

# Friendship Times

## Friendship Friends Meeting

(336) 854-5155

[www.friendshipmeeting.org](http://www.friendshipmeeting.org)

### Calendar

Sun, Sept 28	9 am Deeping the Life of the Meeting 10:30 am Meeting for Worship followed by Forum on Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting
Sun, Oct 5	9 am Worship and Ministry, Care and Counsel, and Peace and Social Concerns committees 10:30 am Meeting for Worship
Sun, Oct 12	10:30 am Meeting for Worship, a potluck meal follows 12:30 pm Corporation Meeting then Meeting for Business
Mon, Oct 13	6 pm Meeting provides dinner at Pathways
Sun, Oct 19	10:30 am Meeting for Worship
Tues, Oct 21	Last day to send newsletter material to Editor
Sun, Oct 26	9 am Deeping the Life of the Meeting 10:30 am Meeting for Worship
Sun, Nov 2	9 am Worship and Ministry, Care and Counsel, and Peace and Social Concerns committees 10:30 am Meeting for Worship

Weekly at 10:30 am each First Day, Meeting for Worship. Child care is available for Worship and Business Meetings. 7:30 pm Fourth Day, Midweek Meeting for Worship, in Prayer Room, 7<sup>th</sup> floor Woolman Hall, Friends Homes Guilford, occasionally followed by discussion at 8 pm.

**This Issue** mostly consists of announcements and various minutes for Ninth Month's meeting for business as well as a called meeting. Please see the announcement for the upcoming forum on possibly joining Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting.

### From the Editor

My intention is to distribute the newsletter no later than the last Sunday of the month; this will be October 26. Material should be submitted, preferably by email, no later than Tuesday, October 21.

### Month's Query

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Query #10: *Do we endeavor to live in harmony with nature? Are we careful in our stewardship of the world's irreplaceable resources?*

### Young Friends Tenth Month Birthday

Aiden Getties 10/2/2004

## Minutes

**9<sup>th</sup> Month Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business**

**September 14, 2014**

Meeting began with a brief period of silent worship.

**1. Treasurer’s Report: Ninth Month Report for Eighth Month Income and Expenses**

Operating expenses in August were \$216.49. Four supporting contributions were paid totaling \$1,550. Meetinghouse expenses totaled \$391.40. Income in August was \$915 to the General Fund and \$175 to the New Building Fund.

Fund	Income	Expenses	Ending Balance
General	\$915.00	\$2,157.89	\$10,377.99
New Building	\$175.00	\$0	\$3,110.00
All Operating	\$1090.00	\$2,157.89	\$20,949.85

**2. Nominating Committee Report**

- Jim Hood gave a report for the Nominating Committee.
- Anne Rouse was approved to serve on the Care and Counsel Committee and will no longer serve on Worship and Ministry.
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Nominating Committee was informed that Mae Brown was unable to serve on Care and Counsel and proposes that Anne Rouse be added to serve on this committee. We will be seeking additional members to serve on this vital committee. We will also be looking for at least

one additional member for Worship and Ministry to replace Anne Rouse.

Following up on a conversation with members from both committees, we wondered if the handbook descriptions of these committees might be amended to state that the two committees may, at points of need, combine to address tasks.

**3. Meetinghouse Fundraising Committee Report**

- Kembra Howdeshell gave a report from the Meetinghouse Fundraising Committee and the Meetinghouse Planning Committee.
- The committees will be offering forums to help members and attenders understand the information in the report, and to discuss the next steps in our meetinghouse renovations fundraising.

**4. Ad Hoc Committee to Review Donations Report**

- Kim Carlyle gave a report from the Ad Hoc Committee to Review Donations.
- The work of this committee has been completed and the committee will be laid down. Many thanks to the committee.
- The Finance Committee will take up the recommendations in preparation for the 2015 budget..

### **Ad Hoc Committee to Review Donations report to Monthly Meeting**

The ad hoc committee reviewed a number of proposals for funding of outside organizations. These thoughtfully prepared proposals demonstrate that members of our Meeting have strong attachments to a number of organizations and deep feelings that our spiritual community should provide material support for them.

To guide our deliberations, we recognized that:

- Friendship Friends Meeting has committed to funding the construction of a new meeting room building.
- Our primary support responsibility as a Meeting is to support our Meeting's needs; support for external organizations is secondary and discretionary.
- We have stewardship obligations for our building and grounds and for the use of our financial assets.
- Support for external organizations is not limited to financial aid; it can be donations in kind, service, prayer, or other things.
- Individuals can make and encourage others to make contributions to external organizations.
- Half of our Yearly Meeting's budget is allocated to support external organizations, several of which we, as a Meeting, have also supported. Our committee felt more comfortable suggesting reduced contributions to these organizations, knowing that part of our donation to Yearly Meeting would be directed to them.
- The organizations we support as a Meeting should have some direct connection to our Meeting or to a number of our members.

- Friendship Friends had sufficient time and notice to respond to our call for proposals; the proposals we received came from Friends who are active in Meeting and connected in some way to the organizations they recommended for our support.
- This reduction in discretionary funding is a temporary situation.

After prayerfully considering the proposals presented to us, we submitted recommendations for external funding to the Finance Committee for their consideration. The total amount for support for external organizations suggested is \$5,450 for the 2015 fiscal year. The total for 2014 was \$10,650.

Now that we have completed our work, we request that Meeting lay this committee down.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Carlyle, Judy Purvis, Carey Reece, and Jim Rouse

### **5. Ad Hoc Meeting Emergency Procedures Committee Report**

- Susan Carlyle presented a report from the Ad Hoc Meeting Emergency Procedures Committee.
- The work of the committee is complete and this committee will be laid down.
- The report follows.

#### **Peace and Social Concerns ACTION BOX**

Please bring in the following food item to go to First Friends Food Pantry during the month of October

*Canned meat and fish*

### **Report to Monthly Meeting from the ad hoc Meeting Emergency Procedures Committee**

The committee met on First Day July 20th

Convener: Darlene Stanley

Present: Susan Carlyle, Rebecca Valla, Merritt Bussiere-Nichols

We met together and carefully reviewed and discussed the types of emergency situations that have occurred in the past or which might occur within our Meeting.

We realized that the non-emergencies are more complicated. They can be mental health issues that are displayed thru inappropriate ramblings and behavior or loud outbursts.

We agreed that it is always important to remember that kindness and sensitivity is always in order for these events.

We did not want to forget that there are other causes for concern by the Meeting, which are not emergencies but are examples of challenges members may experience and we could all benefit by knowing ways to respond to those families and /or be supportive. Examples are: a couple separating, a child involved with drugs, a teenage pregnancy, or a member experiencing depression or anxiety.

We recommend that the House and Grounds committee create and display two signs with our address and phone number (1) in the Meeting room near the exit sign and (2) in the Fellowship room.

1. We recommend that if a greeter spots anything unusual from someone who comes in, they will alert the Clerk (or the person designated to close Meeting for Worship) to any concerns they have before worship begins.
2. We recommend that the Clerk (or the person designated to close Meeting for

Worship) be the First Responder or Point Person if there is a medical emergency. This person would delegate who would make calls from the Meetinghouse phone (land line) and who would go and wait for the EMS personnel at the driveway.

3. If a disruption in Meeting or Meeting event occurs, the clerk (or the person designated to close Meeting for Worship) would handle this or give direction to two people to escort the individual out of the Meetinghouse. These two people would use sensitivity and kindness to discern general information that might be helpful for a calm resolution to a disruption.
4. We recommend that Rebecca Valla do a forum for Meeting on General Mental Health First Aid Responses. In addition, we recommend that Daniel Rhodes do a forum for the Meeting on Non Violent Communication and Conflict Resolution.

### **5. Membership Report Addendum**

#### ADDENDUM TO REPORT BY MEMBERSHIP RECORDER - 9TH MONTH 2014

Over 60 updated directories were distributed electronically the week of June 22nd, 2014 and 20 hard copies of the directory were printed at a cost of \$16.34.

### **6. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HANDBOOK COMMITTEE**

9TH MONTH, 2014

#### FRIENDSHIP FRIENDS MEETING

The only change to this document was the elimination of the exhaustive list of Quaker Organizations and Institutions providing links to the comprehensive Quaker websites, including

Quaker organization bookstores and publications.

The calendar has been updated and an item added with regard to appointing representatives to North Carolina Yearly Meeting (Conservative).

An updated committee list was electronically distributed in 7th month. Two new committees have been added, the Meetinghouse Fundraising Committee and the Meetinghouse Planning Committee, and descriptions of these committees are now included.

Since the handbook was not ready to be distributed in time, the convener of each committee was sent a copy of the description of their committee to share at the first meeting in 8th month.

A copy of the Committee list has been posted on the bulletin board in the kitchen.

67 copies were sent out electronically.

Twenty-one hard copies were printed and distributed to officers, clerks and other Friends by special request, and 5 copies to have on hand for distribution to attenders.

The cost of printing was \$20.93. Our budget for the year is \$50.00.

## 7. Report on Yearly Meeting Sessions 2014

Guilford College, 7/9-7/13, 2014

Yearly meeting sessions this year were attended by 105 persons, including 20 young people. This is an increase in both adults and youth over the attendance at Guilford two years ago.

The gathering of Yearly Meeting of Ministers, Elders, and Overseers was well attended.

Topics discussed included how best to connect with and nurture individual Friends living at a distance who express a desire to affiliate with our yearly meeting, and how to best provide support and accountability to the clerk of Yearly Meeting MEO. It was decided to recommend that Davidson Meeting consider issuing a travel minute for Kristin Olson-Kennedy covering her travels to monthly meetings on behalf of the yearly meeting.

The Yearly Meeting was officially welcomed to Guilford College by the new president of the college, Jane Fernandez, who also stayed for the 6th day meeting for worship. It was the first time in many years that the president of the college personally gave the welcome and stayed to enjoy the unprogrammed worship.

There was a called meeting of all recorded ministers and elders in the yearly meeting on Sixth Day. This was a covered gathering and a time of spiritual refreshment.

Bible study was led by Susan Wilson, a sojourning member of Friendship Meeting. She connected accounts of the spiritual journey, contemplative practice, and *lectio divina* of selected Bible texts in a way that was very well received by Friends. Susan gave each monthly meeting a copy of *Following Jesus & Walking With God: A Year's Journey Through The Gospels*, by Pat DeWitt Thomas.

The yearly meeting budget was greatly modified this year to accommodate reductions in revenue and increases in expenses. Friendship Meeting is undertaking a long discernment process about establishing financial priorities, and is unable to make a commitment of any amount to the yearly meeting at this time. The General Travel budget was increased from \$2,000 to \$2,500, reflecting the commitment of the yearly meeting to cover more of the travel costs of our representatives to other organizations, and of our yearly meeting clerks.

As a consequence, budgeted donations to organizations were cut almost in half. All donations were capped at \$250 except Quaker House of Fayetteville (\$750) and the Bolivian Quaker Educational Fund (\$600). Friends Association for Higher Education and Friends Council on Education were completely eliminated from the budget.

The Discipline Review Committee presented the revised draft of section 1 of the *Discipline on Organization and Procedures*, as distributed to monthly meeting liaisons and posted on the yearly meeting web page earlier. The yearly meeting deleted a phrase referring to corporations in the third paragraph and two sentences in the section about the Interim Body referring to a quorum and then approved the section. We will use this section for the next year and consider it again at the 2015 yearly meeting sessions.

Nancy Craft will continue another year as clerk of the yearly meeting, as will Gwen G. Erickson (recording clerk), and Marguerite Dingman (reading clerk). Lloyd Lee Wilson will continue as yearly meeting treasurer.

Evening presentations included a panel discussion on Fifth Day titled *What does it mean to be a Conservative Friend in North Carolina?* Rachel Miller reflected on her experiences growing up in our yearly meeting, Carole Treadway shared family stories about the yearly meeting, and Lloyd Lee Wilson spoke about the historical and theological distinctives of North Carolina Friends both before and after the separation of 1903. On Sixth Day Elizabeth Gates of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, the co-clerk of the planning committee for the Sixth World Conference in Kenya in 2012, spoke on the topic *Cultivating Spiritual Depth in Daily Life*, and on Seventh Day Elizabeth Wintermute of Durham Meeting led an intergenerational gathering in *Exploring Spiritual Gifts through Faith and Play*. Elizabeth's leadership sparked

excellent conversations between children and adults on identifying what might be a spiritual gift, how they are best used, and how we can help one another in nurturing and exercising those gifts.

The yearly meeting would like to hear from Friends who would be interested in being spiritual "pen pals" with Friends and other interested persons in distant states or countries who feel a spiritual connection to our yearly meeting. The object would be to offer spiritual fellowship and nurture to these people separate from the question of membership with us.

The yearly meeting purposes to meet again next year on the campus of UNC-Wilmington from 7/15-7/19, 2015. This is one week later than usual in order to avoid a conflict with the FGC Gathering, which will be held at Western Carolina University the previous week. Fall Interim Body is tentatively scheduled for Durham Meeting on 10/25/14. The Yearly Meeting of Ministers, Elders, and Overseers will meet that day immediately following the rise of Interim Body.

## **8. Faith and Practice Revisions Committee Liaison Report**

- Sidney Lee Kitchens reported that Section 2 of the proposed draft of revisions to the Faith and Practice is out. He requests that interested members and attenders contact him to meet to discuss the section.

## **9. Request from Yearly Meeting Ministry and Oversight**

- Sidney Lee Kitchens read a request from Yearly Meeting Ministry and Oversight.
- The request follows.
- Friendship Friends Meeting is supportive of this retreat opportunity.

Bruce Arnold brought a request, approved by Greenville Monthly Meeting, for the Yearly Meeting of Ministry and Oversight to sponsor a retreat for ways to support the work of vocal ministry in monthly meetings. The proposal is to hold a retreat for those who are active in vocal ministry and to encourage seasoned ministers as well as fledglings. The retreat would consist of opening worship followed by queries. It would last one day in a central location. This body would like more discernment about how the retreat would take participants beyond their own monthly meeting. Friends are encouraged to take the question to their monthly meetings and return to the question at fall representative (interim) body.

#### **10. Peace and Social Concerns Request**

- Peace and Social Concerns is drafting a minute in support of the county welcoming unaccompanied minors from Latin American countries. Their goal is to have the minute ready for the meeting to discuss next Sunday at the rise of meeting.

The meeting ended with a period of silent worship.

#### **Called Meeting for Business 9/21/2014**

Peace and Social Concerns proposed a minute in support of unaccompanied migrant youth being settled in North Carolina. Once approved, the committee would like to send the minute to the New and Record. The revised minute, incorporating current feedback, will be sent out by email to Friendship Friends in order for members and attenders to offer more

feedback. The minute will then be brought back to the meeting for approval.

#### **Upcoming Forum on Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting and Fellowship**

On Sunday, September 28, the Worship & Ministry committee will be hosting a forum after the rise of meeting to discuss the question of whether Friendship would like to affiliate with the new Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting or continue its current affiliation with Piedmont Friends Fellowship. This forum is also intended as education about the role of yearly meetings and our historical relationship with North Carolina Yearly Meeting – Conservative.

To help in our education and discernment process, the Worship & Ministry committee has invited Marian Beane, clerk of the PFYM Formation Committee and Lloyd Lee Wilson to present and lead the discussion.

Those attending the forum are encouraged to bring a bag lunch.

Dinners at the Pathways Center 10/13 and 11/10

The biggest service that we provide to the residents there is friendship and acceptance. By sharing a meal with the families there, we engage in conversation and fellowship during the meal. For October 13th, it would be fun to do a chili, cornbread, and salad meal. Please contact Susan Carlyle if you want to cook something and/or come and she will put you on the schedule for a reminder the week before. And as always, cookie or brownie makers are welcome too!

The meal is served at 6 pm.

Friendship Friends Meeting  
Box 8652  
Greensboro, NC 27419  
(336) 854-5155  
[www.friendshipmeeting.org](http://www.friendshipmeeting.org)

Sidney Kitchens, Clerk  
Stephen Holland, Treasurer  
Claire Koster, Membership Recorder  
Hannah Logan Morris, Recording Clerk

Neil Swenson, Co-Clerk  
Ray Treadway, Assistant Treasurer  
Hannah Morris, Asst Membership Recorder  
Dave MacInnes, Newsletter Editor

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