

## Minutes of the Blue River Quarterly Meeting

April 8, 2017

Beth Carpenter, Denise Smith, Grayce Mesner, Dale Gardner, Margie Haworth-Davis, Maryellen Gilpin, Christina Schulz, Steve Tamari, Neil Mesner, Judy Wolecki, Andrea Kintree, Bobbi Trist, David Wixom

Peter Lasersohn offered to clerk the Meeting in the absence of the sitting clerk, and Friends approved.

Agenda: State of Society reports; nominating committee; treasurer report; web site; anniversary of the Quarterly celebration; small meeting retreat of fall 2016

Minute One, States of Society: Bloomington-Normal, presented by Christina Schulz; Clear Creek, by Beth Carpenter; Burlington, by Beth Carpenter on behalf of that Meeting, Macomb, by Beth Carpenter on behalf of that meeting; St. Louis, by Denise Smith; Judy Wolicki reported on behalf of Rolla Preparative Meeting; Urbana- Champaign, by Dale Gardner. Reports from Spoon River, Southern Illinois, and Columbia Monthly Meetings and from the Springfield Worship Group were not available, and Mariellen Gilpin agreed to draft a letter to reach out to these Meetings, which will be presented at a called Meeting for Business on First Day, April 9.

Minute Two: Small Meeting Retreat, Mariellen Gilpin reporting. The Retreat was held at Clear Creek on November 12, and those gathered included Friends and “friends of Friends” who were interested in the “Queries that we used to promote the retreat”. It was a “beautiful and contemplative experience”.

Minute Three, Nominating Committee: Christina Schulz has been nominated to become the Recording Clerk effective at the conclusion of this meeting. Friends Approved. No one has yet agreed to assume the Clerk position, and the clerk requested names be raised from the silence of this meeting as suggestions to the Nominating Committee. Steve Tamari and Denise Smith were named; both declined. Friends were encouraged to continue to submit names to the Nominating Committee. Margie Haworth Davis had been nominated to continue as treasurer in the fall meeting, and Friends approved. Sean West was approved to continue as web site coordinator. Friends discussed having younger Friends shadow Meeting officers to assist the process of familiarizing them with the clerk positions, and this will be held for further seasoning.

Minute Four: Peter Lasersohn reported that Sean West revised the BRQ Website ([www.blueriverquarterly.org](http://www.blueriverquarterly.org)) and has added some enhanced graphics and other improved visuals. Friends approved allowing Sean to move forward with the new format.

Minute Five: Treasurer’s report, Margie Haworth: A full report is attached. Margie noted that ten young people who are not part of the Quarterly are attending this weekend for the Quake and Tremor with funding from Blue River Quarterly.

Minute Six: 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration: Grayce and Neil Mesner have explored sites near Salem, IN, where Blue River Quarterly originated, for a celebration of the bicentennial. It was suggested that we contact Blue River Friends Church, which owns the Meeting House, to assure permission for its use.

Friends approved Steve Tamari's offer to convene an ad-hoc committee to assist in the planning; Grayce Mesner agreed to continue; Bobbi Trist also volunteered. Friends also discussed possible dates in 2019 for this event, including the dates of the two regularly scheduled quarterly meetings.

Young Friends presented the Meeting with the "Kindness Rocks" and pictures that they created in their program today, adding to our worship experience.

Meeting adjourned after silence.

Respectfully Submitted in the Light,

Michael Ruberton

Recording Clerk

April 9, 2017

Friends reconvened and approved the following text for letters to be sent to Spoon River, Columbia, and Southern Illinois Monthly Meetings and Springfield Worship Group:

Dear Friends in [...] Meeting,

At Blue River Quarterly Meeting this past weekend (April 7–9), we thought of you, and wondered how you are. We hope you are well and your meeting is a center of peace for you all. We want you to know that we held you in the Light during Sunday worship, and keep your meeting close in our hearts.

Blessings,

Peter Lasersohn, Acting Clerk of Blue River Quarterly Meeting