

MINUTES OF THE BLUE RIVER QUARTERLY MEETING OF FRIENDS
held 4/28/90 at the St. Louis Meeting House

1. The Meeting gathered at 3:35 PM at the call of Grayce Haworth, Clerk. We started with a period of silent worship.
2. Representatives were present from Bloomington-Normal, Columbia, Clear Creek, Rolla (Preparatory), St. Louis and Urbana-Champaign Monthly Meetings.
3. The Clerk called for agenda items, commenting that the business at hand was likely to require considerable time.
4. The minutes of the previous Quarterly Meeting were read and approved.
5. State of the Meeting reports were read by the representatives of all meetings present, with questions and discussion following each. In addition, a report from the Peoria-Galesburg Monthly Meeting was read by the Recording Clerk.
6. The Clerk introduced a concern on behalf of Paul Buckley, Clerk of Illinois Yearly Meeting, who sent his regrets that he could not be present. He notes that item 6 of the "paste-in" modifications to the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice (item E in the addendum to the Illinois Yearly Meeting Handbook) states that "Nominations of Illinois Yearly Meeting Clerks are brought forward by the Quarterly Meeting representatives;...." This provision modifies the statement in the Philadelphia Faith and Practice which provides that these nominations are presented (as are other nominations) by the Nominating Committee. It appears that recent Yearly Meeting practice has been to charge the Nominating Committee with this task. After considerable discussion, the Meeting united in recommending to the Yearly Meeting Handbook Committee that the clause quoted above be deleted, and in recommending to the Nominating committee that they continue to pursue their present practice of seeking suggestions for these nominations as widely as possible.
7. Beth Kidder presented a minute from Bloomington-Normal Monthly Meeting: "Our beloved member Emily Dunn Dale is organizing a March on Washington in May 1991 in support of children in need. The Bloomington-Normal Meeting asks the Quarterly Meeting for its support of this endeavor and requests that you carry this concern to your Monthly Meeting and transmit a request for the Yearly Meeting's formal endorsement and support for the march." She also distributed material prepared by Emily Dunn Dale outlining this proposal. Quarterly Meeting agreed to minute its support, and to carry this concern to the Monthly Meetings and to Yearly Meeting at its next session.
8. Bob Wixom presented a concern in the form of a request written by students at the University of Missouri at Rolla, and addressed to students, faculty members and administration of that university, but of general applicability. It called for increased attention to conservation of resources and recycling on the part of university faculty, students and administration. No action was requested or taken.

9. The site and date of the Fall 1990 Quarterly meeting was discussed, with the understanding that if the Quarterly Meeting decided to divide, this might have to be reconsidered. October 6 was selected as a date, with the responsibility for this meeting to be shared by Bloomington-Normal, Clear Creek, and the other smaller meetings in the northern portion of the Quarterly Meeting area. Several possible sites were discussed, including a conference center in Macomb and the East Bay Camp facility just north of Normal. The final choice will be up to the organizing meetings.

10. Bobbi Trist reported on planning for youth activities for Yearly Meeting. Still unresolved are the personnel responsible for ages 3-5, 10-12 and Junior High age children. Monthly meetings are urgently asked to solicit volunteers for these important responsibilities.

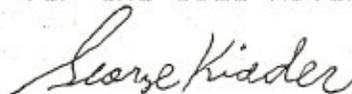
11. The proposal to divide Blue River Quarterly Meeting into two Quarterly Meetings was discussed at length. Monthly Meetings had again been requested to consider this proposal, and responses were received from Bloomington-Normal, Columbia, Clear Creek, Rolla, St. Louis, and Urbana-Champaign Monthly Meetings which, although varying in wording and strength of expression, all indicated that they would not object to a division if this was the sense of this meeting. It could not be determined whether this view was held by those meetings who had not responded to either request for consideration, and some felt that we could not proceed without their explicit consent. We united in feeling that both the consent of all meetings and the action of the Quarterly Meeting was necessary before a proposal could be taken to Yearly Meeting, but that there was no requirement that either of these actions precede the other in time.

12. At this point, it was necessary to defer to the necessity of attending to supper before it should cool unduly, and the meeting was recessed at 6:13 PM.

13. The meeting regathered at 7:20 PM with a period of silence. The question of dividing Quarterly Meeting was further discussed. It was noted that the smaller meetings in the southern portion of the present Quarterly Meeting are widely scattered, which would serve as a barrier to attendance even within that area. It was further noted that there was no certainty that the total attendance at Quarterly Meetings in the two putative new quarters combined would be any larger than at present, although this might be true. It became clear that there was no unity to be reached on splitting the quarter at this time, but there seemed to be unity that this issue had been sufficiently discussed for the present, and should not be re-introduced in the near future.

14. The meeting concluded at 7:40 PM following a period of silent worship.

for the Blue River Quarterly Meeting of Friends,



George Kidder, Acting Recording Clerk.