

October 26, 1968

Minutes of the October 1968 Meeting for Business
of the Blue River Quarterly Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends

The Meeting opened with a brief period of silence.

Those present hoped that Suzanne Wicks' difficulties will lessen in the future and that she will be able to take a more active role in Friends' affairs.

The Minutes of last Quarterly Meeting were read.

Louise Foye Marcia Bauer reported that the Nominating Committee had nominated ~~Donna Smith~~ of Peoria as Treasurer and Frances Day of Urbana as Clerk.

A year ago it was decided that we would not hold the August Quarterly Meetings.

Blue River Quarterly is the only Quarterly which still has a Treasurer. This was discussed at last Quarterly Meeting and voted down. 5% of the money raised stays in the Quarterly Meeting Treasury and 95% goes to Yearly Meeting. There have, however, been no expenses of Quarterly Meeting except perhaps the transportation of young people who come to Quarterly Meeting. Any expenses would normally come from only Urbana and St. Louis. Nevertheless, though the funds haven't been used before, it is good to have them available in case the Clerk should need them. Since there was disagreement as to whether or not there should be a Treasurer, it was decided that there continue to be a Treasurer.

Approval of the Meeting was obtained in favor of Frances Day as the new Clerk and Donna Smith as the new Treasurer.

The State of Society reports were read. Rachel Stalnaker read the St. Louis report. St. Louis feels it is now neither large nor small. 1st Day School is bustling and teachers are rotated on a 10-week basis. There is a vital, happy Young Friends group. There is a worship-sharing group which meets in the morning. The "Allowed Meeting" is hoping to soon establish a permanent location. There is a Study Group and an evening Bible Study group, the latter meeting twice monthly. The intent of the week-end at Little Grassy in Southern Illinois in early October was to have a relaxed time for spiritual growth. The Meeting experienced in the death of Christopher Von Laue the fact that grief enlarges the capacity for growth.

Omahlon Day read the Urbana report. The prevailing mood there seems to be that of "I don't trust nobody". However, the Meeting is delighted that it is attracting young people, and there are many attenders now. The Meeting has come to think about conflict and resolution. The Meeting has helped with low income housing problems.

Bob Jones reported from Carbondale that they have given much thought lately to the direction the Meeting is going to go.

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[?] Wixom reported an attendance now at Columbia of 30 adults and 15 children.

Clear Creek mailed in their report, stating that they are currently examining differences between urban and rural Meetings. First they are trying to examine themselves. They are reminded of their isolation as a rural Meeting so have been visiting other Meetings and asking themselves queries concerning Meetings.

In the absence of a Treasurer's Report, this was postponed until next Quarterly Meeting, except that it was reported that Donna Smith had transferred funds to Yearly Meeting. Also the report of the Continuing Committee will be read next time. In addition, the reports on conferences, such as the Cape May Conference of the General Conference, will be read at next Quarterly Meeting.

It was reported that H.J. Nelso³ suggested that we decide how long a term should be for a Clerk. It was suggested that two years might be better than one, since the job is not difficult and since this might provide continuity. Also, conditions warranting, the Clerk might succeed him(her)self. This would apply to the Treasurer, too.

It was suggested that next October ('69) a nominating committee be appointed which would work in April, so that there would be officers between April and October. The officers would be prepared to take over at the close of the April sessions.

A suggestion was made that our name be changed to "Half-Yearly Meeting". This had been discussed at a previous Meeting. The only arguments against this are that some hope it can be held more than twice a year in the future. Hence, the general feeling was that it should be left with the name "Quarterly Meeting".

Regarding the Treasury again, it was felt that having a fund there would encourage smaller Meetings to sponsor Quarterly Meeting.

The Meeting closed with a brief period of silence.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Stephenson

Jean Stephenson
Minute Clerk, St. Louis Meeting