

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

Minutes

9 Ninth Month 2018

Opening worship

Meeting Clerk began the gathering with a reading:

So often we try to force our way through life, determined to do this thing or that thing, believing it to be the right path, but uncertain about how best to proceed. In our passion to reach our goal, we sometimes act rashly, giving little thought to the consequences. We don't wait for the way to open, we seek no guidance, we fail to listen to that of God within us, ... Then, because the way doesn't open up soon enough to suit us, we bulldoze our way through, acting hastily, before all the pieces are in place to ensure a good outcome.

This phrase, Proceed as way opens, is a reminder that life has a rhythm, a cadence. Proceeding as way opens is not a call to be passive, but to be patient, to let a situation or circumstance do what we Friends call season. To let something season means to wait, to not take action because we have felt an internal stop or barrier. The way has closed, so we wait until the way opens before proceeding.

– Philip Gulley

Clerks

Jan Dahm Meeting Clerk.
Cynde Mercer Recording Clerk.

Attendees

Deborah Breedon
Vincent Cobb
Jan Dahm
Lisa Erazmus
Chris Hugues
Karen Kessel

Dustin Lemke
Cynde Mercer
Peter Schmidt
Nancy Triscritti
Nil Wilkins
Tricia White

Barbara Wolfe
Rose Yerrakadu
Roy Yerrakadu
Cecilia Yocum

Business

Minutes of Fifth Month were approved with correction.

Treasurer Chris Hugues presented the Treasurer's reports. At year end we had about \$4,800 funds left over. Meeting accepted the year end Treasurer's report. Current year income is not keeping up with expenses by about \$4,000. Meeting accepted the first quarter Treasurer's report.

Committee Reports

Communications – Karen Kessel presented an example of a meeting bulletin board for committees.

First Day School – No report.

Hospitality and Housekeeping – No report.

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Library – No report.

Membership Recorder – Nil Wilkins reported that SEYM requests that Friends update their information by completing a provided form. It has been requested that Memorial Minutes be recorded for Barbara Nicholson and Tom Blackburn.

Ministry and Counsel – Nancy Triscritti reported that “Where is Spirit Leading Tampa Monthly Meeting?” has been set as the topic for Meeting retreat, led by Beverly Ward, on a date to be determined. The next Friendly Dinner is September 22. Our next Getting to Know You (Spiritual Journey) talk is the Fifth First Day, September, 30.

Naming – No report.

Nominating – No report.

Peace and Social Concerns – Cecilia Yocum and Tricia White reported that the committee is looking for some way for the meeting to help out with the red tide in a volunteer capacity. The committee is looking into ways we can advocate for the Florida 4th Amendment, restoration of felon voting rights. A future presentation from the Immokolee Workers regarding the Wendy's boycott is being researched.

Property – Chris Hugues reported on the status of the porch project. We will again welcome the Chopin Project concerts. The committee also put forth a general request for input/help.

New Business

Treasurer Chris Hugues asked that memorials and donations for and from Tom Blackburn go towards paying off the principal on the mortgage. Meeting approves.

Milestones

A memorial was held in the manner of Friends for Friend Tom Blackburn on 29 Seventh Month.

Calendar

See TampaFriends.org.

Closing worship