

New York Yearly Meeting  
15 Rutherford Place  
New York NY 10003

November 11, 2009

Beloved Friends,

As we approach Fall Sessions on Saturday, please prepare by holding our Yearly Meeting—both the body and the ministry—in prayer. Please pray for faithfulness, for deep listening, for giving over to what we find, or what finds us. We have the gift of a weekend of worship: unprogrammed, open worship; programmed worship with attention to our business; committee meetings; even mealtimes and opportunities that will make themselves known.

Following this letter you will find the **revised tentative order of worship** for our meetings for worship with attention to business, which has changed since last Friday. Please bear in mind that items and their order may continue to change. There are many items before us. We may get to one of them, we may get to all of them—most likely somewhere in between. We will strive to maintain the centered sense of worship throughout, and we will wait for that sense before proceeding.

You will also find the **revised consent agenda**, with an item added. Friends are encouraged to read and consider these items, to address any concerns as appropriate before we meet, and to be prepared to approve the items without discussion during our Saturday afternoon session.

The Sessions Committee's working group on considering how to make Summer Sessions more accessible and affordable will be at Chatham-Summit Monthly Meeting on Friday from 6:30 – 8:00pm, and welcome hearing your ideas and concerns. Don't let them be lonely!

In loving and excited friendship,

Heather M. Cook (Chatham-Summit Monthly Meeting)  
clerk, NYYM  
clerk@nyym.org

**New York Yearly Meeting**  
**Fall Sessions 2009**  
**South Orange and Chatham, NJ**

Meeting for worship  
with attention to the affairs of the Yearly Meeting

**Saturday, November 14**      **10 a.m. – noon**                      **Seton Hall University**  
Clerk's welcome

Roll call by region

Update on Somerset Hills

General Services Coordinating Committee

- Treasurer's report
- Financial Services: proposed 2010 operating budget
- General Secretary's report
- Personnel Committee report
- Sessions Committee report

Nurture Coordinating Committee

- Introducing Young Friends in Residence staff

**Saturday, November 14**      **3:45 – 5:15 p.m.**                      **Seton Hall University**  
Consent agenda

Nominating Committee slate

Minute for Paula McClure's service as an Assistant Treasurer

Changes to Sessions Committee's *Handbook* description

Changes to "Funding from Outside Sources" in General Services section of *Handbook*

Witness Coordinating Committee

- Sharing Fund
- American Friends Service Committee
- Policy on bequests to Sharing Fund
- Moving Earthcare Witness from Nurture to Witness

General Services Coordinating Committee

- Financial Services: proposed 2010 operating budget, if necessary

**Sunday, November 15**      **9:00 – 10:30 a.m.**      **Chatham-Summit Monthly Meeting**

General Services Coordinating Committee

- Financial Services: proposed 2010 operating budget, if necessary

Carryover and new items

*Written announcements may be given to the reading clerk before the beginning of each session, to be read at the end of the session.*

*Minutes will be considered at the end of each section of business, rather than all together at the end of the session.*

*Friends are reminded to address comments to the Clerk.*

**CONSENT AGENDA FOR NEW YORK YEARLY MEETING  
FALL SESSIONS, NOVEMBER 13–15, 2009**

The items below are for Friends’ consideration in preparation for the meeting for worship with attention to business on **Saturday afternoon, November 14**, at Seton Hall University. At that time Friends will be asked whether we can act on the items without discussion. Prior to that time, Friends are asked to familiarize themselves with the Consent Agenda, to read the written material pertaining to each item, and to contact named Friends if need be. General questions can be brought to the Yearly Meeting Clerk, Heather Cook, and Assistant Clerk, Joe Garren. All contact information is available in the Yearly Meeting *Yearbook*, which should be available at all meetings.

<b>Decision Concerning</b>	<b>Information Available</b>	<b>Friends Available for Consultation</b>	<b>Actions Proposed (to be recorded as YM minutes)</b>
1. Nominations for service	On following page	Jill McLellan and Deb Dickinson, co-clerks, Nominating Committee	Friends are being asked to approve nominations to Yearly Meeting committees and as representatives to other bodies as posted for review.
2. Requests for release from service	On following page	Jill McLellan and Deb Dickinson, co-clerks, Nominating Committee	Friends are being asked to accept requests for release from Yearly Meeting service as posted for review.
3. Proposed changes to Sessions Committee description in the Yearly Meeting <i>Handbook</i> .	On following page	John Cooley, clerk, Sessions Committee; Jeffrey Aaron, clerk, General Services Coordinating Committee	Friends are being asked to approve the following changes to the composition of Sessions Committee: Delete reading clerks and recording clerks, and increase the number of at-large members from seven to nine.
4. Minuting one-year appointment of Paula McClure (Montclair) as assistant treasurer of the Yearly Meeting	Minute 2009-07-28 of Summer Sessions at nym.org	Jeffrey Aaron, clerk, General Services Coordinating Committee	On July 23, 2009, New York Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends approved Paula R. McClure of Montclair Monthly Meeting as an Assistant Treasurer.
5. Proposed changes to “Funding from Outside Sources” in the Yearly Meeting <i>Handbook</i> .	On pages 3 & 4 following	Jeffrey Aaron, clerk, General Services Coordinating Committee	Friends are being asked to approve changes to the <i>Handbook</i> General Services section, Committee Guidelines, Section D “Financing,” item #2: “Funding from Outside Sources”

## 1. Nominations

Ministry Coordinating Committee 2010: John Perry ('09), Bulls Head-Oswego  
Committee to Revise Faith and Practice 2012: Shirley Way ('09), Central Finger Lakes  
Assistant Clerk 2010: Joseph B. Garren, Brooklyn  
Sufferings 2012: Catharine Thomas ('09), Chatham-Summit  
Personnel 2012: Keith Johnson ('09), Chatham-Summit  
Epistle 2011: Noel Palmer ('07), Westbury; Elizabeth Gordon ('09), Binghamton  
Oakwood Friends School 2012: David Eskin, ('09), Purchase  
Sessions 2012: Martha Gurvich ('06), Wilton  
Friends United Meeting, 2011 alternate: Ann Davidson ('09), Farmington  
Elsie K. Powell House Inc. 2013: Louise Tiano ('08), Rochester  
Committee on Conscientious Objection to Paying for War 2012: Ann Geiger ('09), Butternuts  
Indian Affairs 2012: Grace Perez de la Garza ('09), Fredonia  
New York Council of Churches, Chaplaincy Board 2011: Alice Houghtaling ('09), Schenectady  
Quaker Earthcare Witness Representative 2012: Elizabeth (Buffy) Curtis ('09), Mohawk Valley

## 2. Requests for Release from Service

Marcella Younger, Rockland, Indian Affairs 2011  
Janice Ninan, Collins, State of Society 2010  
Chad Dell, Manasquan, Advancement, co-opted as clerk  
Gale Swiontkowski, Amawalk, Epistle 2011  
Noel Palmer, Westbury, Committee to Revise Faith and Practice 2012, listed in error  
Kristina Keefe-Perry, Rochester, Quaker Earthcare Witness Representative  
Patricia Chernoff, Morningside, Quaker Earthcare Witness Representative 2012  
Linda Chidsey, Housatonic, Aging Concerns 2011  
Glen Bibler, Brooklyn, Aging Concerns 2012

## 3. Proposed changes to composition of Sessions Committee

Friends are being asked to approve a change to the composition and number of at-large members of the Sessions Committee as described in the Yearly Meeting *Handbook*. These changes were approved by Sessions and General Services at our Summer Sessions in July 2009.

## 4. Minuting Assistant Treasurer appointment

Friends need to minute this specific appointment, approved at Summer Sessions 2009, so that banking permissions can be authorized.

## 5. Proposed changes to “Funding from Outside Sources” in the Yearly Meeting *Handbook*.

Revisions (shown in **bold**) are proposed to the Yearly Meeting *Handbook* General Services section, Committee Guidelines, Section D “Financing,” item #2 (page 77). They were developed in response to the creation of the Aging Resources Consultation and Help program (ARCH) and the Young Friends in Residence program (YFIR), which are both funded entirely by separate outside grants.

The proposed changes were approved by General Services Coordinating Committee on July 25, 2009.

### Funding from Outside Sources

This is a policy statement approved by Representative Meeting in 1980, on Requests by Yearly Meeting Committees for Funding from Sources Outside the Yearly Meeting. It is applicable to all Yearly Meeting committees except for those that are separately incorporated, such as Oakwood Friends School, Powell

House, and Friends Foundation for the Aging (formerly the McCutchen—Yearly Meeting Friends Home), which are encouraged to develop their own guidelines for seeking outside funding.

Friends are committed to expressing faith in action. We show our commitment by putting our own time, our own energy, and our own money into activities that demonstrate our beliefs. New York Yearly Meeting funds its concerns in part through the Yearly Meeting Operating Budget and trust funds of the Yearly Meeting, and the rest from the Sharing Fund. When an emergency exists, or a significant opportunity for a contribution to human welfare appears that is beyond our financial resources at the time, outside funding may be considered. Because of the danger that seeking outside funding may become an end in itself and the possibility that projects funded by such grants may become primarily interested in their own survival, it is important that there be clear guidelines for the grant applications. The following considerations should precede requests for outside funding:

1. A clear definition of the project should be developed by the originating group, showing the aims, the amount of money needed (according to budget categories, not just total), the time for the project's completion, and the disposition of the project once the portion to be funded is completed.
2. Friends should be clear on the nature of the organization from which funds are being requested.
3. Grants should be requested in the name of New York Yearly Meeting. They should be administered in such a way as to maintain the project's Quaker origin, character, and identity and to be thought of as New York Yearly Meeting projects.
4. For any staff to be added as a result of project expansion due to outside funding, the Personnel Committee of the General Services Section shall review and must approve the proposed job descriptions, supervisions, salary, etc. , for consistency with the Yearly Meeting personnel policies.

**Item 5 below is eliminated.**

**5. It is suggested that in any one year, total grant requests from any section not exceed the total section budget for that year.**

6. Certain projects supported by Yearly Meeting funds may be encouraged to seek independent status or other affiliation, in order that they may continue to grow and that the way may be open for Yearly Meeting committees to venture forth into other areas of endeavor. Such modifications should be made by the originating group in consultation with the section coordinating committee and the Financial Services Committee.

7. The proposal developed in accordance with the guidelines above shall be considered by the appropriate section coordinating committee. It shall be considered first on its merits, then for its relationship to other funding interests of committees in the section and for the appropriateness of seeking outside funding. If the coordinating committee approves, the proposal will be **presented to the General Services Coordinating Committee and the NYYM Trustees for further seasoning on issues including, but not limited to, insurance, payroll, liability, taxes, employment status, and other possible legal issues. (these boldface words will replace the following words in this section:** considered in its financial aspects by the Financial Services Committee in relation to grant applications from other sections and to the Yearly Meeting financial status. Clearance by Financial Services Committee is needed for any grant request that exceeds \$5,000.)

8. All money from grants will be held by the Yearly Meeting treasurer in a **projectspecific fund. (replaces Grants Budget.)**The treasurer will have the responsibility for proper administration of these funds. **(The**

**following words are no longer needed because all of the Treasurer-Managed funds are audited:** An audit will be required after the project's completion.)

9. Responsibility for oversight of the funded project rests with the committee that originated it, and its general oversight with the section coordinating committee.