

BACKGROUND TO GENERAL SERVICES AGENDA ITEMS:

ARCH

A summary about the ARCH program history, 2016 funding and plans for the future, is attached. The summary will help people understand how the program has fared since Summer Sessions. The ARCH 2017 application to Friends Foundation for the Aging will be reviewed by two coordinating committees this weekend—Nurture and General Services.

Ad Hoc Structure Committee

The committee's report will be received and discussed at General Services Coordinating Committee meeting, then brought to business session on Sunday with any further recommendations. If you have thoughts or questions about the committee's work that you would like to share with any of its members, look for a chance during the weekend (or later by phone and email). Members are:

Barbara Menzel, co-clerk

Karen Way, co-clerk

Lisa Gasstrom

Deb Wood

Mike Clark

John Cooley

P.S. They are looking for a few more members.

NYYM Budget Including ARCH 2017

History

When the Friends Foundation for the Aging (FFA) funded a 2008 proposal from Anita Paul and Barbara Spring, it was in answer to a call the two NYYM members felt to address the issues of our increasingly older population. They recognized that many aging Friends would benefit from access to information about existing services, from expanded awareness among all Friends of issues and opportunities of growing older, to overcoming isolation, to concrete steps that ensure appropriate levels of end-of-life care. They also recognized that these end of life considerations, when made in community, benefit the entire community in surprising and liberating ways.

Barbara and Anita crafted a program of weekend training retreats for Visitors that foster personal sharing, role-playing and community building, while supplying trainees with written and verbal information and resources. The Committee on Aging Concerns (CAC), within the Nurture Section, was established soon after to provide oversight from NYYM and to be a liaison with FFA. To date, the program has trained 138 Visitors spread across the NYYM territory, and 44 out of 63 meetings now have at least one Visitor. To complement the interest these trainings inspired, a variety of workshops on aging related topics were developed. (See <http://www.nyyym.org/sites/default/files/ARCHWorkshops-2015.pdf>) Requests for workshops now come from Monthly Meetings and Quarters all over NYYM and beyond.

In 2012, Barbara Spring and Anita Paul expressed a desire to retire over the next few years. In preparation, they and CAC, with an FFA-funded grant, worked throughout that year with consultant and NYYM member, Spee Braun, on the development of a strategic plan and a Policies and Procedures document. As part of the plan, Callie Janoff was hired as a third part-time Coordinator to assist with all aspects of the program, particularly communication. In July 2015, in anticipation of Barbara's imminent retirement, Callie became the full time staff director, and in 2016 she began to develop a circle of local coordinators. Local coordinators are expected to come to know the needs of their particular regions' Monthly Meetings in increasingly deep ways, and to support their regions' roster of volunteer ARCH Visitors with continued training and engagement.

Funding ARCH in 2016 and Beyond

Early this summer we realized that additional (non-FFA) grants we had hoped to apply for in 2016 were not available to us. Anticipating a deficit by September, we consulted with Nurture Coordinating and General Services Coordinating Committees. These two committees, after careful discernment at Summer Sessions, joined CAC in asking NYYM for \$10,000 to keep the program going through 2016. This request was approved, with the amount to come from other unused lines in the NYYM operating budget. Largely in response to this publicly expressed need, ARCH received an unprecedented level of donations from individuals. Compared to \$3,000 in individual contributions before Summer Sessions, \$35,900 has been received since then. We can therefore be assured that the \$10,000 requested from NYYM will not be needed. The CAC has been inspired by (largely unsolicited) donations of \$9,000 in 2015, and the \$38,900 YTD for 2016 from individual members of the ARCH community (Visitors, ARCH staff, CAC members, and other individuals) who have been touched and inspired by the ARCH program. Grateful and surprised by the gifts received during Summer Sessions, and recognizing that there will be some unused budgeted expenses, we anticipate ending 2016 with Aging Concerns Fund reserves of over \$27,000.

The proposed 2017 ARCH budget recognizes the expected 2016 Aging Concerns Fund reserves, an anticipated \$74,000 FFA grant, \$11,950 in donations from the ARCH community (based on two years of experience), \$7,870 from meetings and workshops, \$5,000 continuing support of the NYYM Margaret Dietrich Fund, and other income of \$4,000.

Deb Frazer of FFA has also indicated that her board might be disposed to award an additional \$10,000 grant for business planning for the ARCH program, in conjunction with the proposed examination of NYYM staffing. This amount is not included in these proposed budget numbers since it would be money in / money out (i.e. a wash). This planning will address our need for additional revenue in 2018 and beyond.

NYYM Budget Including ARCH 2017

Planning for the Future

Of course all our planning is challenged by multiple uncertainties in our operations, and the operations of NYYM overall. And as we become 100% integrated into the life and budget of NYYM in 2017, we recognize that ALL our questions cease to be ours alone and belong to the whole NYYM. We are simply putting forth what we know and feel from where we are today, at this point in time in fall 2016. We encourage questions from others and offer our full support in any way it can be helpful.

Currently NYYM benefits from the staffing support of the geographically distributed ARCH local coordinators, the continued mentorship and expertise of Anita as our aging specialist, and the full-time attention of Callie as the director of all ARCH operations. Our volunteer ARCH Visitor network is moving toward 100% meeting coverage that reaches out more effectively to support the needs for care and support in our aging than any staff member could do alone. Multi-generational staff collaboration between the ARCH Director and the other NYYM Field Secretaries is weaving a cradle-to-grave network of care and nurture for everyone in our Monthly Meetings. This nurture in turn helps to strengthen and grow our blessed communities of Friends. The ARCH program has become a locus of energy and enthusiasm in our Yearly Meeting that is attracting dedicated and capable Friends to give generously of their talents and treasure.

We believe the ARCH program has become integral to the continued health and vitality of all the Meetings that constitute our Yearly Meeting, and we welcome the ARCH program's further integration and collaboration with the New York Yearly Meeting organizational structure. We also welcome the opportunity to help develop NYYM-wide strategies for sustainable funding for the foreseeable future.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of The Committee on Aging Concerns and ARCH Staff,

Dare Thompson, Committee on Aging Concerns, Clerk

Callie Janoff, ARCH Program Director

Charlene Ray, Committee on Aging Concerns, Financial Clerk