

Celo Friends Meeting
for Business
Second Month, 16th Day, 2020

Present: Joanna Flynn, Bob McGahey, Joyce Johnson, Geeta McGahey, Barb Wulff, Catherine Reid, Gib Barrus, Debra Rice, Jim Stockwell, Catherine Peck, Brian Yaffe, Jennie Boyd Bull, Donna Idol, Chip Poston

Corrections to First Month minutes: 1) Ministry and Care rather than Nurture, in "coordinating" minute. 2) Adult Religious Education: add word "continuing" to this year's series.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (Barb Wulff):

-Susan Horne: is now the liaison for Feed-a Child. Nick Wells has joined the Adult Religious Education committee. Meeting approves both.

-Bob McGahey is rising clerk of SAYMA and needs to be replaced as SAYMA rep. While nominating searches for this person, Brian Yaffe is willing to serve as the interim SAYMA rep. however, out of concern for the tone of the business items concerning SAYMA URJ at the upcoming meeting (Atlanta, March 14), MFB recommends that it is best to have a woman in this role.

-SAYMA REP job description: Add sentence: "Brings Celo Meeting's concerns to SAYMA."

-FCNL Liaison: (Currently Jim Stockwell) "Is responsible for giving feedback to FCNL on legislative priorities yearly." The job description is being amended to include this sentence.

MINISTRY and CARE:

-Query: *How does my trust in the Light make possible giving and receiving forgiveness?*

-Minute on marriage clearness for Sarah Anne Amason and Jason Dionne. Approved.

The ceremony will be June 27 at 3 pm.

-ARE meetings with Young Adult Friends continuing. Suggestion to reach out to specific older friends to join the sessions. The next meeting will be Sunday the 23rd after lunch.

FCNL Priority-setting session will take place at 1:15 on March 1. This is a called meeting. Parents need to let Jim Stockwell know in advance if they need childcare.

Honduran family of 8 living in Yancey County is seeking asylum. We propose 1) a special committee of the Meeting to support them and 2) to give \$500 from social concerns fund towards the \$2000 needed for the lawyer to consult and fill out papers for social security card. 3) Friends are encouraged to contribute to social concerns fund to offset this expense.

AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR SAYMA URJ MINUTE Bob McGahey gave a brief history of SAYMA's Uplifting Racial Justice Committee. SAYMA has been able to come to unity on six statements of purpose for URJ over the last three years. He affirmed

the widespread support for racial justice work, particularly self-examination by Friends of European descent into white privilege and structural racism. The current Clerk of URJ, Sharon Smith, initially brought a prophetic voice to this work, but has proved to have a challenging leadership style, repeatedly disrupting the process of SAYMA Business Meeting, and exhibiting abusive behavior publicly, in private interactions, and especially on social media. He noted that it is particularly tragic that she has discouraged other SAYMA Friends of Color from working on the URJ Committee, and in one instance dismissed a Pakistani woman as being unqualified to do the work as a Friend of Color. This woman named Sharon a "tyrant" in SAYMA sessions and has since left SAYMA. Catherine Peck introduced the minute from the Ad Hoc Committee, which requests a "pause" in continued funding for SAYMA URJ until issues involving the makeup of the committee and the behavior of Sharon Smith are brought into right order. Business Meeting did not reach unity, therefore, we scheduled a called MFB for Feb 23 at 9 am to continue working toward unity on this minute. This called meeting was also empowered to approve an interim SAYMA rep. for the March meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob McGahey, recording clerk
Gib Barrus, presiding clerk