

CPQM Teen Epistle, May 2012

Report for Quarterly Plenary:

During this 2012 spring quarterly at Quaker Center in Ben Lomond, 13 teens enjoyed our stay in the Casa and Haven. On the first night, we took part in community building games led by Gabe. A new FAP, Jullian Garret from San Jose meeting, joined in, teaching two new well received games. We then transitioned into worship then business meeting. At business meeting, we made community expectations and reviewed chat boxes and the process of nominations.

On Saturday, we joined the rest of quarterly in opening Plenary, and worship sharing. At Lunch, we led chat boxes on various topics. These seemed to go well. After lunch and a service project, we enjoyed a dip in a local pool and arrived just in time for delicious dinner.

At our second business meeting, Delcy Steffy, the clerk of the childrens' program committee, reached out to the youth program. She expressed interest in teen help in developing the childrens' program into one equal to the teen program. A letter from the Southern California Youth Planning Committee was shared. Since they have a smaller youth program at their Quaterly, they want to develop a stronger relationship with our program possibility with events outside of the quarterly system. We also evaluated our system of planning and clerking particularly the teen vs. adult involvement. In the evaluation, we've decided to change the previous system of two clerks and two planning clerks to a larger group of five. This system will allow for more flexibility and focus on part of the teens. We also addressed the topic of dynamics within in the planning committee. Both the adults and teens agreed that during the planning process adults unintentionally assumed more presence. After approval the new system, we nominated and approved five new clerks: Augie Brinker (Santa Cruz), Paul Melton-Stephen (Berkeley), Anna Litcherman (Palo Alto), Zoe Price (Berkeley Friends Church) and Miranda Baker (Santa Cruz).

After the long process of business meeting, we had the opportunity of enjoying each other's company and snacks until late into the night. This made waking up and dragging ourselves out of our sleeping this morning difficult but once we made it down and grabbed food we were revived by a quick game led by Jullian before he had to leave.

We headed up the Casa for the final business meeting where Stephen made his pitch about Peace Action Camp, which will take place at La Jolla. Some of us are already planning to attend and more may have been convinced.

We would like to thank the adults of the teen committee, the PYM youth program coordinator, the FAPs, Bob and Kathy for Quaker Center, the Levering family for the use of their pool, and the whole Quarterly.