

**Tampa Friends Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business**

Minutes

10 Ninth Month 2023

Clerks: Nil Wilkins (Meeting Clerk) and Dustin Lemke (Stand-in Recording Clerk)

Attendees:

Dika Boire, Miki Epperson, Lisa Erazmus and Jan Dahm, Chris Hugues, Steve Kinney, Dustin Lemke, Cynde Mercer, Karen and Lou Putney, Nil Wilkins, and Cece Yocum.

Action Items:

Google phone number: Cynde Mercer reported that we have not been using the number we received from Google, and it will be “taken back” by Google if we continue not using it. Karen and Lou Putney continue to monitor a number they have that has been listed for many years as the Tampa Friends phone number. It was switched from a landline to a cell phone. At this time, Meeting decided to stay with the older number as long as Karen and Lou can keep monitoring it.

No weapons sign: With current laws about being able to carry guns in public buildings and churches, the Clerk asked if we needed to post a sign banning guns from our property. We discussed what the sign should say, where it would be posted, and what the actual meaning of the current state law is. Friends were in support of a sign but were less clear of the exact message and where to post it. Friends were also clear that this was in support of our larger Quaker witness of peace. We will move forward with signage; at this point, we are considering a standard, readily available sign for the entry fence, and Steve Kinney will share wording for a sign with more detailed Quaker language on the building.

Equality Florida gala: - This organization raises money and awareness for LGBTQ issues in the state. They have a fundraising gala on Novwmbber 10 and are asking for sponsors. Meeting decided that Tampa Meeting would spend \$500 now to sponsor the gala and ask for individual donations to fund that.

Treasurer’s Report:

Chris Hugues reviewed the treasurer’s reports for June, July, and August.

Calendar of events:

- September 21: International Day of Peace
- September 24: Adult First Day Program - Quakers and War (9 a.m.)

- October 1-7: Banned Book Week giveaway with Deland Friends
- October 14: Fall Interim Business Meeting (SEYM) at Sarasota Friends
- October (TBA): Discussion session about Quaker retirement home and school in Florida

Minutes for 11 Sixth Month 2023 were reviewed and will be brought back for approval.

The meeting ended with closing with worship.