

Metropolitan Chicago General Meeting
at Evanston Friends' Meetinghouse
February 4, 2012

Attending: Clyde Baker (Evanston), Jeanette Baker (Evanston), Alyce Barry (Evanston), Wil Brant (57th Street), Sophie de la Mar (Northside), Helen Dickinson (Oak Park), Judy Erickson (Oak Park), John Hackman (Upper Fox Valley), Bill Howenstine (Fox River), Jinny Laughlin (Evanston), Roger Laughlin (Evanston), Mark McGinnis (Upper Fox Valley), Margaret Nelson (Evanston), David Shiner (Lake Forest), Earl Smith (Chicago Friends), Martha Turner (Evanston), Judy Wolicki (57th Street), Janet Means Underhill (Lake Forest).

The meeting began with a period of waiting worship.

Agenda. The clerk reviewed the agenda and asked for other items of business.

Treasurers Report. Helen Dickinson gave the Treasurer's report for May 7, 2011 through February 3, 2012. The report was accepted with appreciation.

Visioning Process. Judy Erickson read a report from the morning's session. The morning program was presented by the ad hoc Visioning Committee set up in May 2011, and facilitated by Ken Jacobsen with Katherine Jacobsen serving as praying elder. She thanked all present for contributing to the morning's discussions.

We propose an experimental structure for MCGM for two years with the following vision:

- (1) For the duration of this experiment the working name of this group will be "Chicagoland Friends' Gathering" (CFG);
- (2) The purpose of the CFG is to create three or more occasions per year for fellowship and the deeper opportunities that fellowship brings, among all groups of Friends within the greater Chicago area.
- (3) Each year one of these occasions will include a meeting for worship with concern for business.
- (4) Between annual meetings a Steering Committee consisting of at least three people will facilitate the following work:
 - (a) To be in broad contact with area Friends and monthly meetings to listen and discern where the life is among area Friends and to find the leading edge toward which the spirit is calling us.
 - (b) According to that Light, to shape 3 or more programs and events per year for the CFG.
 - (c) To facilitate communication among Friends and meetings in the greater Chicago area.
- (5) At the end of two years we will evaluate the experiment and discern our way forward.

The proposal was approved.

Committee charge. The Steering Committee was given the following charge:

- (1) To do the work described above.
- (2) To shape its own charge as needed in order to do its work and to talk with the annual meeting for worship with concern for business about its shaping decisions.

(3) Its members shall be drawn from at least three different meetings and be appointed by MCGM's/CFG's meeting for business.

The committee charge was approved.

Steering Committee members. The following Friends volunteered and were appointed to serve on the CFG Steering Committee: Margaret Nelson and Bonni McKeown. Sophie de la Mar and Judy Wolicki were appointed provisionally. Earl Smith will ask Bonni if she's willing to act as convener. Margaret Nelson will act as convener if Bonni is unable to do it. The Steering Committee's first event will be the program at the May meeting to be hosted by Chicago Friends Meeting.

Nominating committee for clerk & recording clerk. Judy Erickson and Earl Smith were appointed and charged to find nominees for clerk and recording clerk for the annual meeting for worship with concern for business, and to present their nominations for approval at the May meeting. (The current clerk and recording clerk will preside in May; Helen Dickinson continues to serve as treasurer.) Approved.

The meeting ended in a period of silence.

Alyce Barry, acting recording clerk
Martha Turner, clerk