

## **2022 QUIP Mid-Year Business Meeting Minutes**

October 22, 2022, 8 am PT, 4 PM UK, by Zoom

**Present for all or part of the meeting:** Iris Graville, co-clerk; Natasha Zhuravenkova, co-clerk; Zélie Gross, recording clerk, Joan Broadfield, Trish Carn, Liz Yeats, Chris Skidmore, Wolfgang Reuther, Daniel Clarke Flynn, Maggie Alder, Zachary Moon, Sam Schiffman, Roberta Schutz, Sara Hubner, John Lampen, Kelly Sawin, Mary Klein, Kate McNally, Chuck Fager, Finola O'Sullivan, Judith Favor, Ann D Russell, John Stephens, Rebekah Falkner, Oskar Lugusa Malande

**Regrets:** Tina and John Coffin, Jennifer Kavanagh, Nancy Haines, Rausie Hobson, Audrey Greenhall, Philip Gross, Brent Bill

**Reports:** Seven were received and circulated in advance. All are available on the [QUIP website](#).

Reports taken at this business meeting:

[Treasurers report](#), [Website report](#), [Planning Committee report](#)

Other reports for information:

[Tacey Sowle report](#), [M Pacifique report](#), [Quaker Quicks report](#), [QUIP today report](#)

### 22-13 **Welcome and Introductions**

Co-Clerk Iris Graville opened the meeting with silent worship, followed by introductions and passing on regards and regrets. We were reminded of the raised hand function for indicating when we would like to speak and about waiting to be called.

### 22-14 [Treasurers report](#)

In the absence of our treasurer Nancy Haines, Iris Graville presented the report.

**Income and Expenses:** So far, our 2022 income exceeds our expenses.

**Dues:** Our current policy is to ask individual members to pay as led and able in a spirit of generosity and abundance. A suggested contribution of \$40 per year for an individual member will meet budget. We can expect a call for dues in early December 2022.

**Draft budget for 2023:** This is difficult to estimate but our treasurer has projected a negative balance with about \$330 shortfall, which we can cover from our reserves.

We accept the report and approve the budget. We express our Gratitude to Nancy Haines for preparing the report and budget.

### 22-15 [Website report](#)

Chris Skidmore presented the report of the working group set up by minute 22-06. The group comprises Joan Broadfield, Sara Hubner, Chris Skidmore, Liz Yeats. The group's priority task has been to free up Eric Muhr from being tied to the QUIP website as webmaster. QUIP is now on a non-paid-for site, so it is very basic and less beautiful. Recommendations in the report include that we seek professional help with building a website. Anticipated costs are included in the treasurers report. We heard rough estimates of the costs of engaging a consultant, hosting charges and domain name; we will have a better idea of the costs when we get to the 2024 budget.

The report further recommends that we need a website committee to ensure that neither the content nor the infrastructure of the website will be under the control of or only accessible by a single person, either volunteer or professional. Joan Broadfield, Liz Yeats, and Sam Schiffman responded to a call for volunteers. We appoint these three Friends to form a website committee. We await a report from the new committee in due course. We are grateful for the working group for starting this process and express much appreciation to Eric Muhr who came forward at an important time and did all this work voluntarily.

## 22-16 **Nominating Committee**

Iris Graville reminded us that she comes to the end of her first term as Co-Clerk in Spring 2023. We are not aware of other officer roles becoming vacant in the near future, but we will need a nominating committee in place to find names to bring forward for appointment as needs rise. There were no volunteers at this meeting. Co-Clerks will invite suggestions of names more widely by other means, e.g., the newsletter, social media, or the website.

## 22-17 **[Report from the 2023 Annual Meeting Planning Committee](#)**

The committee comprises Joan Broadfield, Trish Carn, Iris Graville, Zélie Gross, Liz Yeats, Natasha Zhuravenkova. Zélie Gross (convenor) presented the report.

The Annual Conference was a successful event that encouraged the committee to look ahead with new ideas for 2023. The report notes concern about QUIP as an organization in a state of some fragility with few active members willing to share in the work of keeping things going. The committee agreed to propose to the Mid-Year meeting a review and visioning process and to pay for a professional in the field of organisational review to lead the process. The report notes the sad circumstances which led to a change of plan.

Contributions to discussion included that other Quaker groups facing similar challenges are changing from annual gatherings that require a lot of organizing to short, frequent meetings arranged more simply. We were reminded that an implication of threshing this issue next year is that there will be insufficient time to plan a conference event for the spring of 2023. We are required to hold an annual business meeting, but it doesn't have to be in a particular month, nor to coincide with other QUIP activities.

We note that it would be helpful to have a history of QUIP. Liz Yeats offered to work with others on pursuing the idea of a history, maybe starting with a simple timeline.

We approve the recommendations in the report and ask the committee to proceed with its proposal of a threshing meeting on a date to be arranged in early 2023. The committee invites ideas and suggestions on ways forward that might help them plan the threshing process. Please send these to [zelie.gross@googlemail.com](mailto:zelie.gross@googlemail.com).

## 22-18 **Contact addresses**

Discussion arising in response to the above three reports raised issues of our arrangements for communicating and for receiving enquiries, etc., in addition to work relating to the website. We ask the Newsletter committee to look into the need for a physical postal address for mailchimp to replace Eric Muhr's address.

## 22-19 **Report on a Tacey Sowle Fund grant** approved by minute 22-04 in May.

Oskar Lugusa Malande of Maragoli, Kenya updated us on progress since receiving the grant. We received his written report as noted in the [Tacey Sowle report](#). Oskar thanks QUIP for enabling him to buy a printer. He will be collecting information for the pamphlets and will start writing in January. He will apply for a sabbatical from his PhD studies from January to June, hoping to have enough time to catch up with everything and finish something by June. Oskar asks us to pray for him. He will be coming back to QUIP for assistance in the publishing and editorial services as they look forward in Africa to working together with QUIP, getting more writers on board, and publishing more things. We thank Oskar for bringing us his report and wish his project well for the future.

## 22-20 The meeting was adjourned with thanks to all for attending.

Zélie Gross, convenor