NCFF Minutes and Notes

3 February 2018 – Somerton Friends

Forty Friends from across the Fellowship, including several individual members, gathered at 10:00 a.m. in the Somerton Friends Fellowship Hall for business meeting and fellowship. Springfield, Ararat, Lexington, Miami Meetings were not represented at the gathering. Guests from Fayetteville Quaker House (Fayetteville Meeting) and Virginia Beach Meeting (Friends Committee on National Legislation) were present.

**Regrets**: Max and Jane Carter, Sara Beth Terrell, Bill Eagles, Jack Ciancio

Richard Wilcox, of Somerton Meeting, shared some thoughts as we gathered in our opening worship.

Friends Approved the Agenda

Friends stood as Meeting groups and introduced themselves.

We heard ministry and events updates from Meetings

**Membership**: the membership numbers of our meetings were shared (attached) as these numbers impact our commitment to NCYM, Inc. (including Quaker Lake Camp) and our receipt of investment income.

NCFF received a request for membership from Bethel (VA) Friends Meeting. After a lively presentation by members of Bethel Meeting who were present, Friends eagerly APPROVED welcoming Bethel Friends Meeting into NC Fellowship of Friends.

Friends gave their **APPROVAL** to the NCFF Identity Statement (attached)

Friends **APPROVED** the Queries on Non-Discrimination as guidance for our work.

*Do we strive to remove all acts (and thoughts) of discrimination from our personal lives? Do we strive to insure that all individuals regardless of race, color, gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, language, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status have free and open access to all activities, ministries, and employment in our meetings and ministries? Do we work as individuals, meetings, and Fellowship to end discrimination in our society?*

Friends heard reports and requests from mission work associated with NCFF and meetings.

* Friends received two requests for financial support:
  + Scott Wagoner presented a request from members of the "Jamaica Partnership" program and Friends Church NC. Friends asked if this was just a financial commitment, or if NCFF was being asked to participate. Scott will gather more information about the request and our participation.
  + Scott also noted that Meetings could “partner” with individual meetings in Jamaica Yearly Meeting, offering financial support and encouragement. Scott will obtain details and share with NCFF meetings.
  + Max Carter sent a request for funds to support this summer’s Israel/Palestine Trip
* Friends **REQUESTED** that we delay responding to these requests until the Finance Committee has an opportunity to review our income (investment and yearly contributions) and commitments.
* Pat Cheadle presented a report on **MOWA-Choctaw**, detailing many of the programs and activities as well as concerns for their continuing support.
  + Friends **APPROVED** establishing an “ad hoc” MOWA committee to work in support of the on-going ministry at MOWA, and to discern ways that we can move forward in developing local leadership for the MOWA work. Ad hoc committee members: Pat Cheadle, Dottie Hobbs, Kent Daughtrey, Kathy Adams

Kathy F. Adams reported on the work of the NC Peace Resource Center sponsoring **Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) Training**. Friends are encouraged to share the information about the upcoming training sessions so that we may have more individuals trained in AVP.

Friends **APPROVED** Zana Cranfill as the Assistant Treasurer.

Clarence Mattocks, Treasurer, presented a **financial report**, noting the investment income distribution from NCYM, Inc. Clarence will call together the Finance Committee to develop a budget and commitments for 2018. The Finance Committee members are: Clarence Mattocks, Zana Cranfill, Carl Semmler, Wallace Sills, Sarah Johnson, and Gene Anderson.

Friends **RECEIVED** a financial report from NCYM, Inc. (attached)

Deborah Suess agreed and Friends **APPROVED** serving as our representation to NC Council of Churches (if time and schedule permits).

**Next Meeting:** 7 April 2018, @ 10:00 a.m., First Friends Meeting