

SAYMA Representative Meeting Minutes
April 5, 2008
Representative Meeting #120 (Spring)
Atlanta Friends Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia

120-01 Meeting for Worship.

The meeting gathered for a period of expectant waiting.

120-02 Opening Prayer.

The clerk offered an opening prayer of gratitude for our meetings and ministries.

120-03 Introductions

Those present introduced themselves, their purpose attending the meeting and their monthly meeting affiliation. [Attachment 1 – Attendance List]

120-04 Announcements

Kristi announced Carol Gray is providing the hospitality coordination for the Atlanta Meeting. Kristi provided a brief orientation to the building. She announced that Yearly Meeting Planning Committee would meet in the AFM library.

Errol Hess requested that monthly meetings and worship groups send him copies of their newsletters so he may share that with others in SAYMA.

Kathleen Mavournin announced that the deadline for the SAYMA newsletter is April 19 and encouraged contributions.

Kristi announced that an informal meeting would be held this evening from 7:00 to 8:30 at the home of Mary Ann Downey and Bill Holland to discuss gifts and ministries. This is start of a conversation within the yearly meeting on the gifts we using and how we may support and encourage one another in being faithful.

120-05 Agenda Review

Minute 120-05-01: Friends approved the proposed agenda.

120-06 Calendar Discussion

The clerk reminded the meeting of the proposal to lay down the December representative meeting and recommended that the representative body bring calendar recommendation to yearly meeting sessions in June taking this into account. A schedule of meetings was proposed.

The treasurer expressed support for the September meeting date - for planning in advance of the beginning of the fiscal year (October). Another friend commented that the March schedule would permit more advance planning before yearly meeting.

Minute 120-06-01: Representative Meeting approves recommending to yearly meeting the following schedule for 2008-2009.

June 11-15, 2008 Warren Wilson College

September 27, 2008 - TBD

December – no meeting

March 7, 2009 - TBD

June 10-14, 2009 – Warren Wilson College

September 26, 2009

December 2009 – no meeting

Locations will be determined once yearly meeting has acted on this recommendation.

120-07 Treasurer's Report

David Ciscel, Treasurer, presented the report of the budget. The budget at the middle of the fiscal year is in good shape. We have approximately \$11,000 in checking and \$33,000 in savings. Assessments are slightly ahead of projections. The quarterly payment of assessments has improved the consistency of income flow. Expenses are in line with expectations. Travel expenses for representatives to wider Quaker organizations are up. Four committees, which have requested independent budgets, are drawing upon them. The fund balance is slightly over \$32,000. SAYF is providing timely financial reporting to the treasurer on a quarterly basis. David reviewed the current fund balances and highlighted the growth of the Released Friends Fund.

A friend inquired about the dates of the fiscal year. SAYMA's 2008 fiscal year began October 1, 2007. Another friend asked if there would be a review of books when the new treasurer assumes the responsibility. David reported that he and Deanna are in regular communication and anticipate that the treasurer transition will take place effective October 1.

The clerk noted that the Youthquake Fund has been renamed the Youth Enrichment Fund. This change has not been approved by Yearly meeting. Discussion followed on how best to propose the use and purpose of this new fund and who should carry the responsibility for this task. Finance, YAF and SAYF all have interest in the fund. Guidelines are needed for the purpose of the fund. The clerk recommended that the Clerk's committee bring a proposal for this fund.

Minute 120-07-01: Representative body asks that clerk's advisory committee to develop a proposed description, purpose statement and guidelines for the Youth Enrichment fund.

Minute: 120-07-02. We accept the Treasurer's report of April 2, 2008.
[Attachment 2]

120-08 Administrative Assistant Report

Liz Perch announced that she had celebrated her 50th birthday and encouraged the body to assist her by eating celebratory m&m's.

Liz reported that 13 meetings of 27 still have not yet submitted their census reports. She will send reminders to these meeting and anticipates bringing the compiled census to Yearly Meeting sessions in June.

Liz reported that the 2008 directory is complete and she distributed hard copies to those who had requested them in advance. Liz noted that producing a CD version of the directory costs \$.75 while the printing of a hard copy is \$5.25. Liz continues to encourage those with SAYMA business to request her services.

Liz reported that she is working with Philadelphia Yearly Meeting to plan a gathering of churches for peace. The conference is to be held in January 2009. The theme is "Heeding God's Call: A Gathering for Peace." SAYMA will be asked to appoint a delegate to the gathering.

Liz reported she had been supported by SAYMA to attend the Traveling Ministries Retreat. In addition, she has consulted widely among Friends. Liz is attending Savannah Worship Group and announced that the group was in the process of establishing itself as a MM under Southeastern Yearly Meeting.

A friend asked how we are supporting Quaker groups on our periphery and expressed concern over worship groups within our body that have declined or not been nurtured. This friend challenged us to engage in active outreach to Friends and interested Friends in our region. The clerk noted that M&N is actively working to support worship groups associated with SAYMA. A friend encouraged greater outreach to Piedmont Friends Fellowship and other groups. Another friend noted that the involvement of some PFF affiliated meetings in SAYF was somewhat controversial and encouraged us to be tender in our outreach. The clerk highlighted the importance of informal and formal outreach by monthly meetings.

A friend raised a concern over our relationship with City View Friends in Asheville that has left North Carolina Yearly Meeting (FUM) over their support for gays. It was reported that Asheville MM has been in contact with the group.

Following this report we rose for committee meetings, followed by lunch.

120-09 Reading

The clerk offered a reading:

The duty of the moment is what you should be doing at any given time, in whatever place God has put you. You may not have Christ in a homeless person at your door, but you may have a little child. If you have a child, your duty of the moment may be to change a dirty diaper. So you do it. But you don't just change that diaper, you change it to the best of your ability, with great love for both God and that child... There are all kinds of good...things you can do, but whatever they are, you have to realize that there is always the duty of the moment to be done. And it must be done, because the duty of the moment is the duty of God [from Doherty, Catherine. 1997. *Dear Parents: A Gift of Love for Families* Combermere: Madonna House Publications.]

120-10 Peace and Social Concerns

Steve Livingston provided an update on the work of the SAYMA Peace and Social Concerns Committee [Attachment 3]. He reported that a member of the committee had asked to be released in order to undertake other SAYMA service and asked representative body for their approval.

Minute 120-10-01: We approve releasing Deanna Nipp from the Peace and Social Concerns Committee.

The work of the committee is to support the peace and social concerns work of constituent meetings. Steve anticipates that the next meeting of the committee will be held in Chattanooga before May 10. He noted that there is wide concern in the yearly meeting to develop a minute opposing torture. He does not anticipate that a proposed minute is likely to come to yearly meeting this year given the need for consultation within the yearly meeting. He asked gathered Friends if the urgency for a yearly meeting minute on torture led us to lay aside our process of consultation with constituent meetings. The clerk asked if the evidence provided by the minutes from meetings supported this action.

Minute 120-10-02: Friends encourage Peace and Social Concerns Committee to develop a minute opposing torture for initial presentation to yearly meeting session in June. We ask that the committee circulate this proposal before yearly meeting. We understand this minute may then either be acted upon by yearly meeting or circulated to monthly meetings and worship groups for further seasoning.

A friend commented that opposition to torture is so central to our testimonies that yearly meeting may chose to act without the process of further consultation.

Friends interested in the work of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee are encouraged to contact Steve Livingston.

120-11 Ministry and Nurture Committee Report

Perry Treadwell reported for the committee. [Attachment 4] The last meeting was held in February with the Royal Worship Group in Alabama. Perry reminded us that the State of the Meeting reports were due April 28. Ministry and Worship will read the reports from meetings and discern the needs of the yearly meeting. Liz noted that Atlanta and Asheville have already submitted their State of the Meeting reports.

Perry reported that Ministry and Nurture had agreed to distribute \$500 to support Adrienne Lowe during her second year at the Earlham School of Religion (2008-2009).

Ministry and Worship also endorsed the traveling minute of Mary Ann Downey issued by Atlanta Monthly Meeting and asked the yearly meeting to add its endorsement to her letter.

The clerk read an extract from the Lake Erie Yearly Meeting Bulletin that described a consultation Mary Ann facilitated in November 2007 for their yearly meeting. The consultation focused upon deepening the spiritual life in the yearly meeting. The clerk then read the Atlanta travel minute [Attachment 5]

Minute 120-11-01: SAYMA supports the ministry of Mary Ann Downey and adds our endorsement to the travel minute from Atlanta Friends Meeting.

Perry noted that Mary Ann will also be conducting a workshop at the SAYMA yearly gathering on deepening the spiritual life of the meeting. The committee has encouraged and supported this workshop.

120-12. Minute of Travel

The clerk presented a request from Columbia Friends Meeting that the yearly meeting endorse the travel minute of Julia Sibley Jones who presently works in development for Friends General Conference. Columbia discerns that Julia's travel and the opportunities for worship among Friends are a ministry undertaken as a leading.

The clerk inquired about the process by which the minute came to the meeting. Gita Larson reported that FGC's traveling ministry program had suggested that Julia have the support of here monthly meeting and an ongoing support committee. Julia met with Columbia's Ministry and Nurture Committee which found her clear and recommended the issuance of a travel minute to their meeting for business. The travel minute issued by Columbia Monthly Meeting was read [Attachment 6].

Minute 120-12-01: SAYMA endorses the travel minute of Julia Sibley Jones from Columbia Friends Meeting.

120-13 Nominating Committee

Errol Hess reported that there are presently a number of positions open for yearly meeting service. The following positions are open – all are 2-year terms unless indicated otherwise in parentheses. He noted that the SAYF Committee appoints SAYF positions.

Clerk	SAYF AA supervisor
Assistant Clerk	SAYF Steering Committee co-clerk
Assistant Treasurer	SAYF Steering Committee Member
Archivist	SAYF Steering Committee Member
Co-registrar (1)	Bookstore
Co-registrar (2)	Assistant Bookstore
YMPC worship coordinator	AFSC Corporation representative (3)
FCNL representative	FGC representative (3)
3 – FWCC Representative (3)	Friends Peace Team Representative
Quaker Earthcare Witness representative	RSWR Representative (3)
William Penn House	Peace and Social Concerns

Barbara Ester, Sara Rose, Annie Black, Judy Geary, Dennis Gregg, Erika Phelps, Megan Potter, and Errol Hess are current members of the nominating committee.

Errol encouraged members of representative body to assist with identifying persons with gifts for these opportunities for service. Errol reported that nominating has been discerning with current incumbents who are eligible for an additional term if they wish to continue their service.

Roy Taylor indicated that the ECN co-clerk is also vacant. Another Friend expressed a concern about the vacancies. Persons with concerns should contact the nominating committee. Persons desiring to continue their service should also indicate their interest to nominating. A friend recommended that position descriptions or summaries of position descriptions be posted on the website.

Liz Perch offered to create a summary of committee descriptions highlighting the time and commitment involved. There was broad support for the creation of such a document, recognizing that it will change.

120-14 Faith and Practice Revision Committee

Free Polazzo called Friends attention to the March mailing from the committee that includes the revisions being proposed for consideration at this yearly meeting. The following section will be brought: The order of topics for Testifying to the Life of the Spirit, and the sections on Equality, Government and Children. Minutes of the last meeting of the committee are attached [Attachment 7].

The SAYMA website now has an updated version of faith and practice which includes all approved sections.

The proposed revisions to the section on marriage requires further seasoning and will be circulated to monthly meeting after yearly meeting.

120-15 Finance Committee.

Susan Phelan reported that the transition to a new Finance Clerk and Treasurer is going smoothly. Committees have been asked to review their budgets and notify the Finance chair of any changes that are needed. A draft budget will be presented at yearly meeting. Finance Committee member Lee Ann Swarm is presently experiencing health concerns and Friends were asked to hold her in the light. She hopes to be more active with the committee in the future.

120-16 Quaker Earthcare Witness / Ecological Concerns Network.

Roy Taylor reported that Quaker Earthcare Witness and the Ecological Concerns Network are two distinct bodies that are often confused with each other. The Ecological Concerns Network (ECN) is a body within SAYMA. The network hopes to increase their engagement and support with SAYMA monthly meetings. A lunch meeting is planned at yearly meeting to expand ECN visibility to SAYMA. ECN also has a newsletter highlighting activities within SAYMA that can be obtained from Roy. Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW) is an international body of Friends that works on earth witness within the larger Society of Friends. An important role of QEW is to encourage communication in the Society of Friends. A South Carolina friend expressed appreciation for the inspirational message that Hollister Nolton of QEW provided to Palmetto Friends Gathering.

120-17 Clerks Items

Kristi reported on the Traveling Ministries Program retreat held in February 2008 that was attended by SAYMA Friends Mary Ann Downey, Christina Repoley, and Kristi Estes. Liz Perch also attended. The purpose of the retreat was to “gather Friends in corporate worship, fellowship and deepening conversations around the work of ministry within and beyond the Religious Society of Friends.” In addition, the retreat provided “opportunities to learn and use peer support practices.”

At the consultation, Friends were made aware of the carbon cost of their travel to Pittsburgh. To offset this cost, Friends contributed to the environmental project of Greening Friends Center in Philadelphia.

120-18 Plans for threshing session on marriage

The clerk reflected on the challenges that any discussion of marriage provides to our deliberations. The Faith and Practice revisions have served as a focal point for broad discussions of marriage. A 90-minute threshing session on marriage is scheduled for yearly meeting. The clerk asked for our guidance on the process for the gathering. Bob

McGahey will serve as the clerk for the session and Liz Perch will record.

The clerk proposed focusing the session around the question: What is the monthly meeting's role in marriage? She also proposed opening the session with the minutes from Berea and Swannanoa Meetings that have removed themselves from the civil marriage process as a witness against the different treatment couples receive.

A friend reminded us that the consideration of marriage has a long history in our yearly meeting and the proposed revisions have heightened some old concerns. A threshing session holds the possibility for expression and healing. A friend encouraged us to focus on activities rather than positions. Another friend suggested we focus on our desired outcomes and underlying assumptions. She also made a distinction between values and beliefs; for instance highlighting our value commitment to unity helps place beliefs in context. A friend recommended that an evocative query arising from the Swannanoa and Berea experience might be helpful. The importance of process and emphasizing our shared values was highlighted.

The clerk emphasized the importance of faithful listening and participation in the full process. Latecomers detract from the development of a process. Several Friends felt that latecomers should be discouraged from entering and/or speaking. Another felt that any presence should be welcomed and held in the light.

Guidelines may be developed as well as time limits for speaking. Prayerful presences could also be useful, especially if they are identified as supporting the process.

A friend suggested linking the queries in worship sharing with the threshing session. Several Friends cautioned against this. A friend recommended queries on monthly meeting decision-making processes as a way into the question.

The clerk suggested, "What are our shared values around marriage?" as another framing question. Friends might be asked to speak to the values behind their feelings. Another friend suggested asking, "How do our testimonies speak to the issue?"

There was strong support for the idea of brief queries as a focal point for the session.

The clerk encouraged Friends with additional questions or thoughts to communicate with her.

120-19 Yearly Meeting Planning Committee

Barbara Ester reported for the committee. She reminded us that the nominating committee is seeking registrars for the 2009 yearly meeting and beyond. Barbara expressed appreciation for the service of Carol Ciscel to the committee. The committee is considering how to best welcome first time and new attenders to yearly meeting. The dot system will return. In addition, a question table around meals may be offered to orient newcomers. Junior Yearly Meeting has adopted a multi-cultural theme. The JYM

coordinator asks for contacts with representatives of different cultures who might present to our young friends. YAF plans three business sessions. The adult program is complete. The Friday evening program is structured for adults and for young people who listen like adults.

Barbara reported that the planning committee has regularly received requests from presenters and workshop leaders for projectors at yearly meeting. She asked the representative body for authorization to purchase a projector. Barbara estimated that this might cost up to \$1,000. The projector would become a yearly meeting resource and might be used throughout the yearly meeting.

Friends cautioned that projector models needs to be evaluated to fit our needs as a yearly meeting and a dollar value should not be established before this research. Rental of a projector was suggested. Another friend encouraged us to evaluate how we could reduce paper through use of a projector. The compatibility of computers and projectors may also be a problem.

A member of the planning committee reported that evening plenary speakers were offered the opportunity to use images with their presentations. A friend raised the possibility that a SAYMA friend might be able to loan a projector for our sessions or a rental. Two friends offered projectors for use during the evening session which were received with thanks.

120-20 Closing Minute of Thanks to Atlanta Monthly Meeting

Minute 120-20-01. SAYMA Representative body and Yearly Meeting Planning committee offer our deep thanks for the kind and generous hospitality and support provided by Atlanta Friends Meeting. Thanks to Carol Gray for her smiling face and tender preparations for our meetings. While the stormy weather provided much needed rain it challenged us, but Atlanta MM brought us in from the rain and embraced us. Thanks for the meetinghouse space, the windows and the evidence of life inside and out, including the singing of the birds. The chili was appreciated. We are joined in a common work of carrying and expressing love and joy

Kristi Estes, Clerk
(archive copy signed)

Bill Holland, Recording Clerk
(archive copy signed)

Attachment 1: Attendance at Representative Meeting #120

1. Pam Beziat – Nashville
2. Chris Berg – Greenville
3. Peter Buck – Asheville
4. David Ciscel - Memphis
5. Joan Conger - Athens
6. Barbara Ester – Asheville
7. Kristi Estes – Memphis
8. Sue Gerdes – Columbia
9. Errol Hess -
10. Bill Holland – Atlanta
11. Heidemarie Huber-Feely - Chattanooga
12. Stephen Huber-Feely - Chattanooga
13. Missy Ivie – West Knoxville
14. Gita Larson – Columbia
15. Kathleen Mavournin West Knoxville
16. Brett Miller-White – Swannanoa Valley
17. Carol Nickle – West Knoxville
18. Deanna Nipp-Kientz - Cookeville
19. Nancy Evans Nothhelfer – Swannanoa valley
20. Liz Perch – CPMM/Admin Asst
21. Susan Phelan - Huntsville
22. Sharon Phelps – West Knoxville
23. Free Polazzo – Atlanta
24. John Potter – Nashville
25. Charles Schade – Charleston
26. Barbara Seal – Community Friends Worship Group (Atlanta)
27. Roy Taylor – Canton Friends WG
28. Susan Williams – Brevard

Attachment 2: Treasurer's Report



Treasurer's April 2008 Representative Meeting Report
Prepared Tuesday, April 2, 2008

This report brings us to the middle of the FY 2008 budget year. This year's budget is based on a \$60 assessment. Attached, please find two (2) documents: (1) the budget report for FY 2008, and (2) the Account Balances report for FY 2008.

Budget issues to report include:

1. The FY 2008 budget is attached as approved at the September 2007 Representative Meeting. Expenditures so far this fiscal year are significantly larger than income. But SAYMA is fiscally sound. SAYMA currently has \$10,676.00 in checking and \$33,053.79 in two Self Help Credit Union savings accounts.
2. Income in FY 2008: Revenues are fairly evenly balanced over the months of FY 2008. At the half year mark, we are slightly behind in assessments from Monthly Meetings; through this is not an issue for concern at this time. Income for YM Meeting will begin to flow in during the next month. Note that our interest income remains substantial even though short term interest rates have been falling.
3. Operational Expenses in FY 2008: Personnel expenses (wages and taxes) are the largest of our operational expenses. Office expenses are in line with expectations. We are using the budget line for travel to WQOs for the first time in several years. Two of the four committees that requested funding for this fiscal year have used their funds.
4. Yearly Meeting Projects in FY 2008: We have sent most of the SAYMA contributions to Wider Quaker Organizations for FY 2008 (\$4,900). In addition, the Ministry and Nurture Committee has been very active in sponsoring Quakers through funds in the Spiritual Development Fund. Funding for the SDF may have to be increased for FY 2009. Note from the Account Balances Report that no other Funds have had requests or funding in FY 2008.
5. Account Balances Report for FY 2008: SAYMA has net assets of \$32,216 as of the date of this report.
6. SAYF sends regular quarterly reports on their finances to the Treasurer. For the first quarter of FY 2008:
 - a. SAYF had income of \$1,325.00 and
 - b. SAYF had expenditures of \$917.70.
 - c. SAYF had \$860 in their checking account and a \$201.52 balance in their scholarship account. The SAYF Coordinator is paid through SAYMA and appears under personnel costs on the budget report. SAYF requested and received \$1,100 from SAYMA during the second quarter of FY 2008 to fund their activities (see Budget Report).

Treasurer: David H. Ciscel
901 272-9229 ciscel@bellsouth.net

SAYMA Fiscal Year 2008
Approved at Representative's Meeting September 15, 2007
October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008
2-Apr-08

	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
	FY 2007	FY2007	FY 2008	FY 2008
Income				
Assessments*	\$40,000	\$46,905.00	\$41,200	\$18,120.00
Bank Interest	\$300	\$1,253.30	\$1,200	\$561.02
Contributions	\$3,300	\$3,210.00	\$3,720	
F&P Sales	\$250	\$42.11	\$0	\$25.05
Newsletter				
SAYF Receipts				
YM Total Receipts	\$29,000	\$30,020.00	\$29,000	\$0.00
YM Receipts	\$26,000	\$27,737.50	\$26,000	
YM Scholarship Donations	\$1,000	\$0.00	\$1,000	
YM Book Sales	\$2,000	\$2,282.50	\$2,000	
Total Income	\$72,850	\$81,430.41	\$75,120	\$18,706.07
SAYMA OPERATIONAL EXPENSES				
Yearly Meeting	\$26,900	\$32,536.69	\$26,900	\$471.95
Yrly Meeting - Facilities	\$20,000	\$24,638.87	\$20,000	
Prtng/Mail/Phone/Minutes/Misc	\$900	\$2,666.19	\$900	\$471.95
Junior Yearly Meeting -- JYM	\$3,000	\$3,107.27	\$3,000	\$0.00
<i>Coordinator</i>	\$1,800	\$1,800.00	\$1,800	
<i>Ass't Coordinator</i>	\$1,000	\$1,000.00	\$1,000	
<i>Supplies/Sitters/Misc</i>	\$200	\$307.27	\$200	
Scholarship WQO Reps	\$1,000		\$1,000	
YM Bookstore	\$2,000	\$2,124.36	\$2,000	
SAYF Operational Transfers	\$3,000	\$1,000.00	\$3,000	\$1,100.00
Delegate Expenses	\$6,900	\$2,910.31	\$6,900	\$2,965.35
Rep Mtgs	\$300	\$50.00	\$300	
Del to WQOs	\$6,600	\$2,860.31	\$6,600	\$2,965.35
Committees	\$1,500	\$774.64	\$1,800	\$1,220.42
Ministry and Nurture	\$700	\$637.32	\$1,000	\$972.17
Ecological Concerns	\$300		\$300	
Faith and Practice	\$400	\$137.32	\$400	\$248.25
Nominating	\$100		\$100	
SAYMA Liability Insurance	\$700	\$715.00	\$700	\$534.00
SAYMA Personnel	\$20,300	\$20,009.73	\$20,970	\$10,513.06
SAYMA Staff Training	\$100		\$100	
SAYMA Office Administration	\$3,500	\$2,840.53	\$3,500	\$1,880.26
Phone, Internet & Office Expenses		\$575.40		\$578.18
Postage		\$278.23		\$287.36
Duplication		\$343.00		\$616.78
Misc. Office		\$1,643.90		\$397.94
SAYMA Newsletter	\$1,300	\$351.03	\$1,400	
SAYMA Directory	\$600		\$500	
SAYMA Treasurer	\$250	\$271.35	\$250	\$19.06
SAYMA F&P	\$100		\$100	
SAYMA Other Expenses	\$0		\$0	
Total Operational Disbursements	\$65,150	\$61,409.28	\$66,120	\$18,704
YEARLY MEETING PROJECTS				
Transfers To Funds	\$2,400	\$2,400.00	\$3,700	\$3,700.00
Spiritual Development Fund	\$500	\$500.00	\$1,000	\$1,000.00
Released Friend Fund	\$200	\$200.00	\$1,000	\$1,000.00
FWCC - 3rd World Delegate	\$650	\$650.00	\$650	\$650.00
FWCC Triennial Fund	\$700	\$700.00	\$700	\$700.00
Youth Enrichment Fund	\$250	\$250.00	\$250	\$250.00
Young Adult Friends Scholarships	\$100	\$100.00	\$100	\$100.00
Contributions Wider Quaker Org	\$5,300	\$5,300.00	\$5,300	\$4,900.00
AFSC	\$600	\$600.00	\$600	\$600.00
FCNL	\$600	\$600.00	\$600	\$600.00
FGC	\$600	\$600.00	\$600	\$600.00
FWCC	\$600	\$600.00	\$600	\$600.00
Right Sharing of World Resources	\$600	\$600.00	\$600	\$600.00
Quaker House	\$600	\$600.00	\$600	\$600.00
Friends for LGBTQ Concerns	\$200	\$200.00	\$200	\$200.00
Quaker Earthcare Witness	\$600	\$600.00	\$600	\$600.00
Friends Peace Teams	\$200	\$200.00	\$200	\$200.00
Wm Penn House	\$200	\$200.00	\$200	\$200.00
Friends Journal	\$200	\$200.00	\$200	
Guilford College Archiving	\$100	\$100.00	\$100	\$100.00
Rural Southern Voice for Peace	\$200	\$200.00	\$200	
Other				
Total Projects	\$7,700	\$7,700.00	\$9,000	\$8,600.00
Total Disbursements	\$72,850	\$69,109.28	\$75,120	\$27,304.10
Surplus (Deficit)	\$0	\$12,321.13	\$0	(\$8,598.03)

* based a \$60.00 assessment per member and regular attender

SAYMA Account Balances Report -- Fiscal 2008
Tuesday, April 2, 2008

	2004 6/30/2004	2005 9/30/2005	2006 9/30/2006	2007 9/30/2007	2008 4/1/2008
Assets					
Bank Accounts					
Checking (Bank of America)	\$18,694	\$9,167	\$17,299	\$17,660	\$10,676
Money Market (Self Help)*	\$14,229	\$9,514	\$16,086	\$21,978	\$22,395
Savings (Self Help CD)*	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,098	\$10,386	\$10,659
Total Available Funds	\$32,923	\$23,681	\$38,483	\$50,024	\$43,730
Liabilities					
Set Aside Budgeted Funds					
FWCC Third World Delegate	\$650	\$1,300	\$0	\$650	\$1,300
FWCC Triennial Delegates	\$667	\$1,667	\$2,367	\$1,067	\$1,767
Released Friend	\$2,650	\$3,050	\$3,150	\$3,350	\$4,350
Spiritual Development	\$2,082	\$582	\$982	\$822	\$652
Youth Enrichment Fund	\$1,595	\$1,645	\$1,895	\$2,145	\$2,395
Young Adult Friends Scholarship		\$500	\$600	\$700	\$800
Accumulated Funds					
YM Scholarship	\$502	\$596	\$663	\$0	\$0
SAYF Scholarship Fund	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250
Claims against Available Funds	\$8,396	\$9,590	\$9,907	\$8,984	\$11,514
Net Assets = Assets - Liabilities	\$24,527	\$14,091	\$28,575	\$41,040	\$32,216
Fund Expenses in Fiscal Year					
FWCC Triennial Delegate	(\$2,447)				
Spiritual Development Fund	(\$200)				
Net 2005 YM Scholarship Fund		\$94.00			
Spiritual Development Fund -- 2 Delegates to World Gatherin		(\$2,000.00)			
Spiritual Development Fund -- FWCC El Salvador 5/9/2006			(\$100)		
FWCC Third World Delegate 7/5/2006			(\$1,950)		
Spiritual Development Fund -- School of the Spirit 3/6/2007				(\$500)	
FWCC Triennial Fund -- 2007 Meeting 4/25/2007				(\$825)	
Spiritual Development Fund -- QUIT Conference 5/14/2007				(\$160)	
YM Scholarship Fund -- YM 2007 Deficit 7/1/2007				(\$663)	
FWCC Triennial Fund -- 2007 Meeting 7/1/2007				(\$1,175)	
Spiritual Development Fund -- FGC Consultation 11/7/2007					(\$160)
Spiritual Development Fund -- Earlham Scholarship 11/7/2007					(\$300)
Spiritual Development Fund -- FGC Consultation 11/7/2007					(\$210)
Spiritual Development Fund -- Earlham Scholarship 3/31/2008					(\$500)
Total	(\$2,647)	(\$1,906)	(\$2,050)	(\$3,323)	(\$1,170)

*FY2007 interest flow reported on the budget page. Totals on this page reflect interest earned also.

Attachment 3: Peace and Social Concerns Committee

Peace and Social Concerns

It has been over a year since the SAYMA Peace and Social Concerns Committee has met. During that time we have made only a little progress on our work for the Yearly Meeting. Now at the end of this long period of dormancy, I have contacted each member of the committee and found that two of the three are ready to resume our efforts and one has taken on other responsibilities that preclude her continued commitment, and though she is still moved to support the Yearly Meeting in this manner, she must set aside her active involvement in favor of her new role as YM treasurer.

And so I ask of those Friends gathered here today to release Deanna Nipp from the SAYMA Peace and Social Concerns Committee.

That makes two we've lost to the finance committee. Drat!

Our committee can continue to function with only three members, and indeed we are prepared to do so, but we would also welcome a new member if anyone is moved to support the Yearly Meeting in this way. I remind Friends that our committee is not intended to discern or decide what issues are to be brought to the Yearly Meeting, but instead our role is to support the leadings of our constituent Monthly Meetings through networking, advice, encouragement, and facilitation. We are not advocates for our personal issues, we are advocates for our fellow Quakers.

If any Friend wishes to join us for our upcoming spring meeting in Chattanooga, please see me before today is over. The date of the meeting has not yet been set.

At present it seems safe to say that there is widespread interest in the Yearly Meeting to consider a minute describing our leadings on the issue of torture. We have in hand minutes from five SAYMA Meetings, one monthly meeting not in SAYMA, and two Yearly Meetings. We have begun work on discerning the common threads among the minutes to produce a wording that might encompass our commonly held beliefs.

Our process as defined and approved by the Yearly Meeting calls for us to communicate with the Monthly Meetings to review any proposed minute prior to bringing it to the business meeting at our annual Gathering. It seems absolutely certain that we will not be able to accomplish this before our Gathering this summer. We do feel that we can meet as a committee one time prior to the

summer Gathering, and that a proposed minute might easily rise from that meeting.

And so I ask of those Friends gathered here today: is it your judgment that the need to consider a minute on the issue of torture is sufficiently urgent to justify circumventing our approved procedure, or should we proceed, as previously planned, to establish contact with our monthly meetings get their feedback on a proposed minute?

Steve

Attachment 4: Ministry and Nurture Committee Report

SAYMA Ministry and Nurture Report
April 2008

Request for Funding from Adrienne Lowe

Adrienne (Atlanta) has requested assistance for living expenses while attending Earlham School of Religion. M&N gave her \$300 at the beginning of this fiscal year and agreed to continue support at some level. Mary Ann reported that Atlanta has given Adrienne \$2000 for the '07-'08 academic year and has appointed an oversight committee for her. Adrienne has expressed the intention of going into campus ministry. Mary Ann shared additional information about Adrienne's academic progress and financial situation. *After hearing of the need of SAYMA Friend Adrienne Lowe in attending Earlham School of Religion, M&N agreed to give Adrienne Lowe \$500 from the Spiritual Development Fund to be used for next school year's expenses. Clerk Bob McGahey will communicate with Adrienne about this.*

Travel Minute for Mary Ann Downey

Mary Ann asked for renewal of her minute for traveling in the ministry. She has also asked Atlanta, which originated the minute, to renew it also. Clerk read the minute from Atlanta Meeting.

M&N recommends that Yearly Meeting endorse the travel minute for Mary Ann Downey from Atlanta Meeting.

Kristi will bring the minute forward at yearly meeting. Mary Ann clarified that the traveling ministry in question includes but is not limited to her work in FGC's Traveling Ministries program. M&N acknowledged this understanding of her minute.

M&N Workshop at Yearly Meeting

Each year, M&N has the opportunity to offer a workshop or other program component at yearly meeting. This year, Mary Ann has submitted a proposal to lead a workshop on the role of monthly meeting M&N committees in deepening the spiritual life of their meetings. This builds on work she has done under the FGC Traveling Ministries program.

Friends felt that this will be a suitable workshop for M&N to sponsor. One Friend asked Mary Ann to report back to M&N about needs that may become apparent or questions that people might raise in the course of her workshop, so that the committee might follow up with the monthly meetings.

Attachment 5: Travel Minute for Mary Ann Downey

AFM Letterhead

Traveling Minute for
Mary Ann Downey

Twelfth Month 9, 2007

Dear Friends,

Mary Ann Downey is a long standing and faithful member of Atlanta Friends Meeting. At the date of this letter she is completing 3 years as Clerk of our Ministry and Worship Committee. She also co-leads the Adult First Day School, which has become an important part of our life together. This has been a time of spiritual growth in our Meeting and her leadership has been an important part of that growth. She has also served two years as Clerk of our Meeting.

Seven years ago after meeting with a Clearness Committee, Mary Ann became clear in her leading of ministry as a visiting Friend to other Meetings. The Meeting has long recognized her many gifts of experience, insight, humor and leadership skills. We have fully supported her in this work. Aside from a period of illness she has continued this ministry while meeting regularly with an Anchoring Committee. She has developed her gifts during this time of visitation to other Meetings and many have sought her ministry. We lovingly commend her to you.

In Love and Light,

Sally McEwen, Clerk
Atlanta Friends Meeting

Attachment 6: Travel Minute for Julia Sibley-Jones

Minute for travel

March 16, 2008

Dear Friends,

Greetings from Columbia (South Carolina) Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association (SAYMA).

We are happy to comment to your loving care Julia Sibley-Jones, a long-time member of our meeting.

Julia travels in ministry across the country for Friends General Conference. In her role as Planned Giving and Major Gifts Manager, she visits with individuals, groups, meetings and Friends gathering. She has shared with us that she feels called to this work, and that it is ministry for her.

During her visits, she has many opportunities to worship, listen, share her thoughts, and from time to time, give vocal ministry. She feels that in her travels she also represents both our monthly and yearly meetings and shares the experiences she has had here.

Julia has been an integral part of Columbia Friends Meeting for over 15 years, and has served as Clerk, as a member of Ministry and Nurture committee, and currently teaches in First Day School once a month. She has offered her gifts in many other ways.

Prior to working with FGC, she ministered to our community and state in her role with the South Carolina Christian Action Council, a statewide ecumenical organization, and in a wide variety of ecumenical and Quakers groups across the country.

We hold Julia in our prayers and trust that God will richly bless your time together.

In friendship and on behalf of the monthly meeting,

Sallie Prugh

Gita Larson

Co-clerks.

Attachment 7: Faith and Practice Revision Committee Minutes

Faith and Practice Revision Committee Meeting # 22

February 8 & 9, 2008 at the Asheville Friends Meeting

Present: Barbara Esther, recording clerk; Ted Edgerton; Missy Ivie; Kathleen Mavournin, acting clerk; Melissa Meyer; and Jonathan Schinhofen.

Regrets: Free Polazzo, clerk; Geeta McGahey; Alan Robinson

We began with a period of worship to hold Friend Free Polazzo in the Light. We reviewed the agenda, combining and adjusting it to cover all the items as we can. We discussed briefly the manner in which Equality will be presented to the yearly meeting. We will send out the revision with the 2006 draft as the “before” text. The items numbered 15 & 16 will only be discussed if time allows this weekend. Some members of the committee are concerned that we haven’t spent time looking at the whole document before it is presented for approval at yearly meeting, but instead work laboriously line by line.

We reviewed the minutes from our October 2007 committee meeting. Kathleen did not receive a letter regarding the history of marriage in the Society of Friends for publication in SAF. She will contact Alan Robinson to follow up on that letter, since the committee hoped that the letter would go out to the greater SAYMA community.

Kathleen has put edited and formatted sections of the Guide on the SAYMA website. They can be accessed on sayma.org as the 2007 Faith and Practice working document. Committee members are asked to read the working copy and respond to Kathleen.

We looked first at the Table of Contents of Section IV, Testifying to the Life of the Spirit. Very few comments were made by monthly meetings, several meetings approved the change. One meeting thought that SPICE would be a better order of the testimonies.

Minute 22-1 Another suggestion was that we put Children first in Part B. We agreed to make the order as follows: Children, Education, Community, and Sexuality.

In the section on marriage, we reviewed the comments sent to us by monthly meetings. We heard from two meetings that the word oversight should be taken out. We considered substituting the phrase “when taking the couple under its care, the marriage committee” for “The oversight committee works with the couple to”. At this juncture the committee meeting broke for the evening meal, continuing informal discussion on the topic of marriage after eating.

Following a night of rest and breakfast, the committee resumed its discussion of the marriage section. We discussed a rewriting of the paragraph to reflect the three areas of concern: procedural advice in a Quaker marriage, a statement regarding diversity, and the legal aspects. Friends felt that a global look at the section would be advisable, possibly putting off until 2009 the presentation of the revised document. In that case, a brief report to the 2008 yearly meeting would let Friends know what the status of the section is at present.

Minute 22-2 We agreed to rename the section **Marriage Among Friends**, and to delete the first sentence of the section. In paragraph 2 we decided to rephrase the first sentence to say, “In a Quaker marriage, two people commit.” After the first three sentences of paragraph three, we moved the balance of that paragraph to the section titled **Meeting Approval under Procedure for Marriage**. The section was inserted in the third paragraph after the first sentence.

Minute 22-3 In place of the removed section, we inserted new sentences containing some historical information. Following that we included some of the present day challenges. Friends approved these additions.

Minute 22-4 We approved the following changes to the section. We wrote a new introductory sentence for paragraph 4: “The meeting’s involvement with the couple begins with the application for marriage under the care of the meeting, and continues indefinitely.” In the third sentence we changed the phrase “in touch with the couple” to “sensitive to the health of marriages under their care.” In sentence four, we moved the phrase “When problems arise” to the beginning of the sentence. We deleted the first sentence of paragraph five, “We live in a time” and concluded the previous paragraph with the remaining sentence. We moved the first two sentences of the final paragraph to the end of paragraph three after the new section on history and challenges. We removed the word “appropriately” and the last sentence.

We still have work to do on the procedure section of marriage regarding the legal aspects, meeting approval and planning the wedding. This work will be part of the August committee meeting.

For the afternoon we plan to work on the section on Children, incorporating the old and the new as we are led. If time allows, we’ll consider Education.

Following lunch we took up our work on the Nurture of Children section. The quote from Luke is retained and the quote from Elizabeth Watson is added. This was previously approved by the committee.

We began again with the wording on Children from the 1998 version, since several meetings and some committee members felt that the original version was more to their liking than the revised version. We changed the first sentence to say the foundation of *a child’s* spiritual life. We changed the second sentence to say, “As family members share their lives in the Spirit, children’s innate sense of the presence of God is nourished and strengthened.” In the third sentence, the word foundation was removed; and we changed the words “give them” to “helps children develop the assurance and security to.” We also deleted the words “that helps them.” We reordered the last part of the sentence to read, “with God, with themselves, with others, and with the world around them.” In the final sentence we changed the words *instill in* to say *model for*; and deleted the word *also*. We reordered the list of Quaker principles to put nonviolence before creative response to conflict. In paragraph 2, sentence 1, we changed *configuration* to *composition*. In sentence 2, we changed *it seeks* to *Friends seek*. In the last sentence we deleted the words *We believe that* and made the sentence begin *Through family and meeting*.

In paragraph three of the 1998 version, we realize that we prefer the wording of the first sentence in the proposed 2005 revision. In that first sentence, we added the possessive to *family*. In sentence 2, we changed the sentence to say “Parents have the responsibility to establish limits through communication, teaching by example how to speak and listen with love.” We changed the next sentence to say *Friends often*. .
.clarifying our. The following sentence will begin *We*.

In paragraph four of the 1998 version, we liked the revised sentence structure but changed *bear* to *share*. In the second sentence we substituted the word *When* for the word *Although*, and removed the words *sometimes may*. At the end of the next sentence we moved the phrase *regard each other with mutual respect* to after *Quaker children and adults*. We took out the comma and put in *and avoiding titles*. We removed the word *mutual*.

In the final paragraph, we preferred to leave the revision unchanged, with the exception of changing the word *future* to *life* but added as a final sentence, the sentence “Children are a gift of God and our care of them as they grow to adulthood is our gift to the future,” which had been at the beginning of the revised section. In that final sentence we decided to delete the phrase “of the world.”

Minute 22-5 The committee reviewed all the above changes and approved their inclusion in a draft that will be posted on the web site for presentation at yearly meeting in 2008.

We considered #18 on the agenda regarding how we will present reports to yearly meeting. The committee chose to present the following, in this order: Day 1: an overview of the work to date and work in progress, presenting Equality, Government and Children, and the table of contents without asking for approval; Day 2: we will present Equality and Children for approval; on Day 3 we will ask for approval of the table of contents and Government. Kathleen will contact Free to inform him of our thoughts on this and to ask that the committee meet on Wednesday evening and/or Thursday morning.

We considered when to schedule our fall committee meeting (#23). September 11-12 would be preferred by those who are in attendance, but we will confirm the date in June when we meet at yearly meeting.

The committee thanks Asheville Friends Meeting for their hospitality. The shared food preparation and eating together was enjoyed by all. Our process went smoothly with plenty of time provided for reading quietly the text being considered. We found that the size of our group lent itself to accomplishing our tasks, all of us taking responsibility for process and asking for and providing the silence necessary to remain centered in our work. We thank Kathleen Mavournin for stepping in and ably clerking the meeting in Free’s absence.

Respectfully Submitted,
Barbara Esther, Recording Clerk