

Southeastern Yearly Meeting
Minutes of the Fall Interim Business Meeting
October 2, 2010

Fall Interim Business Meeting (FIBM) for 2010 was held in the Palm Beach Meetinghouse, Lake Worth FL.

Committee meetings were held in the morning. These minutes record the Interim Business Meeting held in the afternoon. The Executive Committee met on October 1.

Seated at the clerk's table were Gary Arthur, Presiding clerk and Jennifer Mendoza, Recording clerk.

The Meeting began with silent worship at 1:10 PM. The clerk began with introductions asking for listening and advising support. Members introduced themselves noting the milestones of gaining new attendees, birth of new members, and an interfaith meeting on the West Coast. {Attachment: Attendees]

The Executive Committee met October 1 to discuss the SEYM Youth policies in light of sexual battery charges that occurred after an incident at the SEYM half yearly meeting gathering. Herb Haigh is serving as a liaison for the incident. The Committee proposed a draft minute:

10IBM05 SEYM affirms that for any and all SEYM sponsored events, which include a formal youth program, the SEYM Child Abuse Prevention Procedures will be administered uniformly by those implementing the program, with regards to registration, security, behavior policies and enforcement thereof. If any Yearly Meeting event does not have a formal youth program, all attendees will be under the care of their family unit or appointed guardian in accordance with same SEYM Policies, which will be spelled out in the registration process.

Gary summarized the EC's concerns: We do have an SEYM Policy on supervision of youth and will need to come to terms with how well we are implementing that policy and how well we address the need for changes to the policy as they arise. Under all is our concern for providing an engaging, well-structured and safe program for our youth. Executive committee was charged with continuing the review of the policy and to season the minute.

Andrea Walsh reported on the Half Yearly Meeting Committee's discussion on adequate supervision of youth when not under the supervision of a family member. We were reminded that the YM has an existing policy requiring two fingerprinted adults supervising the youth during activities away from their parents.

Also, when youth participate in developing plans, those plans must be consistent with

SEYM policies, and that the appropriate adult committee members must find adults to supervise youth.

For this Half Yearly Meeting 2010, there will be no separate Youth Cabin, but there will be appropriately supervised late night youth activities organized in accordance with SEYM policies and the facility's rules, after which the teens will return to sleep with their families.

Nancy Triscritti reported on the Youth Committee. The committee is developing a plan of programming focused on intergenerational activities. Dustin Lemke asked that the SEYM Executive committee provide oversight to assure that SEYM policies are appropriately applied to the Youth Committee/Teen Gathering planned programs. Cathy asked the various Yearly Committees make themselves available to all the Junior Yearly Meeting activities.

Ellie Caldwell reported on the Gathering Committee, encouraging more people to participate in the activities for all levels of youth programming. She emphasized that the Committee was open to new ideas. Workshops for this coming yearly meeting will focus on "in-reach" with 2-3 session workshops with multiple time slots. The committee announced news from YAQS (Young Adult Quakers), who wish to reinvigorate participation in the Gathering, doing service projects, having discussions with weighty-members, having accommodations in close proximity, receiving financial aide, and bringing young voices to the meeting as a whole. Friends discussed making more funds available to support youth programs by including a line item in the budget and making a family sliding scale fee available.

10IBM06 Yearly Meeting supports and approves the recommendation from the Gathering Committee, for the re-emergence of our Young Adult Quakers (YAQ) program at the 2011 Yearly Gathering. Elizabeth Croce and Daniel Doan will clerk the program, under the care of the Gathering Committee. Gathering Committee will promote and distribute information about the YAQ program to the monthly meetings and worship groups.

Nil Wilkins gave the Finance Committee Report including input from other committees. She reported that a transcription service would be sought to transcribe future lectures into publishable format.

Neil Andersen gave the Treasurer's Report stating that he appreciated the monthly meetings being more timely with their contributions to the Yearly Meeting. He asked that Friends make designated giving to support needy programs. Carolyn asked about the surplus from the Walton Lecture going to the general fund rather than the Trustee's Gathering Youth Fund in accordance with the previous minute. The finance committee will follow-up.

Warren Hoskins gave the Peace and Social Concerns Committee report, explaining that there was a substantial anti-war march in Washington, D.C. today. He provided a copy

of a petition to focus on funding jobs rather than war(s). He reported that several Quakers were arrested this past week in a Quaker Activist Program to bring attention to the negative environmental impact of mountain top mining. He asked that monthly meetings be aware of the activities of the Earth Quaker Action Teams. He asked that there be coordination between local efforts supporting disaster aid groups to increase the leverage of such efforts. There was a discussion of the process of forwarding information by e-mail. There was a request for non-violence training for to be available prior to the Republican National Convention in Tampa in August 2012.

Davida Johns reported on the ProNica Committee. She highlighted pictures from inter-racial delegation meetings. She emphasized that the Committee was trying to get more University students to visit their programs. The ProNica Fall Meeting will be held Saturday, November 20, 2010, in Miami, to determine the most appropriate distribution of monies. She discussed Friends Witness activities in November asking members to e-mail her for information. She explained their efforts to get wares from the Potter's for Peace to a wider market.

Lisa Stewart reported on her trip to the African Ministries FUM Office in Kenya. She emphasized that the workers in Kenya were encouraging more Quakers to come for a visit. She discussed her invitation by local Kenyan Quakers to inform them about silent worship practices.

Minute of appreciation for Dan Vaughen

Southeastern Yearly Meeting expresses deep gratitude to Dan Vaughen for the careful work he did to correct the Yearly Meeting's non-profit status. The Yearly Meeting is now considered by the IRS to be an association of churches as specified in USC section 170(b)(1)(A)(i), and as a result, SEYM is not required to file an IRS 990 form. Thank you, Dan.

Minute of Appreciation to Palm Beach Meeting

It is our Yearly Meeting's pleasure to return to the familiar and welcoming space of Palm Beach Meeting for our Fall Interim Business Meeting. We acknowledge with gratitude all that Palm Beach Friends have done to provide us with hospitality, good food and great comfort. Thanks to all from Palm Beach Meeting who welcomed us.

The meeting concluded with silent worship.

Attachment: Fall Interim Business Meeting Attendees, October 2, 2010

Ft. Lauderdale

Mary Jo Klingel

Ft. Myers

Tom Fennell
Nancy Fennell

Gainesville

Gary Arthur
Cheryl Demers-Holton

Palm Beach

Ellie Caldwell
Lisa Stewart
Sandra Heys
Ann Kelly

Miami

Warren Hoskins
Carl Hersh
Kathy Hersh
David Landowne

Orlando

Chuck Deneen
Ann Jerome

Sarasota

Jennifer Mendoza

St. Petersburg

Joshua Rumschlag
Sarah Rumschlag
Henry Rumachlag
Herb Haigh
Davida Johns

Peter Crockett

Space Coast

Lyn Cope

Tallahassee

Neil Anderson

Phoebe Anderson

Tampa

Dustin Lemke

Nil Wilkins

Nancy Triscritti

Andrea Walsh

Steve Kinney

Winter Park

Martha Morris