

SAYMA Representative Meeting,
West Knoxville, Tennessee, September 20, 2014

133-01 Meeting for Worship

The Meeting opened in silent worship/expectant waiting.

133-02 Greetings and Introductions (Clerk) [Attachment A: Attendance]

The clerk, Larry Ingle, welcomed Friends to this Representative Meeting. Friends introduced themselves by name, role, and meeting affiliation.

133-03 Reading (Clerk) [Attachment B, Reading]

Larry read an excerpt from Jan de Hartog: A Captain on the Ocean of Light and Love, by Ann Walton Sieber.

133-04 Announcements

A memorial will be held on October 4, 2014, in Birmingham, Alabama, for Birmingham Friend Connie LaMonte. See Kay Hogan Smith for more information.

Friends thanked Lee Ann Swarm and the hospitality of West Knoxville Friends Meeting.

Bill Holland provided information about the Friends General Conference 2015 Gathering. The theme of the 2015 Gathering is "Seeking Wholeness." It will be held at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC, in the Great Smoky Mountains south of Asheville. The dates are **July 5-11, 2015**, the week **following** the 4th of July.

Judy Guerry reported that the Huntsville Area Friends Meeting is represented at the People's Climate March and asked the Representative Meeting to hold the march and related activities and the Earthcare Witness committee in the Light.

Hank Fay informed Friends that October 5 is world-wide Quaker Day, and that Berea will celebrate with a banner that reads "Quakers Living by Spirit Within the World." More information about World Quaker Day will be found on the Friends World Committee for Consultation website.

Liz Perch, administrative assistant, reported that the SAYMA Positions of Responsibility document is under final review.

The Spring Representative Meeting will be held March 2015 in Berea, KY, but the specific date has not been identified.

133-05 Clerk's remarks and Agenda review

Larry Ingle, welcomed Friends with humor, noting that the new clerk was not as well organized, but does have a clear vision of his role to serve with the purpose of keeping the meeting going and guiding us along the way. He reminded Friends we are recognized to speak by raising our hand, and that normally a person speaks to a particular topic only once in a meeting for business. We respond to the committee recommendations, not the reports themselves. This is an important distinction. After the sense of the meeting is reached, the clerk will state that sense, and then the meeting will approve. The clerk also noted that his profession as a historian makes it important to identify who has done what. When Friends speak in meeting, their name will be attached to what was said. This responds to the inquisitiveness of Friends who were not present as well as to responsibility being identified for what is said.

Karen Wise requested an addition to the agenda to discuss the Wider Quaker Organization Bolivian Quaker Education Fund.

133-06 Peace and Social Concerns: Minute on proposed boycott of Israeli goods made in West Bank.

Bob Welsh reported that the Peace and Social Concerns committee is working to identify the best method for setting up communication between the P&SC committee members with Hank Fay assisting in that effort.

He noted that from the discussion on the Minute on the proposed boycott of Israeli goods made in the West Bank at Yearly Meeting, it was clear that the Yearly Meeting did not want to join in the boycott. The boycott movement has since been overshadowed by the Gaza tragedy and recent events. Bob sensed that joining the BDS movement is not alive for the Yearly Meeting at this time.

Others disagreed.

Steve Livingston, Asheville Friends, noted that the discussion has been a catalyst in in the Asheville Friends Meeting to stimulate discussion of the minute. Carol Nickle, West Knoxville Friends Meeting, noted that while unity was not reached at Yearly Meeting, the issue is live, and West Knoxville Friends are working on a proposed minute. Carol noted that seasoning and discernment is needed on the minute that was proposed to Yearly Meeting. Quakers across the county are actively working now. Huntsville Friends are also working on the issue, reported Susan Phelan, and have held a series of discussions, watched a video, and had a speaker on the issue.

Bob Welsh is waiting to hear from meetings and the committee wants to hear from Monthly Meetings. He reminded Friends that the committee does not bring forward minutes, but does bring up issues brought to them from the MM.

133-07 Ecological concerns – Climate Change.

Eight Quaker organizations have endorsed a statement on Climate change. Bob Welsh has copy of that statement. It does not contain a pledge or intention from Friends about what we would do, and identifies with policy, issues of poverty, etc. It was suggested that SAYMA's Earth Care Witness committee might come up with a proposed minute that would include these policy issues as well as what SAYMA Friends propose to do specifically to help, such as establishing a car pool map, so that minutes are not statements of what should happen in the world, but reflect we can do.

Bob McGahey will be holding a climate change meeting on October 4 at West Knoxville Friends Meeting.

133-08 SAYMA's Relationship with AFSC

The clerk Larry asked if there are others, like himself, who would like to discuss the matter of SAYMA's relationship with AFSC today which was carried over from the Yearly Meeting. The minutes from Yearly Meeting indicated that AFSC representatives (Arnold Karr and Lee Ann Swarm) will be working the issue, and it was determined that there was no action needed at this time.

133-09 Administrative Assistant's Report (Liz Perch) [Attachment C]

Liz Perch, Administrative Assistant reported that things are typically quiet after Yearly Meeting. The Positions of Responsibility are in final work, the YM Minutes ready for signature, the Directory is published, print copies have been distributed, CDs digital copies always available.

The Administrative Assistant's report provides additional information about the rising printing costs. The Yearly Meeting Planning Committee and the administrative assistant will be looking carefully at ways to reduce unneeded printed materials. Monthly Meetings are asked to participate in the search for most effective way to use print copies and communicate directly with the administrative assistant.

133-10 Treasurer's Report (David Ciscel) [Attachment D]

David Ciscel, Finance Committee Clerk, distributed the Treasurer's Report prepared by Charles Schade. Generally the budget is in pretty good shape. For the last 3 years a deficit budget was intentionally projected, yet Quaker frugality has resulted in a surplus budget. Friends noted that committee expenses are requested but rarely used in full. Friends are not spending from designated funds (Released Friends, etc.).

Arnold Karr asked about an established practice to dispose of surplus or if it accrues. David noted that SAYMA could operate for about 1 year without new revenue. Roger Wise believes a year \$41K is held in reserves. Friends intentionally reduced surplus funding beginning several years ago to this level of reserve. SAYMA invests in Self-help Credit Union. Michael Galovic noted that FWCC builds funds over several years and

then uses them fully. Spiritual Development, Released Fund and Young Adult Scholarships have not been used regularly. Friends can write to clerks responsible for those funds for more information and/or access.

133-11 Finance Committee Report/Presentation of FY2015 Budget

133-12 Nominating (Jane Goldthwait, Nominating Co-clerk) [Attachment E]

Jane Goldthwait, Nominating Committee Co-clerk reported that a number of openings need filling, including Ministry, Personnel, JYM Oversight, Yearly Meeting Planning, Outreach, and FGC Representatives

Beth Ensign has agreed to continue as SAF editor and Nominating committee brings her name for approval.

Jane also noted that the Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) could use a third representative and that the current representatives, Michael Galovic and Geeta McGahey, have suggested Matt Riley from Celo Monthly Meeting, and the Nominating committee recommends this nomination. Since the FWCC Section of the Americas will be meeting every other year rather than every year as in the past, and the International gatherings will be every fourth year instead of every third year, our costs to sending SAYMA representatives to these meetings will be reduced.

Steve Livingston asked about financial impact. Michael Galovic noted that the FWCC world conference fund for January 2016 is on track with current contributions to cover 2 people to attend. With a rotation off, only 2 reps would be needed and that is covered. The Section of the Americas gathering in Spring 2015 might have 3 participants in Mexico City, costs not yet known, but funding should be there for 2 already. David Ciscel reminds Friends that typically budgets are underused and Friends often self-finance or contribute to their participation costs. Historically, adjusting amounts has not been a problem. The budget is a recommendation. Steve's concern was to ensure that all our representatives are adequately supported.

Matt Riley asked what Friends hope to get from additional participation in these meetings. This is a broad question not to be answered today. Bill Holland stated that he trusts the recommendation of the Nominating committee and supports the addition of a younger representative.

133-12-01 FRIENDS APPROVED MATT RILEY, Celo as 3rd FWCC representative.

133-12-02 Friends approved BETH ENSIGN, Atlanta, to continue as editor of SAYMA Newsletter. 2014-15

133-12-03 ANNIE BLACK named at Yearly Meeting but not listed in Nominating Committee. Friends APPROVED Annie in this position.

A YAF for the Nominating Committee is still being sought.

133-12-04 Friends accepted Resignation of Chris Berg (2013-2015) from the SAYMA Earthcare Action Network and approved the addition of Kendall Ivie (2014-2016) to the SAYMA Earthcare Action Network.

133-12-05 Friends approved Karen Wise to the Junior Yearly Meeting Oversight Committee.

133-12-06 Friends approved Arnold Karr as the YMPC Worship Coordinator.

Arnold Karr will also talk to Carol Ciscel about serving as both Worship coordinator and a SAYMA representative.

133-13 Ministry & Nurture Committee Report

No report

133-14 Name Change for Ecological Concerns Network

The name of the Ecological Concerns Network was discussed at YM and the recommended change to “SAYMA Earthcare Action Network”, also to be known by the abbreviated “SAYMA Earthcare.”

133-14-01 Friends approved the name change of the committee from Ecological Concerns Network to SAYMA Earthcare Action Network, also known as SAYMA Earthcare.

(Carol Nickle noted that this change will require an action to change the committee name in SAYMA’s Faith and Practice.)

The mission of SAYMA Earthcare remains the same as it has been for the last 10 years, yet includes grieving, and planning to care for those affected by climate change. Communication vehicles are being enhanced and expanded. A spring retreat is planned and Friends are invited to comment about wider participation. The retreat date will be coordinated with the Spring Representative’s meeting to avoid conflict.

David Ciscel reminded Friends that some Quaker groups and monthly meetings are approving a statement, “Facing the Challenge of Climate Change, A shared statement by Quaker groups, September 2014” (Attachment F to these minutes). Other Monthly Meetings and Quakers are encouraged to review and act as led.

Lisa Rose, SAYMA Earthcare clerk, is grateful for the expanding network of ecological concern among Friends, and encourages input to the planning of the spring retreat. She

also noted that Meetings contacts to SAYMA Earthcare are still needed for 4 meetings. Contact her for more information.

133-15 Operational Handbook (Missy Ivie)

No report.

133-16 Outreach – Hank Fay

Hank Fay, clerk, Outreach reported the following three items.

1. There is a need for more outreach members.
2. The committee is working to finish its survey of outreach activities in Monthly Meetings.
3. The committee is looking for members, and would like to would like to organize information on SAYMA website for seekers and for Monthly Meetings.

133-17 Personnel – (Carol Nickle)

The Personnel committee does not have a report but does have a joyful announcement. Jonah McDonald and Dana Goldman had baby girl, Annie Mae, born 18 August.

133-18 Junior Yearly Meeting Oversight (Rose Black)

The JYM Oversight committee has been difficult to gather, and there is no report at this time. Additional committee members are being sought.

133-19 Website (Steve Livingston) [Attachment G: Web Manager’s Report]

Steve Livingston reported on behalf of Charlie Wilton, Web manager. The new SAYMA website is outstanding and is being underutilized. Please send photos of gatherings and activities at monthly and yearly meetings for inclusion on the site. Friends are reminded to obtain permission from individuals in the photographs and their agreement to have the photos posted on the SAYMA website. Obtaining permission in writing was discussed. Liz Perch suggested the “Opt out” option (“Unless you let us know otherwise, photographs may appear on SAYMA website.) The Web committee can discuss further and provide recommendations. The website is a powerful outreach vehicle. It was also stated that photographs of children are sensitive to many. Monthly Meetings are also reminded to meeting contact information updated. Send changes or additions to Steve Livingston or Charlie Wilton (web@sayma.org).

Steven also noted that a capability for Google group signup for committees is available.

133-19-01 Carol Nickel proposed a minute of thanks for Charlie Wilton commending him for his work.

MINUTE OF THANKS: Friends commended Charlie Wilton for his extensive effort and fine job of enhancing the SAYMA website and its capabilities.

133-20 SAYF

Liz Perch announced that the SAYF retreat is occurring this weekend in Asheville. Friends are holding our teens and FAPS (Friendly adult presences) in the Light.

133-21 Reports from Wider Quaker Organizations

Bolivian Quaker Education Fund. Karen Wise, Charleston Friends Meeting, reminded Friends that many attending Yearly Meeting in 2013 and 2012 had the opportunity to meet Alicia Lucas from the Bolivian Quaker Education Fund. Karen is now serving on the BQEF board.

Wider Quaker Organizations are invited in rotation every 3 years to Yearly Meeting. Guests are supported. Karen noted that BQEF would like to be added to the list of rotating guests and asked how organizations are added to the list. Carol Nickle said there is a list. Wider Quaker Organizations can come for agenda time, but are not always supported financially. More information about the list and rotation will be presented after lunch.

Karen has information about BEQF and is willing to travel to Monthly Meetings to describe the organization and its' activities. The Casa de Los Amigos Hostel in Mexico City started by AFSC and is now overseen by BEQF. They host immigrants from around the world, conduct sustainability workshops, etc., and currently have a fundraising campaign for water.

Friends World Consultation Committee (FWCC)

Michael Galovic, FWCC Representative, reported that the next Section of the Americas gathering will be March 12 – 15 near Mexico City. The theme is “Friends Woven Together in God’s Love”, based on Colossians 2:2. The Asia-West-Pacific Section has been helping with relief work from the typhoon in the Philippines. The Europe-Middle East Section has been working with climate change, Mid East peace, the Ukrainian crisis, and WWI commemorations. The African Section just gathered for a triennial.

SAYMA Friends are invited to check out the FWCC-sponsored website, “Voices of Friends” where you will find info on an introduction to Friends, how to connect with Friends, and various Quaker writings.

Michael noted that FWCC had missed their rotation to be an invited guest at the last Yearly Meeting. This was the result of a miscue and the FWCC leaders were out of the country that weekend. A request was made to allow them to be an invited WQO guest in the 2015 Yearly Meeting, and to discuss this with Carol Ciscel, YMPC clerk.

Larry Ingle spoke to the Russian Quaker presence, as well as one in Ukraine, and is holding them all in the Light.

AFSC Corporation

Arnold Karr, AFSC Corporation Representative, reminded Friends that the best way to ensure Quaker presence in corporation is to be a member of the corporation, and to participate in the AFSC Liaison program for Monthly Meetings (Lucy Duncan is the contact). He notes that AFSC staffers are not always Quaker and do not understand process, and sees this as an outreach opportunity, a self-contained mission field, not a weakness.

Quaker Earthcare Witness

David Ciscel, Quaker Earthcare Witness, announced that Quaker Earthcare Witness will be having a semiannual gathering at Pendle Hill in October. QEW is a small organization with 2 paid employees. \$300-500 grants are available to Monthly Meetings to engage in ecological improvements to meeting houses, grounds, or other projects. Applications are available on QEW Website. Young adult Friends can also be supported to attend gatherings. Donations are always welcome to QEW as well. Contact David for more information about QEW.

133-22 News of Meetings

Michael Galovic - Swannanoa

Swannanoa Valley Friends are looking forward to a November retreat. Friends from NYYM have been invited to facilitate, allowing local Friends to rest.

Arnold Karr – Columbia

Columbia Friends have spent a third year in their meeting house. A full bathroom with shower has been installed, allowing capacity for overnight guests to shower.

Improvements have been made to First Day School. Arnold noted that it is difficult to keep young friends involved in meetings, and this speaks to the concern of the future of the meeting. How do other meetings facilitate interaction of young friends to make that wider community?

Bill Holland - Atlanta

Atlanta Friends Meeting has welcomed 9 babies in the last 9 months! Atlanta Friends held a Meeting for Worship to Welcome Babies (under 5 years of age). A certificate was made for each child, and everyone signs the certificate to support and nurture child within the community. AFM is working to be more conscious of recognizing ministries, and are working with a process of recognizing ministries from FGC, including Naming, Monthly Meeting approval, and anchoring committees. Ministries have included photography, hospice ministry, music, etc. This is the 3rd year for AFM to be a site for Quaker Volunteer Service. College-aged individuals encouraged to apply. The Retreat cabin at Lake Burton is being upgraded and is available for use. See Atlanta Friends website for

more information.

Matt Riley – Celo

The Arthur Morgan school is continuing its effort to become recognized as an official Quaker School. Additionally, the meeting has been greatly enhanced by the presence of a Hispanic family. Onsite translation is being provided.

Steve Livingston – Asheville

Same gender marriage reached unity reached in 2003, and Asheville Friends have taken their first marriage for a same-gendered couple under the care of the Meeting, Alan Robinson and Dave Spicer. Young Friend, Stephanie Gossett, is returning from a 3-year stint in Swaziland.

Becky Ingle – Chattanooga

First Day preparation is essential in encouraging participation of children. Chattanooga Friends are preparing “Lesson-in-a-packet” kits for this purpose. The 75-year-old meeting house maintenance is very costly, and the meeting is recuperating from embezzlement (see Friends Journal article). New member managing, outreach, and enhancing the website is increasing the number of visitors. Packet for who we are, etc., are available after several visits, and there is a Library area for new members. A Nurturing Nook provides space for interactions. A banner is being made for World Quaker Day and future use. The outreach coordinator follows up with note to visitors.

David Ciscel – Memphis Friends

Memphis Friends have been 6 years in meeting house now, which serves as both challenge and source of vibrancy for meeting. The House and Grounds committee strive to find the balance between keeping up the meeting house and working wider in the community. Keeping young people (16-30) and children active has been successful in the Meeting House’s garden area. The garden is good for the meeting all around. The Meeting House sign’s location on a busy street has done more to bring in visitors than any other type of outreach.

Susan Phelan – Huntsville Friends

Huntsville Friends and friends of Friends are participating in a 5K event to support local breast health care. Our team is the Friendly Feet.

133-23 Budget Presentation (Attachment H: FY 2015 SAYMA Budget)

David Ciscel, Clerk of the Finance Committee, presented the proposed budget for FY 2015. The budget is larger than last year. The committee’s projection of a \$6,150 deficit is less concerning since Friends historically have come in under budget the last few years, and it is anticipated that the final deficit will not be this large. The reserve amount of half of the non-yearly meeting budget remains intact. Committee allocations are based on projected expenses from committee clerks to the treasurer and finance committee prior to Yearly Meeting. Ministry and Nurture administers the Released Friend Fund and Spiritual Development fund. The treasurer is working with Young Friends to identify,

clarify, and document the purpose of the Young Friends Scholarship and Youth Enrichment Fund.

133-23-01. Friends approved the 2015 budget.

133-23-02. The Faith and Practice Revision committee presently has no budget. The new F&P clerk, Free Polazzo, has requested a travel budget of \$600 for the committee to produce the queries for F&P. Friends approved this revision.

133-24 List of Wider Quaker Organizations – Liz Perch

Ten organizations are on a list of officially-organizations invited to speak at Yearly meeting. Nine are invited on a rotating basis [Alternatives to Violence Project, American Friends Service Committee, AFSC-SERO (Southeastern Regional Office), FCNL , Friends Peace Teams, Friends World Committee for Consultation, Quaker Earthcare Witness, Quaker House, Right Sharing of World Resources], and FGC is invited every year. When WQOs are invited, the participant’s registration and rooming expenses are paid by SAYMA. Another reason for the rotation is to give participants the space and time to participate in Yearly Meeting, since there is not room in the schedule for each WQO to host a workshop and present at Yearly Meeting.

The addition of Bolivia Quaker Education Fund (BQEF) to the rotating list was supported by friends including Lee Ann Swarm and Wood Bouldin. Dave Ciscel supports the organization and also noted that Yearly Meeting costs are controlled by the YM Planning Committee as they plan the programs in a financially prudent fashion. Bill Holland noted that opportunities for international organizations may not fit into our rotation plan, and that a separate fund to support international travel may work better for them. Lisa Rose asked about the possibility of others organizations that may want to get on the list.

Larry Ingle (not in his role as clerk) noted that BQEF is primarily an evangelical Quaker group and we are primarily Hicksite, liberal. Without making a political statement, Larry brings this to our attention. The question is “Whom may we support?” Karen Wise said that BQEF will send Friends as they can, and visits nationally programmed and unprogrammed meetings. She thought that having them on the rotation would reduce the expenses and introduce SAYMA Friends to young people from other traditions.

Steve Livingston expressed a need to season the request, understand more fully how the rotation works and the budgetary implications, and asked to wait until spring for more information to make the decision.

Becky Ingle asked if there were written expectations for the groups that travel. David Ciscel said the main expectations are to present a workshop, and to make a presentation to Business meeting. WQO Friends are also asked to circulate during Yearly Meeting.

Carol Nickle noted that clerks invite WQOs on the list, encourage them to have a meal discussion, present a workshop and present at Business Meeting. The process has been followed for many years, even as the origin of the list and process remain unclear. Lee Ann noted that postponing the decision today will give Yearly Meeting Planning Committee more time to consider the implications.

Friends will defer action on this proposal to add BQEF until the spring representatives' meeting.

FCNL, Quaker House, AVP Friends Peace Teams, and FCG are scheduled on the rotation for 2015 YM. The availability and viability of Friends Peace Team is uncertain. Liz Perch asked if changing the schedule for FWCC will change their rotation going forward.

Should FWCC be invited to attend next year, possibility increasing the WQO participation by one organization, or keep to the original schedule?

David Ciscel recommends that we look at this issue again in March after the Yearly Meeting Planning Committee has time to look at their budget and schedule to see what the implications and feasibility is. Carol Nickle is in agreement with waiting, and also thinks that March may be too late to make the decision for the WQOs.

Bill Holland asked our representative (Adrienne Weir) to contact Friends Peace Teams and see if they plan to come next year. If their response is tentative, then FWCC will be invited. Nancy Olsen asked if we will disinvite them if they can't make a commitment? Matt Riley asked about the budget implication and if we should consult YMPC before we decide. Wood Bouldin noted that if the Peace Teams says no, there is no problem. Liz Perch noted that it is not YMPC's role to figure out the budget for Representative actions.

Steve Livingston said that SAYMA and FWCC have a closer relationship, much credit to the relationships our representatives have built. To keep the relationships strong, it is important to invite them to come.

David Ciscel reminded we are discussing subsidized WQO participation; WQOs can come at any time.

Lisa Rose and Wood Bouldin suggested to keep the rotation as is. Others agree.

The WQO rotation list only goes to 2016 and may be subject to change.

Friends want to invite FWCC to come, do not feel comfortable disinviting any other group, the representatives are willing to direct the Finance Committee to come up with funds as needed, and the WQO rotation will stay the same. FRIENDS APPROVED.

The clerk invited other questions or issues about the rotation list. Michael Galovic asked about the ownership of the list, the processes of list maintenance, and a recommended

procedure for going forward. The list is now part of the YMPC planning process to know who is coming, and the SAYMA clerk invites the WQO as she/he develops the business agenda.

133-24-01 Friends approved the clerk appointing an ad hoc committee of 3-4 individuals, including someone from the YMPC, to investigate the WQO Yearly Meeting Rotation List and report back. This investigation could include assessing groups currently on WQO Yearly Meeting Rotation List, and consider new groups that might be added, such as Boliva Quaker Education Fund), and consider the criteria/process, for adding/removing groups in the future.

Steve Livingston reminded Friends that establishing criteria may be overwhelming, a daunting task. Adding/removing groups may be an organic process of discernment not obedient to documentation.

Lisa Rose expressed confusion about decisions that seem to be made on charisma.

Bill Holland recommends the formation of an ad hoc group of 3-4 to investigate the criteria and process.

David Ciscel reminded Friends that the rotation is intimately connected to the work of YMPC.

Missy Ivie suggested contacting past clerks about the process.

133-25 Yearly Meeting Planning Committee Report (Carol Ciscel)

Yearly Meeting will begin 1:00 p.m. on June 11-14, with early arrival welcomed on Wednesday, June 10. Campus renovations this year may affect housing at Sunderland, and the impact won't be known until December or later.

YMPC discussed feedback from the evaluation forms, why people come to Yearly Meeting. Feedback included to see one another, for respite & relaxation, for inspiration, and for some, to labor over SAYMA business. Young Adult Friends (YAF) feedback lifted up the importance of integrating SAYFers into the YAFs for continuity of community.

A concise theme for Yearly Meeting has not yet been decided, but larger themes of Quaker history, John Woolman, Equality & Diversity, Peace and Social Concerns have arisen. YMPC will explore plenary speakers and engage them as the theme becomes more defined.

Carol expressed thanks for Judy Guerry, who has been a wonderful workshop coordinator and has communicated frequently with presenters. For the first time, feedback from presenters was elicited, and all expressed gratitude for Judy's ongoing communication

with them.

Bethany Vega will take back the message of how to engage Young Adult Friends.

YMPC will meet in January to conduct a thorough review of the schedule, and to explore ways of opening it up.

The advanced program is expected to be available the first week in April 2015.

133-26 Minute of Thanks to West Knoxville

133-26-01. Friends approved a Minute of Thanks to West Knoxville Friends Meeting for their hospitality and care for us, and commend them for their efforts on behalf of the SAYMA Representative Meeting.

Larry Ingle, Clerk
(Archive copy signed)

Susan Phelan, Recording Clerk
(Archive copy signed)

Attachments:

- A: Attendance (Printed copies only)
- B: Reading
- C: Administrative Assistant's Report
- D: Treasurer's Report
- E: Nominating Committee Report
- F: Facing the Challenge of Climate Change
- G: Web Manager's Report
- H: FY 2015 SAYMA Budget

Attachment A: Attendance

[Printed copies only]

Attachment B: Reading

From *The Best of Friends*, Vol. 1

Jan loves to tell stories about the Quakers. He says that since we have no canon or designated ministers, much of our guidance comes from the stories passed down about these weighty Friends. Perhaps the most influential in Jan's life has been the story of 19th century Quaker Levi Coffin.

"Levi Coffin, who was the quote president unquote of the Underground Railroad, always had escape slaves in the house. The place where he put them was behind the mantle bed. He wheeled the bed away and there was a little door and behind it a whole apartment for whoever came in.

The sheriff would come and would say, 'Mr. Coffin, do you have any slaves in the house?' and he would say, 'no' – because the moment they entered his house, they were no longer slaves.

And he was about to be read out of meeting because the Quaker movement then felt that to help slaves escape to Canada did not minister to the owners," Jan dragged out the owners, and they sent a delegation to excommunicate him...

So Levi Coffin said just a moment. He called in and the bed was moved, and 12 African –Americans came out [including] one mother with a baby. He presented them by name, and they all had to shake hands. Then he asked the mother if it was okay, and he took the little baby and handed it to the chairman of the committee that had come to excommunicate him – and the guy didn't know what to do with it.

You're given a baby and you say, 'No, not today.' What do you do?

So he stood there with this child. And then Levi Coffin said, Look it's not a matter between yearly meeting and myself, it's a matter between you and him." A slow flourish on each word. At which the man put the child on the table and ran. That was the end of that excommunication, of course. It's a famous Quaker story.

Jan de Hartog: *A Captain on the Ocean of Light and Love*
By Ann Walton Sieber

Attachment C: Administrative Assistant's Report

It has been a quiet end of summer for the SAYMA office.

The bill from Warren Wilson was reviewed. The Positions of Responsibility roster is in the process of being updated. Wider Quaker Organizations have been sent names of new representatives. In other words, lots of post yearly meeting routine work has occurred.

The minutes were formatted and edited and have been posted to the website. After copies are signed by the clerk and recording clerk here, they will be sent to three archival libraries (Guilford, Haverford, and Swarthmore colleges) and filed in the office and with the SAYMA archivist.

The directory has been published and the final distribution is occurring at Rep meeting. Please pick up your pre-ordered print copy or CD. Digital (emailed) copies and CDs are always available. No additional print copies will be made.

Printing costs have gone up considerably this year. When we received the estimate for the Advanced Program for Yearly Meeting (and were mildly stunned,) we shopped around for a lower cost printer. We learned that the locally owned independent printer I have been using is offering very competitive bids. As a result, the office is making every effort to conserve, and print only what is necessary and will actually be used. Do not hesitate to ask for something printed if you/your meeting will use it. But, as much as possible, we will make documents available through email and the SAYMA website to reduce both expense and paper waste. If you have ideas to help with this, please let me know.

Thank you all for your prayers and support for the past 8 years. I continue to be blessed by my work with SAYMA.

In service,

Liz Perch

Attachment D: Treasurer's Report

Prepared August 31, 2014.

Our 2014 fiscal year budget runs from October 1, 2013, through September 30, 2014. Attached are (1) a budget vs. actual expenditures report; (2) yearly meeting gross revenue and expense reports; and (3) an account balances report. Items (1) and (3) are current as of 8/30/2014. The budget presented by the Finance Committee includes projections to the end of the year; these will differ from the to-date figures in the attached report.

Issues to report include:

1. Overview. Income through August 30, 2014 was \$81,807; expenditures were \$77,512 with a current surplus of \$4,295. The surplus was principally due to timing, as most of the year's income is recorded, while more than \$4,000 in expenses remain to be paid in September. SAYMA had assets of \$68,322, consisting of \$26,950 in checking and \$41,372 in a Self Help Credit Union savings account. Friends have set aside a total of \$22,454 in special funds (liabilities), including contributions made during FY 2014. See Attachments 1 and 3 for details.
2. Income. Total assessment income near the end of the fiscal year was \$37,940. All but two small meetings have made at least one assessment payment during this fiscal year. SAYMA's assessment income will be about \$4,000 less than FY 2013, but will probably exceed the budgeted amount of \$40,000. The decline in assessment income could be a concern or simply fluctuation. Between 2007 and 2013 assessments varied between \$36,000 and \$47,000, without a commensurate change in meeting census. This is of some concern because of the operational deficit and planned withdrawals from reserves in next year's budget.
3. Operational Expenses. SAYMA operations showed a deficit of \$3,372, representing the excess of expenses over receipts (not including prior year carryover) for everything except yearly meeting (see Attachment 1). The treasurer projects the operational deficit will be about \$6,000 at the end of the fiscal year, while SAYMA's total budget will carry forward \$1,800 to FY 2015. This result is principally attributable to:
 - a. Yearly Meeting income exceeding expenses;
 - b. Lower than expected assessment income;
 - c. Ongoing dearth of expenses for SAYMA committee work; and
 - d. A large carryover from FY 2013, which will absorb most of the operational deficit.
4. Yearly meeting was slightly more expensive than anticipated because of strong attendance; revenues more than kept pace. The gross revenues (\$38,834) and expenses (\$35,894) were nearly equal, shown in Attachment 2, and will be even

Attachment D: Treasurer's Report

closer to balance when the estimated \$1,300 bookstore bill is settled. As that includes two years of bookstore expenses owing to more prompt FGC billing. The treasurer projects that SAYMA realized a profit of about \$1,600 on the event..

5. Yearly Meeting Projects. We made budgeted transfers to SAYMA's Set-Aside Budgeted Funds. There have been no expenditures requested from special project funds this Fiscal Year; none are anticipated. One special project (YAF Scholarships) remains orphaned (no designated mechanism for requesting expenditures or allowable expenses), though the Young Adult Friends have agreed to prepare a proposal to assume stewardship. We sent contributions to Wider Quaker Organizations budgeted for FY2014 totaling \$6,300. Most organizations have sent acknowledgements.
6. SAYF's financial report is not yet available at this writing. SAYF has requested its full allocation of \$2,000 to cover expenses of upcoming large retreats. Additional information will be available at Representative Meeting.
7. Some past year accomplishments. During the past year, we sent acknowledgements to each monthly meeting that made an assessment contribution. We also surveyed SAYMA leaders and WQO representatives for advice on the budget. We modified the budget report to show transfers to and from reserves as itemized entries to improve comparability from year to year and allow more knowledgeable budgeting.
8. Treasurer communications. Meetings are requested to send assessment contributions to SAYMA, PO Box 5848, Savannah, GA 31414. Requests for payment and bills may be e-mailed to the treasurer, with scanned documentation, or sent by postal mail to Charles Schade, 4100 Virginia Ave. SE, Charleston, WV 25304. The treasurer's e-mail address is treasurer@sayma.org, which also reaches the assistant treasurer.

SAYMA Budget vs. Actual Report 10/1/2013 through 8/30/2014

Budget Item	Budget FY 2014	Actual FY 2014	Percent of Budget
INCOME	\$ 84,525.00	\$ 81,807.28	96.8%
Withdrawals from reserves	\$ 7,575.00	\$ 5,169.00	68.2%
Prior year carried forward	\$ 5,169.00	\$ 5,169.00	
Reduction in reserves	\$ 2,406.00	\$ -	
Assessments	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 37,940.00	94.9%
Bank Interest	\$ 250.00	\$ 159.62	63.8%
Contributions	\$ 500.00	\$ -	0.0%
Publication Sales	\$ 200.00	\$ 146.52	73.3%
YM Total Receipts	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 38,392.14	106.6%
YM Receipts	\$ 33,000.00	\$ 36,088.63	109.4%
YM Scholarship Donations	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,320.50	132.1%
YM Bookstore Sales Income	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,425.51	71.3%
EXPENSES	\$ 84,525.13	\$ 81,807.28	96.8%
SAYMA OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	\$ 75,310.13	\$ 68,296.76	90.7%
Yearly Meeting	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 35,894.04	99.7%
Facilities and Services	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 31,753.63	127.0%
Prtnng/Mail/Phone/Minutes/Misc	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 1,313.17	32.8%
Junior Yearly Meeting -- JYM	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 2,800.00	70.0%
Coordinator	\$ -	\$ 1,400.00	
Ass't Coordinator	\$ -	\$ 1,400.00	
Supplies/Sitters/Misc	\$ -	\$ -	
Scholarship WQO Reps	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	0.0%
YM Bookstore	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 27.24	1.4%
SAYF Operational Transfers	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	0.0%
Delegate Expenses	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 2,766.72	76.9%
Rep Mtgs	\$ 100.00	\$ -	0.0%
Del to WQOs	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 2,566.72	73.3%
Committees	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 48.00	3.2%
Ministry and Nurture Committee	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	0.0%
Ecological Concerns Committee	\$ -	\$ -	
Faith and Practice Revision Committee	\$ -	\$ -	
Finance Committee	\$ -	\$ -	
Nominating Committee	\$ -	\$ 48.00	
Peace & Social Concerns Committee	\$ 500.00	\$ -	0.0%
Outreach Committee	\$ -	\$ -	
SAYMA Liability Insurance	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,108.87	79.2%
SAYMA Personnel	\$ 25,590.13	\$ 24,012.93	93.8%
SAYMA Staff Training	\$ -	\$ -	
SAYMA Office Administration	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,287.49	109.6%
Phone, Internet & Office Expenses	\$ -	\$ 384.00	
Postage	\$ -	\$ 172.71	
Duplication	\$ -	\$ 129.07	
Misc. Office	\$ -	\$ 2,601.71	
SAYMA Newsletter	\$ 750.00	\$ 569.52	75.9%
SAYMA Directory	\$ 150.00	\$ 99.51	66.3%
SAYMA Treasurer	\$ 200.00	\$ -	0.0%
SAYMA F&P	\$ 200.00	\$ 67.14	33.6%
SAYMA Website Hosting Service	\$ 120.00	\$ 170.85	142.4%
SAYMA Other Expenses	\$ 800.00	\$ 271.69	34.0%

YEARLY MEETING PROJECTS	\$	9,215.00	\$	9,215.00	100.0%
Transfers To Funds	\$	2,915.00	\$	2,915.00	100.0%
Spiritual Development Fund	\$	300.00	\$	300.00	100.0%
Released Friend Fund	\$	300.00	\$	300.00	100.0%
FWCC - 3rd Wld Del	\$	1,325.00	\$	1,325.00	100.0%
FWCC World Conference Fund	\$	700.00	\$	700.00	100.0%
Youth Enrichment Fund	\$	250.00	\$	250.00	100.0%
Young Adult Friends Scholarships	\$	40.00	\$	40.00	100.0%
Contributions Wider Quaker Org	\$	6,300.00	\$	6,300.00	100.0%
AFSC	\$	700.00	\$	700.00	100.0%
FCNL	\$	700.00	\$	700.00	100.0%
FGC	\$	700.00	\$	700.00	100.0%
FWCC	\$	700.00	\$	700.00	100.0%
Right Sharing of World Resources	\$	700.00	\$	700.00	100.0%
Quaker House	\$	700.00	\$	700.00	100.0%
Friends for LGBTQ Concerns	\$	200.00	\$	200.00	100.0%
Quaker Earthcare Witness	\$	800.00	\$	800.00	100.0%
Friends Peace Teams	\$	200.00	\$	200.00	100.0%
Wm Penn House	\$	200.00	\$	200.00	100.0%
Friends Journal	\$	200.00	\$	200.00	100.0%
Guilford College Archiving	\$	100.00	\$	100.00	100.0%
Rural Southern Voice for Peace	\$	200.00	\$	200.00	100.0%
Bolivian Quaker Education Fund	\$	200.00	\$	200.00	100.0%
Other			\$	-	
Surplus			\$	4,295.52	

SAYMA-YM Receipts To Date - YTD
 10/1/2013 through 8/31/2014

8/31/2014

Page 1

Date	Account	Num	Description	Memo	Tag	Clr	Amount
INCOME							38,392.14
YM Total Receipts							38,392.14
Refunds							-442.50
YM Bookstore Income							1,425.51
YM Receipts							36,088.63
YM Scholarship Contributions							1,320.50
OVERALL TOTAL							38,392.14

SAYMA-YM Receipts To Date - YTD
 10/1/2013 through 8/31/2014

8/31/2014

Page 1

Date	Account	Num	Description	Memo	Tag	Clr	Amount
INCOME							38,392.14
YM Total Receipts							38,392.14
Refunds							-442.50
YM Bookstore Income							1,425.51
YM Receipts							36,088.63
YM Scholarship Contributions							1,320.50
OVERALL TOTAL							38,392.14

SAYMA Balance Sheet - As of 8/31/2014

Assets	
Checking	\$26,950
Self-Help CD	\$0
Self-Help Money Market	\$41,372
TOTAL Assets	\$68,322
Liabilities	
FWCC Third World Delegate Fund	\$3,300
FWCC World Conference Fund	\$2,702
Released Friend Fund	\$9,000
Spiritual Development Fund	\$3,577
Young Adult Friends Scholarships Fund	\$1,429
Youth Enrichment Fund	\$2,446
Subtotal set-aside funds	\$22,454
Obligated funds for Yearly Meeting	\$1,300
TOTAL Liabilities	\$23,754
Balance	\$44,568

Attachment E: Nominating Committee Report

Nominating Committee Has The Following Vacancies, a recommendation, and a question:

Ministry and Nurture :
needs 1 more member nominated at large
needs several more from monthly meetings

Personnel:
needs 1 more member

JYM Oversight:
needs 2 more members

Yearly Meeting Planning:
needs a person for Worship Co-ordinator

Outreach:
needs 3 more members

FGC Representative:
2 more are needed

FWCC Rep:
Friends World Committee for Consultation could use a 3rd Rep. Reps Michael Galovic and Geeta McGahey have suggested Matt Riley from Celo Monthly Meeting. He has gone to a FWCC Section of the Americas meeting and liked it. Matt is from Geeta and my meeting and we know he would be good.
We know that FWCC Section of the Americas will be meeting every other year rather than every year as in the past. We also know that the International gatherings will be every fourth year instead of every third year. Both those factors will mean that sending our SAYMA Reps to those meetings will cost less.

SAF Editor:
We need to approve Beth Ensign as editor. She was not a SAYMA YM last June to be sure she would continue, but later said she will.

Jane Goldthwait, Co-Clerk, Nominating Committee

Attachment F: Facing The Challenge of Climate Change

A shared statement by Quaker groups
September 2014

“It would go a long way to caution and direct people in their use of the world, that they were better studied and knowing in the Creation of it. For how could [they] find the confidence to abuse it, while they should see the great Creator stare them in the face, in all and every part of it?”

William Penn, 1693

As Quakers, we are called to work for the peaceable Kingdom of God on the whole Earth, in right sharing with all peoples.¹ We recognize a moral duty to cherish creation for future generations.

As we gather at events surrounding the UN Climate Summit, we call on our leaders to make the radical decisions needed to create a fair, sufficient and effective international climate change agreement.

As Quakers, we understand anthropogenic (due to human activities) climate change to be a symptom of a greater challenge: how to live sustainably and justly on this Earth.

We recognize that current and unprecedented rates of greenhouse gas emissions, if left unchecked, will likely lead to global mean temperature rises of extreme detriment to human beings.

We recognize that catastrophic anthropogenic climate change is not inevitable if we choose to act.

We recognize a personal and collective responsibility to ensure that the poorest and most vulnerable peoples now, and all our future generations, do not suffer as a consequence of our actions. We see this as a call to conscience.

We recognize the connections between climate change and global economic injustice as well as unprecedented levels of consumption, and question assumptions of unlimited economic growth on a planet with limited natural resources.

We recognize that most greenhouse gas emissions are created by fossil fuel combustion. We recognize that our increasing population continues to pursue fossil fuel-dependent economic growth. We recognize that the Earth holds more fossil fuel reserves than are safe to burn, and that the vast majority of proven fossil fuel reserves must remain in the

¹ Kabarak Call to Peace and Eco-Justice, 2012, p. 1

ground if we are to prevent the catastrophic consequences of climate change. We therefore question profoundly the continued investment in, and subsidizing of, fossil fuel extraction.

We seek to nurture a global human society that prioritizes the well-being of people over profit, and lives in right relationship with our Earth; a peaceful world with fulfilling employment, clean air and water, renewable energy, and healthy thriving communities and ecosystems.

This week, we join the People's Climate March as members of this beautiful human family, seeking meaningful commitments from our leaders and ourselves, to address climate change for our shared future, the Earth, and the generations to come.

We see this Earth as a stunning gift that supports life. It is our only home. Let us care for it together.

Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW)

Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO)

Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL)

Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC)

Quaker Council for European Affairs (QCEA)

American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)

Quakers in Britain

Living Witness

Please contact Lindsey Cook at lfcook@quno.ch if you need more information, or wish to add your Quaker group.

Attachment G: Web Manager's Report

I repeat my request to monthly meeting representatives and clerks to provide me with updated contact information, location, worship times, and meeting photos to keep the individual monthly meeting pages current. **The website especially needs your photos!** If you have images of Friends at annual gatherings (only two photos from June 2014 gathering were submitted) or other SAYMA meetings/events, SAYMA-affiliated meetinghouses, etc., that you are willing to share for use on the SAYMA website, please email the images to me.

I welcome input from all quarters of SAYMA on how the website can better serve the needs of the yearly meeting, its committees, monthly meetings or individual officers and members.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlie Wilton, Web Manager
web@sayma.org

Attachment H: FY2015 SAYMA Budget

Budget Category	FY 2013		FY 2014		FY 2015
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
INCOME	81,888	91,127	84,525	86,923	89,067
Withdrawals from reserves	5,413	4,900	7,575	5,169	8,867
Prior year carried forward	4,900	4,900	5,169	5,169	2,065
Reduction in reserves	513	-	2,406	-	6,802
Assessments	42,900	44,775	40,000	42,528	40,000
Bank Interest	500	336	250	188	200
Contributions	1,200	200	500	500	
Publication Sales	275	394	200	147	
YM Total Receipts	31,600	40,523	36,000	38,392	40,000
YM Receipts	28,600	38,791	33,000	35,734	
YM Scholarship Donations	1,000	586	1,000	1,676	
YM Bookstore Sales Income	2,000	1,800	2,000	1,426	
EXPENSES	81,888	91,127	84,525	86,923	89,067
SAYMA Operational Expenses	69,373	73,543	75,310	75,643	79,977
Yearly Meeting	31,600	40,101	36,000	37,248	40,000
Facilities and Services	24,000	32,766	25,000	31,754	32,000
Prtng/Mail/Phone/Minutes/Misc	1,500	1,173	4,000	1,313	1,000
Junior Yearly Meeting -- JYM	3,100	3,105	4,000	2,800	4,000
Coordinator	1,800	1,800	-	1,400	
Ass't Coordinator	1,000	1,000	-	1,400	
Supplies/Sitters/Misc	300	305	-	-	
Scholarship WQO Reps	1,000	-	1,000	-	1,000
YM Bookstore	2,000	3,057	2,000	1,381	2,000
SAYF Operational Transfers	2,000	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Delegate Expenses	5,000	2,992	3,600	4,187	4,100
Rep Mtgs	100	53	100	-	100
Del to WQOs	4,900	2,939	3,500	3,987	4,000
Committees	2,150	90	1,500	48	1,200
Ministry and Nurture Committee	500	18	1,000	-	600
SAYMA Earthcare Action Network	50	-	-	-	
Faith and Practice Revision Committee	500	-	-	-	600
Finance Committee	50	-	-	-	
Nominating Committee	50	-	-	48	-
Peace & Social Concerns Committee	-	72	500	-	-
Outreach Committee	500	-	-	-	-
SAYMA Liability Insurance	1,225	1,283	1,400	1,109	1,500
SAYMA Personnel	23,348	24,112	25,590	25,749	25,967
SAYMA Staff Training	-	-	-	-	
SAYMA Office Administration	2,350	2,946	3,000	3,752	3,410
Phone, Internet & Office Expenses	-	402	-	384	360
Postage	-	220	-	242	300
Duplication	-	131	-	191	250
Misc. Office	-	2,193	-	2,935	2,500
SAYMA Newsletter	750	678	750	941	1,200
SAYMA Directory	150	209	150	100	100
SAYMA Treasurer	550	29	200	-	50
SAYMA F&P	250	-	200	67	
SAYMA Website Hosting Service	-	103	120	171	200
SAYMA Other Expenses	-	-	800	272	250
Yearly Meeting Projects	12,515	12,415	9,215	9,215	9,090
Transfers To Funds	2,915	2,915	2,915	2,915	2,440
Spiritual Development Fund	300	300	300	300	300
Released Friend Fund	300	300	300	300	600

Budget Category	FY 2013		FY 2014		FY 2015
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
FWCC - 3rd Wld Del	1,325	1,325	1,325	1,325	250
FWCC World Conference Fund	700	700	700	700	1,000
Youth Enrichment Fund	250	250	250	250	250
Young Adult Friends Scholarships	40	40	40	40	40
Contributions Wider Quaker Org	9,600	9,500	6,100	6,300	6,650
AFSC	1,050	1,050	700	700	700
FCNL	1,050	1,050	700	700	1,000
FGC	1,050	1,050	700	700	700
FWCC	1,050	1,050	700	700	700
Right Sharing of World Resources	1,050	1,050	700	700	700
Quaker House	1,050	1,050	700	700	700
Friends for LGBTQ Concerns	300	200	200	200	100
Quaker Earthcare Witness	1,050	1,050	800	800	800
Friends Peace Teams	900	900	200	200	
Wm Penn House	300	300	200	200	200
Friends Journal	300	300	200	200	300
Guilford College Archiving	150	150	100	100	150
Rural Southern Voice for Peace	300	300	200	200	
Bolivian Quaker Education Fund			200	200	600
Other				-	
Surplus		5,169		2,065	-
Transfer to Reserves					
Carry Forward to Next Year		5,169		2,065	-