

Executive Committee Meeting
Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
10/6/2006

The Executive Committee (EC) met at the St. Petersburg Meetinghouse, St. Petersburg, FL, Friday, 10/6/2006 from 7 to 10:40 pm.

Executive Committee members present: EC and Interim Meeting clerk, Nancy Fennell; Yearly Meeting clerk, Susan Taylor; Assistant IBM and YM clerk, Sybil Ann Brennan; Recording clerk, Ed Lesnick; Treasurer, Neil Andersen; Finance Committee clerk, Caroline Lanker; Worship & Ministry co-clerk, Barbara French; Faith & Practice clerk and Membership Recorder, Phoebe Andersen; Nominating clerk, Dan Vaughen; Clerk of Trustees, Herb Haigh; YM Gathering Clerk, Steve Kinney; and Administrative Secretary, Lyn Cope.

Other SEYM members present: Bud Brennan (Gainesville), Tom Fennell (Ft. Myers), Cathy Gaskill (Deland), Connie Hotchkiss (St. Petersburg), Ed Hotchkiss (St. Petersburg), Davida Johns (St. Petersburg /ProNica), and Andrea Walsh (Tampa).

The meeting began with silent worship followed with greetings by EC and IBM clerk, Nancy Fennell. After an editorial adjustment, the agenda was approved.

Neil Andersen gave the **Treasurer's Report**. The Budget vs. Actual 2005-06 FY showed a net income in the General Fund of \$4071.05. In the YTD (through 8/31) Budget vs. Actual 2006-07 FY (1st Quarter) there is a net income of \$6779.07. Income from individual and Meeting donations is \$2,775.26 more than expected.

Lyn Cope presented the **Secretary's report**. [Attachment 1: Administrative Secretary's Report.]

Two concerns considered were (1) the reporting of SEYM member obituaries, and (2) the status of SEYM archives and the archival process. The reporting of obituaries to the YM is necessary for membership records. This is a caring issue for worship and ministry, and individual Friends. It is also a concern about the relationship between monthly meetings, their members and attenders, and the yearly meeting.

A concern was raised about monthly meeting official representation at IBM. This will be addressed in the yearly meeting section in *Faith & Practice*.

The status of SEYM archives and the archival process was considered. SEYM has received information about Guilford College's archive program, which a number of southern yearly meetings use. There is a yet to be determined cost involved. SEYM archives are presently stored at the University of Florida at no cost.

Cathy Gaskill and Bill Rapp are the only members of the SEYM Archive Committee. The work is time consuming and the amount to be done is beyond their capable efforts. An estimated twenty hours would be needed to catalog Augusta MM materials, acquired after the meeting was laid down. Friends agreed upon the need for additional members on the Archives Committee.

EC accepted the administrative secretary's report with gratitude.

EC considered **Reports of projects** currently underway:

- ❖ SEYM operational handbook is close to completion.
- ❖ The EC clerk is preparing a cover letter explaining an SEYM inter-visitation initiative.
- ❖ The Representative Travel guidelines are in a 4th draft with some details still being addressed.
- ❖ The child abuse prevention guidelines' training materials were distributed to EC members in September. No changes were recommended.

06EC07 EC approves the Training Materials for Registered SEYM Youth Program Leaders as working documents. These documents appear on the web site and include the following eight files:

1. **Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse**
2. **The SEYM Youth Program Training Manual**
3. **SEYM Abuse Prevention Summary – Wee Friends**
4. **SEYM Abuse Prevention Summary – Elementary**
5. **SEYM Abuse Prevention Summary – Teens**
6. **Abuse Prevention Training Record**
7. **Abuse Prevention Training Affirmation**

These materials are necessary to support the
8. **SEYM Child Abuse Prevention Policy**

The practice of investing remaining Gathering funds in the YM Gathering Youth Fund and transferring remaining funds from the Michener Lecture to the lecture's endowment fund was revisited. The minutes establishing these routines are to expire after a three year trial period.

06EC08 EC recommends any remaining funds from the Yearly Meeting gathering, after all expenses are paid, be invested in the YM Gathering Youth Fund as has been done for the past three years.

06EC09 EC recommends any remaining funds from the Michener Lecture be transferred to the Michener Lecture Endowment fund.

Barb French, committee co-clerk, gave the **Worship & Ministry report**. At the 2007 *Michener Lecture*, Niyonu Spann, Dean of Pendle Hill, will speak. Her theme is "Letting Go of Illusion, Engaging Truth: Healing!"

Herb Haigh, **Trustees'** clerk, reported the Newkirk property offer would be discussed further with the trustees.

Phoebe Andersen, an SEYM **representative to FUM**, reported on General Board meetings. EC continued its discernment on the relationship between SEYM and FUM.

Meetings, members, and attenders are requested to consider the queries published at the end of Phoebe's report appearing in the current newsletter. Susan Taylor, YM clerk, will compose a letter requesting continuing discernment and a response to the queries.

New Business was considered.

The change to “Interim Business Meeting” from “Representative Meeting” necessitates amending the SEYM By-Laws. The amendment process stated in the By-Laws will be applied so the amendments may be approved at YM2007.

EC agreed to include liability insurance information with the YM Gathering registration materials.

Shall we establish an actual practice for *naming members to the Nominating Committee*? This information is needed for the Handbook. Friends agreed to continue with SEYM's current practice.

The Ad-Hoc Personnel Policy Development Committee will be reconstituted to consider the administrative secretary's job description, particularly the need to provide health and medical insurance benefits. FGC and FUM are developing a plan of coverage for Quaker organization employees.

The meeting closed with silent worship.