

# Omaha Friends Meeting

## Meeting for Business

### 20 December 2009

**Present:** Debbie, Carol, Frank, Ian, Lynda, Michael, and Bob

**Minutes** from October and November were approved.

#### **Calendar:**

##### First Day:

- |             |   |  |
|-------------|---|--|
| December 27 | - | brunch                                 |
| January 3   | - | Query 1 & 2 – Frank                    |
| January 10  | - | Bible study – Book of James<br>- Lynda |
| January 17  | - | Business Meeting                       |

**Query:** Response to query 12 was approved.

#### *Peace and Nonviolence*

*One Friend noted how important it is to handle the precursors to violence effectively when dealing with teenagers. A change of leadership in the school she works at allowed small infractions to go by therefore allowing situations to escalate. Finally, an incident involving a physical attack against a teacher occurred resulting in staff feeling unsafe at the school. This illustrates how important leadership and following through are for controlling violence.*

*Discussion of why individuals in environments where they have nothing but their honor often respond violently when insulted occurred.*

*Another Friend described how she was part of a traveling puppet show that illustrated peaceful ideas to children through story telling. She would like to start up the puppet show again in Omaha.*

*Avoiding arguments is another approach used by a Friend to defuse situations. Eliminating the need to win keeps disagreements from escalating. Better outcomes result from a shift to listening and problem solving to find common ground.*

**Treasurer:** The treasurer's report was approved. See attached.

**Other:**

It was decided to send our annual contributions of \$100 each to FCNL and AFSC. Bob's retirement honorarium of \$50 will be sent to Nebraskans for Peace. Our annual dues of \$3.85 and contribution of \$46.15 to OTOC were approved, but will not be sent until Bob gets the treasurer the paper work.

Frank will hand-deliver a gift of \$100 to the Omaha Yoga School as a thank you for its hospitality of providing us a meeting place. It will be suggested to go toward utilities.

Carol will represent Omaha in the Yearly Meeting planning committee. Any ideas of themes or program offerings can be given to Carol.