

Minutes for College Park Quarterly Meeting

Winter Quarter, 2018, at San Francisco Meetinghouse

January 20, 2018

Winter Quarter 2018 began with Family Worship from 8:30am.

Clerk Sandy Kewman welcomed us to the Opening Plenary, quoting George Fox's epistle, "Keep within. And when they say "lo here: or "lo there is Christ" go not, for the Christ is within you." She also spoke about the Ohlone people who, prior to the Spanish colonists, lived on the land of the San Francisco Bay through Monterey and into the Salinas Valley, many of whom died at the hands of the invading people. She asked that we be mindful of those who lived here before us.

The Teens introduced themselves and announced that they will be attending the March the afternoon. Cheryl Hendrickson gave an overview of the Children's Program : they will be studying the Parable of the Mustard Seed and the Parable of the Sower and making posters. In the afternoon, they will go to the end of the block to witness the march; Friends are invited to join them.

Margaret Sorrel presented the annual report of the FASE Board, which is the Board of Friends House in Santa Rosa. She gave us an update on the impact of the recent Sonoma County fire on Friends House and how they are recovering. She described the composition of the FASE Board and its commitment to Quaker values. The numbers of patients in the skilled nursing facility have increased, as has the amount of donations over the last year. Margaret talked about the fact that there are currently three openings in the Independent Living Apartments. Those interested are encouraged to visit. The FASE Board has made the decision not to move forward with the expansion it had been considering, since they have not been able to purchase the adjacent 6 acre lot. Thus, despite the reasons for optimism, the board wonders how to move forward, open new units and facilities and find new and skilled board members.

Marilee Eusebio introduced the Nominating Committee members and asked Friends to consider how they might serve CPQM. The committee will be having a retreat in early February, so please let members know if you have ideas about how people can serve.

Alvaro Alvarado and Patricia Portillo gave a presentation about Sacramento Friends Meeting scholarship for undocumented students. Until recently, it hasn't even been clear that undocumented students could receive a K-12 education. AB 540 made it possible for an undocumented student who graduated from a California high school with at least 3 years of high school in California to attend college in as an in-state student, but there was little financial support. Patricia had been undocumented as a student and saw the need. She's now a teacher and has felt led to start this scholarship program. One of the students in the scholarship program, Jose, spoke about his experience. Currently, he is a senior in Electrical Engineering at Sacramento State. He talked about the feeling of being in between, not really belonging in Mexico and not really belonging in the U.S. Information on the scholarship is available on the Sacramento Friends Meeting website.

Amy Cooke, Executive Director of Sierra Friends Center, gave us an update about Sierra Friends Center and expressed gratitude for all of the support and the true gift of slowing down so they could see and discern about how to move forward. The strands they want to bring forward are education initiated from the self, met by caring, nurturing folks with silence, community and a simple lifestyle. They want to

offer kids the chance to do science and connect with land in a new way. Sierra Streams has become a strong partner for SFC and is moving into the newly renovated Madrone Hall and bringing their staff, labs, class, and offices. They are also bringing a lot of knowledge about how to inspire the next generation to be stewards. They're also made connections with the local Native American tribe whose land this was, the Nisenan, and they will be working with them to learn about their ways of stewarding the land. Jorgensen School for Non-Violence has also been established to support youth and adults in developing non-violent direct action campaigns.

David Hartsough described the revitalized Poor People's Campaign led by Rev. William Barber. The Poor Peoples' Campaign was Martin Luther King's last campaign before he was killed. It will begin this spring and culminate on June 23 in Washington DC and will train people from 35 states in non-violent action to protest the situation of so many people without healthcare and jobs while we spend so much money on the military. This movement will be led by the poor and the religious leaders in this country. David wants to insure that, Quakers are involved. Reverend Barber will be speaking in February in the Bay Area. Lucy Duncan of AFSC is on the Coordinating Committee and will be working to get people involved. David has a sign-up list to list people who would like to become involved. On the first Sunday of each month there will be a gathering in North Carolina that will be live-streamed. See www.poorpeoplescampaign.org.

After lunch, we broke into groups for worship sharing. We divided into those who wanted to do traditional worship sharing, those who wrote for 30 minutes and then joined into worship sharing groups, and those who spoke to one other person for 30 minutes and then joined worship sharing groups. The queries were:

Since there was a large demonstration taking place on the day of our Quarterly Meeting, we spent two hours in the afternoon either sitting in worship holding the marchers and our country in the Light, walking in the march, and/or standing outside San Francisco Monthly Meeting.

After we all returned to the Meetinghouse, we held Final Plenary.

Our Clerk noted that Nominating, normally a committee of five people, is proceeding with four people, since someone retired early in the process. We hope to hear from the Naming Committee in the spring quarter, but until then, please do respond promptly in the meantime when one of the four members calls you.

We received a report from our Registrar, Peter Arnold, on our attendance for Winter Quarter (attached in archived minutes):

We had 101 people: 78 adults, 9 teens, 10 children and 4 preschoolers representing the following Meetings: Appleseed, Berkeley, Chico, Davis, Grass Valley, Humboldt, La Jolla, Live Oak, Mexico City, Palo Alto, Redwood Forest, Reno, San Francisco, Santa Cruz, SF Monnonite, Strawberry Creek, Visalia .

The Teens and the Children's Program reported back about their day. The Teens played some games, made posters and went to the Women's March for three hours, and they said it was a lot of fun. Marin Hurn Sinclair added that it is the Teens who can really communicate and organize effectively. The Teens

expressed appreciation for Karen Morgan and for Marin for making their stay at San Francisco Meeting possible. The Children entered the Meeting singing and carrying the posters they made this morning. Some shared the seeds that they discovered and hope to grow in the future.

After a period of worship, we adjourned to meet May 18 to 20, 2018 at Ben Lomond Quaker Center.

Faithfully submitted,

Heather Levien, Recording Clerk

Sandy Kewman, Clerk