

Minutes of the Miami Quarterly Meeting

Miami Quarterly Meeting of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends met at Campus Monthly Meeting in Wilmington, Ohio on the campus of Wilmington College on 2nd Month 17, 2019. It was noted that Miami Quarter did not meet in October 2018.

The meeting opened with waiting worship consideration of the 2nd Query of the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Book of Faith and Practice: *“What does worship mean to me, and how do I worship? How does our meeting worship as a community?”*

| <u>Roll call:</u> | <u>Representative</u> |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Campus | Four Friends |
| Community | Deborah Jordan |
| Dayton | Nikki Coffey Tousley |
| Eastern Hills | Martha Viehmann |
| Lexington | Richard Mitchell |
| Louisville | Chris Harmer |
| Miami | David Pfaltzgraff-Carlson |
| Oxford | Andrew Garrison |
| Yellow Springs | Susan Hyde |

1. Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting

Martha Viehmann reported that the Assistant Recording Clerks for Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting have stepped down and the yearly meeting is in need of an Assistant Recording Clerk. She also reported that Englewood Friends Meeting has withdrawn from Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting. Steve Angell reported that Englewood Friends have moved and that they are open to visitation. They continue to be affiliated with the New Association of Friends.

2. Travelling Minute for Paul Buckley

The clerk shared the following minute from Community Friends Meeting.

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

Friends endorsed the minute in support of Paul's ministry.

3. Treasurer's Report

Veronica Frost presented the Treasurer's Report. She advised that the necessary changes have been made to the Miami Quarter financial records, and she is functioning as our Treasurer. Friends agreed that Veronica should feel free to move funds as necessary to maximize earnings.

4. Friends General Conference Institutional Assessment on Systemic Racism

Chris Harmer attended the FGC Central Committee meeting in October 2018 and presented the report about the Institutional Assessment of Systemic Racism. Approximately 1200 responses to the survey were received. FGC is establishing a committee to address language and structure to challenge historical norms to make our meetings more open to those of different races and ethnicities. It was noted that Statisticians do not break down demographics at this time. It was noted that OVYM statistics do break down age groups. Vanessa Juleye will work on this initiative full time for the next year. Chris will work with Martha Viehmann to keep OVYM up to date with these concerns.

5. Green Plain Meetinghouse Committee

Veronica Frost presented the report of the Green Plain Meetinghouse Committee. Veronica noted that there is a grant program that would provide a metal sign noting the designation of Green Plain on the National Historic Register.

Friends approved the following minute: The Miami Quarterly Meeting authorizes the Green Plain Meetinghouse Fund Committee to open any needed accounts at Universal 1 Credit Union. The signers include the Treasurer of Miami Quarterly Meeting, currently Veronica Frost, as well as Don Hollister and Susan Hyde, who are committee members.

Friends also considered the request of the family of Carolyn and Marty Spears for burial at the Green Plain Meetinghouse. Friends were advised that there are some guidelines established by the trustees of the Quaker section at Spring Grove Cemetery. Friends were cautioned by Christine Snyder about the policies and difficulties regarding operating a cemetery. Friends agreed that more clarity is needed, and that the committee should report with the updates.

6. Neil Snarr

Friends heard from Neil Snarr sharing a personal concern that Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting and Wilmington Yearly Meeting cooperate on some matters. Friends discussed some of the history of the relationship, and are open to exploring opportunities.

7. Middle Youth Retreat

The clerk announced that the yearly meeting will hold a Middle Youth Retreat March 16 and 17, 2019 at Lexington Friends Meetinghouse.

The next Miami Quarterly Meeting will be held May 19, 2019 at Dayton Friends Meeting. The program will consider the State of the Meeting Reports. Lexington Friends Meeting will plan the discussion.

The meeting closed in silence.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Hardy, clerk

Deb Kociszewski, recording clerk