

DRAFT Minutes
NC Fellowship of Friends
9 November 2019
New Garden Friends Meeting House

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Committees and Working Groups

Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

After a time of centering worship with Friends from Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting, Friends from most the monthly meeting of the Fellowship, gathered in the worship room of New Garden Meeting to consider the business of the Fellowship.

Friends consider the **Opening Query** during the time of worship: *Do you nurture your spiritual life to build the whole of the ministry of the meeting and the Fellowship? Do seek time alone to listen to the Spirit, to tend to the Light, so that you offer ministry and service that builds the spiritual of the whole. Are you attuned to walking the path of faith and in faith?*

Kelly Kellum, General Secretary of Friends United Meeting, shared about the work of FUM and the importance of NCFE's membership in this world-wide ministry of Friends. Kelly asked that NCFE continue to hold FUM and the ministries in our prayers, to NCFE and its meetings provide financial support as able; and that we consider funding to the Global Impact Fund, seeking to support all ministries.

Minutes: Friends **APPROVED** the March 2019 minutes and the minutes from the Annual Gathering, August 2019.

Nominations:

Friends **APPROVED** these FUM Triennial Representatives to be held July 2020, in Kisumu Kenya
Dottie Hobbs; Marcy Shipwash; Tanna Shipwash; Tyler Foster

Friends **APPROVED** these members for the Faith & Practice Committee:

Bill Davis, clerk; Khaleelah Gantt; Cassandra Israel; William Hamilton

Friends Committee on North Carolina Legislation (FCNCL): Vernie Davis, co-clerk of NCNCL (and member of Raleigh Friends Meeting, PFYM) reported on the efforts in organizing, bringing Friends for all traditions together, and obtaining 501c3 status. FCNCL is using the model of FCNL for its organization and educational efforts. Friends **APPROVED** NC Fellowship of Friends joining NCFCL. Dottie Hobbs, after attending a meeting of FCNCL agreed to represent NCFE to the Committee. NCFE may have up to six representatives. Each monthly meeting is encouraged, asked to name a representative or contact to FCNCL.

Youth & Children Working Group: Khaleelah Gantt report for the Working Group. The Working Group is working to build community among the youth leaders and the youth of the Fellowship. They are seeking to build a foundation of Quakerism, including an understanding of Quaker business meeting and process. They have developed a Facebook group (under the NCFF's Facebook page) where leaders can share ideas, events (inviting others to join in the event). Khaleelah closed by asking this question to those gathered: "Where do we stand with intergenerational work?"

Social Justice Working Group: Lou Gordh reported for the Working Group. A letter has gone to all the Meetings asking what they are doing in the area of social justice. Poverty and hunger issues topped the list, with most meetings involved in some aspects of feeding or collecting not-perishables for food pantries. They are trying to build better communications to keep meetings informed of what other meetings are doing, letting everyone know. Lou closed with this question: "What areas could NCFF be involved with in working for social justice?"

Meeting Nurture and Development Committee and the **Recording Committee** met together for most of the committee meeting time. The Committees reviewed their charges and responsibilities. Richard Wilcox, clerk of the Recording Committee reported of the long discussion and discernment process over the two years of its existence. Richard submitted this report for the minutes: "The Recording Committee discerns that it would like to hand over its ongoing projects and responsibilities to the Meeting, Nurture and Development Committee. It would like to go on hiatus until either NCFF or its members discern it necessary to meet again. While on hiatus its members would be welcome to meet with the Meeting, Nurture and Development Committee should they choose."

Scott Wagoner, reported that the Committee(s) are exploring a retreat for minister and elders (pastors, recorded ministers, ministry and counsel members, and those discerning a call to ministry), using Lisa Withrow (recommended by Richard Wilcox) as a facilitator. [\(Bio on Lisa\)](#) Some Friends were concerned that Lisa is not a Quaker, asking if there isn't a Quaker that could lead such a retreat. Friends **APPROVED** Sara Beth Terrell, Richard Wilcox, and Scott Wagoner having a conference call with Lisa to learn more about her, her ministry, and how she would facilitate the retreat.

Outreach Working Group: Beth Massey reported for the Working Group. Kelly Kellum alerted the Working Group to the desperate financial need at the Belize Friends School. The Working Group reviewed the investment income statement, and discovered that the Outreach Working Group had \$5,849 still in their account. The Working Group requested to the body that these funds be sent immediately to FUM designated for Belize Friends School. Friends **APPROVED**.

The clerk announced that a 2019 Financial Report will be available at the March 21 meeting of NCFF. The clerk also announced that the Askings will remain the same in 2020 (\$40 combined for

NCYM, Inc., Quaker Lake Camp, and NCFE; with a request of \$10 voluntary contribution for the QLC Endowment).

Dates:

21 March 2020, Spring Business Meeting at Bethel Friends, Franklin VA

14-16 August 2020, Annual Gathering at Quaker Lake Camp, Climax NC

Respectfully submitted

Frank Massey, clerk