

Young Friends  
of  
Pacific Yearly Meeting

August 4<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup>, 2003

At the  
University of San Diego,  
CA

Business Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday, 8/5/03**

The clerk opened the meeting with silence.

The clerk gave an overview of the schedule and self-clerking, and M&O went over Worship Sharing guidelines.

Michael Pratts volunteered to be a reader for memorial plenary.

Alexis Keeler volunteered to coordinate the off-site trip to the beach. A list of rides was posted in Palomar Lounge, and the group decided to meet at 7:15pm.

**2003-1** We approved the Naming Committee, who nominated themselves out of the silence: Lisa Vura-Weis, Tesla DuBois, Sarah Rose House, and Adrienne Pasta. They were asked to bring the Nominating Committee slate to the next business meeting.

Lauren Mitchell, a representative from the World Gathering of Young Friends, talked to the meeting about the WGYF. She asked us for our expectations and gave an overview of the tentative program. She said that an important part of WGYF would be to teach Quaker history in order to understand the differences between various Quaker sects. She said that Peace and Social Justice would also be addressed.

The clerk opened a discussion on the lack of space for Young Friends. She said that it might have been a simple misunderstanding, as the arrangements person thought we only needed hang-out space, not meeting space. We talked about how to address these problems. Some suggestions were to have YF's on committees as representatives, or with limited responsibilities.

The clerk broke our discussion into dealing with immediate problems vs. the greater problems of YF's relationship with the greater meeting. We noted Palomar Lounge and Cuyamaca 2<sup>nd</sup> floor as hang-out spaces. A friend suggested that we have the arrangements clerk talk to us to get that perspective on the issue. The clerk will talk with arrangements.

In respect to the general feeling of disconnectedness, a friend noted that our habit of bringing minutes the last day of PYM has created a cycle where we never get anything really resolved. A friend noted that since the YF schedule parallels PYM's so closely, it is hard for YFs to attend both YF and greater meeting events. A suggestion was made to send representatives to plenary. A friend noted that YF seems to be getting younger as a result of the scheduling conflicts. Another friend noted that accountability within committees is important for YFs, despite being in a transitory phase.

We decided to revisit this issue later in the week.

Meeting for Business was closed with silence.

### Wednesday, 8/6/03

The clerk opened the meeting with silent worship. She went over the greater PYM schedule for the day.

There will be an interest group on YF membership at 4:15. James Navarro discussed the motivation behind the group: young friends are in a transitory phase and feel their greatest affinity toward PYM rather than a specific meeting. Martin Otero and Aimee Sunshine-Hill volunteered to be on the panel. James discussed practices within Friends and the historical views of membership, and his wish to see a dialogue within YF and PYM on updating the practice of membership.

The Dance is Thursday night. Tonight JYM has a vigil about Hiroshima at which YFs are welcome.

A suggestion was made to move Worship Sharing in order to play capture the flag. Worship sharing was moved to 7:30pm in Palomar Lounge, and capture the flag will be played on the soccer field at 2:30

Rolene Walker discussed her leading to walk to South America for the beauty of the Earth. She plans to begin the walk in 2005 and is especially looking for people who want to walk the entire way with her, from San Diego, CA to Santiago, Chile. She expects the walk will take 2 years. She fielded questions on logistics and fundraising, and is looking for all manners of support. There will be an Interest Group in Serra 313 at 4:15pm.

We heard the Naming Committee report.

**2003-2** We approved the Nominating Committee: Jesse Gerstin, Paul Boling, and Alice Orr.

The slate needed is: one clerk, M&O, epistle committee, and recording clerk, all to be brought for a first reading at Friday morning's business meeting, with the exception of the epistle committee which needs to be approved tomorrow morning.

Pacific Friends Outreach Society, the group involved with Quaker Oaks farm in Visalia, CA, has an architect/planner and is moving towards beginning construction. A part-time data entry position and some internship opportunities are available. Quaker Oaks is interested in another YF work camp, and having YF's host programs for local youth. Talk to Kate Newlin, Micki Graham, or any other PFOS members for more info.

The group talked about support for World Gathering of Young Friends, and asking PYM for a scholarship fund. The fund would be to provide full scholarships to PYM YF representatives, and to provide any other scholarship money to other interested YFs. It was suggested that we have a specific request made as soon as possible. Marcella Leath, Ravahn Samati, Xoe Huffman, and Melina Larkin formed an ad-hoc committee to do so.

JYM has expressed interest in having Respectful Relationships led by YFs this year. Danny went over the history of RR. It was agreed that it should be a comfortable environment to talk about sex and drugs. M&O was charged to begin discussion on logistics and how to deal with the JYM adult committee. Others were invited to help.

The meeting discussed Spirit and Light Gatherings. There have been two S&L gatherings in the last year- one in Visalia and one in San Francisco. It was suggested that there be a 3 person S&L committee with no one person in charge.

**2003-4** Nominating committee will add to their needed slate a nominated Spirit and Light Committee.

The meeting ended with a closing silence.

**Thursday, 8/7/03**

Meeting was opened with silent worship.

**2003-4** The epistle committee was approved: Owen Strain, Tesla DuBois, and Michael Pratts.

Eric Moon from greater PYM nominating committee came to encourage YFs to consider being on PYM committees. He explained that some committees and positions take less commitment than others, with some, such as reading clerk, that take place solely during PYM. He also encouraged YFs going to school on the East Coast to be delegates to conferences in the East. Then he read off positions and said he would make a copy available to YF.

The clerk read the schedule and talked about the importance of memorial plenary.

The group talked about Respectful Relationships. The JYM committee has approved RR. We discussed guidelines and talked about how to make it an open space free of judgment. Group leaders will meet over dinner to go over more specific guidelines. Carl Magruder will be an adult present at the large group part of RR. It was stressed that YFs use judgment and remember that this is for the benefit of JYM.

Next we talked about the YF schedule and what improvements could be made. A concern was voiced that it paralleled greater PYM's schedule too closely. It was suggested that we make a greater effort to know the plenary schedule. It was agreed that it would be bad to move business meeting around plenary time because there are some plenaries that do not interest YFs. A suggestion was made that the way to begin integrating YFs into greater PYM is to join worship sharing with older Friends. The group came to some agreement that having two worship sharing times scheduled, one with greater PYM and one with YFs, would be a good solution. There was consensus that having free time was a necessary part of the schedule. As for interest groups, friends voiced that it was important for YFs to pay attention to where they're led to be, and that it was not necessary to have a full schedule of YF only interest groups. Friends voiced that it was necessary to renew commitments to the yearly meeting, and that scheduling can help but is not a fix-all. There was talk of renewing YF-JYM connections in part to help ease older JYMers into YF. A suggestion was to have joint worship sharing. Another option for connections with PYM was for YF to have a presentation in a plenary. A friend reminded us that we also need to focus on our growth, just not our feelings of lack of acceptance.

The meeting closed with a moment of silence.

**Friday, 8/8/03**

Meeting was opened with silent worship. The clerk made snide remarks about the recording clerk.

Walter Sullivan came to speak about Quaker Center. He invited YFs to be involved with the camp program as counselors. He urged interested YFs to talk to Melina, Tesla, Arthur, or any other YFs who have been involved in camps. There will be a clerking workshop at Quaker Center Sep. 19-21, and all are invited. There is a Quaker Center internship, which Cherish Wilcox currently holds, that is available every year. The internship is a one year residential program, in which interns work with the Quaker Center community. Interns learn to implement ideas into practice, and often do communications work. The decision of each year's intern is made in May. For more information, refer to [www.quakercenter.org](http://www.quakercenter.org).

There will be a discussion group about feelings of powerlessness, and how to effect change in society. It will be at 4:15 in Hahn 107.

The clerk went over the schedule for the day.

Business meeting will be at 9:15am tomorrow in order to make it to closing plenary.

We heard the first reading of our Nominating committee slate, which we will season until tomorrow:

**Co-Clerks:** Kate Newlin 2004 (already approved), Martin Otero 2005

**Recording Clerk 2004:** Davis Carlson

**Ministry and Oversight 2004:** Lisa Vura-Weis (clerk), Alexis Keeler

**Spirit and Light 2004:** Paul Boling, Sam Ellis, Lee Kearney-Brown, Xavier Manalo, Melina Larkin, and Eric Amen.

**Epistle 2003** (already approved): Owen Strain, Tesla DuBois, Michael Pratts

Xoe Huffman read the draft of the request for a fund to attend WGYF. A friend suggested that we estimate the amount of money needed and include it. There were concerns that the current draft was unclear, and Xoe said she'd address that.

Epistle committee reported that the epistle is still a work in progress.

There was a continuation of Tuesday's discussion on lack of space and feeling overlooked by the greater meeting. However, friends had lost the depth of feeling that was present earlier. The lack of a room was explained as a simple misunderstanding. A friend suggested thinking about YF planning plenaries in the future.

The meeting closed with silence.

**Saturday, 8/9/03**

The meeting was opened with silence. Minutes from the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> business meetings were read and approved.

The clerk went over the schedule for the day.

We heard the second and final reading of the Nominating committee slate:

**Co-Clerks:** Kate Newlin 2004 (already approved), Martin Otero 2005

**Recording Clerk 2004:** Davis Carlson

**Ministry and Oversight 2004:** Lisa Vura-Weis (clerk), Alexis Keeler, Arthur Carpenter, Xavier Manalo

**Spirit and Light 2004:** Paul Boling, Sam Ellis, Lee Kearney-Brown, Melina Larkin, and Eric Amen.

**Epistle 2003** (already approved): Owen Strain, Tesla DuBois, Michael Pratts

**2003-5** We approved the Nominating Committee slate.

It will be sent to greater PYM's nominating committee to go in their report.

We heard an updated request for a fund for YF's to attend WGYF (attached).

**2003-6** We approved the fund request.

It will be sent to finance committee by the clerk.

The epistle committee read the final draft (attached) and it was accepted.

Announcements:

There will be a women's weekend at Quaker Center with a theme on hunger and relationships with spirituality, sexuality, and creativity.

Tesla DuBois is having a birthday/graduation/bon voyage party on August 16, everyone is invited.

Jesse Gerstin is having a party of the same nature on August 14, everyone is invited.

On November 22<sup>nd</sup>, the annual demonstration/protest of the School of the Americas will take place at Fort Benning, GA. Talk to Zac Moon if you are interested in going.

Minutes for the day were read and approved.

This final meeting was closed with silence. We joined closing Plenary where our epistle was read to the Yearly Meeting by Melina Larkin.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Vura-Weis  
Recording Clerk

Darcy Stanley and Kate Newlin  
Presiding Co-Clerks