

Albuquerque Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
December 4, 2016

Present: Minor Morgan (Recording Clerk), Tina Kachele (Presiding Clerk), Marian Bock, Rena Brown, Elizabeth Freyman, Sharon Gross, Richard Knottenbelt, Pushpa Knottenbelt, Carol O'Connor, George Thomas, Kathleen Smith, Shirley Kondo, Sara Thorp, Tylka Vetula, Connie Green, Nancy Rice, Elizabeth Bailey, Joann Pierson, Rob Pierson, Sara Keeney, Mirium Bennett, Carol Merrill, Donald Armstrong, Rick Smith, Pat Holguin, Betty Corry, John Corry, Marian Hoge, Chadron Kidwell, Fred Koster, Sharon Greacen, Tom Greacen, Gail Taylor, Clyde Milner, Hamish Thomson, Henry Selters.

Friends gathered in worship with attention to business.

Call to Meeting for worship with attention to business

1. Recording Clerk read the Action Minutes from the November 6, 2016 MFWFB.

Minor read minutes

2. Review of practices in MFWFB and brief overview of agenda.

Clerk began by recognizing the indigenous peoples whose land we and our Meeting occupy and share today: the people of the surrounding Pueblos as well as the Diné, Hopi, and Apache people.

Clerk reminded folks that we are in worship mode and asked folks to be recognized by clerk.

3. Announcements or Agenda items from children and families

Connie Green is collecting memberships for *Western Friend*. She needs addresses and email for those who would like a subscription. Contact Connie by Dec. 25 if you want to continue or join in a group subscription. Cost depends on number of people from AMM who sign up.

Issue of how children transition into Meeting is an important one. Worship and Ministry will be meeting Dec 17 at 3 pm- discussion will focus on addressing the concerns Friends have raised about the trial schedule for Meeting for Business, and how to refine this practice to smooth transitions from Meeting for Worship, with particular attention to the needs of children and families.

4. Minute: annual meeting of the Corporation.

Sharon discussed the role of officers and directors of the AMM Corporation. Mfwfb today is our annual meeting, required by our bylaws. Meeting approved the following Minute:

(2016.12.1) The following persons are appointed to serve as Directors of the Meeting until the next regular annual meeting or until their successors are appointed, whichever occurs first:

Tina Kachele
Sara Keeney
George Thomas
Fred Koster

The following persons are appointed to serve as officers of the Meeting until the next regular annual meeting or until their successors are appointed, whichever occurs first:

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|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Tina Kachele | President |
| Sara Keeney | Vice-President |
| George Thomas | Treasurer |
| Fred Koster | Presiding Secretary |

5. Exploring whiteness. Reflections on the Query: How does whiteness show up in your personal life? What are you called to do about whiteness? (*related: How can we link our work on whiteness to our witness in support of Standing Rock?*)

This is our third meeting discussing this issue. Clerk read excerpts from the AFSC guideline document. Clerk clarified we are in worship sharing mode where we listen deeply.

Comments:

- Member commented on the role of the 2000 veterans at Standing Rock, their demonstration of support for native peoples.

- Regarding Standing Rock, the authorities are using harsh techniques against the protestors. Member questions why this is happening. Member believes it is due to corporate greed.

- Member notes that talking about whiteness is difficult. Discussion of benefits of diversity can distract us from query on whiteness. We need to keep focused on our reflection of whiteness. Member discusses her journey of addressing this issue. Member wants to be an accomplice in dismantling racism.

- Member expresses concern with the current voices in our country that amplify whiteness. Member concerned about where we are headed as a country.

- Member related her experience as a teacher working with a native student for whom she found work. Student's family was grateful and member spent a week living with student's family. Member was grateful for the experience. Member believes racism can be reduced by folks sharing common experiences.

6. Meeting of the Whole & Follow-up on Recommendations for Rejuvenation Period

Clerk discussed how busy the meeting has been. Transgender workshop had 30 attendees, Adult Ed workshops have been full and we had a wonderful Thanksgiving meal.

A. Personal and group contributions/Year of Rejuvenation

Comments:

- Member expressed appreciation for Thanksgiving meal and sharing at meetinghouse. Particularly appreciated the different perspectives on the nativity story.
- Member expressed appreciation for workgroup that worked through difficult issues of right sharing; workgroup was even fun.
- Member expressed appreciation for a new family member's support.
- Member related that an Earlham staff member passed away.
- Regarding children's committee, a member expresses appreciation for the growth of children's committee and their increased involvement in Meeting.
- Sessions on mutual care have been helpful. Friday contemplative meeting has been rewarding.

B. Schedule For MfwfB for January, 2017.

Comments:

Business meeting falls on Jan. 1 and this is not a good day for business Meeting. Meeting approved the following Minute:

(2016.12.2) Mfwfb for January, 2017 will be held on January 8, 2017.

BREAK FOR LUNCH

Special cake to honor Marian Hoge, one of the founders of AMM- today is her birthday. Meeting sang happy birthday.

An announcement requesting hospitality for a visiting Friend was made and hospitality offered.

7. Finance Committee:

A. 2017 Budget approval

Sharon passed out the final 2017 budget. George discussed the budget and highlighted need for an increase of \$7,000 in unrestricted donations. George also highlighted some of the

expenses and asked for support of the Eleanor Alden workshop on Quakers and Money in February, 2017. Meeting approved the following Minute:

(2016.12.2) Albuquerque Monthly Meeting approves the 2017 Budget as presented by Finance Committee.

B. Approval of signatories.

Meeting approved the following Minute:

(2016.12.3) The AMM removes the following individual as signatory on all accounts at Nusenda Credit Union: Sharon Gross. George Thomas and Sara Keeney are currently signatories and will continue as such.

The AMM authorizes the following individual as signatory on all accounts at Nusenda Credit Union: Frederick Koster.

The AMM authorizes the following individuals to be signatories on all accounts at the Nusenda Credit Union: George Thomas, Sara Keeney, Frederick Koster.

These authorizations will be active until revocation by the AMM.

8. Report: Back from Standing Rock.

Tina discussed her trip to Standing Rock, North Dakota. Tina shared the AMM Minute with various groups at Standing Rock. She sent the Minute to the Albuquerque Journal, the White House, Tom Udall, Energy Transfer Partners, and the Army Corps of Engineers.

Tina read a short essay reflecting on her experience. AMM raised \$1,450 to support travel expenses for Tina and her group and to donate to several camps at Standing Rock, Oceti Sackowin Camp. A four-car caravan from Albuquerque brought supplies and cash.

Comments:

- A member asked why white folks asked to be a barrier between police? Tina responded that white organizers of the ceremony and actions to stop the pipeline asked white folks to be on front line. There is controversy within the camp regarding direct action.

- A member requested Tina submit information to Western Friends and Friends Journal. The Unitarian church and the Catholic church were very involved. Other Quaker groups were there.

Tina recommends the website: unsettling Minnesota, which has lots of good info. Tina discussed faith communities at standing rock.

9. Worship & Ministry:

Meeting nominates members for Ad-Hoc committee to write the State of the Meeting Report (SOTM).

Elizabeth discussed the sotm report. The involvement of meeting builds corporate memory. We need 3 members to be on the ad-hoc committee. The sotm report gives a “flavor” of what 2016 was like. Report is presented at regional meeting in April, 2017. The expectation for the committee: they determine how they gather info from members. Committees have been asked to submit info in writing.

- Chadron Kidwell is suggested and accepts.
- Gail Taylor is recommended but declines.
- Sara Keeney recommends John Pennary- he is not present so he will be asked, Elizabeth Freyman will ask.
- Shirley recommends Elizabeth Bailey- she offers to assist but not be on committee.
- Several recommend Richard and Pushpa but they decline
- Henry Selters is nominated and accepts.

A suggestion is made that input from members is very helpful- many members volunteered to submit a few sentences to ad-hoc committee. The Draft SOTM is due in April, 2017.

Members will submit their comments beginning now. Meeting approved the following Minute:

(2016.12.4) Meeting approves Chadron Kidwell and Henry Selters to be on the adhoc committee to write the 2016 State of the Meeting (SOTM) Report. Elizabeth Freyman will contact Melissa Pizzo and John Pennary to request them be on the committee. Members and attenders will submit a few sentences to the adhoc committee, as they feel led. Standing committees will submit information to the adhoc committee. All submissions should be received by 1/15/2017. The SOTM report should respond to the query: how has the spirit moved in the meeting this past year?

10. Nominating Committee

Shirley Kondo gave the Nominating Committee report.

Meeting approved the following two Minutes:

(2016.12.5) Albuquerque Monthly Meeting approves the following nominations: Frederic Koster to Presiding Secretary of the Albuquerque Monthly Meeting Corporation (December 2016 through December 2018); Richard Knottenbelt to Worship and Ministry (December 2016 through December 2018); Minor Morgan continuing as Recording Clerk through December 2017; Clyde Milner continuing on Finance Committee (Member at Large) through December 2018; Henry Selters continuing on Adult Education through December 2017.

(2016.12.6) Nominating Committee nominates the following: Nancy Rice to continue as AMM representative to IMYM Representative's Committee for the period January, 2017 thru January 31, 2019. Diana Koster as AMM Representative to New Mexico Regional Nominating Committee for the period January, 2017 thru January 31, 2019. Elizabeth Freyman and Miriam Bennett to continue on Worship and Ministry thru December, 2017. These nominations will be seasoned for one month until January, 2017 MFWFB.

11. Rising concerns

A. Threshing session on leadership in the Meeting: Clerk suggested we discuss this in January, 2017

B. The work and staffing of Committees in relation to "Meeting of the Whole"

Naming committee will make recommendations in January 2017

C. In January: set date for review of IMYM queries

Nancy requested a date to discuss IMYM queries: Sun Jan. 22., 2017 and at rise of meeting. Other possible dates are during week of Jan. 2 or Jan.9

Nancy is on Representative Planning Committee for IMYM. There is a question whether Ghost Ranch is appropriate for IMYM and IMYM needs our feedback. Imym particularly wants feedback from folks who normally don't attend. Members can submit ideas to Nancy Rice via email. The IMYM queries are as follows:

1. Re Location: It has been suggested that we have a trial year at a different location followed by a return to Ghost Ranch the following year. What is your Meeting's response to this? What would be the most important criteria in choosing that different location?
2. Re Financial approach: Increasing cost at Ghost Ranch was a major impetus to consider a change of venue. Approaches to cost have been offered including "Pay as Led"*, other ways to gather money (such as a fund raising campaign), or an intensive effort to decrease our costs (different venue, less days, etc.). What is your Meeting's sense about this?
3. Pay as Led is a model which New England Yearly Meeting has tested where each registrant is asked to pay what they are led to for the summer gathering.

D. In February we will be having the Quakers and Money workshop: Morning session from 9-12 open to all and the afternoon session will be focused on the details of raising money.

E. In March, FCNL will be meeting in New Mexico although not at the meeting house. It's an opportunity for Meeting to see the process of FCNL.

F. In April the NM Regional Meeting will be in Durango, CO. Date not set.

Final close with silence

Tina Kachele, Presiding Clerk
Minor Morgan, Recording Clerk