

Pacific Northwest Quarterly Meeting
Lazy F Camp & Retreat Center -- April 24, 2010
Minutes of Meeting for Business

10-04-01 Opening Following opening worship, Presiding Co-clerk Alan Mountjoy-Venning introduced himself and Recording Clerk Don Goldstein. Minutes from our Meeting for Business in September 2009 were partially approved during the session (as concerns authorization for an increase in assessments) and have since been distributed to meetings and worship groups. Copies have also been posted for perusal by Friends today. These minutes were approved as distributed.

REPORTS

10-04-02 Junior Friends report Rebecca Sullivan, Co-clerk of the Junior Friends, reported that the program is going well this time. The Junior Friends have completed a service project for Lazy F, and some of them are participating in the Challenge Course this afternoon. Rebecca also told us about the NPYM Junior Friends service trip to Jamaica, scheduled for late July and early August this year, in which participants will be mentoring youth aged 6-16 at a summer camp. A total of 19 people will make the trip, including several adult advisers. Donations are being sought to support the trip. Such donations should be sent to NPYM Treasurer Norm Pasche, with checks earmarked for the Junior Friends 2010 Service Trip.

10-04-03 Ministry & Oversight report M & O Co-clerk Sandy Harold reported that a request for recognition as a monthly meeting had been received from South Seattle Preparative Meeting, with support from its overseeing group, University Friends Meeting. Following our normal procedures, the M & O committee has appointed a Visiting Committee to meet one or more times with South Seattle Friends and report its recommendation back to Quarterly Meeting at a future session. The Visiting Committee will consist of Sandy Harold (San Juan), Clerk; Theo Mace (an attender of the Preparative Meeting); Lorina Hall (Bellingham); and Kathy Mallalieu (Olympia). An additional committee member is being sought.

Friends approved the Visiting Committee for South Seattle Preparative Meeting as proposed.

[After the Meeting for Business, Tom Ewell (Whidbey Island) agreed to serve as the final member of the Visiting Committee.]

Sandy next read, in sections, a summary of the State of Society Reports for 2009 that had been received from most of our monthly and preparative meetings, and also from a few worship groups. [This summary is in a separate document being distributed with these minutes.] Following each section, M & O Co-clerk Pablo Stanfield invited Friends present to respond to related queries. Those queries and some of the responses follow:

- Section 1 -- How have Friends in your group been affected by the changing times? What ways has your group found to assist other Friends with economic problems or challenges to their life?
 - In Tacoma an elderly member has a terminal illness and that the meeting is actively supporting her and her family.
 - Whidbey Island WG had been providing help to an attender suffering from mental illness, but that burden was recently lifted when the individual moved away.
- Section 2 -- In what ways are you and your meeting witnessing to Quaker values of peace and justice? In what ways does your life speak so your community is a place of harmony? How do you involve your children and teach them these values?
 - At University Meeting the children were involved in a fundraiser for the homeless and for other organizations.
 - Olympia Meeting donates 1% of its total budget to Right Sharing of World Resources, and its children make and sell lunch on Meeting for Business Sundays to raise funds for worthy projects.
 - South Seattle preteen youth have been getting together periodically with peers from several other area meetings for joint projects and activities.

- Section 3 -- What do you and your meeting do with interpersonal problems? What do you believe is the responsibility of members and attenders to each other when there is conflict, in order to strive together for peace and harmony?
--South Seattle Meeting has been struggling for some time with an interpersonal conflict affecting the entire community.

10-04-04 Friends Committee on Washington Public Policy (FCWPP) FCWPP Clerk Tom Ewell reported that the FCWPP Steering Committee had discussed a possible name change, but decided to stick with the "FCWPP" name. The organization's second annual Lobby Day in February was successful. He reminded all of us living in Washington State that we each have 3 legislative representatives, and the best way to influence them is to contact them personally. This year has seen limited activity in the legislature due to the economic crisis. Lobbyist Carol Estes resigned recently to take another position, and FCWPP is now looking for a new lobbyist. After 10 years of activity, FCWPP is now well-respected at the state level, where its priorities remain those of criminal justice reform, restorative justice, and economic justice. Tom concluded his report by announcing that there will be a FCWPP Roundtable, to discuss current issues, held at University Friends Meetinghouse on Saturday, June 12th, from 9 am to 1 pm; all are welcome to participate.

10-04-05 Continuing Committee report Alan reported that the Continuing Committee met in January at Eastside Meetinghouse. While considering nominations, it was learned that Louis Webster, Margaret Coahran, and Pablo Stanfield were each willing to serve another two-year term as Treasurer, Registrar, and M & O Co-clerk, respectively, and the Committee agreed to so nominate them. Alan is retiring this year as PNQM Co-clerk, and Susan Richardson (Bellingham) has been nominated to succeed him while Iris Graville continues for another year as the other Co-clerk.

Friends approved each of these four nominations of officers to serve from July 2010 until July 2012.

The Continuing Committee also discussed at length the organization's financial situation, and was happy to learn that the Fall 2009 QM session had shown a surplus of several hundred dollars, following the large loss experienced from the Spring 2009 session. Due to this improvement in our situation, plus a surplus anticipated (and since realized) from the 2010 Silent Retreat, the Committee recommends a modest increase in meeting assessments, specifically an increase of \$0.50 per active adult attender (to \$1.50 annually) effective this year, plus another \$0.50 increase (to \$2.00 annually) to be effective in 2012.

Friends approved the proposed increases in annual meeting assessments.

SPRING 2010 QUARTERLY MEETING

10-04-06 Registrar's report Registrar Margaret Coahran reported that our attendance at this session includes no infants or toddlers, 14 preschool children, 15 early elementary children, 8 upper elementary children, 13 Central Friends, 14 Junior Friends, and 104 adults for a total of 168. She said we are getting better at registering on time. This time one late-registering couple was turned away because all accommodations suitable for couples were spoken for when they inquired. **We minuted our appreciation to Margaret for her work.**

10-04-07 Children's Program report A Friend (name not recorded) reported on behalf of Children's Program Coordinator Adrienne Solenberger, who is co-teaching a group in the program this time. Many of the teachers were found only very late, an ongoing concern which will be discussed by the Continuing Committee in its meeting later today. Several children needed to be transferred between groups this time. [It was later learned that these transfers were all in response to parental requests, not program difficulties.] **We also minuted our appreciation to Adrienne for her extraordinary efforts this session.**

SEASONING CONCERNS

10-04-08 Naming our organization Don Goldstein read a statement of personal concern for integrity in the naming of our organization. [This document, with update, accompanies these minutes.] Since we have not gathered quarterly for a long time, if ever, he asks that we season, in meetings and worship groups, the possibility of renaming of our organization as "Pacific Northwest Half Yearly Meeting". He also reported that a preliminary

discussion of this issue in the Ministry & Oversight Committee had revealed some ambiguity in connection with the term "half yearly meeting", and that he was now more in favor of "Regional Meeting", a term which has precedent in Intermountain Yearly Meeting. A Friend rose to recommend that if we do change our name it would be advantageous to change the entire name because of the similarity and ongoing confusion between "Pacific Northwest" and "North Pacific" in the names of our own organization and our yearly meeting. The concern was referred to the Continuing Committee and to meetings for further seasoning.

10-04-09 ANNOUNCEMENTS:

--Alan Mountjoy-Venning, relaying information received from our other Co-clerk, Iris Graville, announced that the **Pacific Northwest Quaker Women's Theology Conference** will be held June 16-10 this year at the Seabeck Conference Center on Hood Canal. More information is available at www.pnwquakerwomen.org.

--Nancy Renk reported for Sandpoint Friends Meeting's "Joy Committee" that our **Fall 2010 Quarterly Meeting session** will be held here at Lazy F September 24th-26th, 2010. She will post copies of a flyer announcing the session theme, "Lightening Our Spirits: Finding Joy Through Effective Action, Courage, and Grace". The plenary facilitator will be former Sandpoint clerk Kim Marshall. [A copy of the flyer accompanies these minutes and can also be downloaded from pnqm.org.]

--Registrar Margaret Coahran announced that Easter will fall in 2011 during our usual spring QM session weekend, and Lazy F is normally closed Easter weekend so that staff can be with their families. It has been decided that we will hold our **Spring 2011 QM session** one week earlier, on the weekend of April 15-17, 2011. University Friends Meeting is the host meeting.

--Don Goldstein announced that the **2010 Friends General Conference Gathering of Friends** will be held July 4-10 at Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio, near Toledo. The theme is "Accepting Gifts of the Spirit". More information and online registration are available at fgcgathering.org.

--Don also announced that registration is now open for the **2010 Annual Session of North Pacific Yearly Meeting** in Missoula, and is available online for the first time. The dates are July 14-18, 2010. Information and registration are at npym.org.

--Jana Ostrom announced that University Friends Meeting is looking for a new coordinator for **its QUEST program**, in which 5 young adults each year live together near the meetinghouse and work as interns in a variety of community service and social action organizations in the Seattle area. The application deadline for this part-time position is June 1, for a position beginning on July 1, 2010.

--Linda Ellsworth announced that **Lilian Vega Ortiz**, a facilitator in the **Alternatives to Violence Project in Guatemala**, will be traveling in our region from June 28th until July 8th, to talk about her work in healing the trauma of civil war. Her travels are sponsored by Friends Peace Teams and she is available to speak at Friends meetings and elsewhere. Contact Linda (sandboa51@msn.com) for further information.

--Linda also announced that Leah Green, our plenary speaker this session on Compassionate Listening, has one opening left in the next delegation to visit the Middle East. If interested, contact Linda in order to be connected with the appropriate source for more information.

10-04-10 Meeting for Business **closed** with worshipful silence, to meet again on September 25th, 2010.

Don Goldstein, Recording Clerk
Alan Mountjoy-Venning, Presiding Co-clerk