

**Faith & Practice Committee
Dallas Friends Meetinghouse
Saturday, September 30, 2017**

Present: Terry SoRelle; John Coffin, Clerk; Claudia Wilson; Beverly Randolph (acting Recording Clerk); Liz Yeats, visitor.

Friends opened the meeting with a period of silent worship.

Clerk reviewed the agenda.

Friends began with a review of the April 2017 meeting minutes.

Friends carefully reviewed the working history. It was noted that Jean Baggerley was the first yearly meeting Recording Clerk, and committee planned to contact her. Perhaps a list of remaining “old-timers” would be helpful in clearly representing the history of SCYM.

Discussion centered around editing: what is put IN to the history, and what is left out? Numerous considerations arose. Does inclusion of some experiences lead to reviving some old wounds? Does inclusion of specific Minutes and actions lead to a narrowing of perspective on the life and experiences of SCYM? Which experiences reflect important aspects of the yearly meeting “personality,” and should be included; and which experiences are so painful still, that they should be excluded in this “brief history” for the Faith & Practice?

Another consideration is how our history reflects how we function as a yearly meeting today. The committee desires to show how relevant and needed an SCYM Faith & Practice is by emphasizing a thread of recurring experiences. Committee anticipates further discernment on these questions.

Claudia was charged with rewriting certain observations.

Following a break, committee members reviewed a letter to monthly meetings requesting meetings’ input on topics. The letter requests meetings’ participation in the Faith & Practice process and a description of meetings/worship groups’ Quaker orientation. Logistics concerning web access and committee access were determined. Committee email is faith-and-practice@scym.org. url: www.scym.org/faith-and-practice/working-draft.

Committee reviewed a document “Meeting for Worship,” compiled by John. (At Representative Meeting, the committee will determine which style manual to use.) Phrases were studied to determine whether the ideas accurately conveyed Friends’ beliefs of meeting for worship. The question is not “do you agree with this,” but rather, “does this express your experience”?

The idea arose that the whole document should be prefaced by the story of its origin.

Beverly presented research on Friends' views on Jesus Christ and Quakers, both historically and currently.

Committee reviewed the Working Document #3 again, and its contents. Committee reviewed the List of Topics again.

Friends determined the next gathering will be at Representative Meeting November 17-19, 2017 at Greene Family Camp.

Meeting closed with a period of silent worship.