

CHFM Peace & Justice Committee Meeting

AGENDA: February 9, 2020

1. Attendee check-in
2. Approval of January minutes, with the addendum of an additional document detailing Hank's objections to the Benevolences Proposal from the Ad Hoc Committee.
3. Benevolences Proposal from Ad Hoc Committee.

At our last committee meeting, we nearly achieved unity on the proposal from the ad hoc benevolences subcommittee attached at the end of this agenda, with the following change to the red-highlighted section:

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.

How shall we move forward?

4. Committee Members and Clerk (or co-clerks)
5. David Price to speak at our Forum, June 14
6. FCNCL
7. Solar Panels
8. Advocacy Team

To the Peace and Justice Committee, Karen Porter, Clerk

In peace and love, we, the members of the ad hoc committee appointed by the September 15, 2019 Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MWAB), recommend in unity to the P&J

committee that it send the following minute forward to the January 19, 2020 MWAB. We are Matt Drake, Dottie Heninger, Tom Munk, and Joyce Sandy.

Background

We are deeply grateful that our Meeting shares so much of its income with others, often 35 to 40% of the total. We celebrate this ongoing commitment. Our benevolences reflect our faith and values and are an important way we express these to the larger community and the world.

Oversight of the Meeting's benevolences is shared among three committees: Library, Ministry and Worship, and Peace and Justice. The focus here is on the benevolences currently overseen by the Peace and Justice Committee (P&J).

Continuing support of five organizations

We are grateful for the Meeting's historic support of five organizations: American Friends Service Committee, Carolina Friends School, Friends Committee on National Legislation, Interfaith Council for Social Services, and Quaker House. We celebrate the fact that Chapel Hill Friends Meeting was instrumental in the founding of Carolina Friends School and Quaker House. In addition, Meeting members helped found the InterFaith Council for Social Services. The Meeting has provided substantial support for each of these organizations for more than thirty-five years. **We recommend that substantial support of the five organizations continue.**

Over the last ten years, these five received an average of 84% of the total benevolences currently overseen by P&J. We believe a slight reduction is appropriate in order to encourage new insights into the use of the Meeting's benevolence dollars. **We recommend that the five legacy organizations receive 79% of the Meeting's total benevolences currently overseen by P&J.**

To determine the amount given to each of the five we averaged the percentage each has received annually from the Meeting over the last ten years and subtracted 1% from each. The resulting percentages are as follows.

- American Friends Service Committee (AFSC): 6%
- Carolina Friends School (CFS) Tuition Aid: 18%
- Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL): 9%
- InterFaith Council for Social Services (IFC): 25%
- Quaker House: 21%

We recommend this level of support for the five legacy organizations in 2019-2020 and beyond.

Oversight of the legacy organizations

We recommend that oversight of the five legacy organizations be placed directly under the care of the MWAB. This will be accomplished by asking the five organizations to present annual reports to MWAB as follows:

- American Friends Service Committee (AFSC): a Meeting Friend active in or knowledgeable about the AFSC named by the Meeting Clerk
- Carolina Friends School (CFS) Tuition Aid Fund: a Meeting appointee to the CFS Board of Trustees selected by the appointees
- Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL): a Meeting Friend active in or knowledgeable about the FCNL selected by the Meeting Clerk
- InterFaith Council for Social Services (IFC): a Meeting appointee to the InterFaith Council Committee selected by the appointees
- Quaker House: a Meeting appointee to the Quaker House Board of Directors selected by the appointees

Re-evaluation

We recommend that every five 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 guiding the benevolence decisions.

The role of the Peace and Justice Committee

We recommend that 21% of benevolences be placed under the oversight of the P&J Committee. P&J will unite each year on the recipients of 21% of the Meeting's annual P&J benevolence total and recommend recipients and amounts to the MWAB for approval. P&J will continue to meet the following guidelines for their benevolence decisions as stated in previous P&J reports: "Meeting benevolences MUST be either (a) Quaker-affiliated organizations, or (b) local organizations that reflect our Meeting's values and with which members of the Meeting are closely involved."

Looking at the above recommendations in the context of the 2019-2020 budget, the results are:

\$26,175 benevolence total in the Meeting's 2019-2020 budget

- 1,400 benevolences overseen by Ministry & Worship
 - 150 benevolences overseen by the Library Comm
- \$24,625 benevolence dollars available to legacy organizations and to P&J

\$24,625

- 1,478 . . . 6% to American Friends Service Committee
 - 4,433 . . . 18% to Carolina Friends School
 - 2,216 . . . 9% to Friends Committee on National Legislation
 - 6,156 . . . 25% to InterFaith Council
 - 5,171 . . . 21% to Quaker House
- \$19,454 . . . 79% of benevolences to five legacy organizations

\$24,625 benevolence dollars overseen by P&J prior to these recommendations

- 19,454 to legacy organizations and, as recommended, oversight by MWAB
- \$ 5,171 to be overseen by P&J in 2019-2020

