

Minutes of Green Pastures Called Meeting

Wednesday, August 19, 2015

Ann Arbor Friends Meeting, 1420 Hill Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104

Attending:

From Ann Arbor Monthly Meeting: Susan Hartman, Lisa Klopfer, John Williams, Christa Williams, Thomas Taylor, Nancy Taylor, Joan Sampieri, Karla Taylor, Johanna Kovitz, Robin Warner, Jeff Cooper, Peggy Daub, Debs Roush, Anne Carpenter, Cynthia Lempert, Tom Blackwell, Richard Tucker

From Birmingham Monthly Meeting: Inge Brieger, Geoff Brieger, Kevin Howley, Harriet Greenwood, Ellen Barnes, Marvin Barnes

From Detroit Monthly Meeting: Carmen Kelly, Mike Kelly, Peter Dale, Daniel Morris

From Grand Rapids Monthly Meeting: Mike Holaday

From Kalamazoo Monthly Meeting: Joe Mills, Linda Mills

From Red Cedar Monthly Meeting: April Allison

From Friends School in Detroit: Jane Fran Morgan, Sylvie Malo, Brandy Robinson, Kineret Gable

Roll call:

Ann Arbor	-	16
Birmingham	-	3
Detroit	-	4
Grand Rapids	-	1
Holland	-	0
Kalamazoo	-	2
Pine River	-	0
Red Cedar	-	1
Friends School Board of Trustees	-	6

The meeting opened at 7:15 pm with Susan Hartman, Assistant Clerk, acting as Clerk in Ellerie Brownfain's absence, and Lisa Klopfer assisting as reflecting clerk. The clerk gave a brief chronology of communications between representatives of the Quarter and the Board of Trustees of Friends School in Detroit.

Tonight's meeting was called specifically to consider a request by letter from three current Trustees of Friends School in Detroit that the Quarter remove the current Board of Trustees and appoint a new Board to carry out the process of laying down Friends School in Detroit. A subset of current Trustees are assembling a proposal that the School should continue operating for the upcoming school year starting in September. This proposal is to be presented to the Board of Trustees at the regularly scheduled Board meeting the following evening, August 20. There is a perceived conflict of interest in having one group of people both present a proposal and be involved in evaluating it. The proposal will require having the current school corporation be the operating entity for the upcoming school year, since non-profit and regulatory approvals for a new corporation would take some time to establish.

The acting clerk made efforts to keep discussion focused on the question for which the meeting was called – whether or not to replace the entire current Board of Trustees. Decisions about the operation of the school are within the responsibility of its Board of Trustees. Strong hope was expressed that the proposal to keep the school operating will retire all of the school's current debt. A similarly strong feeling was expressed that the school corporation should not incur additional debt. At the end of the meeting there was not unity to replace the school's current Board of Trustees. The following minute was adopted by the meeting:

The Board of Trustees of Friends School in Detroit is asked to provide a full report of the school's status at the regularly scheduled Quarterly Meeting on Saturday, September 19, 2015. This should include a complete report of the School's financial situation.