

Blue River Quarterly Meeting
Ninth Month 16-18, 2016 at DuBois Center
Minutes: Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

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Adults Attending – names in **bold** attended business/others helped with Young Friends program:

Brayden Dees, Carbondale Guest	Brittany Koresch, Urbana-Champaign	Barbara Stanford, St. Louis
Tom Fairbank, St Louis	Peter Lasersohn, Urbana-Champaign	Sandra Tamari, St. Louis
Dale Gardner, Urbana-Champaign	Grayce Mesner, Clear Creek	Steve Tamari, St. Louis
Mariellen Gilpin, Urbana-Champaign	Neil Mesner, Clear Creek	Erin WG West Taylor- Macomb,
Barbara Harroun, Macomb WG	Fariba Murray, Urbana-Champaign	Bobbi Trist, Urbana-Champaign
Sharon Haworth, Urbana-Champaign	Maurine Pyle, Carbondale	Sean West, Macomb WG
Margie Haworth-Davis, U-C	St. Louis Dawn Rubbert,	David Wixom, St. Louis
Tom Hensold, So Illinois Friends	Mike Ruberton, St. Louis	Judith Wolicki, 57th Street
Tim Hetrick, St. Louis	Christina Schulz, Bloomington	
Andrea Kintree, St. Louis	Denice Smith, St. Louis	

Young Friends Attending

Marlena Amos-17, Carbondale	Annaleigh Harroun-12, Macomb WG	Gwen Suess-10, Bloomington
Sam Haworth-Davis-6, U-C	Jack Harroun-8, Macomb WG	Amal Tamari-16, St. Louis
Liam Gardner-16, Urbana-Champaign	Ellie Hetrick-12, St. Louis	Jad Tamari-14, St. Louis
Quinn Gardner-13, U-C	Nathan Lasersohn- 14, U-C	Lorelei Taylor-West-10, Macomb WG
Anya Gardner-11, Urbana-Champaign	Collin Suess-7, Bloomington	

1) Waiting Worship

2) Welcome – Participants Report

- A total of 42 persons are attending; 22 people attended the ILYM planning session, and 26 attended the morning workshop on Islam and Quakerism
- Including 3 HS Friends staying in Roadside Cottage with Brittany Koresch and holding their own Meeting for Business.
- 11 Young Friends ages 6 to 14 - No Wee Friends

3) Call for agenda items: No new topics were brought forward.

4) Treasurer's Report: The report was approved, and is attached.

Summary: Debits totaled \$4,751.77, and Credits were \$3,969.22. Balance on hand is \$4,285.01. Friends accepted the report as presented with gratitude to the treasurer.

5) Working Group Follow-Up:

A description of the responsibilities of the website manager was not yet developed when we met last Spring. The working group, including Dawn Rubbert, Michael Ruberton, Bobbi Trist, Mariellen Gilpin, and other Friends as needed were asked to bring this piece forward at these sessions.

The following draft is presented for consideration, with gratitude to Sean West:

Website Manager

Terms of service for the Website Manager will be congruent with the terms of other officers. Duties include:

- *Serve as a contact person for web related questions*
- *Provide reports to BRQ gatherings*
- *Update Tiki-Wiki/Wordpress installation and plug-ins*
- *Add information for gatherings and other content as needed*
- *Review links to make sure they are not broken*
- *Keep photos relatively up to date*
- *Review domain name, blueriverquarterly.org, expiration date and make sure it does not lapse*
- *Oversee website design and future re-designs*
- *Review future technologies and how they might improve/simplify our work*

In discussion of the job description of the Web Site Manager, information was shared about the need to agree on a method for future payments to maintain the web domain. Friends approved putting the Blue River Quarterly Domain Name on automatic renewal at Sean's recommendation. The ILYM administrative coordinator will bill the BRQ treasurer.

The following language is presented to head the list of Procedures and Job Descriptions:

Process

All 4 positions shall have two year terms beginning at the rise of Spring sessions in odd numbered years. A nominating committee shall be appointed at the preceeding Fall sessions in even numbered years. Friends approved.

6) Inter-visitation Project Report (Maurine & Mariellen)

Mariellen presented on visits to Springfield and Bloomington Normal "meetings for Eating". Mariellen and Maurine are planning a retreat this fall for the smaller Meetings and worship groups, to be held at Clear Creek, with the theme "Opening Our Gifts", November 11-13. A voluntary surcharge of \$5.00 will be requested to create a fund for further visitation. Requests for use of these funds should be made to the Quarterly Meeting at regular business sessions. Friends approved.

7) Formation of a nominating committee to bring forward recommendations for officers (clerk, recording clerk & treasurer) to begin 2-year terms at the rise of Spring 2017 sessions. Margie Haworth-Davis and Maurine Pyle agreed to serve; Friends approved. As part of the nominating process as discussed in this Meeting, they will accept names of prospective nominees as brought forward by Blue River Friends.

The creation of the position of "rising clerk", who would succeed the sitting clerk at the conclusion of the term, was discussed; this will be taken under further consideration.

Local meetings are encouraged to make an effort to develop young leadership.

8) Report on BRQ website updates (Sean)

Sean is working on transferring the site from the current format to WordPress which is widely used by other groups. He may complete this within a month or month and-a-half.

9) Report re: status of Justimore Musombi (Maurine)

Justimore is a Quaker Pastor from Kenya, and is gay, which created dangers, including death threats, in his home country. He now has asylum status in the United States. Blue River Quarterly, at Maurine's request, made a contribution to him which he reported arrived just before he received his Green Card, and helped him with medical expenses for his application for the Card. Mariellen brought forward a letter to be sent by BRQ inviting him to join us at the spring 2017 sessions from his current home in Indianapolis. Friends thanked Mariellen and Maurine for continuing to remain in contact with him.

Justimore's thank you letter for our donation is attached. [Note from the Clerk: Justimore's thank-you letter was handwritten and received by regular mail. I have transcribed the letter in order to include it with these minutes.]

10) Report re: status of Friends Ugandan Safe Transport Fund (Dawn)

Dawn presented letter from the Friends Ugandan organization thanking this Quarterly for our support, and noting that their work in Uganda continues.

11) Camping during BRQ sessions (Dave Wixom)

David Wixom stated his concern that the campsite bath facilities at Camp Cilca and Du Bois Center are not available during our Meetings, as they are not maintained after the summer camp is over. Friends agreed that David may confer with the managers of the facilities on this matter.

12) Further consideration of BRQ's 200th anniversary in 2019

Grace Mesner presented a binder with information on proposed sites, all within reasonable distance, for Friends to consider before the next Quarterly.

13) Adjournment followed a period of waiting worship, with thanks to young Friends for their patience as the meeting went past schedule.

Dawn L Rubbert, Clerk
Mike Ruberton, Recording Clerk

Justimore N. Musombi
10024 Monterey Road, Apt C
Indianapolis, IN 46235

May 18, 2016

Blue River Quarterly Meeting

Dear Friends,

It is with a deep sense I gratitude that I write to thank you my Friends for your Generosity. Words do not seem enough to say how much I appreciate your financial support.

I really don't know how to thank you Friends for this timely help; really, I was in serious financial crisis: paying for my medical paperwork to process my Green Card, my rent, and food.

Your financial aid was for me a warm and bright ray of light representing Good and Caring people who are attentive to the plight of others. Being that my needs are many, this aid helped me greatly.

Your generosity is not just about the money, it's about the emotional kindness and strength you guys have given by believing in me.

There are no words to describe my feelings when Maurine called me and told me about your incredible assistance. I cried, tears of joy!!! And for sure, I got the check, and cashed it and all my bills are now covered. Please accept my thanks again for your very timely help.

I bless you with all the goodness in the world.

With Thanks and Blessings,
Justimore

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TREASURER'S REPORT TO BLUE RIVER QUARTERLY MEETING -- 17-Sep-16

Balance on Hand April 9, 2016: \$4,751.77

DEBITS

4/10/2016	Camp Cilca - Spring '16	3419.00
4/21/2016	Justimore Musombi	675.00
8/10/2016	DuBois Center - Fall '16 Deposit	310.00
9/14/2016	Wil Brant - BRQ Domain Reimbursement - 2 yrs	31.98

TOTAL DEBITS 4,435.98

CREDITS

3/31/2016	Interest - 31 days	0.57
4/11/2016	Spring '16 Fees & Donations	2,923.00
4/11/2016	Donation - B-N ('14-'16)	154.00
4/21/2016	Donations for Justimore Musombi	175.00
4/30/2016	Interest - 30 days	0.55
5/31/2016	Interest - 31 days	0.50
6/18/2016	Donation - St. Louis & U-C	416.00
6/30/2016	Interest - 30 days	0.50
7/15/2016	Spring '16 Fees	50.00
7/31/2016	Interest - 31 days	0.55
8/11/2016	Donation - Clear Creek	200.00
8/31/2016	Interest - 31 days	0.55
9/12/2016	Donation - S. IL	48.00

TOTAL CREDITS 3,969.22

Balance on Hand September 17, 2016: \$4,285.01

Apr '16 - Sep '16 Meeting Contributions:

4/11/2016	Bloomington-Normal ('14-'16)	\$154
6/18/2016	St. Louis	\$88
6/18/2016	Urbana-Champaign	\$328
8/11/2016	Clear Creek	\$200
9/12/2016	S. Illinois	\$48