

## CHFM Peace & Justice Committee Meeting

MINUTES: January 12, 2020

Attendance: John Bell, Betsy Brinson, Matt Drake, Hank Elkins, Dottie Henninger, Wendy Michener, Tom Munk, Joyce Sandy, Chris Stanley, Barbara Williamson

1. Attendee check-in
2. December minutes approved.
3. Benevolences Proposal from Ad Hoc Committee.

Tom read the proposal which included the following topics:

Background info

Continuing support of 5 organizations

Oversight of legacy organizations

Re-evaluation every 5 years

Role of Peace and Justice

Final Numbers:

\$24,625 Total Overseen by Peace & Justice

19,454 To legacy organizations

5,171 Overseen by Peace & Justice

The reading was followed by extensive discussion.

There was a letter from Joe and Ellen (P&J committee members) and a message from Hart Pillow, both objecting to the 5 year evaluation period. Hank Elkins also objected to taking 5 years to evaluate the benevolence recipients. He said we should look into changes in recipients' programs and financial status on a yearly basis using comparable data for each organization. Both Chris, and Matt,

stressed the importance of continuing the strong Meeting connection with the legacy organizations.

After considerable discussion, there was one disputed issue remaining; How often the benevolences should be evaluated. Those present were polled and all said three years, except Hank who was the only dissent. Hank wanted one year. The others objected to the inordinate amount of time and work necessary for such a detailed yearly evaluation. Several other polls were taken with Hank remaining as the only objector to three year evaluations. Tom appealed to Hank to “stand aside” and let the proposal be approved with the following language:

*We recommend that every three years, to coincide with the spiritual state of the meeting retreat report to MWAB, a business item be placed on the MWAB agenda to test if the hearts and minds of the Meeting are still in unity with the percentages and process guiding the benevolence decisions described in this document.*

Hank refused to stand aside. The P & J committee could not achieve unity in approval of the proposal for guiding benevolence decisions to present to the MWAB in January. Chris Stanley suggested that we wait one month for Hank to think things over, then try again to achieve the unity necessary to present the proposal document to MWAB in February. Those present agreed.

Due to the time restraints resulting from the prolonged benevolence discussions, the following three agenda items had to be tabled until our next meeting:

4. Committee Members
5. Rumors of War/ FCNL
6. FCNCL
7. Solar Panels

Wendy and Hank reported that their last meeting was in December. Tom Ludlow,(finance) and Dave Curtin(QEW) were in attendance.

This was the information presented:

1. Funding is available for nonprofits from Duke Energy. We may not be able to use this if we delay too long.
2. Finances look good with inclusion of tree removal from property to increase efficiency.
3. There are currently two offers and a third is being sought. The second offer includes maintenance and monitoring with software located both on site and in the provider's office. Buildings and Grounds will also have oversight.

The yearly cost will be approx. \$3,700 for the schoolhouse, and \$2,000 for us. Tom Smith and John Hite have joined the committee.

The P&J meeting was adjourned at 3:30.

Respectfully submitted

Joyce Sandy