

## CONSENT AGENDA FOR NEW YORK YEARLY MEETING

SUMMER SESSIONS, JULY 21–27, 2013

The items below are for Friends' consideration in preparation for meeting for worship with attention to business on **Thursday morning, July 25**. At that time Friends will be asked whether we can act on the items without discussion. Prior to that time, Friends are expected to familiarize themselves with the Consent Agenda by reading the written material pertaining to each item.

Any questions, comments, or concerns should be addressed with the Friend(s) listed as available for consultation below. Contact information is available in the NYYM *Yearbook*. During Summer Sessions, a message can be left for the contact person on the message board inside the Inn, adjacent to the NYYM conference center.

If discussion with the contact person does not resolve concerns about an item or nomination, those issues are brought to the Yearly Meeting Clerk directly and immediately by either the concerned Friend or the contact person before our business session on Thursday morning. That item or proposed appointment will be removed from the consent agenda.

The Clerk then discerns whether to return the item to its originating committee, or to bring it to the Meeting for discussion.

<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	Posted on Inn porch by 1pm on Tuesday, re-posted with any changes by 1pm on Wednesday	Jill McLellan and Deb Wood, co-clerks, Nominating Committee	Friends are being asked to approve nominations to Yearly Meeting committees, officer positions, and as representatives to other bodies, as listed for review.
2. Requests for release for service	Posted on Inn porch by 1pm on Tuesday, re-posted with any changes by 1pm on Wednesday	Jill McLellan and Deb Wood, co-clerks, Nominating Committee	Friends are being asked to accept requests for release from Yearly Meeting service as listed for review.
3. Proposed <i>Handbook</i> page for Yearly Meeting appointees to AFSC	On page 2-4 following	Mary Eagleson, clerk, Witness Coordinating Committee	Friends are being asked to approve changes to the <i>Handbook</i> page for this committee of appointees to AFSC.

### **1. Nominations**

As posted on the Inn porch by 1 pm Tuesday, reposted with any changes by 1 pm Wednesday.

### **2. Requests for Release from Service**

As posted on the Inn porch by 1 pm Tuesday, reposted with any changes by 1 pm Wednesday.

### **3. Proposed Handbook page for American Friends Service Committee**

The American Friends Service Committee has undergone a re-organization in recent years. As a result, they have made some changes in the appointment of representatives and the scheduling of meetings. The following proposed *Handbook* page contains updates that bring NYYM into line with the current organizational practices of AFSC.

#### **American Friends Service Committee**

The American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) is a Quaker organization that promotes lasting peace with justice, as a practical expression of faith in action. Drawing on continuing spiritual insights and working with people of many backgrounds, we nurture the seeds of change and respect for human life that transform social relations and systems.

The AFSC is guided by a corporation composed of no fewer than 120 nor more than 180 members. No fewer than 60 nor more than 90 of these members are to be nominated by the yearly meetings of Friends in the United States. No fewer than 60 nor more than 90 Friends are chosen at large by the Nominating Committee of the AFSC. Of these, up to 25 are chosen to serve as the Board of Directors. The clerks of the four U.S. regional offices and of the international office sit as ex-officio members of the corporation.

Each yearly meeting appoints from two to five members. The number of Friends to be appointed from each yearly meeting is generally based upon the size of the yearly meeting and is determined by the AFSC. In addition, New York Yearly Meeting may recommend names to the nominating committee of the corporation for appointment to the Northeast Regional Office.

#### **Functions and Activities**

The appointees to the corporation act as liaison between the yearly meeting and the AFSC. They are expected to make every effort to attend and represent the yearly meeting at the annual meeting of the corporation, which is usually held the first Friday and Saturday of March. Members should take care to prepare for the meeting by reviewing all advance materials and participating in advance conference calls when they are offered. Once appointed or nominated, Yearly Meeting appointees and at-large nominees participate in the next annual meeting and the two following meetings. Corporation members are also invited to attend the March Board meeting which is held on the Sunday following the annual meeting. Appointees carry yearly meeting concerns to the AFSC and report back to the yearly meeting. This includes an annual written report.

The regional executive appointees are expected to attend the regional office's executive meetings and function as full members of those committees. The appointees are encouraged to participate in the activities of the AFSC regional office and to encourage similar participation by members of local monthly meetings.

**Organization & Method of Appointment**

Currently, New York Yearly Meeting is asked to appoint five members to the national corporation. The appointments are made by the Yearly Meeting on the recommendation of the Nominating Committee for three-year terms, with about one-third appointed each year. The group names a convener and a representative to the Witness Coordinating Committee. The group includes the regional executive representative(s) as well as Yearly Meeting members appointed at large by the national office.

**Meeting Times & Places**

The annual meeting of the corporation is normally held in March in Philadelphia. Representatives may also meet at Yearly Meeting sessions.

**Finances**

Corporation members often pay their own expenses, but some financial aid is available from the monies set aside for Friends under appointment and from the AFSC.