

**Tampa Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business**

Minutes

14 Ninth Month 2014

Opening worship

Meeting Clerk began the gathering with a quote:

In our world of degrees, exams, and training programs, it is easy to forget that ministry is not primarily a task; it is a way of being in the world. It is living in relationship with God and being a witness to God. Ministry is being able to listen to the Word of God and thereby have a word of life to share with others. Fundamentally, we do not do ministry. We are ministers.

—Sandra Cronk (SEYM Faith and Practice—Chapter: The Light Within and Meeting for Worship)

Clerks

Jan Dahm Meeting Clerk.

Cynde Mercer Recording Clerk.

Attendees

Jan Dahm

Lisa Erazmus

Chris Hugues

Karen Kessel

Cynde Mercer

Nancy Triscritti

Barbara Ward

Bill Ward

Barbara Wolfe

Cecilia Yocum

Business

Minutes of Fifth Month were approved as submitted.

The Treasurer reported that our YTD income is about \$2,000 under our budgeted amount, and our YTD expenses are only slightly over budget. Also presented, was the progress on our building fund. We have raised about \$55,000 of our \$110,000 amount to raise.

Committee Reports

First Day School – No report.

Hospitality – No report

Library – No report

Ministry and Counsel – Nancy Triscritti reported that upcoming Friendly Dinner dates are September 27, October 25 and November 29. The committee also plans Adult First Day School sessions discussing Michener lectures each first day from 9-9:45 on First day beginning October 19 and continuing for four-six weeks. St. Petersburg meeting has invited John Calvi to speak the weekend of November 21 and asked if we would be willing to support them financially as well as attending. Dustin Lemke suggested \$200. Friends approve the gift.

Nominating – No report.

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Peace and Social Concerns – Karen Putney reported that the committee has planned for speakers to share their witness after meeting for worship in the coming months. See Appendix A.

Property – Chris Hugues reported that he has formally signed a contract with the builder and he is working with the city planner for approvals. Groundbreaking is tentatively planned for early October. We are ready for Friends to fulfill their pledge commitments.

New Business

None

Milestones

No milestones were brought forth.

Calendar

See TampaFriends.org.

Closing worship

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Appendix A

Peace and Social Concerns Committee Report

The Peace and Social Concerns committee is again taking up the opportunities that arise for Tampa Friends to have time with those who are called to work and witness in our troubled world. It is our hope that through such discussions Tampa Friends will strengthen their understanding of how one may be led to a particular work and witness and will become better informed about the hard work and positive efforts being made for peace and justice.

In the coming months we hope to engage with the following speakers who come to share their story. September 28 - Tampa Friend Nil Wilkins will share about her call to service as a board member of Right Sharing of World Resources, and about the variety of people RSWR supports through it's projects in India, Kenya and Sierra Leone. Of special concern is the current ebola crisis and how it is impacting RSWR partners in Sierra Leone. Program will begin at 11:30.

October TBA - Quaker House of Fayetteville Directors, Lynn and Steve Newsom will will share with us regarding the work of Quaker House the home of the GI Rights Hotline and the peace presence in the home of Ft. Bragg.

November 2 - David Zarembka, Coordinator of the African Great Lakes Initiative of Friends Peace teams will share the story of Quaker peacemaking in action in Kenya led by the Friends Church Peace Teams formed by the Quakers of Kenya. Program will begin at 11:30.

Upcoming and more details to follow:

November 8 and 9 - Jocelyn and Cece will be participating in an EQAT workshop on the continuing campaign against PNC bank and the concern of mountain top removal. Others may participate and Cece will be providing more information.

December 6 - Actions regarding Mountain Top Removal will be held around the state. More information will come from the November workshop.

Reminder:

We would like to remind Friends that we continue to support Nancy Triscritti's project to provide books for children at her school to take home over summer. It is time once again to begin collecting new or gently used children's books for elementary age children. Our goal last year was 500 books. Please feel free to share the word of this project and encourage others who would like to participate to donate books! Lots of books! Nancy also takes monetary donations to purchase books at special book fair opportunities.

Respectfully submitted,

Peace and Social Concerns Committee