

Scattergood Friends School Committee
Approved Minutes
3 March 2012
held at Des Moines Valley Meeting House
Des Moines, Iowa

Mission Statement

Scattergood Friends School challenges students with a college-preparatory curriculum, farm experience, a shared work program, and community living in the spirit of Quaker faith.

Present: Claire Cumbie-Drake, Ruth Dawson, Debbie Galusha (clerk), Lucy Hansen, Russ Leckband, Lorene Ludy, Callie Marsh, Bob Winchell, Allan Winder

Absent: George Bergus, Rebecca Bergus, Karen Greenler, Phil Henderson, Sylvia Sanford, Dan Schlitt, Doyle Wilson

Staff Present: Christine Ashley

Guest: Cheryl Sutton from the Scattergood Friends School Foundation

The clerk opened the meeting at the appointed time with a time of worship. She then read the following passage:

Some changes tend primarily to clear out our lives, to make space, time, attention available for God, in lives filled with other claims to be the central, organizing point of our lives. . . . [A] paradox of the spiritual life is that—as we clear out space at the center—we not only enter more deeply into relationship with God, we are also drawn more deeply into relationship with one another.

Listening Spirituality, vol. I, Patricia Loring, p. 124.

Min: We approve the minutes with one correction of both the open and closed minutes of the last meeting held on 14 January 2012. We also approve the minutes from our conference call meeting held 19 February 2012.

Callie Marsh will coordinate a staff treat for their meeting after the ISACS visit with a fruit tray, cinnamon rolls, muffins and coffee. She will check to see if Laura at Reid's Beans could provide this. Callie will let people know the cost, so that Friends can contribute toward it.

The ISACS team will be at the School on the 18th and 19th of March. There will be a reception at Reid's Beans at 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, the 18th, followed by dinner at the School at 5:30 p.m. It is important that as many School Committee members attend as is possible. Claire Cumbie-Drake, Ruth Dawson, Debbie Galusha, Lucy Hansen, Callie Marsh, Bob Winchell and Allan Winder will attend on the 18th. We encourage those not present at this meeting to join us. At least Debbie Galusha, Lucy Hansen and Callie Marsh will be at the School on Monday morning for meetings from 8-11 a.m.

We appreciate the excellent work happening at the School in many areas. The staff reports for us are helpful and encouraging. We thank everyone for all their hard and good work.

Christine Ashley shared her plans for restructuring the administrative team, eliminating the position of Dean of Students, and adding a position of Assistant Head of School. She is looking for residential life curriculums from other Friends Schools. Callie will look into that to see if she can find some information. Christine also shared her thoughts about the importance of supporting the students' desire to have a Quaker Youth Retreat at the School next year.

Min: We approve the financial report of 15 February 2012.

Christine presented a rough draft of a budget for the 2012-2013 school year. As it stands now, our potential income will not cover our budgeted expenses. The need to cut expenses and broaden our donor base is crucial. We hope to approve a budget at the next meeting.

We moved from the business of the School Committee to a retreat with questions for discussion planned by Karen Greenler. We enjoyed getting to know each other better, and thank Karen for her work on the questions.

The Des Moines Valley Meeting provided delicious snacks and lunch for us. We thank all who contributed and Jean Sandstrom for her coordination of that effort. We also thank her son Neal, who volunteered to wash the dishes and put away the food afterward.

The clerk closed the meeting in a timely manner with a short time of worship. We look forward to meeting again, God willing, on 12 May 2011, at Scattergood Friends School.

Callie Marsh, recording clerk