

Southeastern Yearly Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends
Yearly Business Meeting 2020
Executive Committee Meeting
9 Fifth Month 2020

Minutes

The meeting began with worship at 2 pm.

Bill Carlie read from John Woolman from the silence.

Friends introduced themselves and their roles.

Bill gave some Zoom tips, including a request to keep ourselves muted when not speaking, and to use the hand raised feature to be recognized.

Ed Lesnick presented the Nominating Committee report (attached). The committee has met since the report was repaired. Some additional names will be added. Vicki Carlie pointed out that the position of CAPP coordinator was the responsibility of Executive Committee. Nominating Committee is continuing to search for a Friend to fill this position. Ed encouraged Friends to help with this nomination.

Susan Wade gave the Yearly Meeting Secretary's report (attached). Friends accepted the report and are grateful for Susan's gifts, joy, and work.

Vicki Carlie gave the report of the Gathering Committee (attached). Right after the specially called meeting of the Executive Committee on the 11th day of the Third Month, Andrea Hoskins contacted the Warren Willis United Methodist Camp and Conference Center (WWUMCCC) f/k/a the Life Enrichment Center (LEC) and was able to have our deposit moved to the 2021 Gathering.

The committee and staff did create a virtual "mini gathering." A follow up survey indicated overwhelming enthusiasm for continuing virtual workshops, worship sharing, and other ongoing online programs. The Gathering Committee believes the question of whether to continue to offer virtual events should be discussed by Executive Committee or the wider SEYM community. Perhaps one workshop and one worship sharing a month would be sustainable, but the Gathering Committee believes this to be beyond its responsibility. Friends believe this is a good idea, but will require a coordinator or committee to make this a good outreach tool. An *ad hoc* committee from the Executive Committee might coordinate this for a year. This will require staff time as well. Kody reports that he has some time for this work.

20YMEC01 **Executive Committee appoints an *ad hoc* committee of Cece Yocum, Brian Olson, Stephen Riddle, Nancy Triscritti, and Kody Hersh to coordinate the presentation of virtual workshops that were already prepared for Yearly Meeting Gathering, as well as virtual worship sharing, between now and Winter Interim Business meeting, and to report to WIBM on future possibilities. APPROVED.**

Kody Hersh presented the Youth and Young Adult Coordinator's report. A full report will be prepared for the fourth or fifth Yearly Meeting plenary. At this time, he asks to be lifted in the Light for guidance as to his work going forward since there is little clarity about when in-person events can resume. He asks also that the Nominating Committee continue to be held in the Light in its work to find a CAPP coordinator. He plans to be in touch with Friends to be CAPP trained, as our community is strong when we have a group that is trained to work with our youth. Friends accepted the report with gratitude for the work Kody does.

Jerry Knutson presented the Half Yearly Meeting report (attached). Brian Olson will become clerk of HYM in 2021. There is, of course, uncertainty about an in-person meeting in 2020. Friends accepted the report.

Joel Cook presented the Treasurer's Report. The third quarter report is not yet prepared. Joel and Dianne Langan are able to work together from a distance, and a report will be ready soon. Joel has been in touch with a CPA firm to get a new letter of engagement to move forward with the review of policies and procedures. Through the end of the Third Month, we are about \$10,000 to the good. Friends accepted the report.

Peter Schmidt reported for the Finance Committee. Apportionments are generally done after the budget is approved. Joel Cook gives the approximate apportionment as \$143 per member (1/2 per attender). There was particular discussion about how to handle Gainesville's apportionment vis-à-vis the absorption of Jacksonville Worship Group. Friends accepted the Finance Committee report.

Ed Lesnick, membership recorder, explained that Friends who are part of a worship group but members of a monthly meeting are not included as attenders at the worship group.

Jack Bradin reported for Trustees. Neil Andersen will complete Jack's term as clerk so that he can serve as assistant clerk. The Trustees investments are okay—Friends Fiduciary has so far weathered the uncertainty well. Jack also explained that Trustees want to offer a fund to assist meetings and Friends in these extraordinary times. A procedure would allow these funds to be accessed more quickly than through YM business meeting.

**20YMECC02 Executive Committee appoints an *ad hoc* committee of Jack Bradin, Neil Andersen, Nancy Triscritti, Bill Carlie, and a representative to be named from Peace & Social Concerns Committee, to develop a specific plan for the Trustees' funds proposed to assist Friends and Meetings with needs related to the Covid-19 pandemic, to be presented at a YM plenary session in the coming month.
APPROVED**

Ed Lesnick reported as the Membership Recorder. Two meetings have done a very thorough job of identifying who they identify as an attender. In overall numbers we are about the same as last year. There will be a more detailed report at a later plenary. Friends accepted the report.

Cece Yocum stated that Peace & Social Concerns has met recently and will have a report for DIA before its plenary.

Nancy Triscritti reported that Worship and Ministry has no report at this time.

Committee for Ministry on Racism has a report in the DIA.

Earthcare Committee does not have a report at this time. There was a report in the original Documents in Advance.

The numbered minutes were read back and affirmed with a minor correction.

The meeting closed with worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Dykes, recording clerk

Attendees:

Clearwater Monthly Meeting

Eileen Zingaro

Fort Myers

Richard Frechette

Gainesville Monthly Meeting

Peter Ackerman

Liz Dykes

Jean Larson

Jacksonville Worship Group

Wendy Clarissa Geiger

Miami Monthly Meeting

Andrea Hoskins

Brian Olson

Orlando Monthly Meeting

Kody Hersch

Elizabeth Jenkins

Jerry Knutson

Chris Laning

Ed Lesnick

Steven Riddle

Mira Tanna

Other Friends:

Peter Schmidt

Palm Beach Meeting

Jack Bradin

Saint Augustine Worship Group

Clara Diaz (Miami MM)

Richelle Ogle (Orlando MM)

Saint Petersburg Meeting

Bill Carlie

Vicki Carlie

Susan Wade

Sarasota Monthly Meeting

Jennifer Mendoza

Tallahassee Meeting

Neil Andersen

Phoebe Andersen

Susan Taylor

Tampa Monthly Meeting

Nancy Triscritti

Cece Yocum

Treasure Coast Worship Group

Joel Cook (Palm Beach MM)

North Carolina Yearly Meeting (Conservative)

Tom Kennedy, Virginia Beach Friends Meeting

Nominating Committee Report

Yearly Business Meeting 2020 – Executive Committee Meeting
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THE SEYM Nominating Committee members are Ed Lesnick (Clerk), Beverly Ward, Shawna Doran, and Brian Olson.

Directed in the Spirit, the committee has several charges, among them to (1) identify Friends who have gifts and a leading to serve in essential positions, which are central to the success of SEYM and its programs. (2) Contact members whose terms are expiring about continuing to share their gifts as a committee member, officer, or representative. (3) Identify and encourage more members to partake in the operation of SEYM. We continually address these needs. We always need your help!

We encourage Friends who see gifts in others to recommend them to the Nominating Committee. We request all southeastern Friends to consider a commitment to SEYM and also encourage Friends at your monthly meeting or worship group to become active and spiritually enriched by serving others in Southeastern Yearly Meeting.

There are committee memberships and representatives' terms that remain unfilled for 2020-2021. We welcome new contributors and those who can continue in service to the Yearly Meeting. Current needs include:

1. Worship and Ministry – The committee needs *additional members* to conduct a program whose purpose is to enrich our spiritual lives.
2. Youth Committee - *Additional members* are sought. The purpose of the Youth Committee is to plan, supervise, and facilitate SEYM youth activities.
3. Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL). *Three (3) representative positions* are open. Representatives actively participate in the work of FCNL through the annual meeting of the FCNL General Committee held in November. They update SEYM on FCNL plans, programs, and campaigns.¹
4. Representative to Friends General Conference (FGC) Central Committee. *One additional member* is needed. The member participates in the annual Central Committee weekend meeting held near Baltimore and relates news and information from Friends General Conference to SEYM.
5. Publications Committee seeks *members who have knowledge and experience in this specialized field*. If interested, please talk to Friend Phoebe Andersen, clerk of Publications, for the particulars, and a Nominating Committee member.

To learn more about a committee or representative position, The SEYM Operational Handbook section for “job descriptions” is online at seymquakers.org/organization/policies-handbooks.

Nominating Committee

Report to the YM Executive Committee

Slate of Officers, Committees, Representatives, & Appointees
AS OF MAY 4, 2020

OFFICERS

Yearly Meeting Clerk	Bill Carlie.....	St. Petersburg	2023
Interim Business Meeting (IBM)			
& Executive Committee (EC) Clerk	Phoebe Andersen.....	Tallahassee	2021
YM & IBM Assistant Clerk	Jack Bradin.....	Palm Beach	2023
YM Recording Clerk.....	Richard Frechette	Ft. Myers.....	2021
Recording Clerk, IBM/EC	Liz Dykes.....	Gainesville	2022
Assistant Recording Clerk(s)			
Treasurer	Joel Cook	Palm Beach	2023
Membership Recorder	Ed Lesnick.....	Orlando.....	2023

TRUSTEES

Jack Bradin, <i>Clerk</i>	Palm Beach	2021
Neil Andersen	Tallahassee.....	2023
Mike Flanery	Clearwater	2023
Chris Laning.....	Orlando	2022
Liz Dykes.....	Gainesville	2023

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAM (CAPP)

Program is currently operating according to a **WIBM** approved minute

YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS CONTACT Kody Hersh

COMMITTEES

Archives	Bill Rapp, <i>Clerk</i>	Lake Wales	2021
	Phoebe Andersen.....	Tallahassee.....	2023
	Neil Andersen	Tallahassee.....	2021
Earthcare	Brian Humphrey, <i>Co-Clerk</i>	Ft. Lauderdale	2023
	Bill Carlie, <i>Co-Clerk</i>	St. Petersburg	2021
	Jack Bradin	Palm Beach	2023
	Mike Flanery	Clearwater	2023
	Hollyn Green	Savannah	2023
	Brad Stocker.....	Miami.....	2023
	Gary Crosby.....	St. Petersburg	2023
	Jim Koopman	Ft. Myers	2022
	Catherine Price	Lake Wales	2022
	Beverly Ward.....	Tampa.....	2022
	Bonnie Zimmer	Gainesville	2022
Faith & Practice (Committee on sabbatical)	Phoebe Andersen, <i>Clerk</i>	Tallahassee.....	2022
Facebook Page	Mike Flanery	Clearwater	2021

Finance	Peter Schmidt, <i>Clerk</i>	2022
	Steve Donachie	Miami..... 2021
	Shawna Doran.....	Gainesville..... 2021
	Carl Hersh	Miami..... 2021
	Jack Bradin, <i>Clerk of Trustees (ex officio)</i> & Asst. YM Clerk (ex officio)...	Palm Beach 2021
	Joel Cook, Treasurer (ex officio).....	Palm Beach 2023
	Susan Wade, YM Secretary (ex officio)	St. Petersburg
Half-Yearly Meeting	Jerry Knutson, <i>Clerk</i>	Orlando 2021
	Brian Olson, <i>Registrar Clerk for 2021</i>	Miami..... 2021
	Caroline Kaufman, Food Coordinator	Clearwater..... 2022
	Beeg Camarota, <i>Registrar for 2021</i>	Deland/Orlando 2021
Ministry on Racism	Susan Taylor, <i>Co-Clerk</i>	Tallahassee..... 2023
	Wendy Clarissa Geiger, <i>Co-Clerk</i>	Jacksonville 2023
	Cheryl Demers	Gainesville 2023
	Mainus Sultan	Savannah 2023
	Jean Larson	Gainesville..... 2022
	Minerva Glidden	Orlando..... 2021
	Kathy Hersh.....	Miami..... 2021
	Beverly Ward.....	Tampa..... 2021
Jane Westberg.....	Miami 2021	
Peace & Social Concerns	Cece Yocum, <i>Clerk</i>	Tampa 2022
	Phil Stone.....	Clearwater 2023
	Helen Fox	Ft. Myers 2022
	Caroline Kaufman.....	Clearwater 2023
	Willie Hager	Jacksonville 2022
	Warren Hoskins.....	Miami..... 2022
	John Heimburg.....	Orlando..... 2022
	Mercedes Soca.....	Havana WG..... 2022
	Peter Harrell.....	Gainesville..... 2021
	Eileen Zingaro	Clearwater 2021
	Peter Ackerman	Gainesville..... 2020
Publications	Phoebe Andersen, <i>Clerk</i>	Tallahassee..... 2021
Worship & Ministry	Ellie Caldwell	Palm Beach 2023
	Eduardo Diaz	Miami 2023
	Nancy Fennell	Ft. Myers 2021
	Nancy Rose Logan	Sarasota 2022
	Richelle Ogle	SAWG/Orlando 2022
YM Gathering	Andrea Hoskins, <i>Clerk</i>	Miami 2022
	Susan Wade, <i>Registrar</i>	St. Petersburg 2023
	Caroline Kaufman, <i>Bookstore</i>	Clearwater 2021
	Brian Olson, <i>Asst. Program Coordinator</i>	Miami 2023
	Stephanie Preston-Hughes.....	Orlando..... 2022
	Vicki Carlie, <i>Program Coordinator</i>	St. Petersburg 2021
Youth Committee	Jenn Ambrose	Gainesville..... 2021
	Aurelio Anderson	Tallahassee..... 2021

Youth Committee con't	Mico Ashe	Ft. Myers	2023
	Jennifer Mendoza	Sarasota	2021
	Mira Tanna	Orlando	2021
	Cecelia Yocum	Tampa	2021

REPRESENTATIVES TO ORGANIZATIONS

American Friends Service Committee Corporation, AFSC/Philadelphia

Kathy Hersh.	Miami	2022
Beverly Ward.....	Tampa.....	2022

Friends Committee on National Legislation, FCNL

Karen Putney.....	Tampa	2021
OPEN.....		2023

Friends General Conference, FGC Central Committee

Susan Taylor	Tallahassee	2022
Susan Wade	St. Petersburg.....	2022
OPEN.....		2023

Friends World Committee for Consultation – FWCC

Nancy Rose Logan.....	Sarasota.....	2023
Clara Diaz.....	Miami.....	2022
Eduardo Diaz	Miami.....	2021

Friends Peace Teams

Cecilia Yocum	Tampa	2021
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Florida Council of Churches

Beverly Ward.....	Tampa.....	2021
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Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Queer Concerns – FLGBTQ

Sara Humphrey.....	Orlando.....	2020
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Palmetto Friends Gathering

Phoebe Andersen.....	Tallahassee.....	2023
Neil Andersen	Tallahassee.....	2023

Quaker Earthcare Witness

Jack Braden	Palm Beach	2022
Brad Stocker	Miami	2022

Quaker House 2023

Quaker UN Office (QUNO)

Warren Hoskins.....	Miami.....	2022
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APPOINTED OBSERVERS TO ORGANIZATIONS

FUM General Board Observer

Eduardo Diaz	Miami	2021
Ellie Caldwell, <i>Alternate</i>	Palm Beach	2021

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Ed Lesnick, <i>Clerk</i>	Orlando.....	2021
Beverly Ward.....	Tampa.....	2022
Shawna Doran.....	Gainesville	2022
Brian Olson	Miami	2023

Secretary's Report

Executive Committee Meeting
6 Sixth Month 2020

This has been a year of learning for me. As is often the case, one doesn't ever really know the extent of a job until they've occupied the position. And just as I was feeling that I was getting the hang of it all, along comes CoVid-19 and new lessons began – for us all.

I don't want to give the impressions that it has been all drudgery. In addition to learning the details of keeping the gears turning within SEYM, I've had the pleasure of getting to know on a deeper level many of the people who give their time, talents, and energy to keeping our organization running. That has been my greatest reward and I am deeply grateful to Southeastern Yearly Meeting for giving me this opportunity.

I am grateful, too, for the personal and spiritual growth I've experienced while working for and with Quakers. Although it may not always be evident to those who have worked most closely with me, I am always brought back to George Fox's instruction to "Be patterns, be examples in all countries, places, islands, nations . . . that your carriage and life may preach among all sorts of people and to them, then you will come to walk cheerfully over the world, answering that of God in everyone. . . ."

I do walk more cheerfully over the world than I did a year ago and strive more than ever to answer that of God in everyone.

Susan Wade, Secretary

Gathering Committee Report

Executive Committee Meeting
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The Gathering Committee would like to report a couple of key items to the YBM Executive Committee Meeting.

First, some good news: Our clerk, Andrea Hoskins, called the Warren Willis United Methodist Camp & Conference Center after our March 11th EC meeting to cancel the in-person Gathering. After some discussion, the WWUMCC agreed to credit this year's deposits on the camp to our 2021 Gathering. We have a good relationship with them; and they like us as clients, and want to have us come back.

Second, we want to report on the survey we conducted after the Virtual Mini-Gathering (VMG). The survey, [SEYM Virtual Gatherings: Looking Ahead](#), gathered feedback both from Friends who had attended the VMG, and those who had not. About 65 Friends took the survey.

One key takeaway was the overwhelming enthusiasm for SEYM to continue to offer programming online – worship sharing, workshops, and other virtual events – even after we are able to start meeting in person again.

The Gathering Committee, working with Kody Hersh as Coordinator, is offering 4 Worship Sharing sessions this month in support of YBM sessions.

There are a few more workshops, that had been planned for our in-person Gathering, which are 'ready-to-go' to be offered online. However, the committee is not prepared to schedule them at this time.

We feel that the question of offering ongoing online program is beyond the Gathering Committee's responsibilities, and that it would best be addressed by the Executive Committee, and/or the larger body of SEYM.

Shall SEYM continue to offer worship sharing, workshops, and/or other virtual events in the coming weeks and months? For the duration of social distancing? On a continuing basis?

The Virtual Mini-Gathering, held April 8-12, was a huge success. 112 Friends attended the sessions; many were present for almost all the sessions, while others dropped in for workshops that fit their schedule or interests. We also note that many participants were Friends we don't usually see at the in-person Gathering. [See the full report>](#)

YM Gathering Committee:
Andrea Hoskins, Clerk
Susan Wade, Registrar

Vicki Carlie, Program Planning (outgoing)
Brian Olson, Program Planning (incoming)
Caroline Kaufman, Bookstore

Half-Yearly Meeting Report

Executive Committee Meeting
9 Fifth Month 2020

We recognize that the public health situation with COVID-19 may prevent us from holding Half Yearly Meeting (HYM) at Wekiwa Springs State Park near Orlando over Thanksgiving weekend. The HYM Committee will continue monitoring the situation. If the event at the State Park needs to be cancelled, Earthcare Secretary, Youth YA Coordinator, and others may offer something on Zoom. Please hold this Gathering in the Light, for many of us it is delightful, relaxing, Spirit-led, almost-unprogrammed gathering.

Brian Olson and Beeg Camarota have agreed to be Clerk and Registrar respectively in 2021. Please list them on Nominating Report as Rising Clerk and Rising Registrar for this year.

Submitted by
Jerry Knutson, HYM Clerk