

**Minutes of South Central Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Representative Meeting 2019
November 22-24, 2019, Greene Family Camp, Bruceville, TX**

Session I: Friday, Nov. 22, 4:00-5:15pm

About 20 Friends gathered in silent worship at Greene Family Camp in Bruceville, TX a little after 3:00pm. Associate clerk, Liz Yeats, opened our worship with attention to business at 4:10pm. Clerk, Gerald Jimmy Jr. would be arriving shortly. Jessica Arjet served as recording clerk.

Welcome & Introductions – Clerk welcomed friends and asked everyone to share their names and what meeting they are from. Clerk shared with Friends that we now meet on lands that once belonged to Native American tribes. This was Waco Indian Territory with the Tawakoni to the east and the Naishan Dene (Plains Apache) to the west.

Distribution of 2018-19 Proceedings – The recording clerk distributed 2018-19 Proceedings to the representatives of as many monthly meetings as possible. The rest will be either mailed or distributed at 2020 SCYM sessions.

Clerk shared a beautiful rendering of an approved minute of appreciation for Marianne Lockard passed some years ago by the body. Joanna Vaughn did the calligraphy. Tina Coffin will carry it to Marianne.

Discussion of 2019 Yearly Meeting: How Did It Go – Chris Drexler, On- Site Coordinator, shared information from how 2019 Yearly Meeting went. It seems that fellowship is a big component for why people attend. Keynote speakers are also important for people attending. He shared the information gleaned from three years previous to 2019 SCYM sessions as there were no evaluations done at 2019 sessions.

It was discussed that often the site coordinator creates and distributes the evaluations. However, a friend pointed out that at one point it was given to the Clerk of the Planning Committee to create and distribute the evaluations. One friend noted that it was important that the quarterly meeting that is going to be planning the next meeting should receive the evaluations as soon as possible.

RM 2019.01 Friends approved that the Clerk of Yearly Meeting Planning Committee will coordinate creating and distributing the evaluations for SCYM sessions, gathering the forms at the end of SCYM sessions, summarizing the forms and communicating this information with the committee clerks and individuals as appropriate, as expeditiously as possible.

Meeting ended with worship at approximately 5:35pm.

Session I (continued): Friday, Nov. 22, 6:45-7:30pm

Gerald Jimmy Jr. clerked this session with Liz Yeats associate clerk and Jessica Arjet, recording clerk, at the table for the evening session. Meeting opened out of silence at 7:10pm.

Quarterly Meeting Reports

Bayou Quarterly Meeting – Bette Drexler, Acting Representative, gave the report. The meeting was held at the Drexel Center in Moss Bluff, Louisiana, from September 13 to 15, 2019. Attendance was small, but the group was congenial and engaged. Clerk of the Quarter, Chris Drexler, of Live Oak Monthly Meeting, volunteered to continue in that position for two more years. Friends agreed.

Ruth Estorge, a longtime member of Bayou Quarterly, recently passed away. We held a memorial Meeting for Worship for Ruth. Ruth's wife, Barbara Conner, and a friend attended the memorial.

We were happy to hear that Acadiana Friends are meeting again and have five regular attenders. Baton Rouge Monthly Meeting continues to be a consistent support for these Friends.

Live Oak Friends brought to Friends gathered at the Quarterly the "Haddonfield Statement of Affirmation of Love". Jane Houser had brought it to Live Oak's attention from Haddonfield Monthly Meeting in Haddonfield, New Jersey, a member meeting of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. The statement has been endorsed by New York Yearly Meeting and Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, in addition to Live Oak Friends Meeting. Following open discussion, Bayou Quarterly Meeting (BQM) was led to endorse the statement as written.

BQM Minute 2019-09-14: Bayou Quarterly Friends Meeting joins with people of good will everywhere in affirming the way of love. We denounce the normalization of hate and violence in society and within ourselves. We commit to working with others to build trust and understanding in our wider community.

Friends are encouraged to take this statement, as approved in BQM 2019-09-14, back to their community and season it for endorsement. We intend to bring this minute to 2020 SCYM sessions in hopes that it will choose to endorse it, also.

Live Oak Friends had suggested the theme for Quarterly: "What is Community? Am I Part of a Community? What Do I Get and Give to My Community? As the weekend

sociability unfolded, we found ourselves in genuine community, sharing naturally and intimately, working together, and enjoying each other's company. We never got around to having a presentation or official discussion. At the end of the weekend, we realized we had lived our theme instead of talking about it; it was a covered gathering.

Oklahoma/Arkansas Quarterly Report – Given by Jan Michael. Most of the meetings are doing well. However, the Oklahoma City meeting is struggling with only 4 or so members attending regularly. Tulsa is growing well. Stillwater has not changed much, there are a few children and it seems like a solid meeting. Cado Meeting - Tina Coffin stood and reported that the Cado meeting is suffering at this point. She asked that we hold this meeting in the Light. Little Rock Monthly Meeting - Once a month they are experimenting with having an extended three hour silent meeting.

Celio Grande Quarterly Meeting – They have not meet for two years. They want to start getting together again as many people find it useful. They have found it hard to make this happen as members have been busy with other engagements.

Meeting ended with worship at 7:30.

Session II: Saturday, Nov. 23, 9:00 to 11:30am

Friends gathered in silent worship at 9:06. Liz Yeats, associate clerk, clerked this session with and Gerald Jimmy, Jr, clerk, and Jessica Arjet, recording clerk, at the table.

Nominating Committee Report – The report was given by Tina Coffin. Nominating brought forward the name of Warren Wilson-Reiner for Associate Registrar.

RM 2019.02 - Friends approved Warren Wilson-Reiner for the position of SCYM Associate Registrar for 2019-2021 at the suggestion of Nominating Committee.

- Tom Ivash has agreed to be clerk of the Yearly Meeting planning committee.
- Val Liveoak has asked that meetings suggest more young people as representatives to Friends Peace Teams.

Child Safety Policy – The Youth Program Support Committee has yet to finish this report. They have agreed that they will create this policy and circulate this so that people may have time to season this policy before it is brought to the Yearly Meeting for approval.

Location of Representatives' Meeting – The suggestion has been brought that we might rotate our location of the Representatives Meeting to make it easier on friends who must travel very far to reach the Greene Family Camp where we traditionally hold our SCYM sessions.

There was discussion of having the Representatives Meeting at Gilmont Camp last year. One of the problems for this camp was that it was on the back roads. One friend of color found it more difficult to travel back roads because of overzealous police enforcement on these smaller roads.

Another Friend mentioned how grounding it was to be at Greene Family Camp.

A Friend was of the opinion that the site at Gilmont was sufficient for our needs, and it is difficult to find such places that are sufficient for our needs.

One friend found it difficult to work with on logistics of meeting at Gilmont. There were extra charges that we were not originally expecting. Some friends found the food at Gilmont to be not particularly good. Friends found the billing to be much more complicated at Gilmont.

It was pointed out that there are not a large number of sites that will meet our needs for RM.

A small group of friends will meet to discuss this more fully and then bring their discussions back to the meeting. Kevin King, Lori Laub, Tina Coffin, and Chris Drexler will be in this small meeting.

OK/AR Quarterly Planning Committee – Jan Michael presented the proposed Speakers/Theme for SCYM 2020 as Loving in the Light; Quaker Response in Times of Crisis. Keynote speaker would be Minga Claggett-Borne.

RM 2019.03 Friends Approved the theme for SCYM sessions for 2020 - Loving in the Light; Quaker Response in Times of Crisis and Keynote speaker - Minga Claggett-Borne.

One Friend asked that we look at having Friends from closer to be our keynote speaker as well as Friends from outside the meeting. Another Friend pointed out that when we are together at yearly meeting sessions we have more resources to bring in outside speakers that the smaller meetings might not be able to afford.

A friend suggested that we encourage Friends who are currently working on issues at the border to come to the meeting. Perhaps Minga might reach out to these Friends so that we could have more people who could speak to what work is currently happening.

One Friend suggested that the theme could be larger than just border issues. A Friend responded that this theme would not be limited to the border, but maybe we look at the larger focus of spiritual response in times of crisis, while looking at more focused workshops to address practical issues.

Another Friend purposed a panel of more people who are doing this work.

Another Friend spoke of us as currently being in a larger crisis of trust and hate in our society and the problems of violence and instability in Central and South America.

A Friend looked at this as a microcosm that we could look at as a way to the larger issue.

A Friend suggested that environmental concerns might be the most pressing at this time and that we should at least have a workshop addressing these issues.

Any ideas for the next theme for SCYM 2021 should be forwarded to Jan Michael.

A friend pointed out that Kallan Benson, a 14 year old Quaker who has worked on environmental issues, has a wonderful speech on YouTube and that she might be an exceptional speaker at some point.

Rex Friend is also involved in immigration issues.

Peace and Justice forum might be a very good venue to carry forward some of the actions and discussions that are currently being discussed.

The Planning Committee will be responsible for establishing if we will have a panel or just a keynote. It may be that we need less business meeting time so that we have more time for the programing this year.

At 10:40 Yearly Meeting Planning Committee moved off to have their meeting. The rest of Representatives Meeting continued after a short break.

Treasurer's Report – Lori Laub, treasurer, gave the report. **(attached)**

Friends discussed that the 9 friends who went to the 2019 Friends General Conference were greatly impacted by their travel. Much work went into planning the FGC gathering since we were the host.

One Friend reflected that the delegate travel shows that Friends in our meeting are sharing our light with the larger Friends community.

Another Friend suggested that Friends who are traveling still turn in their traveling receipts. Then if they'd like to donate that reimbursement then they may. But it is

helpful in budgeting to make sure we know how much is spent. Nominating Committee should inform delegates of this when they ask people to serve as delegates.

RM 2019.04 - RM thankfully accepts the report of the Treasurer as delivered by Lori Laub.

Committee reports

Faith & Practice Committee – John Coffin, clerk, presented the report.

Current committee members are: Almeta Smith (Dallas); Leada Dietz (Live Oak); Kirsten Brink(San Angelo), Jane Houser (Live Oak), Claudia Wilson (Ft. Worth), Danielle Evans (Dallas),Robin Morris (New Orleans), and John Coffin, clerk (Little Rock). We were sorry to see Mitch Richardson leave the committee; Mac Lehman is here this weekend and attended our meeting last night. We're interested in bringing Mac back, as is he, to the committee.

I want to thank the Nominating Committee for the infusion of new members, dating back to YM sessions 2018. This has been a big help, compared to when the committee consisted only of four members, or less, for several years.

Thanks are due to Kirsten for reorganizing the materials that we have previously placed at the SCYM website. The documents listed there under "List of Topics" have been reframed for easier/relevant identification. There are seven main sections: History, Opening to the Spirit, Testifying to the Life of the Spirit, Advices and Queries, Living Together in the Faith Community, Laboring Together in the Monthly Meeting, and Relating to the Larger Community of Friends.

Under each of these main sections are/or will be, specific texts that describe a particular subject matter that belong under that section. Some have been on the website, available to Friends, for a number of years. More will be added in the coming years and will be available to all SCYM'ers for their commentary, suggestions and additions. Your committee welcomes same!

The committee is working now on an assignment basis for the development of texts. Some of these may be original, others may be borrowed (with permissions) from other, existent Faith and Practices. The plan is that, going forward, every two months the committee will meet via Zoom meetings, to renew our discernments, discuss/review content, draft texts, resolve language issues and other associated topics.

Also, we will be inviting F/friends to take on certain of the Topics mentioned above, especially if the Topics lend themselves to being presented as essays or short papers on a particular topic. We invite you to get in touch with us if you have persons in mind – including yourself - for this lively process. The committee will oversee these developments, and others, such as "What is a favorite Quaker passage/quote of yours that you'd like to see considered for inclusion in the finished work?" Your suggestions are always welcome.

In closing, I want to thank the members of the Committee for their loyalty, time and talents. And, speaking for the Committee, I want to comment that “by or before the end of 2021” we hope to have a completed first-draft version of SCYM’s inaugural Faith and Practice. John asked how many friends had looked at the Faith & Practice portion of the website. A few friends raised their hands. Faith & Practice is putting up their information on the website.

The committee is using technology to meet more often and are more dedicated to creating portions of this website in an expeditious manner. A Friend suggested that others outside of the committee might be available to help. It was noted that this is a helpful way to increase diversity in many different ways. A friend suggested that this list go out as an email blast so that others might be able to contribute.

It was noted that we need to be respectful of copyright protections. We will also look for favored quotations from Friends.

The committee is in agreement that by or before 2021 they will have a complete first draft of this material available.

Youth Program Support Committee Report – The committee is struggling with getting us a child safety policy and whether to find new youth program coordinators. It may be that this committee will need a new clerk before the SCYM sessions in 2020.

Appreciation was expressed for this committee and it was noted how vital its work is.

Peace & Justice Committee Report –Paula Keith, clerk, reported for the committee.

At the 2019 SCYM sessions P&J committee was asked to create a minute on climate change. Friends pointed out that the term slogan carries advertising connotations and they felt they would like another word. We reworded this sentence to flow more smoothly.

A Friend questioned the date of 1896. Another Friend gave us a very thorough description of the history of activism on climate change, concluding that this date is accurate. Friends felt that a short footnote might be helpful. We could also mention the name of the scientist in the text. “Svante Arrhenius” is the name of the scientist.

Friends broke for lunch with the assurance that the discussion would continue after lunch.

Session III – Saturday, November 23, 1:30-4:30pm

The afternoon session began with a short period of silence. Gerald Jimmy, Jr. presided as clerk, Liz Yeats as associate clerk. Jessica Arjet continued as recording clerk.

Continued discernment on the Peace and Justice Committee Report – A Friend rose to say that they enjoyed the direct specificity of the proposal.

RM 2019.05 Friends Approved the Climate Change Minute as amended. (attached)

Report on SCYM Archives - submitted by Mary Hampton. She and Glenna Balch receive the archives and file them in Austin. They then send copies to Swarthmore Friends Historical Library.

Ministry & Care Committee Report – Jan Michael, clerk, reported for the committee. Report attached. **(attached)**

Publications Report – Liz Yeats reported for the individuals who hold these positions which keep communications in SCYM going. Terry SoRelle manages the mechanics of the website and Liz Yeats manages the content as well as email blasts and our Facebook page. Liz informed friends that it possible to send out more email blasts as currently there are only around 2 a year. SCYM also has a Zoom account that is used by many committees.

It was discussed that it might be best to have someone take charge of our social media. The meeting asked the Nominating Committee to take on finding a Friend who will manage our social media accounts. Lori Laub mentioned that she might be interested in this position. A Friend said they feel that social media is very bad for our culture and personally will not participate in any further social media. He wonders if it is a good idea to continue having social media outlets for SCYM.

A Friend let us know that the Young Friends at Friends Meeting at Austin have a Slack channel. She wonders if perhaps a private communications channel would be useful. A friend rose and let us know that outward facing social media is a conduit for bringing in younger Friends.

Updating of SCYM Information by Monthly Meetings – Liz Yeats let us know that Cathy Guttentag is in charge of updating out lists. Friends are reminded to send updates or changes to her regularly. The email address for this is: directory@scym.org.

Organization Representative Reports

Quaker Religious Education Collaborative (QREC) – Liz Yeats and Anne Collins attended the Quaker Religious Education Collaborative Annual Meeting this year. This organization has grown to involve 21 yearly meetings in the US and internationally. They have a website (quakers4re.org) that lists resources for meetings and teachers to

use – for both children and adults – and announcements of Quaker RE events. They have monthly conversation circles over Zoom to join and talk about different topics. Anyone can join.

They received a \$60,000 grant to fund work over three years with 3 unstaffed yearly meetings. The grant will allow Friends from these yearly meetings to send two representatives to the QREC annual meeting, hold a religious education conference in the yearly meeting geography and have Friends from outside the yearly meeting come and share their gifts and skills . Sierra Cascades Yearly Meeting of Friends, a fairly new yearly meeting in the northwest, is one of the yearly meetings involved in this program. Pacific Yearly Meeting is in the process of considering its needs and whether this program would be of assistance.

Another part of the grant is to bring activists into the classrooms of Young Friends. This has allowed Young Friends to interact with Young Friends in different countries to learn together.

QREC is growing and expanding. The website is at quakers4re.org.

AFSC – no report

Quaker Earthcare Witness – Danielle Evans delivered the report. There was an EPA hearing on 17th of October 2019. This was the only public hearing on New Source Performance Standards for methane and volatile compound control, and Leak Detection and Repair rollbacks. The current administration proposed rollbacks for these quality control measures and would make operators less responsible for leaks and repairs. That would make our air much less clean. This was done for the oil and gas companies and the streets were shut down during that hearing due to a Trump rally. The information was not published widely and it was very difficult to find information about the meeting or how to sign up to speak. Danielle went as a representative of Dallas Friends Meeting and QEW. She read her testimony to us. **(attached)**

Many friends spoke to how powerful this story and Danielle’s testimony was and asked her to share this as much as possible.

Another friend spoke to how this witness was in line with the Climate Change Annex that we just affirmed.

RM 2019.6 RM expresses its appreciation for Danielle Evans’ inspired testimony at the only EPA public hearing concerning NSPS and LDAR rollbacks which was held in Dallas, TX.

Friends Committee on National Legislation – Representative Claudia Wilson reported.

FCNL has asked that Monthly Meetings to discern their largest concerns as part of their biannual decision for of priorities and send them to FCNL so that FCNL knows what to work on. They would like as many voices as possible.

William Penn House is closing and will open under the care of FCNL. We have faith that it will be saved as it has been before. A friend asked about work camps, but those are not run by William Penn House at this point.

Arkansas Interfaith Alliance – John Coffin will submit a written report.

FGC – Mary Hampton reported. She read a report from FGC. They are considering a fundraising campaign.

Mary shared some of the queries from the meeting:

- What is the indigenusness history of the land that your meeting house sits on.
- How does this decision support FGC with its goal to transform into an actively anti-racist faith community?

Then they received Pacific Yearly Meeting as a part of FGC.

In small group exercises Mary experienced another way of meeting with 4 roles - 1 speaks, 1 listens, 1 notices, and 1 holds them in the light.

FGC has done some cost cutting and brought the budget into shape. Also they have done some assessment with their financial advisors about how they can stay in shape and feel they are in better shape than they were.

FLGBTQC – no report was given

Friends Peace Team – Val Liveoak gave the report.

Last year a group met and expressed concern for the work at the border. It is noted that Friends Peace Teams are working in countries that are dealing with poverty and lack of justice. They try to make these places such that people don't feel the need to flee their countries in the first place.

Members of Friends Peace Teams are willing and excited to be invited to come and share at Monthly Meetings. They also have the resources to support fairs for more sustainable giving.

We are encouraged to visit: <https://friendspeaceteams.org/stories/> to read about the inspiring stories and work that Friends Peace Teams are doing.

Friends World Committee for Consultation – Lori Laub submitted this report. Lori acts as a liaison for yearly meeting representatives in this area - South High Plains Area. They have discovered that often people take on being a rep without knowing what this means, but all of the work is done by reps. They are trying to have more training and more meetings. They are discussing ways to act in concert. And they are also interested in sustainability. The next meeting will be in March 2021.

Please look on the website because they have many resources there. Friends mentioned that this is an enormous resource of deepening spiritual life because of all the different perspectives. Putting a human face on differences can be joyful.

There is also a Traveling Ministry Program in which Friends go at request to gatherings and meetings. They each have their own specialty and will often help to sustain other meetings.

Louisiana Interchurch Conference – Larry Tombatore gave the report that after they split up there is nothing more to report.

Having completed all of our agenda items we returned to items that needed more discussion.

SCYM Spiritual Enrichment Fund – It was clarified that this is a way SCYM funds scholarship for Friends (often younger) to travel to Quaker events. This was funded from the Discretionary Fund which was laid down.

The question before us is: Is this a good time to consider changing the purpose of this fund as it has not been used as fully as it could? Ministry and Care has been getting requests to use these funds for people attending Yearly Meeting sessions.

It was pointed out that there are not scholarships for SCYM yearly meeting sessions; instead it is just gets written off.

A Friend asked about the guidelines from the original donors. This Friend felt very strongly that we should stick to the wishes of the original donors.

Why is there not as much request for this? Is it that people don't know about the fund? Or is it that people don't need as much as they have in the past?

A Friend said that this was very helpful for children to go to experiences that will deepen their spiritual lives. Also, even if people know about it, they might not know it is well funded. The Spiritual Enrichment Fund is funded from the Boeger Fund. There is also a Kenny Klopfer fund that might fund other activities. The original guidelines are in an appendix from the Procedure Manual.

Friends recollect that this fund was originally used specifically to enrich the spiritual lives of SCYM Friends.

Another Friend shared that they were part of putting the two funds together and felt that sending people to FCNL lobby weekend or FGC seems like it would be a good use of the fund.

A Friend read from the original minute on the Boeger fund, and found that currently Ministry and Care is using the proceeds from the Boeger fund through the Spiritual Enrichment fund in accordance with the original intent of the donors to the Boeger fund, which is for spiritual enrichment of members of SCYM.

After a period of silence a Friend stood up and expressed concern that the funds are commingled. Friends agreed to come back and discuss this further at a later session.

The session ended at 4:36 in the afternoon. The sun was streaming through the window blessing us with its golden afternoon light.

Session IV – Saturday, November 23, 7-8pm

SCYM Planning Committee Report – Tom Ivash submitted the report. There will only be a few small changes. We will eliminate one of the home groups and put a panel in that time slot instead. We will switch the Saturday morning Business Meeting and Keynote Speaker - Business Meeting will be first and then the Keynote speaker. Then the question and answer time will end up being in the evening on Saturday. Sunday will remain unchanged. The specific times will be on the official schedule that will be available at registration.

No one from the Worship Oversight committee has come to RM for the last few years. The Yearly Meeting Planning Committee has found ways to carry out the activities necessary and recommends that Nominating Committee appoint a convener for that committee so that they can meet and then decide on their own Clerk.

Planning Committee recommends that we not use the new theater this year, but that instead we ask people at Yearly Meeting Sessions if they are interested in having the theater for future Yearly Meetings.

Finally, they recommend that we have times that the registration desk is closed because there are times when very few people come in. The committee will work with the Site Coordinator to determine what those times are.

Friends accepted the Planning Committee's report.

Further clarification of the Spiritual Enrichment Fund

We discussed the three funds involved. The overarching account is the Friend's Fiduciary Fund which has about \$75,000. The Boeger Fund has a principle of about \$28,000 - which is not touched. The interest from the Friend's Fiduciary Fund is split between the Boeger Fund and the Spiritual Enrichment Fund. This money that may be spent. Therefore, the Boeger Fund gets more than it yields. The uses for both of these funds are almost identical. The Spiritual Enrichment Fund has slightly wider application.

The meeting requests that the Procedures Manual Coordinator shall extract the restrictions and official uses for these funds and then send them to the Recording Clerk for adding as an appendix to the RM minutes.

A friend suggested that we need to send this information to all the meetings. Perhaps Ministry and Care can do that. Ideas that Friends brought forward to disseminate this information were:

It would be helpful to have a very simple web page that explains this or a simplified message to Monthly Meetings saying it's possible to obtain funds for leadings. Let Friends know they can talk to Ministry and Care to find out more. One Friend suggested that an email blast might be helpful. Another suggested that this could go out in the Monthly Meetings emails, billboards and such. Another idea is to bring this information to the Young Friends at SCYM sessions.

Once people have used these funds, then those people coming and giving a report to the Young Friends and/or the Yearly Meeting. This might make it more likely that people will know what is going on. It might be helpful to have some examples of ways these funds can be used.

One Friend suggested that our representatives should be actively watching in our communities for opportunities to make sure everyone knows about the information that is gathered at Representatives Meeting.

RM 2019.7 The meeting requests that Ministry and Care consider how to disseminate information regarding SCYM's ability to support Quaker leadings and education to meetings and individuals.

Ad Hoc Representative Meeting Location Working Group for 2021 – This committee was formed to begin the work of finding a possible location or other strategies that will make travel easier for our 2021 RM. Committee Members include: Chris Drexler, Lori Laub, Kevin King, and Tina Coffin. We will hear their report at RM 2020.

A Friend suggested a travel pool where all the people attending would put into a central pot to pay for travel expenses. It is possible that time is easier for some people than money.

A friend suggested that Clerks shouldn't have to pay to come to RM.

After a period of silence worship ended at 8:18pm.

Session V – Sunday, November 24, 10-11am

Associate clerk, Liz Yeats, presided at this session with clerk Gerald Jimmy, Jr., and Jessica Arjet, recording clerk at the table. The meeting began with some moments of worship.

SCYM Work on Anti-Racism in Our Monthly Meetings – The clerk asked the following question: How do we conduct our meetings to be actively anti-racist and welcoming to all people? Friends spoke out of the silence. A friend felt that this discernment might end up needing a proposal or some sort of action that we should move forward. This friend felt that perhaps an action annex along the lines of the climate change annex that RM considered on Saturday.

Live Oak considered three things this year - report to follow

Some Live Oak Friend attended Center for Healing and Racism workshops to ready themselves for their retreat. A Friend went to gathering and came back lit up to discuss white fragility in the meeting. This discussion has not yet started. This friend felt that our current demographics show that we have not yet finished our work on this issue.

A Friend from Friends Meeting of Austin reported that they have a Racial Healing group. They have been studying books to promote this discussion. They were challenged by an attender who was willing to sit and work with the group, but she wanted to be able to step back after the work was started. Since then they have been sharing their own stories and working on themselves. They also look at white fragility and they look at how they can know themselves so that they can see what they are doing that might prevent others from sitting at their table. This friend shared that FGC and FCNL have been working on the issue and hiring more younger people and, in the case of FCNL, people of color. This has changed the demographics of these organizations and had an effect on their programs. At every business meeting Friends Meeting of Austin asks the question: How does this decision/work support your Meeting with its goal to transform into an actively anti-racist faith community?

A Friend from Dallas Meeting shared about a new drug that helps people with very difficult PTSD cases. Researchers used this process with a black woman and the women's response to racism changed significantly. This friend talked about how it was difficult to have feelings that you knew were not okay inside yourself, but that it was necessary to acknowledge these feelings so that you can deal with them.

Another Friend asked that we make a proposal that the committee that handles putting quotes and queries on the chairs would put this question on the chairs at each of the business meetings. "How does this decision/work support your Meeting with its goal to transform into an actively anti-racist faith community?" Then Peace and Justice would create a document that would detail actions that meetings and individuals can take to make their meetings and communities more welcoming and diverse.

A Friend rose and expressed appreciation that we are doing this work now so that we may all be connected to one another. She felt that this issue is core to her witness as a Quaker.

RM asked Peace and Social Justice to continue to look at these issues and create a guide for resources within and without the meeting, as well as finding stories of what we are currently doing in our meetings that might be inspiring for other meetings.

The clerks will consider creating a banner for the front of their table that asks this question: "How does this decision/work support our meeting with its goal to transform into an actively anti-racist faith community?"

A Friend rose and shared that Live Oak Friends Meeting has a travel fund for Friends traveling to SCYM sessions. She wanted to know if it was still possible to ask SYCM to help people come to the sessions in the Spring.

It was shared that on the web form to register for SCYM there is a place to let the registrar know what you can contribute. Then the registrar looks at this and calculates the amount that is owed. This will continue again this year as it has in the past.

There is a discussion with finance committee to look at paying the cost of clerks for RM. A Friend pointed out that everyone at RM should have the possibility of scholarship or other financial help so that we can have all the Friends that are needed for the work of RM. Another Friend asked that meetings announce that help is available earlier in the year so that people can make plans.

A Friend thought that SCYM could subsidize the cost of each person. But then SCYM would have to raise the money to subsidize this amount.

Another Friend rose and shared a story of her letting people know about Yearly Meeting, but that it was perhaps too early or that people were not ready to come yet.

Another Friend shared another system used by some yearly meetings and organizations where individuals have three choices - one where you subsidize others, one that is the exact cost, and one where the individual pays what they can. As Representatives to this meeting the Friends who are gathered at Representatives Meeting should go back to their meeting to let them know that financial help is available.

Finance Committee points out that changes to the way we finance attendance at RM and YM sessions need to be considered for the future but will not be in place for 2020 spring sessions.

RM 2019.8 RM asks Finance Committee to look at the issue of how we finance the cost for RM and SCYM sessions in a way to make everyone welcome regardless of financial ability. We ask them to bring back a proposal for consideration at the 2020 SCYM sessions.

SCYM Annual Sessions will be April 9-12 2020 at Greene Family Camp.

We ended with a short period of worship.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Arjet, recording clerk

Minutes approved during the RM Sessions

RM 2019.01 Friends approved that the Clerk of Yearly Meeting Planning Committee will coordinate creating and distributing the evaluations for SCYM sessions, gathering the forms at the end of SCYM sessions, summarizing the forms and communicating this information with the committee clerks and individuals as appropriate, as expeditiously as possible.

RM 2019.02 - Friends approved Warren Wilson-Reiner for the position of SCYM Associate Registrar for 2019-2021 at the suggestion of Nominating Committee.

RM 2019.03 Friends Approved the theme for SCYM sessions for 2020 - Loving in the Light; Quaker Response in Times of Crisis and Keynote speaker - Minga Claggett-Borne.

RM 2019.04 - RM thankfully accepts the report of the Treasurer as delivered by Lori Laub.

RM 2019.05 Friends Approved the Climate Change Minute as amended.

RM 2019.6 RM expresses its appreciation for Danielle Evans' inspired testimony at the only EPA public hearing concerning NSPS and LDAR rollbacks which was held in Dallas, TX.

RM 2019.7 The meeting requests that Ministry and Care consider how to disseminate information regarding SCYM's ability to support Quaker leadings and education to meetings and individuals.

RM 2019.8 RM asks Finance Committee to look at the issue of financial help for RM and to please bring a proposal back to the SCYM sessions for consideration at the 2020 sessions.