

Friends Committee on Scouting
March 15th-17th. 2013
Camp Gallahue, Morgantown, Indiana

Presiding Clerk: Luanne Hagee

Recording Clerk: pro tem, Dan Nelson

Present: David Hadley, Betsy Wenny, Tom Taber, John Norris, Jim Lehman, Tim Mullady and Luanne Hagee

Regrets: Elizabeth Price, Kim Acquaviva, Alan Harnish, David MacIlwraith and Liam Murphy

Friday night, March 15th, 2013 – Scouting Reports

Girl Scouts – Betsy

Boy Scouts – Tim & Jim

Camp Fire – David Mac (read by Luanne)

Scouts Canada – Dan

Girl Guides Canada – Jane Stokes (read by Luanne)

Saturday morning, March 16th, 2013 – Business Meeting

Luanne began the meeting with a reading “*The Scout and Guide Quilt.*”

We then had a period of Silent Worship, followed by a prayer offered by Tim Mullady.

Luanne gave some updates on what some of our members have been up to.

Minutes

Minutes from our 2012 Annual Meeting were emailed out to all members prior to annual meeting.
Approved.

Financial Report

John Norris provided a financial report. Opening balance of \$1,396.86; income from membership dues & donations and P.R.A.Y. for awards ordered from 7-1-2011 through 6-30-2012; expenses \$500 for 50 *That of God* awards; leaving a closing balance of \$1,383.71. Approved.

2012 FCS Annual Report to FWCC

Luanne provided a copy of this report to Friends prior to annual meeting. Approved.

Membership/Outreach

Jim Lehman reported on new members and the need to send out dues renewal notices.

Luanne reported on Quaker Life article on FCS, in the November/December 2012 issue. FWCC e-newsletters also featured FCS articles, August 2012 in English written by Louise Salinas (FWCC Associate Secretary) and November 2012 in Spanish written by Luanne and translated by one of the FWCC translators.

Webpage and Facebook

Our webpage was down for some time, but it’s now back up and running. Wondering if we may have been hacked? The data was all there. Dan has updated the ‘Scouting & Homosexuality page.

Our Facebook page is popular for conversation. Luanne has prepared a certificate of appreciation for Alex and Dan will take it to him.

We need to look into getting links to our webpage and Facebook page with FUM, FGC and Yearly Meetings.

Curriculum

US/US Spanish

The translation of our US curriculum into Spanish has been completed and is now available. Translation was done by two FWCC translators and one proof reader. We have certificates of appreciation and gifts (Encourage-MINTS jars) to say "thank you." The Spanish curriculum is to be uploaded to website.

Quaker Faith Journey

A certificate of appreciation has been prepared for Linnette Garcia for inspiring the programme. So far this programme has been shared on the *Quaker* Facebook page resulting in the curriculum being emailed out to Friends in England, Scotland, the Netherlands, Western Australia and South America along with emails to Anne Riggs and Linnette Garcia. *Quaker Faith Journey* needs to be uploaded to website.

UK My Faith and Discovering Faith Badges

Need to continue to work on resources to help Young Friends earn these badges requirements. We also need to work on recruiting UK members.

BSA Religious Relationships Task Force

This year has been more interesting than last year. During the October meeting they talked about Sikh Religious award, with discussion about working on award prior to the award being approved. Jain Religious award was approved; however it still needs fixing to follow age groups.

We need to update memorandum of understanding with Boy Scouts of America. Do we have one? Unclear. If they ask we'll investigate but until then, we'll let it sit.

During the February meeting, the National Key 3 spoke on the membership policy, which currently excludes homosexuals from membership. Originally, an internal discussion regarding the view of major charter organisations, it was leaked to the public. The Baptist resolution is full of assumptions and is Annual Meeting on May 24, 2013 will be the next meeting for discussion of this resolution.

We reviewed the Mission document that BSA wants us to complete. We approved sending BSA the FCS mission statement instead because it is impossible to create a mission document like the sample for Quakers.

We found out we were not on the list for a display for the jamboree. Tom spoke to key staff to get FCS display included. Some religious institutions have rather elaborate handouts to go with their displays. We will erect a peace pole within our display area. People enjoyed our peace testimony.

Duty of God Breakfast - Church of Brethren will be providing invocation. Tom will attend on behalf of Friends.

Friends joyfully thank Tom for his service representing FCS to BSA's national relationships task force.

FCS Annual Report to FGC

This report was sent out to committee members prior to Annual Meeting. Thanks to Tim and Dan for putting this together.

P.R.A.Y. Report

Luanne provided a report on awards given out over the past three years, 2010-2013. During 2012 - 14 *That of God* awards were awarded to 11 Cub Scouts & 3 Girl Scouts from 10 different meetings in 9 States; 1 *Spirit of Truth* award to a Boy Scout; and 3 *Friends Emblem* recognitions to 3 BSA Scouters from 3 States. Total awards 1989 – 2012: 547 *That of God*; 62 *Spirit of Truth*; and 44 *Friends Emblems* have been awarded.

Appointments made/Approved

2013 BSA Jamboree

Chaplains - Tim Mullady & Jim Lehman. Both have officially been approved by BSA National. Jim has a Travelling Minute from his Monthly Meeting and Tim has requested one from his Monthly Meeting.

Display Tenders – John Norris & Henry Watson.

FUM Representative

Luanne has been appointed by FUM to be one of the two representatives to FCS. We still need one more representative.

OLD BUSINESS

25th Anniversary patches

An anonymous Friend kindly donated the \$300 to pay for the 25th Anniversary ring patches. Patches will be distributed to committee members when they pay their annual dues. Additional ring patches will be available for \$3 each. All Scouts and Scouters who earns one of our awards during 2013 & 2014 will receive an FCS committee patch and a 25th Anniversary ring patch in their congratulations card from Luanne.

2014 Annual Meeting

It was suggested that we look into holding our 2014 Annual Meeting in Maryland. Some suggested locations were: Quaker Camp, Catactin, Maryland, with a separate shower building, a beautiful spot, minimal cost, owned by Baltimore Yearly Meeting; Sandy Spring Friends School, Sandy Spring Maryland; Sandy Spring Community House, with a full kitchen, dining room and class room, there is no shower, we'd be sleeping on the floor.

Date: March 28-30th, 2014

Planning committee is Betsy, Tim and Jim – to investigate locations in the east and report back to the Exec Board.

NEW BUSINESS

2013 BSA Jamboree

- chaplains appointed
- QR code for display, Dan created
- will have a place for Friends Meeting (worship) at jamboree
- Jim & Tim, our chaplains, will take the messed up anniversary ringer patches (the ones with inner holes that were too large, to giveaway as they are lead during the Jamboree to Scouts
- hands on activity "Scouts for Peace" banner, on second table in our display area
- Peace Pole – Tim is working on this for in our display area
- Flash software from Dan? If we decide to add a computer in our display
- Pamphlets to be approved by BSA, Friendly Answers – mostly copied, Draft Registration, some FUM/FGC pamphlets?
- Approved \$100 budget

BSA Policy

- David Hadley, didn't take a universal stand at the time. No agreement on cause.
- No consensus of membership. We should continue to support our Young Friends in BSA. We should not withdrawal our Religious Emblem awards from BSA over this issue. BSA has suggested that the policy would move the membership issue more locally, which is consistent with FCS's policy.
- Luanne read an email she received last week from Alan Harnish, opposing homosexuality in Scouting.
- Policy is about freedom, FWCC, allows us to come together regardless of our views, Scouting should be same way

BREAK FOR LUNCH

The meeting reconvened after lunch

- Tim has been promoting WOSM's *Messengers for Peace* in Baltimore Council along with *God and World* Religious Emblem, a way to learn about other faiths while exploring your own. Anyone can work on it, not just for Baltimore Council. Tim is running a class with about 12 participants. Baltimore Council runs a yearly Scout is Reverent Retreat. We will add this information to our website.

Meeting was closed with a period of silence.

Respectfully Submitted, Dan Nelson, Recording Clerk Pro-tem