

SCYMF Coordinating Committee Minutes, August 24, 2023

The Coordinating Committee (CC) convened by Zoom shortly after 7:00 pm PDT on Thursday, August 24, 2023. Present were Ruba Byrd (clerk *pro tem*), Bethany Lee, Judy Maurer, Norma Silliman, Erin Wilson, and Dave Cundiff.

We began with silence and prayer, followed by personal “check-in”. Dave volunteered to take minutes tonight. Check-ins focused on stories of love, adventure, and travel.

We reviewed tonight’s agenda. No changes were needed.

Approval of minutes and CC Clerk Rotation:

Because the draft minutes weren’t circulated before today, we will consider the approval of minutes at our September meeting.

DECISION: Ruba will be next month’s Coordinating Committee Clerk *pro tem*. Bethany will be next month’s Coordinating Committee Recording Clerk *pro tem*.

We discussed the process by which our minutes are archived and made available.

ACTION: Erin, Judy, and Norma will put the CC minutes on the website; Erin will be figuring out where to store documents now in the clerk's folder, and how to organize them. Whatever emerges from that planning will include archives. The website will not serve as archives.

New members:

We have asked Nominating Committee to find new members for Coordinating Committee, which is depending heavily on *ex officio* members (Norma and Erin, SCYMF co-clerks) and on a liaison member (Dave). Erin relayed, unofficially, that Nominating Committee is considering this request; she expects that the Nominating Committee will get back to us fairly soon.

Review of CC description in Bylaws:

Ruba asked all of us to review the SCYMF Bylaws as they relate to Coordinating Committee (pages 6, 15, 16, and 17 of

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/63b700d1892a846cd5f403c5/t/63b718e8d8912e17c7dc2bfc/1672943850675/SCYMF%2BBYLAWS%2BAPPROVED%2B5-19.pdf>) and use this as the basis for discussion of CC priorities next month.

ACTION: All CC members are asked to review Coordinating Committee responsibilities above, before our September meeting.

Update on Annual Sessions survey:

We discussed at least three possible surveys regarding Annual Session: ((1)) Questions about the functions and coordination of SCYMF committees, recently sent by the Working Group on the Structure and Function of SCYMF (different people may describe this group by slightly different names). ((2)) Questions about Friends' experience of the spiritual and business experience at Annual Session, which appears to be primarily CC's responsibility. ((3)) Questions about Friends' experience of the facilities, meals, etc., at the Annual Session venue, which might be the responsibility of the Gathering Committee or another group.

DECISION: CC supports Judy's intention to delay the second survey described above, so Friends can have ample opportunity to respond to the survey about the functions and coordination of SCYMF committees. ***

Preparation for Quarterly meeting:

INFORMATION ONLY: Norma noted that Gathering Committee has asked her to consider leading a workshop on how SCYMF follows through on decisions made, and discussions held, at SCYMF business sessions. A Friend encouraged Norma to be careful not to overextend herself at any one SCYMF meeting.

Report from Finance Committee:

Dave reported that the Finance Committee has prepared a document formalizing the 2023-2024 Spending Plan with revisions requested by the SCYMF members who attended Annual Session.

We believe our income projections are "in the ballpark" of what is achievable. Most Committees' spending authorizations were reduced by 20%, after discussion with Committee leaders. The Spending Plan is now balanced, with projected expenses equal to projected income.

ACTION: Dave will send a copy of the Spending Plan to CC members, along with tonight's minutes.

Report from Communications Committee:

Judy noted that the Communications Committee members are from Camas Friends Church. She asked Friends from other Meetings to send their news.

FEEDBACK: Judy was asked to consider sending emails to representatives of other churches, specifically for the purpose of soliciting news and discussion items from all churches.

Bolivian Friends raising funds for seed potatoes:

We have been asked to send money to a group, potentially small and loosely affiliated with Bolivian Friends, that plans to buy seed potatoes for families affected by a 2022-2023 drought in Bolivia.

Friends had several concerns including: The humanitarian need to assist; The need to meet needs before the planting season (early-to mid-spring in the Southern Hemisphere, which is early- to mid-fall in the Northern Hemisphere); Our wish to have positive relationship with Friends and others worldwide; The uncertain relationships between the soliciting group and the larger group of Bolivian Friends; The suggestion that funds might be commingled with personal funds in an individual's bank account; Our relative lack of experience with external contributions of this sort; and Our relative lack of experience with the definition of "time sensitive" that allows Coordinating Committee to make financial decisions between SCYMF business sessions.

DECISION: We do not have full information that is sufficient to allow us to proceed as a Committee or to make clear recommendations to SCYMF churches. We are open to such information, whenever it arrives.

Report from Working Group on SCYMF Structure and Function:

INFORMATION: Norma notes this working group will meet on September 6, 2023, and will keep CC informed as they proceed.

Adjournment:

After brief closing reflections and a moment of silence, we adjourned at 9:02 pm PDT.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Cundiff

CC Recording Clerk *pro tem*

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