

# Southeastern Yearly Meeting

*of the Religious Society of Friends*

Yearly Business Meeting 2021  
31 Third Month to 11 Fourth Month 2021  
via videoteleconference

## MINUTES

### First Plenary - 31 Third Month 2021, 7:00 p.m.

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The Meeting began with centering worship at 7:00 p.m.

Clerk Bill Carlie opened the meeting by welcoming Friends and recited the following quote:

“... do not strive about outward things; but dwell in the love of God, for that will unite you together and make you kind and gentle towards one another; and to seek one another’s good and welfare, and to be helpful to one another, and to see that nothing is lacking among you, then all will be well.”

George Fox 1676

This plenary is an open forum with the general them of the joys and challenges of moving forward out of the pandemic and “hybrid” meetings but if Friends are led to speak on other general matters that is ok, too.

Attending Friends introduced themselves.

Jean Larsen expressed some concerns about the current vaccines’ effectiveness against the new variants and whether hybrid meetings work as well as remote meeting and expressed concern about how observant people will be regarding Covid protocols.

Susan Taylor told us that Tallahassee is still meeting primarily via zoom but they are discussing how to resume meeting in person. About 15 Friends recently met for a work day and it was a joyous occasion.

Richard Frechette reported that since December about 10 to 15 Fort Myers Friends meet under an open chikee hut with internet and up to 22 have joined via zoom and that they plan to continue meeting in this way. They are purchasing video and sound equipment to enhance their zoom experience. He would be interested in meeting with others who are experimenting with this type of hybrid meeting and sharing their experience.

Nancy Triscritti reports that Tampa W&M committee will begin to discuss how they will return to in-person, hybrid meetings. She also would like to participate in a forum to hear what other meetings are doing and share ideas.

Brian Humphrey reports that the pandemic has split their meeting into two groups: one that doesn't like meeting online and others that can't travel to meetings. The place where they meet does not have internet access. They are trying to work that out.

John Palozzi reports that Palm Beach Meeting has a similar problem. They have a meetinghouse but it doesn't have internet which they have resisted in the past. But now that the meeting has experienced zoom meetings their outlook has changed. He also reported that they are in the process of remodeling their 60 year-old kitchen.

Jack Bradin related his experience with being able to connect with meetings as far away as New England and how it has enhanced his meeting experiences.

Riley Robinson told us that his meeting in Washington D.C. has had a hybrid meeting on a very small scale. They have a large meetinghouse with a number of traveling visitors. As a result they anticipate studying the behavior of those coming to the meetinghouse and whether Covid protocols are observed. They are also studying their HVAC system to assess its filtering ability.

Steve Donachie encouraged everyone to be open whether they are physically present.

Beverly Ward related that she has presented her concerns to her anchoring committee about Covid-19, the lack of research because it is so new, and her concern that Florida is open to visitors from all over the U.S. and world. Indications are that the Pandemic is just one of many emergencies we will face including problems associated with climate degradation. We need to keep the love in our deliberations and let spirit guide us. Part of her education is telecommunications and telecommuting and she is available to help and offer advice.

Jolie Robinson, a member of the intervisitation committee with Baltimore YM (Adelphi meeting) said she found in-person meetings are very satisfying but that she also discovered that the online meetings surprisingly deep and spiritual.

Karen Putney, who now lives in Nova Scotia, Canada, reported that they were first meeting online. Because there are almost no Covid cases there because everyone complies with a concern for the community they have been able to have in-person company and meetings with social distancing. The meetings feel very special. She they had been meeting in living rooms but now they meet in in old school building that has very large classrooms.

Susan Hefte described what St. Pete Meeting is doing about creating a hybrid meeting. They are starting with the Annex since that is where Adult First Day School meets. There is some resistance to having electronics in the meeting room and those discussions are ongoing.

Vicki Carlie offered that SEYM zoom account to set up a meeting to share information if someone would serve as convener. Richard Frechette offered to convene the meeting and Bill Carlie will help. Nine were interested in another forum on hybrid meetings. Karen asked that we remember that there are people who do not have reliable internet connections or even computers.

Peter Day asked us to consider the younger members/attenders of meeting who work on zoom all day and all week and are not interested in doing it on Sunday. That is why Clearwater is interested in a hybrid meeting.

Riley Robinson suggested teaming young people with elders to teach them how to use the technology.

Jean Larsen told us that someone thought of setting up an Eventbrite invitation so that if space is limited for in-person meeting there is a way to determine whether the meeting is filled to capacity.

Audrey Greenhall said that at FGC offered lots of technology help at FGC's virtual gathering last year and kept that help available throughout the gathering.

Liz Jenkins talked about how Orlando has connected with old friends, new friends (one from a phone at a truck stop), and interfaith groups through video teleconferencing. Orlando is investing in infrastructure for the future of our Quaker faith. "We are in a very exciting time."

Vicki told us that St. Peteresburg Meeting added a mid-week meeting that alternates between worship sharing and Quaker education. She feels that it has brought spiritual deepening to the meeting. She hopes that we keep the resilience that Quakers have always shown rather than clinging to the "old ways". She feels like she is more flexible now in accepting new ideas and new ways of doing things.

Greg Allenson shared that a benefit of the new technology was that their meeting is getting more participation by their younger members because it is easier to work remote meetings into their schedules.

Andrea Hoskins mentioned how she liked seeing so many familiar faces here.

Cece Yocum said that one thing she really missed about in-person meetings was the presence of children and that one child always wanted to sit next to her and she especially missed that.

Riley related that, after not meeting for long, some of the young people in his meeting proposed walking the underground railroad trail. It was a real opening for their meeting to go along with them on their journey.

Meeting closed with silent worship at 8:31p.m.

Clerk then invited everyone to the Second Plenary at 2:30 p.m. tomorrow.

## Second Plenary - 1 Fourth Month 2021, 2:30 p.m.

The Meeting began with centering worship at 2:34 p.m.

Clerk Bill Carlie opened the meeting from silent worship with the following quote:

Friends come back from their worship with a new sense of ordination, but not the ordination of human hands. Something has happened in the stillness that makes the

heart more tender, more sensitive, more shocked by evil, more dedicated to ideals of life, and more eager to push back the skirts of darkness and to widen the area of light and love.

Rufus Jones, "Rethinking Quaker Principles",  
Pendle Hill Pamphlet No. 8, 1940

### **WELCOMING VISITING FRIENDS:**

Bill welcomed visiting Friends and read letters from Friends General Conference introducing Audrey Greenhall and from Friends Committee on National Legislation introducing Riley Robinson, Bobby Trice, Kameryn Point, Hannah Sievers. Both letters are attached.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Vicki announced that there is a separate sign up for the Affinity Groups and that there is a Talent Show, Quaker Banker event, a book talk with Audrey Greenhall among this year's events. Nancy Triscritti announced that Worship & Ministry committee is hosting Worship Sharing sessions and a workshop "Awakening from Spiritual Lethargy in the Time of Covid".

Cece Yocum spoke of a sadness David Zarembka and Gladys Kamonya, husband and wife, have passed from Covid-19 in Kenya. David was a member of Baltimore Yearly Meeting and one of the founders of Friends Peace Teams. He was a great help to Cece in her travels to Africa for the Alternative to Violence program. Those present held their family and friends in the Light.

### **CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS TO WRITE THE EPISTLE:**

Clerk then called for volunteers for the Epistle Committee. Angela Prather, Cece Yocum, Vicki Carlie, and Dianna Langan volunteered to write the Epistle.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

*(See Appendix 1, page 23.)*

Joel Cook read from his report. In response to a query by Neil Andersen he reported that the Half Yearly Meeting showed a net income of \$670.00.

**Friends accepted the report.**

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Joel stood in for finance clerk, Peter Schmidt, who could not attend the plenary, and gave the highlights of the proposed 2021-2022 budget (attached). Total income budgeted for 2021-2022 is \$85,380, a 1% reduction from last year's budgeted income. Apportionments have been reduced by 2%. More than 50% of expenses is staff salaries and very little can be done to adjust that figure. Most of SEYM's discretionary spending is donations to other organizations. There was some reduction of expenses in the 2020-2021 budget for funds that were budgeted but not used, e.g., travel funds that were not used.

**Friends accepted the first reading of the budget.**

### **ROLL CALL OF MEETINGS AND WORSHIP GROUPS:**

**Fort Myers Monthly Meeting:** Richard Frechette reported that Fort Myers lost Tom Fennell on March 26 of Covid-19 while hospitalized with other medical issues. Fort Myers meeting is looking into building its own meetinghouse.

**Gainesville Mnthly Meeting:** Jean Larsen announced that Gainesville Meeting lost Betty Adams to Covid-19.

**Orlando Monthly Meeting:** Liz Jenkins, clerk of Orlando, reported that the meeting has fortunately lost no one for any reason. Two members joined the Meeting: Jared Silvia and Kasper Ronning, and three more joined through **Saint Augustine Worship Group**, convened by Richelle Ogle: Christine Stinson, Pierre Ivory, a transfer from Haddonfield, New Jersey, Monthly Meeting, and Guillaume Ivory (new member). The Orlando meetinghouse has a new roof.

**Palm Beach Monthly Meeting:** John Palozzi reports that Sandra Hays and husband Jack have moved to Maryland, where her son lives, and into assisted living because of health. John is now serving as clerk.

**Tampa Monthly Meeting:** Lisa Erazmus, clerk of Tampa Quakers reports that they received a transfer of Cynthia Baklanov from Urbana-Champaign Friends Meeting in Ohio.

### **NUMBERED MINUTES:**

Clerk called for acceptance of the Numbered Minutes from Executive Committee and Interim Business Meeting as published in the Documents in Advance.

### **Summer Executive Committee Meeting**

8 Eighth Month 2020, via videoteleconference

- 20SEC01** Upon the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, the Executive Committee records the resignations of Friends Nancy Fennell (Ft. Myers) from Worship and Ministry Committee; Richard Frechette (Ft. Myers) as YM Recording Clerk; and Stephanie Preston-Hughes (Orlando) from the YM Gathering Committee. We thank them for giving their time and effort to SEYM. **APPROVED**
- 20SEC02** Upon the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, the Executive Committee appoints Peter Ackerman, Gainesville, as a SEYM Representative to Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) for a term beginning August 8, 2020 to Yearly Meeting, 2023. **APPROVED**
- 20SEC03** The Executive Committee approves the request of Kody Hersh, the Youth & Young Adult Coordinator, to suspend his service from September 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020, or longer if the public health situation dictates, an extension to be determined by a called meeting of Executive Committee on December 12, 2020. **APPROVED.**

### **Fall Executive Committee Meeting**

16 Tenth Month 2020, via videoteleconference

- 20FEC01** Friends approve Bill Carlie serving as Clerk Pro Tem for this evening.
- 20FEC02** Executive Committee request that the *ad hoc* Care Committee (consisting of Liz Dykes, Jean Larson, Heidi Lowey-Ball, Mike Shell, and Susan Taylor), created to

work with Jacksonville Monthly Meeting's transition to Worship Group, continue in its role and to inform SEYM how it can be of further assistance to the committee.

- 20FEC03 Executive Committee recommends to Fall Interim Business Meeting that steps be taken to once again place the Faith and Practice document on the SEYM website as a .pdf file accessible to all and asks the Publications Committee to determine how this can best be done.
- 20FEC04 Recognizing that the report presented by the Susan and Dan Vaughen on the matter of a potential Quaker Retirement will be reviewed in a threshing session following the FIBM we feel that any action on the part of the Executive Committee at this time is premature.

### **Fall Interim Business Meeting 2020**

17 Tenth Month 2020, via videoteleconference

- 20FIBM01 Friends approve Bill Carlie, YM Clerk, serving as Clerk for today's FIBM session.
- 20FIBM02 Friends accept the minutes from the Summer Executive Committee Meeting.
- 20FIBM03 Friends accept the minutes of Fall Executive Committee.
- 20FIBM04 Friends approve the Nominating slate presented in the Documents In Advance.
- 20FIBM05 Friends approve the nomination of Lynn Newsom as the SEYM representative to Quaker House.
- 20FIBM06 Friends accept the Treasurer's Report, with thanks.
- 20FIBM07 Southeastern Yearly Meeting would like to express appreciation to Clara Diaz for her loving and informed leadership as clerk of SEYM Worship and Ministry over the past 6 years.
- 20FIBM08 Friends accept the Committee on Ministry on Racism's report as published in the [Documents In Advance](#).
- 20FIBM09 Friends accept the Field Secretary for Earthcare Report.
- 20FIBM10 Friends accept the Florida Council of Churches Report
- 20FIBM11 Friends accept the Earthcare Committee Report
- 20FIBM12 Friends accept the Gathering Committee report, with thanks.
- 20FIBM13 Friends accept the Half Yearly Meeting Report
- 20FIBM14 Friends accept the Peace & Social Concerns Report with thanks.

- 20FIBM15** Friends express our gratitude to Fort Myers Monthly Meeting for their Statement on Police Violence and Accountability. We recommend the statement to Meetings and Worship Groups, and encourage them to write their own statements or to adopt this statement for their Meeting.
- 20FIBM16** Friends recommend that SEYM adopt Fort Myers Monthly Meeting's Statement on Police Violence and Accountability. We ask Clerk to send the statement to Monthly Meetings for discernment, not only for adoption by SEYM but to encourage them to adopt this or similar statements as their own.
- 20FIBM17** Friends express our gratitude to St. Petersburg Monthly Meeting for their Statement in Support of the Black Lives Matter Movement. We recommend the statement to Meetings and Worship Groups and encourage them to write their own statements or to adopt this statement for their Meeting.
- 20FIBM18** Friends recommend that SEYM adopt St. Petersburg Monthly Meeting's Statement in Support of the Black Lives Matter Movement. We ask Clerk to send the statement to Monthly Meetings for discernment not only for adoption by SEYM but to encourage them to adopt this or similar statements as their own .
- 20FIBM19** Friends accept the AFSC Report with thanks.
- 20FIBM20** Friends accept the FCPJ report.
- 20FIBM21** Friends accept the FCNL report with thanks.
- 20FIBM22** Friends accept the QEW report with thanks.

#### **Winter Executive Committee 2021**

15 First Month 2021, via videoteleconference

- 21WEC01** Executive Committee unites with the recommendation of the *ad hoc* FGC Gathering Request Committee that we decline the invitation to host the 2022 Gathering. SEYM is grateful to be asked and would consider hosting or co-hosting in the future, perhaps at a locale nearer our meetings. **APPROVED**

#### **Winter Interim Business Meeting 2021**

16 First Month 2021, via video teleconference

- 21WIBM01** On the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, the Interim Business Meeting approves the report as attached and the following individuals to serve in positions that were unfilled:  
 YM Recording Clerk – Liz Dykes (2021)  
 Worship and Ministry Committee - Edward Abraham (2021-2023)  
**Representative** to FGC Central Committee – Bonnie Zimmer (2021-2023)  
**APPROVED**

**21WIBM02** Southeastern Yearly Meeting would like to express great appreciation to Susan Wade and Vicki Carlie for their amazing work and organization that has helped us continue to gather as a Blessed Community during this time of COVID-19.

**APPROVED**

**21WIBM03** Southeastern Yearly Meeting, meeting as Winter Interim Business Meeting, approves distributing to Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups the Joint SEYM Youth Committee and Committee for Ministry on Racism's invitation to join together on one way forward towards removing White supremacy from SEYM, as presented in their report to Winter Interim Business Meeting. The suggested way forward would add to the faithful efforts Friends are already making to confront racism. **APPROVED**

**21WIBM04** Winter Interim Business Meeting approves the immediate appointment by the YM Clerk of a new, *ad hoc* SEYM committee to begin work as soon as possible to support and work with partners who might be interested in constructing or acquiring a retirement community to be managed by Quaker principles in Florida to meet the retirement needs of seniors of moderate means, by providing advice on local conditions and markets, and by otherwise assisting such partners in the planning of such a project. The new committee may designate its name, identify its Clerk, and initiate communication with Meetings, Worship Groups, potential retirement community partners, and other interested parties. All members of the committee shall be uncompensated volunteers, who shall pay for their own expenses. It shall report its progress to the Executive Committee at its regular meetings. **APPROVED**

**Numbered Minutes were accepted.**

Clerk then read the Numbered Minutes from the 2021 Yearly Executive Committee Meeting and asked for acceptance of the numbered minutes.

### **SEYM Gathering Executive Committee Meeting**

31 Third Month 2021, via videoteleconference

**21YEC01** Friends approved having the treasurer apply for a federal PPP forgivable loan in support of SEYM employee salaries. **APPROVED**

**21YEC02** Friends agree that Kody Hersh will resume his duties as Youth and Young Adult Coordinator on 15 Sixth 2021, and that prior to that date, Friends agree that Kody will work to coordinate two youth and family events to take place this summer and that the hours spent on that effort will be credited as 1:1 comp-time when he resumes his position. **APPROVED**

**21YEC03** Friends approve SEYM Youth Committee's proposed two summer events for youth and families to be held in an open-air park in compliance with Covid protocols in place at the time of the events. **APPROVED**



**21YEC04** Friends agree that Kody Hersh will convene an *ad hoc* committee to ascertain SEYM's moral responsibility to respond to concerns arising from the presence of one particular child abuse perpetrator at SEYM events in past years and to propose a course of action to an EC meeting called for this purpose. The *ad hoc* committee initially will consist of Kody, Bill Carlie, Susan Taylor, Nancy Triscritti, and Cece Yocum. **APPROVED**

**21YEC05** Friends agree that Kody Hersh will serve on the *ad hoc* committee in his capacity as Youth and Young Adult Coordinator and will be compensated on a 1:1 basis with comp-time. **APPROVED**

**2021 Yearly Executive Committee Numbered Minutes are accepted.**

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE:**

Ed Lesnick asked that in lieu of his reading the Nominating Committee report everyone could read it in the Documents in Advance. He added that the most concerning of the vacancies that need filling is more volunteers for the Youth Committee as it becomes more active in the near future. Vicki Carlie added that SEYM needs a Child Abuse Prevention Program (CAPP) Coordinator. The position has been open for a while but now more than ever it is essential that this position be filled. **Friends accepted the report.**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT:**

No written report was submitted. Neil advised that six-month dividends have been received and are shown in the report.

**Friends accepted the report.**

The Meeting closed with silent worship at 3:32 p.m.

**Third Plenary - 2 Fourth Month 2021, 2:30 p.m.**

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The Meeting began with centering worship at 2:31 p.m.

Clerk Bill Carlie opened the meeting from silent worship with the following quote:

Deep within us all there is an amazing inner sanctuary of the soul, a holy place, a Divine Center, a speaking Voice to which we may continuously return. Eternity is at our hearts, pressing upon our time torn lives, warming us with intimations of an astounding destiny, calling us home to itself. Yielding to these persuasions, gladly committing ourselves in body and soul utterly and completely to the Light Within is the beginning of true life. It is a dynamic center, a creative Life that presses to birth within us. It is a Light Within that illuminates the face of God and casts new shadows and glories on the face of men.

Thomas Kelly  
The Light Within

Clerk welcomed new Friends.: Jolie Robinson, Baltimore Yearly Meeting Intervisitation Group; Audrey Greenhall, Friends General Conference; Eileen Zingaro, Clearwater Monthly Meeting; and Minerva Glidden, Orlando Monthly Meeting.

### **WORSHIP & MINISTRY:**

Nancy Triscritti reported that the committee are pleased to announce that Nancy Fennell will be the Michener Lecturer in 2022. She then introduced a minute of appreciation for the Gathering Committee.

**21YBM01**      Worship and Ministry would like to express profound appreciation to the Gathering Committee for the amazing job of preparing and developing a well planned and executed Yearly Gathering in a time when it is most needed and most challenging to carry through. We offer our deep gratitude and love. APPROVED

### **Memorial For Tom Fennell:**

Nancy asked for a moment of silence in appreciation of Tom Fennell, a long-time and faithful Quaker who recently passed away, and offered this memorial:

Tom Fennell was a member of Fort Meyers Monthly Meeting and a faithful and active participant in Southeastern Yearly Meeting. He served on several SEYM committees across the years. Most notably he served on Worship and Ministry for more than 15 years.

Those of us here will remember Tom most for his very presence among us . . . his keen knowledge, his leadership through supporting others, his humbleness, his steadfastness, his loving eldership, his kindness, his sense of humor, his smile and ability to make others smile, laugh and love . . . his very essence.

**Friends accepted the report.**

### **JOINT REPORT COMMITTEE FOR MINISTRY ON RACISM AND YOUTH COMMITTEE:**

*(See Appendix 2, page 31.)*

Beverly Ward reported for Susan Taylor and referred those present to the report in the Documents in Advance. She then announced the Committee for Ministry on Racism will have a workshop tomorrow, "Mirrors of Identity", an opportunity for self-examination and reflection on one's own life experience with race.

**Friends accepted the report as submitted and published in the Documents in Advance.**

### **EARTHCARE COMMITTEE:**

Bill Carlie reported on Nestle's petition for application to increase their draw of water from Gennie Springs. In January 2021 SEYM wrote to the Suwannee Water Management District opposing the petition for application. He announced that the committee is presenting a workshop Thursday, the 8<sup>th</sup>, that will deal with environmental justice, global organizing, and regulatory issues, and encouraged everyone to attend.

**Friends accepted the report.**

### **PEACE & SOCIAL CONCERNS:**

Phil Stone reports that the committee has been meeting bi-monthly and has seen an increase in attendance. The committee has presented two workshops in concert with Friends Committee on

National Legislation, the latest presented last night. FCNL will be sending out a polling email to those who attended the workshop. Those who attended the workshop commented that it was well presented, detailed, and the work is needed.

**Friends accepted the report.**

#### **HAVANA UNPROGRAMMED:**

*(See Appendix 3, page 34.)*

Jack Braden reported that they are working with groups in Florida, Britain, and Europe, to help get Havana Unprogrammed Worship Group online and more connected to the wider Quaker community.

**Friends accepted the report.**

#### **YOUTH COMMITTEE:**

*(See Appendix 4, page 36.)*

Cece Yocum reports that the committee is looking for more volunteers to serve Quaker youth. The more people on the committee, the more work they can accomplish. She reported that Kody Hersh would like to resume his position in June 2021. In the meantime, he has been asked to coordinate two youth-and-family events this summer, one in south Florida and one in north Florida, prior to resuming his position.

We became aware that Javier del Sol of Palm Beach Meeting, who in the past was part of the SEYM youth committee, has admitted to child abuse and has been arrested. This knowledge has prompted the Executive Committee to set up an *ad hoc* committee to determine how SEYM can minister to anyone in SEYM who is affected by this news. Kody Hersh volunteered to convene the committee and Bill Carlie, Cece Yocum, Nancy Triscritti, and Susan Taylor, have volunteered to serve. Kody commented that transparency and expediency is very important in responding to issues of this type. To those ends the committee will be meeting in the next week. The committee welcomes comments, send to Kody Hersh [kody.hersh@gmail.com](mailto:kody.hersh@gmail.com), and Bill Carlie, [ymclerk@seymquakers.org](mailto:ymclerk@seymquakers.org), and to Cece Yocum, [ceceyocum@aol.com](mailto:ceceyocum@aol.com).

**Friends accepted the report.**

Joel Cook, Treasurer, suggested that the Earthcare Committee and Youth Committee formulate plans to raise funds for the Field Secretary for Earthcare and the Youth and Young Adult Coordinator, respectively.

Vicki Carlie announced that the Gathering has added early morning Meeting for Worship from 8:00 to 8:30 a.m. We also have a Virtual Book Table hosted on the FGC QuakerBooks website. FGC QuakerBooks is giving at 10% discount to anyone who orders books from now until the end of Gathering, Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup> (use discount code: SEYM).

The Meeting closed with silent worship at 3:39 p.m.

## **Fourth Plenary - 8 Fourth Month 2021, 2:30 p.m.**

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The Meeting began with centering worship at 2:32 p.m.

Clerk Bill Carlie opened the meeting from silent worship with the following quote:

There is a principle which is pure, placed in the human mind, which in different places and ages hath different names; it is however pure and proceeds from God . . . confined to no forms of religion nor excluded from anywhere the heart stands in perfect sincerity. In whomsoever this takes root and grows, of what nation soever, they become brethren.

John Woolman, Journal

Clerk welcomed visitors: Kindra Bradley, Executive Director of Quaker House, Fayetteville NC; Audrey Greenhall, FGC QuakerBooks; and Kameryn Point. Riley Robinson, and Bobby Trice of Friends Committee on National Legislation.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Vicki Carlie announced a separate link for PlayBack Theatre and the addition of a Quaker Hangout hosted by Joel Cook on Friday and Sunday.

Clerk asked for additions or changes to the agenda.

**AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE:**

Kathy Hersh participated in an AFSC international event centering around a public prayer vigil for Guatemalan farm workers who have died because they did not have access to Covid-19 vaccines and to ask Florida Governor Desantis to see that they were vaccinated. Palm Beach Health Department was an ally in this effort and is involved in supporting and getting shots out to the places where the farm workers are working. Lis-Marie is in charge of AFSC-Florida. AFSC corporation meets next week. Jane Westberg noted that Bobby Frank is still at his activism. **Friends accepted the report.**

**QUAKER UNITED NATIONS OFFICE:**

Beverly Ward attended the QUNO meeting held a couple of weeks ago. The organization is going through a lot of changes but are meeting virtually. She notes that a number of QUNO programs are open to anyone and encouraged everyone to visit QUNO's website for more information. **Friends accepted the report.**

**FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION:**

*(See Appendix 5, FCNL Report to Yearly Meetings, page 37, and Appendix 6, Letter of Introduction, page 40.)*

Karen Putney and Peter Akerman are SEYM representatives but there are four more open slots for representatives. More people are needed to report to their Meetings and Worship Groups. FCNL is not a distant organization. FCNL is us; not just SEYM but across the country. FCNL makes itself heard in Congress. The 2021 report (attached) speaks clearly about daily concerns. Covid legislation will cut child poverty in half and increase SNAP. FCNL deals with reality every day. Diane Randall is retiring at the end of 2021. Having served under several leaders, Karen praised Diane's leadership, "... she exhorted us to be bold and step out and step up, embrace challenge".

William Penn House will be renamed to Friends Place on Capitol Hill and its new dedication will recognize Friends' complicity with slavery.

Karen reminded us that there are a lot of challenges ahead and thanked us for our prayers, participation, and faithfulness.

Kameryn Point thanked SEYM for helping to sustain FCNL's work.

Bobby Trice added that the murders of Black Americans, Indigenous Americans, and other Americans of Color, gave FCNL new impetus to work on systemic racism.

Brian Olson advised that Miami Meeting is starting an FCNL advocacy team in South Florida.

Riley Robinson, FCNL, reminded us that it is important to put a perspective on how different this year is from last year. The United States has rejoined nuclear treaty and the World Health Organization. There is a different level of people working in federal government and the state department who understand the importance of working diplomatically. Native American Deb Haaland has become the Interior Secretary. Congress is working across the aisle these days: AUMF bills in various shapes and forms have been introduced by bi-partisan signers. Congress is very serious about working on these issues. Not just "Build Back Better," it's "Move Forward".

Jane Westberg noted that Quakers are involved with the Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition. Secretary Deb Haaland and Senator Elizabeth Warren tried to put forward a bill on truth and reconciliation but were unsuccessful last year. Secretary Haaland has encouraged Sen. Warren to re-introduce the bill this year.

**Friends accepted the report.**

#### **FRIENDS GENERAL CONFERENCE:**

Susan Taylor doesn't have a formal report and asked Audrey Greenhall to speak. Friends General Conference is an association of regional Quaker organizations to nurture spiritual faith. FGC's virtual Gathering starts June 30 and ends July 3. Registration begins April 15. The theme is "Way will Open". Next year's Gathering will be an in-person event in Radford, VA. FGC has a robust program on racism, pre-Gathering. After an institutional assessment on institutional and systemic racism a committee was formed to work within FGC on these issues. Other FGC programs: Spiritual Deepening with online library, virtual book discussion, online worship opportunities. Tremendous outreach with those who are not Quakers. The FGC bookstore has moved online: QuakerBooks.org. Quaker Press is working to publish works that show more inclusivity, translating books into Spanish and working on audio books. Participates in Christian interfaith groups. Friends Meetinghouse Funds assist meetings to improve Quaker meeting properties through donations from Friends throughout U.S. and Canada.

FGC needs more volunteers, particularly with writing and publishing experience. If anyone has a calling to Finances or development work, please contact Susan Taylor (susantaylor410@gmail.com) who is on the FGC Nominating Committee.

**Friends accepted the report.**

#### **COMMITTEE FOR MINISTRY ON RACISM Announcements:**

*(See Appendix 7, page 41.)*

Susan Taylor asked that Friends review the CMOR report (*see Appendix 2, page 31*) and advised that the committee would bring forth a Minute concerning the Truth and Healing Commission at

the Fifth Plenary. Kathy Hersh reminded Friends that CMOR suggested SEYM donate to the Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition. Past Quakers had good intentions but nevertheless harmed Native Americans and Indigenous People of North America by supporting the government's relocation of indigenous children to boarding schools.

**Friends accepted the report.**

#### **FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE ON CONSULTATION, SECTION OF THE AMERICAS:**

Eduardo Diaz attended the recent virtual section meeting where Sarah Hernandez and Jerry Knutson were featured speakers. Quakers from Cuba were able to attend virtually. He was asked to serve on the selection committee for the General Secretary position and found the process fascinating. Friends from around the world participated on the selection committee. Eduardo expects FWCC to have an announcement in a couple of weeks of the new General Secretary.

**Friends accepted the report.**

#### **FRIENDS PEACE TEAMS:**

*(See Appendix 7, page 43.)*

Friends are encouraged to read the report in the Documents in Advance and Cece Yocum encourages Friends to visit the FPT [webpage](#) and see the work FPT is doing all over the globe. FPT would like to have our feedback. Cece suggested we find one article and send your thoughts and opinions to her (ceceyocum@aol.com) and let her know what you would like to see FPT doing. FPT needs volunteers, particularly translators. They are working to get away from the North American habit of having meetings just in English. She reported that the dire conditions in Central America have been caused by hurricanes and other weather-related devastation wiping out food sources. FPT is providing seeds and has plans to help people plant community gardens. In Africa FPT is working a lot on AVP projects and has AVP gatherings from 17 countries and is happy to report there is a lot of cooperation between the different countries. Need for people to feel connected. People who do environmental work are targets of mineral companies with the complicity of the local and national governments. Femicide is a big problem that limits women even in their daily activities. FPT is delivering Peace Baskets with foods. One man used the flour to make doughnuts and sold them. Many people are leaving Latin America because the governments are often corrupt; using the peoples' land for development that doesn't benefit the people who actually own the land. Fleeing for their lives; narcos will follow refugees unrelentingly. FPT needs support with volunteer work, ideas, and, of course, donations. FPT people can come talk to groups.

Brian Humphrey noted that FPT supports Native Americans and does very good work.

FPT has created Peace Libraries for young people to have access to books about peace.

Towards Right Relationships with Native Peoples: Jane Westberg and Kody Hersh participated in the program a few years ago. The materials are now online. Wonderful resources available.

**Friends accepted the report.**

#### **FLORIDA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES:**

*(See Appendix 8, page 51.)*

Beverly Ward reports that FCC has been very busy focusing on criminal justice issues. Jeff Brandeis, State Senator for Florida Senate District 24, participated in a virtual workshop with FCC. Per capita Florida incarcerates more people than all other states and many countries. FCC is

also addressing the School Resource Officers problem that often results in criminalizing and/or traumatizing young children.

**Friends accepted the report.**

### **FRIENDS FOR LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, AND QUEER CONCERNS:**

No representative

### **PALMETTO FRIENDS GATHERING:**

Phoebe Andersen just been on website and it doesn't appear the Gathering has been meeting. She will make phone calls to determine their status. She apologized for not attending in the past few years. She will bring a report when she contacts them.

**Friend accepted the report.**

### **QUAKER EARTHCARE WITNESS:**

Jack Bradin announced that Brad Stocker, clerk of QEW, had a family emergency could not be here.

Beverly announced the Earthcare Witness workshop tomorrow, April 9. There has been a lot of sharing across Quaker-dom about climate crises and other environmental problems and is quite encouraging.

Jack Bradin commented that the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research revised their estimate of sea water rise to reflect the acceleration of climate degradation. Florida should be in climate crises mode but is not. The Gulf Stream recently shut down for almost 9 days and reversed flow. He urged us to contact our governmental representatives.

**Friends accepted the report.**

### **QUAKER HOUSE:**

Kindra Bradley thanked us for our support over the years. She reported that Quaker House G.I. Rights Hotline volunteers, Steve and Lenore, took 2092 calls from servicemen around the world. They helped with health care issues, problems with command, GIs who joined the military but, after having a crystallization of conscience, are now seeking separation as conscientious objectors (C.O.). Quaker House helps them through the C.O. application process that takes about a year to separate. Quaker House has a mental health counsellor and provides free mental health care to service members. They also work on other issues including sexual assault which is pervasive in the military, and militarization of domestic police forces, and Moral Injury issues.

**Friends accepted the report.**

### **QUAKER UNITED NATIONS OFFICE**

Beverly Ward reported that QUNO has undergone many changes but is now settling in with new people. It continues to do good work with the United Nations.

**Friends accepted the report.**

### **FUM GENERAL BOARD OF OBSERVERS:**

Ed Lesnick reported that Eduardo Diaz was formerly the representative but has completed his service to this Board. Eduardo reported that FUM Board has an online newsletter that you can sign up for at their website.

## Friends accepted the report.

Vicki Carlie expressed gratitude for Friends who have come from the different organizations.

**21YBM02** Friends of Southeastern Yearly Meeting express their gratitude to the representatives of American Friends Service Committee, Baltimore Yearly Meeting Intervisitation Group, Friends Committee on National Legislation, Friends General Conference, Living Mirror Playback Theater Group, and Quaker House, who attended the Gathering and gave reports and/or workshops.

The meeting closed with silent worship at 3:52 p.m.

## Fifth Plenary – 10 Fourth Month 2021, 2:30 p.m.

The Meeting began with centering worship at 2:37 p.m.

Clerk Bill Carlie opened the Meeting from the silence with the following quote:

Be no more than God hath made thee. Give over thine own willing; give over thine own running; give over thine own desiring to know or to be any thing, and sink down into that seed which God sows in the heart, and let that grow in thee, and be in thee, and breathe in thee, and act in thee, and thou shall find by sweet experience that the Lord knows that, and loves and owns that, and will lead it to the inheritance of life, which is his portion.

Issac Pennington 1661

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Friends were reminded to mute themselves until recognized to speak.

### **COMMITTEE FOR MINISTRY ON RACISM:**

Susan Taylor presented a minute for approval on the Truth and Healing Commission for Native Peoples. She recalled her grandfather was one of the first Native American commissioners appointed by Ulysses S. Grant. Her grandfather wrote book about his experiences as a commissioner. The book seemed to her to be meant well but was so oppressive she has not been able to finish it. The minute will be presented for final approval at the last plenary. Susan Wade will circulate the minute prior to the meeting.

**Friends accepted the report.**

### **CALLED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTION MINUTES:**

*(See Appendix 8, page 53, for the SEYM Statement on the Arrest of Javier Del Sol.)*

Liz Dykes read the action minutes from the Called Executive Committee meeting of Friday, 9 Fourth Month, 2021. Friends received clarification about the plan and statement.

**21YBM03** Friends approve the Executive Committee minute and accepts the plan of the *ad hoc* Crisis Response Committee. **APPROVED**



Friends clarified the purpose of the document. Friends again emphasized considering not publishing personal information on the website. The ad hoc committee will consider this advice.

**21YBM04** Friends approve the Executive Committee minute and accepts the statement of the *ad hoc* Crisis Response Committee. **APPROVED**

#### **FIELD SECRETARY FOR EARTHCARE:**

(See Appendix 8, page 55.)

Beverly Ward submitted a written report. Since the report she has received a number of requests for workshops and events. She has been working with NAACP in Hillsborough County and Lake County particularly around their environmental justice. She will be the speaker at SAYMA in June. **Friends accepted the report.**

#### **PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE:**

Phoebe Anderson reported that the committee has decided not to publish a print edition of Petra Doan's Michener Lecture but rather post a link to YouTube so everyone can see the visual aspect of the lecture. They will also put the text on the website formatted for e-readers. This will be the method for both Michener and Walton Lectures going forward. The revision of the 2019 Walton Lecture (Lucy Duncan & Noah White) will go to the printer this summer. This will likely be the last printed lecture. Brian Corr's 2020 Michener Lecture was discussed and whether SEYM will publish a print edition will be decided at a later date.

**Friends accepted the report.**

#### **ARCHIVES COMMITTEE:**

Phoebe Anderson reported that because of the pandemic, the committee has not done work this past year. Depending on the vaccination status of Friends, work will resume in the fall, or next year.

**Friends accepted the report.**

The numbered action minutes were read back.

The meeting closed with silent worship.

Respectfully submitted,  
Liz Dykes, Recording Clerk

## **Sixth Plenary – 11 Fourth Month 2021, 1:00 p.m.**

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The meeting began with worship just after 1:00 p.m.

Bill Carlie opened the meeting from the silence with the following quote:

Sing and rejoice, you children of the day and of the light;  
for the Lord is at work in this thick night of darkness that may be felt.  
And truth flourishes as the rose,  
and the lilies do grow among the thorns,  
and the plants atop of the hills,

and upon them the lambs do skip and play.  
And never heed the tempests nor the storms, floods nor rains,  
for the seed Christ is over all, and reigns.

George Fox (1656)

**APPRECIATION FOR 2021 WALTON LECTURER, EMILY PROVANCE:**

Bill proposed a minute of appreciation.

**21YBM05** Southeastern Yearly Meeting expresses its gratitude to Emily Provance for her leadership of our Retreat Sessions and her deeply inspired Walton Lecture: *Interruption, Integration, Transfiguration*. **APPROVED**

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE:**

(See Appendix 11, page 60.)

Ed Lesnick presented the Nominating Committee report for final approval (attached).

**21YBM06** Friends accept the amended report of the Nominating Committee. **APPROVED**

**2021-2022 BUDGET**

(See Appendix 12, page 63.)

Peter Schmidt presented the final 2021-2022 budget for approval. There was a question about an increase in the staff salary and taxes line. We have been under budget the past 2 years, so even if the salary is increased the budget should be accurate. Finance Committee has not been approached about converting contract workers to employees. This will be considered by Executive Committee functioning as Personnel Committee at its June meeting. Any minutes from Executive Committee will be brought forward at Fall IBM. EC decisions may mean the salary line goes over budget, that is acceptable for one year.

**21YBM07** Friends accept the proposed budget from the Finance Committee. **APPROVED**

**CMOR's MINUTE ON TRUTH AND HEALING COMMISSION:**

(See Appendix 14, page 66 for full report.)

Susan Taylor expressed gratitude and awe at the coming together of Spirit that surrounded the committee as they created this minute. She read the proposed minute from the Committee for Ministry on Racism: Truth and Healing Commission for Native Peoples (attached).

**21YBM08** Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends adopts the minute of the SEYM Committee for Ministry on Racism: Truth and Healing Commission for Native Peoples. SEYM supports the "Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policy Act" (HR 8420) that was considered by the U.S. House of Representatives in 2019-2020. Although HR 8420 did not become law, CMOR continues to support the establishment of a Truth and Healing Commission. The bill's purpose was to set up a Truth and Healing Commission to address the multigenerational trauma experienced by American Indian and Alaska Native children, now adults, who were forcibly removed from their homes between 1869 and the 1960's and placed in Indian Boarding schools far from their homes. Quakers were among the strongest supporters of the federal policy calling for this forced assimilation, and operated some 30 Indian schools. The children were

taught to reject their Native languages, cultures, and spiritual practices and adopt Euro-American culture. U.S. Secretary of the Interior, Deb Haaland, has tasked Senator Elizabeth Warren with reintroducing the bill this year. Senator Warren will consult with the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition for wording for the bill. The bill is expected to be similar to last year's bill. SEYM urges all Friends to watch for this bill and give it their support. **APPROVED**

There were many suggestions for circulating this minute (and others) to the wider body of Friends and for sharing with interfaith groups working on similar goals.

**GATHERING COMMITTEE:**

Vicki Carlie reported for the Gathering Committee. 149 Friends registered for this Gathering. A survey will be circulated. The committee will immediately begin looking toward next year.

**EPISTLE:**

*(See Appendix 15, page 67.)*

Vicki Carlie presented the epistle.

**21YBM09** Friends approve the Epistle with minor edits to be sent to Friends around the world. **APPROVED**

The numbered action minutes were read back.

The meeting closed with silent worship.

Respectfully submitted,  
Liz Dykes, Recording Clerk

## Plenary Attendees

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### **Clearwater Monthly Meeting**

Peter Day  
Barbara Finklestein  
Katie Green  
Caroline Kaufmann  
Phil Stone  
Douglas Woodward  
Elizabeth Woodward  
Eileen Zingaro

### **Deland Worship Group**

Cheryl Demers-Holton (Gainesville MM)  
John Heimborg (Orlando MM)  
Carl Hersh (Miami MM)  
Kathy Hersh (Miami MM)  
Beverly Ward (Tampa MM)

### **Fort Lauderdale Monthly Meeting**

Brian Humphrey

### **Fort Myers Monthly Meeting**

Richard Frechette  
Nancy Fennell

### **Gainesville Monthly Meeting**

Shawna Doran  
Liz Dykes  
Jean Larson

### **Lake Wales Worship Group**

Caroline Lanker (Tampa MM)

### **Miami Monthly Meeting**

Eduardo Diaz  
Steve Donachie  
Andrea Hoskins  
Warren Hoskins  
Brian Olson  
Brad Stocker  
Jane Westberg

### **Orlando Monthly Meeting**

Greg Allen-Anderson  
Gary Evans  
Minerva Glidden

### **(Orlando Monthly Meeting continued)**

Kody Hersh  
Elizabeth (Liz) Jenkins  
Ray Jenkins  
Jerry Knutson  
Christine (Chris) Laning  
Ed Lesnick

### **Other Friends:**

Peter Schmidt

### **Palm Beach Monthly Meeting**

Jack Bradin  
Ellie Caldwell  
John Palozzi

### **Saint Augustine Monthly Meeting**

Richelle Ogle (Orlando MM)

### **Saint Petersburg Monthly Meeting**

Bill Carlie  
Vicki Carlie  
Susan Hefte  
Dianna Langan  
Nancy Tait  
Susan Wade

### **Sarasota Monthly Meeting**

Frederick (Rick) Farmer  
Jennifer Mendoza

### **Tallahassee Monthly Meeting**

Bob Allenson  
Neil Andersen  
Phoebe Andersen  
Angela Prather  
Susan Taylor

### **Tampa Monthly Meeting**

Jan Dahm  
Lisa Erazmus  
Karen Putney  
Nancy Triscritti  
Beverly Ward  
Cece Yocum

**Treasure Coast Worship Group**

Tracy Booth

Joel Cook (Palm Beach MM)

**Baltimore Yearly Meeting**

Jade Eaton, Intervisitation Committee

Jolee Robinson, Intervisitation Committee

**Friends Committee on National Legislation**

Kameryn Point

Riley Robinson

Bobby Trice

**Friends General Conference**

Audrey Greenhall, QuakerBooks

**New England Yearly Meeting**

Cathy Day, Haven Friends Meeting

**New York Yearly Meeting**

Emily Provance, Walton Lecturer

**Quaker House**

Kindra Bradley, Executive Director

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# Treasurer's Report for Q3 FY 2020-2021

SEYM Yearly Business Meeting

1 Fourth Month 2021

Report for end of First Three-Quarters of Fiscal Year 2020-2021 (June 1, 2020 thru Feb. 28, 2021).

All values are rounded to the nearest dollar.

## SEYM Total Cash Flow not including Trustees

The overall cash flow of the Yearly Meeting (excluding the Trustees' accounts) for this period yielded a net loss (excluding unrealized capital gains of \$3,137 on investments for the Publications program) of \$8,085, including \$2,720 restricted donations for the Field Secretary for Earthcare program. This resulted from an SEYM total real income of \$52,009 against total expenses of \$60,094.

## SEYM General Fund for Administration - Cash Flow and Budget Performance

At the end of this period, the General Fund (the operations fund for which we approved a balanced budget of \$86,410 in our 2020 Yearly Meeting sessions) showed a net loss of \$3,139. This resulted from General Fund total income of \$38,239 (44% of budget) against expenses of \$41,377 (48% of budget).

## Budget Support Apportionments & Contributions Received

During this period, in response to the annual request for support of the approved General Fund Budget (the Apportionments), contributions received from the Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups totaled \$29,990, or 39% of the year's budgeted request of \$76,590.

Sixteen (16) Monthly Meetings and Nine (9) Worship Groups were included in the Apportionment request this fiscal year. So far, 3 have contributed their entire requested amount, 6 have contributed one-half to 95 percent, 2 have contributed quarter to half, and 14 have not contributed anything.

The unrestricted individual donations received toward the Budget during this period totaled \$1,545, approximately 77% of the \$2,000 budgeted amount.

## Cash Flow Results for Programs

The annual programs for this fiscal year are in progress; cash flow is incomplete.

The Publications program during this period had a net real loss of \$990, excluding unrealized capital gains of \$3,137 on investments for the program.

The SEYM Field Secretary for Earthcare program during this period received \$2,720 in donations and had expenses of \$13,438, yielding a net loss of \$10,718.

## Net Worth

The Net Worth of the combined Yearly Meeting and its Trustees at the end of this period was \$624,163, an increase of \$83,288 including \$88,229 in unrealized capital gains since the beginning of the fiscal year.

Joel D. Cook, Treasurer - SEYM 3/21/2021

Southeastern Yearly Meeting  
Budget vs. Actual  
June 2020 through February 2021

	Jun '20 - Feb 21	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
<b>Income</b>				
2002 · Indivd.Donations-Classes	1,545	2,000	-455	77%
2003 · Meeting Donations	29,990	76,590	-46,600	39%
<b>Total 2001 · Donations</b>	<b>31,535</b>	<b>78,590</b>	<b>-47,055</b>	<b>40%</b>
2203 · Savings Account Interest	3	20	-17	15%
<b>Total 2000 · Income</b>	<b>31,741</b>	<b>78,610</b>	<b>-46,869</b>	<b>40%</b>
2712 · Michener Lect. to GF/insurance	0	150	-150	0%
2732 · Gath/Walton to GF/insurance	0	900	-900	0%
2752 · HYM to GF/insurance	0	450	-450	0%
2815 · for BertscheOutreach Travel	1,939	1,800	139	108%
2820 · for Staff Salary	4,558	4,500	58	101%
<b>Total 2804 · from Trustee's Funds</b>	<b>6,497</b>	<b>6,300</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>103%</b>
<b>Total 2700 · Transfer in FROM other classes</b>	<b>6,497</b>	<b>7,800</b>	<b>-1,303</b>	<b>83%</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>38,239</b>	<b>86,410</b>	<b>-48,171</b>	<b>44%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
3001 · Bank Service Charges	270	100	170	270%
3002 · PayPal service fee	85	10	75	848%
3080 · Duplication	724	1,200	-477	60%
<b>Total 3100 · Insurance</b>	<b>1,815</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>130%</b>
3107 · Youth Worker CAP Certification	0	150	-150	0%
3146 · Non-Profit Corporation Fee	0	70	-70	0%
3200 · Office Supplies	218	800	-582	27%
3270 · Payroll Expenses	30,020	47,500	-17,480	63%
3272 · Employer Payroll Taxes	2,642	3,500	-858	75%
3380 · Postage/Shipping	210	400	-190	52%
3381 · Post Office Box rental	118	180	-62	66%
3400 · Office Equipment	0	400	-400	0%
<b>Total 3500 · Professional Fees</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>-1,400</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Total 3640 · Rent warehouse/office</b>	<b>1,571</b>	<b>2,800</b>	<b>-1,229</b>	<b>56%</b>
<b>Total 3700 · Repairs</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>-130</b>	<b>35%</b>
3816 · Software	1,682	1,200	482	140%
3840 · Telephone & Inet access	832	1,700	-868	49%
3860 · Travel Administrative	0	2,000	-2,000	0%
<b>Total 3900 · Website</b>	<b>1,068</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>119%</b>
<b>Total 3000 · Operating Costs</b>	<b>41,323</b>	<b>65,910</b>	<b>-24,587</b>	<b>63%</b>
4309 · Archives	0	100	-100	0%
4329 · EC and IBM	0	100	-100	0%
4339 · Faith and Practice	0	50	-50	0%
4349 · Finance	0	50	-50	0%
4359 · Nominating	0	50	-50	0%
4369 · Peace and Social Concerns	54	450	-396	12%
4379 · Religious Education	0	50	-50	0%
4389 · Youth Committee	0	50	-50	0%
4399 · Worship and Ministry 4429 · Earthcare	0	150	-150	0%
4469 · Racism, Ministry on	0	500	-500	0%
4489 · Young Adult Quakers	0	50	-50	0%



03/21/21  
Cash Basis

Southeastern Yearly Meeting  
Budget vs. Actual  
June 2020 through February 2021

	Jun '20 - Feb 21	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Total 4000 · Committees Operating Expenses	54	1,650	-1,596	3%
5007 · AFSC	0	200	-200	0%
5018 · Earlham School of Religion	0	100	-100	0%
5027 · FCNL	0	300	-300	0%
5028 · QEW (FCUN)	0	200	-200	0%
5030 · FLGBTQC	0	100	-100	0%
5037 · FGC	0	1,200	-1,200	0%
5038 · FLCoalition for Peace & Justice	0	100	-100	0%
5047 · Florida Council of Churches	0	200	-200	0%
5048 · Florida Impact	0	300	-300	0%
5057 · Friends Journal	0	100	-100	0%
5061 · Friends Peace Teams	0	500	-500	0%
5067 · FUM	0	500	-500	0%
5068 · FWCC	0	1,450	-1,450	0%
5077 · Pendle Hill	0	100	-100	0%
5085 · Quaker House of Fayetteville NC	0	200	-200	0%
5087 · Quaker Life	0	100	-100	0%
5089 · QUNO	0	100	-100	0%
5097 · Wm Penn House	0	100	-100	0%
Total 5000 · Donations to Organizations	0	5,850	-5,850	0%
8160 · Annual Representative	0	4,000	-4,000	0%
8460 · Travel Support to SEYM Business	0	1,000	-1,000	0%
8560 · Attendance at SEYM Approved Events	0	1,000	-1,000	0%
Total 8000 · Travel & Financial Aid	0	6,000	-6,000	0%
8500 · Contingency	0	2,000	-2,000	0%
Total 2999 · Expenses	41,377	81,410	-40,033	51%
9004 · for Youth Programs	0	2,500	-2,500	0%
9005 · for Gathering Youth	0	2,000	-2,000	0%
9060 · for Triennial Travel	0	500	-500	0%
Total 9000 · Transfer OUT TO other classes	0	5,000	-5,000	0%
Total Expense	41,377	86,410	-45,033	48%
Net Income	-3,139	0	-3,139	100%

**Southeastern Yearly Meeting  
Income/Expenses by Class for Treasurer**

	Admin/General Fund	Gathering/Walton Lecture	Half Yearly Meeting (HYM)	Michener Lecture	Programs for Youth	Publications	Secretary - Earthcare	Trustee's Funds	TOTAL
<b>Income</b>									
2000 · Income									
2001 · Donations									
2002 · Indivd.Donations-Classes	1,545.00				1,200.00				2,745.00
2003 · Meeting Donations	29,990.46								29,990.46
2104 · Ind Donatn for Youth Event Exp					80.00				80.00
<b>Total 2001 · Donations</b>	<b>31,535.46</b>				<b>1,280.00</b>				<b>32,815.46</b>
2040 · Restricted Donations									
2050 · Restricted - Other								25.00	25.00
2060 · Donations - Restricted- FSE							2,720.00		2,720.00
<b>Total 2040 · Restricted Donations</b>							<b>2,720.00</b>	<b>25.00</b>	<b>2,745.00</b>
2200 · Investment Earnings									
2203 · Savings Account Interest	3.03								3.03
2205 · Dividends FFC Gathering Youth								4,436.89	4,436.89
2210 · Dividends FFC Michener Fund								929.59	929.59
2215 · Dividends FFC Bertsche Outravel								1,939.28	1,939.28
2220 · Dividends-FFC Staff Salary Fund								4,558.12	4,558.12
2225 · Dividends FFC Unrestricted								3,618.10	3,618.10
2230 · Dividends FFC Walton Fund								1,718.26	1,718.26
2280 · Dividends FFC SEYM Publications						576.64			576.64
2290 · Investment Capital Gains/Losses									
2206 · Capital Gain(Loss) Gath. Youth									
2211 · Capital Gain(Loss) Michener									
2216 · Capital Gain(Loss) BertscheOTra									
2221 · Capital Gain(Loss) Staff Salary									
2226 · Capital Gain(Loss) Unrestricted									
2231 · Capital Gain(Loss) Walton									
2232 · Capital Gain (Loss) Meetinghous									
2281 · Capital Gain(loss) SEYM Publish						3,137.04			3,137.04
<b>Total 2290 · Investment Capital Gains/Losses</b>						<b>3,137.04</b>		<b>85,092.13</b>	<b>88,229.17</b>
2200 · Investment Earnings	3.03								3.03
2316 · GuideOne Insurance Dividends	202.76								202.76
2400 · Program Registrations									
2430 · Registration Fee			270.00	1,046.00	20.00				1,336.00
<b>Total 2400 · Program Registrations</b>			<b>270.00</b>	<b>1,046.00</b>	<b>20.00</b>				<b>1,336.00</b>
2600 · Sales									
2630 · Book/consignment Sales								22.55	22.55
2680 · Publication Sales								577.34	577.34
<b>Total 2600 · Sales</b>								<b>599.89</b>	<b>599.89</b>
<b>Total 2000 · Income</b>	<b>31,741.25</b>		<b>270.00</b>	<b>1,046.00</b>	<b>1,300.00</b>	<b>4,313.57</b>	<b>2,720.00</b>	<b>102,317.37</b>	<b>143,708.19</b>

**Southeastern Yearly Meeting  
Income/Expenses by Class for Treasurer**

	Admin/General Fund	Gathering/Walton Lecture	June 2020 through February 2021 Half Yearly Meeting (HYM)	Michener Lecture	Programs for Youth	Publications	Secretary - Earthcare	Trustee's Funds	TOTAL
2700 · Transfer in FROM other classes									
2780 · for Publications			173.26						173.26
2804 · from Trustee's Funds		4,436.89							4,436.89
2805 · for Gathering Youth	1,939.28			929.59					929.59
2810 · for Michener Lecture	4,558.12			929.59					1,939.28
2815 · for BertscheOutreach Travel				1,975.59					4,558.12
2820 · for Staff Salary		1,718.26							1,718.26
2830 · for Walton Lecture/Gathering	6,497.40	6,155.15		929.59					13,582.14
Total 2804 · from Trustee's Funds	6,497.40	6,155.15		929.59		173.26			13,755.40
Total 2700 · Transfer in FROM other classes	38,238.65	6,155.15	270.00	1,975.59	1,300.00	4,486.83	2,720.00	102,317.37	157,463.59
Total Income									
Expense									
2999 · Expenses									
3000 · Operating Costs									
3001 · Bank Service Charges	269.55								269.55
3002 · PayPal service fee	84.79			41.52					126.31
3080 · Duplication	723.50								723.50
3100 · Insurance									
3106 · Liability Insurance	1,815.23								1,815.23
Total 3100 · Insurance	1,815.23								1,815.23
3200 · Office Supplies	217.87								217.87
3270 · Payroll Expenses	30,019.91						12,483.28		42,503.19
3272 · Employer Payroll Taxes	2,641.74						954.80		3,596.54
3380 · Postage/Shipping	209.77					141.98			351.75
3381 · Post Office Box rental	118.00					80.00			198.00
3500 · Professional Fees									
3566 · Transcribe									
3586 · E-pub Dist fees						104.52			104.52
3596 · Publicatns Editing & Publishing						104.00			104.00
Total 3500 · Professional Fees						1,716.57			1,716.57
3640 · Rent warehouse/office						1,925.09			1,925.09
3642 · Office Rent	610.00								610.00
3643 · Storage Unit	961.07								961.07
Total 3640 · Rent warehouse/office	1,571.07								1,571.07
3700 · Repairs									
3740 · Computer Repairs	70.00								70.00
Total 3700 · Repairs	70.00								70.00
3816 · Software	1,681.56								1,681.56
3840 · Telephone & Inet access	832.19								832.19
3900 · Website									

**Southeastern Yearly Meeting  
Income/Expenses by Class for Treasurer**

June 2020 through February 2021

	Admin/General Fund	Gathering/Walton Lecture	Half Yearly Meeting (HYM)	Michener Lecture	Programs for Youth	Publications	Secretary - Earthcare	Trustee's Funds	TOTAL
3641 · Rent E=Data off-site storage	799.99								799.99
3940 · Domain Name Registrations	70.72								70.72
3900 · Website - Other	197.55								197.55
Total 3900 · Website	1,068.26								1,068.26
Total 3000 · Operating Costs	41,323.44			41.52		2,147.07	13,438.08		56,950.11
4000 · Committees Operating Expenses									
4369 · Peace and Social Concerns	54.00							500.00	554.00
Total 4000 · Committees Operating Expenses	54.00							500.00	554.00
6000 · Production									
6380 · ISBN production						192.23			192.23
Total 6000 · Production						192.23			192.23
7000 · Operating Costs Programs									
7500 · Site Fees									
7575 · Site Fees - Lodging			-400.00						-400.00
Total 7500 · Site Fees			-400.00						-400.00
7800 · Youth Program									
7804 · Youth Prg. Expenses/Fees/Other					147.40				147.40
7805 · Youth Program Leader/childcare					3,150.00				3,150.00
Total 7800 · Youth Program					3,297.40				3,297.40
Total 7000 · Operating Costs Programs			-400.00		3,297.40				2,897.40
Total 2999 · Expenses	41,377.44		-400.00	41.52	3,297.40	2,339.30	13,438.08	500.00	60,593.74
9000 · Transfer OUT TO other classes									
9005 · for Gathering Youth								4,436.89	4,436.89
9210 · for Michener Lecture								929.59	929.59
9215 · for BertscheOutreachTravel								1,939.28	1,939.28
9220 · for Staff Salary								4,558.12	4,558.12
9230 · for Walton Lecture/Gathering								1,718.26	1,718.26
Total 9000 · Transfer OUT TO other classes								13,582.14	13,582.14
Total Expense	41,377.44		-400.00	41.52	3,297.40	2,339.30	13,438.08	14,082.14	74,175.88
Income	-3,138.79	6,155.15	670.00	1,934.07	-1,997.40	2,147.53	-10,718.08	88,235.23	83,287.71
Unrealized Capital Gains/Losses						3137.04		85092.13	88229.17
Income without Unrealized Capital Gains/Losses	-3,138.79	6,155.15	670.00	1,934.07	-1,997.40	-989.51	-10,718.08	3,143.10	-4,941.46

03/14/21  
Cash Basis

**Southeastern Yearly Meeting**  
**Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison**  
As of February 28, 2021

	Feb 28, 21	May 31, 20	\$ Change	% Change
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Current Assets				
Checking/Savings				
0501 · Checking Account BOA				
511 · Checking - Gen'l Fund - General	-9,128.19	-5,696.26	-3,431.93	-60.25%
560 · Checking-GF-Triennial Travel	6,959.18	8,858.18	-1,899.00	-21.44%
561 · Peace Team Travel Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
566 · Checking-GF-Sufferings	170.00	170.00	0.00	0.0%
610 · Checking-SA-Michener	2,196.60	-436.55	2,633.15	603.17%
630 · Checking-SA-YBM Gathering	-8,974.97	-14,333.88	5,358.91	37.39%
640 · Checking-SA-Programs for Youth	1,779.17	2,993.53	-1,214.36	-40.57%
650 · Checking-SA-HYM	2,411.78	913.61	1,498.17	163.98%
670 · Checking - SA - Earthcare	6,528.36	33,881.92	-27,353.56	-80.73%
680 · Checking-SA-Publications	2,385.79	-5,118.39	7,504.18	146.61%
700 · Checking-Trustees				
705 · Checking - Gathering Youth Fund	3,831.74	3,831.74	0.00	0.0%
710 · Checking - Michener Fund	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.0%
715 · Checking - Bertsche Travel Fund	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.0%
720 · Checking - Staff Salary	605.00	605.00	0.00	0.0%
725 · Checking - Unrestricted Fund	530.00	1,005.00	-475.00	-47.26%
730 · Checking - Walton Fund	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.0%
Total 700 · Checking-Trustees	<u>4,981.74</u>	<u>5,456.74</u>	<u>-475.00</u>	<u>-8.71%</u>
Total 0501 · Checking Account BOA	<u>9,309.46</u>	<u>26,688.90</u>	<u>-17,379.44</u>	<u>-65.12%</u>
830 · Checking - BofA Payroll	10,530.84	6,152.92	4,377.92	71.15%
903 · Savings BOA	<u>36,919.57</u>	<u>36,916.54</u>	<u>3.03</u>	<u>0.01%</u>
Total Checking/Savings	<u>56,759.87</u>	<u>69,758.36</u>	<u>-12,998.49</u>	<u>-18.63%</u>
Accounts Receivable				
1100 · Accounts Receivable	<u>-1,135.31</u>	<u>-1,135.31</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
Total Accounts Receivable	<u>-1,135.31</u>	<u>-1,135.31</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
Other Current Assets				
1180 · FFC SOYM1 Publications Investme	17,759.97	14,622.93	3,137.04	21.45%
1200 · Trustee Investments				
1205 · FFC SOYMT6 GatheringYouth Fund	134,423.17	112,514.66	21,908.51	19.47%
1210 · FFC SOYMT3 Michener	28,163.36	23,573.44	4,589.92	19.47%
1215 · FFC SOYMT2 BertscheTravel Fd	58,753.43	49,177.70	9,575.73	19.47%
1220 · FFC SOYMT5 Staff Salary Fund	138,288.95	115,750.38	22,538.57	19.47%
1225 · FFC SOYMT4 Unrestricted	111,754.31	90,240.01	21,514.30	23.84%
1230 · FFC SOYMT1 Walton Fund	52,057.52	43,573.10	8,484.42	19.47%
1240 · FFC SOYMT7 Meetinghouse Support	27,337.62	27,238.84	98.78	0.36%
Total 1200 · Trustee Investments	<u>550,778.36</u>	<u>462,068.13</u>	<u>88,710.23</u>	<u>19.2%</u>
Total Other Current Assets	<u>568,538.33</u>	<u>476,691.06</u>	<u>91,847.27</u>	<u>19.27%</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>624,162.89</u>	<u>545,314.11</u>	<u>78,848.78</u>	<u>14.46%</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><b>624,162.89</b></u>	<u><b>545,314.11</b></u>	<u><b>78,848.78</b></u>	<u><b>14.46%</b></u>

03/14/21  
Cash Basis

**Southeastern Yearly Meeting**  
**Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison**  
As of February 28, 2021

	<u>Feb 28, 21</u>	<u>May 31, 20</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>				
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Other Current Liabilities				
1300 · Expected/prepaid expenses				
1383 · Prepaid Mtg. Donations	0.00	5,400.00	-5,400.00	-100.0%
1300 · Expected/prepaid expenses - Other	0.00	-961.07	961.07	100.0%
Total 1300 · Expected/prepaid expenses	<u>0.00</u>	<u>4,438.93</u>	<u>-4,438.93</u>	<u>-100.0%</u>
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>0.00</u>	<u>4,438.93</u>	<u>-4,438.93</u>	<u>-100.0%</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>0.00</u>	<u>4,438.93</u>	<u>-4,438.93</u>	<u>-100.0%</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>0.00</u>	<u>4,438.93</u>	<u>-4,438.93</u>	<u>-100.0%</u>
Equity				
1400 · Trustees Funds Equity	296,694.99	296,694.99	0.00	0.0%
1500 · Operational Equity/ Net Assets				
1511 · General Fund Net Assets	29,324.36	29,324.36	0.00	0.0%
1560 · Triennial Travel Net Assets	5,349.80	5,349.80	0.00	0.0%
1580 · Publications Net Assets	<u>14,341.85</u>	<u>14,341.85</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
Total 1500 · Operational Equity/ Net Assets	<u>49,016.01</u>	<u>49,016.01</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
1700 · Retained Earnings	195,164.18	210,605.20	-15,441.02	-7.33%
Net Income	<u>83,287.71</u>	<u>-15,441.02</u>	<u>98,728.73</u>	<u>639.39%</u>
Total Equity	<u>624,162.89</u>	<u>540,875.18</u>	<u>83,287.71</u>	<u>15.4%</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<u><u>624,162.89</u></u>	<u><u>545,314.11</u></u>	<u><u>78,848.78</u></u>	<u><u>14.46%</u></u>

# Committee for Ministry on Racism Report in Cooperation with the Youth Committee

SEYM Yearly Business Meeting (Documents in Advance)  
2 Fourth Month 2021

*Quakers--and the world--need constant reminders and evolving 21st century interpretations of Quaker testimonies, values, and principles, including Truth/Integrity, Peace, Equality, Community, and Justice, and their application in witness.*

Dr. Harold (Hal) Weaver, founder, BlackQuaker Project  
[www.theblackquakerproject.org](http://www.theblackquakerproject.org)

*No one ever talks about the moment you found you were white. Or the moment you found out you were black. That's a profound revelation. The minute you find that out, something happens. You have to renegotiate everything.*

Toni Morrison, as quoted by  
Resmaa Menakem, **My Grandmother's Hands**, 2017.

Loving Greetings, Friends:

(Please see, "Clarifying Definitions," accompanying our Winter Interim Business Meeting (WIBM) 2021 DIA Report, for many of the terms used in this Report.)

The Committee for Ministry on Racism (CMOR), in cooperation with the SEYM Youth Committee, joyfully invite you all to our workshop to be held during the Gathering: **MIRRORS OF IDENTITY: Personal Reflections on Racial Experience**. The workshop, another step in removing White supremacy from SEYM, will offer a Spiritually grounded, welcoming and safe place for all Friends to reflect together and be heard, mainly through worship sharing. Members of CMOR will facilitate.

We are also working with the Gathering Committee to make available affinity (support) groups or spaces for, (1) solely Friends who are Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color (BIPOC) and (2) solely Friends who are White or of European Descent. Whether these spaces can be offered daily, and whether an affinity space can be offered for Biracial Friends, will depend upon the technical support available. CMOR will be helping the Gathering Committee to find tech support. We are grateful to the Gathering Committee.

Why are these separate spaces important? Having these safe spaces in which to debrief, held in God's love, is essential for developing a whole Blessed community, together. Most of us within SEYM, regardless of race, were socialized into the U.S. White supremacist culture and need a place to help deal with that.

BIPOC and Biracial Friends need respite from repeated oppression from both the implicit and explicit biases they experience from structural and systemic racism. They need a place where they can relax and simply be who they are, feel affirmed, act, and share feelings and thoughts without leaving parts of themselves at the door. Biracial Friends have sometimes expressed feeling marginalized by people of other racial identities.

People who are White or of European Descent also require respite because they usually have a very hard time talking about race, either among themselves or especially with BIPOC, for fear of saying the wrong thing and being seen as a morally bad person should they say or do something labeled racist. A person is not a bad person when the latter happens. It is bound to occur because of their socialization. They need space to learn from each other about their White frame of reference and its effects - a space to feel affirmed, act, simply be, share feelings and ask questions. A place to learn that racism is not about the duality of being a good or bad person, it's structural and systemic. We all are of God, Source, Spirit.

We celebrate that Meetings and Worship Groups are beginning to implement at least one way forward together to remove White supremacy from SEYM, as reported in the WIBM Documents in Advance and at WIBM. Miami Meeting, Deland Worship Group and a member of Ft. Lauderdale Meeting met together by Zoom on February 7. Kathy Hersh reported:

“Miami Friends Meeting hosted a Zoom worship sharing session on white supremacy on Sunday, February 7, at 1 pm. They extended the invitation to the Deland Worship Group and any other SEYM Quakers. Four members of the Deland Worship Group attended, as well as a member of Ft. Lauderdale Meeting. After a review of the worship sharing guidelines and queries developed by Friends of Color at Friend’s General Conference, the participants were divided into 3 breakout rooms, providing time for each person to share their answers to the queries, if they so chose. The queries focused on 3 aspects: 1) what personal spiritual leadings Friends might be engaged in addressing ongoing racism on monthly meeting and yearly meeting levels, 2) how to keep members engaged in the struggle for true equality in health, education, wealth, and against state sanctioned violence and 3) the means of supporting Friends of Color in Quaker worship and meetings around the world. (These are paraphrases of the actual queries.)

After the break out time, Friends came back together to share their feelings about the process. “It was hard.” One Friend was impressed with the depth of feelings shared and the amount of work still needed. One friend was struck by how much white people are conditioned and that we have to decondition ourselves to become equals... The Zoom meeting closed after an hour and a half with much conviviality and a desire for more.”

Orlando Meeting will have a threshing session in March, and Tallahassee Meeting will have either a threshing session or worship sharing in March. Tallahassee has begun their second racial justice series, open to other organizations and faith groups. In past reports CMOR has mentioned the antiracist efforts of St. Petersburg and Ft. Myers Meetings. Other antiracist activities are reported in the SEYM eNews. Thank you, Vicki Carlie. Thank you, Susan Wade for all the Zoom support for our committee meetings.

We look forward to spiritual nourishment and growth with all of you at the Gathering!

Trusting in the Spirit, with Love,

Susan Taylor, Tallahassee, co-clerk, CMOR and Joint Youth, CMOR Committees  
For CMOR and Youth Committee



Youth Committee: Aurelio Anderson. Regrets for Feb. meeting: Cecelia Yocum, clerk and co-clerk of Joint Committee Youth and CMOR, Tampa; Jennifer Mendoza, Sarasota; Mira Tanna, Orlando; Kody Hersh, SEYM Youth and Young Adult Coordinator.

CMOR: Wendy Clarissa Geiger, co-clerk (regrets), Jacksonville; Beverly Ward, Tampa; Minerva Glidden, Orlando; Kathy Hersh, Miami and Deland WG; Jane Westberg, Miami; Jean Larson (regrets), Gainesville; Cheryl Demers, Gainesville; Katie Green, (regrets) Clearwater; Mainus Sultan, Savannah.

# Havana Unprogrammed Worship Group

SEYM Yearly Business Meeting  
2 Fourth Month 2021

Dear Friends,

The Havana Quaker Unprogrammed Worship Group (HUG) has not held meetings during the 2019-2020 years but has kept the community in contact.

As reported in 2018: Alejandro Castellanos, the clerk, told us he definitely does not have the skills to call to meeting, but he can guide the group when it is already in meeting. As one of the founders, he has experience in the silent worship of the unprogrammed Quaker tradition.

So Mercedes decided to help Alejandro by calling a meeting from abroad.

She has been contacting the attenders who are in Havana and those currently living in other countries as well as international Friends who have visited and worshiped with HUG in different decades. Also there are some possible newcomers.

All this would not have been possible without the driving spirit of Teresa DovalPage, one of the founders of HUG in 1994; or the advice of Friend Jack Bradin.

## **THE WORSHIP:**

Due to the pandemic, those who live in Havana cannot worship in person.

A meeting to worship remotely is currently being planned and organized using ZOOM for those outside the country. Those who are in Cuba will use WhatsApp or phone calls if they don't have internet access.

In order to test the technological structure for this international meeting, Mercedes has had to help financially those in Havana who needed a cell phone. She has also paid for their internet access so they can use WhatsApp and for long-distance calls to Cuba for those who only have landlines.

## **LIST OF FRIENDS CURRENTLY PARTICIPATING:**

### **In Cuba**

Alejandro Castellanos  
Margarita Gonzalez  
Marlene Iturralde  
Mercedes Gimenez  
Others

### **Other countries:**

Teresa DovalPage, (HUG's) New Mexico  
Jack Bradin, Palm Beach MM  
David Culver, Fort Myers MM

Harvey Gilman, UK  
Renato Lings, Denmark  
Fela Rodas, (HUG's), Spain  
Mercedes Soca, Sarasota MM, Florida

**NEEDS:**

HUG maintains the 2018 requests to this Annual Meeting for the creation of a committee that formally and officially supports and continues this work.

It is important for Cubans to experience the unprogrammed Quaker worship tradition.

**THE SPIRITUAL STATE OF THE INDIVIDUALS:**

Those in Havana, like all Cubans on the island, are suffering the effects of the pandemic, and of the harsh measures that the government is taking to control the infection. In this month of February when this report is written, the island is in lockdown, and free traffic between places is not allowed.

However, the lack of food, sanitary products and medicines is affecting people even much more. Some say the reasons for this shortage are from internal problems. Some others think that it is the result of an increase of political actions taken overseas against Cuba.

Despite their current situation, our friends in Havana remain spiritually strong and willing to worship, as is the HUG way, holding Nature and the entire planet in the Light

Alejandro Castellanos Gonzalez, clerk  
+(53)55118179  
Hospital #468  
E/ San Miguel y Neptuno  
Centro Habana,  
C.P.10300

Mercedes Soca Gil  
SEYM representative  
(239) 529-0895  
[mercedes.soca@gmail.com](mailto:mercedes.soca@gmail.com)

# Youth Committee Report

Southeastern Yearly Business Meeting  
2 Fourth Month 2021

Present: Cece Yocum, Kody Hersh, Mira Tanna, Jennifer Mendoza, Aurelio Anderson

Agenda items:

1. Upcoming SEYM - The committee agreed most of the scheduled activities are in place and it looks like a good array of activities for different ages.

2. Kody's possible return and date as SEYM Youth Coordinator.

The committee agreed we would all like to have Kody back ASAP and when he would like to return.

Pending acceptance by the Executive Committee, the committee would like to have two family events this summer that are daylong in an outdoor area such as a state park. This would require careful planning to meet recommended COVID precautions and local and/or state guidelines at that time. The two events would be planned for different regions (likely north and south Florida), one earlier and one later in the summer.

Therefore, the youth committee recommends that Kody resume his regular work schedule on June 15 (his earliest availability) in order to have adequate time to plan and promote summer events. We recommend that he be authorized to begin part-time work on his own schedule prior to that date, tracking hours for compensatory time off later in the year.

3. Friends in the Yearly Meeting became aware that a member of Palm Beach Meeting was arrested and remains in jail on charges of child sexual abuse. This person was a past attendee of Yearly Meeting and led events such as sports and games with youth. He was well liked by many of the youth and others at that time, so this has been a big shock to many.

Members of the committee were unaware if he had been alone with any youth at an SEYM gathering. The act that he is charged with occurred in his home county 16 years ago. This individual's case has not been adjudicated.

The youth committee recommends that an ad hoc committee be developed to coordinate SEYM's response to this alleged event, should that be deemed appropriate.

Since our committee meeting, I have been in contact with Ellie Caldwell from Palm Beach MM and they might be helpful with ideas, since they have already started this process.

Kody Hersh offered to serve on SEYM's ad hoc committee responding to the arrest. Again, there has not been a legal resolution to the charge.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cecilia Yocum, Youth Committee Clerk

## 2021 Report to Yearly Meetings

Dear Friends,

Our Quaker faith and practice call us to work for the peaceful, just, equitable, and sustainable world we seek. Since 1943, the Friends Committee on National Legislation has carried on this witness of the Spirit through action on Capitol Hill. Here are just some of the highlights of this year's work, made possible by your advocacy, engagement, and financial support. Learn more about the legislative impact of FCNL's work at [fcnl.org/impact](https://fcnl.org/impact).

### Advancing the World We Seek, in a Year Shaped by Crises

The **Covid-19 pandemic** shifted both how FCNL works and the urgency of our advocacy to heed God's call to care for people who are vulnerable. Thanks in part to our efforts, Covid relief legislation will cut child poverty in half this year and increase food assistance.

The need to adapt in a pandemic also led to **new opportunities**. A record 700 people joined in our Annual Meeting, nearly half attending for the first time. At that gathering, General Committee members approved legislative priorities for the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress, a budget that builds on FCNL's strong financial footing, and revised bylaws to allow Friends to be considered for General Committee service regardless of immigration status. Meanwhile, online gathering gave FCNL valuable opportunities to be in community with Friends and offer a new level of training and support to Quaker meetings, churches, and gatherings across the country.

This year also brought a **crisis for U.S. democracy and faith in our government**. FCNL is nonpartisan, but we are not neutral about the harm caused when our government pursues racist, nationalist, and militaristic ideologies and practices. The January 2021 attack on the U.S. Capitol was only one manifestation of the challenges to our democratic system. FCNL continues to pursue accountability, truth-seeking, and deep listening as we work for change.

The murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and so many other Black Americans, by police gave new urgency to FCNL's work on **racial justice**. Between two major FCNL lobby events, more than 1,000 people advocated to end police violence.

FCNL advocacy helped restore access to Pell grants for incarcerated people and launch new initiatives to address the crisis of missing and murdered Native women. Internally, we began an intensive focus with staff and governorsto address systemic racism and white supremacy as it manifests in our organization.

FCNL continues its decade-long work to press for **bipartisan action on climate change**. We are heartened by executive actions that led the U.S. to rejoin the Paris Climate Agreement and advance environmental justice initiatives. We will build on this progress toward a sustainable, low-

carbon economy as we bring on a new class of young adult Advocacy Corps organizers this summer, who will focus on building bipartisan support for a price on carbon. They will need your partnership, support, and accompaniment in this work.

FCNL also helped move forward **efforts to end support for violent conflict and to make peacebuilding a priority**. President Biden's decision to end support for the Saudi-led war in Yemen is the culmination of years of tireless advocacy by FCNL and our allies. An extension of the New START agreement with Russia continues limits on the number of deployed nuclear weapons in each country, building on FCNL's lobbying to build bipartisan support for the agreement. And efforts to repeal the 2002 Authorization for the Use of Military Force moved forward, thanks in large part to the work of more than 1,500 people on FCNL Advocacy Teams around the country who use their power as constituents to make change in Washington.

### **Our Strong Community**

**Advocacy Teams** members are just some of the many people who enrich FCNL's work with their time and commitment. We are grateful for the nearly 200 Friends, representing 32 Yearly Meetings and Friends organizations, who govern FCNL as **General Committee members**. We look forward to welcoming Friends to take part in the **Friend in Washington** program when travel is again safe; we benefit immensely from the seasoned Friends who volunteer on a short-term basis on specific projects and contribute to the spiritual richness of FCNL. We also recognize the dedication of the people taking part in our **Young Adult programs**—as Young Fellows, Advocacy Corps organizers, interns, and Spring Lobby Weekend participants. Learn more about young adult program opportunities at [fcnl.org/youngadult](https://fcnl.org/youngadult).

### **Reopening Friends Place on Capitol Hill**

The FCNL Education Fund assumed responsibility for ownership and operations of the William Penn House, a guest house on Capitol Hill, in September 2019. (The House continues to be a separate 501(c)(3) charitable organization with its own budget and governance.) We anticipate reopening the space and launching educational programming and advocacy trainings in the coming year.

Recognizing William Penn's history as an enslaver, the William Penn House board approved changing the venue's name to Friends Place on Capitol Hill. With this change, the board affirmed the need to continue reckoning with Quakers' complicity in slavery and racism, and touse the facility in service of challenging and dismantling the foundations of white supremacy.

### **A Bittersweet Transition**

FCNL General Secretary Diane Randall has announced she will leave FCNL at the end of 2021. For the past ten years, Diane has fostered FCNL's growth and strength among Friends and on Capitol Hill. When she became the first woman to lead the organization, Diane told us that FCNL "must be bold, strategic, and relentless." Today, we are that and far more.

FCNL has begun a search process to select the next General Secretary. We hope to bring a candidate to the General Committee for approval at Annual Meeting in November 2021.

FCNL's work in the year ahead will be full of challenges and opportunities, both politically and organizationally. We are grateful to have a strong foundation on which to build. Thank you for your prayers, participation, and support, and—above all—for your faithfulness.  
Winchester (IN) Friends Church Clerk, FCNL General Committee.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ron Ferguson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Winchester (IN) Friends Church  
Clerk, FCNL General Committee

March 2021

To our Friends of Southeastern Yearly Meeting:

Please welcome Riley Robinson, Bobby Trice, Kameryn Point, and Hannah Sievers, as they visit the 2021 Southeastern Yearly Meeting. We are excited that they will have ample opportunities to hear your concerns and leadings while sharing in worship, holding your business meeting in the Light, and leading Quaker advocacy workshop, March 31 – April 11. They are happy to be in faith and community with you.

As a Major Gifts Officer, [Riley](#) enjoys witnessing the creative, effective work of FCNL staff members in Washington; he is equally moved by the enthusiasm and commitment of FCNL volunteers and supporters, as well as the respect that Friends everywhere hold for the FCNL policy process. He looks forward to sharing much of the SEYM 2021 gathering with Friends.

As the Quaker Engagement Associate, [Bobby](#) cultivates relationships with Friends and other FCNL constituents. He supports Quakers' spirit-led advocacy on Capitol Hill and around the nation. Bobby worships with Friends Meeting of Washington (BYM) and carries a concern for drawing connections between Friends' faith, history, community, and witness in the world. He will co-lead a workshop on systemic racism and policy reform with Kameryn Point.

[Kameryn](#) (Lumbee/Waccamaw Siouan) is the program assistant for justice reform and election integrity. In this role she lobbies for comprehensive justice reform and an end to mass incarceration. She collaborates with FCNL's network of grassroots supporters, coalition partners, and congressional offices to move our nation toward a more equitable and fair system for voting and elections.

[Hannah](#) is the program assistant for young adult outreach. She helps manage recruitment and outreach to young adults across the United States for FCNL's programs alongside Larissa Gil Sanhueza, Advocacy Corps coordinator. She will speak on the Quaker Youth Action panel.

We at FCNL seek to strengthen our connection to Friends Meetings and Churches around the country and find areas where FCNL can offer opportunities for action on issues concerning Friends. We are supporting this virtual "travel" in the tradition of Friends' intervisitation with hope to stir our spirits and open opportunities for understanding one another's experiences of how the Spirit is working in the world toward peace and justice.

We send you greetings, hold you in our prayers, and trust that God will bless your time together in loving community.

In peace,



Ron Ferguson  
Clerk, FCNL General Committee  
Pastor, Winchester Friends Church (IN)



# Committee for Ministry on Racism

SEYM Yearly Business Meeting

8 Fourth Month 2021

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Nancy O'Byrne, active with Floridians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty, a non-profit, non-partisan statewide grassroots organization of individuals and groups united to abolish the Death Penalty in Florida has reached out, through Kathy Hersh, CMOR member, to see whether SEYM would like to host a workshop of theirs.

**Workshop Description:** Throughout our nation's history of racial injustice - from slavery to lynchings to systemic racism - white lives have been valued over black and brown lives. The death penalty, with its brutal record of racial injustice, is inextricably linked to this history. The same criminal justice system that perpetuates mass incarceration and police violence determines who lives and who dies by execution. Join us for a discussion about the role of race in the capital punishment system, from our earliest days as a nation through today.

**Request:** Floridians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty would like to moderate a panel on race and the death penalty. Panelists will include both national and Florida-based experts, including an official from DPIC (Death Penalty Information Center) who wrote a recent report on this issue; as well as an African American death row exoneree.

Floridians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty, FADP

P.O. Box 82943

Tampa, FL 33682

[www.fadp.org](http://www.fadp.org) / [Follow FADP on Facebook](#)

2. Friday, May 14, there will be an SEYM movie night, showing Just Mercy, the feature film showing the story of the Equal Justice Initiative, its founder Bryan Stephenson, the clients they serve and the work they do. A Pdapted from Bryan Stephenson's book of the same name. CMOR invites Friends to view this on Zoom together.

3. Just in at 1:30 PM today from Jane Westberg:

I was just on a zoom call with Ruth Flower, Paula Palmer, other Quakers and members of other progressive faith communities re: Senator Warren reintroducing a bill that she and Deb Haaland introduced at the end of last Congress calling for a Truth and Reconciliation Commission about the Native American boarding schools. Senator Warren's staff is consulting with the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition on the contents of the bill, and it should be introduced within the next several weeks.

Ruth Flower of FCNL's Native American Professional Advocacy program: 2 days ago  
At the end of last Congress, then-representative Deb Haaland and Senator Elizabeth Warren introduced some legislation calling for a Truth and Reconciliation Commission about the schools. Now Secretary Haaland is still strongly committed to the idea, and has "tasked" Senator Warren with reintroducing the bill. Senator Warren's staff is consulting with the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition on the contents of the bill and it should be introduced

within the next several weeks.

Representatives of a number of faith groups have continued to meet together on Native American concerns - particularly the boarding school experience. They are thinking now that church groups -- especially those that were heavily involved in boarding schools (which would most certainly include Quakers) -- should prepare to support such legislation when it comes out.

Getting the word out to various yearly meetings seems to be a good start. Those of us who have received information about the call are invited to share it with other denominational partners - especially those who might know how to widen conversations in their own parts of the denomination.

# Friends Peace Teams: Peacebuilding en las Americas Report

SEYM Yearly Business Meeting  
8 Fourth Month 2021

## December 2020: Four-Part Response

Dec 13, 2020 by PLA Coordinator

The Peacebuilding en las Américas (PLA) team is implementing a four-part response to the destruction of Hurricanes Eta and Iota, which added to the suffering in the region already created by the multiple pandemics of Covid, hunger, domestic violence and militarization. The Hurricanes hit Honduras and Guatemala particularly hard, affecting more than 5.5 million people in these two countries alone.

**First**, PLA is offering **immediate relief to Hurricane victim-survivors** in Guatemala and Honduras who have not been reached by larger NGOs or government aid. In Guatemala, PLA is collaborating with the Friends Church to offer stoves and ponchos to the Playitas Community in Alta Verapaz, Chisec where 150 families lost everything, are without communication and currently accessible only by boat.

In Honduras, PLA is working with the Peace and Justice Office of the Mennonite Church to provide construction and cleaning supplies to families whose homes have been destroyed at the outskirts of the coastal city of La Ceiba and the industrial valley of San Pedro Sula.

PLA is also supporting Mercy Dream Weavers to bring food to isolated, indigenous Tolupan women of rural Locomapa, Yoro and to provide home items and cleaning supplies to families made homeless in a destroyed village near Puerto Cortés, also accessible only by boat.

**Second**, PLA is providing **psychological and spiritual support** through online AVP workshops to Hurricane survivors, as well as to women and adolescents living in situations of domestic violence, and to others suffering from the stress of pandemic confinement, unemployment, and militarization of civil society.

To date, national coordinators and colleagues have facilitated eight Basic online workshops and one Advanced, with 106 participants from 14 countries. Those

participants who are AVP facilitators now plan to replicate the virtual workshops with others. The enthusiasm and demand for the online workshops continues to be high.

As one participant of the Basic commented, “What I liked about the workshop was the respect and warmth. Despite the virtual modality, we felt close like a family. I really liked that everyone shared; we all felt taken into account. The topics have been marvelous. I am grateful... to the facilitators for having taken the risk to offer it online.”

Participants of the Advanced shared, “I congratulate you for your effort and dedication. Despite being online, the workshop was carried out with great professionalism.” “A super team! Awesome organization! Thank you for giving the best of yourselves. Personally, this workshop arrived at a difficult moment and was a complete blessing.”

**Third**, PLA continues the **Peace Baskets Project** with emergency food, hygiene items and messages of peace to communities most affected by the hunger pandemic. The third round of Peace Basket deliveries was completed in Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, with 100 baskets delivered in El Salvador alone to families employed in the informal sector, most of whom were infected with Covid. The fourth round is now nearing completion.

Over 1,000 families in all have benefitted. Due to the extreme suffering caused by the Hurricanes, Guatemala and Honduras will implement a fifth round of Peace Baskets to families affected most by hunger and to AVP facilitators in prison.

**Fourth**, the Peace Baskets Project will move into its second phase of **Planting Sustainable Peace**. In Ecuador, a collective garden of high-protein Andean beans, chochos, has been planted on three hectares in Cotacachi by 15 indigenous Kichwa families, motivated by indigenous women leaders of Jambi Mascari, the women’s arm of an indigenous confederation of 43 villages. The women have been dedicated to food sovereignty programs for decades so they moved quickly into this sustainable peace phase after just one round of Peace Basket deliveries. A percentage of the harvest will be for food consumption of the 15 families involved, another percentage given to other indigenous families in need, and a final percentage sold in order to create income to reinvest in the project.

In Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, Planting Sustainable Peace will begin in January and involve promoting home gardens and family micro-enterprises.

## January 2021

The Peacebuilding en las Américas (PLA) team continued implementing its four-part response to the suffering caused by Hurricanes Eta and Iota, Covid, hunger, domestic violence and militarization. Lockdowns across the region accompanied a surge in Covid infections with the public health system overwhelmed and intensive care over capacity.

Manifestations of the widespread desperation became clearer with a tragic spike in suicides among children and adolescents. In northern Honduras, PLA partner Ondina Murillo reported five youth suicides in her area, including an 8-year-old.

Another indicator of the crisis was the formation of two new Caravans of adults and children headed to the US on foot from San Pedro Sula, Honduras, despite severe national and regional restrictions on mobility. Among the estimated 3,000 people setting out in search of a new life was a woman in a wheelchair.

**Relief to Hurricane victims** began in Honduras and Guatemala with a focus on those overlooked by the government and large NGOs. Nelly Delcid at Mercy Dream Weavers in Honduras provided humanitarian assistance to women land rights defenders who have participated in AVP: indigenous Tolupan women of rural Locomapa whose food supply was cut off, and Garifuna women of the northern coastal town of Tornabé whose communities were devastated. She is also providing basic household and cleaning supplies to homeless families in a destroyed village near Puerto Cortés, accessible only by boat.

Ondina Murillo is working with the Peace and Justice Office of the Mennonite Church to provide construction and cleaning supplies to families whose homes have been destroyed in the coastal town of La Ceiba and the industrial valley of San Pedro Sula.

In Guatemala, Lorena Escobar, in collaboration with the Friends Church, is providing stoves and ponchos to 50 families of the Playitas Community in Alta Verapaz, Chisec, completely flooded but now accessible by land.

**Psychological and spiritual support** is expanding through ever proliferating **online AVP workshops**. Participants include Hurricane survivors, women and adolescents living in situations of domestic violence, and others suffering from the stress of confinement, unemployment, and militarization of civil society.

With new workshops in January, national coordinators and colleagues have been involved in facilitating 10 Basic online workshops and 3 Advanced, with 170 Spanish-speaking participants from 15 countries: El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Ecuador, Colombia, Brazil, Argentina, Bolivia, Peru, Nicaragua, Panama, Cuba, USA, Spain and Germany.

Participants who are AVP facilitators plan to replicate the workshops with others, including a new team of AVP virtual facilitators in Cali, Colombia. The enthusiasm is contagious with demand soaring.

**The Peace Baskets Project** has reached 1,100 beneficiaries in Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras with emergency food, hygiene items and messages of peace.

Given the deepening crisis of hunger aggravated by the Hurricanes, a fourth round of Peace Baskets was completed during this period, reaching 30 families in Guatemala, 25 families in Colombia, and 15 families and 11 men living in prison in Honduras.

**The Planting Sustainable Peace Project** has moved forward in Ecuador, where a collective garden of high-protein beans, chochos, is flourishing on three hectares of land cultivated by 15 indigenous Kichwa families in the Andean highlands; leading the project are indigenous women leaders of Jambi Mascari of Cotacachi who are dedicated to food sovereignty.

A percentage of the harvest will be for food consumption of the 15 families, another percentage given to other indigenous families in need, and a final percentage sold with profits reinvested in the project.

In Colombia, Patricia Duque is happily harvesting and sharing abundant vegetables from her stunning home garden. Her shining example has inspired others; now, there are four Sustainable Peace gardens in Antioquia. Planting Sustainable Peace will expand in 2021, promoting more home gardens as well as family micro-enterprises.

## February 2021

by PLA Coordinator Monica Maher

Social movements in the Andean region celebrated results of the first round of Presidential elections in Ecuador where the indigenous party leader came close to second among 16 candidates. It was a historic moment for the indigenous movement in Ecuador, which has strongly opposed the recent signing of an agreement with the International Monetary Fund and concessions to transnational extractive industries, which destroy ancestral lands and cultures.

In Central America, still reeling from Hurricanes Eta and Iota, the Caravan of an estimated 5,000 people from Honduras was stopped in Guatemala by brutal police repression; the desperation to migrate is driven by increasing poverty which now affects a shocking 70% of the Honduran population, with 45% living in extreme poverty.

In the face of such challenges, our Peacebuilding en las Américas (PLA) partners continue with amazing stamina and dedication. The Peace Basket Project and Hurricane relief efforts advance, community gardens expand and Alternatives to Violence (AVP) online workshops proliferate, creating ripples of resilience and hope from individuals to families to neighborhoods to transnational communities.

### **Peace Baskets and Hurricane Relief**

In **Honduras**, shelters took in 37,000 people in Honduras made homeless by the hurricanes, while many others went to live in make-shift tents on the streets or under bridges.

Ondina Murillo of the Mennonite Church delivered Peace Baskets of food and hygiene items to 13 families who lost everything in San Pedro Sula and to seven families who live along the river's edge of La Ceiba. She also provided construction materials to four families in La Ceiba to rebuild their roofs. Finally, she reached out to homeless families in San Pedro Sula with used clothing, as well as new mattresses, chairs, cleaning supplies, stoves and kitchen utensils. In all, 28 families benefitted.

The Mencia Dubón family responded: “We want to thank you for not leaving us alone in these difficult moments; your donation brought great joy to our family

since we had to leave our house with empty hands. Upon receiving your donation, we became motivated to return to our house and begin again, because before we had nothing, absolutely nothing to return with. We are enormously grateful. May God repay you.“

In **Guatemala**, Lorena Escobar provided stoves and ponchos to 50 families made homeless by the hurricanes in the community of Limón in Chisec, Alta Verapáz. She also delivered Peace Baskets of basic food stuffs and messages of peace to 30 families suffering from the hunger pandemic in Amatitlán, just outside Guatemala City.

### **Planting Sustainable Peace: Food Sovereignty**

In **Ecuador**, the community garden of Andean, lupine beans in the indigenous community of Cotacachi are flourishing. The women leaders of Jambi Mascari chose the beans not only for their high-protein content but also for their ability to withstand long dry spells. In addition, the beautiful purple lupine flower has important healing properties. The next step is completion of a fence around the 4 hectares in order to keep out animals. The harvest will be done in March and April through collective volunteer labor by the families involved, including youth. In addition, Jambi Mascari leaders plan to provide fruit trees (lemon, orange, avocado) to 30 women for their home gardens.

In **Colombia**, Patricia Duque has promoted the creation of vegetable gardens in four households of Antioquia and has launched online workshops in order to strengthen the AVP community locally in preparation for working together on sustainable peace projects.

In **Guatemala**, the work on planting sustainable peace began with a meeting between women of the Peace Schools with agronomist, Ricardo Estrada, in order to expand understanding of vegetable gardening and prepare for the purchase of seeds.



## **Virtual AVP Workshops: Creating Community/Improving Health**

AVP online continued to strengthen community nationally and transnationally. Facilitators from throughout the region began the seventh and eighth online Basic in Spanish, and finished three Advanced workshops on assertive communication and forgiveness.

Two Central American teams simultaneously co-facilitated two Advanced workshops for 24 participants from eight countries: **Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, El Salvador, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras and Panama.** Participants stated the workshop was “an immense contribution” to their lives, affirming the online workshops have “helped their mental and spiritual health and also reduced levels of violence and stress.”

In **Colombia**, the Franciscans Sisters very successfully completed the online Advanced with 14 participants from throughout Colombia; participants expressed much gratitude for the environment of “great confidence and trust,” “spontaneity and solidarity” which allowed for a profound process of “inner liberation and inner healing,” “empowerment” and collective bonding.

According to one participant, the workshop cultivated “certainty that we can create spaces of fellowship, group connections that favor peaceful and sane co-existence.” Another affirmed that the positive changes can be felt at home: “my family participates much more in dialogue in order to know and express how they feel.”

### **Future Goals**

One of the next goals is to begin online AVP workshops on Trauma Healing and Overcoming Domestic Violence.

In person workshops are also being planned and would take place outside with social distancing and are being planned in Ecuador and Colombia.

Become Part of the Long Term Solution for Peace (see that section on our website)

For more information about all the work of Friends Peace Teams, please go to <https://friendspeaceteams.org/> Check out the peace activities with our partners from around the world- African Great Lakes, Asia West Pacific, Peacebuilding en

las Americas, and Toward Right Relationships with Native Peoples. Also we have a worldwide program “The Friendly Book Collaborative.”

You can donate online and subscribe to our email news and read articles from all over the world. FPT is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

Talk to Cecilia Yocum ([ceceyocum@aol.com](mailto:ceceyocum@aol.com)) about how you can get involved.

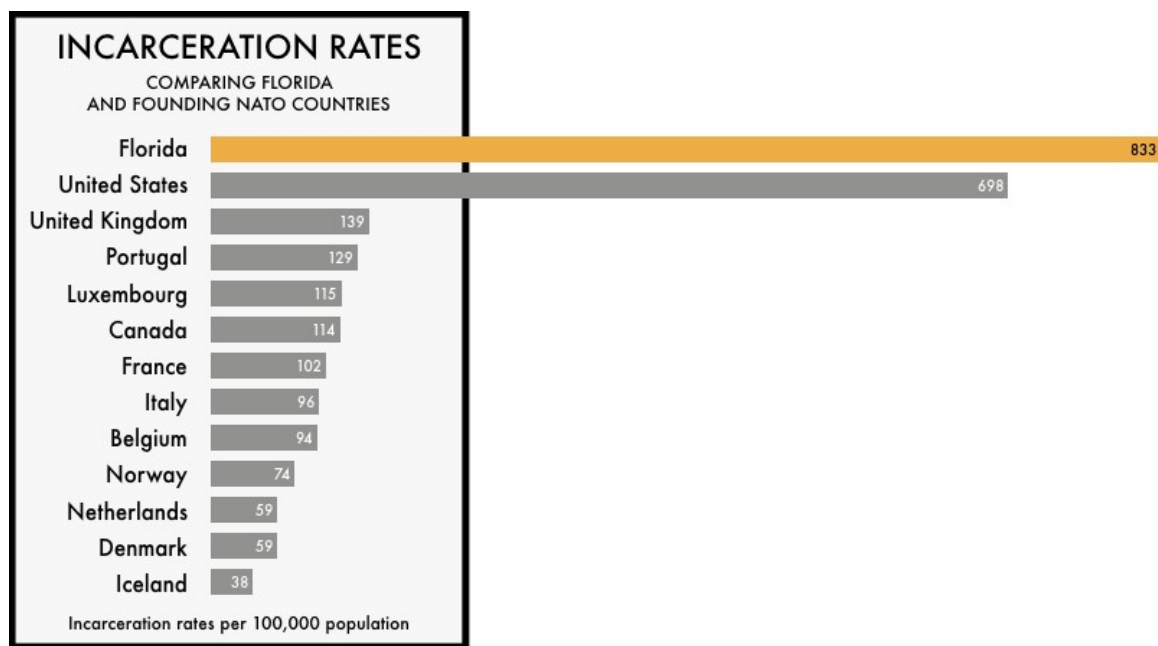
Friends Peace Teams Office  
1001 Park Avenue  
St. Louis Mo 63104-3720  
USA

# Florida Council of Churches (FCC)

SEYM Yearly Business Meeting  
8 Fourth Month 2021

The Florida Council of Churches (FCC) has convened meetings online for more than one year. Since 2021 Winter Interim Business Meeting, FCC has been most active during the 2021 Florida Legislative Session focusing on “A More Just Florida”, as part of the criminal justice reform movement in the State. In late March, FCC convened an online forum with State Senators Jeff Brandes (District 24) and Jason Pizzo (District 38) on this issue. (Only Senator Brandes was available.) The recording is available at <https://fb.watch/4KVLyZN48c/>.

As shown below, Florida has a higher rate of incarceration than the U.S. average and the founding North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) countries.



Source: <https://www.prisonpolicy.org/global/2018.html>

Several resources mentioned during the forum are shared below:

The Cost of School Policing 2018-19: What Florida’s students have paid for a pre-tense of security, [https://www.aclufl.org/sites/default/files/field\\_documents/school\\_policing\\_report\\_2018-19.pdf](https://www.aclufl.org/sites/default/files/field_documents/school_policing_report_2018-19.pdf).

The Expanding Presence of Law Enforcement in Florida Schools, <https://www.aclu-fl.org/sites/default/files/curran - the expanding presence of law enforcement in florida schools.pdf>.

Florida School-to-Prison Pipeline 2018-19, [https://www.aclufl.org/sites/default/files/wysiwyg/florida\\_sttp\\_profile.pdf](https://www.aclufl.org/sites/default/files/wysiwyg/florida_sttp_profile.pdf).

Research Shows Private School Vouchers Don't Work for Students and Harm Public Schools, <https://pfps.org/assets/uploads/CR PFPS Fact Sheet MAR 2020.pdf>.  
Safe For Whom? How the Majorie Stoneman Douglas (MSD) Commission is putting Florida's Children in Danger, [https://www.splcenter.org/sites/default/files/com\\_policyreport\\_fl\\_school\\_safety\\_for\\_web.pdf](https://www.splcenter.org/sites/default/files/com_policyreport_fl_school_safety_for_web.pdf).

**Upcoming Online Events:**

April 12-14: The National Workshop on Christian Unity, [nwc.org](http://nwc.org), highlighting ecumenical work on migration. Registration, <http://nwc.org/2021-registration/>.  
April 18-21: Ecumenical Advocacy Days, [advocacydays.org](http://advocacydays.org), focusing on climate justice nationally. Registration, <https://attendify.co/ecumenical-advocacy-days-pbf-NWPy>.

Submitted by  
Beverly Ward  
SEYM Representative to Florida Council of Churches

# Statement on Arrest of Javier del Sol

SEYM Yearly Business Meeting  
10 Fourth Month 2021

*Please be aware: There is information below related to child sexual abuse that may be triggering for some people.*

The community of Southeastern Yearly Meeting (SEYM) of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) has received the news that one of our members, Javier del Sol, has been arrested for sexual abuse of a child about sixteen years ago in his home community of Lake Worth, Florida.

Child sexual abuse is an act of violence, abuse of power, and violation of trust that is completely contrary to Quaker values and beliefs. We offer our respect and gratitude for the courage that it took the survivor of abuse to bring her experience to light.

Javier del Sol was an active volunteer with SEYM youth programs for several years, and interacted with both adults and children at our events. While we are not aware of abuse occurring at any SEYM event, we are reaching out as broadly as possible to extend our support to anyone who may have witnessed or experienced harmful, abusive, or confusing behavior within our community, to survivors of sexual violence who may be especially impacted by this news, and to any other current or former participants in Southeastern Yearly Meeting events who might need particular support and care at this time.

If you have experienced abuse, we stand ready to believe and support you. You are also welcome to seek support elsewhere. Some resources for survivors of sexual violence include:

National Sexual Assault Hotline  
800-656-HOPE (4673)  
Live chat: <https://hotline.rainn.org/online>

Into Account (supports survivors of abuse in faith communities)  
<https://intoaccount.org/reporting-form/>

If you wish to contact law enforcement directly with information about abuse committed by Javier del Sol, you can do that by phone or online:

Crime Stoppers  
1-800-458-TIPS  
<https://www.crimestopperspb.com>

The following SEYM members are available to anyone who would like someone to talk to:

Jan Dahm  
[JanDahm.SEYM@gmail.com](mailto:JanDahm.SEYM@gmail.com)  
(321) 701-4583  
she/the

Eduardo Diaz\*  
[EduardoDiaz.SEYM@gmail.com](mailto:EduardoDiaz.SEYM@gmail.com)  
(305) 209-7437  
he/him, él  
*\*Spanish/English bilingual. Licensed psychologist: required to report threats of harm to self or others.*

Kody Hersh  
[KodyHersh.SEYM@gmail.com](mailto:KodyHersh.SEYM@gmail.com)  
(407) 476-6214 (text or call)  
he/him or they/them

Richelle Ogle  
[RichelleOgle.SEYM@gmail.com](mailto:RichelleOgle.SEYM@gmail.com)  
(863) 535-6284  
she/her

These Friends will provide emotional and spiritual support, but not professional counseling. Anything you share with them will be kept in confidence, unless it involves the abuse of a child *currently* under the age of 18, which they may be legally required to report.

If you have feedback, questions, or concerns about SEYM's response to this situation, you are welcome to contact the clerk of the response committee, Kody Hersh ([Kody.Hersh@gmail.com](mailto:Kody.Hersh@gmail.com); 407-476-6214) or the yearly meeting clerk, Bill Carlie ([ymclerk@seymquakers.org](mailto:ymclerk@seymquakers.org), 407-840-9862).

# Field Secretary for Earthcare (FSE) Report

SEYM Yearly Business Meeting

10 Fourth Month 2021

## Overview

*Provide focus and coordinate efforts on environmental work in the Southeastern Yearly Meeting (SEYM) region.*

This report provides an update on field secretary activities since the written and oral reports submitted for 2021 Fall Interim Business Meeting. The report also includes planned activities. A summary of 2020 activities is included.

## Communication with the Anchoring Committee

I continue to communicate with the Anchoring Committee remotely. We continue to seek and find ways during the crises facing the world to do the work. As described below, despite the challenges, we have found opportunities to make community.

## Meeting with Monthly Meetings (MMs), Worship Groups (WGs), and Others

*Perform visits to Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups within SEYM to help them discern their leadings in care of the Earth, and to provide information and coordination among Meetings.*

As a reminder, “Meetings can issue invitations to the [SEYM] administrative secretary, FSE, or the Anchor Committee [for FSE visits]. We will all conference over the invitation and subsequent planning” (Phoebe Andersen, 3 Tenth Month 2016). This includes virtual visits.

## Contact Information

- Email: [fsEarthcare@seymquakers.org](mailto:fsEarthcare@seymquakers.org).
- Facebook: @fsearthcare
- Twitter: @fsearthcare.
- Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/7545638812>.
- Skype: phdant
- Telephone number: 813.928.8823.
- Snailmail: 13705 Lazy Oak Drive, Tampa, FL, 33613.4923.

A Google calendar showing requests for visitation and FSE has been created and shared with the Anchoring Committee and the Co-Clerks of the Earthcare Committee. All prior and upcoming visits are shown below. MMs and WGs continue to request visits, particularly in conjunction with retreats and AVP workshops.

Suggested workshop/event topics:

- Angelic Troublemaking: Beyond Bystander Training;
- Climate Justice in Our Community (Location specific climate justice issues);
- Discerning Earthcare Leadings;

- Earthcare audits (baseline assessment of individual or community activities and discernment);
- Equality or Equity? What is Our Testimony?;
- Permaculture is Not Just Agriculture;
- Transportation, migration, and climate;
- Underwater Homeowners Association;
- Water: Sea Level Rise, Flooding, and Water Quality;
- Waterline Communities: Displacement and Gentrification and Why Quakers Should Care; and
- Kody Hersh and I also plan and work together.

### ***Lake Wales Worship Group, to be scheduled***

This e-visit is still in the planning stage. Consideration is being given to the potential for positive changes in the proposed project with the change in the federal administration. For example, some of the environmental protections that were removed have been replaced. These protections will require consideration of the potential adverse impacts to humans, other animals, and life forms. The draft working paper on the social or community impacts of the proposed project is being updated. The visit will be online.

### ***St. Augustine Worship Group, to be scheduled***

I plan to worship with St. Augustine Worship Group prior to the 2021 Annual Gathering. I continue to worship virtually with various Meetings and Worship Groups, the SEYM, and other Quaker groups.

### ***Yearly Meeting Gathering, 31 Third Month – 11 Fourth Month***

I am working with the Committee for Ministry on Racism to plan a workshop for the Annual Gathering. I also will either provide a workshop with the Earthcare Committee or develop a stand-alone session. (Being sensitive to Zoom fatigue, the Earthcare offering(s) will be resolved with the Gathering Committee.) Cece Yocum and I have also considered developing a session for the SEYM Youth.

### **Interactions or Collaborations between and among other SEYM committees**

*These interactions between and among SEYM committees help to facilitate communication and collaboration of our regional concerns with national organizations and to be a Quaker Presence at specific events.*

- The Committee for Ministry on Racism (CMOR): I continue to serve as a member of CMOR and provide support, especially in identifying resources. I am particularly interested in helping to make the connections between the impacts of systemic and structural racism and climate degradation;
- Earthcare Committee: I serve on the the Earthcare Committee and work closely with the two representatives, Brad Stocker (Miami MM) and Jack Bradin (Palm Beach MM). Brad Stocker and I are working with Quaker Earthcare Witness to



make available a screening of the film, Sweet Home Monteverde. More information on this will be coming soon;

- Florida Council of Churches (FCC): the 2020 Florida Clergy Convening was held 7 First Month 2021. It was a very powerful virtual assembly. A separate report is provided;
- Peace and Social Concerns: I continue to remain in contact with the SEYM Peace and Social Concerns Committee and some Monthly Meetings Peace and Social Concerns Committees, again, as a resource;
- Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO), AFSC: Kathy Hersh and I share an SEYM appointment to AFSC. More information about QUNO and AFSC is detailed below;
- Right Sharing of World Resources: I continue to share information through the QEW United Nations Working Group, AFSC, and Quaker United Nations Committee.
- Youth Committee: I continue to work with the Youth Committee and, as mentioned above, am assisting with content for the Annual Gathering.

### ***The Wider Quaker World, Interfaith Groups, Other Environmental Organizations***

*To communicate and collaborate our regional concerns with national organizations including Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW), Earth Quaker Action Team (EQAT), Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL), and Friends General Conference (FGC). To be a Quaker Presence at specific events, including those arranged by others.*

In the wider Quaker World, interfaith groups, and other environmental organizations, I have listed existing memberships, partnerships, or collaborations that have been a part of the outreach effort. These include, but are not limited to:

- Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP), there are now online AVP workshops. I have not been able to participate in any offerings to date, but hope to be available in the future as a facilitator. A group AVP facilitators in Florida has begun holding monthly virtual meetings;
- American Friends Service Committee (AFSC): I continue to serve as a corporate member of AFSC and as part of that work am a member of the Quaker United Nations Committee (QUNC). I also am part of AFSC's Third World Coalition. AFSC has a resource page, Caring for each other during COVID-19, <https://www.afsc.org/content/caring-each-other-during-covid-19>. A number of Friends within SEYM and beyond also have participated in AFSC's "Changing Systems, Change Ourselves" self-study e-course, <https://www.afsc.org/resource/self-study-changing-systems-change-ourselves-e-course>;
  - The 2021 Annual Meeting of the AFSC Corporation will be held virtually 11 - 16 Fourth Month;
  - Both Quaker United Nations Offices (QUNO), New York and Geneva will soon be recruiting new directors. I will share more information about these

positions as it becomes available. The Quaker United Nations Committee will meet 18 - 21 Third Month 2021.

- Decolonizing Quakers, <https://www.decolonizingquakers.org/>, is planning follow up activities from the virtual “Working Towards Right Relationship with Indigenous Peoples” conference. An outcome of this work was the opportunity to facilitate a group session on “Decolonizing Quakers and Angelic Troublemaking” with Friends from Lake Erie Yearly Meeting Peace and Social Concerns and Earthcare Committees;
- Florida Interfaith Climate Actions Network (FL-iCAN): Jan Booher continues to work with the Florida Disaster Resilience Initiative, (<https://resiliencesystem.org/dashboards/florida-disaster-resilience-initiative/>) and share health and environmental information, including COVID-19. To receive alerts regarding the upcoming Florida Legislative session, sign up at <https://fl-ican.org/action-alerts/>. We continue to work on some activity for 2021.
  - I will participate in the “Welcome To WE!” Show, 16 Second Month 6:00 PM EDT, as part of the by the Climate Collaboratory. The Climate Collaboratory is a pilot project of We, the World and the University of Florida Extension. It will be broadcast via social media in the [MLK 40 Days of Peace Program](#).
- Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL): Brad Stocker and I continue to share a slot as representatives to FCNL for QEW. This includes participation in monthly telephone conference calls with FCNL staff, Clarence Edwards and Mariah Shriner;
- Friends General Conference: I continue to work with FGC, particularly with the Fellowship of Friends of African Descent and FGC’s Institutional Assessment 2017-2018, [https://www.fgcquaker.org/deepen/help-your-meeting-challenge-racism/fgcs-institutional-assessment-2017-2018](https://www.fgcquaker.org/deepen/help-your-meeting-challenge-racism/fgcs-institutional-assessment-2017-2018;);
- Friends Peace Teams (FPT): I continue to work with members of FPT linking FPT to QEW UN Working Group and Towards Right Relationship;
- Friends United Meeting (FUM): I continue to work with Jim Kessler, Grinnell Friends Church, through Quaker Earthcare Witness and on Grinnell Friends support of low-income and minority communities in and around Grinnell (IA);
- Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC): I continue to work to strengthen links to FWCC through QEW and AFSC. I will participate in the FWCC Section of the Americas (SOA) Meeting.
- National Academies of Sciences, Transportation Research Board (TRB), Equity in Transportation and the Women’s Issues in Transportation Committees. I am co-chair of the transportation equity conference in 2021. I will submit an abstract for a faith-based session on equitable transportation for the conference;
- Organize NOW, Climate Justice Committee: I continue to assist the local committee;
- The Pachamama Alliance: I continue to work with members through the FL-iCAN network;

- QEW: I continue to co-clerk the QEW United Nations Working Group with Jack Bradin. I am scheduled to join Brad Stocker as co-clerk of QEW, Fall 2021.
- Tri-City NAACP Branch: I will be working with the Environmental and Climate Justice Committee.
- Unitarian Universalist Fellowship: Jan Booher, Unitarian Universalist Justice Florida (UUJF), and I continue to collaborate through FL-iCAN;
- University of South Florida, Institute on Black Life (IBL), Advisory Committee and the Patel College of Global Sustainability (PCGS): I continue to work with the University and am planning for the 2021 Weather, Climate, and Science National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates this summer.
  - I also participated in an online meeting of the Environmental Futures Program at the University of Colorado Boulder with Jacqui Patterson, NAACP Environmental and Climate Justice Program. When the recording and slide deck become available, I will share them.

### ***Social Media***

I continue to blog for the SEYM website, <http://seymquakers.org/faith-in-action/field-secretary-for-earthcare/>. I also share “eField Notes”, short pieces on activities, with SEYM Monthly Meetings, Working Groups, the wider Quaker world and others. Please send suggestions for topics, research, etc.

### ***2020 In Review***

The last face-to-face visit in 2020 was an FWCC SOA Meeting hosted by Miami Friends and Iglesia De Los Amigos. That was at the beginning of Second Month. By Third Month, I was well into convening online special events, meetings, consultations, visits, etc., with a lot of help from f/Friends. I had the special joy of helping Kody Hersh provide Family Devotionals an activity arranged by Friend Emily Provance. As the corona virus pandemic spread, I began to curate articles on health care, disparities, and health and safety guidance. The ongoing pandemics of systemic and structural racism, climate degradation, and poverty have tried us. Many of us have shared our frustration with not being able to “do something!” I also have been reminded during this period of the Spiritual, “Peace, Be Still.” The “do something” has been more than the online presence. It is listening, preparing, sharing, caring, and loving. It is remembering to grieve, but not be in despair. It is finding ways to share joy.

Thank you.

May we all be safe.

May we all be healthy.

May we all know joy.

May we all know happiness.

May we all live lives of wellbeing.

Love and Peace,  
Beverly G. Ward

## SEYM Officers, Committees, Representatives, & Appointees Approved 4/11/21

### OFFICERS

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Yearly Meeting Clerk.....	Bill Carlie.....	St. Petersburg.....	2023
Interim Business Meeting (IBM) & Executive Committee (EC) Clerk.....	Phoebe Andersen.....	Tallahassee.....	2023
YM & IBM Assistant Clerk.....	Jack Bradin.....	Palm Beach.....	2023
YM Recording Clerk.....	<i>Under Discernment</i>		
Recording Clerk, IBM/EC.....	Liz Dykes.....	Gainesville.....	2022
Assistant Recording Clerk(s).....	Susan Wade.....	St. Petersburg.....	2024
Treasurer.....	Joel Cook.....	Palm Beach.....	2023
Membership Recorder.....	Ed Lesnick.....	Orlando.....	2023

### TRUSTEES

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

### COMMITTEES

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<b>Archives</b>	Bill Rapp, <i>Clerk</i> .....	Lake Wales WG.....	2024
	Neil Andersen.....	Tallahassee.....	2024
	Phoebe Andersen.....	Tallahassee.....	2023
<b>Earthcare</b>	Brian Humphrey, <i>Co-Clerk</i> .....	Ft. Lauderdale.....	2023
	Bill Carlie, <i>Co-Clerk</i> .....	St. Petersburg.....	2022
	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 WG.....	2022
	Beverly Ward.....	Tampa.....	2022
	Bonnie Zimmer.....	Gainesville.....	2022
<b>Faith &amp; Practice</b> (Committee on sabbatical)	Phoebe Andersen, <i>Clerk</i> .....	Tallahassee.....	2024
<b>Facebook Page</b>	Mike Flanery.....	Clearwater.....	2024
<b>Finance</b>	Peter Schmidt, <i>Clerk</i> .....		2022
	Steve Donachie.....	Miami.....	2024
	Shawna Doran.....	Gainesville.....	2024
	Carl Hersh.....	Miami.....	2024
	Asst. YM Clerk (ex officio)		
	SEYM Treasurer (ex officio)		
	Clerk of Trustees (ex officio)		

SEYM Administrative Secretary (ex officio)

<b>Half-Yearly Meeting</b>	Brian Olson, <i>Clerk</i> .....	Miami.....	2024
	Beeg Camarota, <i>Registrar for 2021</i> .....	Deland WG/Orlando.....	2024
	Caroline Kaufman, <i>Food Coordinator</i> .....	Clearwater .....	2022
<b>Ministry on Racism</b>	Susan Taylor, <i>Co-Clerk</i> .....	Tallahassee.....	2023
	Wendy Clarissa Geiger, <i>Co-Clerk</i> .....	Jacksonville WG.....	2023
	Minerva Glidden.....	Orlando.....	2024
	Kathy Hersh .....	Miami.....	2024
	Beverly Ward.....	Tampa.....	2024
	Jane Westberg .....	Miami.....	2024
	Jean Larson.....	Gainesville .....	2022
	Cheryl Demers .....	Gainesville .....	2023
	Katie Green .....	Clearwater .....	2023
	Mainus Sultan.....	Savannah.....	2023
<b>Peace &amp; Social Concerns</b>	Phil Stone, <i>Clerk</i> .....	Clearwater .....	2023
	Peter Harrell .....	Gainesville .....	2024
	Karen Putney .....	Tampa.....	2023
	Cece Yocum.....	Tampa.....	2022
	Helen Fox .....	Ft. Myers .....	2022
	Willie Hager.....	Jacksonville.....	2022
	Warren Hoskins.....	Miami.....	2022
	John Heimburg.....	Orlando.....	2022
	Mercedes Soca .....	Havana WG.....	2022
	Caroline Kaufman .....	Clearwater .....	2023
<b>Publications</b>	Phoebe Andersen, <i>Clerk</i> .....	Tallahassee.....	2024
<b>Worship &amp; Ministry</b>	Nancy Triscritti.....	Tampa.....	2024
	Nancy Rose Logan.....	Sarasota.....	2022
	Richelle Ogle .....	SAWG/Orlando .....	2022
	Ellie Caldwell.....	Palm Beach.....	2023
	Jan Dahm .....	Tampa.....	2023
	Eduardo Diaz.....	Miami.....	2023
	Lisa Erasmus.....	Tampa.....	2023
	Edward Abraham .....	Miami.....	2024
<b>YM Gathering</b>	Andrea Hoskins, <i>Clerk</i> .....	Miami.....	2022
	Susan Wade, <i>Registrar</i> .....	St. Petersburg.....	2023
	Caroline Kaufman, <i>Bookstore</i> .....	Clearwater .....	2022
	Brian Olson, <i>Asst. Program Coordinator</i> .....	Miami.....	2023
	Vicki Carlie, <i>Program Coordinator</i> .....	St. Petersburg.....	2022
<b>Youth Committee</b>	Jennifer Mendoza, <i>Co-Clerk</i> .....	Sarasota.....	2024
	Cecelia Yocum, <i>Co-Clerk</i> .....	Tampa.....	2022
	Aurelio Anderson .....	Tallahassee.....	2021
	Mira Tanna.....	Orlando.....	2022
	Rachel Dellinger .....	Orlando.....	2023

## REPRESENTATIVES TO ORGANIZATIONS

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### American Friends Service Committee Corporation, AFSC/Philadelphia

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

### Friends Committee on National Legislation, FCNL

Karen Putney..... Tampa.....2024  
Pete Akerman..... Gainesville.....2023  
Eileen Zingaro..... Clearwater.....2024

### Friends General Conference, FGC Central Committee

Susan Taylor..... Tallahassee..... 2022  
Susan Wade..... St. Petersburg.....2022  
Bonnie Zimmer..... Gainesville.....2024

### Friends World Committee for Consultation – FWCC

Nancy Rose Logan..... Sarasota.....2023  
Clara Diaz..... Miami.....2024  
Eduardo Diaz..... Miami.....2024

### Friends Peace Teams

Cecilia Yocum..... Tampa.....2022

### Florida Council of Churches

Beverly Ward..... Tampa.....2024

### Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Queer Concerns – FLGBTQ

*Under Discernment*

### 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 (Fayetteville)

Lynn Newsom..... Bluffton SC WG.....2023

## APPOINTED OBSERVERS TO ORGANIZATIONS

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### FUM General Board Observer

*Under Discernment*

Ellie Caldwell, *Alternate*..... Palm Beach.....2024

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

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Ed Lesnick, *Clerk*..... Orlando.....2022  
Beverly Ward..... Tampa.....2022  
Shawna Doran..... Gainesville.....2022  
Brian Olson..... Miami.....2023

SEYM Proposed Budget FY 2021-2022	Annual Budget FY2020-21	Actual Jun-Nov FY2020-21	PROPOSED Budget FY2021-22	Change from 2020-21 to 2021-22	Change %
<b>Income</b>					
2000 Income					
2001 Donations					
2002 Individual Donations (& In-Kind: GF Acct#2006)	2,000	825	2000	0	0%
2003 Meetings & Worship Groups - <b>Apportionments</b>	76,590	20,215	75,000	-1,590	-2%
2003 Meetings & WGs - Others (GF Accts #2013,2023)					
2060 Donations - Restricted					
2001 Other Donations -Restricted (GF Accts#2004,2060)					
<b>Total 2001 Donations</b>	<b>78,590</b>	<b>21,040</b>	<b>77,000</b>	<b>-1,590</b>	<b>-2%</b>
2200 Investment Earnings					
2203 Savings account interest	20	2	20	0	
<b>Total 2200 Investment Earnings</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0</b>	
2306 Miscellaneous Income (& GF Accts#2316,2380)					
2316 GuideOne Insurance Dividend					
<b>Total 2000 Income</b>	<b>78,610</b>	<b>21,042</b>	<b>77,020</b>	<b>-1,590</b>	<b>-2%</b>
2700 Transfers in FROM other classes					
2711 Donations to GF through other classes					
2712 Michener Lecture to GF/insurance	150		190	40	
2732 Gath/Walton to GF/insurance	900		1140	240	
2750 Surplus from HYM					
2752 HYM to GF/insurance	450		570	120	
2804 From Trustee's Funds					
2815 for Bertsche Outreach Travel	1,800	965	1930	130	
2820 for Secretary's Salary	4,500	2,265	4530	30	
<b>Total 2804 from Trustee's Funds</b>	<b>6,300</b>	<b>3,230</b>	<b>6,460</b>	<b>160</b>	
<b>Total 2700 Transfers in FROM other classes</b>	<b>7,800</b>	<b>3,230</b>	<b>8,360</b>	<b>560</b>	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>86,410</b>	<b>24,272</b>	<b>85,380</b>	<b>-1,030</b>	<b>-1%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
3000 Administrative					
3001 Bank Service Charges	100	180	200	100	
3002 Credit Card service fees	10	10	10	0	
3080 Duplication (& GF Acct#6000)	1,200	724	1000	-200	
3100 Insurance	1,400	1,815	1900	500	
3107 Youth Worker CAP Certification Program	150	0	160	10	
3146 State Fee for Non-Profit Corporation	70	0	60	-10	
3200 Office Supplies	800	143	400	-400	
3270 Payroll Expenses - Employee Salary	47,500	20186	47,500	0	
3271 Payroll Expenses - Employee Benefits					
3272 Payroll Expenses - Employer Taxes for Staff	3,500	1,720	3500	0	

SEYM Proposed Budget FY 2021-2022	Annual Budget FY2020-21	Actual Jun-Nov FY2020-21	PROPOSED Budget FY2021-22	Change from 2020-21 to 2021-22	Change %
3380 Postage & Shipping	400	192	300	-100	
3381 Post Office Box Rental	180	118	200	20	
3400 Office Equipment	400	0	400	0	
3500 Professional Svcs (& GF Accts#3536,3556,5187)	1,400	0	700	-700	
3556 Web consult,CGI support	0	0	0	0	
3642 Office Rent	840	0	0	0	
3643 Storage Unit	1,960.00	1,361	2800	0	
3740 Computer Repairs	200.00	0	200	0	
3816 Software	1,200	1,166	2000	800	
3840 Telephone & Internet Service	1,700	551	1200	-500	
3860 Travel Administrative (& GF Acct#9003)	2,000	0	1000	-1,000	
3900 Website Fees (& Off-site E-Data Storage)	900	83	1400	500	
<b>Total 3000 Administrative</b>	<b>65,910.00</b>	<b>28,249.00</b>	<b>64,930.00</b>	<b>-980</b>	<b>-2%</b>
<b>4000 Committees Operating Expenses</b>					
4309 Archives	100	0	300	200	
4329 EC & IBM (& GF Acct#7000)	100	0	50	-50	
4339 Faith & Practice	50	0	25	-25	
4349 Finance	50	0	25	-25	
4359 Nominating	50	0	25	-25	
4369 Peace & Social Concerns	450	0	450	0	
4389 Youth Committee	50	0	25	-25	
4379 Publications	50	0	25	-25	
4399 Worship & Ministry	150	0	25	-125	
4429 Earthcare	500	0	100	-400	
4469 Ministry on Racism	50	0	25	-25	
4489 Young Adult Quakers	50	0	25	-25	
<b>Total 4000 Committee Operating Expenses</b>	<b>1,650.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,100.00</b>	<b>-550</b>	<b>-50%</b>
<b>5000 Donations to Organizations</b>					
5007 AFSC	200	0	200	0	
5018 Earlham School of Religion	100	0	100	0	
5027 FCNL	300	0	300	0	
5028 QEW	200	0	200	0	
5030 FLGBTQC	100	0	100	0	
5037 FGC	1,200	0	1200	0	
5038 Florida Coalition for Peace & Justice	100	0	100	0	
5047 Florida Council of Churches	200	0	200	0	
5048 Florida Impact	300	0	300	0	
5057 Friends Journal	100	0	100	0	
5058 Friends Peace Teams	500	0	500	0	



SEYM Proposed Budget FY 2021-2022	Annual Budget FY2020-21	Actual Jun-Nov FY2020-21	PROPOSED Budget FY2021-22	Change from 2020-21 to 2021-22	Change %
5067 FUM (often restricted to specific Project(s))	500	0	500	0	
5068 FWCC	1,450	0	1450	0	
5077 Pendle Hill	100	0	100	0	
5078 ProNica	0	0	0	0	
5085 Quaker House of Fayetteville NC	200	0	200	0	
5087 Quaker Life	100	0	100	0	
5089 Quaker UN Office	100	0	100	0	
5097 William Penn House	100	0	100	0	
<b>Total 5000 Donations to Organizations</b>	<b>5,850.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>5,850.00</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>8000 Representative Travel</b>					
8000 Travel & Financial Aid - Other	0.00	0			
8160 Annual Representatives	4,000.00	0	4000	0	
8360 Attend SEYM-approved Activities	0.00	0			
8460 Travel Support to SEYM Business	1,000.00	0	1000	0	
8560 Attendance at SEYM-approved Activities	1,000.00	0	1500	500	
<b>Total 8000 Representative Travel</b>	<b>6000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>6500.00</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>8500 Contingency</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>0</b>	
8550 Miscellaneous Expenses					
<b>2999 Other Expenses</b>					
<b>Total 2999 Expenses</b>	<b>81,410.00</b>	<b>28,249.00</b>	<b>80,380.00</b>	<b>-1,030</b>	<b>-1%</b>
<b>9000 Transfer out to other classes</b>					
9004 for Youth Programs	2,500	0	2500	0	
9005 for Gathering Youth	2,000	0	2000	0	
9060 for Triennial Travel Reserves	500	0	500	0	
9061 Excess FYE Rep Annl Trvl to Triennial Trvl Rsrv					
9210 for Michener Lecture Support					
9450 for HYM Support					
<b>Total 9000 Transfer out to other classes</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Total Expenses &amp; Transfers Out</b>	<b>86,410.00</b>	<b>28,249.00</b>	<b>85,380.00</b>	<b>-1,030</b>	<b>-1%</b>
<b>Net Income/Deficit</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-3,977.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0</b>	

# Committee for Ministry on Racism

SEYM Yearly Business Meeting

11 Fourth Month 2021

## Minute on Truth and Healing Commission for Native Peoples

Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends supports the minute of the Southeastern Yearly Meeting Committee for Ministry on Racism:

The Southeastern Yearly Meeting Committee for Ministry on Racism (CMOR) supports the “Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policy Act” (HR 8420) that was considered by the U.S. House of Representatives in 2019-2020. Although HR 8420 did not become law, CMOR continues to support the establishment of a Truth and Healing Commission. The bill’s purpose was to set up a Truth and Healing Commission to address the multigenerational trauma experienced by American Indian and Alaska Native children, now adults, who were forcibly removed from their homes between 1869 and the 1960’s and placed in Indian Boarding schools far from their homes. Quakers were among the strongest supporters of the federal policy calling for this forced assimilation, and operated some 30 Indian schools. The children were taught to reject their Native languages, cultures, and spiritual practices and adopt Euro-American culture. U.S. Secretary of the Interior, Deb Haaland, has tasked Senator Elizabeth Warren with reintroducing the bill this year. Senator Warren will consult with the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition for wording for the bill. The bill is expected to be similar to last year’s bill.

Southeastern Yearly Meeting urges all Friends to watch for this bill and give it their support.

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### Narrative

A member of CMOR is involved with an interdenominational group that is in the process of working toward unity in the creation of an interfaith letter in support of the bill. Other CMOR members will also participate in this process.

CMOR will provide Friends with resources for learning more about Indian Boarding Schools, in general, and Quakers’ roles in the schools, in particular.

Six resources to consider are:

- 1) The website for the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition. <https://boardingschoolhealing.org>
- 2) Paula Palmer’s video “The Quaker Boarding Schools: Facing our History and Ourselves” <https://vimeo.com/192219802/376f2f1ddb>
- 3) Paula Palmer. “Quaker Indian Boarding Schools, Facing Our History and Ourselves,” *Friends Journal*, October 1, 2016.
- 4) **Toward Right Relationship with Native Peoples** website, <https://friendspeaceteams.org/trr>
- 5) **HR 8420 link:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/8420/text>
- 6) **Decolonizing Quakers** website, [www.decolonizingquakers.org](http://www.decolonizingquakers.org)

# Southeastern Yearly Meeting

of the Religious Society of Friends

## EPISTLE 2021

Greetings Friends,

Our Yearly Meeting Gathering has come at a time when it is needed most. The enthusiasm for being together was evident; Friends found such joy in being together again, even if it was on Zoom. Registration was as high as our in-person Gathering, with 149 adults and youth attending online events that were spread out over twelve days. We welcomed many visitors from other Yearly Meetings and Quaker organizations--- from New York to California.

After a year of pandemic, social isolation and upheaval, we came together as a Yearly Meeting community with the theme '**What Now?**' Over the last year, we have changed. We have become different people. We have lived through loss, isolation, and having our lives and our communities disrupted. But there has been positive change as well. Friends have used this time of separation and solitude for spiritual growth, for deepening their spiritual practices, and renewing the witness that grows out of our faith.

Our Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups are looking forward to re-opening---but how? In our Monthly Meeting Forum, we heard that in the last year of meeting on Zoom, meetings have gained new attenders and members, while losing touch with others and grieving the loss of dear members to COVID. Some Meetings are moving ahead with becoming 'hybrid' meetings; some wonder how many people their space will hold with social distancing; some have had small groups gathering for worship outdoors, and others are looking for new worship space. Can we view the disruptions we have experienced as opportunities to try something new?

In our two retreats, led by Emily Provance, we learned that we need to tell our stories of living through multiple crises - COVID, racism, climate change, the election and insurrection, economic inequality, misinformation - again and again to put them in perspective. In the first retreat, '*Interruptions*,' we broke into small groups to share our most vivid memories from the last year. In the second retreat, '*Integrations*,' in small groups we considered who we were 13 months ago, compared to who we are now. Emily cautioned us **that** 'we are starting to make decisions about life after the pandemic, and without reflection, we'll go back to the way we were.'

We also shared stories of our spiritual journeys during the pandemic in worship sharing and in '*Awakening from Spiritual Lethargy*.' Friends have taken the social isolation as an opportunity to adopt helpful spiritual practices and daily rituals, such as trying new things, mindfulness, gratitude, intentional keeping in touch and bringing joy to others, being in nature, prayer and meditation.

This last year we have witnessed an awakening to the profound effects that racism has had on our country and ourselves. Some Friends and Meetings have joined groups such as Black Lives Matter, the NAACP, and other organizations, and have also been engaged in learning and reflection on racism. We feel strengthened in our commitment to equity, justice, and becoming an anti-racist community. FCNL staff led an amazing workshop – *'F/friends Reckoning with Racism, Justice Reform, and Election Integrity'* – a comprehensive presentation covering the historical foundations of systemic racism, its current forms, FCNL's work, and what Friends can do about it. In *'Mirrors of Identity: Personal Reflections on Racial Experience'*, the Committee for Ministry on Racism created a safe place for all Friends to reflect together on their early memories and life experiences with race. In Affinity Groups, one for Black, Indigenous, & People Of Color (BIPOC), and one for Friends of European descent, we shared our stories of racism and what actions we are taking to build an anti-racist society.

During this year of social isolation, Friends have taken the opportunity to become more connected with nature, deepening our sense of the need to protect her. We shared our memories and experiences of nature in All Ages Worship Sharing. The songs of birds in our backyards, shared over Zoom, brought the presence of nature into our morning worship. In *'What Now for Earthcare in SEYM'*, Friends heard about three critical issues in our region, and considered what actions we can take. There is a lot of enthusiasm to do more work together going forward.

In our plenaries and Executive Committee meetings, we learned that some committees have been able to meet online during the pandemic, while others have not. The Peace and Social Concerns committee, which meets monthly on Zoom, has seen an increase in participation. Our Field Secretary for Earthcare has been very active, with virtual visits to Meetings, giving presentations, and connecting with a myriad of Quaker organizations, environmental organizations, and interfaith groups. We were inspired by hearing the latest news from visiting representatives from AFSC, FCNL, FGC, and Quaker House. We adopted a minute, brought forward by the Committee for Ministry on Racism, to support the establishment of a Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding Schools. We also heard sad news that a member, who attended our YM many years ago, was arrested for sexual abuse of a minor. While we know of no incidents within our Yearly Meeting, we spent time carefully discerning how to respond to this news and care for any who may have been subject to abuse as children.

We celebrated being together with some light-hearted fun and fellowship with several intergenerational events, including Laughter Yoga, the Talent Show, Playback Theater, and Quaker Bakers. Audrey Greenhall, Bookstore Manager for FGC Quakerbooks, joined us to chat about books, and provided SEYM with a 'Virtual Booktable.' Two opportunities for open fellowship were also added to our schedule. Teens and Young Adults attended *'Who am I going to be?'* --- two sessions with Emily Provance --- where they had rich discussions about spiritual gifts, what they are, how to know what yours are, and how they work in community.

Being together in person is such a vital need for young people. Over this last year, our youth have felt disconnected. The Youth Committee is searching for ways to help them re-connect with our community, and is starting to plan in-person events that can be done safely.

Friends were deeply moved by the Walton Lecture, *'Interruption, Integration, Transfiguration,'* presented by Emily Provance. Emily spoke out of the silence on how people process and adapt to crises, change, and uncertainty; and she offered some 'next steps' in taking care of ourselves, our community, and society. Understanding the impact of what we've lived through this last year will take time to reflect and tell our stories. She talked about Maslow's 'hierarchy of needs,' and how we first need to care for ourselves and members of our community with food and rest, security and identity, friendship and love. Simple acts of love and kindness have tremendous power to overcome extremism and divisions in our society; but we cannot meet those who distrust us (and who we distrust) with empathy - we cannot love our enemies - if our own basic needs are not met.

**What Now?** A quote from the lecture speaks to our condition:

*"We're not called to be the people we were before;  
we're called to be the people we are becoming."*