

Willamette Quarterly Meeting
Fall Quarter 2011; October 1, 2011
Reedwood Friends Church, Portland, OR
John Etter, Presiding Clerk

The Meeting opened with worship, with more than 25 Friends present as Meeting commenced.

2011-10-1 (1) Minutes of the May 21, 2011, WQM Meeting for Worship for Business were read. A clarification to 2011-5-21 (3) was noted: Strike "We are well above budget." Replace with "Attendance was higher than expected." **Approved.**

2011-10-1 (2) Nominating Committee: Barb Janoe gave the report. The committee is seeking nominees for the following positions: Clerk, Recording Clerk, Ministry and Oversight (3-4), Assistant Registrar, and Nominating Committee. A full roster is anticipated for presentation at Winter WQM. Barb read the current slate of officers to refresh Friends' memories.

2011-10-1 (3) Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Lyn Gordon reported that the usual subsidy for spring WQM session was not needed this year. He foresees no assessment change from the traditional \$5 per member, to again be requested from Meetings and Worship Groups this upcoming year.

A Friend asked about the use of Spiritual Life funds to support Boise Valley Friends to participate in WQM sessions. Lyn responded that Boise Valley Friends are encouraged to ask for this available financial aid. **Friends approved making specific invitations to South Mountain and Boise Valley Friends with the registration information for upcoming sessions, including using the financial aid available.**

The Meeting **accepted** the report.

2011-10-1 (4) Registrar's Report: Registrar Laura Arcidiacono reported the attendance of 53 Friends and 3 children (intermittently) over the course of Friday evening and Saturday. A Camas Friends Church attender appreciated the invitation to participate from the registrar.

2011-10-1 (5) Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon Relationship: Lisa DeVaney reported as an EMO resource person. She began by listing the concerns raised at the WQM Spring session: less energy and interest in EMO activities, questioning the financial support (should it be sent to Friends peace and justice organizations instead?), and the preference for direct involvement by individual Meetings rather than as a denomination.

Lisa described the present structure of EMO, run by a voting board of members who must be from Christian-faith denominations. It is a statewide ecumenical organization, the only one surviving in the current economy thanks to creative planning. Their great work in Oregon has continued, for example, in consultation on water rights issues with various congregations and Native American tribes, informing on immigration issues at state legislative level, and an outreach to Islamic organizations. Lisa advocated for the health and life of EMO as an organization, and hopes that Friends will become more involved in its programs.

Lisa currently serves on the Board as the Friends' representative. Board members are asked to raise a \$1000 contribution annually as a fundraising tool. She suggested that belonging to EMO as individual congregations/Meetings may involve membership fees as high as \$500 each (currently the WQM contributes \$450 to EMO annually). EMO Board members value the Friends' perspective and presence

on the Board. She noted her personal stand, from the grounding of Friends testimony on equality, on the Board in opposition to preferential treatment in home mortgage lending for military veterans.

Joe Snyder, recently relocated to Portland, has been asked to serve as a Friends representative on the EMO Board replacing Lisa. He spoke of his experience in Myrtle Point, OR, in building community with people of faith, and felt we should be a part of those statewide activities as well.

Friends commented on the report. Several spoke to the “disconnect” between Christian-faith ecumenism and interfaith activities.

The clerk sensed that Friends responded favorably to the EMO report, and suggested this minute: **WQM continues with its current relationship with EMO, with Joe Snyder assuming the representational work for Friends. Friends hope that EMO will work towards the objective of becoming an interfaith organization. Approved.** The Meeting requested regular reporting back to WQM about EMO matters.

2011-10-1 (6) Ministry and Oversight Committee report: Presiding Clerk expressed the strong hope and concern that the Committee’s activity be rejuvenated with new membership and designation of a clerk.

2011-10-1 (7) Announcements:

- Winter WQM Meeting for Worship for Business in Corvallis is scheduled for February 4, 2012. Clerk John Etter invited Friends to consider an appropriate interest-group style presentation as program before the business session.
- Lisa DeVaney offered to give a Medicare informational presentation to any local group.

The meeting closed with worship.

John Etter, Clerk

Chris Cradler, Recording Clerk