

Celo Friends Meeting Racial Equity Committee (REC)
Wednesday, March 23, 2022, 6:30- 8:00 pm at Meetinghouse

Meeting Notes

Present: Brian Yaffe (convenor), Catherine Peck, Lydia Wexler, Sam Maren, Jennie Boyd Bull (recorder)

Agenda:

The meeting opened with silence.

Reparative Justice Program in April or May. After discussion, the committee agreed to create a program for Celo Friends Meeting on Reparative Justice, in response to adoption of the following minute at Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MFWAB) on January 16, 2022. The meeting united with Atlanta Friends Meeting's "Minute on Reparative Justice and Reconciliation."

"In response to this [Atlanta's] call, Celo Friends Meeting commits to exploring ways our Meeting can acknowledge and apologize for our racist heritage, to support equity, reparative justice, and ongoing dialogue about our history, and to continuing and expanding the deep personal work begun by members of our Racial Equity Committee."

- The focus of the program will be educational, to support Celo Friends in defining reparative justice, current approaches, and scope, with opportunities for questions and dialogue, as developed with the presenter and the support of the Adult Religious Education Committee.
- Jennie will contact John Adams of Atlanta Friends Meeting to request that he present at the forum or suggest another informed Black Friend from Atlanta if he is unavailable.
 - She will ask what fee he requests and inform the committee. REC agrees that he should be paid at least \$250.

- She will suggest a Sunday afternoon, 4-5:30 pm, by Zoom for the event, on Sunday, April 24, or a Sunday after May 1 (which is the called Nominating Meeting) and before June 12 SAYMA Yearly Meeting.
- She will report back to REC at its April meeting.

SAYMA and Friends Council for Racial Justice (FCRJ)

The Committee discussed past SAYMA history with FCRJ, led by Angela Hopkins, and created the following recommendation for Jennie to present, as CFM SAYMA Rep, at the upcoming March 26 SAYMA Rep meeting, clarifying that Celo Friends Meeting as a whole has not discussed FCRJ's proposal:

CFM REC supports FCRJ's work with SAYMA. It requests that FCRJ clarify its goals and process and timeline for its work with SAYMA. REC sees FCRJ's work as in addition to the work of REC with CFM and in support of reconciliation within SAYMA.

Celo Cemetery Unmarked Graves

Jennie informed the committee that she has been contacted by the Carolina Mountains Literary Festival (CMLF), which is hosting author Jacinta White, author of *Resurrecting the Bones*, at its festival in September. Jacinta would like to visit the unmarked graves about Celo Cemetery with a small group during her visit here. Jennie will contact Becky Gray and work with the author, CMLF, and Clark Tibbits to support coordination of the visit.

Committee Structure

- The Committee agreed to expand its membership. Catherine Peck will contact Barb Wulff with Nominating to facilitate adding new members.
- Lydia proposed offering an "idea circle" for implementing our charge.
- Brian Yaffe and Catherine Peck offered to clerk REC meetings.

Next Meeting: Brian will convene and clerk the next meeting on Wednesday, April 13, 6:30-7:30 pm, on the Meetinghouse porch, weather permitting.

- The agenda will include format and logistics for the Reparative Justice workshop this Spring, with support from the ARE Committee, which meets April 10. (Brian, Lydia, and Jennie are members of both committees.)