

Executive Committee Meeting
February 2, 2019
Telephone Conference

1. Opening Silence
2. Roll Call

Officers:

Presiding Clerk: Martha Viehmann
Assistant Presiding Clerk: Betsy Neale
Recording Clerk: Terre Holada
Assistant Recording Clerk: John Edminster
Treasurer: Wilson Palmer
Assistant Treasurer: Dale Hayes sends regrets
Statistician: (no representative present)
Committee Clerks:
Auditing: Veronica Frost sends regrets
Braddock Fund: Wilson Palmer
Budget & Finance: Steve Angell
Earthcare:
Faith & Practice: Rex Sprouse
Nominating: Rhonda Pfaltzgraff-Carlson
Peace & Social Concerns: Richard Mitchell
Personnel: Steve Angell
Religious Nurture & Education: (no representative present)
Web Administrator: Lonny Burger
Yearly Meeting Planning: Carol Simmons
Young Adult Friends: Uta Brewington
Youth Services Committee: Michelle Lori, David Funck
Quarterly Meeting Clerks:
Miami: Peter Hardy sends regrets
Whitewater: Terre Holada
Monthly Meeting Representatives
Bloomington: Christine Carver
Campus: (no representative present)
Clear Creek: Cathy Habschmidt
Community: Eric Wolff
Dayton: (no representative present)
Eastern Hills: Wilson Palmer
Fall Creek: Diann Herzog sends regrets
Fort Wayne: Fred Feitler
Lafayette: (no representative)
Lexington: Richard Mitchell
Louisville: (no representative present)
Miami: Lonny Burger
North Meadow: Dinah Duvall
Oxford: Steve Angell
White Rose: (no representative present)
Yellow Springs: Carol Simmons
Staff:
Administrative Secretary: Deborah Jordan
Youth Secretary: Kaia Jackson

3. Nominating Committee, Rhonda Pfaltzgraff-Carlson
Jane Brown from Yellow Springs and Eric Hailperin-Lausch from North Meadow Friends were nominated for the Religious Nurture and Education Committee. They were approved.
Pat Dewees from Yellow Springs was nominated as a representative to the Friends peace Team. She was approved.

4. Assistant Recording Clerk, John Edminster and Martha Viehmann
On behalf of John and Elizabeth, John is asking that they be relieved of this appointment because of increased family responsibilities. The resignation was accepted with gratitude. Nominating committee is aware of the situation.

5. Travelling Minute for Paul Buckley
Paul Buckley has received a traveling minute from Community Friends to follow a leading to spread the message of his recent book *Primitive Quakerism Revived*. Because he wishes to travel outside OVYM, he requests endorsement from the yearly meeting. The minute was approved. The minute is attached.

6. Youth Services, Kaia Jackson
Several teens and chaperones attended the Quake that Rocked the Midwest. More information and pictures will be coming. Report is attached.

There will be an email from Kaia distributed through the OVYM secretary with more information. There are activities planned for middle youth/teens at the next Miami Quarterly meeting. Also a middle youth gathering in Lexington is planned in March including an inter-generational meeting. More information will be coming.

Anyone in any meeting may reach out to Kaia to include youth in the programs.

They are hoping Friends will view their Facebook page and “like it.” It’s a way to see what the teens are up to. “OVYM Middle youth and teens” is the name of the page. That is also the name on Instagram.

There is a brochure with information about who we are, what we do, and what we can become. Copies of the brochure should be available in every meeting, even those without youth so that visitors with children can see that there is information and programs available.

Kaia is hoping to visit meetings with youth. They are encouraged to invite her.

Report was accepted with gratitude.

7. Whitewater Quarter, Terre Holada
The quarter met on January 20th; attendance was low due to the weather. They will meet again April 21st at North Meadow Friends for State of the Meeting Reports. The report was accepted.

8. Treasurer’s Report, Wilson Palmer.
There are no concerns at the moment. The report includes the beginning work on the next budget but is not a final budget. The report was distributed. The report was accepted with gratitude.

9. Englewood Friends is leaving OVYM
After our 2018 annual sessions, Englewood Friends Meeting informed us that they were withdrawing from OVYM. In response Steve Angell and Martha Viehmann visited Englewood Friends. Their report of their visit is attached. The report was accepted with gratitude to Steve and Martha. Englewood leaving OVYM was acknowledged.

10. Task Force on Sexual Misconduct, Betsy Neale.
Apologies for the slowness of the committee getting moving, but things are beginning to happen. There are 11 Friends serving on the task force with representation from both quarters. The task force is looking at current policies and resources on sexual misconduct from other yearly meetings and religious organizations. It is also planning to develop materials for encouraging discussion of sexual misconduct at both the yearly meeting and monthly meeting levels. The task force will discuss developing guidelines for reconciliation and restorative justice when appropriate. The report is attached. The report was accepted.

11. Martha Viehmann reminded Friends that intervisitation has been encouraged by Religious Nurture and Education.

The clerk asked if there were Friends who have been visiting other meetings. A Friend mentioned that the Fall Creek 1pm worship on the first First Day of each month is a wonderful opportunity to meet with many other friends and worshippers. Fred Feitler mentioned that the development committee, which is not a formal committee yet, may be of use to intervisitation.

12. Uta Brewington, Young Adult Friends Committee

She is hoping that they could plan an activity every 3 to 4 months. She is hoping that this group can be more active. Wilson reminded her that there is money available for their use. Minutes were approved.

13. Announcements:

The OVYM website needs news items to keep up to date. Take a look at the page. These are the kinds of things announced in the past. Send to Lonny. Deborah can forward items to Lonny also.

Reminder: Yearly and Quarterly Meeting clerks and the RN&E committee can offer support and assistance with facing conflicts. Also, RN&E recommends the FGC resource Fostering Vital Friends Meetings: <https://www.fgcquaker.org/resources/resources-fostering-vital-friends-meetings>

The next Executive Committee meeting will be April 6th at North Meadow at noon.

Attachment for Minute 5.

Community Friends Meeting
3960 Winding Way
Cincinnati, Ohio 45229

September 9, 2018

Dear Friends:

This letter is a traveling minute for Paul Buckley, who is a member of Community Friends Meeting in Cincinnati. Paul is following a leading, with our loving support, to travel in the ministry among Friends in and beyond Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting to share the message of his recently published book, Primitive Quakerism Revived.

Paul's message calls on Quakers today to repossess the essential principles that energized and strengthened the early Children of the Light and once again to be patterns and examples in the world. Paul feels a leading to create opportunities for Friends to consider what it would mean to revitalize Quakerism. He would serve as a resource and facilitator for such opportunities.

Paul brings a wealth of knowledge about the historical roots of Quakerism, and a deep spiritual commitment to living with faithfulness and integrity. We at Community Friends Meeting have been blessed by Paul's ministry among us, and we believe that other Friends will also be challenged and opened by his message.

Please welcome Paul among you. May his ministry find fruitful ground in your midst.

In the Light,

Mary Anne Curtiss, Clerk
Community Friends Meeting

Attachment for Minute 9.

Report to Executive Committee
Visit to Englewood Friends Meeting
December 16, 2018
Visitors' Team: Martha Viehmann and Steve Angell

Englewood Meeting has withdrawn their membership from Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting while maintaining affiliation with the New Association of Friends. They are also in the process of selling their meetinghouse to a local church congregation, and they will be sharing worship space in a local Church about two miles west of their current location. Martha and Steve worshipped with Englewood Friends on December 16, and then ate lunch at a local restaurant with Rick and Linda Miller, two long-time members of Englewood.

Over the past few years, Englewood Meeting has seen a reduction in membership. This makes it challenging for them to maintain ties to two larger bodies and to maintain their meetinghouse, which is over a century old. In addition, the sexual misconduct involving two of their members is a source of distress. Neither party currently participates in the life of the meeting. We learned that actions taken at OVYM related to sexual misconduct were perceived as "taking sides," when Englewood meeting had striven to be neutral. Martha provided some clarifications regarding the reasons for the action taken at annual sessions, as she could provide a first hand account.

Martha and Steve expressed OVYM's continuing care and concern for Englewood Friends and hope for continuing visitation between the yearly meeting and the monthly meeting, even after Englewood's withdrawal from OVYM.

Steve Angell

Martha Viehmann

Attachment for Minute 10.

Report to Executive Committee February 2, 2019

Task Force on Sexual Misconduct

The Task Force on Sexual Misconduct now includes 11 Friends:

Ellen Galbraith and Chris Harmer of Louisville FM;

Adam Funck and Bill Cahalan of Community Friends Meeting;

Lois Kay of North Meadow Circle of Friends;

Palline Plum of Clear Creek FM and Susan Lee Barton formerly of Clear Creek;

Kaia Jackson, Youth Secretary; and

Joanna Badagliacco, Gail Koehler and Betsy Neale of Lexington FM.

We are currently considering 4 policies on sexual misconduct – Canadian YM, Australia YM, Unitarian Universalist Association, and one drafted by a Lexington Friend. There are many aspects to developing 1) such a policy and 2) tools for understanding the complexities of sexual misconduct and our reactions to it. We also hope we can develop tools for reconciliation and restorative justice where possible. We are in the process of scheduling a Zoom meeting to discuss our work.