

General Services Coordinating Committee
NYYM Summer Sessions
Monday Afternoon, July 22, 2013

Present: Jeffrey Aaron (New Brunswick, Clerk), Bridget Bower (Perry City), John Cooley (Central Finger Lakes), Jim Darragh (Westbury), Steven Davison (Yardley MM, PYM), Linda Houser (Purchase), Tim Johnson (Schenectady), Kate Lawson (New Brunswick), Melanie-Claire Mallison (Ithaca), Jill McLellan (Buffalo), Héloïse Rathbone (Brooklyn), Christopher Sammond (Poplar Ridge), Carol Summar (Fifteenth Street)

Visitors: Matthew Scanlon (Scarsdale) (Financial Services)

Regrets:

201307-01. At clerk Jeffrey Aaron's invitation, Friends settled in silence, then introduced themselves with a comment about a joy or concern they have regarding New York Yearly Meeting. Jeffrey announced that the Wednesday night program is an intergenerational discussion on the use of drugs and alcohol, not just at Summer Sessions, but throughout our daily lives. He also reminded us that the NYYM Handbook is now online. We need to make good use of it. Friends considering serving on a committee can see the committee handbook page (nyym.org, Publications, Handbook 2013). It is a valuable resource. Next, Jeffrey also reminded us that before the end of Summer Sessions, committees need to "reorganize" – approve new officers, incorporate new members, and inform the NYYM office of the committee's clerks. Finally, we have a request from the Fall Sessions host for brief summaries of committee work being done at Fall Sessions, in order to interest the participants of the Youth Program in attending committee meetings. In addition, these summaries will be included in the Fall Sessions website to intrigue adults also! Please submit your description to Nathalie Bailey (Chatham Summit) or Abby Burford (?) by October 1st.

201307-02. Jeffrey reported for the Financial Services Committee. The 2013 budget, which will be presented this week, will be a balanced budget, but without the tiers included – so a very austere budget. For 2014, there is a projected budget increase of 3.5-4.0%, partly because of rent increase at Rutherford Place, and partly because of changes in the timing by which our YM staff is paid.

201307-03. Linda Houser reported for the NYYM Trustees. The new trustees will be meeting with past trustees in September in order to update their NYYM Handbook page. Linda read a report (attached) regarding the sale of the Stamford-Greenwich meetinghouse. She also reported that the Trustees have received requests for more in-depth information on YM funds. They approved a process for responding to these requests, including the need for the requestor to be a member of NYYM, and for all information to be perused at the YM office at Rutherford Place, with a trustee present, and nothing can be removed from the office.

201307-04. John Cooley reported for the Clerking Task Group, which is addressing how to assist committee clerks, especially new clerks, on how to learn and follow YM processes. He showed a new, printed "Guide for Clerks" that includes such topics as how to hold a committee meeting over conference call.

201307-05. Steve spoke about the Communications Committee, noting that he will be reporting to the YM this Wednesday. He spoke specifically to the request for an emergency response protocol in the wake of Hurricane Sandy. This work includes a communications response plan to reach the affected regions and disperse information, and an emergency recovery plan for the YM office.

201307-06. Kate Lawson read her letter to Jeffrey regarding her concern for NYYM Nominating Committee (attached). Friends spoke to her recommendation that GSCC appoint a task group to "closely evaluate the discernment and appointment procedures used by the Yearly Meeting Nominating Committee." Jeffrey noted that there seems to be agreement with this concern and a certain willingness to create the task group. He asked that we revisit this request on Friday in order to give our thoughts time to season.

201307-07. John reported on the progress on the Records Committee reorganization. He had been working on creating a Records Liaison position. In the short-term, Bridget Bower, having been off the committee for a year, is now in a position to be nominated to the committee again. This will be on the Nominating list for the Consent Agenda this week. John felt the work that has been done to this point will not be lost, since this will be an ongoing discussion for the committee. GSCC asks that the committee report back on this situation before next Summer Sessions.

201307-08. The minutes of this session were read and approved. Friends settled into worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeffrey Aaron, Clerk
Melanie-Claire Mallison, Recording Clerk

General Services Coordinating Committee (GSCC)
NYYM Summer Sessions
Friday Afternoon, July 26, 2013

Present: Jeffrey Aaron (New Brunswick, Clerk), Susan Bingham (Montclair), Bridget Bower (Perry City), Jim Darragh (Westbury), Linda Houser (Purchase), Melanie-Claire Mallison (Ithaca), Paula McClure (Montclair), Jill McLellan (Buffalo), Héloïse Rathbone (Brooklyn), Carol Summar (Fifteenth Street)

Visitors: Matthew Scanlon (Scarsdale, Financial Services), Dare Thompson (Poughkeepsie, CAC)

201307-09. Jeffrey Aaron (clerk) asked us to introduce ourselves around the circle, letting everyone know how we are feeling about our Summer Sessions this year. Jeffrey then reviewed today's agenda.

201307-10. Dare reported for the Committee on Aging, saying that the ARCH programs are good, and the committee is aging well. The processes are beginning to function smoothly as the committee and coordinators become more accustomed to those structures. Dare noted that their grant application needs to be submitted in December, and they are well on their way to submit that text to their coordinating committees well in time for approval at Fall Sessions.

201307-11. Jeffrey introduced and Paula presented the following minute on behalf of the NYYM Trustees.

"Trustees recommend that all the current assets held from the sale of the Stamford-Greenwich meetinghouse, combined with the John de Forest Trust inherited from Stamford-Greenwich Meeting, be combined into one trust fund – the Stamford-Greenwich Trust – managed by the trustees with dividend income payable to NYYM. All future income from interest and principal payments on the mortgage held by the trustees will be paid into the trust each quarter."

GSCC approved this minute. The minute will be brought to tonight's meeting for business for approval by the body.

201307-12. Jeffrey revisited Kate Lawson's concern and letter regarding NYYM Nominating Committee. Friends discussed the concern and how best to address it. The coordinating committee decided to forward the concerns to the Priorities Working Group, via Bridget, and NYYM Nominating Committee, via Jill. Jeffrey will inform Kate.

201307-13. GSCC Nominating recommended the following appointments for the coming year:

Clerk: John Cooley

Assistant Clerk: Bridget Bower

Recording Clerk: Melanie-Claire Mallison

Representative to Priorities Working Group: Bridget Bower

Representative to Sessions Committee: Melanie-Claire Mallison

Friends approved.

201307-14. Friends settled into worship, expressing gratitude for Jeffrey's service to this committee and this Yearly Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Aaron, Clerk

Melanie-Claire Mallison, Recording Clerk