

**Quaker Earthcare Witness Steering Committee**  
**Minutes of the Meeting at the Cenacle, Chicago, Illinois**  
2011 October 20-23

**Present:** Carol Barta, Patricia Chernoff, David Ciscel, Marcia Cleveland, Mary Coelho, Ria Collee, Al Connor, Louis Cox, Os Cresson, Elaine Emmi, Phil Emmi, Gail Fletcher, John Fletcher, Marshall Gibson, Mary Gilbert, Gail Grossman, Richard Grossman, John Hackman, George Hagen, Joanne Hagen, Roger Hansen, Emily Higgs, Alice Howenstine, Bill Howenstine, John Hudson, Toni Hudson, Julia Isaacs, eric maya joy, Mary Jo Klingel, Robert McGahey, Geeta McGahey, David Millar, Anne Mitchell, Joe Morris, John Payton, Amy Savage, Tom Small, Shelley Tanenbaum, Roy Taylor, Julia Thompson, Janice Thomson, Rick Todd, Roy Treadway, Alice Wald, Nancy Wallace, Maia Wolff, and Rod Zwirner. Jack Bradin, Barbara Letsch, and Allen Stockbridge joined us remotely. Bill Holcombe sent his regrets.

**Preliminary Meeting for Worship for Business, Thursday, 2011 October 20 , 5:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m and 8:35 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**

**Welcoming and Opening – Dick Grossman**

Dick read queries that eric joy sent in advance.

~some queries that i have been asking myself and would like to have us ask each other during our time together in Chicago are:

~ what do we, individually and collectively, feel is needed to see us (self, other, humanity, nature, earth, all life spirit...) through these extraordinary, challenging times?

~ what is most effective?

**Introductions – Dick Grossman**

We welcomed persons new to QEW joining us for the first time.

**2012 Priorities: Each Committee, Worship Group, or Project should choose Two Actions for Next Year – Dick Grossman**

Dick reminded us that each committee, worship group, or project should choose two priorities for action next year.

**Nominating Committee Report on Vacancies – Rod Zwirner**

**Rod outlined the important positions for QEW still open.** A Recording Clerk for the Continuing Counsel Committee (CCC) is needed to take minutes during the eight meetings by Skype and the two face-to-face meetings. The Nominating Committee is still looking for a clerk of the Publications and Outreach Committees. Also the Sustainability: Faith and Action Working Group has no clerk.

**Naming Committee – Dick Grossman**

**Marshall Gibson agreed to be member of the Naming Committee; another member is needed.**

## **Celebration of the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of QEW – Joe Morris**

**Joe reminded us that the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of QEW as FCUN will be coming up in 2012.** He invited Friends to start considering how QEW might celebrate our anniversary in Chicago 2012 October 4 to 7 along with focusing on our topic of “Food and Biodiversity.” Those interested in planning the 2012 Annual Gathering will meet at lunch on Friday.

## **Review of the Green Survey at the Friends General Conference Gathering – John Fletcher**

**John explained the background of a survey at Friends General Conference in June and July this year at Grinnell College in Iowa.** The survey of ecological footprint used in 2010 proved to be very complicated; thus, John developed a simpler survey of what actions Friends are taking now to live more sustainable lives. It also helped to educate Friends about possible earthcare actions and promote QEW. John gave a summary of the results.

## **Closing**

We closed with fellowship.

## **First Meeting for Worship for Business, Friday, 2011 October 21, 4:40 p.m. – 5:50 p.m.**

Roger Hansen opened our silence with a reading from Tilden Edwards, *Living Simply Through the Day*, pp. 179-82

We can eat more attentively...

Here are...specific disciplines of attentiveness drawn from many wells of spiritual tradition. They are most effective if you are eating in silence: alone or with others. But they are possible "in the cracks" of a talking meal, as well.

1. With a deep sense of thanksgiving let your mind trace back all the things you can think of involved in getting that food to you: the seeds, earth, rain, sun, plant, tree, pickers, movers, packagers, grocers, etc.

You can continue seeing this life cycle by sensing the food becoming nutrients for your body, excrement, returning to the earth, and the whole cycle beginning again. Accept this ever changing flow as integral to life: see that there is nothing you need hold onto, not even yourself. God's blessing is in this process.

2. Let yourself see the many hungry persons in the world, near and far. Let this strengthen your careful selection of food to eat, your prayer for those people and your simple, non-violent resolve to work for the better distribution and quality of the planet's resources in whatever way is given to you. Let yourself sense the preciousness of this little bit of food for life...

3. Stay silently aware in every moment of the process of eating a bite of food (or drinking a sip of juice or other liquid). Be mindful of all the processes involved, so that each is done attentively...

Doing this becomes a simple, mindful, flowing, ungrasping presence in the process. Our mind

is not wandering somewhere else, doing "extra" things. It is not heedlessly shoveling down "stuff." It is full attentiveness in present experience, wherein simplicity resides.

### **Welcoming Everyone – Dick Grossman**

We welcomed everyone attending this meeting by introducing our selves. We also welcomed Jack Bradin and Allen Stockbridge by remote participation.

### **Approval of the Agenda – Dick Grossman**

We reviewed and approved the agenda for the day.

### **Naming Committee – Dick Grossman**

Marshall Gibson and Elaine Emmi have agreed to serve on the Naming Committee.

### **SC Minute 2011.10.01. Steering Committee approved Marshall Gibson and Elaine Emmi as members of the Naming Committee.**

### **Simplified Bylaws and “In Practice” – Roy Taylor (Attachments C and D)**

During the CCC meeting in Houston on Friday, 2010 October 29, since the SC could not approve a revision of the significantly out-of-date QEW Bylaws, CCC discussed **the value of completely revising the Bylaws to include only those needed for legal organizational and tax purposes and developing simple guidelines for how we operate, including a description of the committees and officers.** The articles of incorporation in Michigan might serve as a guideline; the Trustees Meeting, including the officers, could be done electronically. Thus, the CCC approved the following minute.

### **CCC Minute 2010.10a.03 Continuing Counsel Committee approved Roy Treadway, Dick Grossman, Roy Taylor, and Jack Bradin to review the QEW bylaws to consider if it is possible:**

- 1. to create a new set of by-laws (for approval) that meet the minimum requirements for the State of Michigan where we are incorporated that essentially states that we conduct our business in the manner of Friends and**
- 2. to create as a new document a guide to procedures (how we conduct our business) that is a collection of minutes that would include the bulk of our current bylaws which includes the definitions of committees, working groups, and project, the time and place of our meetings, our clerks, our nomination procedure, and so forth.**

Since that meeting, Dick Grossman resigned from the committee, but Roy Taylor, Jack Bradin, and Roy Treadway developed the proposed Simplified Bylaws and “In Practice,” which were reviewed by the CCC during 2011 Summer and sent to the Steering Committee on 2011 August 9 for review and comment. No comments were received. **The proposed “Simplified Bylaws” and “In Practice” were sent officially to the SC on 2011 September 14, well before the 30-day deadline for changes required by our current bylaws.** They were sent again in early October, and a few comments were received and responded to.

At this Steering Committee Meeting for Business, the proposed Bylaws and “In Practice” were presented for approval by the Clerk of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Bylaws, Roy Taylor. Questions were raised about the role and responsibility of the new recording clerks (if approved); changes in the Bylaws and “In Practice” would need to be made when that change is approved. **Roy Taylor explained the background of the documents, with the**

**Bylaws serving for legal documentation and the “In Practice” serving for how we do business and changed when SC approves changes.**

**eric maya joy could not unite in approval with the new Bylaws and “In Practice.” Mary Jo Klingel will co-ordinate a meeting with eric and interested Friends over his concerns about the Bylaws and “In Practice.”**

#### **Nominating Committee Report – Rod Zwirner**

Rod reminded Friends that QEW still needs persons to serve as Recording Clerk for CCC meetings and as well as Clerks of the Outreach and Publications Committees.

#### **Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2011 – David Ciscel (Attachment A)**

David reviewed the Report for FY 2011 (2010 Nov. 1 to 2011 Oct. 31). He noted that QEW runs on contributions. We have had extra expenses for our transition of general secretaries. While we have had problems with contributions during the summer, we have done better in July, August, and September. **Both expenditures and revenues were down in FY2011 over FY 2010 although QEW did have to withdraw \$5,000 from our pooled funds; expenses were slightly greater than revenues.**

#### **Budget for Fiscal Year 2012: First Reading – David Ciscel (Attachment B)**

The proposed FY 2012 (2011 Nov. 1 to 2012 Oct. 31) budget was presented. **QEW expects about \$90,000 in income and expenses, down about \$4,000 from FY 2011, due in part to lower expenses for staff and program and outreach.** We need more contributions for the Mini-grants (at least \$1,500) and young adult Friends Scholarships. We clarified questions about the Men for Men fund. If we cannot raise necessary funds, we will have to cut back on programs and outreach, thus reducing the amount of work committees can do, but not on personnel salaries. Rather, we hope to raise staff salaries if contributions go up. Publications costs will increase with additional work done on the QEW web site. Funds from the Obadiah Foundation grant were received in FY 2011 but will be spent for development in FY 2012.

#### **Twenty Fifth Anniversary Celebration Preparation – Joe Morris and Dick Grossman**

The report and discussion for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at the 2012 QEW Annual Gathering (2012 October 4-7) were postponed to Saturday to give more time for preparation by interested Friends.

#### **Planning for the Spring 2012 SC Meeting in Cambridge, Massachusetts – Shelley Tanenbaum**

**The Spring SC meeting (2012 June 27-30) will be in Cambridge, MA, using the Cambridge Friends Meetinghouse. QEW Friends will do our own cooking, preparing meals, and clean-up.** This will be less expensive, but more work than our current arrangements at retreat and conference centers. Cooking together is a deep and important experience. Maia Wolff will coordinate cooking. A Planning Committee is to be formed at this meeting. Friends thanked Mary Gilbert for making the arrangements.

#### **Planning for the QEW Earthcare Center at the 2012 Friends General Conference (FGC) Gathering – Shelley Tanenbaum**

**Planning for the Earthcare Center at the 2012 FGC Gathering (2012 July 1-7), Kingston, Rhode**

**Island, has just begun.** The New England Yearly Meeting Earthcare Committee will help with the Center. Shelley will form a planning committee at this meeting.

### **2012 QEW Annual Gathering: Theme and Planning – Roy Taylor**

During our Meeting for Business on Sunday, **we will discuss plans for the 2012 QEW Annual Gathering, 2012 October 4-7, at the Cenacle in Chicago.** The issues of Celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of QEW and addressing the theme of Food and Biodiversity are being worked out.

### **Spring 2013 SC Meeting Place and Time – Anne Mitchell**

We explored possible places for the 2013 Spring SC meeting. We might meet in connection with the 2013 FGC Gathering in Greeley, Colorado, at the end of June, either at Boulder, Fort Collins, or Denver, or at the FGC Gathering itself. David Millar has talked with the Clerk of the Boulder Friends Meeting, who has expressed interest in hosting us. We might also meet in connection with a regional gathering, such as at the Illinois Yearly Meeting House near McNabb, IL, or possibly in Toronto, Anne Mitchell's home town. **QEW members need to volunteer a place.** About 30 to 40 persons might come.

### **Approval of the Process for Taking Surveys – Roy Treadway (Attachment E)**

**Roy Treadway explained the purpose for the process of taking surveys.** This was sent out with the advanced documents, but some Friends had not seen it. We will consider this on Saturday.

### **Closing**

We closed in silence, followed by a grace before dinner.

### **Second Meeting for Worship for Business, 2011 October 22, Saturday, 10:45 a.m. to 12:20 p.m.**

### **Opening**

Mary Jo Klingel read from a story, Author Unknown.

In a far away land, up in the mountains, a monastery flourished through the years. Of late, though, the young men did not come and the elders grew tired and frail. The abbot was deeply concerned, and he took to walking the mountain paths praying and seeking guidance. He came across the cottage of an old rabbi and the two became friends. With the rabbi, the abbot found a place to speak freely. Their talks about life and theology nourished them both. But still the monastery grew smaller and the abbot was afraid that the day might come when it would have to be closed.

After one particularly satisfying visit, the abbot rose to walk home. The rabbi stopped him, and then said, "Ah, how silly." The abbot pressed him. Finally the rabbi said that he had had the strangest thought. He said, "I just had the thought that someone at your abbey is the next Messiah."

The abbot walked home upset and muttering to himself. "How ridiculous! What, the Messiah is old Brother Thomas who works in the garden and mutters to himself all day? That is absurd.... But then, he does tend to us so gently when we are sick." And a few paces on, "Good heavens! Surely it is not Brother James. He is so irritating with his cheerful whistling at all hours. But wait - he is the first to speak of our need to love and care for one another. " "Oh, the worst, what if it is Brother Michael? He is never on time for matins or meals. How could it be? Still, sometimes when I come upon him and he does not know that I am there, I hear him praying so softly for all of us . . ."

By the time the abbot reached the monastery, he was grey with fatigue. He arose the next morning determined to find out the truth, so he watched each brother closely. A strange thing began to happen. A new Light seemed to come from the monastery. All of them felt it. And then one day a young man came from the town, and sat with the brothers. By the end of the day he asked if he could come back and stay in the monastery a while. Soon another young man came, and another. And the monastery began to flourish again.

The abbot visited the rabbi and shared the good news. The rabbi asked if he ever figured out who was the Messiah. "Oh, that, the abbot said. "No, I never did. "

### **Announcements and Greetings**

We welcomed Jack Bradin and Barbara Letsch by remote participation. We were reminded to sign cards for absent Friends. Tom Small is auctioning FCUN Traveling napkins, with donations going to QEW. The Nominating Committee is passing out information forms for members of the SC. It still needs the names of yearly meeting representatives.

### **Approval of the Process for Taking Surveys – Roy Treadway (Attachment E)**

During the 2011 May 24 CCC Meeting, CCC approved a review of the taking of surveys of QEW members, following the concerns of some at the Steering Committee Meetings in 2011 April. **Dick Grossman and Roy Treadway developed such a process using our sign-on process as a basis for doing so**, but with feedback from the CCC modified it so that the SC need not be involved in approving the survey, but rather an appropriate committee or working group could make the decision. This would keep the process simple, not involve the SC unnecessarily, but provide some oversight of surveys of QEW members. The proposed process for reviewing surveys was sent in the advanced documents.

**SC Minute 2011.10.02. Steering Committee approved the attached process of taking surveys of QEW members.**

### **Simplified Bylaws and “In Practice” – Roy Taylor (Attachments C and D)**

**To address the concerns about the Bylaws and “In Practice” of eric joy, a group of six Friends met with eric over his not being in unity with approving the Bylaws and “In Practice.”** From that meeting, Mary Jo Klingel read a statement about QEW’s process of making decisions.

Statement from the *Ad Hoc* committee requested by eric maya joy in his concern for not being in

unity with the approval of the new bylaws and “In Practice.”

We recognize that there have been significant breaches of Friends process in the past.

At this time we reaffirm the need to be conscious of good Friends process. We commit to holding ourselves accountable for Friends’ process.

We also entrust the Spiritual Nurturance Committee to follow up with any concerns as needed.

Friends in attendance at this meeting:

Carol Barta	Shelley Tanenbaum	Rod Zwirner	Mary Coelho	Emily Higgs
eric maya joy	Mary Jo Klingel, submitting this report.			

The Spiritual Nurturance Committee still wants to followup on several questions that need to be worked out.

**SC Minute 2011.10.03. Steering Committee approved the new Bylaws and “In Practice”.**

eric expressed appreciation for work of Roy Taylor, Roy Treadway, and Jack Bradin (members of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Bylaws), and felt the process used for reviewing and approving the Bylaws and “In Practice” was proper. He also thanked Dick Grossman and the persons who met with him.

**Laying Down the Ad Hoc Committee on Bylaws – Dick Grossman**

**SC Minute 2011.10.04. Steering Committee approved laying down the down the Ad Hoc Committee on Bylaws with appreciation for the work of Roy Taylor, Jack Bradin, and Roy Treadway.**

**Report on the Process of Distributing Public Documents – Roy Treadway (Attachment F)**

During the 2011 April SC meeting, two public statements (formerly called Minutes) on North Africa and the use of Nuclear Energy following the earthquake and tsunami in Japan were approved, but there was no clear process for distributing these statements to Friends journals, Friends groups, and the public. **Based on a suggestions by Joe Morris, the process was modified by Anne Mitchell and Roy Treadway and approved by the CCC on 2011 July 28, with a list of yearly meeting contacts to be worked out.** The approved process of distributing public documents was sent with the advanced documents.

**Finance and Development Committee – David Ciscel (Attachment B)**

Friends were asked to consider the FY 2012 Budget as presented on Friday. The Finance and Development Committee would like approval of the ability for CCC to raise salaries of staff in 2012 January or February is income warrants that.

**SC Minute 2011.10.05. Steering Committee approved the FY 2012 budget as proposed.**

**SC Minute 2011.10.06. Steering Committee approved the CCC increasing the budget for staff salaries and projects if funds are available to do so.**

The SC discussed the issue of raising funds. The QEW mailing list has 4,000 persons, most by email, as well as monthly meetings. **It is important to focus on raising money and become more professional with goals and time lines. Money is our means of doing things.** We need to have a strong fall fund-raising letter this fall. **We acknowledged that personal contacts are very important.** Letters are more effective than email in raising funds, but emails are effective in informing others of the work we are doing. We were urged to consider marketing some of our publications to other faith groups. Hiring a professional fund-raiser might be also effective. A group with a deep spiritual connection to the earth can reach others in a special, important way.

We will add the question of Development to our agenda if time permits. Jack Bradin expects to take over the Development focus of QEW

**Naming Committee – Marshall Gibson**

The Naming Committee was not ready to report. We still need a person for the Nominating Committee.

**Nominating Committee – Rod Zwirner**

The Nominating Committee is still looking for a Recording Clerk for the CCC and Clerks of the Finance and Development and Publication Committees. eric joy is a possible clerk for the Personnel Committee.

**Outreach Committee – David Millar**

**The Outreach Committee discussed five issues.** First, Emily Higgs has made a proposal for a youth conference at Pendle Hill. Second, the committee is seeking to enhance two-way communication between yearly meetings, monthly meetings, and other groups. Third, Emily Higgs has been remaking QEW's facebook, which we encourage Friends to join. Fourth, we are contacting the Living Witness program of Britain Yearly Meeting. Fifth, for the successful Mini-grants project, the Outreach Committee is assigning a member of the committee to each project to follow-up. Allen Stockbridge joined the committee meeting remotely from Utah.

**Green Questionnaire – John Fletcher**

John expressed his appreciation for our feedback on the green questionnaire.

**Personnel Committee – Al Connor**

The committee had no report to this Meeting for Business.

**Publications Committee – Roy Taylor (Attachment G)**

Roy summarized the work of the committee. It has reviewed the third draft of Bill Cahalan's pamphlet, "Belonging to Life: Ecological Vision and Grounded Faith." **The committee is considering new publications in greater depth or more focused to be published on the web** in order to reach a wider audience and reduce printing costs. We might consider using Amazon.com to sell some publications and raise funds for QEW. Through Skype we talked with **Alan Dixon, who is revamping our website to include a public site (brochures and publications) and a QEW Community site for our organization, committees, reports, minutes, and our stories, some of which might be pushed later to the public site.** The new Food four-fold is undergoing its third

version, with a modification of section on business (Monsanto). It will be used as part of fund-raising **The Publications Committee will review the final draft in a timely fashion. The Committee plans to focus on Priorities 2, 4, and 5.**

#### **Spiritual Nurturance Committee – Mary Jo (Attachment H)**

The Committee plans to focus on Priority 1 on Spiritual basis for its work in the coming year. Because of confusion over the status of the Priorities, no further priorities could be selected.

#### **Ad Hoc Committee on Unity with Nature – Roy Taylor (Attachment I)**

The *Ad Hoc* Committee on United with Nature will meet after lunch on Sunday. The *Ad Hoc* Committee is focusing on original purposes of Friends Committee on Unity With Nature. How can we be true to those original purposes?

#### **Sustainability: Faith and Action Working Group – Dick Grossman and Roy Treadway (Attachment J)**

Thirteen persons met to consider the future of the Sustainability: Faith and Action Working Group and to seek a clerk for the year ahead. Starting the meeting, each person shared his or her interest and involvement in sustainability concerns; altogether they covered very wide types of activity. Given each person's involvement locally and personally in sustainability, no one was ready to take on the responsibility of being the clerk. **All, however, wished for the working group to continue as a source of ideas and inspiration when they come to QEW meetings (since, in part, each of the other working groups has a specific focus) and as a way of sharing together. The group was not ready to adopt any priority.** Roy Treadway will send an email to all persons attending this meeting and others previously interested in the Sustainability: Faith and Action Working Group, inviting them to continue sharing between and at QEW meetings.

#### **UN Support Working Group – Phil Emmi (Attachments K and L)**

Seven persons attended the meetings on the UN Support Working Group. Emily Higgs is helping us with relating to Quaker United Nations Organization (QUNO) New York as we continue our work at the United Nations. Judy Lumb and Moses Musanga of Kenya will attend the UN Convention on Climate Change, Conference of Parties 17, in Durban, South Africa. **Mary Gilbert will attend a meeting in 2011 November of Quakers who have regular dealings with the UN in Geneva, Switzerland.**

The working group is considering how to raise funds for Anne Mitchell to attend the Heads of Agencies Meeting (HAM) in 2012 in London, England, April seeking greater cooperation among Friend's organizations; Jack Bradin and the proposed *Ad Hoc* Committee on Development will try to raise funds.

The working group presented an endorsement of a statement on "A Call to Integrate Faith, Ecology, and the Global Economy," (**Attachment K**) written in 2009 November 12 by a group that included Keith Helmut, Ed Dreby, Carl McGruder, Geoff Garver, and other Quakers. Approximately 60 faith groups have endorsed the statement. The UNSWG has reviewed this statement and requests the SC to endorse this statement. It will be sent to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development for the Rio + 20 Conference. Copies were distributed and are available to read. The working group proposes approval at this meeting, or if Friends prefer, to send this statement by email to the SC for approval, using the QEW sign-on process, requiring 96 hours from the time it is sent for approval.

**Mary Gilbert read a draft public statement on the “Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery and Affirmation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People” (Attachment L).** The statement reviews the history of claiming “discovered” lands, beginning with the Papal Bulls in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Century, and continuing to this day in the form of case law. QEW would be joining several other religious groups in repudiating this doctrine. If approved by the SC on Sunday, the statement would be distributed according to our newly approved policy of distributing public statements.

## **Closing**

We closed with silence and circling before lunch.

## **Third Meeting for Worship for Business, 2011 October 23, Sunday, 9:10 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.**

We opened with silence, in which, in turn, individuals read the purpose of QEW, when it was founded as Friends in Unity with Nature 24 years ago. Mary Coelho read from a talk given by Doris Ferm in 2006 at Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting, *Beyond Stewardship of Nature: Friends and the “Great Story,”* pp. 5-6.

Mysticism is not foreign to Quakers; it is of our essence, and we know it because this mysterious creative energy that is the nature of all things is a form of love. Brian Swimme calls it allurements, the attraction of one entity for another. It is what keeps the galaxies in their paths, what keeps the planets rotating around the sun and the electrons around the protons within atoms. It is in the moth attracted to a certain flower that needs it to pollinate the next blossom, in the homing in of a hummingbird to a tubular red flower, in the devotion of parents to their offspring. It is what biologist E.O. Wilson called "biophilia," the love of people for nature and animals. Brian Swimme says the destiny of the human is to become love in human form. And we have been told long ago that to live in love is to live in God and God in us. Alfred North Whitehead once defined God as "the binding element of the universe." What can that binding element be but the love that the New Universe Story teaches, the love that is God? "For in God we live and move and have our being," says the Apostle Paul (Acts 17:28).

"This is the unique awareness," says Thomas Berry, "that begins to take place in our time. The body of Christ is ultimately the entire universe. Otherwise neither the incarnation nor the redemption is complete. Experience of this communion is so strengthening, so ecstatic, that it can provide the energies that we need to carry life on into the difficult future."

## **Announcements**

**We thanked the dining and housekeeping staff of the Cenacle.** Dick Grossman expressed our appreciation to Joe Morris for initiating the YAF scholarship and 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, and to Mary Jo Klingel, Bill Howenstine, Alice Howenstine, Roy Taylor, David Ciscel, Os Cresson, Roy Treadway, and Shelley Tanenbaum for their work for QEW during his two years as Clerk. David Miller reminded us about QEW.NET and QEWDiscussion. Anne Mitchell requested that we tell her if we are a yearly meeting representative to Steering Committee.

## **UN Support Working Group – Phil Emmi (Attachments K and L)**

The SC reviewed the “Call to Integrate Faith, Ecology, and the Global Economy” (**Attachment K**) introduced during Saturday’s business meeting, having had time to read the entire statement.

**Minute 2011.10.07. Steering Committee approved endorsing the “Call to Integrate Faith, Ecology, and the Global Economy” to be sent to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development for the Rio + 20 Conference.**

Next the SC reviewed the draft public statement on the “Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery and Affirmation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People” (**Attachment L**). Some Friends raised concerns that the statement did not include the long-standing Quaker repudiation of doctrine in general, peace issues, Friends’ relations with indigenous persons, and other issues. **Those who have suggestions for wording of the public statement should send them to Mary Gilbert for rewriting and review by the UNSWG;** the statement will then be sent to the Steering Committee by email for a 96-hour approval using QEW’s sign-on process.

## **FCNL Support Working Group – John Payton (Attachment M)**

**This year the FCNL Support Working Group will focus on agriculture and food safety and security, including good quality food to local and unserved areas.** This focus is called “Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food.” The working group supports lobbying Congress in Washington, DC, on 2011 Nov. 3 on food issues. The working group’s second effort will be to have those SC members living in districts with Representatives or in states with Senators on the Farm Committees also lobbying on farm issues. **The FCNLSWG will focus on Priority 4: Develop collaboration and complementary activities with FCNL and other faith groups.**

**In 2012, FCNL will be developing its legislative priorities.** The working group will collect SC suggestions as part of the FCNL priorities process. These priorities are used to allocate lobbying funds. This process will give QEW an opportunity to work with other groups, impact policy, and focus on food and sustainable agriculture this year in another way.

## **No Name Working Group – Mary Jo Klingel (Attachment N)**

The working group welcomed one or two new members and encourages others to be involved. While “No Name” makes sense internally, it creates some confusion with others. **It meets mostly by conference call so that those on other working groups can be involved with it even though it also meets face-to-face at SC meetings.**

## **Finca la Bella Project – Os Cresson**

Os showed pictures of *Finca la Bella*. Next year will be its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. **The Monteverde Institute has taken leadership although QEW has become a partner.** Complicating factors are that cooperative land trusts do not exist in Costa Rica and the value of land has increased considerably in 20 years because of demand, leading to risks in future. Much improvement has been made in electricity and other features. There has also been improved management of natural resources. Woodlands, for instance, protect the water supply for hydroelectric power. Does the next generation have the same understanding of the use of land and of environment as the previous generation? In general, our values are visible there. Many high school students now ride buses to high school instead of walking. The *parceleros* have become middle class. There are many heart-warming and heart-breaking stories in *Finca La Bella*, including a remembrance of Anne Kriebel in the Library.

**Several opportunities for contact between the *parceleros* and members of QEW may develop in the future.** Possibly a work-camp may occur there as part of Youth event in 2013. QEW might bring a *parcelero* to our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary along with their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The *parceleros* have invited members of QEW to share Christmas in Costa Rica, with a few QEW members expressing some interest.

Dick Grossman expressed deeply that this what QEW should be about; he was greatly appreciative of those who have worked on the *Finca La Bella* project. **QEW thanked Os for his work with the *Finca La Bella* Project.**

Suzanne McCandless, formerly with the *Finca La Bella* Project, has recovered from her illness and has been able to travel.

#### **Naming Committee – Marshall Gibson**

The Naming Committee proposes that Ria Collee be a member of the Nominating Committee.

**SC Minute 2011.10.08. Steering Committee approved Ria Collee as a member of the Nominating Committee to 2014.**

#### **Nominating Committee – Rod Zwirner**

The Nominating Committee proposed having two Recording Clerks, with one, the Steering Committee Recording Clerk, taking minutes for the Steering Committee, and the other, the Continuing Counsel Committee Recording Clerk, taking the minutes for the Continuing Counsel Committee. **If approved, the Bylaws and “In Practice” will need to be changed to reflect these two positions.**

**SC Minute 2011.10.09. Steering Committee approved splitting the Recording Clerk into two positions, a Steering Committee Recording Clerk and a Continuing Counsel Committee Recording Clerk, both with three-year terms.**

**The Nominating Committee brought forth the following nominations.**

Presiding Clerk – Shelley Tanenbaum  
Mentoring Alternative Clerk – Dick Grossman  
Steering Committee Recording Clerk – John Payton  
Continuing Counsel Committee Recording Clerk – Louis Cox  
Treasurer – David Millar  
Finance and Development Committee Clerk – David Ciscel  
Nominating Committee Clerk – Barbara Letsch  
Outreach Committee Clerk – Carol Barta  
Mini-grant Clerk – Bill Holcombe  
Personnel Committee Clerk – eric joy  
Publications Committee Clerk – Roy Taylor (but wants to be relieved)  
Spiritual Nurturance Committee Clerk – Mary Jo Klingel  
FCNL Support Working Group Clerk – Al Connor  
No Name Working Group – None  
Sustainability: Faith and Action Working Group – needs a new clerk  
UN Support Working Group Clerk – Phil Emmi  
*Finca La Bella* Project – Os Cresson

**SC Minute 2011.10.10. Steering Committee approved these nominations of clerks and treasurer.**

**The Nominating Committee proposed the following panel (2011 - 2014) of at large members of the Steering Committee.**

Tom Small (Lake Erie YM)  
eric joy (North Pacific and Canadian YMs)  
Mary Coelho (New England YM)  
Phil Emmi (Intermountain YM)  
Elaine Emmi (Intermountain YM)

**SC Minute 2011.10.11. Steering Committee approved the 2011-2014 panel of at-large members of the Steering Committee.**

**Continuing At-Large Steering Committee Members and Appointees**

**2009-2012 panel**

Carol Ciscel (Southern Appalachian YM&A)  
Phil Emmi (Intermountain YM)  
Dick Grossman (Intermountain YM)  
Bill Howenstine (Illinois YM)  
Judy Lumb (Southern Appalachian YM&A)  
Allen Stockbridge (North Pacific YM)

**2010-2013 panel**

Alice Howenstine (Illinois YM)  
Carol Barta (Missouri Valley Friends Conference)  
Barbara Letsch (Southeastern YM)  
Gail Fletcher (South Central YM)  
John Fletcher (South Central YM)

**Appointees**

FCNL:

Rod Zwirner (appointed 2008)  
John Payton (appointed 2006)  
Al Connor (appointed 2007)

Friends Testimonies and Economics (FTE)

Donn Kesselheim (appointed 2007)  
David Ciscel (appointed 2008)

United Nations

Jack Bradin (appointed 2008)  
Mary Gilbert (appointed 2008)  
Anne Mitchell, General Secretary (appointed 2008)

## ***Ad Hoc* Committee on Development – Dick Grossman**

The SC discussed forming an *Ad Hoc* Development Committee.

**SC Minute 2011.10.12. Steering Committee approved the formation of an *Ad Hoc* Development Committee for one year, with the objective of raising funds for QEW, with no budget, and Jack Bradin (Clerk), Shelley Tanenbaum, Roy Taylor, Al Connor, Dick Grossman, David Millar, Emily Higgs, and Elaine Emmi as members with Louis Cox as a listener.**

## **Feedback about Orientation – Dick Grossman**

**While QEW had no formal orientation process, newcomers expressed feeling being welcomed.** We need every one on our e-mail list reading documents in advance. A newcomers orientation on Thursday night including every one would be desirable. Having a seasoned individual be a buddy of a newcomer might be helpful. Explaining what the SC is with a list of members, committees, working groups, and project in advance would be useful.

## **Priorities: Next Steps – Anne Mitchell (Attachment O)**

**The priorities of each group will shape all of our work for the next year and possibly years to come. Anne would like the priorities of each committee, working group, and project sent to her.**

Have priorities been helpful? The Spiritual Nurturance Committee is continuing discernment because it is not clear what they are for. For others, the Priorities have been helpful to give guidance on what QEW might concentrate. Anne needs guidance of what is important for her to do for QEW.

**Anne request that each committee, working group, and project submit names of members to Anne within a week.** Every one involved with QEW needs these names.

## **Where do we go from here? – Roy Taylor**

**The Steering Committee considered our future directions. The 2012 Annual Gathering topic of Food and Biodiversity and the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration should be able to work together well.** Many ways exist for new directions on food and biodiversity. Roy Taylor has enjoyed being clerk of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Planning the Annual Gathering, but would be happy for another to take leadership. While QEW has been focusing on peace with the Earth – how we grow food on our “earth” – it also needs to consider food from the oceans as well. Perhaps our theme for next year could be “Twenty-Five Years of Nourishing the Earth.”

Many non-SC persons have been active on QEW committees, working groups, and project. Perhaps we could consider the pros and cons of the green revolution, including definitions. A possible white paper on food issues by QEW, such as, sacredness of food, climate change and food, involvement of monthly and yearly meetings, and work with FCNL, before our next Annual Gathering might help our preparation. After the next Annual Gathering, can we have a call to action on food?

## **Thanks to Dick Grossman**

**SC Minute 2011.10.13. Steering Committee approved a minute of thanks to Dick Grossman for his clerking of QEW in the last two years through a time of transition of general secretaries, decisions on where and how often to meet face-to-face, manner of doing business, and new priorities.**

**Thanks to Roy Treadway**

**SC Minute 2011.10.14. Steering Committee approved a minute of thanks to Roy Treadway for his faithful and thorough recording the Minutes for the business sessions of both the Steering Committee and Continuing Counsel Committee for the past three years.**

**Closing and Circling**

We closed in silence, before taking hands in a circle and preparing for the final Meeting for Worship.

Roy C. Treadway

Recording Clerk

**Attachment A : Balance Sheet as of 2011 September 30  
Quaker Earthcare Witness, 2011 October 22**

<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>	
<b>Cash</b>	
NEYM Pooled Funds Investment	15,000.00
People's United Bank Checking	11,700.52
People's United Money Market	20,374.02
<b>Total Cash</b>	<u>47,074.54</u>
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	47,074.54
<b>Other Current Assets</b>	
Prepaid Expenses	7,807.74
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<u>7,807.74</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>54,882.28</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><u>54,882.28</u></u>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>	
<b>Payroll tax liabilities</b>	
Federal withholding & SS taxes	120.08
Payroll taxes	94.88
State withholding taxes	58.50
<b>Total Payroll tax liabilities</b>	<u>273.46</u>
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<u>273.46</u>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	273.46
<b>Long Term Liabilities</b>	
Loans payable-no-interest	20,000.00
<b>Total Long Term Liabilities</b>	<u>20,000.00</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	20,273.46
<b>Equity</b>	
<b>Net Assets-Temp. Restricted</b>	
Bolivia Tree Project	367.00
Finca la Bella Project	5,035.22
Men for Men Fund	1,730.00
Obadiah Brown Fund-database	2,600.00
Young Adult Friends Scholarship	1,135.00
<b>Total Net Assets-Temp. Restricted</b>	10,867.22
<b>Net Assets-Unrestricted</b>	
Board Designated Reserve Fund	14,000.00
Net Assets-Unrestricted - Other	-1,888.84
<b>Total Net Assets-Unrestricted</b>	12,111.16
<b>Net Income</b>	11,630.44
<b>Total Equity</b>	<u>34,608.82</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<u><u>54,882.28</u></u>

**Attachment A: Profit and Loss, Budget versus Actual**  
**2010 November through 2011 September**  
**Quaker Earthcare Witness**  
**2011 October 3**

	<u>Nov '10 - Sep 11</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>diff fm budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
<b>Income</b>				
Contributions	72,201.66	91,353.00	-19,151.34	79.04%
Finca la Bella money to gen fun	5,697.00			
Interest	363.28	500.00	-136.72	72.66%
<b>Meetings</b>				
Meeting Registrations	22,440.00			
Meeting Spending	-10,299.30			
<b>Total Meetings</b>	<u>12,140.70</u>			
Men for Men money to gen fun	0.00	350.00	-350.00	0.0%
Mini-grant funds to general fun	1,297.00	1,500.00	-203.00	86.47%
Publications Sales	209.00	500.00	-291.00	41.8%
QIAP money to gen fun	100.00			
Sabbatical fund to general fund	15,600.00	16,766.00	-1,166.00	93.05%
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>107,608.64</u>	<u>110,969.00</u>	<u>-3,360.36</u>	<u>96.97%</u>
<b>Expense</b>				
<b>All Salaries and Benefits</b>				
Bookkeeper contract	4,200.00	5,250.00	-1,050.00	80.0%
Gen. Sec. (RS) Benefits-Health	966.52	971.00	-4.48	99.54%
Gen. Sec. (RS) Payroll Taxes	417.35	346.00	71.35	120.62%
Gen. Sec. (RS) Salary	5,455.50	4,515.00	940.50	120.83%
Gen. Sec.(RS) Benefits-Dental	72.21	100.00	-27.79	72.21%
Gen. Sec.(RS) Retirement Fund	150.00	136.00	14.00	110.29%
General Secretary (AM) Contract	17,293.50	19,215.00	-1,921.50	90.0%
Pub. Coord. Benefits-Dental	215.64	285.00	-69.36	75.66%
Pub. Coord. Benefits-Health	2,189.03	2,400.00	-210.97	91.21%
Pub. Coord. Payroll Taxes	1,083.32	1,139.00	-55.68	95.11%
Pub. Coord. Retirement Fund	85.00	447.00	-362.00	19.02%
Pub. Coord. Salary	14,161.42	14,884.00	-722.58	95.15%
<b>Total All Salaries and Benefits</b>	<u>46,289.49</u>	<u>49,688.00</u>	<u>-3,398.51</u>	<u>93.16%</u>
<b>All Transition Expenses</b>				
Dental Ins.-sabbatical fund	0.00			
Gen. Sec. (RS)-sabbatical fund	15,782.93	16,966.00	-1,183.07	93.03%
Gen. Sec. (RS) - gen fund money	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00	100.0%
Gen. Sec. (RS) Health-sabb.fund	0.00			
New equipment	965.07	1,200.00	-234.93	80.42%
Payroll Txns- general fund money	115.00	115.00	0.00	100.0%
Shipping	0.00	500.00	-500.00	0.0%
Travel	271.30	1,000.00	-728.70	27.13%
<b>Total All Transition Expenses</b>	<u>18,634.30</u>	<u>21,281.00</u>	<u>-2,646.70</u>	<u>87.56%</u>
<b>General &amp; Administrative</b>				
Credit card fees	1,136.77	1,050.00	86.77	108.26%
Equipment & Maintenance	406.47	1,000.00	-593.53	40.65%
General Secretary Travel & Exp.	766.38	2,000.00	-1,233.62	38.32%
Miscellaneous Expenses	20.00			
Office Supplies	561.75	800.00	-238.25	70.22%
Permits and Fees	115.00	150.00	-35.00	76.67%
Photocopying	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
Postage	519.12	1,100.00	-580.88	47.19%

	'10 Nov - '11 Sep.	Budget	Diff. from Budget	Percent of Budget
Rent	1,860.00	2,000.00	-140.00	93.0%
<b>Standing committees</b>				
Finance/Development Committee	648.88	400.00	248.88	162.22%
Personnel Committee	786.44			
<b>Total Standing committees</b>	<u>1,435.32</u>	<u>400.00</u>	<u>1,035.32</u>	<u>358.83%</u>
<b>Steering Comm. Trav. &amp; Exp</b>				
SC Travel donations	-541.00			
SC Travel grants	66.00			
Steering Comm. Trav. & Exp - Other	0.00	2,000.00	-2,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total Steering Comm. Trav. &amp; Exp</b>	<u>-475.00</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>-2,475.00</u>	<u>-23.75%</u>
Telephone, internet & fax	878.88	1,500.00	-621.12	58.59%
<b>Total General &amp; Administrative</b>	<u>7,224.69</u>	<u>12,100.00</u>	<u>-4,875.31</u>	<u>59.71%</u>
<b>Program &amp; Outreach</b>				
AK/SL Project	5,697.00			
Bolivia Tree Project	367.00			
FCNL attendance	295.00	1,800.00	-1,505.00	16.39%
FGC expenses	1,249.00	2,250.00	-1,001.00	55.51%
Men for Men project	0.00	350.00	-350.00	0.0%
Mini-Grants	1,485.00	2,500.00	-1,015.00	59.4%
QIAP Grant	100.00			
UN support group	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%
Visitation Travel	680.57	3,500.00	-2,819.43	19.45%
<b>Total Program &amp; Outreach</b>	<u>9,873.57</u>	<u>10,450.00</u>	<u>-576.43</u>	<u>94.48%</u>
<b>Publications and Merchandise</b>				
BFC Postage	3,362.69	3,000.00	362.69	112.09%
BFC Printing	4,461.29	7,000.00	-2,538.71	63.73%
Bulk mail permit	185.00	200.00	-15.00	92.5%
Flyers Printing	2,489.90	1,500.00	989.90	165.99%
Mailing supplies	26.99	50.00	-23.01	53.98%
Other Publications Expenses	245.72	50.00	195.72	491.44%
Pub. coord. travel	597.78	2,000.00	-1,402.22	29.89%
Publications office supplies	489.61	200.00	289.61	244.81%
Publications postage	180.39	500.00	-319.61	36.08%
Publications rent	1,260.00	1,400.00	-140.00	90.0%
QUIP membership & attendance	75.00	50.00	25.00	150.0%
Web site maintenance	581.78	1,500.00	-918.22	38.79%
<b>Total Publications and Merchandise</b>	<u>13,956.15</u>	<u>17,450.00</u>	<u>-3,493.85</u>	<u>79.98%</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>95,978.20</u>	<u>110,969.00</u>	<u>-14,990.80</u>	<u>86.49%</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u>11,630.44</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>11,630.44</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

**Attachment A: Contributions by Fiscal Year, FY 2006 to FY 2011  
Quaker Earthcare Witness, 2011 October 21**

Month	Contributions											
	Fiscal Year 2006		Fiscal Year 2007		Fiscal Year 20068		Fiscal Year 2009		Fiscal Year 2010		Fiscal Year 2011	
Nov.	3,597.00	3,597.00	6,705.33	6,705.33	5,732.00	5,732.00	4,897.50	4,897.50	6,523.00	6,523.00	3,969.44	3,969.44
Dec.	16,633.30	20,230.30	15,582.05	22,287.38	13,174.00	18,906.00	13,007.43	17,904.93	17,312.05	23,835.05	14,950.99	18,920.43
Jan.	4,947.55	25,177.85	6,982.00	29,269.38	6,384.75	25,290.75	7,162.50	25,067.43	5,243.00	29,078.05	6,599.42	25,519.85
Feb.	4,997.00	30,174.85	4,572.00	33,841.38	5,202.00	30,492.75	3,933.00	29,000.43	4,473.00	33,551.05	5,412.44	30,932.29
Mar.	2,747.00	32,921.85	5,523.00	39,364.38	4,982.00	35,474.75	4,023.00	33,023.43	5,181.00	38,732.05	4,486.00	35,418.29
Apr.	3,887.00	36,808.85	3,542.00	42,906.38	8,958.79	44,433.54	4,622.98	37,646.41	4,379.37	43,111.42	7,366.40	42,784.69
May	7,720.48	44,529.33	6,002.00	48,908.38	5,322.00	49,755.54	6,477.50	44,123.91	7,005.32	50,116.74	2,335.47	45,120.16
June	4,110.00	48,639.33	4,387.00	53,295.38	7,569.80	57,325.34	6,876.52	51,000.43	7,793.00	57,909.74	4,291.00	49,411.16
July	5,371.70	54,011.03	8,197.00	61,492.38	4,958.00	62,283.34	6,056.53	57,056.96	5,762.82	63,672.56	8,076.00	57,487.16
Aug.	5,096.00	59,107.03	5,187.00	66,679.38	6,999.00	69,282.34	10,013.58	67,070.54	7,417.08	71,089.64	9,607.00	67,094.66
Sept.	5,700.00	64,807.03	5,277.00	71,956.38	5,099.00	74,381.34	6718.50	73,789.04	5,371.44	76,461.08	5,107.00	72,201.66
Oct.	3,887.77	68,694.80	6,821.45	78,777.83	9,768.82	84,150.16	6387.19	80,176.23	9,902.98	86,364.06		
Total	68,694.80		78,777.83		84,150.16		80,176.23		86,364.06		72,201.66	

**Attachment B: QEW FY 2012 Budget Versus Actual to 2011 Oct. 1  
Quaker Earthcare Witness  
2011 October 22**

	2011 Budget	2011	2012 Budget	% of Budget	Comments
<b>Income</b>			<b>thru 10/1/2011</b>		
Unrestricted Contributions	91,353.00	72,201.66	84,816.00	93.75%	likely contributions
Grants			1,000.00	1.11%	new category
Interest	500.00	363.28	100.00	0.11%	income sources together
Publication Sales	500.00	209.00	500.00	0.55%	
Total Meetings	0.00	12,140.70	1,000.00	1.11%	estimates, expanded for more explanation
<i>Spring Registration Renvue</i>		22,440.00	5,000.00		
<i>Spring Meeting Costs</i>		10,299.30	4,500.00		
<i>Fall Registration Revenue</i>			10,000.00		
<i>Fall Meeting Costs</i>			9,500.00		
Total Restricted	1,850.00	6,994.00	4,050.00	4.48%	putting all restricted income together
<i>Men for Men</i>	350.00	0.00	350.00		
<i>Mini-grant funds</i>	1,500.00	1,297.00	1,500.00		
<i>Finca la Bella money</i>	0.00	5,697.00	200.00		
<i>YAF Scholarship</i>	0.00		2,000.00		
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>94,203.00</b>	<b>\$91,908.64</b>	<b>90,466.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	
<b>Expense</b>					
All Salaries and Benefits					
Bookkeeper contract	5,250.00	4,200.00	6,300.00	6.96%	10 months in 2011
General Secretary Contract	25,283.00	24,355.08	21,960.00	24.27%	both GS's overlapping
General Secretary Pension			1,098.00	1.21%	new GS
Pub. Coord. Benefits-Medical	3,132.00	2,489.67	2,400.00	2.65%	no dental or retirement
Pub. Coord. Payroll Taxes	1,139.00	1,083.32	1,139.00	1.26%	
Pub. Coord. Salary	14,884.00	14,161.42	14,884.00	16.45%	
<b>Total All Salaries and Benefits</b>	<b>49,688.00</b>	<b>46,289.49</b>	<b>47,781.00</b>	<b>52.82%</b>	
General & Administrative					

	2011 Budget	2011 Expenses to 2011 Oct. 1	2012 Budget	Percent of Budget	Comments
Credit Card Fees	1,050.00	1,136.77	1,050.00	1.16%	bank charges for process
Equipment & Maintenance	1,000.00	406.47	1,000.00	1.11%	
General Secretary Travel & Exp.	2,000.00	766.38	2,000.00	2.21%	
Office Supplies	800.00	581.75	1,000.00	1.11%	Increase is bulk mail permit
Permits, Fees, Photocopying	250.00	115.00	150.00	0.17%	
Rent -- Canada			1,680.00	1.86%	Canada separated
Rent -- USA	2,000.00	3,120.00	1,680.00	1.86%	US & Canada in 2011
Telephone, internet & fax	1,500.00	878.88	1,000.00	1.11%	
Postage	1,100.00	519.12	900.00	0.99%	
<b>Committees</b>					
<i>Finance/Development Comm</i>	400.00	648.88	400.00	0.44%	
<i>Personnel Committee</i>		786.44	400.00	0.44%	
<i>Steering Comm. Trav. &amp; Exp</i>	2,000.00	-475.00	2,000.00	2.21%	
<b>Total Committees</b>	<b>2,400.00</b>	<b>960.32</b>	<b>2,800.00</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	
<b>Total General &amp; Administrative</b>	<b>12,100.00</b>	<b>8,484.69</b>	<b>12,360.00</b>	<b>13.66%</b>	
<b>Program &amp; Outreach</b>					
FCNL attendance	1,800.00	295.00	1,800.00	1.99%	
FGC expenses	2,250.00	1,249.00	2,250.00	2.49%	
Mini-Grants in Budget	2,500.00	1,485.00	1,000.00	1.11%	
Outreach Committee			100.00	0.11%	addition for 2012
UN support group	50.00		50.00	0.06%	
Visitation Travel	3,500.00	780.57	3,500.00	3.87%	
<b>Total Program &amp; Outreach</b>	<b>10,100.00</b>	<b>3,809.57</b>	<b>8,700.00</b>	<b>9.62%</b>	
<b>Publications and Merchandise</b>					
<i>BeFriendingCreation Postage</i>	3,000.00	3362.69	3,500.00	3.87%	slight increase
<i>BeFriendingCreation Printing</i>	7,000.00	4461.29	7,000.00	7.74%	
Flyers Printing	1,500.00	2489.90	2,000.00	2.21%	slight increase
Publications office supplies	200.00	489.61	500.00	0.55%	slight increase
Publications postage	750.00	392.38	750.00	0.83%	
Other Publications Expenses	50.00	245.72	250.00	0.28%	
Pub. coord. travel	2,000.00	597.78	1,000.00	1.11%	reduced due to use
QUIP membership & attendance	50.00	75.00	75.00	0.08%	slight increase
Web site maintenance	1,500.00	581.78	2,500.00	2.76%	increased \$1,000
<b>Total Publications and Merchandise</b>	<b>16,050.00</b>	<b>12,696.15</b>	<b>17,575.00</b>	<b>19.43%</b>	
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>87,938.00</b>	<b>71,279.90</b>	<b>86,416.00</b>	<b>95.52%</b>	
<b>Restricted Funds Expenses</b>					
<i>Finca La Bella Project</i>	5,697.00	5,679.00	200.00	0.22%	new category.
<i>Men for Men Project</i>	350.00	0.00	350.00	0.39%	
<i>Mini-Grants Restricted</i>	367.00	367.00	1,500.00	1.66%	restricted special contrib
<i>YAF Scholarship</i>			2,000.00	2.21%	new for 2012
<b>Total Restricted Funds Expense</b>	<b>6,414.00</b>	<b>6,046.00</b>	<b>4,050.00</b>	<b>4.48%</b>	
<b>Total Expense with Restricted</b>	<b>94,352.00</b>	<b>77,325.90</b>	<b>90,466.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-149.00</b>	<b>14,582.74</b>	<b>0.00</b>		

## **Attachment C: Quaker Earthcare Witness, 2011 October 21 and 22**

# **QEW By-Laws**

**BY-LAWS** approved September 30, 1989 at the FCUN Annual Meeting held at Chelsea, Michigan; And amended October 10, 1998 at the FCUN Annual Meeting held at Temescal Canyon, California; amended October, 2001 at the FCUN Annual Meeting held at Hesperus, Colorado; amended October 2003 at the Quaker Earthcare Witness Annual Meeting held at Nevada City, California; amended October 2004 at the Quaker Earthcare Witness Annual Meeting held at Burlington, New Jersey; amended October 2007 at the Quaker Earthcare Witness Annual Meeting held at Burlington, Vermont; amended October 2008 at the Quaker Earthcare Witness Annual Meeting held at Atlanta, Georgia; and amended October 2011 at the Quaker Earthcare Witness Annual Meeting held in Chicago, Illinois.

**Name** The name of the organization is Quaker Earthcare Witness [formerly known as Friends Committee on Unity with Nature (FCUN)].

### **Article I. Conducting Business**

We will conduct the business of this organization in the manner of the Religious Society of Friends. Decisions are made by a sense of the meeting in the manner of Friends of those in attendance.

We will maintain a manual of procedures titled "In Practice" that has been developed from minuted decisions as a guide to participants.

### **Article II. Membership**

Any one who is a recorded member or a recognized participant in a Friends Meeting or other Friends organization who expresses or demonstrates a commitment to Quaker Earthcare Witness's Statement of Purpose, supports Quaker Earthcare Witness activities through participation, communication, and/or financial contribution, and relates

Quaker Earthcare Witness's goals and activities to Friends and to other religious and/or environmental organizations can be a member of QEW.

A Steering Committee is comprised of members sent as representatives from yearly meetings and selected by the Steering Committee as at-large members.

### **Article III. Meetings**

#### **Section 1. Functions**

The Steering Committee meets to attend to the activities and affairs of the organization.

#### **Section 2. Site location and dates**

The dates and locations of Steering Committee meetings shall be determined by the Steering Committee.

#### **Section 3. Annual Meeting**

The Annual Meeting shall take place once a year to comply with national and state regulations requiring corporations to have at least one organizational meeting each year. The date and place of the meeting will be determined by the Steering Committee. This meeting may be held electronically with the Continuing Counsel Committee representing the organization as a whole.

#### **Section 4. Decisions in Meetings**

Decisions in meetings shall be made according to a sense of the meeting, after the manner of the Religious Society of Friends. Minutes of all meetings shall be recorded and kept on file.

#### **Article IV. Officers of the Organization**

##### **Section 1. Selection**

The officers of the organization shall be the clerk, incoming alternate clerk or mentoring alternate clerk, recording clerk, and treasurer.

##### **Section 2. Duties**

The duties of the officers shall be those generally performed by such officers.

##### **Section 3. Compensation**

Persons shall not receive compensation for serving as officers.

#### **Article V. Committees, Working Groups, Projects**

Committees, working groups and projects, approved by the Steering Committee, will be formed to focus on particular areas of our work.

Continuing Counsel Committee will consist of the clerks of the committees, working groups and projects, the officers (Clerk, Assistant Clerk, Recording Clerk and Treasurer) and staff (General Secretary and Publications Coordinator). The Continuing Counsel will meet more often than the Steering Committee to assist in the business of the organization between meetings of the Steering Committee.

#### **Article VII. Fiscal Matters**

##### **Section 1. Assets**

The assets of this organization are irrevocably dedicated to educational and religious purposes. On the termination of this organization, its assets after payment of all debts and liabilities shall be transferred to a non-profit educational or religious organization of similar concern or intent.

#### **Article VIII. Amendments to the By-laws**

##### **Section 1. Amendments**

These by-laws may be amended at the Annual Gathering of the Steering Committee. A draft of proposed changes to the by-laws shall have been sent to the members of the Steering Committee thirty days prior to the Annual Gathering.

#### **Attachment D: Quaker Earthcare Witness, 2011 October 21 and 22**

### **QEW IN PRACTICE**

For over twenty years Quaker Earthcare Witness has evolved and developed a way of doing its business. This manual of practices has been created to document the decisions that have led to this point. This will always serve as a working document and change from time to time to assist us now and in the future.

## **Article I. Membership**

Any one who is a recorded member or a recognized participant in a Friends Meeting or other Friends organization who expresses or demonstrates a commitment to Quaker Earthcare Witness's Statement of Purpose, supports Quaker Earthcare Witness activities through participation, communication, and/or financial contribution, and relates Quaker Earthcare Witness's goals and activities to Friends and to other religious and/or environmental organizations can be a member of QEW.

## **Article II. Steering Committee**

### Section 1. Composition

#### a) Size

1) The Steering Committee shall have a maximum size of 50 members. There shall be two classes of members: representative members and members-at-large.

#### b) Representative Members

1) Each Yearly Meeting or similar regional association of the Religious Society of Friends in North and Central America and the Caribbean is invited to appoint not more than two representatives (or one representative and one alternate) to serve on the Steering Committee.

#### c) Members-at-Large

1) The Nominating Committee will nominate five members-at-large each year for three year terms. The number of panel members could be increased in a given year if necessary.

d) Members of QEW serve on the Steering Committee as members-at-large when nominated by the Nominating Committee and approved by the Steering Committee (or Continuing Counsel Committee acting on behalf of the Steering Committee).

### Section 2. Functions

#### a) The Steering Committee meets to:

- 1) Attend to the activities and affairs of the organization,
- 2) Receive reports,
- 3) Approve policies and priorities,
- 4) Appoint a nominating committee and approve nominations, and
- 5) Adopt a budget.

### Section 3. Terms of Office

a) Members-at-large serve three-year terms with the possible renewal of two three-year terms (maximum nine years, unless the Steering Committee makes an exception), beginning at the close of the Annual Gathering. Nominating Committee will recommend a second or third three-year term for at-large members who prove to be of good service.

b) Representative members serve at the pleasure of the organizations appointing them.

#### Section 4. Vacancies

a) Vacancies of at-large members that occur between annual gatherings may be filled by the Nominating Committee with approval of the Continuing Counsel Committee. Yearly Meetings may replace vacancies at their convenience.

### **Article III. Meetings**

#### Section 1. Site location and dates

The Steering Committee shall meet twice a year in face to face meetings. These meetings will be held at a time and place selected by the Steering Committee.

During the balance of the year members of the Steering Committee are expected to meet on a regular basis with their selected committee, working group, and project. These meetings are to be held by email exchange, telephone conference calls, and other electronic means of communication.

#### Section 2. Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting, the meeting held for legal purposes to fulfill corporation law, is not a part of QEW's business meetings or Annual Gathering in particular. It may be held electronically by the Continuing Counsel Committee during one of their electronically conducted meetings.

- a) The Annual Meeting of the organization shall take place with the date and manner to be determined by the Steering Committee.
- b) The Continuing Counsel Committee shall notify the Steering Committee of the agenda of official business to be conducted during the Annual Meeting.
- c) One purpose of this meeting is to comply with national and state regulations requiring organizations to have at least one organizational meeting each year.

#### Section 3. Annual Gathering

- a) An annual gathering of all interested individuals to meet with the Steering Committee to address items of concern as they relate to the organization's purpose.
- b) Notice of this meeting shall be sent to the Steering Committee members at least 60 days in advance, with the agenda made available at least 20 days in advance of the meeting.
- c) The agenda shall include those items listed in Article II, Section 2. To choose a Nominating Committee, a Naming Committee shall be designated from the floor early in the Annual Gathering. The Naming Committee shall bring forward nominations for the Nominating Committee before the close of the Annual Gathering. The new Nominating Committee is charged with bringing forward nominations at the next Annual Gathering.

#### Section 4. Steering Committee Meeting

a) The Steering Committee shall conduct a meeting in the spring and/or summer of each year. Each member of the committee shall be notified at least 60 days in advance.

#### Section 5. Special Meetings

a) Special meetings of the Steering Committee may be called by the clerk or by petition of at least five members of the Steering Committee. Notice of the agenda of such meetings shall be sent to the Steering Committee at least 20 days in advance of the meeting.

## Section 6. Decisions in meetings

a) Decisions in meetings shall be made by a sense of the meeting of those in attendance after the manner of the Religious Society of Friends. Minutes of all meetings shall be recorded and kept on file. Copies of the minutes shall be distributed to the members of the Steering Committee in a reasonable period of time following the meeting.

## **Article IV. Officers**

### Section 1. Selection

a) The officers of the organization shall be the clerk, incoming alternate clerk or mentoring alternate clerk, recording clerk, and treasurer. They shall be members of the Steering Committee. They shall be proposed by the Nominating Committee and approved by the Steering Committee at the Annual Gathering.

b) The year prior to the member's first year as clerk, the member shall serve as incoming alternate clerk. The year following his or her last year as clerk, the member shall serve as mentoring alternate clerk.

### Section 2. Term of Office

a) The member serving as clerk shall serve no more than one term of two successive years, unless it is determined by the Steering Committee that it is in the best interests of the organization to have the member continue in this role. No individuals shall serve as recording clerk more than one term of three successive years, unless it is determined by the Steering Committee that it is in the best interests of the organization to have the member continue in this role. The treasurer shall serve one term of three successive years with no more than two successive terms, unless it is determined by the Steering Committee that it is in the best interests of the organization to have the member continue in this role. New officers shall begin their terms at the close of the Annual Gathering.

### Section 3. Duties

a) The duties of the officers shall be those generally performed by such officers.

b) The clerk can review and authorize any unanticipated, unbudgeted expenses up to \$300. The clerk will notify the General Secretary and clerk of the Finance Committee of this authorization.

### Section 4. Compensation

a) Persons shall not receive compensation for serving as officers.

## **Article V. Committees**

### Section 1. Standing Committees

a) Standing committees include Continuing Counsel, Spiritual Nurturance, Publications, Finance, Nominating, Outreach and Personnel Committees. Standing committees are permanent committees responsible for the administrative operations and the spiritual life of Quaker Earthcare Witness. Every member of the Steering Committee shall serve on a Standing Committee.

### Section 2. Standing Committee Functions

a) Continuing Counsel Committee

The Continuing Counsel Committee will consist of the clerks of the committees, working groups and projects, the officers (Clerk, Assistant Clerk, Recording Clerk and Treasurer) and staff (General Secretary and

Publications Coordinator). The Continuing Counsel Committee will have meetings throughout the year to tend to the business of the organization between face to face meetings of the Steering Committee. One of these meetings will act as the Annual Meeting of the organization. It is empowered to act on behalf of the Steering Committee when the latter is not in session to take care of occasional time sensitive administrative matters and/or decisions that cannot wait until the next Steering Committee session. The Continuing Counsel Committee shall report its actions to the next meeting of the Steering Committee.

Duties include:

- 1) Monitor the organization's performance and ensure the organization's focus (and that of its staff and committees).
- 2) Provide oversight for standing committees and consult with clerks of those committees as needed.
- 3) Provide consultative support, as requested, to the clerk in planning for upcoming meetings.
- 4) Provide consultative support to the staff as requested.
- 5) Provide consultative support to the Personnel Committee and clerks of other affected committees in the case that staff performance problems arise.
- 6) Provide to the Steering Committee meeting agendas and a report on actions taken while the Steering Committee was not in session.
- 7) Develop and/or review and refine proposals before presentation to the Steering Committee.
- 8) Review and approve any requests for unanticipated, unbudgeted expenses over \$300.
- 9) Handle any concerns or items of business that are beyond the areas of responsibility otherwise defined, and that cannot wait until the next session of the Steering Committee.

b) Spiritual Nurturance Committee

The Spiritual Nurturance Committee shall give continuing attention to the need for all Quaker Earthcare Witness activities to be spiritually grounded and consistent with its statement of purpose.

c) Publications Committee

The Publications Committee shall be responsible for implementing a policy of publications; reviewing of content, publication and distribution of printed materials, including *BeFriending Creation*, our regular newsletter, pamphlets and booklets; and overseeing the web site and social media sites. It shares oversight of the Publications Coordinator with the Personnel Committee, and develops and updates the Publications Coordinator's job description.

d) Finance and Development Committee

The Finance and Development Committee shall consist of the treasurer and at least two other persons from the Steering Committee. It shall recommend fiscal and accounting policy and contract terms for any salaried employee (in consultation with the Personnel Committee) and consult with the treasurer on the preparation of the budget. The Finance and Development Committee is responsible for making sure that QEW investments and financial affiliations are consistent with Quaker beliefs. The treasurer may not serve as clerk of the committee.

- 1) The treasurer shall be the person with the responsibility of being the primary signer for all QEW bank accounts.

2) In order to have access to QEW bank accounts and the information concerning these accounts, the clerk of the Finance and Development Committee and the General Secretary shall be named as alternate signers for all QEW bank accounts.

3) The treasurer shall open and close bank accounts, when necessary, in the name of Quaker Earthcare Witness.

e) Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee shall consist of three persons each serving one three-year term. Openings on the Nominating Committee shall be filled by the Steering Committee after consideration of names brought forward by the Naming Committee (see Article III, Section 2, e). The committee shall select its own clerk. The committee's function is to bring forward nominations for officers, clerks of standing committees, members-at-large of the Steering Committee, and any other positions referred to it. An annual slate of nominations is to be presented for approval at the Annual Gathering. Interim nominations may be presented for approval of the Steering Committee or Continuing Counsel Committee as needed. Members of the Nominating Committee will assist the clerks of the standing committees in filling their committee membership.

f) Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee shall encourage individuals and groups to support Quaker Earthcare Witness through participation, communication, and/or financial contributions and assist Quaker Earthcare Witness committees and staff to stay in two-way communication with one another. They are to gather news from affiliated local and yearly meetings, and communicate the news and events involving Quakers worldwide to our affiliates. The Outreach Committee is responsible for communications such as the various listservs the organization maintains. It maintains records of known supporters. The Outreach Committee shall have responsibility for the programmatic activities of the organization.

g) Personnel Committee

The Personnel Committee has oversight of the General Secretary and other office personnel and coordinates with the Publications Committee on the oversight of the Publications Coordinator. It develops and updates personnel policies, reviews all staff members and recommends salary and benefits to the Finance Committee.

h) Other Committees

Other committees may be established as needed.

Section 2. Clerks of Standing Committees

a) Committee clerks shall be Steering Committee members nominated by the Nominating Committee and approved by the Steering Committee. Clerks will be appointed for two-year terms, not normally to exceed three successive terms.

b) Establishment of Committee Memberships—Clerks of the standing committees, except the Continuing Counsel Committee, will appoint the members of their committees with the assistance of the current members of the committees and the Nominating Committee, as needed.

c) The clerk of the Steering Committee will serve as clerk of the Continuing Counsel Committee.

Section 3. Working Groups and Projects

a) Working groups and projects are sub-groups of Quaker Earthcare Witness that have concrete, ongoing programs but do not necessarily directly support the administrative operations or the spiritual life of Quaker Earthcare Witness. Existing working groups and projects include Sustainability: Faith and Action Working

Group, United Nations Support Working Group, the FCNL Support Working Group, the No Name Working Group and the Finca La Bella Project.

b) An individual or group of Steering Committee members with a leading or concern may submit a written proposal with a budget request and recommended term to the Steering Committee, or the Continuing Counsel Committee when the Steering Committee is not in session, to establish a new working group and project. The Steering Committee is responsible for approval of the proposal.

c) Members of the working group and project are self selected. In consultation with the working group or project, the Nominating Committee shall nominate a clerk, who shall be a member of the Steering Committee and shall be approved by the Steering Committee.

d) A working group and project may request Steering Committee approval to raise its own funds instead of drawing funds from the general operating budget.

e) At the end of the initial term (and each subsequent term) the working group and project shall ask the Steering Committee for approval of a term extension or to be laid down.

#### Section 4. *Ad Hoc* Committees

a) *Ad hoc* committees shall be those committees that are established for specific, short-term purposes.

b) An *ad hoc* committee shall be created by the Steering Committee or the Continuing Counsel Committee when the Steering Committee is not in session, with budget requirements and term length.

c) Members of the ad hoc committee will be named and approved by the Steering Committee or the Continuing Counsel Committee if the Steering Committee is not in session. At least one member of the ad hoc committee shall be a member of the Steering Committee.

d) During its first meeting the *ad hoc* committee shall name its own clerk. The clerk is not required to be a Steering Committee member.

e) At the end of the initial term (and each subsequent term) the *ad hoc* committee shall ask the steering Committee for approval of a term extension or to be laid down.

### **Article VI. Representatives to Friends Committee on National Legislation**

#### Section 1. Function

a) Three members of the Steering Committee shall serve as representatives to Friends Committee on National Legislation.

#### Section 2. Selection

a) Each year at the Annual Gathering, the Nominating Committee shall name and the Steering Committee shall approve a representative to the Friends Committee on National Legislation. Each representative shall serve a three year term and shall serve no more than two successive terms, unless it is determined by the Steering Committee that it is in the best interests of the organization to have the representative continue in that role.

## **Article VII. Fiscal Matters**

### Section 1. Assets

a) The assets of this organization are irrevocably dedicated to educational and religious purposes. On the termination of this organization, its assets after payment of all debts and liabilities shall be transferred to a non-profit educational or religious organization of similar concern or intent.

### Section 2. Expenditures

a) All checks, drafts, demands for money and notes of the organization shall be signed in the name of the organization by the treasurer. Unbudgeted expenditures up to \$300 may be paid by the treasurer with approval of the clerk. All other unbudgeted expenditures must be approved by the Continuing Counsel Committee.

### Section 3. Fiscal Year

a) The fiscal year shall begin on the first day of November.

## **Article VIII. Changes to our Practice**

Changes to our practice happen on a recurring basis. They are brought before the Steering Committee, having been vetted by the appropriate standing committee, working group or project assembled for that purpose, and approved and minuted. These minutes will become a part of this document (in appendix) and revisions to existing wording changed to reflect these minutes.

### **Attachment E: Process for Reviewing Surveys Quaker Earthcare Witness Approved on 2011 October 22**

During our May 24 CCC Meeting, CCC approved a review of the taking of surveys of QEW members, following the concerns of some at the Steering Committee Meetings in 2011 April. Dick Grossman and Roy Treadway agreed to develop such a process using our sign-on process as a basis for doing so. In review, two members of CCC suggested that the SC need not be involved in approving the survey, but rather an appropriate committee and working group could make the decision. This would keep the process simple, not involve the SC unnecessarily, but provided some oversight of surveys of QEW members.

CCC was also concerned that if we use a committee or working group for review, we need to be sure we have an appropriate active committee or working group. If not, we thought asking three members from the SC to serve would be a satisfactory alternative.

The proposed revised process for taking surveys was sent to the CCC in July and received no further comment. The proposed process was approved by the CCC on 2011 August 29 to be considered for approval by the Steering Committee during QEW's Annual Gathering in Chicago 2011 October 20-23.

1. Someone who proposes to conduct a survey of QEW members should write a summary of the proposed survey, outlining the purpose, proposed respondents, analysis process, recipients of the results, and time line of the survey, and send it to an appropriate working group, project, or committee, which serves as a clearness committee; if no working group, project, or committee is appropriate, the person proposing a survey may chose at least three members of the Steering Committee to act as the clearness committee. If the survey

will be done by Internet, the website address of the draft survey should be included.

2. The clearness committee conducts necessary research, then deliberates, and decides as soon as possible in a timely fashion on the appropriateness of the survey for QEW. The committee can appoint one or two persons; if it approves, it sends it to the clerk (or the alternative clerk) of the Steering Committee indicating it approves of the survey. If the committee deems the survey is not appropriate, it should indicate why it has reached its conclusions, including suggestions for changes.

3. If the committee approves the survey, it may be conducted at any appropriate time.

4. The General Secretary archives a copy of the summary of each approved survey. The approved survey is minuted in the Steering Committee minutes at the next Steering Committee meeting.

**CCC Minute 2011.08.04 Continuing Counsel Committee approved the proposed process for approving taking surveys and sending it by email for review and revision by the SC before our October SC Meeting, when the SC would be asked to approve it formally.**

**Attachment F: Distribution Policy and Procedures for Quaker Earthcare Witness Approved Public Statements  
Report to the Steering Committee, 2011 October 22  
Approved by the Continuing Counsel Committee on 2011 July 28**

All QEW approved public statements will be routinely distributed to Yearly Meetings in North America within a month of their final revision and approval.

All QEW approved public statements will appear on the QEW website and in the next available issue of *BeFriending Creation*.

QEW approved public statements will be distributed further to other groups and individuals by a Steering Committee decision at the time of approval of the statement. Additional distribution could include government decision-makers and bureaucrats, other Friends organizations, interfaith groups, environmental organizations, and associations directly associated with the statement. Contact information for these groups and individuals will be provided to the General Secretary.

The list of these additional recipients would follow the statement as a postscript and be included with the statement. These recipients would also receive the statement within one month of its approval.

The Secretary-General or her designee would be in charge of distribution.

To carry out this policy, a list of yearly meeting contacts needs to be developed and role of the Outreach Committee in this process needs to be developed.

**CCC Minute 2011.07.07 Continuing Counsel Committee approved the “Distribution Policy and Procedures for our QEW Approved Public Statements” once the list of yearly meeting contacts has been developed by the General Secretary and the Outreach Committee.**

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Dissemination of QEW Public Statements – Anne Mitchell 2011 July

Before the CCC meeting, Roy Treadway sent a draft of a revised proposal for a “Distribution Policy and Procedures for our QEW Approved Public Statements.” While CCC had no concerns over the draft policy, details of getting lists of yearly meeting contacts need to be developed by the General Secretary and the Outreach Committee.

Dissemination of QEW Public Statements – Anne Mitchell 2011 August

Anne is still working out a process for dissemination of QEW’s public statements. The Japan, North Africa, and Keystone statements were sent to QEW lists, some yearly meeting lists, *Friends Journal*, *Quaker Life*, and *BeFriending Creation*. We suggested including *Western Friend* in our distribution.

**Attachment G: Publications Committee Report**  
**Quaker Earthcare Witness, 2011 October 21**  
**Roy Taylor, Clerk**

Attendees: Carol Barta, Tom Small, Alice Wald, Marshall Gibson, Louis Cox, Roy Treadway, Roy Taylor

We started with a discussion about the new Food four-fold that Louis is working on. Additional comments were reviewed and Louis will be able to put the finishing touches to it. Bill Cahalan's pamphlet, “Belonging to Life: Ecological Vision and Grounded Faith,” was then reviewed with suggestions about bringing the stories to the front of the article will strengthen it.

Reviewing priorities became the guiding force for much of the conversation as we looked at what we wanted to accomplish as a committee and to further the goals of the organization. In committee priorities include taking our publications to the next level of length and depth to create white papers on subjects of interest. The combining of all of the population documents with additional and updated material and resources may be the first of these. Bill Cahalan's pamphlet fits into this category. These would be formatted as pdfs for self-publishing and electronic downloads. The next goal is to complete the revisions to the web site to better serve the needs of the organization. We will do this by separating the two main functions; reaching the broader outside world with a brochure type site that will look much like the opening pages of our existing site and a second site that works better for the business of the organization by allowing for direct input from committees, communication features, and all of the archived minutes, publications and materials that are more in tune with the operations of the organization than a casual viewer would be looking for.

We will be looking for ways to tell the stories of QEW, the members of the Steering Committee and supporters of QEW. These may be through a blog feature in the new site or having a video player built into the site to be able to have videos on demand available.

The above work will add to QEW's ability to meet its priorities 1,2,3, & 5.

Alan Dixon, our web site consultant, was able to spend some time with us via Skype. This allowed us to have a conversation with him about ways we can let him know what we want as features of the revised websites. He has a basic idea and will start building the sites with us adding refinements as we move forward.

We will have to continue the conversation by email, conference call and Skype to further develop this work.

**Attachment H: Spiritual Nurture Committee  
Quaker Earthcare Witness, 2011 October 22  
Mary Jo Klingel, Clerk**

Our committee had decided on many of the details of our participation in this Gathering by phone, so our focus was primarily on the priorities.

We were most drawn to Priority # 1. We will continue with the following tasks:

Provide readings for reflection at each meeting for worship for business and hold the Clerk's table and Steering Committee in the Light during the Meeting.

Facilitate small group worship.

Provide support and comfort to absent Friends by sending cards to them at each Gathering.

Our committee found that we had some confusion about the status of the priorities so we did not complete our suggested tasks, and will work on this further in our telephone calls.

**Attachment I: Friends Committee on Unity with Nature (FCUN)  
Quaker Earthcare Witness. 2011 October 22  
Roy Taylor, Clerk**

The committee met on October 23, 2011 at the Cenacle in Chicago.

Attendees: Mary Jo Klingel, Os Cresson, Louis Cox, Mary Coelho, Roy Treadway, Rod Zwirner, eric maya joy, Patricia Chernoff, Maia Wolff, and Roy Taylor with Jack Bradin skyped in.

We began the meeting reflecting on what had happened earlier in the day with the reading of the five principles during worship. It was an unplanned event that involved mostly non-FCUN committee members. This was viewed as a positive sign that these principles resonate with more than the members of this committee.

Mention of how we might integrate the 25th anniversary into the work of the next Gathering prompted a look at the past and the genesis of FCUN pre QEW to today.

Some research may assist in the remembering. What was the Minute from the FCUN meeting at the Ben Loman Center? Are there minutes from a requested meeting that Stan Becker clerked at Friend's House with Keith Helmuth, Ed Dreby, and Jack Bradin? How did Quaker Eco Witness get spun off and reunited with QEW?

Roy Taylor brought up the question of how do we measure our success, what are our metrics? The group reflected many; Peace – from within – into the universe, getting monthly meetings engaged, more than just getting pamphlets out, send out queries to engage, and get past fear.

There was some discussion about getting our stories out. Mary Jo mentioned creating videos. Jack, reflecting on the Occupy Wall Street movement and how they are bringing secular ideas to the public, noted that our work is bringing the spiritual message, one that is uplifting to enjoy life without manufactured scarcity. This consciousness needs to be brought to our meetings and from there to the world. Mary spoke to the New Story

and how that is helping her merge the contemplative and action portions of our work simultaneously.

Roy Taylor will get with Barbara Letsch and set up the next time we can get together with a Skype conversation.

We ended with silence.

**Attachment J: Sustainability: Faith and Action Working Group**  
**Quaker Earthcare Witness, 2011 October 22**  
**Roy C. Treadway and Dick Grossman, Conveners**

Present: Ria Collee, Louis Cox, John Fletcher, Marshall Gibson, Dick Grossman, Julia Issacs, George Hagen, Geeta McGahey, Amanda Savage, Tom Small, Rick Todd, Roy Treadway, Alice Wald

Others interested but not present: Stan Becker, John Hackman, Nancy Halliday, Ken Lawrence, Judy Lumb, Donn Kesselheim, Tracey McCowan, Bob McGahey, Roy Taylor, Noel Pavlovic.

Thirteen persons met to consider the future of the Sustainability: Faith and Action Working Group and to seek a clerk for the year ahead. At the beginning of the meeting, each person shared his or her interest and involvement in sustainability concerns, ranging from population to energy, local food, native plants, climate change, soils, agriculture, and public policy; many participated in Transition Towns. Altogether we were involved in a wide variety of activities and interests.

Given each person's involvement locally and personally in sustainability, no one was ready to take on the responsibility of being the clerk of the working group. **All, however, wished for the working group to continue as a source of ideas and inspiration when they come to QEW meetings (since, in part, each of the other working groups has a specific focus) and as a way of sharing together.** We felt we needed support in our work for the environment, both spiritually and substantively with ideas.

Once his responsibilities as Recording Clerk are completed, Roy Treadway expressed willingness to convene those interested in Population to help with the revision of the population pamphlets and the combined population document that Louis is working on and the Men For Men project.

**Given the undefined nature of our working group, the S:F&AWG was not ready to adopt any priority.**

With this report, Roy Treadway will send an email to all persons attending this meeting and others previously interested in the Sustainability: Faith and Action Working Group (with all their email addresses for whom we have email addresses)), inviting them to continue sharing between and at QEW meetings.

**Attachment K: A Call to Integrate Faith, Ecology and the Global Economy**  
**United Nations Support Working Group**  
**Quaker Earthcare Witness, 2011 October 22 and 23**  
**Phil Emmi, Clerk**

Keith Helmuth, Ed Dreby, Carl McGruder, Geoff Garver and other Quakers helped write this ecumenical call. A reminder that there are North Americans who share the ideals of the FMTL and WSF, this

12 Nov 2009 declaration comes from the Faith Economy Ecology group in the USA started by Maryknoll, joined by Quakers and others. In Canada, Faith and the Common Good and KairosCanada have made similar statements. See also the June 2010 Interfaith Summit in Winnipeg, the 2004 World Alliance of Reformed Churches' (WARC) Accra Confession, and the Oct 2010 World Council of Churches' Budapest Call for Climate Justice.

November 12, 2009

Approximately 60 faith groups have endorsed this - to follow the links above or see endorsements, go to <http://rapdakar.blogspot.com/2011/02/call-to-integrate-faith-ecology-and.html>

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As hope-filled people, we stand in awe of Earth's goodness and its capacity to provide abundant life for all God's creation. We recognize our interconnection with Earth -- with air, water, land, plants and other creatures. We recognize the dignity of the human person as an individual and as part of a community. We embrace our power and responsibility to create a human economy that fits within Earth's ecological boundaries, more authentically serves human needs and builds community.

**We envision:**

- A new economic model that embodies social and ecological values bound by Earth's biophysical limits.
- A sufficiency-based economy where all people, regardless of gender, race or other characteristics, equitably share access to Earth's gifts that nourish and sustain them: nutritious food, clean water, suitable shelter; where "development" is measured by a society's success in increasing human well being while preserving ecological balance rather than by its gross domestic product.
- A just global distribution of resources, knowledge and technology such that well-being flourishes in communities of less industrialized nations that have experienced "underdevelopment" – and "de-growth," or downsizing occurs in communities in industrialized nations that use a disproportionate share of Earth's resources.
- A world where all have secure, meaningful, and ecologically responsible livelihoods and where human activity, based on cooperation, promotes ecological regeneration, the preservation of beauty and the restoration of previous damage.
- A "closed loop" real economy where recycling and reuse are maximized.
- People with sufficient resources, opportunities, freedom, and time to care for one another, engage in civic life, expand their creativity, and deepen their spirituality.
- Communities living in peace with sufficient public resources and freely shared knowledge to ensure health and wholeness for Earth and all its inhabitants.
- Governance that is participatory and transparent, through which policy decisions are made as locally as possible, consistent with the reality that every locality is part of a global society.

**Yet we witness:**

- The destructive power of a growth-driven economic model that ignores Earth's limits and its need to rest and regenerate.
- The valuing of money and material goods more than humans and ecosystems.
- The inherent violence of an economy that grows along with the wealth of a few individuals and corporations while the natural world and human well being – the clearest signs of God's bounty – suffer and deteriorate.
- The use of international financial institutions, corporate lobbying and marketing, think tanks, major

media and military force to secure the wealth and power of a small part of society while a great many others, especially women and people of color are often excluded.

- "Free trade" and economic globalization that increase ecological depletion and leave masses of people vulnerable through deeper poverty and insufficient access to food, water, education and health care.
- The loss of people, cultures, species and traditional knowledge forced aside as our lives are dominated by a world view that seeks economic growth regardless of the consequences;
- Soul-deadening over-consumption and the endless quest for "more" that paralyzes far too many people in wealthier societies.

We also witness the sheer increase in throughput of material and energy in the economy due to expanding consumer demand and economic growth that contribute to climate change, species extinctions, loss of biodiversity, depletion of freshwater and other resources, ocean dead zones, topsoil degradation, deforestation, dying coral reefs and the decimation of ocean fish stocks.

**We stand firm in our commitment** to a new way of life and a different economy, based on the integrity and dignity of all creation, the common good, ecological health and resilience, sufficiency, equality, solidarity, caring for the most vulnerable and impoverished, and decision-making at the most local level possible. This will require innumerable inter-related changes; among them, the four that follow will serve to guide our work:

- 1. Paradigm Shift in Mindset and Values:** An essential shift from an ethic of exploitation to an ethic of right relationship is essential for individuals and for society. This will entail change from a focus on material goods to holistic well-being; from excess to sufficiency; from exclusion to inclusion; from competition to cooperation; from pursuing privilege to serving the common good; from the pre-eminence of humanity to the reverence for all life.

**Toward this end we will be** guided by the wisdom of our sacred scriptures and religious traditions, especially Sabbath traditions of Leviticus and Deuteronomy and the inclusive table of Jesus, which

- provides enough for everyone, with no one storing up more than is needed;
- cares for the widow, orphan, stranger and traveler;
- honors a weekly Sabbath, providing rest and human restraint from busy, frenetic economic activities;
- allows the land to rest every seven years;
- decrees a Jubilee every 50 years, when slaves are freed, debts cancelled and families have their land restored to them; and
- models the breaking of bread, by creating strong communities built on care for one another.

- 2. Public policies for an Economy of Right Relationship:** Starting from the deep recognition that the economy must fit within Earth's limits – where resources are not used faster than they can be regenerated and wastes are not deposited faster than they can be safely assimilated. Policies must change to move toward a steady state economy in overdeveloped industrial countries and sustainable development in impoverished countries. Current institutions and rules must change so that individuals, communities and whole societies can participate equitably in the economy and share in Earth's bounty. Financial institutions should embrace the principle of subsidiarity, allowing decisions to be made at the most local level possible. Priority should be given to policies that distribute wealth widely and decentralize economic power.

**Toward this end we will** seek to understand more fully what transformations are required to attain economic right relationship. We will promote a serious reorientation of the global economy away from growth and toward human development. We will pursue changes in laws, policies, international agreements, and institutions to create a more durable, resilient and fair economy. We will examine our lifestyles and decrease consumption. We will advocate for sustainable levels of resource use and safe quantities of waste production, including equitably assigned reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

- 3. An Economy of Thriving and Resilient Communities:** In living the new paradigm and strengthening its hold on society we will shift from a perception of ourselves as independent individuals to ourselves as interdependent members of thriving communities. All have something to contribute as we give and receive gifts and talents among neighbors through barter systems, cooperatives and worker-owned businesses. Community-based investment and economic development will help individuals to deepen their connection with the place where they live and will keep resources circulating locally. This will build community assets and strengthen social ties. We will embrace subsidiarity – decisions will be made at the local level by the very people whose lives are impacted most.

**Toward this end we will** learn more from the sustainable community-level examples known well by indigenous peoples and already functioning in our local communities in the United States and around the world, spread those ideas, participate in them ourselves and express our solidarity by supporting their efforts.

- 4. Return of Corporations to their proper place in society:** In order to achieve the changes described above, it is clear that we must decrease the amount of influence that corporations wield in government and society in general. The reigning forces in our world should serve the interests of the common good, rather than the private interests of a wealthy few. Corporations should be accountable not only to shareholders, but also to, their workers, regulatory bodies, the communities in which they are embedded, and the natural world.

**Toward this end we will** study the history and design of the corporation to better understand its proper role in a just world. We will declare a separation of corporation and state and work for initiatives to decrease corporate influence in government, the media and our lives. We will work to stop reckless financial practices that exploit natural resources and people. We will help cultivate financial institutions that respect Earth's limits and ensure economic participation with dignity for all people.

**Our call to others:** Grounded in our faith and speaking from our core principles and values, we call on people of good will to join us in re-examining the false panacea of a development model dependent on over-consumption. We seek a new understanding of the proper place for humans in the created world and right relationships within the human community and between the human and Earth communities. We place our hope in God's grace and the human capacity to face all these challenges with innovation, faithfulness, and creativity and to ensure the common good so that all living things might flourish.

**Attachment L: Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery and Affirmation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People**  
**United Nations Support Working Group**  
**Quaker Earthcare Witness, 2011 October 22 and 23**  
**Mary Gilbert**

In the days of European exploration and colonization governments relied on what we now call the Doctrine of Discovery to justify their claims of land seizure. Papal Bulls in 1452 and 1493 granted the Kings of Portugal and Spain the right to any lands they discovered that were not already claimed by another Christian prince. These Papal Bulls authorized the slavery and slaughter of Indigenous Peoples and the seizure of their lands and property. Other kings then claimed the right to grant royal charters, similarly awarding land they had never seen to chosen recipients. In North America Quakers, with the Charter given by King Charles II of England to William Penn, have participated in and profited from these unjust policies. Historical fact, ongoing case law, and new attempts to use and abuse the lands and properties of Indigenous Peoples, show the sequelae of these policies continue today.

On this (day) of (Month), 2011, Quaker Earthcare Witness repudiates the Doctrine of Discovery, which is the legal foundation of for the colonization of Indigenous lands, including lands where we live today. We find the Doctrine of Discovery to be fundamentally inconsistent with our understanding of the inherent rights of peoples and individuals, and inconsistent with Quaker Testimonies of Peace, Equality, and Integrity.

At the same time we reaffirm our support for the 2007 United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, finding this Declaration to be consistent with Quaker testimonies.

We believe that for us to continue to remain silent would be tantamount to our giving approval to abusive acts of inhumanity, theft, and cultural genocide.

We encourage Friends everywhere to reflect upon Quaker historic and present kindness, injustices, and ignorance vis a vis Indigenous Peoples. We urge Friends to cultivate joyful and meaningful relationships between Friends and the Indigenous Peoples of their regions, and seek how best to support them in their ongoing quest for survival, respect, and inherent sovereignty. In many cases this quest is inseparable from the care, protection, and restoration of the life-giving natural systems of the health of our planet.

Indigenous Peoples are calling for revocation of historic Royal Charters and Papal Bulls, and ask us to show support by repudiating the Doctrine of Discovery. By doing this we acknowledge and make visible, to ourselves and to others, that our past practices, done in the context and mentality of the times, were in error, contributed to the physical, spiritual, and cultural near-genocide of Indigenous Peoples, and opened the way for the ongoing, heedless assault on the natural environment of their lands.

We affirm our responsibility to support and to lead in healing and restorative justice in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, including standing with Indigenous peoples against the continuation of judicial and legal injustices being perpetrated today, the foundation for which continues to be the Doctrine of Discovery.

*(Inspired by the actions of the Indian Committee of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, 2009, and the Episcopal Church of the United States, 2009, and in response to the Open Letter to 'Occupy Wall Street': A Lenape Perspective by Steven Newcomb, October 10, 2011, beginning "Greetings on Colonization Day.")*

**Attachment M: Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) Support Working Group  
Quaker Earthcare Witness, 2011 October 23  
John Payton, Clerk**

Participants in Working Group meeting of October 21: Marcia Cleveland, Al Connor, Elaine Emmi, Gail Fletcher, Roger Hansen, John Hudson, Toni Hudson, John Payton, Janice Thomson, Rod Zwirner

**Working Group priority for 2012-2013**

The Working Group's priority for the next year was chosen keeping in mind QEW's current two-year focus on food and biodiversity and the 2012 Farm Bill that Congress is expected to pass early next year. This bill is the every fifth-year legislation that Congress passes to set agriculture and food policy on a wide range of federal programs, many of which relate to QEW's concerns about food safety, security, and sovereignty.

The Working Group's focus this next year will be on a group of programs called "Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food," which provides fresh food to under served populations and includes Farm to School, Farm to Institutions, and Senior Fresh. We will lobby to maintain "Know Your Farmer" appropriations at least at the 2008 level. Working Group members were also concerned about SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) or food stamps, and WIC (Women, Infants, and Children), but decided to focus on "Know Your Farmer" because proposed cuts to SNAP and WIC in the House of Representatives were small. Other programs of interest to QEW that will be included in the Farm Bill are food labeling and inspection, conservation, and research. However, the Working Group thought it was important to develop a focused approach on one or two programs.

This lobbying effort will be carried out in two main activities. The first will be a lobbying visit with Chris Adamo, Agriculture Assistant to Senator Debbie Stabenow, Senate Agriculture Committee Chair and other Committee staff. Senator Stabenow and Senator Pat Roberts, ranking member, may or may not be in attendance. The visit is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 3, 2011, in the Russell Senate Office Building in Washington, D.C. (room to be announced). Al Connor is the chair of this meeting and any QEW Friends who will be in Washington on Nov. 3 for the FCNL annual meeting are urged to participate in it. Please contact Al at [alconnor1019@provide.net](mailto:alconnor1019@provide.net) to let him know of your interest. We are still in the process of confirming the possible participation of a representative from the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition (NSAC) in this meeting.

The second activity in this lobbying effort will involve members of the QEW Steering Committee who live in states or districts that have a congress person or senator on the House or Senate Agriculture Committee. These will be in-district or in-state visits. The Working Group will send an invitation to participate in this activity over the next few months to all such Steering Committee members. The invitation will include the name and contact information for the representative or senator to be lobbied, a flyer developed by FCNL on conducting an effective lobbying visit, and talking points on the "Know Your Farmer" programs.

The QEW priority that the Working Group's priority most supports is #4, Develop collaborative and complementary activities with at least two Friends organization. In addition to FCNL, the Working Group is exploring collaborative lobbying relationships with two non-Quaker organizations, the Interfaith Power and Light movement and the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition.

**Support for FCNL Legislative Priority Setting Process**

In even-numbered years, FCNL solicits input from Quaker churches, meetings, and member organizations for their legislative priorities for the next congress, which convenes the following year. Because the QEW

Steering Committee will not meet until after input for the priorities are due to FCNL next spring, the Working Group will develop and conduct a process for collecting Steering Committee input for the priorities using electronic means.

In 2012, in addition to making legislative priority recommendations to FNCL, the QEW Steering Committee will also have the opportunity to provide input for changes to the FCNL Policy Statement, the document that summarizes the issues and positions that FCNL includes in its mission. The Working Group will also coordinate Steering Committee input into this process.

**Attachment N: No Name Working Group  
Quaker Earthcare Witness, 2011 October 23  
Mary Jo Klingel, Clerk**

It was noted that we had a formal report in the Documents in Advance describing our work for the past year, so this report would be very brief.

We are pleased to welcome a new member to the group, Patricia Chernoff. We also noted that Bob McGahey attended our meetings at this Gathering and may be considering membership on the working group.

We re-stated our concern that information about the working group be available to all QEW Friends. All of the members of the group stood, so that Friends would know who we are and that we welcome any questions or conversation about our work.

**Attachment O: Priorities for 2011-2012  
Quaker Earthcare Witness, 2011 October 23  
Approved by the Continuing Counsel Committee on 2011 July 25**

Note: These priorities are not listed in any particular order. Specific, detailed actions for each priority are listed separately on page 3.

**Priority 1: Provide spiritual support to those engaged in transforming our relationship to the earth.**

Rationale: With the results of climate change, overuse of resources, and ecological and economic threats and potential collapse, providing spiritual support to all of us is just as crucial now as it ever has been. Living simply and deeply centered is a way to help us address all these ecological issues and affirm the sacredness of the earth. It can provide us the grounding we need to witness to other Friends.

How: Sharing by worship when we are together and developing support processes between our face-to-face meetings by electronic means.

Outcome: A clearer sense of our outreach in these troubled times, our identity, and an identifiable distinctive message – all of which are based on our spiritual insights and simple living.

General Actions: Worship together and share our stories at QEW Meetings.

**Priority 2: Promote QEW and its earthcare witness.**

How: Using tools such as *Befriending Creation*, our internet presence, social media, and speaking to promote

outreach and communications.

Outcome: Awareness of QEW by more people and its vision and witness, thus persuading more people to care for the earth and support QEW financially.

General Actions: Use all these sources to tell QEW's story, consider setting up a committee for social media, and develop a you-tube video on a QEW project

**Priority 3: Engage with a broader community of Friends**

How: Communicating with and supporting a broader community of Friends in their concern for the earth through the use of social media and development of projects and opportunities for service.

Outcome: More Friends engaged with QEW and its impact on the world and other Friends.,

General Actions: Encourage more Friends to come to QEW meetings by providing scholarships and develop specific community earthcare projects, such as the Mini-Grant Projects, for greater Friends involvement.

**Priority 4: Develop collaborative and complementary activities with at least two Friends organizations.**

How: Identifying one or more Friends organizations willing to work with QEW on earthcare projects, such as Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL), Friends General Conference (FGC), and Quaker Institute for the Future (QIF).

Outcome: A broader reach for QEW and more effective action.

General Actions: Carry out and evaluate joint projects, such as the QEW Center at the FGC Gathering, involvement in the QIF pamphlet series, and the FCNL Legislative Representative on the Environment as our keynote speaker at our Annual Gathering.

**Priority 5: Provide a Quaker voice for Earthcare outside of the Quaker Community.**

How: Participating in the United Nations and other international meetings, supporting relevant legislation and government policies, joining with other Non Governmental Organizations in endorsing policy statements, and articulating Quaker values as they relate to Earthcare.

Outcome: Quaker witness on Earthcare to non-Quakers.

General Actions: Continue and review our sign-ons to non-Quaker groups, our participation in the United Nations process, our involvement with other faith and secular groups, and the distribution of our public statements.

**Priority 6: Follow priority setting procedures.**

How: Engaging QEW Steering Committee in a process each year to determine the priorities for QEW for the coming year or two.

Outcome: Annual agreement on priorities for programs, both external and internal.

General Actions: Decide who will do what and when at a planning session during the QEW Fall Annual Gathering.

### **Appendix: Possible specific actions for each priority**

#### **Priority 1: Provide spiritual support to those engaged in transforming our relationship to the earth.**

Provide time for worship and worship sharing sessions at each SC meeting.  
Develop a way to tell one another our stories.  
Encourage committees, working groups, and projects to conduct business in between SC meetings.  
Have the General Secretary find out what could help committee, working group, and project clerks between SC meetings.

#### **Priority 2: Promote QEW and its earthcare witness.**

Find out who has spoken where about QEW in 2011 with a brief comment on usefulness.  
Continue the work of better accessing information about our donors and supporters.  
Move data about donors and supporters from Microsoft Access to CivCRM.  
Tell our stories in *BeFriending Creation* of what we are doing as individuals, working groups, projects, and committees.  
Appeal for funds through *BeFriending Creation*.  
Brainstorm on our internet presence, for example, how the website connects with facebook and with you-tubes.  
Consider setting up a social media committee.  
Develop a you-tube video on a QEW project.  
Prepare an annual report of the work of QEW.  
Develop and implement our fund raising plan.  
Develop and implement our distribution plan for all QEW public statements .

#### **Priority 3: Engage with a broader community of Friends.**

Identify criteria and publicize a process to get four or five young Friends to come to the Fall Annual Gathering .  
Secure \$2,500 for this purpose.

#### **Priority 4: Develop collaborative and complementary activities with at least two Friends organizations.**

Develop and evaluate one or more activities with Friends Committee on National Legislation, such as having Marcia Cleveland as our keynote speaker at our 2011 Fall Annual Gathering.  
Develop and evaluate one or more activities with Friends General Conference (FGC), such as the QEW Earthcare Center at the FGC Gathering.  
Develop and evaluate one or more activities with Quaker Institute for the Future, such as involvement in its pamphlet series.

#### **Priority 5: Provide a Quaker voice for Earthcare outside of the Quaker Community.**

Review our sign-on procedure to determine whether it is working.  
Consider whether we should limit sign-ons to issues where a QEW committee, working group, or project is working on the issue?  
Review our participation in UN to determine the number and nature of each UN process, the participants in each process, and the way we are measuring the value of our participation in each process.  
Review the other faith and secular groups with which we want to participate.  
Evaluate the process of our participation with these groups.  
Develop a list of organizations to which we can distribute our QEW public statements.

**Priority 6: Follow priority setting procedures.**

Decide which person, committee, working group, or project will carry out each priority.  
Develop a time line for accomplishing each priority.

**Other Reports Sent in Advance**

**Staff Reports**

Attachment P: General Secretary  
Attachment Q: Publications Coordinator

Attachment V: No Name  
Attachment W: United Nations Support

**Committee Reports**

Attachment R: Nominating  
Attachment S: Personnel  
Attachment T: Publications

**Yearly Meeting Representatives**

Attachment X: Illinois  
Attachment Y: Lake Erie  
Attachment Z: New England  
Attachment AA: Southern Appalachian

**Working Group**

Attachment U: Friends Committee on  
National Legislation Support

**Clerk's Report and Annual Report**

Printed in *BeFriending Creation*.

**Attachment P: General Secretary Report  
Quaker Earthcare Witness, 2011 October 16  
Anne Mitchell**

This is my first report to the QEW Gathering as your General Secretary. It has been a busy, interesting year, full of learning, adapting, and figuring out what is important to QEW.

In the 10 months I have:

- Got to know you and what your passions are;
- Begun to figure out who our supporters are – there are about 4000 people on our database: some committed long term supporters and donors; some fairly new donors who consider their conation as a contribution in return for Befriending Creation; some who have never made a donation but are on the database for a reason. If we are trying to be loud and clear with our message then we need to start with these 4000 people.
- Worked with a Quaker consultant in Toronto – Alan Dixon – to transfer the database from Microsoft Access to a web-based system –civcrm – which will enable us to be more interactive with the 4000 people on our database. There have been some glitches in this process – mainly related to the time taken to transfer and then learning. No QEW contacts or donors were ‘lost’ during this transfer. There have been some glitches in deciding on cut off dates for sorts – for example, who should get BFC. Civicrm will benefit QEW by reducing the amount of time required for administrative tasks.
- Responded in some way to the emails that come in – some days it is nearly 100 on QEW related business. There are so many topics, concerns and passions that QEW supporters are responding to. I do need priorities!
- Reviewed our website and considered – with Louis’s help – some useful changes; sought and received some funding from the Obadiah Foundation to work with Alan Dixon on developing the

website so that it is 1) easier to update and to navigate; and 2) more interactive with QEW supporters. There have been some concerns mostly related to difficulties in the past and not knowing what the outcome of this process will be. The Publications Committee will have the opportunity to vision what we want to achieve through our website(s) when we meet in Chicago. Alan Dixon will make himself available on skype.

- Developed a sense of a road map – priorities – for QEW for the next couple of years. These will help us decide whether or not to pursue some direction/activity. And these priorities will guide me in my work as your General Secretary. We now need to implement the various activities suggested with each priority. This can only be done with the help of QEW committees and working groups.
- Developed the program for the QEW Centre at the FGC Gathering and working with QEW volunteers who ran the QEW Centre.
- Spoken at New York Yearly Meeting on Peace with Earth.

As well, there have been the usual administrative and governance functions:

- Managing donors and the database – thanks yous to donors can now be automatically sent out.
- Prepared for and followed up on actions decided by the CCC.
- Maintained contact with Standing Committees and Working Groups.
- Prepared for two SC meetings;
- Kept in touch with the Publications Coordinator and the Bookkeeper to ensure that any issues are talked through and/or resolved.

My 1st year as your General Secretary has been very satisfying and I hope satisfactory. During my 2nd year as your General Secretary I will work with you to make QEW's voice louder and clearer.

**Attachment Q: Publications Coordinator Report**  
**Quaker Earthcare Witness, 2011 October 12**  
**Louis Cox**

It has been a productive and interesting year of preparing for and going through the transition to working with Anne Mitchell, the new general secretary and with Christopher McCandless, the new bookkeeper. Previously, Ruah and I could just call across the room to answer each other's questions or help each other with various QEW-related tasks. Because of the greater distance, less face-to-face contact, and cross-border legal complexities, there have been times when simple tasks and questions have taken a lot longer than they used to. But we seem to be getting the kinks ironed out and are becoming better at various joint operations. Thank goodness for the Internet. Coordination would take for ever by snail mail.

I continue to be pleased with the job of newsletter/ Ecobulletin printing and mailing that FedEx Office of Burlington, Vermont, has been doing. They know our needs and style well enough now that most printing jobs go very routinely, with excellent print quality, especially photos. The staff were accommodating as well when we decided to run the July-August issue without a color cover because of a mid-summer cash-flow crisis. I have learned in the meantime that QEW is eligible for further discounts that should tame our printing bill as we return to color. As for content, we have been fortunate in receiving a number of excellent article submissions to make each issue as attractive and interesting as possible. Another concern arises when too many of the articles, however excellent, are long ones, making layout more difficult and making the newsletter less approachable overall. It's best if there's a mix of short, medium, and long articles as well as a mix of thought- and action-oriented materials. We could use more and varied submissions from other Steering Com-

mittee members.

I have been working on a second draft of the proposed new QEW food pamphlet, which will be reviewed at the Annual Meeting before being printed for insertion in the annual appeal letter later this fall. Everyone who has responded to the first draft seems to like what we've come up.

I am also working with Bill Cahalan of Cincinnati, Ohio, on his third draft of a new booklet, *Belonging to the Universe* (a kind of sequel to his earlier QEW booklet, *Awakening to Earth: Natural Awareness as a Spiritual Practice*), for consideration as a new QEW publication. My main concern is that QEW's booklet sales have never been very strong. One exception is Jack Phillips's *Walking Gently on the Earth*, which over the years has gone through several editions and printing. But copies of that title aren't being ordered very often lately. Given our reluctance to bring out another booklet, the sales of which may not recover the printing costs, the author and the Publications Committee have been discussing this as a possible electronic publication only. And with technical improvements now going on with the website, it will be easier to use the website as a marketing tool. "Marketing" in this sense would mean only getting people to download and read it and to donate to QEW as they are led and able if they want us to keep e-publishing things like this.

Speaking of the website, Anne and I are excited about the prospects for improving QEW's Internet presence with a restructuring and streamlining of the QEW website, achieving many of the objectives that were hoped for in the current issue but somehow didn't coming out right. We will have in effect two integrated websites, one a "brochure" style aimed at giving new visitors to the website a clear idea of what our organization is about, and a more dynamic data-base-driven site that allows those who are already involved in QEW to do more of QEW's work through the website and will encourage more visitors to get involved once they get past the basis orientation to QEW's goals and activities.

**Attachment R: Nominating Committee Advance Report**  
**Quaker Earthcare Witness, 2011 October**  
**Barbara Letsch, Acting Clerk**

1. John Payton agreed to be nominated as Recording Clerk for face-to-face meetings. He has requested that a lap top computer be made available for him to use as Recording Clerk. Does anyone have one available for John's use or should this be a budget item?
2. Nominating Committee moves forward in seeking a Recording Clerk for electronic meetings. This second Recording Clerk position was accepted by Continuing Council during its September meeting.
3. Standing Committee clerk nominations are as follows:
  1. Finance and Development: David Ciscel  
Development: Jack Bradin  
Treasurer: David Millar was nominated at the Spring Meeting 2011 for approval in October
  2. Personnel: eric maya joy, pending
  3. Spiritual Nurturance: pending
  4. Nominating: Barbara Letsch
  5. Outreach: David Millar  
Mini Grants: Bill Holcome
- 4.. At-Large Members for nomination:
  1. Tom Small
  2. Mary Coelho

3. Phil Emmi
4. Elaine Emmi

5. Yearly Meeting Representative:

Emily Higgs has been named a Yearly Meeting Representative by Philadelphia YM.

6. We request Committee Clerks give Nominating Committee an updated list of their committee members as of the Annual Meeting so that we all may be current in knowing who is serving in what capacity .

Prayerfully submitted.

**Attachment S: Personnel Committee Advance Report  
Quaker Earthcare Witness, 2011 October  
Jack Bradin, Clerk**

It has been a year since Anne Mitchell was appointed General Secretary [GS] of QEW. It is customary to convene a closed session of the plenary to discuss any concerns a member of the Steering Committee [SC] may have or wish to air in a protected space. With that in mind clerk of Personnel posted an e-mail to [qewdiscussions@googlegroups.com](mailto:qewdiscussions@googlegroups.com) asking for feedback on our GS a few months ago.

What I received were laudatory remarks. One SC member expressed hope that QEW folk were treating Anne with love and respect, and not over burdening her with trivia and tail chasing tasks. There is an issue surrounding electronic entries on subscriptions to *BeFriending Creation*. I have been informed that the issue is known, and is being addressed.

I did hear grape vine rumblings of a tail bearing nature but I never investigate such musings. They most always are concerned with hurt feelings over cold peas, or no soy silk at the coffee bar. Yes, Friends, seems when it comes to the divine right of coffee the light within goes dark.

Therefore QEW will not have a closed session to review staff this year.

I had some very good feedback from Louis on the overall transition and his supportive work in that regard. Louis and I had a frank and open discussion on what we both see as opportunities for QEW, and pitfalls QEW will hopefully avoid.

Personnel committee will be recommending to the Finance and Development Committee raising Louis's paid part time hours by three [3] additional hours a week. Personnel Committee had occasion over this year to witness the transition. I asked Louis earlier on if additional money for him was needed as the office and its inter-communication when Ruah was GS were optimal for day to day problem solving. Louis is on his own now and is shouldering a bit more than maybe all of us had foreseen. Hence, our recommendation for three [3] additional hours of part time for the publications coordinator [PC].

One more issue to share: Priorities are the most important concern facing QEW.

QEW needs to have all of its Steering Committee members engaged in the work of QEW. We must no longer await these face-to-face meetings to affirm our commitment to the earth/human dilemma. Each and every week, and month that goes by without QEW SC members working for the earth in their YMs, MMs, and like-minded local branches of environmental NGOs is time lost for the earth. If you find you fall into this lost space, please mentor a replacement from your YM if you are a YM representative, or inform QEW Nominating Committee Clerk to seek a replacement of your at-large membership in the Steering Committee.

This is my last report as QEW Clerk of the Personnel Committee. I want to take a little time to express my fondest regard and respect for all staff, past and present, I have worked with. QEW has been well served.

In the Light of the Great Spirit of the Universe and Beyond.

**Attachment T: Publications Committee Advance Report**  
**Quaker Earthcare Witness, 2011 October**  
**Roy Taylor, Clerk**

The Publications Committee is evolving. We have been focused on getting the website, electronic communications and social media improved, up and running. We are almost there. We continue to work with Outreach in a variety of overlapping projects and are clearing up the divisions of responsibility. Alan Dixon is continuing to assist us in bring forward ways to make committee work easier on the web.

We are continuing the process of updating our current multi-fold pamphlets. The latest of these is the revisions to Healthy Food ~ Healthy Planet reinforcing this year's Annual Gathering theme and will be used as the insert to the fundraising appeal letter. (Many thanks to Louis for this work.)

We are working on setting priorities for the Committee and seeing how our work fulfills the priorities that QEW is working on as a whole.

The Publications Committee is now seeking submittals on writings that will take our defined issues and produce them as projects for electronic forms of publishing. These will include pdf's available for self printing and e-books for downloading on many devices.

Louis is also working on combining all of the population related materials into a 32 page booklet with updates and a new introduction. This may be the first of our more lengthy and in-depth publications that we see as the future of the Publication Committee's work.

Because of the printing schedule this past year, the Water-themed pamphlet that went out with the 2010 fund-raiser letter was printed from this year's budget. The decision to have color printing on two sides to make the graph readable was expensive. We will need to keep our color printing to just one side in the future.

Bill Cahalan's article "Belonging to Life" is still in the review process.

We have four issues of Befriending Creation that will come out before our next Steering Committee meeting. We have an opportunity to get some articles out on the continuing theme of Biodiversity and Food. Submittal dates for these issues are December 15th, February 15th, April 15th, and June 15th. The Publications Committee encourages members of QEW to submit articles.

**Attachment U: No Name Working Group Advance Report**  
**Quaker Earthcare Witness, 2011 October**  
**Mary Jo Klingel, Clerk**

The No Name Group began our second year of conversations on June 8, 2011. We have continued our process of seeking the Light on topics that we find to be immensely relevant to the healing of the human community and the natural world.

There are many themes that weave through our talks. Here are just a few:

Can individuals affect the Field (or plenum or implicate order)?  
We are increasingly sure that the answer is Yes!, but if so, then how?

How do we prepare the container or the self for our work?  
It is about opening. What does that mean?

What is the language of the heart? How do we move into the realm of the heart? Heart energy is what brings duality together.

How do we challenge ourselves to be "in the world but not of the world?"

We bring together wisdom from our own journeys and from many other sources. Our recent reading ranges from *Spontaneous Evolution* by Bruce Lipton to *The Wisdom Way of Knowing* by Cynthia Bourgeault.

Our process reflects our intention not to dwell in Western linear thought. We all share responsibility for that revered Quaker tradition of waiting upon the Light.

Please know that we all invite conversations about our intentions and our process and how we are evolving.

**Attachment V: Friends Committee on National Legislation Working Group Advance Report  
Quaker Earthcare Witness, 2011 October  
John Payton, Clerk**

The focus of the Working Group's work this past year has been to develop a plan to guide QEW lobbying on continued funding of critical aspects of food and nutrition programs that are part of the 2012 Farm Bill. Key to development of this plan was a meeting held in Washington, D.C. of three Working Group members and Roy Taylor, the QEW Steering Committee member with responsibility for coordinating planning of the QEW 2011 annual meeting on food and biodiversity, with Marcia Cleveland, FCNL's Energy and Climate Change lobbyist.

During this meeting, the following parts of the Food and Nutrition title of the 2012 Farm Bill, were identified as of primary concern to our lobbying effort:

- the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) supplemental food program;
- the Farm to Institutions (schools, hospitals, prisons, etc.) program;
- Bridge (Food Stamp) program;
- food to under-served areas;
- food safety, security, and inspection;
- Country of Origin Labeling (COOL); and
- Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP).

Marcia Cleveland agreed to help the Working Group plan and conduct a QEW lobby day on the Food and Nutrition title. This would require us to recruit and train QEW lobbyists from across the U.S. in many congressional districts and articulate a lever or trade-off they could use in persuading mostly Republican Representatives and Senators to support our position. A likely trade-off might be supporting food for undernourished children rather than subsidies for the five largest petroleum corporations. Participants acknowledged that members of Congress would be more likely to be receptive to lobbying to continue funding for such programs in their own districts. It was decided that this lobbying effort was most feasible in the lobbyists' home districts. The Center for Biodiversity in California was identified as a possible collaborating organization. Others include interfaith Power and Light groups, the Sierra Club, and Earth Justice.

Because there did not appear to be sufficient time for us to recruit and train lobbyists before the end of July, by which time the House Republican leadership wanted to complete its budgeting process, we decided to focus on the Senate, where the budget will be completed later this year.

In preparation for lobbying Senators, the Working Group has been monitoring the progress of funding for food and nutrition programs in the Senate Agriculture Subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee. As of September 7, Food Safety and Inspection has been funded at about the same level as in FY2011 by this group. There has been a slight decrease in the WIC program and the Commodity Supplemental Food Program. Humanitarian food assistance has been increased. Farm loans and rural development have been reduced. The Working Group has not completed plans on which Senators to focus lobbying efforts or recruiting and training QEW members in their districts.

In our meetings in Chicago we will discuss how we can, in support of QEW priorities, engage more young Friends and one or two like-minded organizations in our food lobbying efforts. Next spring the Working Group will coordinate Steering Committee participation in FCNL's legislative priority-setting process for the 113th Congress. The Working Group reminds Friends that our work on priorities is directed toward developing the insight that "an earth restored" should be part of all the work that FCNL does on Peace, Justice and Empowerment.

**Attachment W:United Nations Support Weorking Group Advance Report  
Quaker Earthcare Witness, 2011 October  
Phil Emmi, Clerk**

As many may recall, this Working Group has secured accredited status with several UN agencies that focus on human-environmental relations. Accredited status allows Working Group members and their representatives permission to attend regional and global conferences these agencies organize to further their work. This year, we have facilitated Friends attendance to a UN Department of Public Information meeting in Bonn, Germany and have initiated plans for Friend to attend meetings in Durban, South Africa, Geneva, Switzerland, New York City, and Washington, D. C. Specific details are noted below.

\* Quaker Lindsey Cook attended the UN DPI/NGO (Department of Public Information / Non-Governmental Organization) Conference in Bonn at the beginning of Sept. Her report is in hand and will be submitted to *BeFriending Creation*.

\* Judy Lumb and Kenyan Friend, Moses Musonga, plan to attend Conference Of Parties 17 organized by the UNFCCC (UN Framework Convention on Climate Change) to be held in Durban, South Africa, Nov 28 through Dec. 9. (This is the follow-on to the much noted conferences in Copenhagen and Cancun.) David Millar and Mary Gilbert have been providing background information. We expect reports to be forthcoming upon return from attendance.

\* Mary Gilbert and Anne Mitchell plan to attend a meeting of the Quaker UN Group, that includes staff of the QUNO NY and QUNO Geneva offices, Friends from FWCC, and other Quakers who with UN connections. The meeting will be in Geneva. We hope to build a closer relationship with these other international friends organizations.

\* We are now asking foreign Friends who attend UN events on our behalf to think of their reports as communications to the QEW UNSWG rather than articles for publication in *BeFriending Creation*.

\* Mary Gilbert is now a member of the core group of the UN NGO Climate Change Working Group and attends meetings every month in NYC.

\* Mary Gilbert, David Millar and Jack Bradin will attend a WDC meeting of the UNEP (UN Environmental Programme) RONA (Regional Office for North America) meeting on Oct. 12 and 13 via remote means.

In addition, the Working Group is in the midst of preparations directed toward developing stronger ties with the Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO) in NYC.

**Attachment X: Illinois Yearly Meeting  
Annual Report to Quaker Earthcare Witness – 2011 October  
Roy Treadway and John Hackman**

Surrounded on all four sides of its 12-acre rural Meetinghouse campus by industrial agriculture of soybeans and field corn, Illinois of Yearly Meeting (ILYM) for the last year has focused on earthcare by enhancing the bio-diversity of its natural landscape and reducing the energy use of buildings and land. In doing so, we hope to be an earthcare witness to other Friends who join us for meetings, retreats, and work and to the community around us.

**Landscaping Guidelines**

Late in 2010, the Environmental Concerns Committee (ECC) developed landscaping guidelines to improve the natural habitat of the yearly meeting grounds with native trees and shrubs as well as a significantly enlarged prairie while keeping much of the current old trees and barns for red-headed woodpeckers, owls, swallows, red-wing blackbirds, and bats. In so doing, we hope to provide shelter and food for monarchs and other butterflies AND reduce considerably the pollution and cost of lawn mowing. In a Spring 2011 meeting, ECC developed its vision to outline the location of new buildings and the placement of a memorial tree grove while retaining viewscapes in all directions over the surrounding open land. The committee supported enhanced composting of food during meetings and the use of mulch on paths and around trees throughout the property.

**Green Roof on the Meetinghouse Kitchen**

Supported by a QEW mini-grant in 2010, ECC planted sedum, violets, herbs, and other plants in backyards of members in fall 2010 and let them grow over winter and into the spring of 2011. Others investigated and purchased different types of trays, non-permeable materials to put on the roof, and appropriate planting material to enhance growth of the plants and retain moisture over long periods of hot weather. In May 2011, the ECC and others from ILYM, using a truck-load of growing material, placed the plants in the trays we had gathered, and put everything on a portion of the kitchen roof. We were able to monitor promising progress during our June Yearly Meeting Session but left the green-roof plants unattended over a long periods of scorching sun without much rain from June to September. When we returned in late September for our workday-retreat, we found the sedum alive and growing, the violets likely dormant, few herbs still alive – and unwanted crab grass thriving. The plants in the Styrofoam planters with small holes did far less well than those in larger plastic trays. We will over winter the current plants, try some alternative plants, and reevaluate our project.

**Planting Sixty-five Trees and Shrubs**

In mid-September the yearly meeting took a significant step putting into action our natural landscaping vision. In preparation, in late Spring 2011 a member arranged for about 65 native plants to be started from seed in small pots. These were nurtured all summer and at an opportune time in the fall planted in the rich central Illinois soil by members of the ECC and others. We developed new hedge rows on the west and north of our new property with hazelnut and American plum trees interspersed with swap roses, bordered by prairie roses. New hazelnut, viburnums, and Pagoda dogwood enriched existing, but aging windrows. A transplanted

tulip tree was centered between two Bradford pear trees. Fallen branches from elderly walnut trees were removed, reminding us of the cycle of nature, from seed to the end of life. We discussed what species would form a functioning hedgerow hospitable to wildlife, wondering what was natural to the area when the Quakers first came in the 1840s.

### **Sustainable Buildings**

ILYM continues to improve the energy efficiency of its buildings with additional insulation as funds permit. Currently, we are considering the best type of energy-efficient windows for the Clear Creek House to enhance ventilation and natural cooling and heating. In the future the yearly meeting envisions a new dormitory and kitchen-dining room, both built to sustainable standards. In so doing, we hope our yearly meeting property will witness to the world how to live in unity with nature.

### **Attachment Y: Lake Erie Yearly Meeting Annual Report to Quaker Earthcare Witness – 2011 October Al Connor**

Water and watershed conservation are still major issues the Lake Erie Yearly Meeting Earthcare Committee and many members of LEYM. The Earthcare Committee has expressed dissatisfaction the House of Representatives passage of the "Dirty Water Bill." We continue to try to educate our members about (1) how households can reduce water and soil pollution, (2) need to preserve wetlands, woodland, farmland and grasslands in our watersheds.

Some meetings are working on greening their meeting houses further than they are at present. Red Cedar Meeting in Lansing is just finishing construction on a new meeting house that will be LEED certifiable when complete. Athens is rehabbing a building and making it environmentally friendly and probably close o LEED certifiable.

Ann Arbor Meeting installed Energy Star appliances and low energy lights some years ago. But there are some areas where heat is escaping in the winter and entering in the summer that need insulation. Recently a thermo-graphic audit was conducted to pin point those areas. The meeting's Property and Environment and Social Concerns committees in the process of costing out that work. The meeting is also working on planting of native plants on the ground on other means of reducing storm water runoff.

Oberlin Meeting under the leadership of David Snyder has a number of community projects it working on a number of programs to help the community become more ecologically friendly.

The teen program under the tutelage of Cari Burke, has had retreats emphasizing eco-system restoration and regeneration. One was at the Michigan Friends Center at the Waterloo Recreation Area near Ann Arbor. Another was at a camp near Traverse City in Northwest Michigan and a third was in Pittsburgh that was concerned with the urban environment.

### **Attachment Z: New England Yearly Meeting Annual Report to Quaker Earthcare Witness – 2011 October Mary Gilbert**

#### **NEYM Earthcare—2011 One Perspective**

Hopes were high for earthcare to penetrate a little deeper this year. We were coming out of a Jubilee process that included no workshop presentations for two years, ending our 350<sup>th</sup> celebration, and our theme

was “Called to Heal a Broken Earth.” Earthcare’s proposal that Steve Chase (Antioch Grad School) give the plenary was accepted. His topic “Blessed Are the Organized: How Quakers Can Help Their Local Communities Transition from Oil Dependency to a Simpler, Just, and More Resilient Way of Life” ([www.neym.org/recordings](http://www.neym.org/recordings)) was what I hoped for in its grassroots Gandhian call to Gospel Order.

QEM our Yearly Meeting earthcare group had a good year despite the assessment that the YM committee structure was broken and the fact that our committee clerk had a serious accident. Folks are getting better at ride sharing and energy use. This committee will continue to discern the repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery (BFC S/O 2011 p.7)) to which some of our members are very dedicated.

However, what is needed is a more comprehensive, integrated way of reshaping our lives and that is where some Young Adult Friends are leading the way (*BeFriending Creation*, Sept./Oct. 2011 p.8). The YAFs have a Climate Change visitation group that has helped a few Meetings sharpen their focus.

At Sessions, however, it was very difficult to stay centered on the theme. My Anchor Group slid into personal transitions, which while important, did not further directly healing of the earth. Toward the end of Sessions’ business we were not able to form a group that could oversee progress and further discernment. This was disappointing to me since a somewhat similar group on Economic Globalization had formed a decade ago around our publishing a pamphlet “John Woolman and the Global Economy” ([www.neym.org/pandpbooklet.pdf](http://www.neym.org/pandpbooklet.pdf)) that honored the past but foresaw the need for new strategies to deal with ongoing corporate controlling our governance.

Sessions are always just a beginning and I hope the new website put together by Ruah and Steve ([www.quakersintransition.wordpress.com](http://www.quakersintransition.wordpress.com)) will be the nexus of widespread activity that can be shared and will be encouraging. For spiritual nourishment try listening to Maggie Edmondson’s Bible Half Hours at the above recordings site.

**Attachment AA: Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association  
Annual Report to Quaker Earthcare Witness – 2011 October  
Roy Taylor**

SAYMA's Yearly Meeting was this past June 9 - 12<sup>th</sup>.

We approved a section of our Faith & Practice to include a statement on Harmony with Nature.

## **5. Harmony With Nature**

Friends’ concern for the earth is a spirit-led extension of established Quaker testimonies in response to our persistent, and now global, overuse and disruption of Earth’s ecological systems. This concern is rooted in a profound awareness of and love for the Divine indwelling within the material world.

Friends have long recognized that there is a relationship between human misery and habits of consumption and production. Through the work of early visionaries such as John Woolman and Elias Hicks, Friends came to understand that the way they lived had an impact on the lives of others, even if those who suffered were far away and unknown to them.

Today, more than ever, we are challenged to expand our understanding of the interconnection of all living things and the delicate balance required to sustain the community of life. Human aspirations for peace and justice depend upon earth’s ecological integrity. When Friends are patterns and examples of sustainability we promote these aspirations. We thus support those engaged in transforming our treatment of the earth. All generations deserve to experience a sense of wonder, an intimate connection with the grand diversity of life and

an appreciation of their interrelationship with all life processes.

SAYMA Friends respond in a variety of ways to the challenges of sustainable living. Many of us know we must reduce and work to eliminate the harmful consequences of our activities: use of energy, housing choices, modes and distances of travel, diet and other consumption habits. We are called to have courage and find more effective ways to live harmoniously as a part of the natural world.

David Ciscel presented a workshop on "How on Earth Do We Live Now?" the title of Quaker Institute for the Future's Pamphlet 2 that he helped author.

Roy Taylor ran a workshop that was an FWCC Global Change Cluster recording responses to the queries developed by that consultation. One of those recorded was Ray Treadway of FWCC, yes, twin to our own Roy Treadway

Our Ecological Concerns Network (ECN) was re-energized and has two new co-clerks.