

## RMYM General Session Minutes 7\_18\_08

01-08 Presiding Clerk John Brawner opened the first general session of the 52<sup>nd</sup> session of RMYM 2008 with a prayer.

02-08 Merle Clowe, on behalf of the RMYM, presented a plaque to John Brawner as an expression of our appreciation for all his faithful years of service as our presiding clerk. John's term of service had expired, and this was his last session as presiding clerk.

03-08 John gave a response and expressed his gratitude to RMYM for its support of him and the fine working relationship he enjoyed over the years. r

04-08 Dennis West offered an update on the fire that destroyed his home and possessions last summer. Dennis also expressed his deep appreciation for the prayers, support and financial help he received from those in RMYM. He also communicated how this personal event has been used by God to minister through Dennis to others in his community.

05-08 Bud Van Meter offered prayer for Dennis West and his ongoing ministry.

06-08 Bill Powell was introduced as the new pastor to Colorado Springs and Bill offered a greeting and expressed gratitude for now being in Colorado Springs. Max Chambers offered a prayer for Bill and his wife Helen, for the sale of their home in Ohio and a smooth and final transition to Colorado Springs.

07-08 Seating of Representatives:

Beaver Park – none

Chivington – Galan Burnett

Crawford – none

Faith – Mary Burnett

First Denver – Bud Van Meter, Judy Van Meter, Suzanne Holcombe, David Cordova, Phil Burgi, Kay Burgi, Susan Rider, John Rider -- alternate, Vicki Orwiler – alternate.

First Friends - Eleanor Harrison, Dan Jamison, Sharlene Martin, Michael Harris – alternate, and Beth Wright – alternate.

Hasty – none

Las Animas – Dennis West

New Hope – Eugene Vanhuss

Northwest – none

Paonia - none

08-08 No Visiting Friends were present at this session.

09-08 There were no Executive Council actions to report since last year. There have been many meetings and much time spent in prayer by the Executive Council as it related to leadership items as well as many other concerns.

10-08 Chuck was asked to moderate a de-briefing and a “carry over” discussion according to the scheduled time (yellow sheet)

11-08 Several board presidents, representatives, and individuals spoke in reflection. Fresh concerns from the open forum discussion from Thursday were also shared during this time

12-08 The Incoming Epistles from other Yearly Meetings will be included in the printed copy of the Minutes of these sessions.

13-08 Merle Clowe gave the NTF report. It was approved.

14-08 Jason Van Meter was allowed time in the schedule to share a personal report from Senior Camp. Things went very well and everyone was blessed by their time at camp from the staff to the campers. Jason also brought a personal concern having to do with the future camp scheduling.

15-08 Christian Education / Camp report was given by Kay Burgi in Mary Burnett's absence. Kay read from a copy submitted by Mary Burnett. The discussion about weeks for camp and reducing camp costs via volunteer staffing, etc was deferred to later in the day after time for reflection, and to allow for the gathering of more information.

16-08 In response to the possibility of camps all being held in one week or two, the Clerk asked the treasurer and Quaker Ridge Board President to offer a "state of the state" informational statement in regards to financial picture, costs involved, and projections going forward. They also hosted questions from the floor.

17-08 Christian Education report was approved with the camp question deferred.

18-08 Outreach report was given by Dennis West.

19-08 Outreach board worked from 4 points of need in which to move forward as an Outreach ministry team:

- Item one from their list is to promote the awareness in our local churches of lost souls in and around all our churches in RMYM. This would include the statistics supporting whether our churches could plant new churches. This includes using email to communicate and encourage our meetings.
- Item two would be to discover, teach, encourage, promote, and keep a healthy church.
- Item three is to define clearly the Outreach board budget and how to more effectively use their budget in building the kingdom of God.
- Fourth item is to reach out to the increasing Hispanic population in ministry.

20-08 Doug Holcombe gave the Friends Disaster Report to be included with the Outreach report.

- Doug stated that due to his own health needs he was unable to participate in several projects accomplished by the FDS. Some of those projects included: several houses built in the aftermath of the devastating tornado in Greensburg Kansas.
- Holly and Windsor Colorado disasters were unusual as it related to our style of disaster relief in that most of the needs in both locations were largely met within the local organizations and community. In other words there were limited needs that could be filled by our FDS. Although there are some areas we could be of help, the commitment to help has not surfaced at the time of this report.

21-08 Approval of the Outreach report was given, with the report from Where Grace Abounds to be submitted at a later time.

22-08 Due to the lateness of the hour the Clerk deferred the rest of the agenda to later in the day so that a discussion could take place on the floor regarding Fx Camp scheduling. The concern was whether to schedule one week for all camps or two weeks. Chuck Orwiler chaired this discussion.

23-08 Chuck began the process by asking Quaker Ridge and Education boards to prepare a specific proposal that would address which would be best for camps 2009 – a one or two week schedule. The two hours from now until next session should allow time for this assignment.

24-08 The Clerk closed this session in prayer speaking to several issues we face with Quaker Ridge, camps, and Yearly Meeting ministries.

25-08 John Brawner “passed the mantle” to Chuck Orwiler who had been approved as Presiding Clerk.

26-08 The meeting adjourned to the 2:00 p.m. session.

27-08 The meeting reconvened at 2:15 p.m. with new Presiding Clerk Chuck Orwiler reading from Philippians 1:9-11. He guided us in a time of prayer by asking us to pray this passage for one another.

28-08 The Spiritual Life report was presented by Mike Farnsworth, and with words of challenge as to how we should focus on primary concerns and to not get lost in minutia of process. We need to remain relevant and centered as Christ is our superintendant.

29-08 Carol Whorton presented the Spiritual Life Ministries memorial report. The single report was for Willard Krieger of First Denver Friends.

30-08 Chuck Orwiler read a proposal from Spiritual Life. The proposal is to implement a pastoral coach program that would support, encourage, and strengthen pastoral leadership of our yearly meeting. Chuck gave clarification and examples during the presentation of this proposal.

31-08 Discussion was opened for concerns, questions, and reservations. Part of this discussion dealt with the financing of this program as it reflects upon the 2009 budget.

32-08 After a time of questions and discussion the proposal was approved in concept, with the details to be worked out as we go forward

33-08 The Stewards Board report was given by Galan Burnett board president. This report includes treasurer’s report and the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the proposed 2009 budget. Galan also mentioned that all yearly meeting churches are participating in the financial concerns of the YM at some level.

34-08 The financial report, Stewards report and final reading of the proposed budget were approved.

35-08 The Statistical report was reviewed and approved.

36-08 David Cordova (QR board president) and Karen Fulbright (Camp committee chairman) presented two options for next year’s youth camps. These options were based upon one-week or two-week scenarios including funding, days, and subsidy required. A time for clarifying questions was given before proceeding with further details and discussion from previous session.

37-08 After much discussion it was approved to plan and fund 2 weeks of youth camp for 2009 by committing the interest from the church planting fund to subsidize the difference from camper registrations and general fund budgeted items. It was also approved to re-commit ourselves to the goal of 200 campers and the staff to go with it.

38-08 It was decided to appoint representatives from Stewards, Christian Ed and QR to put together a sustainable plan to prevent future short fall decisions for emergency funding from Special funds for FX camping.

39-08 Phil Burgi gave the Missions report.

40-08 The Missions report was approved.

41-08 Carl Walker and his crew presented the children's yearly meeting report – their days have been filled with a study of creation. Their report was concluded with a rousing song of how not only did God make the Hippopotamus, – He made us - YEAH!!!

42-08 The second reading of the 2009 Proposed Budget was presented by Galan Burnett and Sharlene Martin. With a few line item changes, the proposed budget was approved.

43-08 The Stewards will appoint a person to write the Outgoing Epistle and it will be included in the printed minutes.

44-08 David Cordova gave the Quaker Ridge Board report.

45-08 The Quaker Ridge Board report was approved.

46-08 Rocky Mountain Yearly Meeting of Friends closed their 52<sup>nd</sup> session on July 18, 2008 at 5: 00 p.m., to meet in August, 2009 or at the call of the clerk.

47-08 Presiding Clerk, Chuck Orwiler closed our sessions with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Merle Clowe, Recording Clerk