Practice Revision Committee

See **Appendix F** for full minutes.

Free Polazzo noted the large response from the current Faith and Practice revisions proposal. He said that with all of the revisions, they have decided to slow down the process. The Faith and Practice committee will be bringing several of the proposed sections to Yearly Meeting for approval: Integrity, Peace, Simplicity, and Equality.

One of the representatives said that her monthly meeting had found it useful to use a Faith and Practice revision

session as a Quakerism 101.

Minute – *Friends approved and accepted this report.*

114-17 Yearly Meeting Planning Committee

Yearly Planning Committee Report, April 8, 2006

Errol Hess asked if anyone was interested in becoming clerk of this committee for the next two-year term. Carol Ciscel said she has been considering this post.

Errol also asked that we consider someone for registrar. Ceal Wutka is willing to support and assist this person in all preparations for yearly meeting.

YMPC asked for one more meeting to do a “chat and chew.” Swannanoa Friends Meeting volunteered.

YMPC asks for need a person willing to be responsible for a Women's center/room. They also ask that there be a room reserved for the men's worship and for FLGBTQC.

Worship Sharing will again be on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The committee went through the program from last year and decided who would be responsible for each section for the final program.

Walkie talkies: There is a large range of prices. Steve recommends we buy those that use batteries and we obtain rechargeable batteries. Better communications are needed. We will experiment with two sets this year.

114-18 QUIT Representative

Minute – *Friends approved Kristi Estes as a SAYMA representative to the Quaker Initiative to End Torture Conference at Guilford Conference from June 2-4.*

Several other SAYMA Friends will also be in attendance.

114-19 Atlanta Minute on SAYMA

A minute approved by Atlanta Friends Meeting on the purpose of Yearly Meeting was read:

Minute: Atlanta Friends Meeting believes that the strength of the Yearly Meeting of the Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association is that it gives us the opportunity to know how the Truth is prospering among Friends throughout Southern Appalachia. We trust that if we make knowing how the Truth is prospering among us our goal, then our Yearly Meeting time will be fruitful and nurturing. We will continue to prayerfully consider the question of how to balance the various ways (conducting business, worshiping, and community building) of learning how the Truth is prospering in other Meetings and for other friends, and we will share the Fruits of our deliberations with SAYMA Friends.

Friends accepted this minute.

114-20 New Moon Worship Group

Celo Friends Meeting has taken New Moon Worship group under its care and has agreed to quarterly visitation.

114-21 Report from FWCC Section of the Americas Annual Meeting in Guatemala

Sallie Prugh spoke of her experiences in the annual meeting and in her intervisitation for 8 days.

She spoke of the different experiences and struggles of Friends through the Section of the Americas. She spoke of how

15% of communities in Guatemala have no access to primary schools and how only 58% of people complete the 5th grade. She spoke about the oppression of the Mayan people and the need for healing from the scorched earth and Mayan indigenous genocide campaign of General Rios Mont.

There is a FWCC scholarship fund set up. As part of her visitation, she visited recipients who were being taught Spanish, social work, nursing, and law. She spoke of the different evangelical Guatemalan communities she visited and the diversity inherent within the Quaker community.

A Friend commented of how the diversity of Friends is alive in his preparative meeting where the clerk of his Atlanta area meeting is a member of Ohio Yearly Meeting Conservative. He spoke of how we all came out of the same roots.

There was a question regarding how proselytizing can be oppression – and how the destruction of a culture can involve the destruction of its indigenous religion. Sallie spoke that there was proselytizing in one city, but that much of the work she saw with the Mayan communities was done with a focus on economic empowerment – not evangelism.

Friends accepted this report.

114-22 Report from Cookeville

Cookeville is cosponsoring LGBTQ advocacy work with the Cookeville Unitarian Church and the LAMBDA organization at Tennessee Tech. They are asking for other Friends meetings to co-sponsor, and monetary support for bringing “Doin’ Time in the HomoNoMo Half-way House: How I survived the ex-gay movement” to Cookeville.

114-23 Thank You Minute

Minute – Friends spoke out of thanks that in the middle of busy schedules, Birmingham Friends made time to pay loving attention to us. A Friend spoke of how good it was to see how much the meeting had grown and what a gift it was to see the joy in the Friends from Birmingham as they served us. A Friend spoke of how grateful she was for the warm hospitality, for the generosity, and for the perfect weather that the Birmingham Friends provided. The yearly meeting planning committee thanked them for the bright, comfy room that they provided. Another Friend spoke with glee about biscuit bagels that greeted him upon arrival – and how he looked forward to sharing a picture of them with his family in New York.

Birmingham Friends spoke to thank their visitors for coming and letting them offer their hospitality, saying that they are very mindful of the distance and the difficult weather and other conflicts that existed for everyone. They spoke of how SAYMA representative meeting is a community-building experience. On this occasion, preparing for and hosting this meeting attracted the involvement of some of their newest attenders. This then becomes a landmark in their experience as a SAYMA meeting.

A Friend shared that what we do here – both as visitors and hosts – is communion.

Out of the worship, a friend shared about two pivotal values of early Friends, one being the reliance on the individual experience that George Fox asked each person to pay attention to, and the other was the organization, the communication, and the connections among Friends. She offered her hope that as we review the assets of the clearness committee process, we see it as enhancing and not limiting our creativity and our commitment to the spiritual journey.

Friends approved this minute.

Kristi Estes, Clerk
(archive copy signed)

Christina Van Regenmorter, Recording Clerk
(archive copy signed)

Appendix A
List of Attenders

Free Polazzo . Anneewakee/Atlanta	Bill Reynolds Chattanooga	Dick Houghton Nashville
Steve Livingston Asheville	Sallie Prugh Columbia	Christina vanRegenmorter Nashville
Barbara Esther Asheville	Deanna Nipp Cookeville	Kristi Estes Memphis
Mark Wutka Atlanta	Lissa West Friedman Cookeville	Carol Ciscel Memphis
Ceal Wutka Atlanta	Tom Beeson Foxfire	David Ciscel Memphis
Nancy Whitt Birmingham	Mary Calhoun Foxfire	Bob Welsh Swannanoa
Kay Smith Birmingham	Errol Hess Foxfire	Missy Ivie West Knoxville
Jane Archer Birmingham	Perry Treadwell Gwinnett/Atlanta	Sharon Annis West Knoxville
Connie LaMonte Birmingham	Charlotte Shea Huntsville	Adrienne Labotka West Knoxville
Mary Morgan Birmingham	Susan Phelan Huntsville	

Appendix B
Treasurer's Report

April 2006 Representative Meeting Report
 Prepared Monday, April 3, 2006

This report brings SAYMA to the mid-point of the FY 2006 budget year. This year's budget is based on a \$60 assessment. Attached, please find two documents: (2) the FY 2006 budget report, and (4) the FY 2006 Account Balances report.

Budget issues to report include:

1. The FY 2006 budget is attached.
 - a. Planned contributions and expenditures are \$69,850, based a \$60.00 per member and attender assessment of SAYMA Monthly Meetings.
 - b. SAYMA has received assessments of \$19,092.75. Because many Meetings are now sending their assessments in quarterly payments, the flow of income is very steady.
 - c. Voluntary contributions are a significant part of SAYMA's fiscal stability. There were \$8,021.00 in voluntary contributions to the budget.
 - d. Office expenditures include the purchase of new computer system for SAYMA
2. Assessments from Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups since last Representative Meeting were received from: **Huntsville Friends Meeting, Gwinnett Friends Meetings, Greenville Friends Meeting, Athens Religious Society of Friends, Nashville Friends Meeting, Memphis Friends Meeting, Columbia Friends Meeting, Berea Friends Meeting, West Knoxville Friends Meeting, Brevard Friends Meeting, Birmingham Friends Meeting, Swannanoa Valley Friends Meeting, Oxford Quaker Meeting, Atlanta Friends Meeting, Charleston Friends Meeting, and Celo Monthly Meeting.** Additional voluntary contributions were received from two Friends in SAYMA.
3. Notes from the FY 2006 Account Balances sheet. SAYMA has set aside funds of \$11,890 for eight different funds. These funds include the funds transferred from the new FY 2006 budget. SAYMA has \$20,689 in two savings accounts at Self-Help Credit Union to cover these claims. Savings were increased by \$6,000 during the past quarter. Currently, SAYMA has available net assets of \$19,244.
4. It appears that SAYMA is on track to meet its budget this year with the possibility of a slight surplus if income and expenditures continue for the rest of the years as they have thus far.

Treasurer's Address: David H. Ciscel, 1950 Nelson Ave, Memphis, TN 38104 ciscel@bellsouth.net

*SAYMA Fiscal Year 2006 -- Reviewed and Approved at Representative Meeting September 2005
Fiscal Year: October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006 -- Compiled for Representative Meeting, April 8,
2006*

	Budget FY 2005	Actual FY2005	Budget FY 2006	Actual FY2006
Income				
Assessments*	\$44,200	\$39,182.50	\$40,000	\$19,092.75
Bank Interest	\$50	\$185.79	\$100	\$126.37
Contributions	\$300	\$833.00	\$500	\$8,021.00
F&P Sales	\$250	\$91.10	\$250	\$46.55
Newsletter				
SAYF Receipts	\$500		\$0	
YM Total Receipts	\$25,000	\$29,304.63	\$29,000	\$0
YM Receipts	\$25,000	\$26,116.50	\$26,000	
YM Scholarship Donations		\$968.00	\$1,000	
YM Book Sales		\$2,220.13	\$2,000	
Total Income	\$70,300	\$69,597.02	\$69,850	\$27,286.67
SAYMA OPERATIONAL EXPENSES				
Yearly Meeting	\$25,000	\$28,165.30	\$26,900	\$52.14
Yrly Meeting - Facilities		\$20,727.00	\$20,000	
Prting/Mail/Phone/Minutes/Misc		\$2,321.60	\$900	\$52.14
Junior Yearly Meeting -- JYM		\$2,842.87	\$3,000	\$0.00
Coordinator		\$1,800.00	\$1,800	
Ass't Coordinator		\$1,000.00	\$1,000	
Supplies/Sitters/Misc		\$42.87	\$200	
Scholarship WQO Reps		\$212.50	\$1,000	
YM Bookstore		\$2,061.33	\$2,000	
SAYF Operation & Admin Transfers	\$3,000	\$2,800.00	\$3,000	\$750.00
SAYF Retreats				
Delegate Expenses	\$6,800	\$5,151.12	\$6,900	\$2,852.65
Rep Migs	\$300	\$60.00	\$300	
Del to WQOs	\$6,500	\$5,091.12	\$6,600	\$2,852.65
Committees	\$1,200	\$799.84	\$1,300	\$72.00
Ministry and Nurture	\$700	\$328.00	\$700	\$12.00
Ecological Concerns	\$300	\$148.00	\$300	\$60.00
Faith and Practice	\$200	\$265.60	\$200	
Nominating		\$58.24	\$100	
SAYMA Liability Insurance	\$500	\$615.00	\$800	\$621.00
SAYMA Personnel	\$18,400	\$18,821.53	\$19,500	\$9,642.84
SAYMA Staff Training	\$0	\$300.00	\$0	
SAYMA Office Administration	\$3,000	\$4,311.22	\$3,500	\$2,429.56
Phone, Internet & Office Expenses		\$1,305.48		\$374.57
Postage		\$1,056.43		\$101.53
Duplication		\$1,611.21		\$693.00
Misc. Office		\$338.10		\$1,260.46
SAYMA Newsletter	\$1,300	\$1,152.28	\$1,300	\$560.12
SAYMA Directory	\$600		\$600	
SAYMA Treasurer	\$300	\$484.91	\$200	\$223.98
SAYMA F&P	\$500	\$172.80	\$100	\$88.43
SAYMA IRS Penalties, Interest		\$190.31	\$0	
Total Operational Disbursements	\$60,600	\$62,964.31	\$64,100	\$17,292.72
YEARLY MEETING PROJECTS				
Transfers To Funds	\$3,300	\$3,300.00	\$2,300	\$2,300.00
Spiritual Development Fund	\$500	\$500.00	\$500	\$500.00
Released Friend Fund	\$400	\$400.00	\$100	\$100.00
FWCC - 3rd Wld Del	\$650	\$650.00	\$650	\$650.00
FWCC Triennial Fund	\$1,000	\$1,000.00	\$700	\$700.00
YouthQuake	\$250	\$250.00	\$250	\$250.00
Young Adult Friends Scholarships	\$500	\$500.00	\$100	\$100.00
Contributions Wider Quaker Org	\$6,400	\$6,400.00	\$3,450	\$2,650.00
AFSC	\$800	\$800.00	\$400	\$400.00
FCNL	\$800	\$800.00	\$400	\$400.00
FGC	\$800	\$800.00	\$400	\$400.00
FWCC	\$800	\$800.00	\$400	\$400.00
Right Sharing of World Res	\$800	\$800.00	\$400	\$400.00
Quaker House	\$800	\$800.00	\$400	\$400.00
Friends for LGBTQ Concerns	\$200	\$200.00	\$100	
Quaker Earthcare Witness	\$400	\$400.00	\$400	
Friends Peace Teams	\$300	\$300.00	\$150	\$150.00
Wm Penn House	\$200	\$200.00	\$100	
Quaker Eco-Witness NL	\$400	\$400.00		
Guilford College Archiving	\$100	\$100.00	\$100	\$100.00
Rural Southern Voice for Peace	\$0		\$200	
Other				
Total Projects	\$9,700	\$9,700.00	\$5,750	\$4,950.00
Total Disbursements	\$70,300	\$72,664.31	\$69,850	\$22,242.72
Surplus (Deficit)	\$0	(\$3,067.29)	\$0	\$5,043.95

* based a \$60.00 assessment per member and regular attendee

SAYMA Account Balances Report -- Fiscal 2006
Monday, April 03, 2006

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
	6/30/2002	6/7/2003	6/30/2004	9/30/2005	4/3/2006
ASSETS					
<i>Bank Accounts</i>					
<i>Checking (Bank of America)</i>	\$5,399	\$5,529	\$18,694	\$9,167	\$10,446
<i>Money Market (Self Help)</i>	\$10,960	\$5,900	\$14,229	\$9,514	\$15,683
<i>Savings (Self Help CD)*</i>	\$7,934	\$8,244	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,006
<i>SAYF Checking (off books in 2004)</i>	\$1,413	\$784			
Total Available Funds	\$25,706	\$20,457	\$32,923	\$23,681	\$31,134
<i>Set Aside Budgeted Funds</i>					
<i>FWCC Third World Delegate</i>	\$1,300	\$0	\$650	\$1,300	\$1,950
<i>FWCC Triennial Delegates</i>	\$1,905	\$2,115	\$667	\$1,667	\$2,367
<i>Released Friend</i>	\$1,850	\$2,250	\$2,650	\$3,050	\$3,150
<i>Spiritual Development</i>	\$1,282	\$1,782	\$2,082	\$582	\$1,082
<i>Youth Quake</i>	\$1,095	\$1,345	\$1,595	\$1,645	\$1,895
<i>Young Adult Friends Scholarship</i>				\$500	\$600
<i>Accumulated Funds</i>					
<i>YM Scholarship</i>	\$502	\$502	\$502	\$596	\$596
<i>SAYF Scholarship Fund</i>		\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250
Claims against Available Funds	\$7,934	\$8,244	\$8,396	\$9,590	\$11,890
Net Assets	\$17,773	\$12,213	\$24,527	\$14,091	\$19,244
<i>Fund Expenses in Fiscal Year</i>					
<i>FWCC Triennial Delegate</i>			(\$2,447)		
<i>Spiritual Development Fund</i>			(\$200)		
<i>Net 2005 YM Scholarship Fund</i>				\$94.00	
<i>Spiritual Development Fund -- 2 Delegates to World Gathering of Quaker Youth</i>				(\$2,000.00)	
Total			(\$2,647)	(\$1,906)	
<i>*FY 2006 Interest (\$126.37) reported on budget page.</i>					

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Appendix C

Ministry and Nurture Report

SAYMA's Committee on Ministry and Nurture
Meeting with Anneewakee Creek and Canton Worship Groups and Gwinnett Preparative Meeting
April 16, 2006 -- Minutes and Notes

MINUTE: SAYMA's Committee on Ministry and Nurture has reviewed and affirmed our recent approach of meeting separately from Representative Meeting. Our initial focus on meeting with the smaller, newer, and outlying meetings of SAYMA has been fruitful. It is our desire through intervisitation to get to know all of our meetings, and to share their experiences, gifts, and spiritual lives. We encourage invitations rising out of a clearness process by any meeting within SAYMA.

MINUTE: SAYMA's committee on Ministry and Nurture wishes to express its deep appreciation for the work of SAYMA's clerk as she labors with a concern on the nature and purpose of our Yearly Gathering, the balance of business, spiritual, and educational work there. In support, our Committee on Ministry and Nurture has held deep discussion on this topic. We recognize the need for further discernment within SAYMA, by meetings, individuals, and committees.

MINUTE: FGC's Traveling Ministries Committee will hold a Yearly Meetings Consultation this year, and have requested that SAYMA name 2 delegates and provide for their travel expenses. SAYMA's Committee on Ministry and Nurture proposes that we send two Friends, seasoned in our Yearly Meeting, one older and one younger, and that the SAYMA budget for representative travel be increased by \$300 to cover travel expenses for one of these. Expenses for the other representative can be drawn from M&N's Spiritual Development Fund as needed.

MINUTE: SAYMA's Committee on Ministry and Nurture wishes to clarify our vision of our participation in the preparation of queries for Worship Sharing at Yearly Gathering. We feel that this work should be done by a committee, and offer to provide one member of that committee from our membership. We recommend that other members of this committee come from Planning Committee.

The minute above was framed with reference to an earlier minute, cited below:

SAYMA Ministry and Nurture -- Meeting at Brevard, March 12, 2005

SAYMA's Ministry and Nurture Committee continues to have a vital interest in the formulation of queries for worship sharing at Yearly Gathering. However, we no longer feel called to fill the function of co-coordinating Worship Sharing leaders. We recommend that this function revert to the Planning Committee.

Appendix D

Peace and Social Concerns Committee

Report of Third Month Fourth Day meeting
SAYMA Peace and Social Concerns Committee

Meeting commenced at 10:20 a.m. at the Chattanooga Meetinghouse. Present were committee members Dennis Gregg, Kay Hogan Smith, and Steve Livingston (clerk). Becky and Larry Ingle and Jere Licciardello of Chattanooga joined us. Committee members Deanna Nipp and Janine Bruton were unable to attend.

We began the meeting with a review of the committee's charge, as approved by the Yearly Meeting in 2004. It is as follows:

"We recognize that from time to time, the Spirit moves Friends and monthly meetings to articulate a concern that may

rise to the level of action. In order to serve the YM and its members, the P&SC committee will:

1. Nurture minutes in the area of P&SC from monthly meetings, and facilitate their seasoning by the members of the YM.
2. Actively solicit feedback from the MMs.
3. Assist in presentation of seasoned minutes to the YM.
4. Foster communication and interaction among the MMs in SAYMA about our concerns and actions.
5. Operate as part of the whole by coordination with other committees working with SAYMA
6. Report to YM and RM

Guidelines for the work:

1. The P&SC committee is not expected to generate minutes of concern.
2. The committee may be called to present a minute once it has been seasoned, or it may be called to shepherd and support the presentation of a minute.
3. The committee may help Friends discern or understand the importance or impact of a minute, or actions that may arise from the minute.
4. The committee's work is based on holding in the Light the concerns and proposals that are brought to it.
5. The committee may facilitate the seasoning of a minute by encouraging opportunities for all MMs to examine proposals and concerns in the Light."

In order to define the role of our committee, we examined the following queries:

- * What functions should be performed in order to fulfill the charge of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee?
- * What processes will we use to perform the functions we have discerned?
- * What criteria would we set for accepting a request for support?
- * What criteria would we use to determine that a request is ready to be acted upon?
- * How do we communicate with the YM and its membership regarding the purpose and value of our committee?

We found that we could unite with the charge and the guidelines as offered. We further found a sense that part of the work of "nurturing" a minute was the work of assessing the minute and making a judgment as to whether the minute rises to the level of consideration by the Yearly Meeting. We sought to define the purpose of a Yearly Meeting Minute, and agreed that **a Minute of the Yearly Meeting is our testimony to the world of a new truth that has been discovered through the process of Quaker discernment.** We agreed that a Minute could be a simple expression of a truth, or it could call upon Friends to take action.

We sought to define attributes that would help us discern whether a proposed minute might fulfill this purpose. In this process we looked at the proposed Minute on Torture offered by Memphis Monthly Meeting and the Minute regarding the Equality of Spiritual Gifts of Gay and Lesbian Friends approved by the 2005 Yearly Meeting. In due course were able to name **four queries** that offer contrasting attributes, that we believe are central to this discernment:

1. Does the minute come from a spiritual place or a political place?
2. Is the minute affirming or condemning?
3. Does the minute offer a universal rather than reactionary truth?
4. Does the minute address the courage of a conviction rather than fear?

We agreed that there can be many instances wherein a Monthly Meeting is moved to support the leading of Friends in advocating for a worthy cause that is deserving of the attention of a wider circle of Friends, and that there are many instances wherein larger Quaker organizations present us with a call to action. But in neither case does the need for attention or action necessarily rise to the level of a Yearly Meeting minute according to the parameters we had discerned. We noted for example the many instances in which FCNL calls upon Friends to write to their elected representatives on a particular matter. In contrast, we noted that while the minute on Equality of Gifts came to our Yearly Meeting from the FGC Planning Committee, it met the four criteria that we had identified and did in fact name a new truth that had been discovered through Quaker process. It therefore seemed that this minute was ready to rise

to the level of the Yearly Meeting. We found that we could not yet say the same for the proposed Minute on Torture.

We recognized that in making any judgments that advanced the consideration of some proposed minutes while not advancing others, we were **creating a level of bureaucracy in the Yearly Meeting that would potentially distance some decisions of individual Monthly Meetings from consideration by the Yearly Meeting. We found that we were clear on this function of our committee.**

We adjourned at noon for a shared meal of vegetarian soup, corn muffins, and strawberry shortcake kindly provided by our hosts.

After the meal, we reviewed the process that brought the Minute on Equality of Gifts to approval by the Yearly Meeting. We noted that some Friends present were unaware that this Minute was to be considered, and that any Friend who was not clear about uniting with the Minute, whether because of content or process, would have been loathe to speak their mind under the circumstances. We felt that this condition underlined the essential value of the work of our committee in ensuring that before the Yearly Meeting sessions Friends have the opportunity to engage in worshipful discernment around a proposed minute.

We began the work of defining our process. We agreed to **inform the Yearly Meeting community** of the existence and purpose of our committee and to **encourage Monthly Meetings to engage with our process** rather than advancing proposed minutes independently or soliciting the attention of the Yearly Meeting for a minute that has not been well seasoned. We agreed that one or more of our committee members could assist in the seasoning process using the guidelines we had defined **without the necessity of the committee meeting** in person. We agreed to develop a network of contacts throughout the Yearly Meeting, to include the clerks of the committee in each Monthly Meeting that deals with peace and social concerns, or the clerk of the Meeting for those who have no such committee. We agreed that once we had accepted a request for supporting a minute, we would distribute the minute throughout the Yearly Meeting and request feedback by a certain deadline. We agreed to facilitate a process of commentary and revision in preparation for submitting a minute to the Yearly Meeting business session.

We agreed to hold our next committee meeting at SAYMA. We agreed to examine other Monthly Meetings' minutes concerning torture, and to review the discussion around the first Quaker Initiative on Torture scheduled for the week before our Yearly Meeting gathering. Our committee meeting ended at 2 p.m. with a few moments of silence, with gratitude for the contributions of the participants and for the work we had accomplished together. At the end of the meeting, Jerry Licciardello indicated that he wished to join the committee.

Respectfully submitted, Steve Livingston, clerk

Appendix E
Ad Hoc Electronic Communications Committee (ECC)
(not submitted to Recording Clerk)

Appendix F
Faith and Practice Revisions Report

Minutes of the Faith and Practice Revisions Committee Meeting Number 16
February 17 & 18, 2006, at West Knoxville Meetinghouse

Present were Barbara Esther, Missy Ivie, Judy McGahey, Melissa Meyer and Free Polazzo

The clerk began our meeting at 3:00 PM with a reading from the Faith and Practice of Intermountain Yearly Meeting,

after which we had a period of silent worship:

How does Truth prosper? Let your life speak. Friends testify through our lives. Subscribing to no creed, recognizing as authority only the direct experience of the Divine as we have found it within, Friends show forth our Truth outwardly by the way we try to live. Our actions, not any profession of commitment to “notions,” are the mark of what the Divine means to us. We hold ourselves accountable for what we say and what we do, our words and our deeds; no circumstance of our daily lives qualifies this essential allegiance to the truth we feel driven to seek, the truth we find in experience. Testimony is the name we give this witness to the world of who we are.

Today, several words given us as *testimonies* by our history embody much of what guides our practice. These words are simplicity, integrity, equality, peace, and community. Truth is the ground of all the others. Yet because our experience changes as times change, our testimonies, like our understanding of Truth itself, are not fixed but fluid. In what we understand as continuing revelation, these change in response to changing contexts, new needs, and new perceptions of our world. Initially, as in the past, expressed as minutes of our monthly and yearly meetings, they slowly become integrated into our being, recognized as ringing true in how we conduct our lives. Such contemporary changes, for example, are reflected in our increased concern for our natural environment and our awareness of human suffering and economic injustice experienced by migrant workers and immigrants who cross the borders of our country.

After a brief check-in with committee members as to how each is doing we reviewed the agenda. We agreed to start earlier on Saturday to allow for slightly longer work sessions. We will delay consideration of the date for our summer meeting to Saturday.

We decided to consider the traditional testimonies in the following order: Integrity, Peace, Simplicity, Equality and Meeting Community, the order in which they will occur in the guide. Other parts of Part IV may be discussed at yearly meeting or during the summer work session. The sections to be reviewed and the time they will be reviewed will be decided more firmly at the conclusion of our work during this February meeting.

We discussed how to treat minuted and un-minuted responses in the leavening of ideas as we work. The committee agreed we would each use all the documents we received and to give each submission the weight it carried when it was submitted. Missy had summarized which meetings responded to specific testimony sections and we placed those on a grid and then added to the grid, the portions from Part III on yearly meeting committees, Ministry and Nurture Committee and the formation of worship groups.

Minute #1 We request that Nominating Committee seek a committee member with editing gifts to review proposed revision text before submission to monthly meetings so that those reviewing our drafts might focus on the larger task of reviewing the wording and thoughts presented without being distracted by clerical errors. (This would involve two versions a year - one in late July and one in late February).

Minute #2 We agree to use capital letters for proper names (Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association) and lower case for general names (yearly meeting). Friends approved.

We used some suggested wording from Charleston Monthly Meeting for the section of Part III on yearly meeting committees to provide simpler, more direct sentences.

Minute #3 We refer the question raised by Nashville Monthly Meeting of how we go about laying down standing committees of the Yearly Meeting to the SAYMA Nominating Committee because the current Faith and Practice does not have a clear sense of our practice in this regard. We recommend that they develop a procedure to be submitted for approval to yearly meeting during one of our annual sessions and not to have it approved by the representative's meeting alone. Once approved, the procedure would then be included in the guide.

In the Ministry and Nurture Committee section we decided to change “groups” to “efforts” to reflect the variety that

exists in our practice. We also want to name Ministry and Nurture Committee in place of the pronoun "it". We reversed the order of prominence in the constituency of the committee to name members who serve at the request of the monthly meetings first, followed by the appointed members presented by Nominating Committee. (See attached changes)

In the section on formation of worship groups we reworded the first sentence to be clear that when worship groups desire to be affiliated with SAYMA, it is only then that they *must* establish an association with a monthly meeting of SAYMA. We then placed the advantages of this association in a new second sentence. We added a sentence that shows that it can be helpful to identify a person or two within the caring monthly meeting, as suggested by Athens Monthly Meeting from their own experience.

Minute #4 We want to comment to Friends that it is presently our yearly meeting policy to require a worship group to be under the care of a monthly meeting in order to be part of SAYMA. There is no body at the yearly meeting level that can nurture a worship group adequately. In the final sentence we reversed the clauses to say "recognition to become part of SAYMA comes from a minute by the caring monthly meeting to the yearly meeting, which then approves or not.

After a shared meal we proceeded with the responses to the section on integrity. As we reacted to the request to be consistent with the verb tense in the section we realized that we are challenged by the call to live a life of integrity. Friends' testimonies within our yearly meeting were an inspiration to us as we did this work.

We closed with worship at 10:00 PM.

We began our work on Saturday morning with worship before reviewing our draft of the integrity section.

Minute #5 A few additional changes were made to the final paragraphs. We then approved the **Integrity** draft to be presented to the yearly meeting.

Minute #6 We approved the addition of a Margaret Fell quote that expresses the positive aspects of our peace testimony to the section on peace. Free agreed to locate the source for inclusion. We reviewed the comments on the peace section. We added a phrase to the final sentence of paragraph one to supply a positive aspect. We tried to rewrite the third paragraph to get to the sentiments that contribute to the seeds of violent conflict, rather than the consequences of those sentiments (greed vs. materialism).

Minute #7 We approved a revised draft of the **Peace** section.

Minute #8 We approved the second paragraph of the **Simplicity** section, the only paragraph being revised.

Minute #9 In the section on **Equality** we reintroduced several sentences from the original text, rewrote the third paragraph to be more inclusive of Friends' work and incorporated the phrase "that of God in all." Friends approved.

We concluded our work by reviewing how we will proceed at yearly meeting. We want to have a first read through on Thursday during business meeting, a committee meeting on Friday over dinner in a reserved room by the cafeteria, and a business meeting discussion on Saturday with a possibility of approval of these three parts of Part III and the first four parts of Part IV. We plan to meet again in Asheville, NC to continue work on the responses to other parts of Part IV on the weekend of July 21-22, 2006.

Meetings, which have not yet submitted responses to the remaining sections, could advance them to the committee before that date for consideration.

We thank the West Knoxville Friends and Missy Ivie for the generous hospitality provided this weekend.

During the meeting we often expressed our appreciation for Larry Ingle's contributions while he served on the

committee. Larry's knowledge of Quaker history in SAYMA and among Friends in general have been a mainstay of the committee's work while revising SAYMA's Guide to our Faith and Practice.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Esther, Recording Co-Clerk

Signed by,
Free Polazzo, Clerk