

PLENARY VI (DRAFT)

The sixth plenary session of the 2009 annual gathering of PYM began at 1:15 p.m. with worship. Reading Clerk Susan Stanley read from epistle of the 108th annual session of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting. These Friends explored their understanding of deep values that underlie true sustainability of both life on earth and the life of the spirit, with young Friends and older Friends finding their way together through challenging issues to emerge with a more profound awareness of the presence of the spirit among them.

Religious Education for Children Committee

The Religious Education for Children Committee Clerk Gail Eastwood brought a recommendation that we designate a member of our Religious Education for Children Committee to serve as an additional representative to Friends General Conference Central Committee, and to serve on the Religious Education Committee of the FGC Central Committee.

PYM 2009-n Pacific Yearly Meeting approved the recommendation that our Nominating Committee nominate a member of our Religious Education for Children Committee to serve as an additional representative to the Friends General Conference Central Committee, and to serve on the Religious Education Committee of the FGC Central Committee.

Tom Farley, our current representative to Friends General Conference Central Committee, advised us that he had submitted a report to the 2009 Representative Committee meeting with a very similar recommendation. (See RepCom 2009 Attachment XXX.)

The Committee's survey in the past year found that 57% of monthly meetings in PYM have a children's program with more than two children. The top concern for monthly meetings was *We don't have enough children*. We have many "empty nest" meetings. Our monthly meetings are struggling to attract families with children and to provide programs for them. The survey found no initiatives for outreach, and discovered that the second leading concern for monthly meetings was the lack of volunteers to work with children. With many parents and grandparents in our meetings, we still have the potential to pass on the treasure that has been given to us. The report of the Religious Education for Children Committee is attached to these minutes [Attachment XXX].

Western Friend

Kathy Hyzy, Editor of *Western Friend* and a member of Multnomah Monthly Meeting in Portland, Oregon, encouraged us to take samples of *Western Friend* back to our meetings and to encourage Friends to subscribe to and read the magazine. Kathy introduced Friends who serve as PYM representatives on the board of the corporation that publishes *Western Friend*, Sandy Farley and Stephen Matchett. (This board retains the name "Friends Bulletin," although the name of the publication has changed to *Western Friend*.) Kathy Hyzy asked us to bring our concerns and stories to her attention so that they can be shared widely through this, our own magazine. *Western Friend* is facing a shortfall of \$8,500 in this fiscal year from its annual budget of just under \$80,000. Support from Friends is needed.

Nominating Committee

Nominating Committee Clerk Stratton Jaquette presented a revised report with the good news that nominees have been found for some previously empty positions. Nominees whose names were brought to us previously were read for approval.

PYM 2009-n Pacific Yearly Meeting approved the following nominees:

[Insert list of nominees with positions and monthly meeting affiliations, from the revised report of the Nominating Committee.]

Stratton Jaquette brought the following nominees to us for the first time. These nominees will be brought to us for approval tomorrow.

[Insert list of nominees with positions and monthly meeting affiliations, from the revised report of the Nominating Committee.]

Finance Committee

David Barrows, Clerk of the Finance Committee, told us that our present budget totals \$72,525.00, with an assessment of \$38.00 per member. The detailed budget was presented earlier at this annual gathering. If the Youth Coordinator Proposal is approved, the assessment will double to \$76.00 per member.

PYM 2009-n Pacific Yearly Meeting approved the budget proposed by the Finance Committee.

Treasurer's report

Treasurer Gary Wolf presented the Treasurer's report [Attachment XXX]. Contributions from monthly meetings have been very close to the budget. At this time, all expenses items are at or below budget. Gary summarized the performance of our investments, our assets and reserves, and stated again that we will have to increase our reserves if we increase our budget as envisioned by the Youth Coordinator Proposal. The session account for annual gathering revenue and expenses cannot yet be reported because the figures are not final.

Gary reported on our second year of voice teleconferencing as an alternative to some travel in the work of the Yearly Meeting. We will continue to gain experience with teleconferencing, and reports are invited on the adequacy of teleconferencing for meetings. The Electronic Subcommittee of the Ministry and Oversight Committee is appraising the spiritual foundations of meetings conducted with this new technology.

Friends were reminded to request reimbursement for travel in the service of PYM, and to explicitly donate those funds back if they desire to do so, so that our costs can be correctly recorded.

PYM 2009-n The Treasurer's report was accepted with gratitude.

PYM 2009-n The minutes of Plenary VI were read and approved.

Faithfully submitted,

Jamie Newton, Recording Clerk

Joe Franko, Presiding Clerk