

Pacific Northwest Quarterly Meeting
Continuing Committee -- September 26, 2009
Lazy F Camp & Retreat Center
Minutes

09-09-01 Attendance The Continuing Committee meeting began at approximately 6:15 pm. In attendance were Iris Graville (presiding PNQM Co-clerk), Don Goldstein (Recording Clerk and Listkeeper), Lorina Hall (Bellingham rep), Pablo Stanfield (M & O Co-clerk and acting University rep), Judith Clarke (Sandpoint rep), Clint Weimeister (Port Townsend rep), Margaret Coahran (Registrar and Site Liaison), Fran Williams (Olympia rep), Louis Webster (Treasurer and Eastside rep), Peg Bernstein (Salmon Bay rep), Sierra Campbell-Unsoeld (Junior Friends Co-clerk), Deric Young (Junior Friends adviser), Adrienne Solenberger (Children's Program Coordinator), Carolyn Laskowski (acting Tacoma rep), George Mancini (acting Pullman-Moscow rep), and visitor Rae Lawrence (Walla Walla).

09-09-02 Junior Friends Sierra reported that, in order to adjust to a request for participation by Junior Friends in the Council of All Beings this evening, Junior Friends had changed their usual Saturday evening movie time and as a result some (but likely not all) Junior Friends will attend the Council. She said that Junior Friends have a very busy schedule which is hard to adjust to meet other Friends' requests. Sierra also reported that a new Junior Friend seemed somewhat lost, was wandering about alone some of the time, and might be unhappy about missing activities at home this weekend. Friends encouraged her and Deric to do whatever was needed to make sure he was included and welcomed. Adrienne agreed to talk with the Junior Friend about the need for him to be in a program, either Central Friends or Junior Friends.

09-09-03 Children's Program Adrienne reported that there had been a lot of swapping of volunteers and adjustment of the activity groups, partly because illness had a significant impact on who was there as opposed to who had been expected, both among the children and the adult volunteers. She also described a significant problem, in that the Trading Post lounge is too small for combining the Preschool and Early Elementary groups there, especially when (as this time) the Infants and Toddlers are also present. Peg, our former Children's Program Coordinator, repeated her previous observation that another space is really needed for the Children's Program. The central "foyer" in Saddlepockets is probably available but is quite small. It was suggested that the Preschool and Early Elementary groups be moved to Ridgeview Lounge, which is somewhat bigger, and the Upper Elementary group use the Trading Post lounge. Don pointed out that space assignments to groups, within what is available, are made by the Children's Program Coordinator and not by the Continuing Committee. It might also be possible to change the group definitions so that there are only four rather than five activity groups, a better fit for the number of available spaces. Adrienne acknowledged that some of the Children's Program staff and parents were challenging her due to her age and inexperience with the program. Friends expressed their full support for Adrienne and their sense that she was fully qualified to organize the program.

09-09-04 QM Finances Louis said that he had nothing additional to report concerning our financial situation. Numerous questions were raised about what further information we might need in addition to the results of the current QM session, in order to make decisions. Margaret and Don both indicated that the situation is a very complex one that is difficult and confusing to discuss usefully in a large group, and Margaret gave some illustrations of why this is so. Don reminded us that we had had an Ad hoc Finances Subcommittee a few years back, the work of which was very helpful to the whole committee, and suggested that we set up such a subcommittee again to bring us a specific recommendation, and a rationale for it, when we meet during the winter. Friends **agreed** to this idea, and also agreed that Louis, Margaret, and Clint would form this ad hoc subcommittee. CC members also agreed to inform their meetings that an increase in assessments is coming in 2010, with the amount to be determined and announced early in the year.

09-09-05 Winter meeting In accord with our usual practice, the expectation is that we will meet at Eastside Friends meetinghouse during the winter, at least if the remodel is sufficiently complete and it's available. January 23rd is the preferred date for a Saturday meeting (there no longer being a reason to meet on Sunday, as happened during the past several years) from about 10 am to 4 pm and including a potluck or partly-potluck lunch. Louis will check on the availability of the meetinghouse and notify Iris. Meetinghouses in Seattle (University) or Tacoma could be available as backup locations if needed; Pablo and Carolyn will check about their availability.

09-09-06 Silent Retreat attendance policy The revisions to the policy we approved in September 2008, proposed by the sex offender primarily concerned and by the former SR convener, are multiple but are not ones that would have a major impact on the safety of SR participants. Because of this and the shortage of time to consider the details as a whole group, together with the CC's rejection of creating a standing subcommittee for SR concerns, Don suggested that we create another ad hoc subcommittee just to deal with this matter before January, to present a recommended new policy draft to the CC in January, and then to lay itself down. It seemed clear to all that the subcommittee needs to include the SR convener (currently Kathy Knowlton) and the SR registrar (Judy Meyer). Don agreed to serve on it due to his long and detailed association with the issues, and suggested that Sandy Harold, our newest M & O Co-clerk, also be asked to serve. These names were **approved**. The Clerk asked Pablo Stanfield to contact Kathy, Judy, and Sandy to ask them to serve and he agreed to do so.

09-09-07 Fall 2009 QM Planning Committee feedback Clint reported that late cancellations were definitely a problem this time. Margaret Sorrel and Lynn Waddington had been very active early in the planning process, and then had to pull back later when Lynn's illness worsened. He said that working with Whidbey Island Friends, who did most of the detailed work on the theme-related program, was logistically challenging but in general had worked well.

09-09-08 Spring 2010 QM Planning Committee Louis admitted to some feelings of apprehension about the amount of work ahead for his committee, but felt that they were on target so far in their planning process. The theme for the spring 2010 QM session will be "Compassionate Listening: Finding God in the Midst of Fear," and the dates are April 23-25, 2010.

09-09-09 Ministry & Oversight Pablo reminded us that State of Society reports are due before the spring 2010 QM session. He reported that he and Sandy Harold have reviewed together their job description and discovered that they both have a leading to travel to troubled or isolated meetings and worship groups, including worship groups that are not under the care of any monthly meeting. He requested that the CC authorize up to \$250 in travel reimbursement for them to pursue this leading between now and January, and said they would report on their visitation and its results at the next CC meeting so that a decision might be made about further funding. This request was **approved**. Don, who is also clerk of the NPYM Outreach & Visitation Committee, welcomed their interest in visitation travel and their expressed willingness to coordinate with his committee. He pointed out that if and when such travel included a member of the O & V Committee, or was specifically authorized by that Committee, it would be eligible for travel reimbursement from NPYM funds under the Committee's control, thus possibly reducing the expense to PNQM.

09-09-10 There being no further business and the time available having been exhausted, Friends concluded the meeting at about 7:10 pm with a brief period of silent worship, to meet again at Eastside Friends meetinghouse or an alternate location in the Seattle area on January 23rd, 2010.

Don Goldstein, Recording Clerk

Iris Graville, Presiding Co-clerk