

**Attachment A: Report of Finance Committee**  
**Quaker Earthcare Witness 2009 April 23-26**  
Steve McConnell, Clerk

Our expenses are in line with our budget; the only unexpected expense has been a new printer that was relatively inexpensive. We may also save some budgeted money on website expenses.

We are a little behind our budgeted income from contributions. This is not surprising during this particular time. We are lucky in some ways that our income is not dependent on grants, which have taken a big hit due to the drop in the stock market.

Our interest income from the New England Yearly Meeting Pooled Fund has declined, again not surprising, but our principal has not been too badly depleted and we are planning to ride it out.

The Committee encourages all to consider upping their donations by 5 – 10 percent, and maybe consider giving monthly. If one gives about \$50 per year then a \$5/ month donation would make it \$60, \$100/ year – make it \$10/month and it would be \$120, and so forth.

Ruah Swennerfelt, David Ciscel, Roy Treadway, and Dick Grossman are working on a grant application to New Visions Foundation. Chances are good that we will get some money though not for the current fiscal year.

We are planning to give away Chico bags to new members who sign up at gatherings such as FGC. Is anyone willing to contribute money to help buy 100 bags?

For a number of years we have used the word "supporter" to describe those who contribute to the organization. There has been some confusion as to what a "supporter" is and whether this is limited to yearly meeting representatives or steering committee members. We would like to propose that to help avoid confusion, and perhaps broaden our support, that the word "member" or "membership" be used, as appropriate, interchangeably with "supporter."

For the coming year we are planning to hold the line on salaries. We want to also be conservative in our expenses for this year. We think we can get by but realize that we may not reach our budgeted income.

Please let Ruah or Steve McConnell know of any budget items for the upcoming year from committees.

**Attachment B: Report of Spiritual Nurturance Committee**  
**Quaker Earthcare Witness 2009 April 23-26**  
Mary Jo Klingel, Clerk

**Report on our first meeting on April 24, 2009**

Spiritual nurturance did its detail work by conference call before the Gathering. The tasks of bringing cards for absent Friends, offering readings, and sitting at the clerk's table were easily assigned before the first Spiritual Nurturance meeting.

We began our task of reviewing the Mindfulness Reminders, with John Hackman and Mary Gilbert as first readers and reviewers.

We were then able to begin consideration of larger issues for Spiritual Nurturance, weaving in themes of the Great Awakening, the New Story, where we are today as Friends and what we have to offer the larger world. We listened to Eric Maya joy present his spiritual journey, including his profound and transformative contacts with indigenous people, leading to his commitment to the process of "spiritual unification."

We came to unity on two minutes presented by Eric and a request for a working group, which we are bringing before the Steering Committee.

Spiritual Nurturance offers the following minutes for consideration by the Steering Committee:

1. Quaker Earthcare Witness recognizes the Light in all Creation.

2. Quaker Earthcare Witness recognizes Eric Maya Joy's leading and ministry regarding "spiritual unification," which includes Friend's process as a unique and significant gift that Friends have to offer.

### **Report from our second meeting on April 25, 2009**

We agreed to continue our review of Mindfulness Reminders in a conference call.

We reviewed the minutes that we are submitting to the Steering Committee and found that some committee members had reservations. We labored as a committee to seek unity on Eric's second minute and were able to do so.

We suggested to the Steering Committee that Spiritual Nurturance felt the need for a committee theme song. Fortunately John Hackman was able to bring the perfect Spiritual Nurturance theme song. As the last section of our report, we are going to sing that song. (Committee report ended with the song beginning "I've Got Some of the Light in Me.")

### **Attachment C: Report of Outreach Committee Quaker Earthcare Witness 2009 April 23-26 Susan Swanstrom, Clerk**

We feel that our present method of rounding up Ambassadors is not one we wish to continue. We propose instead that we ask for Friends who feel led to serve as Traveling Ministers (Ambassadors) to let Outreach know. Then we will go from there working with a group who already feels led to serve QEW in this way.

We propose that Outreach begin (starting now) to create a focus or two for our work as QEW Representatives to help clarify our efforts and conserve our energy. We hope such foci would simplify communication about QEW in your YMs or as ambassadors to other YMs. This year we propose two foci:

- Promotion of the mini-grants program. Outreach would provide a package for you to use traveling to your YM or other meeting as an ambassador that would include an explanation of the program, a powerpoint slideshow, and the application form. The application deadline is July 1<sup>st</sup> (this has changed from May 1<sup>st</sup>) and applications will still be considered after the deadline if not all grants have been awarded. The mini-grants program is a powerful way to promote awareness, build community, and inspire activism.
- Climate change. We propose that efforts dovetail with FCNL's legislative efforts first of all (now through mid-May) and then the focus would switch to Copenhagen (the Kyoto Accord's successor). QEW's FCNL working group would provide a package of information for the legislative piece. The UN working group and publications (because the next issues of *BeFriending Creation* will focus on Copenhagen) will pull together resources for you to use to inform your meetings in preparation for December's gathering in Copenhagen. We would like to propose that QEW sign on to the National Council of Churches postcard campaign to press our US delegation to act in Copenhagen.

We want to offer training in Bellingham in October to increase communication and activism in our YMs. Joe Morris has agreed to organize this.

We have approved expanding our NING networking group to all QEW contacts so we can create more

ways to connect and support Friends involved with Earthcare.

We are working with a Young Adult Friend (YAF) from Canadian YM, Maggie Knight, who is led to travel in the ministry for Earthcare and connecting YAFs across Canada and in some American YMs. She will be trained as an Ambassador for QEW and will attend as yet to be determined YMs. Engaging YAFs is important to the continuity of QEW as an organization.

We are beginning/continuing a more focused inreach program of phone conference calls with regional groupings of QEW Representatives in order to create accountability, build relationships, provide support, and promote QEW work throughout the year. These would be facilitated by Outreach members (or others who feel led) and follow a specific agenda to maximize effectiveness.

We want to lift up the need for more discussion regarding engaging more Evangelical Friends International (EFI) and Friends United Meeting (FUM) Friends in QEW's work. "Listening in tongues," the phrase of Peggy Senger Parsons' (Pastor from Freedom Friends Church in Oregon) is a helpful way to think about this. To begin action on this we propose that in Bellingham we invite local EFI Friends, as North Pacific YM has worked hard to create contacts between Northwest YM and North Pacific YM (specifically through the Women's Theology Conference that has been meeting and creating relationships for the past twenty or so years across the two branches of Friends).

**Attachment D: Report of Publications Committee**  
**Quaker Earthcare Witness 2009 April 23-26**  
Roy Taylor, Clerk

The Publications Committee accomplished three major things during their meetings in Chicago.

1. They defined themselves in regards to a question they were asked by Continuing Counsel as to whether they were becoming a Communications Committee. It was decided that this was not a direction that this committee sought. Communications remains the purview of Outreach. This question was in response to the new NING social networking site and blog that is being developed. The Publications Committee would continue to be responsible for the QEW website and the written word (electronic and printed) of *BeFriending Creation*, pamphlets, and books.
2. They reviewed and commented on the progress of the revisions to the website that Louis is working on with the consultant. In general, the basic graphic design and site layout was approved with suggestions to reduce the number of sub-categories in the left hand column and vocabulary used on the names of tabs for greater clarity.
3. In a effort to encourage writers to focus on getting articles written for *BeFriending Creation*, themes were picked for the up coming months of publication.
  - July/August (deadline June 7) **Political Activism vs. Contemplation.** Our history as Quakers as political activists. What are we doing now. Some mention of action on Copenhagen? We have people in touch with ISky, MoveOn, Greenpeace, and PowerShift. Al Gore calls for civil disobedience against coal fired power plans. What does that mean to us?
  - September/October (deadline August 7) **Countdown to Copenhagen – Setting the stage.** What to expect out of it? Background/history on it. Preparations for it. What should we be doing? (Hollister was asked to check with Barbara Boxer's Energy and Environment Committee to get information on their plans **after** Copenhagen)

- November/December (deadline October 7) **Copenhagen is here.** What is expected to occur there? What could it mean in terms of implications on our lives?
- January/February (deadline Dec 7) **Transition Towns.** Gather reports from monthly meetings throughout North America. Research and outreach to find out what is going on. How it is reaching into our lives?
- March/April (deadline Feb 7) **Urban Agriculture – local foods.** (Should this be a part of the Transition Town issue?) Nancy Halliday mentioned an article in which Michael Pollan discussed the impact of Nixon's decision to subsidize corn and sugar and its impact on small agriculture. Roy Taylor mentioned the connection between sugar production and our undermining of Cuba's finance.

We noted that coordination with Judy Lumb, working with *Quaker Eco-Bulletin* would be useful in terms of their topics supporting and reinforcing the *BeFriending Creation* themes.

We also suggested that the focus of the next tri-fold for the fund-raising appeal in Fall 2009 be the challenge and opportunity of concrete action on climate change at the Copenhagen summit, drawing on the ideas from *BeFriending Creation* and a letter to the Summit that QEW might draft this summer.

**Attachment E: Report of FCNL Support Working Group  
Quaker Earthcare Witness 2009 April 23-26**

Alan Connor, Clerk

**Sponsorship of Friends Testimonies and Economics (FTE)**

As per request of Continuing Council

.....that QEW's joint sponsorship of Friends Testimonies and Economics (FTE) be through FCNL Support Working Group and

.....that the existing oversight structure continue with one addition (the fourth item below).

- \* FTE would function within the Guidance Statement that was approved in October, 2004.
- \* There would be two overseers named by the Philadelphia Earthcare Working Group and two by QEW.
- \* FTE's overseers would consult with the QEW Nominating Committee if a change in QEW overseers is needed.

\* FTE's four (4) named overseers would be able to name four (4) additional members of the FTE team.

The FTE team would not conduct business at Steering Committee meetings except perhaps during unscheduled time.

It would raise its own funds with Philadelphia Yearly Meeting as custodian and maintain its own web page and network(s) with links to the QEW website. It would report annually to the Steering Committee through the FCNL Support Working Group.

**FTE's Growth Dilemma Network**

FTE's Growth Dilemma Network would be as inclusive and decentralized as possible. The FTE team would be age, gender, and geographically as inclusive as possible within the context of including no more than eight (8) individuals so that business can be conducted almost entirely by conference call. Its face-to-face time would be spent less on business and more on relationship building in order to support doing business by phone and e-mail. FTE would continue to function within the original Quaker Eco-Witness Guidance Statement.

**Attachment F: Report of UN Support Working Group  
Quaker Earthcare Witness 2009 April 23-26**

Mary Gilbert

Present for all or part of our two meetings were: Jack Bradin, Elaine Emmi, Mary Gilbert, Eric Joy, David Millar, Ruah Swennerfelt, Carol Ciscel, and Rob Jones.

Due to having returned to her residence in Belize, Judy Lumb has resigned from clerking the Working Group. She remains a member of the Working Group. Phil Emmi has consented to clerk the UN Support Working Group in the future, but he was not able to be at the Steering Committee meeting.

During the fall it became clear that Mary Gilbert would be in Nairobi at the right time to attend an important UNEP (United Nations Environmental Programme) biannual meeting of UNEP's Governing Council and simultaneous Environmental Ministers Forum in mid-February. Therefore QEW submitted an application for UNEP accreditation. When the application was completed, Mary was issued a one-time pass to attend the meetings, in advance of the accreditation process being completed. A report on the Nairobi meetings has been published in the May-June 2009 issue of *BeFriending Creation*.

QEW's three Department of Public Information (DPI) badge-holders, Mary Gilbert, Jack Bradin, and Ruah Swennerfelt, attended a DPI orientation meeting at UN Headquarters in New York in March 2009. Ruah's report on this orientation was also published in *BeFriending Creation*.

In September 2008, Mary Gilbert and David Millar attended the DPI/NGO (non-governmental organizations) Annual Conference in Paris, on the topic of Human Rights. This was reported on at QEW's Annual Meeting in 2008 October; written reports were published in *BeFriending Creation*. In early September 2009, the DPI/NGO conference will be held in Mexico City, on the topic of Peace. The following QEW members plan or hope to attend: Mary Gilbert, Judy Lumb, Carol Ciscel, and Rob Jones.

We discussed sending representatives to Copenhagen in December for the Climate Change Treaty Sessions and plan to draw up a budget to support the representatives.

**Attachment G: Report of Sustainability: Faith and Action Working Group  
Quaker Earthcare Witness 2009 April 23-26**

Dick Grossman, Acting Clerk

At our annual meeting of the Steering Committee of Quaker Earthcare Witness, Sustainability: Faith and Action Working Group (S:F&A WG) met twice, on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of April, 2009. In addition, members of this Working Group met with the Publications Committee, the United Nations Support Working Group, and the Population Sub Group. We felt refreshed by the meetings and the amount of work we were able to achieve.

At the first meeting of this Working Group each of us briefly described what actions she or he had taken in the past year to live more sustainably. Next we looked at the program to offset carbon emissions. In the past this was estimated to be about \$300 for each of the two annual meetings, and this money had been donated to NativeEnergy. We felt that it would be better to keep this money in QEW. We discussed what beneficial effect this contribution could have, and decided that adding the funds to the Mini Grant program and specifically to a grant that would reduce carbon emissions, would be a wise idea. The following minute was approved:

***Minute: SF&A.April.2009.01 - We agreed that, starting with this meeting, the carbon offset money, currently at \$300 per meeting going to Native Energy, be kept within QEW, put into the mini-grant fund, and set aside for specific carbon reduction projects.***

Furthermore, we wanted to express our thanks to The Cenacle of Chicago and support reducing their carbon footprint by using low-flow shower heads. This minute was approved:

**Minute: SF&A.2009.02 - We authorized Ruah, further, to write a check for \$100 to the Cenacle from this meeting's allocation, to accompany a letter to them that thanks them for their work toward energy efficiency to date, noting that some individuals commented on the absence of adjustable, low-flow shower heads, and asking them to use this check as seed money toward installing such shower heads.**

At the second session of S:F&A we considered a new pamphlet that was brought from the Population Sub Group. "Being Called to Childbearing in a Crowded World," written largely by Stan Becker. We felt that it would be an important addition to QEW pamphlets, and approved it with minor revisions. The pamphlet will next go to the Publications Committee for consideration.

It was announced that two other pamphlets that have been available for several years, on abortion and adoption, are being revised by the population subgroup. The Population and Sexuality Tri-fold and Migration pamphlet are being reviewed for consolidation.

The "Men for Men" project has been advertised in *Friends Journal*, and publicized in *BeFriending Creation*, but no one has shown interest in having it help pay for a vasectomy yet. It was agreed that we would continue publicizing M4M, and that we would consider expanding it to include men who had recently been released from prison. Dick will communicate with Donn Kesselheim about this and they will work out details.

Finally, Quaker condoms will continue to be distributed. They were well received at the Gathering in 2008, and will be distributed there again this year. They are available from the QEW office. Dick will donate the condoms as needed, and the QEW office will print the attached cards.

Dick has approached *Friends Journal* with a proposal for a review of the excellent book *This Common Secret* about the difficulty that an abortion provider has faced. His angle is that he, another abortion provider, has not encountered the same problems, in part because of his being a Quaker. Dick reported that *Friends Journal* has been very slow in responding to his offer.

Both meetings opened and closed with silence.

#### **Attachment H: Report of Population Sub Group of Sustainability: Faith and Action Working Group Quaker Earthcare Witness 2009 April 23-26**

Roy C. Treadway, Convener

The Population Sub Group of Sustainability: Faith and Action Working Group of Quaker Earthcare Witness met in a general meeting on Thursday afternoon, April 23, Friday, April 24, and Saturday evening, April 25. Present at some time were Stan Becker, Dick Grossman, Ken Lawrence, Louis Cox, Nancy Halliday, David Millar, Elaine Emmi, John Hackman, Marcie Ankrom, Steve McConnell, Roy Taylor, Marshall Gibson, Rod Zwirner, and Roy Treadway (Convener).

During this session, we discussed the general issues and activities of the Population Subgroup, including a review of population-related brochures and tri-folds of QEW.

#### **Quaker Condoms**

**Dick agreed to provide financial support, as needed, to the Quaker Condom project.** More cards need to be made up.

#### **Men for Men Project**

No interest has been expressed in a vasectomy from this project by Quakers. We need to increase our outreach to yearly meetings. **Dick will check with Donn Kesselheim whether men from the Prison Ministries Program might be involved.**

**Book Review of *This Common Secret: My Journey as an Abortion Doctor***

We believe this book by Susan Wicklund and Alan Kesselheim which focuses on the human story of abortion and reproductive choice should be reviewed in a Quaker periodical. **Dick Grossman will follow up with Friends Journal to see if they are interested in such a review; if so, Roy Treadway and Dick Grossman will write the review.**

**Population Publications**

**We agreed that the Abortion and Adoption tri-folds were important and should be revised as separate tri-fold, that a new tri-fold on Childbearing be written, and that publications on *Rapid Population Growth, Sexuality, and Migration* be combined. Roy Treadway will explore combining those three publications.**

**Being Called to Childbearing in a Crowded World**

**We edited this tri-fold, proposed by Stan, and approved a draft, which was ready to be proposed to Sustainability Faith and Action Working Group on Saturday.** [Sustainability: Faith and Action Working Group subsequently approved a draft with some suggested changes that Stan Becker, Roy Treadway, and Louis Cox made.] After further review by Donn Kesselheim, we will submit it to the Publications Committee for approval.

**Toward Taking Away the Occasion of Abortion**

**Following Stan’s suggestions, incorporating some ideas from a Friend who is uneasy with abortion and our own ideas, we revised this pamphlet and approved taking the next step to have it reprinted in some fashion by QEW.** Roy and Stan in consultation with Donn Kesselheim will discern what those next steps are.

**Revision of the Tri-fold: *Adoption: An Earth-Friendly Alternative***

**We agreed to undertake a revision of this tri-fold, starting with Stan’s suggested changes, by email first and a conference telephone to make final changes this summer.**

**Attachment I: Report of Nominations Committee**

**Quaker Earthcare Witness 2009 April 23-26**

Rod Zwirner, Clerk

The Nominating made the following nominations for QEW.

John Payton	Representative to Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL)	2009-2012
Donn Kesselheim	Overseer for Friends Testimonies and Economics (FTE)	2009-2012
David Ciscel	Overseer for Friends Testimonies and Economics (FTE)	2009-2012
Phil Emmi (Intermountain)	At-large Steering Committee member	2009-2012
Phil Emmi	Clerk, United Nations Support Working Group	2009-2011

Continuing Counsel will form a Naming Committee to replace Elaine Emmi on the Nominating Committee.

Nominating Committee will continue to search for a Finance Committee Clerk.

Nominating Committee is considering other nominations for at-large members of the Steering Committee to be approved at the 2009 Fall Annual Meetings.