

**Tampa Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business**

Minutes

9 Third Month 2014

Opening worship

Meeting Clerk began the gathering with a quote:

"There is a way of ordering our mental life on more than one level at once. On one level, we may be thinking, discussing, seeing, calculating, meeting all the demands of external affairs. But deep within, behind the scenes, at a profounder level, we may also be in prayer and adoration, song and worship and a gentle receptiveness to divine breathings....Between the two levels of the secular and the religious is a fruitful interplay, but ever the accent must be upon the deeper level, where the soul ever dwells in the presence of the Holy One. For the religious person is forever bringing all affairs of the first level down into the Light, holding them there in the Presence, reseeing them and the whole of the world and things in a new and overturning way, and responding to them in spontaneous, incisive, and simple ways of love and faith. Facts remain facts, when brought into the Presence in the deeper level, but their value, their significance, is wholly realigned."

---Thomas Kelly, excerpt from "A Testament of Devotion"

Clerks

Jan Dahm meeting clerk.

Cynde Mercer recording clerk.

Attendees

Jan Dahm
Lisa Erasmus
Jill Floerke
Chris Hugues

Steve Hurley
Cynde Mercer
Nancy Triscritti
Bill Ward

Kathy Ward
Tom Weekes
Barbara Wolfe

Business

Minutes of First Month were approved as submitted.

The Treasurer reported that our income and expenses were more balanced last month with an increase in donations and decrease in expenses.

Committee Reports

First Day School – Nancy Triscritti reported that First Day School is always in need of volunteers to teach.

Hospitality – No report

Library – No report

Ministry and Counsel – See Appendix A for report.

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Naming - Kate Johnson was named to Nominating Committee. The Naming Committee has been laid down.

Nominating – No report.

Peace and Social Concerns – See Appendix A for report.

Property – Chris Hugues reported that the mulch was removed this past month.

New Business

None

Milestones

No milestones were brought forth.

Calendar

See TampaFriends.org.

Closing worship

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Appendix A

Ministry and Counsel Committee Report

Upcoming Friendly Dinner dates are March 29, April 26, and May 24.

Adult First Day School - We will be asking Friends to participate in a survey soon to have the chance to voice the type of Adult First Day School would be of interest to you. From this we will use the summer to develop plans in this area.

Worship Sharing - Sessions, are being held weekly at on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at the Meetinghouse. All are welcome to attend.

Food Pantry – An ongoing collection of non-perishable items for use as needs present. Contributions are welcome.

Peace and Social Concerns Committee Report

We appreciate Stan arranging for members of the March against Monsanto group to speak with us on February 23. We regret that a small number of Friends were able to attend this very informative session and would like to thank those who presented us with insight into the issues surrounding the effort to have foods accurately labeled as to whether they contain GMOs. We appreciate the invitation by this group to join in their upcoming march on May 24, 2014 and to have a table at the gathering at the end of the march.

AVP workshops – Cecilia Yocum and Stan continue to work on an AVP workshop to be offered for the Monsanto organizers which will address a specific skill set they wish to work on. This will probably be for that group alone and will be held on April 26, perhaps at our Meetinghouse.

Cecilia Yocum presented two possible dates for the mini-AVP workshops which come out of a desire by our Meeting to continue working on AVP skills. The dates are March 30 and May 18, 2014, meeting after worship from 12:30 to 4 p.m. A sign-up will be necessary as we would like to invite Clearwater Friends to participate if space allows (maximum 20 participants). We approved doing sessions on both dates with a different focus for each and will bring these dates forward in our business meeting on March 9 for approval. The first session on March 30 will focus on communication.

Dustin Lemke is working on organizing us for a monthly letter writing --details to be announced.

The Coalition of Immokalee Workers is having a big march culminating in a rally on March 15 in Lakeland - home of Publix. We have supported the Fair Food Campaign and our SEYM Youth are very active in support and hope that Friends can attend. An email has been sent to Friends with the details.

The FCNL Priorities Discernment will take place on March 23 after rise of worship.