

MINUTES OF BLUE RIVER QUARTERLY MEETING

Held at Wesley Foundation, Urbana, Illinois

April 12, 2003 1:00 PM

Present: Ellen Baranowski, Urbana-Champaign (U-C); Mariellen Gilpin, U-C; Sharon Haworth, U-C; Lloyd Kinder, St. Louis; Peter Lasersohn, U-C; Grayce Haworth Mesner, Clear Creek; Allen and Carolyn Smith Treadway, Decatur; Bobbi Trist, U-C; Greg Woods, Columbia.

We opened with a period of silent worship.

As our recording Clerk, Scott Searles, was not present, Carolyn S. Treadway agreed to take minutes.

Greg Woods brought us up to date on Project Lakota, answering some questions that have come up. On some construction projects, the persons for whom houses are being worked on are otherwise employed or in poor health and therefore not able to put in time themselves. Campers and Lakota people cooperate in many different ways, with benefits for both groups. The patterns of sharing are more flexible than those found in Habitat for Humanity.

Greg, Candy Boyd and others are continuing to raise money for Project Lakota. Blue River Quarterly agreed to contribute \$500 this spring. Open dates for the work camp in 2003 are July 20 to August 16. Greg's email address is: gregwoodsquaker@yahoo.com.

We considered Blue River's responsibilities before and during Yearly Meeting. Leadership positions are filled; now we must recruit "warm bodies" to do Site Prep, which will start Saturday morning, July 27. We will carry in food on the weekend (or eat out); Nancy Duncan will be coming Sunday evening to provide meals on Monday, Tuesday, and through lunch on Wednesday. Mariellen will compose a message for Sharon to distribute to potential helpers; Sharon will receive the replies. Mariellen will email those present to remind us of our commitments.

It is time to nominate persons to serve for the next two years (starting after our fall gathering) as Blue River Quarterly Clerk, Recording Clerk and Treasurer. Mariellen Gilpin expressed willingness to continue as Clerk; Grayce Mesner is willing to continue as Treasurer. To find a person for Recording Clerk, Carolyn and Bobbi agreed to serve on Nominating Committee.

We heard written State of Meeting reports from Urbana-Champaign and Decatur. A brief oral report was given by Lloyd Kinder from St. Louis.

Ideas expressed when we brainstormed on how to promote Blue River Quarterly included:

1. We need to encourage each Monthly Meeting to have a representative at BRQ.
2. We need to emphasize the children's program, to encourage families to come.
3. We would like to find a way to increase dialogue between groups, Quaker and non-Quaker.

4. We are challenged to deal with issues of substance. If we are doing real work, others may come to help do the work.

Grayce distributed and explained the Treasurer's report, which we received with gratitude. The Treasurer would appreciate having meetings tell her which year their contributions are for when they send them in.

Mariellen had asked Dawn Rubbert to draft a Peace Minute, which we discussed, modified and adopted. It follows here.

Blue River Quarter (Illinois Yearly Meeting) of the Religious Society of Friends believes that every person is a child of God. Therefore we affirm the work and dignity of every human being. For 350 years the Religious Society of Friends has rejected war as a means of promoting security and advancing the cause of the good. We devote our energies to working for peace and justice among persons and nations.

Lloyd Kinder passed out a sheet of quotations to make us aware of several of his concerns; which include the strengthening of local meetings.

We approved having our Clerk email David Wixom to ask if he wants to coordinate a BRQ-sponsored Family Float Trip.

Carolyn S. Treadway, Acting Recording Clerk
Mariellen Gilpin, Clerk