

## Morningside Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business 6/3/2012

present: Nancy Britton, David Fletcher, John Twedell, Patricia Chernoff, Charlene Ray, Elizabeth Horstman, Vince Buscemi, Ernie Buscemi, Sarah Lavenhar, Naomi Paz-Greenberg, Corona Macheimer, Charlotte Ehrman, Pamela Wood, Jerry Reisig, Dave Britton, Le Rada (clerk)

The Meeting begins at 1:05 with silent Worship. The clerk reads a passage from Rufus Jones "Essential Writings" p. 67.

The agenda is reviewed and approved.

20120603.1 Corona Macheimer presents the Peace and Social Concerns report. The FGC scholarship fund is not accepting any more donations, so we will add the funds to the Haitian development matching fund project. The committee is still considering alternative organizations to which to contribute the funds. Our involvement with the Fall program on Bayard Rustin awaits more information from Riverside Church. Sarah Lavenhar is still awaiting information on NYYM Adult Young Friends funding needs. The SAFE Parole Act that we have supported is still stuck in the Republican-controlled State Senate. We may lobby Gov. Cuomo about this. An AFSC survey is online for Friends to give them feedback at <http://surveymonkey.com/s/afscquestions>. The report is paused for discussion.

20120603.2 Friends discuss the AFSC questionnaire and whether and who and when and what to respond. Friends decide to notify AFSC that we are in a discernment process and will respond more fully as soon as we can. The clerk is asked to sign this letter or email, including the answers to the basic facts about the Meeting asked on the questionnaire. The recording clerk is asked to draft the letter and bring it to P&SC for review prior to sending to AFSC.

20120603.3 The report continues. The informational presentation about the Amnesty International write-a-thon is now scheduled for 6/10 due to conflicts with the Silent March on Stop and Frisk. The Greenhill coop contribution is still under consideration. Friends have a first reading of the proposed minute on nuclear energy from Southeast Yearly Meeting. Friends ask Peace and Social Concerns to review and season the minute further, possibly bringing a recommendation to the Meeting. Friends accept the report.

20120603.4 Charlene Ray presents the Treasurer's report. We have received 20% of our anticipated budget which is less than the 37% we had received by this time last year. We need another \$3000 to reach this point. The report identifies scheduled disbursements for June. The automatic electronic contributions ACH mechanism is being tested for the new TD Bank account. We need \$2000 to cover our expenditures to date. Another funding appeal is being prepared. Friends accept the report.

20120603.5 Pamela Wood presents the Ministry and Counsel report. The next meeting is 9/6 at 7:15 at Pam's house. The next welcoming breakfast is on 6/24 at 9:30 in the Riverside cafeteria., followed by breakfasts on 7/22 and 8/26. Greymoor is the retreat center that best fits our needs. The committee asks to change the retreat date to May 5, 2013 to accommodate this. Spiritual nurture group materials are being revised now, prior to starting new ones in the Fall. The next after-meeting session will be on 9/23 on membership. There are 12 support committees under our care.

20120603.6 Friends approve moving the business meeting date from May 5, 2013 to May 12 to

accommodate the retreat.

The Meeting ends at 2:15 PM with silent Worship.

in Friendship,

Dave Britton, recording clerk

**Morningside Monthly Meeting  
Peace & Social Concerns Meeting May 13, 2012**

Present: Jack Patterson, Vince Buscemi, Peter Beck, Dave Britton, Patricia Chernoff, Pam Wood,  
Helen Garay Toppins, Naomi Paz Greenberg (co-clerk, recording)

Regrets: Corona Machamer (co-clerk)

Notes/Report

**1. Contribution Budget to FGC Gathering Scholarship Fund:** We had budgeted \$500 for 2012, but when Charlene called FGC, she was told that they already had \$50,000 in their scholarship fund for the Gathering and were not accepting further donations. What action do Friends propose to take?

**2. Crumlish Fund Donation for Haiti:** Morningside Friends have already decided to donate \$500 from the Crumlish Fund as the basis for a matching fund contribution to a development project in Haiti. Friends are particularly interested in the re-establishing Creole pigs and chickens as well as planting trees and produce.

It was suggested that we add the \$500 originally budgeted for FGC this year, which they do not need, to the Haitian development matching fund.

At this time we have not settled on which organization or organizations involved in Haitian development to contribute to. Possibilities being explored:

Cooperative Farm Initiative

<http://www.farmhaiti.org>

*village by village approach to development  
have done some re-establishment of Creole pigs  
responsive to the needs on the ground*

In subsequent research, re concerns regarding water filters, Jack tells us that *There are two websites that relate directly to the provision of "ceramic water filters" to villages and families in rural Haiti. They are World Vision and FilterPure, which is a non-profit whose mission is to manufacture the filters (interesting video showing how they're made) and point of use. World Vision uses a technology called Biosand Water Filters (graphic shows how they are build and work).The FilterPure product is similar. These are pretty impressive projects and both seem determined to distribute based on need and readiness to use/participate in purchase. Could certainly make an important difference in reducing cholera!*

Clean Water for Haiti, a project of World Vision

<http://www.cleanwaterforhaiti.org>

FilterPure: Empowering Solutions

<http://www.filterpurefilters.org>

*Friends should take a look at these sites along with The Cooperative Farm Initiative site which we've discussed. I've asked The Cooperative Farm Initiative to tell us what focus they have on filters, beyond irrigation uses, and await their response.*

Additionally, Jack circulated a flyer from the South Africa Support of the Riverside Church in collecting needed supplies for Haitian women still in refugee camps:

### **Relief for Haiti**

**Join South Africa Support of The Riverside Church in collecting needed supplies for Haitian Women still in refugee camps two years after the earthquake that devastated Haiti. We will collect for the entire month of May. Bring aid in one gallon plastic bags to our Sunday table.**

**Our aid will be given to Haitian Women for Haitian Refugees who take aid to Haiti on a regular basis or who send containers.**

### **How Can You Help?**

Fill a one gallon plastic bag with aid items such as:

- First aid supplies, water purification tablets, Tylenol, diarrhea medication, insect repellent
- Personal Hygiene Goods...brand new underwear, deodorant, tooth paste, baby diapers (may have to separate), nail clippers, comb

Further information can be found at: <mailto:haitianwomen@aol.com>

**3. Fall Program: Bayard Rustin:** in coordination with the Riverside Church Helen reports that she has called Reverend Phelps of the Riverside Church but has not received call back from him. Helen reports further that she plans to call him again.

**4. New York Yearly Meeting Youth Program:** We have no further information. We agree to wait until we hear from Sara Laventhal, who will let us know how best to contribute.

**5. Safe Parole:** We agree to wait until we have further information.

**6. AFSC:** Pam reads a letter which AFSC has sent a letter to clerks of Monthly Meetings/Friends Churches asking that Meetings/Churches participate in the survey which can be found at:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/afscquestions>

Friends appoint Helen, Dave, Jack and Naomi to draft a response to this outreach from AFSC on behalf of Morningside Meeting for presentation to the Business Meeting.

**7. Amnesty International annual Write-A-Thon Presentation:** Naomi reports that she is unable to

make this presentation to Morningside Meeting on May 20th because she will be in Chicago.

Friends suggest that Naomi present this on the third Sunday in June.

**8. Possible contribution to Greene Hill Food Co-op.** Friends agree to consider this further when Corona can be with us.

**9. Proposed Minute on Nuclear Energy from Earthcare Committee of Southeastern Yearly Meeting (SEYM):**

The introductory letter to Friends which Friends are asked to help season and discuss:

Southeastern Yearly Meeting Annual Sessions: YBM-DIA 2012

---

## STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

---

### Archives Committee:

---

#### Committee for Earthcare:

Date: Sunday, January 29, 2012 8:59 PM  
 From: Mary Jo Klingel <mjklingelftlq@earthlink.net>  
 Cc: Barbara Letsch <bjletsch@gmail.com>

Dear Friends, the Earthcare Committee of SEYM is sending out our proposed Minute on Nuclear energy that was presented for seasoning at the Winter Interim Business Meeting. Please distribute it widely among Friends and discuss and season it in your Monthly Meeting. We will bring it to SEYM for further seasoning.

We welcome comments and concerns and suggestions. You can call either Barb Letsch, clerk of the Earthcare committee, or Mary Jo Klingel. We also welcome comments by e-mail to <bjletsch@gmail.com> or mjklingelftlq@earthlink.net. We look forward to your thoughts.

Let us all hold our Yearly Meeting in the Light as we discern this most important matter. Thank you, Mary Jo

#### **Introduction to the Earthcare Committee's Proposed Nuclear Minute**

We express our gratitude to those Friends who have diligently researched nuclear energy and shared their wisdom in various formats including Quaker Earthcare Witness and Friends Journal. Their willingness to do the hard work of research and their quest for truth helps us all in our discernment. Nevertheless research is based on present moment knowledge. Especially with nuclear energy, it is an unreliable predictor of future safety. If that is the case, what resources do we have?

As Friends, we have our Testimonies. In this Minute we seek the Light concerning nuclear energy within the framework of our Friends Testimonies.

#### **Earthcare Committee's Proposed Minute on Nuclear Energy**

We bring this Minute of Concern from the SEYM Earthcare Committee to Southeastern Yearly Meeting, seeking unity in opposition to further development of nuclear energy or building of nuclear power plants. In considering the Testimonies in opposition to nuclear power, we recognize that these Testimonies interweave, effect, and support one another.

The testimony of Integrity calls us to respect and protect all of God's creation, to seek balance as participants in the miracle of life. Integrity also leads us to consideration of the Testimony of Equality in that all people have a need for affordable and clean energy that supports their health and wellbeing.

The testimony of Simplicity challenges our belief that we can live in a world of increasing growth and consumption and offers instead the simple necessity and pleasures of air, land,

and water that are clean and protected.

We now consider the Testimony of Community. We acknowledge that nuclear power has demonstrated that accidents can decimate communities and keep the land uninhabitable for human and nonhuman life for long periods of time.

The Peace Testimony asks us to be clear that nuclear energy has been used for nonpeaceful purposes, for building weapons, and for creating waste that must be stored many thousands of years. We call ourselves a people of peace. We ask how we can call ourselves a people of peace while supporting, even with our silence, an industry of destruction and death. In the words of Bishop Desmond Tutu, "To visit death upon current and future generations from radiation is unforgivable." (Physicians for Social Responsibility web site, January 2012.)

We face, as Friends, the capacity of nuclear energy for mass destruction of human and nonhuman life. Our commitment to that of God in all life leads us to oppose further development and use of nuclear energy.