

Southern California Quarterly Meeting Spring Gathering
April 29, 2023
Orange County Friends Meeting and online via Zoom

Plenary 1 Minutes

The plenary was opened with land acknowledgement, approval of the agenda, and a special welcome to the children and teens attending. Roll call was followed by naming the clerks of SCQM committees.

Clerks Report – Jane Blount read her report, which was found in the Advance Materials. She encouraged Friends to ask if they are led to serve on Nominating Committee, as Clerk and as an Administrative Assistant to the Clerk. In worship, Sherri Sisson said that she was led to serve as Administrative Assistant.

Nominating Committee – George Gastil thanked Katrina Mason for help, Suzy Cervantes for serving on the committee and Friends who responded to outreach from the committee, noting that a “No” was as helpful as a “Yes.” George presented the slate for first reading. He noted that M&C is going to be smaller as Friends’ terms end. The Retreats Committee has been inactive, more discernment is needed about laying it down or continuing. Peace and Social Concerns, usually a larger committee, has two co-clerks and no members at present. Representative to Ackworth has one Friend; Nominating has only two members. George shared his positive experience getting to know Friends through service on Nominating. Friends who have questions or are led to serve should contact George, Katrina or Suzy. The slate will be brought to the second plenary this afternoon for approval.

Finance Committee – Rebecca Searl introduced the members of the committee. She screen shared and read the budget for the upcoming year, noting that it is a balanced budget with current information through March 31, 2023. The Quarter’s fiscal year is June 1 thru May 31. Donations from Meetings are beginning to come in. The Peters Fund has enough to cover Finance’s expenses on Quickbooks and supporting hybrid meetings. Questions can be brought to Rebecca or Gary Wolff, through Jane or in online chat.

Treasurers Report – Gary Wolff distributed hard copies and screen shared the income and expenses report. He highlighted that they have prepared a five year picture, that June 2021 thru May 2022 expenses were small because there were no in-person gatherings. George described the Peters Fund, a bequest fund established in 2014 which has been used to support the spiritual life of the Quarter, build community, and to provide speaker and entertainment for Fall Fellowship. He asked whether it was time to re-evaluate meeting donations, raising the guideline from \$10 to \$12 per member; some Meetings provide more than this, some less. Questions can be brought to Gary.

Gary presented a balance sheet, also covering five years, showing the state of SCQM assets and liabilities. A trend was noted that the planned decrease in the Peters Fund has allowed more funds to be invested in Friends Fiduciary.

The Clerk called for a 15 minute break.

Ministry and Counsel presented selections from the Spiritual State of the Meeting reports.

Worship Sharing on queries, in groups of six, in-person or online, focused on joys and sorrows in our Meetings and how the Spirit was moving was amongst us. Worship Sharing led into a one hour break for lunch.

Jane Blount, Clerk
Ann Fuller, Recording Clerk
SCQM Spring Gathering 2023

4/29/23

SCQM - Plenary II Minutes

Plenary II opened at 1:09pm with Opening Worship.

Ann Fuller (Santa Monica MM) was thanked for recording in the morning and Sarah Rose House-Lightner (Orange Grove MM) was welcomed as recording clerk for Plenary II.

Nominating Committee: Lawrence Alderson (Orange County MM) reported. We had 56 Friends in total registered for the Friday evening interest group and today's session. There were about 14 online and 25 in person attendees in today's gathering. About 23 attended the interest group last night and notes from that group will be made available. The registration process seemed to go smoothly. Lawrence is glad to receive any feedback Friends may have. We also have 6 teens and 4 younger children in attendance today.

Children's Program: Louise Sherikar (Orange County MM) reported. It's great to have energetic young children in attendance. Teens are having fun in fellowship. Will be doing some crafts this afternoon. We are hoping we can grow and attract new families for Fall Fellowship. We would welcome more Friends on the Children's Program Committee. Please help spread the word.

The crafts the kids are making is a balloon luminary. Dipping balloon into wax, creating a small bowl that creates a nice glow when a candle is placed inside. There are lots of supplies on hand and adults were welcomed to join. A clipboard will be passed around the room to collect names of people to be held in the light during closing worship. Friends attending via Zoom will be invited to share names in the chat function.

Teen Program: Kindred Gottlieb (Orange Grove MM) reported. Teen program at OGMM is relatively strong at the moment and they made Spring Gathering an event to attend. They applied for, and are appreciative of the financial support and funding to take teens to an Escape Room - a group, live action puzzle / team building activity - this afternoon.

Naming Committee: Jane Blount (La Jolla MM) reported. During lunch she met with someone willing to serve on Nominating Committee and is bringing forward the name of Katrina Mason (Claremont MM) to serve on Nominating Committee for one year. First reading and will come back and read it again later.

Nominating Committee: George Gastil (San Diego MM) reported. He reminded friends of the proposed names brought forward earlier and provided new names for consideration.

2023.4.1 Friends APPROVED the nominating committee's slate of SCQM Clerks and Committees as presented. (Appended below).

Proposed Budget. Rebecca Searl (Santa Monica MM). Proposed budget was presented this morning. No questions or concerns received.

2023.4.2 Friends APPROVED the proposed budget as presented, which includes the recommendation to increase the per member assessment from \$10 to \$12. ([Link attached](#))

Naming Committee:

2023.4.3 Friends APPROVED Naming Committee's proposal for Katrina Mason serving a one year term on Nominating Committee, 5/23 to 5/24.

Reading of the Action Minutes: The recording clerk read the three action items aloud for the group, and it was noted she would be working with the presiding clerk towards the final wording of the narrative minutes.

M&C continued with the 2nd half of their Spiritual State of the Meeting Reports presentation, we broke into worship sharing groups and came together for intergenerational closing worship. M&C had a little more content to share as a part of their presentation when we reconvened.

Additionally, the Presiding Clerk reported that another name was brought forward to Nominating Committee over the lunch break. She read the name of Sarah Rose House-Lightner for Retreats Committee.

2023.4.4 Friends APPROVED amending the Nominating Report to reflect the approval of naming Sarah Rose House-Lightner to the Retreats Committee.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah Rose House-Lightner (Orange Grove MM)

Recording Circle Member & Recording Clerk for Plenary II

Jane Blount

Presiding Clerk (La Jolla MM)

Southern California Quarterly Meeting- NAME EDITS

Roster of Officers and Committee Members 4-29-2023

OFFICERS

Clerk: Jane B., La Jolla, 5/20 to 11/23

Assistant to the Clerk: Sherri S., Orange County, 5/23 to 11/23

Recording Clerks Circle (indeterminate terms):

Sarah Rose H.-L., Orange Grove

Elizabeth B., La Jolla

Oliver R., La Jolla

Robin D., Orange Grove

Treasurer: Gary W., Orange Grove, 5/23-5/26

Directory Clerk: Dan S., Orange Grove, 5/22 to 5/25

Co-Webmasters:

Kerwin F., La Jolla, 5/22 to 5/25

Mitchel C., Orange Grove, 5/22 to 5/25

COMMITTEES

Arrangements

Susana C. (La Jolla), 5/23 to 5/24

Judi O., Santa Monica. 11/21 to 11/24

Gail T., Santa Monica 5/22 to 5/25

Children's Program Committee

Robin D., Orange Grove, 5/23-5/26

Louise S., (convener) Orange County, 5/23-5/26

Teen Program Committee

Robert V.-N., San Diego, 5/21 to 5/24

Corina H., Orange Grove, 5/23 to 5/24

Kindred G. (clerk), Orange Grove, 5/22 to 5/25

Finance Committee

Rebecca S., Santa Monica, 5/23-5/26

Committee Clerk: Rebecca S., continue as Clerk through to 11/23.

Bill B., San Diego, 5/21 to 5/24

Kip M., La Jolla, 5/23-5/26

Dan S., Orange Grove, 11/21 to 11/24

Gary W., (ex officio)

Ministry and Counsel committee

Elva C., Inland Valley, 5/18 to 5/24

Cate W., Orange Grove, 5/21 to 5/24

Will B., Inland Valley, 5/21 to 5/24

Jack L., La Jolla, 5/23-5/26

Henry Y., Santa Monica, 11/20 to 11/23

Stephen P. (clerk), Santa Barbara, 5/22 to 5/25

Peace & Social Concerns Committee

Lawrence A. (co-clerk) Orange County, 5/22 to 5/25

Susana C. (co-clerk) La Jolla, 5/22-5/25

Retreats Committee

Sarah Rose H.-L. (clerk), Orange Grove 5/23 to 5/26

Representatives to Pacific Ackworth Foundation (indeterminate terms)

Gary W., Orange Grove

Kip M., La Jolla

Michelle W., Orange Grove

Ron T., Claremont

Representatives to Pacific Ackworth Friends School (indeterminate terms)

Jan T., Orange Grove

Registrar

Lawrence A., Orange County, 5/19-5/25

Nominating Committee (nominated by Clerks Committee)

George G. (clerk), San Diego, 5/22 to 5/25

Katrina M., Claremont, 5/23 to 5/24

Website Committee (indeterminate term)

Jane B. (clerk), La Jolla, clerk

Kerwin F., La Jolla (ex-officio)

Mitchel C., Orange Grove (ex-officio)