

Ministry Coordinating Committee
Spring Sessions

Agenda

Present: Lucinda Antrim, Don Badgley, Barbra Bleeker, Mary Pugh Clark, Nathaniel Corwin, Ann Davidson, Steven Davison, Charley Flint, Cheshire Frager, Irma Guthrie, Angela Hopkins, Kenn Harper, Lu Harper, Mia Kissil-Hewitt, Elaine Learnard, Sarah Miller, Anita Paul, Peter Phillips, Rachel Pia, Anne Pomeroy, Emily Provence, Tom Rothschild, Ed Seliger, Dare Thompson, Karen Way

1. Opening Worship. Meeting opened at 7:00 with a period of silent worship.
2. Check-in. Friends paired and held each other in the Light.
3. Agenda Review: Clerk Irma Guthrie reviewed the agenda.
4. Report from the Retreat for Advancement, Ministry and Pastoral Care, Traveling Friends Advisory Group, Spiritual Nurture Working Group and Young Adult Concerns Committee. Emily Provence reported on the retreat (report attached). How do we support the leadings that are arising among us? How might our committee structures and agendas change if we understood our primary work as nurturing the ministries of the members of the committee?
5. State of Society Report: Presentation and Discussion of Draft. Friends reviewed a draft State of Society report. Not all the meetings' reports had been received when this draft was written. Friends were concerned about the length of the document and the lack of a concluding paragraph or a sense of the state of the society as a whole. The draft doesn't name meetings' struggles that were reflected in some individual meeting reports. Friends raised concerns: Is it time to rethink the process and mission of the State of Society report in light of the wide variety of "listening organs" in NYYM? Is information about our meetings' condition more accurately gleaned from sources other than our meetings' State of the Meeting report (for example, Meeting for Discernment, interactions with Conflict Transformation Committee or other committees)? What are the trends we see among the reports? How do the reports from the meetings serve as a lens describing the State of the Society? Should the State of Society report combine multiple "listening organs?" Irma Guthrie asked Friends for suggestions on how we might proceed. Don Badgley is willing to work further on the current report and to bring additional Friends into the work. Irma Guthrie will contact the drafter of the report, to thank the Friend for

the work to date, to let them know that we were grateful for it and were led in a different direction. Might we also rethink how the report is presented at Summer Sessions? Can the report speak to who we are spiritually? to how we do service? Can we be courageous in looking for different modes of presentation? Can we be poetic? Can we invite Friends to minister from the life of the meeting? Perhaps we could look at the reports quantitatively as well as qualitatively, as in a word cloud that could be shown visually? Friends asked the working group consider these and to bring something back to the committee via email or teleconference in June.

6. Report from the Meetings for Discernment. Emily Provence reported from the M4D Steering Committee, which has been grappling with the part of the charge to “make firm recommendations” to the coordinating committees based on what has been heard at meetings for discernment. Threads that were heard included caring for the aging, young families that have left, help knowing about outreach, conflict meeting and how we move through it and love one another through the conflict.
7. Preparation for Presentation of Reports on the Floor during Sunday's Business Session. Irma and the Clerk have agreed that the revisions to the Covenant relations section of Faith & Practice will be held off until Summer Session.
8. Update on the process of Recording Margaret Webb in the Ministry. The committee is planning to meet at F-S Spring Gathering.
9. Appointment of an Internal Nominating Committee. –not addressed due to time.
10. Committee Reports: Please relate your committee's work to the Priorities when possible.
 - a. Advancement: Mia Kissil-Hewitt reflected continuing energy in the committee around outreach.
 - b. Traveling Friends Advisory Group: David Herendeen presented the name of Abigail Buford (Montclair) and Ed Seliger (New Paltz) as traveling companions. Friends approved. Kathy Slattery and Mary Klaus are clear that they are ready to visit. John & Elizabeth Edminster are travelling.
 - c. Conflict Transformation: Sarah Miller reported that the committee continues to offer workshops and have contacted almost all regions in the YM. The DVD is available. They are also making workshops available outside the YM, including a 5-morning workshop at FGC Gathering.

- d. Task Group on Racism: the committee filled out the form on visitation; they will share an updated resource list via the NYYM website.
 - e. Ministry and Pastoral Care: no report
 - f. Faith and Practice: no report
 - g. Worship at Yearly Meeting Sessions: Ann Davidson reported that Mary Kay Glazer will be doing Bible Study at Summer Sessions.
11. Stephen Davidson: Steve suggested that Friends look at Central Philadelphia meeting's website, which reflects a robust infrastructure for gifts and ministries. He recommended that Friends look at their website, particularly suggesting that Friends look at the Releasing Ministries and Membership sections. Url: <http://cpmm.org>.
12. Meeting closed at 9:01 p.m. after brief closing worship.