

Southeastern Yearly Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends
Fall Interim Business Meeting 2021
2 Tenth Month 2021

NUMBERED MINUTES

- 21FIBM01** Fall Interim Business Meeting approves Nominating Committee’s recommendation of Brad Stocker to the Committee for Ministry on Racism for a term to end in 2024.
APPROVED
- 21FIBM02** Fall Interim Business Meeting approves creating an ad hoc committee to address needs of Friends in worship groups outside the US affiliated with SEYM. Johannes Werner & Mercedes Soca, along with other Friends for the committee will be appointed by the Executive Committee clerk. Further, FIBM authorizes SEYM to transfer \$500 from the contingency fund to the restricted fund for this work created by minute 21SEC01.
APPROVED
- 21FIBM03** Friends accept Phoebe Andersen, Dianna Langan, Chris Laning, and Caroline Lanker joining Dan Vaughen on the *ad hoc* committee on a Quaker Retirement Community.
APPROVED
- 21FIBM04** Fall Interim Business Meeting agrees to implement all the recommendations in the ad hoc Crisis Response Committee’s report. The EC clerk, in consultation with the youth committee clerk, the CAPP coordinator, the YM secretary, and others as appropriate will report at WIBM on next steps.
APPROVED
- 21FIBM05** Fall Interim Business Meeting unites with the Committee for Ministry on Racism in supporting the bipartisan Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States Act that was re-introduced to Congress on September 30, 2021, the National Day of Remembrance for U.S. Indian Boarding Schools.

The Act “would establish a Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies. This Commission would formally investigate the past wrongs of the federal government’s attempts to terminate the cultures, religions, and languages of Native communities and respond to the ongoing historical and intergenerational trauma devastating tribal communities today,” according to Senator Elizabeth Warren, D- Mass. who joined Senator Edward J. Markey, D- Mass, Congresswoman Sharice Davids, D-Kans. and Congressman Tom Cole, R- Okla. in introducing the bill. This would be the first commission of this kind ever established.

Quakers were among the strongest supporters of the federal policy calling for this forced assimilation and operated some 30 Indian schools. The children were taught to reject their Native languages, cultures, and spiritual practices and adopt Euro-American culture.

We urge Congress to establish a Truth and Healing Commission on U.S. Indian Boarding School Policies.

Southeastern Yearly Meeting urges all Friends to support this bill.

APPROVED

21FIBM06 Fall Interim Business Meeting agrees to designate a day of fasting and prayer, with the intention of healing individual ills and social conflicts and seeking our way forward. SEYM will petition other yearly meetings, Friends' agencies, and groups like the Poor Peoples' Campaign to unite on an upsurge into a worldwide focus on how we are ruining Planet A and inflicting grievous harm on each other, then resolve to turn about-face and march together toward freedom and peace.

APPROVED.