

NEW YORK YEARLY MEETING BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes of Meeting of January 31, 2016

Present: Spee Braun, Fred Dettmer (Clerk), Keith Johnson, Peter Phillips, Jim Whitely, Mary Williams (by phone for Minute 2)

1. After a period of worship, the Clerk solicited introductions and welcomed new member Keith Johnson.
2. Treasurer's Business: The Trustees reviewed the 2015 Trustees Treasurer's Financial Report thru December 31, 2015. The Trustees decided to continue the practice of 2015 and set the June distribution as the basis for our annual distribution, accrued semi-annually. Administrative costs will be deducted from the total before it is distributed. The Trustees approved the re-designation of the Agnes Lawrence Fund among the four purposes reflected in the attached spreadsheet. A subcommittee consisting of Mary Williams and Spee Braun will prepare recommendations for further re-designations, to report to the Trustees with an eye to taking the decision to the Yearly Meeting at Spring or, if necessary, Summer Sessions. The accumulated retained unrestricted income needs to be addressed and will be considered by the subcommittee. The Treasurer will revise the trust fund description document to reflect the current (2016) designations, subject to later revisions for 2017.
3. Friends Fiduciary Account Authorization: The Treasurer and the Clerk were designated to serve as Fund Representative for accounts under the care of Trustees at Friends Fiduciary Corporation, and the person to serve as second authorization for withdrawals from those accounts, respectively.
4. Plattekill Meetinghouse: Peter Phillips presented the attached report. The following actions were approved:
 1. *Trustees approve New York Yearly Meeting's acceptance of title to the Plattekill Meeting House, including the contents thereof, from the Huguenot Historical Society.*
 2. *Trustees approve the retention of legal counsel to represent the interests of the Yearly Meeting in connection with this transaction and authorize the Designated Trustee (see # 4 below) to interview and engage counsel, in consultation with the Clerk of Trustees.*

3. *Trustees approve the instigation of any legal action to clear title to the property that the Designated Trustee determines is necessary or appropriate, in consultation with the Clerk of Trustees.*
4. *Trustees designate Peter Phillips (the “Designated Trustee”) to implement these decisions.*
5. *Trustees authorize the designated Trustee to expend such funds (up to \$10,000) as he considers necessary or appropriate to secure the property, maintain its structural integrity, and identify possible purchasers. Said funds are to be drawn from unrestricted retained income.*
5. Posting Trustees Meeting Minutes on NYYM Website: The Trustees approved having the minutes of their meetings included on the Yearly Meeting’s website and designated the Recording Clerk to work with Yearly Meeting staff to accomplish this and to review the minutes to determine whether any matter should be redacted.
6. Audit Committee: Jim Whitely offered an update on the progress of audit and the interactions between Audit Committee and Trustees regarding the audit. He reported that the process was going well and that Tim Johnson was making progress with the auditors. Spree Braun reported that an effort has begun to adopt procedures for the Yearly Meeting to seek grant funding.
7. Proposal to include the Trustee Representative in the Liaison Committee: Fred Dettmer participated in a Liaison Committee conference call on January 14, 2016. The Committee approved including a Trustee representative on the Committee.
8. Management of the Stevens Fund: The Clerk prepared a letter to the Ministry & Pastoral Care Committee requesting an accounting of their stewardship of this Yearly Meeting Fund. The Trustees approved sending the letter on Yearly Meeting stationery.
9. Queries for Meeting for Discernment: The Trustees considered but declined to propose a query regarding use of funds under our care for inclusion in a Meeting for Discernment.
10. General Services Coordinating Committee: The Trustees approved the Clerk as its representative to General Services Coordinating Committee. Keith Johnson was designated as the point person for insurance matters, including adequacy of coverage and correct pricing, as well as the practicality of an insurance pool for monthly meetings.
11. Future Meetings: The Trustees will meet at Spring Sessions on April 2. Prior to that, a meeting will be held telephonically at 2:00 pm Sunday March 20.
12. After closing worship, the meeting adjourned.

Peter Phillips,
Recording Secretary