

BRQ Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

September 18, 3:15 p.m.

Present (those in bold type attended all or part of the business sessions)

Dawn Amos (Southern Illinois)
Mark Amos (Southern Illinois)
Michael Batinski (Southern Illinois)
Jeff Brotemarkle (Columbia)
Paul Buckley, ILYM Field Secretary
Kathy Cotton (Southern Illinois)
Warwick Daw (St. Louis)
Diane Dennis (Clear Creek)
Mike Dennis (Clear Creek)
David Finke (Columbia)
Nancy Finke (Columbia)
Mark Gaia-Mauer (St. Louis)
Maurya Gaia-Mauer (St. Louis)
Dale Gardner (Urbana-Champaign)
Mariellen Gilpin (Urbana-Champaign)
Sharon Haworth (Urbana-Champaign)
Peter Lasersohn (Urbana-Champaign)
Carol Hill (St. Louis)

Steve Hinson (St. Louis)
Chuck Hutchcraft (Lake Forest)
Margaret Katranides (St. Louis)
Roberta Kilstrom (St. Louis)
Grayce Mesner (Clear Creek)
Neil Mesner (Clear Creek)
Fariba Murray (Bloomington-Normal)
Maurine Pyle (Southern Illinois)
Rick Robey (St. Louis)
Dawn Rubbert (St. Louis)
Christina Schulz (Bloomington-Normal)
June Soule (St. Louis)
Sandra Tamari (St. Louis)
Steve Tamari (St. Louis)
Mira Tanna (St. Louis)
Erin Taylor (Spoon River)
Sean West (Spoon River)
David Wixom (St. Louis)

Young Friends:

Amos, Delia (15), Amos, Marlina (11), Marguerite Daw (15), Matthias Gaia-Mauer (7), Malachias Gaia-Mauer (6), Mateja Gaia-Mauer (3), Liam Gardner, (10) Quinn Gardner (7), Anya Gardner (5), Nathan Lasersohn (8), Sean Robey (15), Gwen Schulz (4), Amal Tamari (10), Jad Tamari (8), Kiran Nwakanma (8), Priya Nwakanma (5), Lorelei West (4)

1) 23 F/friends gathered in silence on this sunny, late summer afternoon amidst signs of the coming Fall. In all 36 adults and 17 young friends participated in this gathering.

2) The clerk reviewed the agenda and called for additional items.

3) A call for announcements yielded two offerings. Dawn Rubbert shared that information is now available for the Summer 2011 AGLI Workcamps in Africa. She welcomed folks to speak with or email her later. Paul Buckley announced the presence of the "bookstore".

4) Grayce Mesner presented the written treasurer's report (attached) prepared by Margie Haworth Davis. Dawn Amos spoke to our practice of encouraging folk to attend without regard for their ability to pay, both to BRQ and ILYM. She noted that while we have been able to keep our heads above water using this practice we may soon begin to see the tide change. Dawn encouraged us to consider making donations as we are able.

5) There is a need for 3 people to serve as our nominating committee. No one present volunteered.

6) The clerk presented a concern regarding the possibility of a medical crisis arising during a BRQ gathering. We have a form currently for children. We agreed to have a form for adults in future. Completing the form will be voluntary. In addition we will add a line to registration for people with medical skills to identify themselves.

7) David Wixom offered take over his father's gift of organizing a canoe trip for BRQ. It will take place in late spring or early summer. An announcement is forthcoming.

8) Dawn Amos gave some history and background of FWCC and FWCC Section of the Americas. In 2012 an international gathering will take place in Kenya. In preparation for that FWCC Section of the Americas is sending speakers out to MM's to offer Salt and Light workshops. Two friends will be in our area on Friday through Sunday, October 15, 16, and 17. Presentations will happen in Columbia on Friday evening, in St. Louis on Saturday, and on Sunday in Carbondale. Friends are encouraged to attend one or more of these events. Other meetings are encouraged to invite presenters to their meeting or worship group.

Illinois YM will be sending 4 delegates to the international gathering in Kenya. The YM nominating committee has issued a call for volunteers to be considered as delegates. Friends should consider whether this is of interest to them and if so contact Sarah Pavlovic, nominating committee clerk.

9) Dawn Amos presented a concern for children's programming during BRQ. It seems to be a daunting job for all of us when it is our turn for planning. She suggested we consider a different method of shouldering this responsibility. For example, having different groups/meetings plan various time segments during BRQ rather than one group being responsible for all of the adult program and all of the children's' program. Some concerns were mentioned but in general everyone agreed more participation is needed, more widespread sharing of this work. The idea of paying someone to offer the children's program was raised. There were mixed sentiments about using our funds for this purpose but no one objected to the idea itself. It became clear that we have general agreement that we need to divide the responsibility and we liked the idea presented by Dawn Amos. Questions were also raised about how much we actually need to program the children.

An ad hoc volunteer committee agreed to work out a plan. The members are Dawn A, Erin Taylor, Sharon Haworth and Steve Tamari.

10) Planning for future quarterly meetings was discussed. The fourth weekend is available at Dubois for the next two years. That would allow us to meet without a conflict with the Horse Riding Workshop so that we could have riding time ourselves. Friends agreed to this plan. Urbana-Champaign is responsible for next Spring's BRQ gathering. St. Louis is responsible for Fall 2011.

11) Peter Lasersohn reminded us there is a bounty of information available at our website - www.blueriverquarterly.org including "how to's" for planning our gatherings. The site is designed as an interactive site where we can post and edit ourselves.

12) Friends approved the minutes. Tomorrow we will convene to receive a report from the ad hoc committee and also meet to plan for our YM responsibilities.

12) We entered silence at 4:50 and adjourned thereafter.

Sunday Morning, September 19, 2010

13) The clerk called for silence and we entered worship.

14) Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business continued so we could hear a report from the ad hoc committee on planning children's programming responsibility sharing for BRQ sessions and from the Nominating Committee.

15) Mariellen Gilpin, Nancy Finke and David Wixom will serve as our Nominating Committee.

16) The ad hoc committee presented a 4 point plan which with standardizing the format for Children's program.

1. Saturday morning would include a meeting for business so the children can participate in planning their own program by creating community and social agreements; creating minutes; having silence and learning Quaker business practice. Then there would be some curriculum relating to the theme of Quarterly. Saturday afternoon would include outdoor/nature appreciation and possibly a field trip. Saturday evening would include movie night or an intergenerational activity followed by a bonfire. Sunday morning program would be first day school including things like yoga , a session with the adult program presenter or some other program and worship.
2. We would create a child & parent discipline agreement with group management guidelines so that the children and adult caregivers would know who to go to if they have concerns.
3. Attendees will be asked to take 2 hour shifts to help with the children's programming. Volunteers would be signed up during registration. This could also include hiring helpers or offering a reduced rate.
4. Spring quarterlies will be planned by the northerly meetings. In even years the small northern meetings would plan the adult program and Urbana Champaign would be responsible for children's program. In odd years the small northern meetings would be responsible for children's program and Urbana Champaign would plan adult program.

Fall quarterlies would be planned by the southern meetings. In odd years St. Louis meeting will plan for adult program and the small meetings would plan. In even years the small southern meetings will plan for adult program and St. Louis will be responsible for children's program.

Friends approved

17) ILYM Planning - We are responsible for FUN during the June 15-19, 2011 sessions. Steve Tamari is serving as the Over-All Clerk.

Children's morning classes are Thursday through Saturday, 9-noon. Christina Schultz has agreed to be a support person. Two or three teachers are needed for each age group.

- Wee Friends will be the responsibility of Clear Creek Friends
- Nancy Duncan and Bobbi Trist will be responsible for ages 3-5.
- Craft Tent Coordinator - Bloomington Normal Friends

- Mira Tanna and Carol Hill will coordinate the 6-8 program
- Margaret Katranides and Diane Dennis have accepted responsibility for the 9 - 11 group.
- Maureen Pyle has agreed to work with middle school young friends. Two more volunteers are needed.
- Morning snacks will be coordinated by Beth Schobernd.

Afternoon Activity Coordinators:

- Bloomington-Normal Friends will coordinate the Craft tent (Christina Schultz and Larry Stout)
- Spoon River will take coordinate recreation: field trips, nature walks, swimming, etc.

Evening Activity Coordinators:

- Field Trip Coordinators - Spoon River MM
- Wednesday night movies -Sean West will coordinate.
- Thursday night hayride: Erin Taylor will coordinate.
- Friday night is folk dancing. Grayce will arrange for the musicians.
- Saturday night service project - work is love made visible. Mira Tanna is willing to co-coordinate. Kevin Schultz will assist with the project. Dawn Rubbert has directions for creating a meal back for homeless persons. Each child could draw a photo or note to include in the packet. Mariellen has had experience with children making drawings and letters to send to persons in prison.

18) We will continue to work to fill the open positions between now and Spring Quarterly.

19) Following a period of silence we adjourned for meeting for worship on the front porch with a view of the lake and the heavy gray mist that descended on us in the wake of the overnight thunderstorms.