

Willamette Quarterly Meeting
Mt. Hood Kiwanis Camp
May 18, 2024

Presiding clerk: Chris Cradler, Bridge City Friends Meeting
Recording clerk: Diane Hollister, Multnomah Monthly Meeting

From the chilly but beautiful forests on the flanks of Mt. Hood, Oregon, Willamette Quarterly Meeting opened with worship at 2:30 p.m. with about 37 people in attendance, gathered in the cozy lodge with a fire crackling in the fireplace across the room.

24-5-1 – Roll call

Clerk Chris Cradler read the list of WQM monthly meetings and worship groups, geographically from south to north, inviting those in attendance from each meeting/worship group to stand.

24-5-2 – Nominations

Laura Arcidiacono, member of the WQM Nominating committee, presented the following nominations:

- The Beloved Community Committee: Virginia Wood, Salem FM; Bob Ward, Corvallis MM; John Etter, Eugene FM; David Zeiss, Eugene FM. (Note: This committee assists with planning of WQM.)
- Ministry and Care Committee: Sakre Edson, Eugene FM; Helen Park, Eugene FM; Cathy Tinker, Multnomah MM; Renee Stringham, Bridge City FM
- Junior Friends Advisors: Dave Ek, Multnomah FM; John Etter, Eugene FM; and Ron Braithwaite, Multnomah FM.
 - Sarah Michener, Eugene FM, rose to volunteer to be nominated as a JF Advisor, noting that there are only men nominated, and there are teens who feel more comfortable talking with a woman.
- Webkeeper: Catherine (Cat) Harrison, Bridge City FM
- Treasurer: Lyn Gordon, Multnomah FM
- Nominating committee: Liz Bruno, Eugene FM, Laura Arcidiacono, Bridge City FM

A friend asked how the clerk and recording clerk for WQM are selected. The clerk responded that the Meeting that is hosting WQM fills those positions.

The clerk noted that, since WQM currently meets only once a year, the nominations need to be considered during today's business meeting.

These nominations were all **approved** at the end of business meeting.

24-5-3 – Hosting 2025 WQM

Bob Burton and Bob Ward, both from Corvallis MM, presented a proposal that Corvallis Meeting host WQM in 2025. At their recent meeting for business, Corvallis agreed with a resounding “yes” to the proposal.

Bob Ward made several proposals related to WQM, including that an ad hoc site group be identified to look for a recurring central location, and identifying a “WQM coordinator.” It was also suggested that Salem, Florence, Eugene and Corvallis be on the ad hoc site committee.

We **approved** with thanks Corvallis Meeting’s offer to host 2025 WQM.

We **approved** formation of an ad hoc site committee to look for a permanent site for WQM, with Bob Ward as the coordinator. People were asked to speak with Bob if they have any ideas for a possible site.

Corvallis asked for help and support with hosting WQM in 2025.

24-5-4 – Treasurer’s Report

WQM Treasurer Lyn Gordon (Multnomah Meeting) presented the treasurer’s report, which is attached at the end of these minutes. He reviewed 2023 expenses and revenues, as well as 2024 year-to-date expenses and revenues. Lyn noted that, for 2024, assessments were raised to \$5/member, and that all Meetings have paid their assessment.

A Friend asked if the WQM men’s retreat will be revived; and if it is laid down, what will happen to the men’s retreat fund. In response, it was noted that if that happens, the Beloved Community Committee will discern what to do.

Proposed budget for 2025:

The 2025 proposed budget is attached to these minutes. Of note, it includes a proposed amount of WQM’s annual assessment to EMO (Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon) be made at a lower rate than in previous years, per EMO’s guidelines for its member organizations depending on size. However, a Friend recommended that instead of lowering the amount we pay to EMO, we increase it to support the work that EMO is doing across the region. The suggested amount is \$500.

A question was raised asking why we support EMO when there are so many worthy organizations we could donate to. Answer: WQM is a valued member of EMO; \$300 is their assessment of WQM for membership.

The treasurer’s report was **accepted**.

The proposed 2025 budget was **approved** with the change to increase the EMO assessment to \$500.

24-5-5 – EMO report

Jane Snyder, Bridge City FM, presented the report. Jane is WQM’s representative to the EMO board. Jane reported that EMO has many programs it supports. Some are preventative, and some are direct service. Examples of the programs that EMO supports include material and legal support for refugees; support for youth in trouble; feeding hungry households; and HIV services.

24-5-6 – Registrar’s Report

Laura Arcidiacono, WQM registrar, reported that 65 attended this WQM; this figure includes 11 children under age 18.

24-5-7 – Final business, thanks, and announcements

- We **approved** today’s business meeting minutes. The clerk explained that the minutes will be distributed to Meetings and the Beloved Community Committee for comments, and finalized minutes will be posted on the WQM website.
- The members of the planning committee were thanked: Tommee Carlisle, Cathy Tinker, Renee Stringham and especially Laura Arcidiacono, “without whom WQM would not have happened!” according to the other members of the planning committee.
- Helen Park reported that Darita-Rose Alder, member of Eugene FM, passed away on May 13.
- Lyn Gordon noted that NPYM Annual Session registration is open, and closes June 15. He reminded Friends to look at NPYM job openings, as several remain unfilled.
- Gail Sanford reported that Bruce Kenworthy, husband of beloved Multnomah Meeting member Betsey Kenworthy, recently passed away; a memorial service will be held in June.
- Nancy McLaughlan suggested that we send birthday cards to Jeanne Kimball, former WQM clerk, who will be 100 years old on 11/16/2024.
- Joe Snyder reported that Emily Provance will be in Oregon around June 6 for a workshop at Reedwood Friends Church about preventing violence in elections.
- Joe also noted that the FWCC (Friends World Committee for Consultation) world gathering will be in South Africa this year. NPYM has a representative going. The gathering will be blended so that people can participate via Zoom; Meetings are encouraged to form a “hub” to connect to the section meeting as a group. See Joe and the FWCC website for more information.

The Meeting closed with a few moments of grateful worship.

Addendum: Shortly after the May 18, 2024 meeting David Zeiss declined the nomination for membership in the Beloved Community Committee.