

**Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Agenda for the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
9:00 AM, February 18, 2018 - Matt Drake, Clerk, and Robin Harper, Recording Clerk pro tem**

1. Opening worship and query – Matt Drake, Meeting Clerk. Query: “How do I affirm and support the Divine presence in the process of discernment and reaching a decision?”

2. Welcome, recognition of first time attenders, review of agenda – Matt

3. Minutes of the January 21, 2018 MWAB – Matt for Jennifer Leeman, Recording Clerk. *Consider.* **Any additions or corrections? Do we approve the January 21, 2018 minutes?**

4. Matt Drake: report and recommendations concerning Meeting trustees. See Appendix. Recommendations:
1. The Meeting names three trustees. 2. A trustee must be a member of the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting. 3. Trustees serve staggered terms. 4. If a trustee resigns before the end of her/his term, the MWAB will name another member to complete the term. 5. The Meeting will continue to maintain trustee liability coverage as part of the Meeting’s insurance policy. 6. The Meeting clerk and/or committee clerks and/or committee members are expected to alert trustees beforehand about the need for them to read and sign contracts. The trustees should be provided with explanations of the purposes and descriptions of the documents that need to be signed and with time in which to consider the documents before signing. 7. Trustees are encouraged to gain whatever information they need to sign a contract that will serve the Meeting well. The trustees may consult with those involved in the contract and may, on behalf of and with the approval of the Meeting or the clerk of the Meeting, employ an attorney’s services if the trustees and the Meeting clerk agree that such assistance is necessary. 8. Signatures of two of the three trustees on any one document are usually sufficient. 9. Nominations Committee will propose to a 2018 MWAB the number of years in a trustee term and the number of consecutive terms a trustee may serve. 10. Nominations Committee will propose to a 2018 MWAB the years of the next terms of the on-going trustees and the name of a Friend to serve as the third trustee, starting in July 2018. *Consider.* **Do we approve the above recommendations regarding Meeting trustees?**

5. Carolyn Stuart and John Hite, Co-clerks, Children’s and Youth Religious Education Committee annual report: Q & A. **Do we accept the CYRE annual report?**

6. Matt Drake: Robert and Winifred Simmons (Bob and Winnie) have attended our Meeting since their move to the area. At the end of January I received the Honolulu Friends Meeting’s Certificates of Transfer for Bob and Winnie to our “Friendly care and love.” *Consider.* **Do we accept the transfer of membership of Robert and Winifred Simmons?**

Will Friends volunteer to establish a welcoming committee “. . . to introduce the new members into fellowship and acquaint them with the local Meeting activities”? Volunteers?

7. Matt Drake: Gwyn Hein and Kurt Hein have attended our Meeting since their move to Pittsboro. On February 11, I received their transfer of membership from the Patuxent Friends Meeting, Lusby, MD, where they have been members since 2006. *Consider.* **Do we accept the transfer of membership of Gwyn and Kurt Hein?**

Will Friends volunteer to establish a welcoming committee “. . . to introduce the new members into fellowship and acquaint them with the local Meeting activities”? Volunteers?

Matt will see that the transfer forms from Honolulu Friends Meeting are completed and returned to them and will inform them that we have joyfully accepted Bob and Winnie's transfer and are making plans to welcome them. Matt will also acknowledge receipt of the transfer of membership of Gwyn and Kurt Hein from the Patuxent Friends Meeting, describe our decision today, and note our plans to welcome the Heins.

8. Deborah Gibbs, Clerk, Care and Counsel Committee - C&C recommends that Lori Fernald Khamala and Sean Chen be married under the care of the Meeting. *Consider.* **Do Friends approve the marriage of Lori Fernald Khamala and Sean Chen under the care of our Meeting?** (Wedding and reception: 4:00 – 7:30 PM, Saturday, April 7, 2018, Durham Friends Meeting)

9. Lynn Drake, member, Ministry and Worship Committee, recommendation: to add a new membership designation, that of Affiliated Member. Consider. **Approve new membership designation for young adults who may or may not be familial members, and choose not to seek adult membership but would like to keep CHFM in their lives as their spiritual home and loving community while they seek further discernment after their high school years.**

10. Jeff Brown, Meeting Appointee to Piedmont Friends Fellowship: Plans for the annual PFF retreat, Carolina Friends School, Friday, March 30 – Sunday, April 1.

11. At its monthly meeting for business on February 4, Charlotte Friends Meeting united on a minute on climate change and agreed to share the minute with all PFYM meetings. Charlotte Friends expects to bring their minute to PFYM Annual Sessions on March 31, asking the YM to discern if this is a PFYM corporate concern. "Meetings are asked to discern on this matter and come prepared to speak to it during Annual Sessions." Messages before 3/31 to Charlotte Meeting regarding the minute are welcome. **Refer to the Peace & Justice Committee for P&J to bring to the March 18 MWAB.**

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Forums, Carolyn White: Feb 25: Personal Sharing: Perry Martin, March 4: "Cognitive Diversity": a tool for understanding ourselves and others and the world. Led by Dirk Kelder. The term "cognitive diversity" will be introduced in terms of the part we play in creating the reality we live in and how this impacts our lives in many ways, including how we function in the world, and how we relate to and communicate with others. Plans are to include small group discussion. Mar 11: "Who Comes First? Trump Priorities and Quaker Responses" Nancy Milio will discuss the priorities of the Trump Administration in both foreign and domestic policy areas and how the Friends Committee on Legislation (FCNL) is responding to them. Mar 25: Let's talk about the Birds & the Bees.... and the Plants! Barbara Driscoll, from the New Hope Audubon Society, will discuss the importance of using native plants and other key features in our home and local landscapes, to support birds, pollinators and other essential elements of environmental biodiversity and sustainability.

- Don Hopper invites your thoughts on meeting room renovations. Send to donald.hopper@gmail.com or tell a member of the Buildings and Grounds Committee

- Joanna Selim and Elizabeth Taylor invite your suggestions for renovating the foyer. Send to joannaselim@gmail.com or to etlodo@gmail.com or talk with a member of Hospitality Comm.

- Chapel Hill's Quaker-Freedmen School, UNC School of Education Graduate Student Talk, Thursday, Feb.22, 6 to 7:30 pm, The Marian Cheek Jackson Center, 512 W. Rosemary St. RSVP to iaar@unc.edu

- Other announcements?

12. Closing worship, circle, prepare for 11:00AM meeting for worship.

Appendix: **A REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS REGARDING TRUSTEES OF THE CHAPEL HILL FRIENDS MEETING . . .** for the January 21, 2018 MWAB Matt Drake, Tom Munk, assisted by Wade Barber

BACKGROUND: The Chapel Hill Friends Meeting trustees hold the Meeting’s property (meetinghouse, schoolhouse, playground, parking area, and associated grounds) in trust for the Meeting. Legally, the trustees are considered the owners of the Meeting property. Trustees serve as signatories of legal documents for the Meeting. These may be “in-house” documents, such as conscientious objection letters written by Meeting members and attenders and approved by the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MWAB). Trustee signatures are also required on formal contracts with individuals and companies. For example, trustee signatures were required in the spring of 2017 on construction contracts with the company overseeing the renovation of the lower level of the meetinghouse.

CHFM HISTORY: The trustees’ responsibility of holding property in trust for the Meeting was evident with the February 5, 1950 purchase of the land for the future Friends meetinghouse at 531 Raleigh Rd, Chapel Hill, 27514. The deed states that the owners, W.C. Coker and his wife, Louise Venable Coker, conveyed their property to “. . . D.D. Carroll and A.W. Hobbs, Trustees for the Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of Friends, their successors in office and assigns, that certain tract or parcel of land situated, lying and being in Chapel Hill Township, Orange County, North Carolina, and bounded and described as follows . . . “

RESOURCES AND SUPPORT: Resources and support for the Meeting’s trustees include a copy of Chapter 61, of the North Carolina General Statutes, which can be found in the Trustee file in the library. The North Carolina General Assembly enacted the Religious Societies Act in 1796 authorizing religious societies to appoint trustees to receive and hold property. This is codified as Chapter 61, Religious Societies in the North Carolina General Statutes.

As authorized under 61-1 (a) of the NC General Statutes, Chapel Hill Friends Meeting trustees are selected upon the recommendation of the Nominations Committee for consideration and approval by the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MWAB), the governing body of the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting. In accordance with 61-2, trustees of the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting (CHFM) may hold property in trust for the Meeting and be accountable to the Meeting for the use and management of such property. In accordance with 61-3, the title to lands owned by the Meeting is vested in the CHFM trustees. In accordance with 61-4, the CHFM trustees may mortgage or sell any land owned by the Meeting, when directed to do so by the Meeting.

A further support for the Meeting trustees consists of liability coverage via Director, Officers and Trustees liability coverage through the Meeting’s contract with the Church Mutual Insurance Company. (See Finance Committee records.)

AN UPDATE ON THE CURRENT TRUSTEES:

- A. Asta Crowe and Emilie Condon are willing to continue serving as trustees, years to be determined by MWAB.
- B. Bettie Flash will serve through June 2018 and then will step down as a trustee

Charlotte Friends Meeting, Charlotte, North Carolina - Minute on Climate Change

Read in and approved at meeting for business 4th day of second month, 2018

We, the members and attenders of Charlotte Friends Meeting, offer the following minute on climate change: We acknowledge the grave and worsening crisis of all the interacting variables included in the phrase "climate change." We are inspired by this statement by Charlotte Friend Robert Oberg, "Climate change is the most critical issue facing us, apart from the consciousness that created it." We recognize the urgency of a response from our Friends' community.

We come to this moment grounded in the testimonies of the Religious Society of Friends. The testimonies of community, equality, stewardship and integrity call us forward in our work. We recognize that, both globally and locally, peace is increasingly linked to climate justice. With deep concern for Earth and all the life it supports, we are motivated by our love of our children, recognizing that their futures are in our hands. We affirm the Native American advice: "In all our deliberations, let us consider to the seventh generation."

We know that there is much about these times that can cause us to feel fearful, angry and helpless. We will be gentle with ourselves and take time for our feelings as we continue the work, knowing that we are a part of the rising tide of thousands around the world, who, in the words of the Friends Committee on National Legislation, "seek an earth restored."

We, the Friends of Charlotte Meeting, commit to the following:

- 1. We continue to seek the Light through worship and prayerful consideration. We shall be led by the Spirit in the face of climate change.*
- 2. We seek to understand the role we play as humans, and the dangers unfolding through climate change. We continue to educate ourselves rigorously on these matters.*
- 3. We commit to act on our responsibility, both in personal use of resources and in the management of our meetinghouse resources. We ask: How can we have greater integrity in these matters?*
- 4. We commit to learning about and engaging in collective action and advocacy at the local, state, national and global levels.*
- 5. We seek to be examples and patterns, carrying this message forward to other Friends communities and to others who carry a concern and love for Earth. We are grateful for the many in this meeting who carry our concern forward. Thank you, Friends.*