

Working Group Meeting  
February 8, 202

## Minutes

### **This month:**

We continue to focus on how to address the controversial issues raised by the new Administration, using discernment and seeking Divine guidance.

### **Immigration**

#### Updates:

- FCNL is inviting us to register for Feb 19 webinar, entitled Quaker Changemaker Event on Migration.
- Quaker and other religious organizations are suing ICE to block immigration activities in places of worship.
- Prior to the working group meeting Kayleen shared a link listing joint initiatives nationwide that are fighting for Immigration Justice. Stronger Together - KIAC  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1BgBhywgCSBd0eMnNCp1p4oOKzCqVtr\\_q0eFVqRRNB90/edit?blm\\_aid=21109&pli=1&tab=t.0#heading=h.ct994vv383zt](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1BgBhywgCSBd0eMnNCp1p4oOKzCqVtr_q0eFVqRRNB90/edit?blm_aid=21109&pli=1&tab=t.0#heading=h.ct994vv383zt)
- On Tuesday Feb 11 the Bainbridge City Council will discuss matters relating to immigration and DEI policies.

#### Our Feb 8 action steps commitments:

- The Working Group desires to write a letter to the Yearly Meeting in which we express our support of the lawsuit aimed at blocking ICE activities during worship. We will share our desire at the next business meeting on Feb 16 and ask for approval.
- Cont'd: Monitor the actions taken by FCNL and other Quaker organizations with the goal of mitigating abusive migration policies. Ensure assistance as requested and alignment with their direction.

### **Climate Change**

#### Updates:

- The Climate Circle is sponsoring several upcoming public events. We are invited to participate:  
FEBRUARY 21, 6:30 - 8:30 PM Web of Life Series: "For the Love of Earth -- Remembering our Dependence on Soil." Featuring Michael Pilarski, Founder of the Global Earth Repair Foundation. Grace Episcopal Church, Bainbridge Island (See the attached flyer for more details.)

### *Overarching Guidance*

- *Consult the Divine Spirit*
- *Include Divine Spirit in Vocal Ministries*
- *Adopt a local action orientation*
- *Engage local, state and national legislators, including Governor*
- *Stay connected with Quaker Voice and FCNL*
- *Dialogue with Trump supporters*
- *Adopt a loving attitude.*

MARCH 14, 7:00 - 8:30 PM "For the Birds" live music and poetry invite reflections on our changing climate. Grace Episcopal Church, Bainbridge Island. (See the attached flyer)

Our Feb 8 action steps commitments:

- Cont'd: Remind new legislators of the significance of the Inflation Reduction Act in supporting significant environmental changes.
- Cont'd: Monitor attempts made by legislators to limit environmental projects and stand in opposition.

## **Right Relations**

Update:

- Friends Peace Team held a meeting on Feb 4 focusing on the implementation of the UN Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples  
Link to the UN Declaration: [https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2018/11/UNDRIP\\_E\\_web.pdf](https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2018/11/UNDRIP_E_web.pdf)  
Link to Friends Peace Team's support activities of right relations with native people:  
<https://friendspeaceteams.org/trr/#trrresources>

Our Feb 8 action steps commitments:

- Cont'd: Support the work that tribal environmental groups are doing.
- Cont'd: Take our concerns about the impact of Boarding Schools to the NP Yearly Meeting, encouraging a statement of recognition for this historic wrong.

## **Public Education**

Our Feb 8 action step commitment:

- Cont'd: Attend School Board meetings periodically to stay abreast of federal policy changes that would impact the school districts' ability to serve students (including DEI and gender affirming care).

## **Public Health**

Our Feb 8 action step commitment:

- Leni will share a pdf document that details the Universal Healthcare proposal.  
Of note: All Washingtonians, regardless of immigration status, can shop for and buy qualified health and dental plans through Washington Healthplanfinder.

## **Liaison functions**

Updates:

- Quaker Voice set up a Temporary Task Force on Human Rights.  
Link: <https://www.quakervoicewa.org/task-force-on-human-rights/>
- Quaker Voice on Washington Public Policy would like to visit our Meeting –likely on March 8. To be continued.

Our Feb 8 action step commitment:

- Quaker Voice tracks the State 2025 priority bills,  
We are encouraged to express our support for said bills via the PRO system.  
Link: <https://www.quakervoicewa.org/2025-quaker-voice-priority-bills/>  
Use this link for regular legislative updates.

### **Contacting our Legislators**

- Emily Randall – US Representative - 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District
- Drew Hansen – Senator 23<sup>rd</sup> Legislative District
- Tarra Simmons – Representative 23<sup>rd</sup> Legislative District
- Greg Nance – Representative 23<sup>rd</sup> Legislative District

Our Feb 8 action steps commitments:

- Congresswoman Emily Randall had an opportunity to meet with FCNL staff and thus familiarize herself with our Quaker beliefs and actions.  
We will connect with her next quarter to introduce her to our Meeting.
- We will look for opportunities to meet with our legislative district legislators during this legislative session.

### **Next Working Group Meeting: March 8 at 4 PM**

*Submitted by Paul Larsen and Bea Cardea – Clerks of Working Group*

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