

Minutes of Miami Quarter – 18 Tenth Month 2024, Happy Hollow Camp

1. Opening Worship. The clerk read a quote from our Faith and Practice on Community:

A well-functioning meeting acts as one, as a body...It means understanding the meeting community as an organism that is responsive to God as a whole, rather than just as a collection of individuals (Fran Taber as quoted by OVYM)...

A Quaker Community is many things. It is where we seek and worship the divine. It is a body of Friends who provide temporal support and spiritual nurture for each other. It is where we test our sense of what God has called us to do individually and as a people. By shouldering the responsibilities of membership, we declare our willingness to wrestle together with what it means to be a Quaker and to help each other put what we discover into practice. It daily tests us to stay centered in compassion as we encounter the varieties of human experience. A Quaker community declares that each has a unique relationship with God and with each other; it challenges us to faithfully live into those relationships. It is where we risk being transformed. OVYM Faith and Practice, p. 15-16

2. Roll Call of Official Representatives

Community: Regrets from Deborah Jordan
Campus: No representative
Dayton: Nikki Coffey Tousley
Eastern Hills: Martha Viehmann and Wilson Palmer
Lexington: Peter Hardy and Ben Griffith
Louisville: No representative.
Oxford: Andrew Garrison
Yellow Springs: Carol Simmons

3. Paul Buckley reported the open search for the new position of OVYM Social Action Coordinator, to be taken back to our monthly meetings.

4. Treasurer's Report There has been no activity in the treasury since the last quarterly meeting. The report was accepted. There was no formal report from the Green Plain Fund, which needs some reflection in the future when a member of Green Plain trustees can attend. Veronica Frost, treasurer of the fund did send an email noting an expenditure of about \$500 for chimney repair.

5. Future of our Quarterly Meeting

What is the value of continuing to meet as a Quarter, in Light of the new Gathering Committee experiment and more generally? What are we called to as a Quarter? If we are to meet, should we keep our schedule?

Out of silence, we discussed the value of Miami Quarter. Perhaps our geographical divisions make less sense than other connections between monthly meetings, for the purpose of gathering, even for business. Travel distances are an obstacle for some. We are aware of the administrative responsibilities of the quarter. We note that it is difficult to find clerks for the quarter, but the clerkship is not an

onerous task. We note that we are in an experimental period as called by the Yearly Meeting, and are not obliged or ready to make decisions about laying down the quarter. Some Friends value the practice of rotating the hosting of quarter as a way for local Friends to be drawn into the wider body. We noted other forms of gathering practiced in the quarter such as having OVYM executive committee locate its sessions among monthly meetings.

At our next meeting, we need to consider a scenario about how to conduct the business currently done by the quarter if it were to be laid down. In reviewing the work of the Restructuring Committee, we recognized that the Gathering Committee would not be making recommendations about this question. Peter Hardy and Ben Griffith and Nikki Coffey Tousley will extract the documents from the Restructuring Committee relevant to the question.

5. Future Rotation. We agreed to continue to meet as per the existing schedule for the winter and fall. Eastern Hills will host 4/27/25, with Campus helping if possible. Below is the rotation we approved in the fall of 2022, with changes as they occurred for 2023-4

Date	Site Host	Adult Program coordinator	Adult program topic	Youth program
1/22/2023	Dayton	Community		Dayton
4/23/2023	Louisville	Lexington	State of Society	Louisville
10/22/2023	Joint Quarter Community	Whitewater host Restructuring Ctte	Restructuring Ctte	Joint Quarter Community
1/28/2024	Miami Yellow Springs	Eastern Hills	Worldwide Friends	Miami Yellow Springs
4/28/2024	Yellow Springs Miami/Oxford	Dayton	State of Society	Yellow Springs Miami/Oxford
10/20/2024	Community Joint Quarter	Louisville Whitewater-Quarter		Community Whitewater Quarter
1/26/2025	Lexington	Oxford		Lexington
4/27/2025	Eastern Hills/ Campus	Yellow Springs	State of Society	Eastern Hills/ Campus
10/26/2025	Joint Quarter	Miami host		Joint Quarter
1/25/2026	Dayton	Yellow Springs		
4/26/2026	Louisville	Lexington	State of Society	
10/18/2026	Joint Quarter	Whitewater host		Joint Quarter

6. Announcements: Note that our next gathering would usually include a meeting of representatives over lunch to discuss nominations.

7. Closing Worship

Andrew Garrison, Acting Recording Clerk

Nikki Coffey Tousley, Clerk