

Willamette Quarterly Meeting
Winter Quarter
Corvallis Meeting
February 6, 2010

Meeting for Worship for Business followed unprogrammed worship at the winter quarterly gathering, clerked by Jeanne Kimball .

1. **Minutes**, read by Chris Cradler. The Minutes of Fall Quarterly Meeting were read and two corrections made (“Valley” removed from Central Oregon Worship Group’s name; Treasurer Lyn Gordon advised that the numbers in his fall report were approximate). Minutes were approved.

2. **Treasurer’s Report**, Lyn Gordon reporting. WQM made good use of Spiritual Life Fund this year to meet requests, disbursing \$1545. With attendance going down and rates going up at Mt. Hood Kiwanis Camp, economic trouble could be coming.

Proposed budget for upcoming year: Treasurer asked for the meeting’s forbearance in suggesting that the \$6 assessment is not needed this year (return to \$5 per attender). Lyn built in a \$400 donation amount to Spiritual Life Fund; he included an additional \$800 for use in possible experimental gatherings, conditional to today’s decisions on future plans for WQM; and he cut back on Friends Peace Teams contribution to \$900. The budget has a forecast deficit of \$2000, to be covered by reserves. A Friend commented that returning to \$6 assessment may be feasible for Meetings. Lyn suggested that Meetings are encouraged to contribute more if they can. Clerk asked Meetings to contribute more as they are lead.

The Treasurer’s report was accepted, and the proposed budget was approved.

3. **Nominating Committee** – reporting by Nancy McLauchlan. The Committee brought new nominations - Clerk: John Etter (Eugene) 2012; Recording Clerk: Chris Cradler (Bridge City) 2012; Ministry and Oversight Committee: Rae Lawrence (Multnomah) 2012; Web Keeper: Jim Flory (Corvallis) 2012; Treasurer: Lyn Gordon (Multnomah) 2012; and Nominating Committee: Esther Schiedel (Corvallis) 2013. Nominating continues to seek two more members of M & O and an Assistant Registrar. Nominations were approved.

The Committee recommends that a 3-year term be instituted for Nominating Committee. Terms for continuing members John Allcott (Eugene) would be 2011, and Nancy McLauchlan (Bridge City) would be 2012. A new member would be appointed each year. Recommendation was approved.

Junior Friends advisor – Traditionally JF identified their own advisors, but now few JF are participating. Should we ask Nominating Committee to find adult advisors or leave this with JF themselves? Should Nominating Committee find Friendly Adult Presence (FAPs) for each session of WQM? After some discussion, Friends felt united in encouraging monthly meetings to work on developing JF participation at the local level.

Friends approved this minute: “Nominating Committee will facilitate/ensure presence of a FAP at spring WQM. WQM instructs Nominating Committee, in coordination with Planning Committees, to ask JFs if they want to have another event at WQM times that they plan so that WQM can support their program.”

4. **Announcements:**

- WQM Men’s Retreat is upcoming, 16 participants are needed to cover costs. Info available.
- Spring Quarterly will gather on April 23-25 at Sky Camp, with the theme “Body and Soul – Intertwining our Physical and Spiritual Journeys”.

- Lower Columbia WG is meeting more often, and they will send a State of Society report to spring's quarterly.
 - The presence of a member from Boise Valley Friends Meeting, Judith Reppell, was noted and welcomed.
 - Florence WG is meeting on third Sundays in Coos Bay.
5. **Consideration of WQM:** Clerk Jeanne Kimball read the purpose statement for quarterly meetings in NPYM Discipline and in WQM Handbook. Jay Thatcher representing the ad hoc Committee to Survey Friends Needs and Interests (Nancy McLauchlan, Ellen Hubbe, Jeanne Kimball, and Jay) presented their report and recommendations. A strong sense from survey results is that going for two weekends annually at Sky Camp and Mt. Hood Kiwanis Camp is unsustainable. They recommend experimenting with very different patterns for gatherings sponsored by WQM to include various formats. Suggested formats from survey responses would be given to Planning Committees to use, starting in fall of 2010, instead of meeting at Sky Camp and Mt. Hood Kiwanis Camp. WQM would continue annual business meetings in February.

Many comments and ideas were generated in the ensuing discussion. A Friend from Boise Valley suggested that events like a clerking workshop would warrant their long-distance travel. A large inclusive project like a Habitat for Humanity build in which all worship groups and Meetings could participate was suggested. A Friend questioned the need for quarterly meeting face-to-face gatherings of Friends. Individuals spoke of their deep desire to continue meeting in some way to enliven our spirits. The role of the Quarterly Meeting in setting up new MMs was expressed. Salem Friends relayed their enthusiasm for pairing groups (MMs and WGs) for activities. Much appreciation was expressed for gathering with Friends from around the quarter in some way. Quarterlies provide another way to experience the spectrum of Friends. The difficulty of evaluating the experiment because of only February business meetings as gatherings of the whole Quarter was raised. Perhaps we could begin the experiment by only one of the quarterlies being of different format, and the other of the traditional format. Suggest Friends write up their experiences with each of the gatherings in the experimental period. We could try for this year, spring at Sky Camp and fall of format and place to be announced, then discuss again at next February's business meeting. Allow spring Sky Camp gathering to be open to experimentation, also. Consider gathering in the area of our more distant worship groups at times. Try interest groups at Sky Camp.

The meeting approved this minute: "WQM accepts the recommendations from the ad hoc Committee to Survey Friends Needs and Interests. In 2010 WQM will continue the spring meeting at Sky Camp and try a new format and location for the fall meeting. Planning Committees are encouraged to use the recommendations on format and topics generated by the ad hoc committee for the gatherings. WQM will evaluate at the end of the experimental period (2 years). In addition we particularly urge Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups to implement the recommendations as they are lead."

The Meeting closed with a short period of worship.

Chris Cradler, Recording

Attachments: Treasurer's Report, Report from ad hoc Committee to Survey Friends Needs and Interests