

Minutes of the Illinois Yearly Meeting
129th Annual Session
July 30 – August 3, 2003
McNabb, Illinois

MINUTES OF THE FIRST SESSION: Wednesday, July 30, 2003

Minute 1 The 129th annual session of Illinois Yearly Meeting opened with silent worship.

Minute 2 We greeted visitors from Quaker organizations, including Elizabeth Duke, General Secretary of Friends World Committee for Consultation in London, England; and Susan Lee Barton of the FWCC Midwest Field Staff.

Minute 3 We welcomed first-time attenders from within Illinois Yearly Meeting.

Minute 4 The Reading Clerk shared epistles from Western Yearly Meeting (2002); Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting (2002); Ireland Yearly Meeting (2003); Japan Yearly Meeting (2002); North Carolina Yearly Meeting Conservative (2002); and Wilmington (Ohio) Friends Meeting (2002).

Minute 5 The Clerk shared corrections and clarifications from the spring 2003 Continuing Committee minutes. Greg Woods did not attend the FWCC Peace Conference. Julia Pantoga and David Westling were the Yearly Meeting's representatives. Bob Wixom also attended.

The Continuing Committee minutes noted that we accepted a letter from McHenry County Monthly Meeting concerning the Field Secretary Program. We appreciated receiving their concern, but did not necessarily endorse the letter's content.

At our 2002 annual sessions, a committee was charged with writing a letter conveying the Yearly Meeting's support for HR 1186, the Religious Freedom Peace Tax Fund Act. That letter was approved by Continuing Committee and sent to senators and representatives from the Yearly Meeting's constituent states. The Clerk read the letter as approved.

Minute 6 David Wixom will serve on the 2003 Epistle Committee, along with Reading Clerk Carol Zimmerman. One or two additional Friends are needed on this committee.

Minute 7 David Wixom and Michaelle Cooke volunteered to serve on the 2004 Epistle Committee.

Minute 8 The Clerk called for volunteers for the 2003 Exercises Committee. Since there were no volunteers at this time, we will revisit the membership of this group later in our sessions.

Minute 9 Jinny Laughlin, Clerk of Ministry and Advancement, asked that first-time attenders, members of the Welcoming Committee, and members of the Committee of Care make themselves known to everyone.

Minute 10 The Clerk reviewed the agenda as printed in the Advance Documents.

Minute 11 Friends were reminded that Ministry and Advancement will hold a feedback session on the Field Secretary Program at 4:00 on Thursday afternoon.

Minute 12 We closed with worship, intent upon our gathering theme, “Answering that of God in Everyone: Quakers Responding to Conflict.”

MINUTES OF THE SECOND SESSION: Thursday, July 31, 2003

Minute 13 We welcomed the following additional visitors: Star Mary Castro, who joins us through the FGC Yearly Meeting Visitors Program. The Clerk read a letter from Deborah Fisch commending Star Mary to our care.

Mary Ellen McNish, the General Secretary of American Friends Service Committee. Mary Ellen will be available during the Friday afternoon workshop time to discuss the work of AFSC.

Dave Miller, formerly of Illinois Yearly Meeting, now of Byberry Monthly Meeting, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

J.E. McNeil of Friends Meeting of Washington and Executive Director of the Center on Conscience and War. J.E. will be working with the High School Friends and presenting a workshop on War Tax Resistance, both on Thursday.

Marshall Massey, who will be our Thursday evening speaker. Marshall worships with Fort Collins Monthly Meeting and Iowa Conservative Yearly Meeting.

Peter Idwasi, of Quaker United Nations Office, New York, and a member of Nairobi Yearly Meeting. Peter will be sharing his gifts during the workshop time.

The Clerk read Susan Lee Barton’s traveling minute from Clear Creek Monthly Meeting, Richmond, Indiana, Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting.

Minute 14 Roy Treadway volunteered to serve on the 2003 Epistle Committee with David Wixom and Carol Zimmerman.

Minute 15 We welcomed first-time attenders from within the Yearly Meeting.

Minute 16 The Reading Clerk shared epistles from Alaska Friends Conference (2002), Australia Yearly Meeting (2003) and InterMountain Yearly Meeting (2002).

Minute 17 Marti Matthews reported for Quaker Volunteer Service, Training, and Witness Committee. The committee provides oversight for the Steering Committee of the Quaker Volunteer Service and Witness Network and for Project Lakota. In the past year, the committee has questioned its relevance. They are not comfortable with laying down the committee until the Steering Committee program is settled; however the Steering Committee has been inactive this year. Project Lakota has been successful and has expressed its appreciation for the oversight and support provided by QVSTWC. Marti also summarized Greg Wood’s report to QVSTWC on Project Lakota.

Minute 18 We approved a letter read by the Clerk renewing our endorsement of Candy Boyd’s work with Project Lakota.

Minute 19 Jinny Laughlin reported for Ministry and Advancement. Among the concerns considered by M & A this year are communication within the Yearly Meeting, committee membership terms, child safety, the Field Secretary Program review, and their continuing ministry of visitation among monthly meetings and worship groups. M & A suggests that an IYM monthly newsletter be posted to the web site with a hard copy sent to each monthly meeting and worship group. The committee is also creating a packet of orientation materials for new members of Ministry and Ad-

vancement. Friends were reminded that the committee will return during Saturday's session with a report on the Field Secretary Program.

Minute 20 Roxy Jacobs presented her Field Secretary's report, appended. In addition to those activities noted in the printed report, Roxy has shared her photographs and has carried on active correspondence with Friends of all ages. In her visitations, she sees her role not as an observer but as a fellow seeker with Friends and meetings to come to resolution on their various issues.

Minute 21 Carolyn Smith Treadway reported that Nominating Committee is still seeking an Assistant Treasurer for the Yearly Meeting, as well as Friends to serve as our representatives to AFSC and FCNL. Rachel Mershon's name was omitted from the Ministry and Advancement appointments listed in the Advance Documents. Nominating Committee will return with a final report later in our sessions.

Minute 22 The Naming Committee sought and received approval from the Spring 2003 Continuing Committee for Bill Brown to fill a vacancy on the Nominating Committee. In today's session, we approved Marlou Carlson and Janice Domanik as additions to the Nominating Committee.

Minute 23 The Maintenance and Planning Committee report was presented by Brent Eckert. M & P has had a very busy year, working closely with the Trustees and the Site Envisioning & Building Committee on numerous issues with the Meeting House and other IYM structures and grounds. Friends were reminded that Site Envisioning & Building was asked to conduct thorough evaluations of all buildings and services. Maintenance and Planning then worked to begin correcting deficiencies that these evaluations disclosed. Among the problems discovered were further water and termite damage to the Meeting House. Re-grading of the ground around the Meeting House is needed to improve drainage. M & P recommends that work on the termite and water damage begin next summer. The Illinois Historic Preservation Agency grants, for which IYM had applied to help fund some of this work, were not awarded this year due to State of Illinois budget constraints. \$50,000 to \$100,000 will be needed to address these repairs. The electrical deficiencies identified in the evaluations have been corrected, and work to bring the site into compliance with Health Department regulations is progressing. The Work Weekend was successful, with numerous improvements made to the kitchen and dining area among other tasks. A mini-Work Weekend was held in July to complete unfinished projects. Brent explained that the decision not to use the dormitory was based on a letter of concern from a monthly meeting and the results of the evaluations.

Friends appreciated Maintenance and Planning's article in the recent *Among Friends* detailing the problems with using the dormitory. We expressed our gratitude for the work of Maintenance and Planning in this year with an unusually daunting work load.

Minute 24 Marcia Nelson reported for the Peace Tax Fund Oversight Committee. She noted one change from the report printed in the Advance Documents. The interest on the Fund has not yet been distributed to the Quaker United Nations Office (New York) and the Chicago Fellowship of Friends. Marcia asked whether advocacy is a function of the Peace Tax Fund Oversight Committee or whether that is the purview of the Peace Resources Committee. The two committees are directed to review the minutes concerning the development of the current structure and to continue

working together to clarify responsibilities.

Minute 25 The Youth Oversight Committee report was given by Ann Eckert. Young Friends are learning and living Quakerism through a variety of activities. Among these was the Martin Luther King Weekend Quake. Young Friends from Illinois Yearly Meeting, Lake Erie Yearly Meeting and Northern Yearly Meeting participated. Our Young Friends enjoy attending gatherings outside IYM and the opportunity to interact with other Young Friends. Youth Quake will be held this winter in Estes Park, Colorado. Katherine Trezevant is working with Dorothy Day to provide a stronger unprogrammed element to this conference. The FGC-sponsored Young Quakes Conference will be held near Nashville, Tennessee, in October. The Clerk reminded us that there are some funds available to help Young Friends attend these activities.

Minute 26 Dawn Amos reported for the Electronic Communications Working Group, referring Friends to the complete report in the Advance Documents. While the group did not meet this year, items continue to be posted to the web site, including *Among Friends*, Plummer lectures, Project Lakota, and registration forms. The group still needs to develop guidelines for publishing certain information such as photographs, email addresses and personal writings.

We approved the following recommendations from the group:

- Continue the Electronic Communications Committee for another year and solicit volunteers to develop the Electronic Publications Guideline. At the minimum, the ECC members really must include a member of the Publications Committee, the *Among Friends* editor, and a webservant.
- Renew the *ilym.org* and *illinoisyearlymeeting.org* domain names for five years at approximately \$13.50 per name per year. Continue storing the actual site files at *iy.quaker.org* until we need more complex technology.
- Solicit volunteers to help write web pages for the site. Continue publishing IYM-related program information online as human resources are available.
- Continue publishing *Among Friends* online, notifying the submitting authors of this. Protect email address in the articles, if the author chooses, by instead publishing an *ilym.org* forwarding address. Use the practices developed for publishing *Among Friends* online to determine the most appropriate way to publish the Minute Book online.
- Continue publishing Plummer lectures online, with permission from the authors.

Friends were reminded that there is information in the "About" section of *ilym.org* for Monthly Meetings about the availability of free web space. FGC now provides QuakerFinder.org for locating Friends meetings.

Minute 27 Daniel Hall read Northside Monthly Meeting's epistle concerning their Sabbath year. Illinois Yearly Meeting supports Northside in their work and we extend our offers of love and assistance.

Minute 28 The Clerk reminded us that Elizabeth Mertic of Lake Forest Monthly Meeting is currently serving as clerk of FWCC's Section of the Americas. We also have in our midst Elizabeth Duke, General Secretary of FWCC. The Triennial will be held in New Zealand during January 2004. Illinois Yearly Meeting's representatives are Liz Oldham and Nancy Wallace. Elizabeth Duke asked us to consider, "What is important in the life of the Yearly Meeting and its members?" We settled

into worship on this query with several Friends sharing their thoughts. The Clerk then asked if a committee comprised of David Finke, Bill Howenstine and Ann Eckert would prepare a letter for our representatives to the Triennial to carry to the gathering. This committee will bring the letter back to us by Sunday morning.

Minute 29 David Wixom reported for Religious Education. The committee met twice this year. They will soon be distributing to all monthly meetings a copy of *Meeting Safety*, published by Britain Yearly Meeting.

MINUTES OF THE THIRD SESSION: Friday, August 1, 2003

Minute 30 We welcomed Bonnie Nicholson of West River Monthly Meeting, Indiana Yearly Meeting, who is among us representing AFSC. Bonnie has brought information packets on the Emergency and Material Assistance Program. There is a packet for each monthly meeting. AFSC has infant quilts for sale here, the proceeds from which go to the Literacy Program for Afghan Women. There are other resources available in the display area. Bonnie will be presenting a workshop tomorrow on the Emergency and Material Assistance Program. The clerk read a traveling minute for Bonnie from West River Monthly Meeting.

Minute 31 We welcomed first-time attenders from within the Yearly Meeting.

Minute 32 The Clerk read a letter from the FWCC Section of the Americas Visitation Planning Committee announcing the participation of Susan Lee Barton and Elizabeth Duke at Illinois Yearly Meeting.

Minute 33 The Clerk read a response from U.S. Senator Russell D. Feingold (Wisconsin) to our letter concerning the Religious Freedom Peace Tax Fund Act, conveying his appreciation for our correspondence.

Minute 34 The Reading Clerk shared epistles from Pacific Northwest Women's Theological Conference (2002); North Pacific Yearly Meeting (2002); the 3rd Annual Quaker Consultation on Peaceful Prevention of Violent Conflict held in Burundi (2002). We also heard an email from David Westling, Columbia Monthly Meeting, who is performing volunteer service in Burundi.

Minute 35 The Clerk read letters of introduction for Mary Ellen McNish and David R. Miller from Byberry Monthly Meeting.

Minute 36 Ann Eckert was brought forward by the Naming Committee to serve as clerk of Nominating Committee. We approved this appointment.

Minute 37 The Clerk clarified that the Yearly Meeting did accept the laying down of Thorn Creek Monthly Meeting at last year's sessions (see Minute #30, 2002). Ministry and Advancement is taking custody of the records from Thorn Creek.

Minute 38 We approved the Minutes from Thursday's session.

Minute 39 Tom Paxson, acting clerk of Faith and Practice, reminded Friends that there are four documents in the Advance Documents pertaining to this issue. Two were requested by Continuing Committee. The first recounts the consideration of and support for devising and adopting a Faith and Practice for Illinois Yearly Meeting. The second is a brief history of the Illinois Yearly Meeting experience with books of

discipline. The two sections of a book of discipline being brought forward for the Yearly Meeting's consideration are the Introduction and a section on Membership. Faith and Practice proposes a five year, interim adoption of these sections to see if they fit the Yearly Meeting's needs. Tom reminded us that a Faith and Practice is not a static document and will continue to change as we follow God's leadings.

Tom read the Introduction. After much prayerful discussion, we approved instituting this section provisionally for the recommended five years.

Minute 40 Tom then began reading the Membership section, including parts on Attending Meeting, Applying for Membership, and Membership of Children. Friends raised concerns as well as expressed agreement about these parts. We particularly lacked unity over Membership of Children. After much prayerful consideration, we decided to delay further discussion of the Membership section until Saturday's session. Friends were invited to attend a "threshing session" this evening to continue the discussion of Membership for Children. The Clerk clarified that as we begin to adopt sections of our own Faith and Practice, these sections will supplant corresponding sections in the current edition of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice. For those sections not yet accepted into an Illinois Yearly Meeting book of discipline, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice will continue to be our guide.

Minute 41 Roger Laughlin presented the Treasurer's report. Roger pointed out that the balance on hand reflected in the Advance Documents is less than last year because at the point the report was created several meetings had not yet made their annual contributions. The report to be printed in the Minute Book will be adjusted to show the contributions that have been made since the original report.

Minute 42 The Finance Committee report was given by Cathy Garra. Among the issues dealt with this year were interest-free loan arrangements, additional insurance, updating the travel policy to reflect the increased allowable mileage rate to \$.36, and incorporation. We approved the following recommendations by the Finance Committee;

- To establish an ad hoc committee to prepare a long-term plan and budget for the Meeting House and other structures. This allows us to save up for predictable expenses in the Site Fund and other funds, such as painting, roofing and mechanical equipment replacement over the years. This committee will include representatives from Maintenance and Planning, Finance, the Trustees and Clear Creek Meeting. This group will report to Continuing Committee before the next annual session.
- That Finance Committee proceed with the paperwork to file for incorporation, after reviewing the application with an attorney. That review will also include the advisability of pursuing 501.c.3, or non-profit, status. Our designated signatory will be the Clerk, Assistant Clerk, and the two youngest Trustees residing in Illinois. The Treasurer will serve as our registered agent. After filing for incorporation, Finance Committee will work with the Trustees on updating the property title and other related business paperwork.
- To establish a Property Improvement Fund to accept designated gifts to meet our historic and new building needs at our property at McNabb, Illinois. The Fund will be spent over time for the major maintenance, restoration and improvement of the property, including any new structures approved by the Yearly Meeting.

The Fund will be spent under the direction of the Trustees, Finance, Maintenance and Planning and other committee(s) designated by the Yearly Meeting. Site Envisioning and Building Committee, for its duration, will also participate. Routine upkeep on the Yearly Meeting buildings and grounds will continue to be paid from the Site Fund.

Cathy Garra and Carolyn Smith Treadway (as Clerk of Nominating) will identify members for the ad hoc committee to prepare a long-term plan and budget for the Meeting House and other structures.

Minute 43 Cathy Garra then reviewed the proposed budget for the coming year, noting some slight adjustments from last year. We will return to the budget on Saturday.

Minute 44 Bill Howenstine reported for the Site Envisioning and Building Committee. Bill expressed the committee's thanks to Chip Rorem who served as an architectural advisor to the committee. The committee perceives that there are two visions for the future of Illinois Yearly Meeting. One vision is of growth and endurance; the other is of maintaining the status quo or perhaps a decline. The committee has chosen to espouse the first vision.

Bill reviewed the committee's work from 2001/2002. (See Committee report, pp. 38-39, 2002 Minute Book). As charged last year, the 2002/2003 committee carried out:

- Structural engineering inspections
 - Architectural review for entire site by architect specializing in historic buildings, including building safety
 - Termite and other insect damage inspection
 - A review of Meeting House repair by contractors specializing in heavy timber construction
 - Electrical evaluation for the entire site
 - A consultation with the Bureau and Putnam County Health Departments
- The reports of these inspections are available in the display area.

In response to the guiding principles put forth at IYM 2002 and the committee's continuing work, Site Envisioning and Building recommends the following:

- That a new building be constructed on the southern portion of the newly-acquired property. The building would be approximately 8000 square feet and include new kitchen and dining facilities, limited dormitory space and restroom/shower facilities for year-round use, and Clear Creek meeting space. The cost is estimated at roughly \$1,000,000.
 - In the next twelve months, move the upper floor of the current dormitory across Quaker Lane to the southeast quadrant of the north property. This structure could be used as summer sleeping quarters, and in the future as space for the Young Friends, or other meeting space.
 - Cover and retain the existing restroom facilities on the lower level of the current dormitory for as long as needed.
 - Improve the bathhouse facility on the north property by adding hand-washing facilities and supplementing with portable toilets as needed.
- The committee requests that the Yearly Meeting approve the following:
- Continue the Ad Hoc Site Envisioning and Building Committee for another year.

- Approve \$50,000 to move the upper floor of the dormitory and make necessary improvements to the bathhouse and existing dormitory lower floor restrooms.
- Authorize Site Envisioning and Building to interview and hire an architect at a cost of approximately \$10,500 to complete a schematic design of a new building or buildings to be presented at our 2004 annual sessions.
- Approve the start of a capital campaign for a new building or buildings with an initial target of \$1,000,000.
- Support funding for necessary repairs of the Meeting House as determined by the Maintenance and Planning Committee.

Site Envisioning and Building will be available during the workshop time today for further discussion on its proposals. The presentation from today's Business Meeting will be repeated this evening. The committee will return during Saturday's session for action on their recommendations.

MINUTES OF THE FOURTH SESSION: Saturday, August 2, 2003

Minute 45 The Reading Clerk shared epistles from Lake Erie Yearly Meeting (2002), the Religious Society of Friends in Britain (2003), and the Monteverde Monthly Meeting (2002).

Minute 46 The Clerk asked Carol Bartles, Bill Brown and Patricia McMillan to serve as this year's Exercises Committee. We approved these appointments.

Minute 47 We approved the minutes from Friday's session.

Minute 48 The Clerk asked that we minute our appreciation to Clear Creek Friends. Not only did they help with preparation of the site for this year, they also provided dry bedding for Friends whose bedding was soaked in yesterday's storm.

Minute 49 Peter Lasersohn continued the report for Faith and Practice Committee. Arising from last night's "threshing session," Faith and Practice proposed the following minute:

Given the disparate policies on children's membership currently employed by the various monthly meetings across Illinois Yearly Meeting, we recommend that the Yearly Meeting embark on a process to explore the possibility of coming to a unified understanding of children's membership. To this end, we suggest that a committee be appointed to meet with the monthly meetings, consider this issue, and make a recommendation to the Yearly Meeting within four years. The Membership section of Faith and Practice could then be revised at the end of the five-year provisional period, to reflect any decision made by the Yearly Meeting.

Friends suggested that Ministry and Advancement serve as this committee, with the support of Faith and Practice. We approved that Ministry and Advancement explore with meetings over the next four years the issue of child membership and participation, and bring a unified policy on child membership to the 2007 session for our consideration.

Minute 50 We approved the adoption of the section on Membership for the provi-

sional period of 2003-2008, with the following changes (changes in italics):

To Membership of Children, the second paragraph;

Parents who are members may request membership for their children.

Some monthly meetings consider children to be full members. Others consider them to be associate members. Still others offer parents the choice of either full or associate membership for their children. Associate membership differs from full membership in that it does not extend indefinitely, but must be re-affirmed by the individual at some point. Illinois Yearly Meeting has not felt clear about setting any particular age at which associate membership is dropped, and leaves this difficult matter to the discretion of monthly meetings. Meetings are responsible for continuing a caring relationship with associate members as they mature, and for encouraging them to apply for membership when they are ready, whether before or after the end of associate membership.

To Sojourning Members, Transfer of Membership, Isolated Friends, the last paragraph:

Both members and persons interested in Friends sometimes live too far away from a meeting to attend regularly. *The mere fact of living at a distance from one's meeting does not alter membership.* Options for such persons include establishing a relationship with a meeting near enough to visit periodically, participation in Quarterly and Yearly Meetings and conferences of various kinds, and forming a small worship group with others of like mind in the area. Many of the monthly meetings of Illinois Yearly Meeting began in just this way.

Friends are reminded to hold our Faith and Practice Committee in the Light as they continue their difficult work for us.

Minute 51 Carolyn Wilbur Treadway presented her Pastoral Counselor's report. The Reading Clerk read the Pastoral Counselor's report from Beth Burbank. We continue our endorsement of their work.

Minute 52 Jinny Laughlin reported for Ministry and Advancement on the Field Secretary Program review. Ministry and Advancement recommended wholeheartedly that the Field Secretary position be continued. The position should be filled by an Illinois Yearly Meeting Friend, and will only be filled if we find that someone is truly called and committed to serve Illinois Yearly Meeting in that capacity.

Ministry and Advancement also asked us to consider that the Field Secretary position is budgeted for one-fifth time (or 33 1/3 hours monthly), but our current Field Secretary is putting in at least twice that amount, occasionally up to 105 hours per month. The position currently is paid \$5600 annually. Ministry and Advancement feels that the current hourly allotment is insufficient. The work of the Field Secretary is an important complement to the work of Ministry and Advancement and to Illinois Yearly Meeting in general. Ministry and Advancement recommended that Finance Committee study the need for an increase in hours allotted to the Field Secretary position to more accurately reflect the time spent on behalf of the Yearly Meeting.

After some discussion and clarification, we approved that Ministry and Ad-

vancement will consult with Finance Committee on hours to be worked by the Field Secretary and appropriate compensation for those hours and report back to the Yearly Meeting at its next annual session. We also approve the continuation of the Field Secretary position, within the parameters suggested by Ministry and Advancement.

Minute 53 Bill Howenstine, from the Site Envisioning and Building Committee, reviewed that committee's recommendations from Friday's session (see Minute 44). Friends raised several concerns and asked for clarifications on some issues. We heard concern that we prioritize our monetary needs for our facilities. We received a suggestion to increase the proposed architect fee to \$20,000. We were asked to keep the presence of God in the midst of this process. We heard expressions of excitement for the plan and the vision. And we heard serious reservations about the wisdom of moving the second floor of the dormitory. After much discussion we settled into worship where we considered "How is God leading us to prepare for the future of the Yearly Meeting." We then approved the following:

- Support the funding for necessary repairs of the Meeting House as determined by the Maintenance and Planning Committee
- Continue the Ad Hoc Site Envisioning and Building Committee for another year.
- Authorize Site Envisioning and Building to interview and hire an architect to complete a schematic design of a new building or buildings to be presented at our 2004 annual sessions. The architect could help us investigate ecologically sound materials and methods and help educate people working on the project of our desire for protecting the environment. We approved funding for this project up to \$20,000.
- Approve the start of a capital campaign for a new building or buildings with an initial target of \$1,000,000.

We were not in unity on the proposal to move the top floor of the dormitory to the north parcel and to make necessary restroom improvements in relationship to that move. Because we will not be using the dormitory again next year, we entrust to Maintenance and Planning the provision of alternative sleeping arrangements.

Minute 54 Cathy Garra reported for the Development Committee. The Property Improvement Fund approved in Friday's session will provide an extremely flexible fund for receiving gifts designated for the maintenance and improvement of the property. The committee is in need of fund raising expertise, either volunteer or paid. The committee requests permission to promote individual giving among Friends, and is considering the advisability of conducting a feasibility study to identify the capacity to raise the suggested \$1,000,000. In the coming year, the committee will develop materials that may be distributed to prospective donors providing information on how to give to Illinois Yearly Meeting and what our financial priorities are. They will also be meeting with meetings and individuals.

Minute 55 Carolyn Smith Treadway presented the final Nominating Committee reports, with additions and corrections. We approved the report which will appear in its final form in the Minute Book. Nominating Committee will name one more person to serve as a representative to AFSC. We agreed that Nominating could contact this person as soon as the decision is made so that he/she may make arrangements to attend the Corporation meeting the end of October. Continuing Committee will for-

mally approve that appointment at its October meeting.

Minute 56 We regret that we had no time to hear the report of the new Peace Resources Committee. Friends are asked to review the report of that committee in the Advance Documents. We express our deep thanks to those who have served on the committee this year and for their excellent work.

MINUTES OF THE FIFTH SESSION: Sunday, August 3, 2003

Minute 57 Sandra Huntley brought the following proposal from the Finance Committee: In consultation with the clerk of Ministry and Advancement and the Treasurer, the Finance Committee recommends the following:

- Raise the hourly rate from \$14.00 to \$15.00 per hour for the Field Secretary and the Administrative Coordinator.
- Raise the number of hours from 400 to 500 per year for the Field Secretary.
- Increase the recommended monthly meeting contribution per adult resident member to the staff fund from \$50.00 to \$55.00, increasing the total gift to \$145.00

This change would go into effect immediately. We approved this proposal and the budget for the coming year.

Minute 58 We received the epistle from the high school Friends.

Minute 59 Roy Treadway shared the Illinois Yearly Meeting epistle. We approved the epistle with some minor changes and expressed our thanks to the Epistle Committee.

Minute 60 The Clerk read the epistle from the 6-8 year-olds.

Minute 61 Alicia Holmes shared the epistle from the 3-5 year-olds

Minute 62 The Clerk read the Exercises. Several suggestions were made and we then approved the Exercises with thanks to the committee.

Minute 63 We received the epistle from the Junior High Friends.

Minute 64 We joyfully received an epistle from the newly reconstituted Adult Young Friends group.

Minute 65 David Finke read the letter which our representatives will carry to the FWCC Triennial in New Zealand next January. We approved this letter.

Minute 66 We approved the minutes from Saturday.

Minute 67 We approved the minutes from Sunday.

Minute 68 Fall Continuing Committee will meet Saturday, October 18, 2003, in Bloomington-Normal, Illinois. The 2004 Annual Sessions of Illinois Yearly Meeting will be held July 28 through August 1, near McNabb, Illinois.

Minute 69 We closed our 2003 sessions with silent worship.