

Draft to be approved at Spring Quarterly 2009 Business Meeting

Willamette Quarterly Meeting

Winter Quarter 2009

Corvallis Meetinghouse

February 7, 2009

Jeanne Kimball, Presiding Clerk

Approximately 40 Friends gathered for WQM business meeting on Saturday February 7, 2009. The meeting opened with a period of worship.

2009-2-7 (1) “Heeding God's Call: A Gathering on Peace” – Report by Sarita Lief and Sierra Newby-Smith

In January, Sarita Lief (Eugene Friends Meeting) and Sierra Newby-Smith (Salem Friends Meeting) attended “Peace Gathering 2009” in Philadelphia, along with 350 other delegates from numerous denominations, including people from Christian, Jewish, and Muslim faiths. The gathering was 2 years in the making, and was a joint effort of the Church of the Brethren, the Mennonite Church USA, and Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends. Sarita asked us to imagine the kind of world we want to be in, then to imagine that all Friends and all faith communities were called together to bring about a transformation in the world, then said “that’s what we experienced.” Sarita and Sierra shared their experiences and impressions of the gathering with joy and gratitude, commenting on the fellowship, mentorship, and challenge to do things in “a new way,” as well as the challenge that they go back into their communities to build this new world imagined at the gathering. Sarita encourages Friends to visit the web site www.peacegathering2009.org, where all of the speeches from the gathering are recorded.

2009-2-7 (2) The minutes of October 5, 2008 WQM business meeting were approved as written.

2009-2-7 (3) Treasurer's Report – Lyn Gordon, WQM Treasurer.

Lyn noted the following highlights of the Treasurer’s report:

- WQM is doing fine financially. We have over \$9,000 in the bank.
- We do need to make deposits for Sky Camp and Kiwanis Camp soon.
- All Meetings have paid their annual assessments.
- Both Sky Camp (Spring '08) and Kiwanis Camp (Fall '08) had net gains (registration fees + WQM donation exceeded expenses).
- Lyn presented the 2009 WQM budget, which is attached.

Approved: Lay down the Boise Valley dedicated fund, and move those funds (about \$295) to the Spiritual Life fund.

Approved: Add a line item to the WQM annual budget for Friends Peace Teams (FPT) with \$1,000 allocated for that line item for this year.

The 2009 WQM budget was **approved** as presented, with the addition of \$200 expense for the purchase of a sound system for use at Quarterlies

A request was made that acronyms used in the treasurer’s report be spelled out.

2009-2-7 (4) Ministry & Oversight Committee – Gayle Matson, Co-Clerk, and Jim Flory, M&O Committee member and WQM Web Keeper

1. Gayle noted that the WQM Spiritual Life fund now has a balance of about \$2000. Gayle reminded us of the purpose and background of the SLF, and the process to use to request financial assistance to attend WQM meetings. She asks us to be proactive in encouraging Friends to request assistance if they need it, to attend Quarterly Meetings.
2. Jim is both the WQM web keeper, as well as member of WQM M&O. M&O has oversight over the WQM web site. Jim presented the following proposed minute regarding posting WQM minutes on the WQM website:

“WQM approves posting the minutes from the Willamette Quarterly Meeting Business Meetings at the Willamette Quarterly Meeting website (www.willamettequarterly.org). The Clerk, Recording Clerk, and Web keeper will review the minutes before posting them and if there are any parts that the Clerk deems inappropriate for posing on the website, the following text will be inserted: (See the print version of these minutes for additional text which is omitted here.)”

This minute was **approved**.

3. Jim reported that he has received requests from Meetings that do not have their own web sites, asking if WQM could post information about their meeting time, place, and contact information for them. We are proposing an alternate way for meetings without their own website to have a web presence. First, go to www.quakerfinder.org which posts information about Quaker meetings for free. Using the email address posted on their website, send them the information you would like posted. Then send Jim an email at contact@willamettequarterly.org, letting him know that you have done this. He will put up a link to your Quaker Finder page on WQM's webpage with our list of meetings and worship groups. This system will give the responsibility to each Meetings and Worship Group to post any information they want and keep it current. If you have any questions contact Jim Flory at contact@willamettequarterly.org or by phone (see NPYM Directory). If your meeting establishes its own website, please let the WQM web keeper know so they can add the link the WQM website.

2009-2-7 (5) Nominating Committee – John Allcott, Nominating Committee clerk

- John introduced the other members of the Nominating Committee, Leonora Kent and Nancy McLauchlan.
- The following nominations were **approved** (end of term noted in parentheses):
Jeanne Kimball, Clerk (February 2010)
Sakre Edson, Recording Clerk (February 2010)
Darlene Colborn, Registrar (February 2011)
Ellen Hubbe, M&O (February 2011)
Darl Kleinbach, M&O (February 2011)
Pan Tangible, M&O (February 2011)
Laurie Knackstedt, Junior Friends Advisor (February 2010)
- John noted that we still need one more JF Advisor, one more person to serve on M&O for a 2 year term, and a Young Friends convenor (Rachel Berleman has stepped down)

2009-2-7 (6) Fall Quarterly Meeting at Kiwanis Camp, Mt. Hood – Jane Ewert, Multnomah/Bridge City Quarterly Meeting Planning Committee Co-Clerk.

- Jane asks those gathered if we want to commit to a 2-day Fall Quarterly in 2009, and do we want to return to the Kiwanis Camp on Mt. Hood, noting increased costs there. The sense of the Meeting was that yes, we do want to return to the Kiwanis Camp in the Fall, but then we might consider a site committee to scope out the best location for Fall 2010.
- Earlier in today's meeting, the question was raised about why there is decreasing attendance at Quarterlies. Several people volunteered their ideas, including:

- Lack of activities for kids
- Kids often have weekend commitments (soccer games, etc.) that conflict with Quarterlies
- In many families nowadays, both parents are working, and weekends at home together are coveted
- It's not necessarily due to the cost of the Quarterly, for many people, although cost undoubtedly comes into play
- As a result of today's discussion about Quarterlies, WQM decided to empower the Quarterly Meeting Planning Committees to ensure we have a quality children's program (pre-K through high school) at Quarterly Meetings, even if that means spending some money to make it so.

2009-2-7 (7) Announcements

- Nancy McLaughlan announced that the FWCC Annual Meeting will be March 18-22 in Canby, Oregon. The deadline to register is Feb. 24. She said that you can just attend the evening events/speakers, also. See www.fwccamericas.org.
- Jeanne has a copy of the Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO) newsletter. She noted that Desmond Tutu is speaking in Portland on May 4th. (See the EMO website.)
- Our clerk, Jeanne Kimball, read an e-mail from Roger Weaver, Corvallis Friends Meeting, suggesting that Meetings and Worship Groups report on what they are doing in response to the NPYM minute on Global Climate Change at our Spring Quarterly Meeting. This could be in a separate report or in their State of Society Reports.
- Leonora Kent gave information on the Karimu International Help Foundation, which is building a school in Tanzania. Leonora will be going to Tanzania to help with this project. Contact Leonora for more information.
- The Willamette Quarterly Men's Retreat will be held March 13-15 at Camp Myrtlewood. Bob Marvos is the registrar.
- The Willamette Quarterly Meeting Spring Quarterly will be held at Sky Camp May 1-3. The theme is: "Our relationship to the Divine Spirit--How do we express it. How do we minister to each other?" Leonora Kent and Ellen Hubbe are co-clerks of the Spring Quarterly planning committee.

Meeting ended at 3:10 p.m. with a time of worship.

Jeanne Kimball, Clerk

Diane Hollister, Recording Clerk