South Central Yearly Meeting of Friends Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business 18 Eleventh Month – 19 Eleventh Month 2022 Virtual Meetings Via Zoom

Session I: Friday, 18 Eleventh Month, 7:45 pm- 8:30 pm

Friends gathered for open worship. At 7:45 Clerk welcomed Friends to Meeting for Worship with attention to business.

Clerk asked Friends to take a moment to acknowledge the people on whose lands we reside.

<u>Clerks' table</u> – serving at the clerk's table are Clerk; Karen Takemoto, Jessica Arjet, Recording Clerk.

Welcome and Introductions

Review of agenda - Clerk reviewed the agenda for this evening's session.

<u>Virtual Ministry</u> – Use of Raise Hands feature to be recognized by the clerk; a reminder to keep muted unless speaking, then re-mute.

Nominating Committee - Gailia Harrington reported for the Nominating Committee.

Three Friends have found their way clear to serve the Yearly Meeting:

Jack Alley for Finance Committee - to serve through 2025

Bill Wilkinson for Yearly Meeting Clerk - to serve through 2024

Gilda Rixner for Yearly Meeting Planning Committee - to serve through 2024

RM Minute 2022.1: Friends approved these appointments from Nominating Committee.

The Nominating Committee is looking for Friends to serve in the following open positions:

Archivist Co-Clerk - 2 year

Friends Committee Nat'l Legislation - 3 year

Friends General Conference - 3 year

Ministry & Care - 2 year

Nominating - 3 year

Nominating - 3 year

Nominating - 3 year

Nominating - 3 year Sr. Young Friends Coordinator Tech Event Committee - 2 year Yearly Meeting Planning - 2 year Yearly Meeting Planning - 2 year Youth Program Assoc. Coordinator - 3 year Youth Program Coordinator - 2 year Youth Program Support - 3 year <u>https://scym.org/qnut/documents/702</u>

Quarterly Meeting Reports:

<u>Arkansas and Oklahoma:</u> - presented by John Coffin - this Quarterly meeting comes together 3 times a year.

They had a boisterous Spring Quarterly Meeting with much fellowship.

The Fall Quarterly meeting was the same; it was wonderful to be together in person. Tina Coffin was recognized for her years of publishing the Carillon pamphlet with a song of appreciation.

The Winter Quarterly Meeting will be meeting soon at Lake Wister.

<u>Bayou Quarterly Meeting</u> - presented by Rich Corl - online <u>https://scym.org/qnut/documents/703</u>

Bayou Quarterly meeting met twice in 2022. On Feb 12 they had business and sharing, including an online version of show and tell - a friend will pick a topic and talk about it. Rich Corl is the new Clerk of this meeting.

A second meeting was both online and in person at the Live Oak Friends meeting house. About 12 people attended in person and there was one online attendee. They had socialization and Business Meeting. They discussed what future meetings might be like. they will be meeting again in January. In the Fall, they hope to meet somewhere more central.

They are happy to be back together again in person and want to make sure that they keep the meeting accessible for those that can not meet in person.

Cielo Grande - presented by Val Liveoak -

This Quarterly Meeting does not meet as often as some of the other Quarterly Meetings. However, this year they were in charge of setting the theme for the year, so there was more shared work, which led to more sharing in general. <u>Announcements:</u> Please send reports to Liz.Yeats@SCYM.org.

Meeting closed at 8:30 with a period of open worship.

Meeting will continue on Saturday at 10:00am.

Session II: Saturday, Ninth Month 19, 10:00 am - 12:10 pm

Friends gathered at the appointed time with a period of open worship.

Out of the silence:

Karen Takemoto announced that she was officially stepping down as Clerk, and now Bill Wilkinson will be Clerking the meeting.

<u>Clerks' table</u> – serving at the clerk's table are Clerk; Karen Takemoto, Associate Clerk; Bill Wilkinson, Recording Clerk; Jessica Arjet.

Welcome and Introductions

<u>Virtual Ministry</u> – Use of Raise Hands feature to be recognized by the clerk; a reminder to keep muted unless speaking, then re-mute; thumbs up under Reactions tab for approval when needed;

<u>Review of agenda</u> – Clerk reviewed the agenda for this morning's session.

<u>Procedures Manual</u> - This was put on the website - but was not discussed during the meeting.

https://scym.org/qnut/documents/694

Yearly Meeting Planning Committee - given by Val Liveoak

https://www.scym.org/qnut/documents/700

The proposed theme is "Refreshment for the Long Haul".

One friend felt that this wording works as it is short.

Another prefers "Spiritual Refreshment for the Long Haul." Many Friends agreed to the need for the word "Spiritual" to be in the theme.

Friends agreed on the wording "Spiritual Refreshment for the Long Haul."

Prospective speaker: Gregory Casillas

Friends accepted the report.

<u>Yearly Meeting Schedule</u> - presented by Denise Wilkinson - The schedule is online - <u>https://www.scym.org/qnut/documents/698</u>

Notes from Denise:

- When the committee looked at the response from the evaluations they found that people were pleased with the hybrid nature of the meeting they enjoyed the ability for online friends to be able to participate. One friend watched the chat and would bring up questions and comments from the chat. The online Friends also had night owl worship, and the committee feels that we will continue this and also have early morning worship.
- Faith and Practice is ready to submit its work. They will be having some forums and some worship-sharing times over the weekend to season their work.

Friends accepted this report with the understanding that small changes might be needed.

Denise gave appreciation for all of the people involved with Yearly Meeting Planning; the Tech Events Committee, the Youth Program Support Committee, and the Planning Committee.

Dates for Representatives Meeting - Part II to confirm if going virtual or in person -

The Yearly Meeting Planning Committee would meet first to season the issue and come up with a recommendation for the Yearly Meeting.

Friends approved a tentative meeting if needed on February 18, 2022.

Treasurer's Report - given by Lori Laub -

https://scym.org/qnut/documents/696

An issue came up that Texas Impact was asking for \$200 per representative which the two appointed representatives did not know about. It was determined that Liz Yeats would reach out to Texas Impact to discuss this issue and issue a letter that will be signed by the clerk.

RM Minute 2022.2 - Friends Accepted the Treasures Report.

Committee Reports:

Youth Program Support Committee - presented by Anne Collins -

https://scym.org/qnut/documents/697

Proposal: For a SCYM Parent Mutual Support Group. The Youth Programs Committee would like to connect the parents in the meeting - every 2 weeks for a total of 10 sessions. This would be for the parents to connect, share joys and concerns, etc.

There is a question of which committee this program would need to sit with. This will be considered and brought back once the question has been seasoned.

Youth Programs Support Committee would like for Friends to consider if they would like to be a facilitator for this program.

(this proposal is contained in the online report)

Friends will consider this a pilot project for the spring. We will expect a report at the Yearly Meeting Sessions.

Representative's Report:

<u>Quaker Religious Education Collaborative</u> - presented by Anne Collins. This report is online. https://scym.org/qnut/documents/695

Friends accepted this report.

Meeting closed at 12:10 with a period of open worship.

Meeting will continue with our next session at 1:30

Session III: Saturday, Ninth Month 19, 1:30 -

At 1:30 Friends gathered for a period of open worship.

Out of the silence, Clerk welcomed us back and informed us of some agenda changes.

Committee Reports (cont.):

<u>Faith & Practice Committee</u> - presented by John Coffin - online at <u>https://scym.org/qnut/documents/716</u>

Friends accepted the report.

<u>Finance Committee</u> - presented by Pat Sweet - <u>https://scym.org/qnut/documents/691</u>

RM Minute 2022.3 - Friends approved this report.

<u>Peace & Justice Committee</u> - presented by Kevin King - this report is online at <u>https://scym.org/qnut/documents/705</u>

Friends accepted this report.

<u>Ministry & Care Committee</u> - presented by Pam Arnold - the report is online at <u>https://scym.org/qnut/documents/717</u> Friends accepted this report.

Communications Report - presented by Liz Yeates -

Communications is doing an E-newsletter every month. This is news for Friends from inside SCYM and outside.

Friends need to decide if it's okay to use people's pictures. They would like there to be a check box on the registration form to see if it's okay to post their pictures online.

Nominating asks that we have a photo on our online meeting directory.

Cathy Gutentag is the person who will change the directory information online.

Terry says that it will take a lot of energy to put photos of themselves online.

This subject will be considered and brought back for further consideration.

Yearly Meeting Worship Committee - presented by Liz Wolfe

There have not been any meetings of this committee. This committee will be more engaged before the Yearly Meeting so that they can ensure there are worship sharing groups.

A friend pointed out that Faith and Practice wanted to use the worship sharing times during Yearly Meeting.

It was also brought up that there was an intention to have online worship sharing groups.

Friends accepted this report.

<u>Tech Event Committee</u> - presented by Kevin King - This report is online (link needed)

Friends accepted this report with gratitude.

Representative Reports:

Friends Committee on National Legislation (Larry Kelly-Mahaffey, Liz Yeats, Suzanne Cole-Sullivan, Claudia Wilson, Bill Sweet) - presented by Liz Yeats.

There was a good delegation going to talk to two members of congress and one senator. They were asking for support for the Environmental Justice bill.

FCNL is doing well with a much larger staff, many of whom are young and/or people of color. In this FCNL meeting, there is much attention to the "oopses" and calling out issues with kindness. There is a focus on Women's Health with a discussion on reproductive issues.

The committee encourages new people to come onto the committee and consider being appointed if they are interested. Anyone can go to the annual meeting.

Friends accepted this report.

Friends General Conference (Mary Hampton, Jan Michael) - Bill Wilkinson and Liz Yeates presented - FGC continues to go through a lot of change in its intention to become an anti-racist organization and to discern what to do in service to friends. Their workforce is working more remotely now.

There is a planned gathering of everyone in 2023. In 2024 there will be an online gathering for all friends in person. After that, it is unclear how they will go forward.

FLGBTQC (Suzanne Cole-Sullivan) - no report was given, but the report is online. <u>https://scym.org/qnut/documents/692</u>

Friends Peace Team (Kevin King, Val Liveoak) - Kevin King gave the report. <u>https://scym.org/qnut/documents/704</u>

Friends accepted this report.

Friends World Committee for Consultation (Lori Laub, Shannon Kincaid-Toncray) - presented by Shannon Kincaid-Toncray - this report is online. <u>https://scym.org/qnut/documents/693</u>

Friends accepted this report.

Arkansas Interfaith Alliance - presented by Pam Arnold. They are considering whether this is still a valuable committee to be part of.

Texas Impact (Joanna Vaugh, Andrea Beane) - Given by Joanna Vaughn - this report is online.

https://www.scym.org/qnut/documents/706

Friends accepted this report.

Announcements:

There will be a meeting today between the Nominating and Youth Programs Support committees - anyone is welcome to join.

Friends Meeting of Austin still has about 5 outstanding requests for penpals for people on death row. If you are interested in doing this ministry please contact Joanna at Joannaredfield@gmail.com

Meeting closed at 3:31 pm with a period of open worship.

South Central Yearly Meeting of Friends Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business 18 Second Month 2022 Virtual Meetings Via Zoom

Friends, keep your meetings in the power of God, and in his wisdom and love that you may order all to his glory.

George Fox, 1658

Session I: Saturday, 18 Second Month, 10:00am

Friends gathered for open worship. At 10:00am Clerk welcomed Friends to Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.

Clerk honored the indigenous peoples of these lands

We are gathered on the unceded land of the Indigenous peoples of our region and on whose land we now live. I ask you to join me in acknowledging these Indigenous communities, their elders both past and present, as well as future generations. South Central Yearly Meeting also acknowledges that it was founded upon the exclusions and erasures of many Indigenous peoples, beyond those on whose land live. We further acknowledge our commitment to participate in the process of working to dismantle the ongoing legacies of settler colonialism wherever and whenever called upon to do so.

<u>Clerks' table</u> – serving at the clerk's table are Clerk; Bill Sweet, Jessica Arjet, Recording Clerk.

Welcome and Introductions

<u>Review of agenda</u> – Clerk reviewed the agenda for this morning's session.

<u>Yearly Meeting Planning Committee:</u> Denise Wilkins asked of the meeting if we feel comfortable meeting in person.

A Friend asked what the masking policy would be.

Denise shared the proposed COVID policy (which can be found here).

RM Minute 2023.2.1 - Friends approve the proposal to meet primarily in person with some online elements for our Yearly Meeting Sessions.

Several thoughts regarding how the mixture of online and in-person worship were brought up. Friends felt comfortable allowing the Planning Committee to consider these thoughts. Youth Progrogram Support Committee: Howar Hawee presented the report (which can be found here.) SCYM has a policy regarding how to keep children safe at the yearly meeting sessions. However, many changes have occurred that make changes necessary. At this point, background checks are not practical, so the committee has developed intermediary policies to address children's safety.

RM Minute 2023.2.2 - Friends approved the temporary policy changes to the Yearly Meetings Child Safety Policy for the 2023 Yearly Meeting sessions with the addition that where the policy says "parent" it should instead say "parent or guardian."

Clerk asked if anyone might be available to serve on the Epistle Committee. No one volunteered at this point.

Joys and Concerns:

One friend shared that he is worried that our meeting is comprised of more older people and wanted to lift up the concern for how to bring in more younger people.

The Faith and Practice committee let us know that the Faith and Practice manual is almost done.

A Friend shared that she is creating games and other devices to facilitate interaction between the different generations of Friends of the Meeting.

Another Friend shared that she had song and dance times in their Monthly Meeting and this seemed to be a joyful way to connect with friends.

A friend held up Bev Randolf for support. Her father has recently passed away.

Announcements:

Friends Peace Teams will have colleagues from all over the World in the US from around the last week of April to the 3rd week of May. Please consider inviting an in-person visitor or a virtual one. You can find them at FriendsPeaceTeams.org. A friend suggested going a day early so that you can enjoy the element of Friends sharing more personally.

Please send items that might be good for the newsletter to Liz.Yeats@scym.org.

A friend noted the joy of having all of us together again - which the meeting as a whole seemed to share.

Meeting closed with a period of worship at 11:50am.