

**NEW YORK YEARLY MEETING  
RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS**

# **Yearbook**

**Proceedings and Appointments**

**2019–2020**



## How to Support the Yearly Meeting Financially

While covenant donations from monthly meetings provide most of New York Yearly Meeting's budget, donations from individuals allow us to strengthen and grow our Quaker community according to our Leadings and Priorities. Individual donations, especially recurring ones, help maximize our finite staff resources and the many volunteer hours donated by your fellow Quakers across the yearly meeting. All gifts help bring us together in spirit-based work, minister to one another, and support our Quaker witness in the wider world. Your generosity benefits all of us.

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**GIFTS of SHARES**—Friends who wish to support the yearly meeting with gifts of shares of stock should call or write the Trustees Financial Clerk, Christine (Spee) Braun, listed in the Alphabetical Listing of Friends at the end of this yearbook.

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I give and bequeath the sum of \$            to New York Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, having its principal office at 15 Rutherford Place, New York, NY 10003.

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**NO MATTER HOW—OR HOW MUCH—YOU DONATE,  
WE THANK YOU!**

# 2019 – 2020

## New York Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends



ONLINE EDITION

Containing:

- the minutes and reports from Fall 2018, Spring 2019, and Summer 2019 Sessions;
- a statistical report for NYYM;
- a list of Friends appointed to NYYM committees as of Summer 2019;
- and a directory of local and regional meetings.

*The annual committee reports (reports from yearly meeting committees submitted in advance of NYYM's Summer Sessions) were distributed at Silver Bay. A copy of these reports was sent to each monthly meeting and worship group. They appear online at [nyym.org/sites/default/files/2019-NYYM-AdvanceReports.pdf](http://nyym.org/sites/default/files/2019-NYYM-AdvanceReports.pdf). Paper copies are available from the NYYM office on request. For the alphabetical contact information, see a print copy of the Yearbook at your local meeting.*

Published October 2019

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**NEW YORK YEARLY MEETING**  
**FALL SESSIONS**  
**November 10–11, 2018**

Holiday Inn, Rochester, NY  
Saturday, November 10, 2018; 10 a.m.

*Jeffrey Aaron (New Brunswick), Clerk*  
*Elaine Learnard (Conscience Bay), Assistant Clerk*  
*Karen Reixach (Ithaca), Recording Clerk*  
*Robin Mallison Alpern (Amawalk), Reading Clerk*

2018-11-01. The meeting centered in worship. The clerk welcomed Friends and reflected on how we embody the “beloved community” and the challenges and opportunities we face both externally and internally. His full remarks are attached below; see page 16. He introduced the individuals at the clerks’ table.

2018-11-02. Kathy Slattery (Orchard Park), clerk of Farmington-Scipio Regional Meeting, welcomed Friends to this large and diverse region. She invited Friends to a spacious place. She thanked the host committee and the Rochester Meeting for their loving support in our work of discernment.

2018-11-03. The reading clerk read the roll of regions, monthly meetings, and worship groups. Friends stood as their meetings were called. All regions were represented.

2018-11-04. Madeline Schmitt (Rochester) acknowledged that the land where we are meeting is home to the Onondowagagh and Haudenesaunee confederacy. Her remarks are attached (see page 18).

2018-11-05. The clerk noted that the agenda this morning addresses items from the General Services Coordinating Committee. He announced that the second reading of the by-laws has been laid over to Spring Sessions at the request of Trustees, who are working on clarifying the language.

2018-11-06. The clerk introduced Bridget Bower, clerk of General Services Coordinating Committee, who brought forward the business of the section.

2018-11-07. Laura Cisar (New Brunswick), NYYM treasurer, reviewed the financial status of the Yearly Meeting as of October 31, 2018 (view online at [nyym.org/sites/default/files/TreasurersReport-2018-10.pdf](http://nyym.org/sites/default/files/TreasurersReport-2018-10.pdf)). The end-of-2018 report is on page 72 of the printed 2019 Advance (Annual) Reports available at meetinghouses or page 39 of the PDF at [nyym.org/sites/default/files/2019-NYYM-AdvanceReports.pdf](http://nyym.org/sites/default/files/2019-NYYM-AdvanceReports.pdf)). With 83% of the year completed, 68% of income has been received and 78% of expenses have been incurred. Current budget shortfall is \$73,564. Last year at the end of October NYYM had a surplus of roughly \$2000. The year-end projection suggests that NYYM will need to go into operating reserve (more or less \$37,000). She offered clarifications to questions from the body.

2018-11-08. Douglas Way (New Brunswick) of the Pay as Led Working Group described how the registration system will be implemented for Summer Session 2019. He noted that this new process will handle the financial aspects of registration under the new challenges of the master billing contract with Silver Bay and Pay as Led. Registration will open in January 2019 and the Pay as Led options will end on May 15th, 2019. As always, folks can register until the last day of Summer Sessions, but we cannot guarantee Pay as Led prices after May 15th. For every person who attends Summer Sessions in 2019, NYYM is responsible for paying the set room and board rates by the end of Summer Sessions. With a Pay as Led process, though, some participants will pay less than that set rate and some participants will pay more. We trust that f/Friends will be both generous and honest in their discernment on what they are led to pay. The full report can be found on page 19.

2018-11-09. Bridget Bower, clerk of General Service, provided an overview of the process of developing the 2019 budget. This morning the Treasurer informed us about our financial status for this fiscal year.

Financial Services Committee will offer a proposed 2019 budget developed from Budget Saturday.

The Trustees will then offer discernment about the budget request.

Then this body will have an opportunity for discernment.

Based on the Priority Working Group recommendations, the budget process has become more transparent, with the operating budget, investments and other funds clearly laid out in a consolidated statement. In addition, the budget process begins in January with a draft budget developed by Summer Sessions. Nonetheless, time constraints have complicated the process this year.

This proposed operating budget was created in light of the minuted approval by gathered Friends at Summer Sessions 2018 for the hiring of the new Young Adult and Children Secretary and the instructions to Financial Services of the need to create a budget to accommodate this new position at a net cost of \$50,000. We also desire to expand outreach. And everywhere else, NYYM is continuing to do business as usual.

To fund these increased expenditures will require significant increases in income.

If the budget is not approved at Fall Sessions, there is a process whereby in effect, the old budget is continued essentially with no changes until a revised budget is presented at Spring Sessions.

She described the investments of New York Yearly Meeting: The total is \$6 million, \$4.5 of which is restricted. Unrestricted investments amount to \$1.5 million. The income from these unrestricted investments fund a variety of committees and other organizations.

Our job is to figure out we manage our resources going forward.

2018-11-10. Mary Harpster (Rahway & Plainfield), Clerk of Financial Services Committee, proposed the designation of any remaining overage from the 2018 budget to the 2019 operating account or to the 2019 budget. Friends approved.

2018-11-11. Mary presented the proposed 2019 NYYM operating budget, describing the major items of income and expenses. The budget total is \$1,036,119, an increase of over \$300,000 from the 2018 budget, \$200,000 of which is covered by estimated income from Summer Sessions registration (see minute 2018-11-08.) In order to fully fund the 2019 budget Financial Services estimates that this would require using principal from

the Yearly Meeting investments as needed over the course of the year (an estimated over \$135,000), which would likely continue in subsequent budgets. Friends at Budget Saturday recommended exploring the transition of the income of approximately \$20,000 from selected committees and organizations to the NYYM operating budget and the consideration of use of endowment principal to fund the operating budget.

2018-11-12. Dare Thompson (Poughkeepsie) of the NYYM Trustees reported that the Trustees appreciate the work done at Budget Saturday and recognize and understand the desire for the yearly meeting to invest in its future through an injection of funds for outreach; a children, youth and young adult field secretary position; and other initiatives in support of the vitality of the yearly meeting. As fiduciaries of NYYM's trust funds, Trustees are especially mindful of any request to draw down principal of funds under our care and feel a heightened need for more serious discernment, especially when the term of the request is not well defined. She expressed concerns of the Trustees about the sustainability of this approach.

Trustees recommended:

2018-11-13. First, that in 2019, 2020, and in 2021 all income from the mortgage held by NYYM for the sale of the Stamford-Greenwich Meetinghouse be payable directly to the yearly meeting for unrestricted use in annual operations. This amount is \$13,320 per year. (This minute overrides NYYM Minute 2013-07-51.) Friends approved.

2018-11-14. Second, that, starting in 2019, the dividend from the Fund for Sufferings accumulation of \$33,000 be directed to the yearly meeting for unrestricted use in annual operations. The amount is estimated at \$1300 annually. Friends approved.

2018-11-15. Third, that the yearly meeting reprioritize the use of our current income prior to tapping trust fund principal, making hard choices as necessary. In particular the Trustees recommend the yearly meeting explore redirecting the approximately \$20,000 per year in unrestricted trust fund income that currently goes to select committees and organi-

zations and instead have that income go to general operations. These groups have been notified of this possibility. No decision was taken on this recommendation at this session (See Minute 2018-11-43 of Sunday session, page 14).

2018-11-16. That no final decision about tapping trust fund principal be made at Fall Sessions. The yearly meeting needs time to come up with a plan once the exact 2019 budget gap is known, which will likely be in early 2019 when the 2018 Final Treasurer's Report is available. Furthermore, Trustees recommend that prior to liquidating the principal of any unrestricted trust funds, the yearly meeting have in hand a time line and long-term financial plan that ensures the use of principal is sustainable and appropriately limited.

2018-11-17. Friends asked a number of questions to clarify the proposals, including the question that given the fiduciary responsibility of the Trustees, does the body have the authority to direct the Trustees to take particular action on the Stamford-Greenwich income and Fund for Sufferings? The clerk indicated the Trustee brought these recommendations to the body for action.

2018-11-18. The clerk outlined the options for further discernment on the 2019 budget. Friends will have the opportunity to explore further at Sunday's session.

2018-11-19. Reading and approval of minutes occurred as the meeting progressed. The reading clerk read announcements. The meeting closed with waiting worship.

Holiday Inn, Rochester, New York  
Saturday 1:40 p.m., November 10, 2018

*Jeffrey Aaron (New Brunswick), Clerk*  
*Elaine Learnard (Conscience Bay), Reading Clerk*  
*Karen Way (New Brunswick), Recording Clerk*  
*Robin Mallison Alpern (Amawalk), Reading Clerk*

2018-11-20. The meeting opened with quiet worship.

2018-11-21. Clerk Jeffrey Aaron welcomed Friends and intro-

duced the clerks' table. Jeffrey read from the JYM Seniors' epistle to gathered Friends at Summer Session 2005. The young Friends urged acceptance of our wonderful diversity and differences as an act undertaken in the Light.

2018-11-22. Jeffrey explained that Emily Provance (Fifteenth Street), clerk of Ministry Coordinating Committee, is traveling in the ministry. In the absence of the clerk of Ministry Coordinating Committee, Jeffrey introduced the business items and the individuals who were presenting them.

2018-11-23. Trish Eckert, Pastor of Farmington Friends Meeting and Jillian Smith (Saratoga) presented the report from the Outreach Working Group (see page 20.) The report is the product of two years of work, including the formation of the Outreach Practitioners Circle, research by a consultant, focused efforts of 18 meetings, and a recent weekend of discernment. Friends are united in the understanding that outreach is important. The Outreach Working Group has developed a 3-year action plan built around four strategic priorities: to foster a spirit-infused culture in the yearly meeting, to build our capacity to communicate, to create better awareness of Quakers in the NYYM geographic area, and to improve outreach capacity in the monthly meetings. A structure of implementation priorities envisions an Outreach Steering Circle at the center, supporting interconnected projects: to develop a cohort of coaches, to create an online repository of outreach tools, to establish a story-telling network that amplifies stories of bold faithfulness among Friends, and to mobilize resources to communicate our messages to the world. This proposal will be taken to the Coordinating Weekend in January, with the possibility that a final action plan will be presented at Spring Sessions. Next year's proposed budget (subject to approval) has a funding line for continued work by the Outreach Working Group.

Friends spoke in response, emphasizing the value of inreach in building community. Others noted that witness can serve as outreach, and that newcomers attracted to meetings must be warmly welcomed when they arrive. Outreach can be supported by an easy introduction to Quaker terms and processes. More difficult and more important is how to share and communi-

cate the experience of worship in the Light. Further resources are available from Friends General Conference's Welcoming Friends Project. Friends with additional suggestions and comments can contact Robin Whitely and Arlene Johnson in the OWG before Coordinating Committee Weekend.

2018-11-24. Carolyn Emerson (Conscience Bay) and David Herendeen (Farmington) presented the first reading of a revised section on clearness committees for *Faith & Practice* (see page 25.) Friends offered suggestions for clarification and inclusion. Further comments should go to the Committee to Revise *Faith & Practice*.

2018-11-25. Carolyn Emerson and David Herendeen, speaking for the Committee on Sufferings, went on to present a revision of the Handbook that describes a new way of managing the Fund for Sufferings (see page 26.) In the current version of the Handbook, the fund is managed by a committee that evaluates requests for support from Friends who are suffering financially because of fidelity to Friends testimonies. In the proposed version (see page 27), the committee would be laid down and replaced by a single point person with much the same job. All requests would be forwarded to the clerk of Ministry Coordinating Committee with the point person's recommendation.

Friends asked for added clarification in the text about whether the clerk of MCC would further convey the application to the coordinating committee before making a decision. Friends also wanted better clarification on the role of the point person in deciding which applications would be forwarded to MCC.

The Committee on Sufferings will revise the text to be more explicit on these matters and will bring the result to a future yearly meeting session.

2018-11-26. At this point, clerking for the session was changed from Jeffrey Aaron to Assistant Clerk Elaine Learnard because Jeffrey had been an active member of the group next to report.

2018-11-27. Jillian Smith (Saratoga), Marissa Badgley (Poughkeepsie), and Jennifer Swann (South Berkshire, NEYM) presented the work of the Alternative Membership Pathways Working Group (AMPWG). Jillian reviewed the history of the

working group, which was created under the care of Ministry Coordinating Committee in 2016 and which has drawn on the work of many other groups with similar concerns (available on page 30.) The group has presented a proposal for alternative pathways to membership to MCC in Fall 2017 and Summer 2018 for refinement and discernment. The group then undertook to write a section describing a new pathway to membership that might serve as a first draft for a new F&P section.

Today's proposal (see page 31) is offered as the beginning of a process of wider discernment among Friends and their meetings. Many potential Friends are unable to attend a monthly meeting for a wide range of reasons, such as incarceration, schedules, distance, caretaking, and differences of culture. The proposal lists criteria an applicant would need to meet to become a member under the direct care of New York Yearly Meeting. The proposal also describes in detail how the process would work for the applicant and for the Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee within MCC.

Friends are urged to read the current section on applying for membership in *Faith & Practice*, and consider what barriers might have existed at different times in their own lives.

Friends spoke in response. A concern was expressed that the monthly meeting is the foundation of Quaker experience and life. Others spoke to the reality of being actually unable to attend a monthly meeting. The question was asked: what do we call a person who is strongly devoted to Quaker values and to vibrant non-meeting communities within the yearly meeting, if not a Quaker? The working group estimates that there are hundreds of adult Friends in the New York area who cannot make it to weekly meeting for worship but who yearn to belong to a larger Quaker family.

Ministry Coordinating Committee has already sent the proposal to all monthly meetings with a request for consideration. Responses can be sent to [alternate-pathways@nyym.org](mailto:alternate-pathways@nyym.org).

2018-11-28. Minutes were read, corrected, and approved in stages during the session.

2018-11-29. After announcements, meeting closed in quiet worship.

Holiday Inn, Rochester, NY  
Sunday, November 10, 2018; 9:45 a.m.

*Jeffrey Aaron (New Brunswick), Clerk*  
*Elaine Learnard (Conscience Bay), Assistant Clerk*  
*Mary Eagleson (Scarsdale), Recording Clerk*  
*Justin Murphy (Rochester), Reading Clerk*

2018-11-30. Friends gathered in waiting worship. Clerk Jeffrey Aaron shared an excerpt from “Standing Rock: A Change of Heart” by Charles Eisenstein:

Each time you refuse the invitation onto the warpath, you become more powerful. Those who can stay peaceful in the face of any terror or threat become virtual miracle-workers....In a way, we are all in the same boat; we are all facing situations that invite us to chose love over fear, to listen to the heart when it feels unsafe to do so. We need to help each other obey that call. In that, we are allies. We can be allies in calling each other to our highest potential.

2018-11-31. On behalf of the Working Group on Conscientious Objection to Paying for War, Lyle Jenks read the following quote from Wally Nelson on the 224th anniversary of the signing of the Canandaigua Treaty and the 100th anniversary of the armistice ending World War I:

What would you do if someone came to your door with a cup in their hand asking for a contribution to buy guns to kill someone they didn't like?

2018-11-32. Jeffrey introduced the clerks' table: Elaine Learnard as assistant clerk, Justin Murphy of Rochester Monthly Meeting as reading clerk, Mary Eagleson as recording clerk. He reviewed the agenda.

2018-11-33. Lu Harper (Rochester Monthly Meeting) introduced Sue Regen of Rochester Meeting. Sue carries a witness of forgiveness as a spiritual practice. She has been offering workshops on forgiveness since 2004; her work has been under the care of Rochester Meeting since 2006. Sue then spoke about her work.

Forgiveness is a daily opportunity to choose love over fear. It is the effort to see that of God in every person. Forgiveness is the letting go of all hope for a better past. It is releasing our pain

and suffering. She spoke of the blessing of helping people step on the path of healing through the daily practice of forgiveness. Two opportunities for Friends to attend her workshops will be in June at Powell House, and in July at the FGC Gathering.

2018-11-34. Rebekah Rice, co-clerk of Witness Coordinating Committee (WCC), introduced the business of WCC. Rebekah read a statement from WCC, joined by some members of Ministry Coordinating Committee who were present at the WCC meeting last evening:

In order to help defray the additional budget expenses in the 2019 proposed budget, it was proposed by Trustees that \$20,000 in income generated from some of the trust funds was never or was no longer restricted in its use and could be used by the yearly meeting in any way it discerned. In the past few years, it has been used to support the budgets of several WCC committees, including Black Concerns Committee, Prisons Committee, Barrington Dunbar Fund for Black Development, and Indian Affairs Committee. To help reduce the substantial deficit in the 2019 budget, it has been suggested that these funds might be transferred from the Witness committees to the operating budget. We don't believe that anyone intended taking these funds away from outreach to people of color in order to do inreach on behalf of largely White, middle-class Quaker meetings, but that would be the impact of this action.

2018-11-35. Pamela Wood read an update on the lawsuit pursued by Green Haven Preparative Meeting and others, including NYYM [minute 2018-07-46 (July 27, 2018)], against the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS), protesting the refusal of the Green Haven Prison administration to allow the preparative meeting to hold quarterly meetings in the facility. The report is on page 34. The lawsuit was filed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York (White Plains branch) on September 18, 2018. It asks the court to direct the defendants to accommodate the religious practices of the Quakers and to remove the inclusion of the Religious Society of Friends from the list of Protestants who celebrate Pentecost.

A Friend asked if any measures have been or could be taken to protect the members of the preparative meeting from retaliation against them by DOCCS. Pamela responded that there is

little or nothing Friends could do, and that the men are aware of the risks they are running by proceeding with the lawsuit.

2018-11-36. Rebekah read the following statement from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, with which WCC unites:

Quakers are holding in prayer and the light the families and loved ones of those who we lost at the Tree of Life Synagogue on October 27, 2018, at the Kroger grocery store in Kentucky on October 24, 2018, and in other acts of hate that will go untold.

We are called to name these as acts of antisemitism, racism, and bigotry. As a Faith centered in the belief that each person has God's light within them, we are trying to address the culture of violence, isolation, and hate in our society. We are concerned that certain uses of internet and other media outlets foster a climate that embraces such acts of hate.

To heal from these, we are called to respond nonviolently, with love as our primary impulse.

Personally, between one shock to the system and the next, we may find this call to be tremendously difficult to follow. These days, we have little time even to mourn let alone consider how to move forward. We wonder what to tell our children.

The Civil Rights leader and author, Bayard Rustin—who was deeply influenced by Quaker and Gandhian nonviolence—wrote something that some may find helpful, in a letter to the children of Cleveland on December 3, 1969:

“..we cannot hope to achieve democracy and equality in such a way that would destroy the very kind of society which we hope to build. If we desire a society of peace, then we cannot achieve such a society through violence. If we desire a society without discrimination, then we must not discriminate against anyone in the process of building this society...If we can build such a society, then we would have achieved the ultimate goal of human freedom.”

In the work that we do, we sometimes feel like we are digging holes in the ocean. But we are reminded that we all share a relationship with God and to each other. As long as there are people like us, centering our actions in love, holding each other up, there will be resilience.

In the words of A.J. Muste, another organizer influenced by Quakerism, “There is no way to peace; peace is the way.” We

add: There is no way to love, love is the way. There is no way to beloved community, beloved community is the way.

2018-11-37. Jeffrey reported on an interim action taken since last July by the clerk and the general secretary. NYYM has signed onto a further amicus curiae (“Friend of the Court”) brief in support of Ravidath “Ravi” Ragbir’s lawsuit to prevent the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement from silencing critics of the government’s immigration policy by deporting him and like-minded activists who have been targeted because of their political advocacy on behalf of immigrant rights. This brief was submitted to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. NYYM had earlier joined the amicus curiae brief to the trial court, the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. The new amicus curiae brief makes the same points as the earlier brief. Both briefs are available on the NYYM website.

The defense counsel replied with the following:

While we are still waiting for a decision on the First Amendment claim itself, the Second Circuit issued a stay of removal yesterday afternoon! The stay ensures that Ravi will not be deported while the First Amendment case is pending. And, as a result of the stay, we learned this morning that ICE has cancelled Ravi’s report date, most recently scheduled for Nov. 9, 2018, and rescheduled it for January 28, 2019.

We know we must remain vigilant, because ICE continues to seek Ravi’s deportation and will do so as quickly as it can if this new stay, and the stay by the federal court in New Jersey, go away. But we are so grateful that the Second Circuit recognized the importance of ensuring Ravi is here and that it gets a chance to consider the important First Amendment issues this case presents, not just for Ravi, but for all of us.

2018-11-38. The nominating committee report, presented as a consent agenda (see page 38), was approved.

2018-11-39. Deb Wood from Purchase Meeting reported for the Nominating Committee on other nominations not on the consent agenda.

- Albert Hsu, Wilton Meeting, class of 2019 as assistant treasurer.

- Sara Mongeau, Rochester Meeting, class of 2021, FWCC Section of the Americas representative
- Emily Provance, 15th Street Meeting, released from FWCC Section of the Americas, class of 2021.

These nominations and release were approved.

- By permission of the Yearly Meeting, Hazel Powless, Oneida Nation, Bear Clan, is co-opted for one year to serve on Indian Affairs Committee.

2018-11-40. Marissa Badgley announced a joyous experiment, which came out of a Summer Sessions gathering of young adults: the launching of the Young Adult Spiritual Nurture Series, under the care of Spiritual Nurture Working Group, which started in October and will continue through Summer Sessions, 2019. 18 young adults were present at the initial gathering held at the Quaker Intentional Village. However, only one monthly meeting nominated a young adult to participate, and Marissa urged us to reach out to any young adults who are connected to our monthly meetings, no matter how long it has been since they were last in the meetinghouse. The next retreat will be held in December in New York City.

2018-11-41. Dennis and Regina Haag, co-directors of Powell House, the NYYM retreat center, reported. The budget situation is worrisome. This causes Dennis to do new and creative things he might not otherwise do to reach out to bring in more people. He reported on recent experiments and commented that the only time you fail is when you don't try.

Regina reported that Powell House is a place of heartfelt welcome for all. She read some statistics about recent visits in the last six months. There were 207 in adult and intergenerational programs, 93 in monthly meeting retreats, 659 in community groups, 329 in youth programs, and 70 in yearly meeting programs. Chris DeRoller and Mike Clark have 37 young adults registered for next week. Powell House is starting up a fundraising campaign for this fall; it is getting ready to launch a capital campaign later.

2018-11-42. Melanie-Claire Mallison, clerk of Sessions Committee, reported as follows:

She thanked the host task group for their work in arranging this weekend. There have been 110 participants, including 2 youth, and an additional 10 guests to the Friday evening sessions. Spring Sessions will be held April 5-7 at Oakwood School. The November issue of *Spark* will have information about Pay as Led for Summer Sessions, and she urged us to read it and begin to prepare now for a joyous gathering at Silver Bay in July.

A Friend appreciated the hotel space where we are now meeting; she has concerns regarding both the accessibility of our venues in general, and funding for the sessions. She noted that there are financial barriers to the use of such space for those who must stay overnight, and asks us to consider how those affect our efforts to be a welcoming and inclusive community.

Another Friend asked if there would be an evaluation survey for Friends to use to communicate about this session; Melanie-Claire will send one out by email. A Friend asked that there be a question on this survey asking how much people have had to spend on transportation to attend. Melanie-Claire reminded us that Farmington-Scipio Region is the largest in the yearly meeting, so Friends from that region are very aware of the costs of transportation. She asked Friends to speak to Sessions about their concerns and possible solutions, and above all to attend sessions!

Jeffrey observed that we are facing a desire to do more than we have the financial resources to do, and that the costs of sessions will be part of the conversation about what we can do. Another Friend expressed gratitude for the presence of many Friends from the Farmington-Scipio Region at these sessions.

2018-11-43. After the initial budget discussion yesterday, Financial Services Committee met and decided to withdraw the budget they had proposed for 2019. They felt unable to propose an alternative budget, so there is at this time no budget. There is an interim budget process, which will be used; there will be nothing on the interim budget which has not been previously approved. It will thus be approximately similar to the current, 2018 budget.

Mary Harpster, clerk of Financial Services, said that the committee seeks guidance from the yearly meeting as it prepares a budget to propose at Spring Sessions. Friends are invited to

send comments by email to financial-services-clerk@nysm.org. She asked that we all consider not only the budgets for the work of the committees with which we are connected, but for the entire yearly meeting.

Rebekah Rice re-read the statement from the WCC she had read earlier in this meeting. Jeffrey clarified that the budget is created by Financial Services Committee. Trustees, and anyone else, are welcome to offer input. Last summer, the yearly meeting approved asking Financial Services to find resources to support a new hire, among other things. Financial Services asked Trustees to help find those resources, and Trustees listed several options, including the one referenced above. Trustees have also recommended that we not approve the proposed 2019 budget as it stood. Friends were asked for suggestions as to our priorities, so that we may discern what we can afford to do.

Jeffrey explained that approximately \$20,000 in income each year from unrestricted investments is divided among several Witness committees as well as other entities such as Oakwood School and Powell House.

A period of sharing followed. The main thrust of these was that Friends do not want to make any cuts, except perhaps in transportation costs. Nor do they approve invading the principal in our investments. Instead, we encouraged ourselves to contribute to the cost of the expanded budget.

2018-11-44. Friends asked that the comments captured during this session be sent to Financial Services and Trustees almost verbatim, and that they be summarized by the clerks for inclusion in these minutes. Friends approved; see page 42.

# ATTACHMENTS

## Fall Sessions 2018 Clerk's Opening Message

*(see minute 2018-11-01)*

Beloved Community.

Words that I hold in my heart, reinforced by the harshness of so much of the outside world—beloved community. When I see the remarkable work that our small numbers of dedicated Friends do, such as last night's presentation reminded us, and have done for centuries to promote peace and make a better world for everyone, I am overwhelmed with the importance of our work and I know that ours is a special place, even if we can do better. Ours is a community where we commit to a relationship based on the divinity of loving kindness and tender listening. Being imperfect beings, we blow it, frequently, as we were reminded last night. I know that I do. We need the humility that Jesus taught to learn from the Divine within each other how to advance what we profess. Unlike most of the world, our witness is to labor lovingly together to achieve equal opportunity without hierarchy, instead of competing for power and wealth. There are few such communities worldwide. This makes our community blessed, I believe, even with its defects, and of enormous importance to each of us. I believe it is why we are here. Thank you for your commitment, whatever your reason to be here.

Even when I sense distress among us when someone's words or the way they are delivered inadvertently hurt someone's feelings or when someone feels that another speaks too long or too frequently or with too much certainty that they know the answer when their answer may not be the answer for others, I truly believe that everything we say to each other in our work together comes from the passion of imperfect seekers who want to make our community more of a blessed community in the midst of a dangerous and harsh world. When I look at the pain and anguish throughout the wider world, at home and abroad, I re-dedicate myself to our community of seekers of Truth.

Tomorrow, November 11, is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Armistice Day 1918, celebrating the end of the first World War, the

so-called “war to end all wars.” Thirty-seven million were killed, and countless others suffered their loss and the destruction of their lives and their families. Yet the proposed new military budget is well past half a trillion dollars, up more than 15% from last year. We have many hundreds of military bases in scores of countries, far more than any other nation. There are more than a dozen military conflicts that we are currently involved in, and there is a plan to withdraw from the INF, the Intermediate Nuclear Forces weapons treaty of 1987 to start a new nuclear arms race. Our message is critical.

My name is Jeffrey Aaron. My home meeting is New Brunswick. I am your new interim clerk. Okay, that was a strange thing to say, but I said it for two reasons: first, there were clerks before me and there will be clerks after me, and we face a strong calling to look beyond the present to our future. I think of myself as interim because we need to make many changes. Part of the work we are called to do is to find creative ways to make the rising generations, new Friends, and Friends of color all feel fully welcome as beloved equal participants. For the effort we do make to be inclusive, I feel great joy, but it has not been nearly enough. If we hold tight to old ways, the world may leave us behind and we may diminish in numbers even further than we already have. Maybe I should have said I am a transitional clerk. I am old and called “white,” as have been most to serve at this table—not all, but most. It is hard to avoid because of life’s pressures on today’s young adults and the small number of Friends of color among us, but it is critical to try to find ways to embrace coming generations and all our Friends who possess the passion and creativity to do new things new ways.

We agreed at Spring Sessions to suspend Nurture Coordinating Committee and relocate all its committees and boards, then report back next summer on possible structure revisions, yet we chose not to create an ad hoc structure committee. Everyone is welcome to make suggestions at any time to any member of Liaison, which consists of the Clerk and Assistant Clerk, the General Secretary and the coordinating committee clerks. If you have any ideas, big or small, please contact any of these Friends at any time. Consider taking part in Coordinating Weekend at Powell House at the end of January, where change will be the

focus. It may take some uncomfortable changes to accomplish what we need, because change is usually uncomfortable, but it is the task we face to remain viable and pertinent. We must welcome positive change with joy and faith. So I see myself as your interim clerk. I promise to serve you with humility, joy and love. Even when I blow it.

## **Acknowledgment of the Land**

*(see minute 2018-11-04)*

I have been asked to open Fall Sessions NYYM Meeting for Business with an acknowledgement that the land we hold these Sessions on was Onondowagah [Seneca] ancestral land held in common with the Hodinohso:ni [Iroquois] Confederacy for hundreds of years before European settlers came to this region. The Onondowagah [Seneca People] were and remain the “Keepers of the Western Door” in the Confederacy. Today we pay respects to Hodinohso:ni [Iroquois] elders past and present , women and men, who would remind us of our responsibility for stewardship of the land.

We also want to acknowledge that the Onondowagah [Seneca People] have survived efforts to remove them from New York State and are **still here** in Western New York, although their continuing presence may be less visible to most today.

Finally, we acknowledge that the Hodinohso:ni Confederacy’s form of government provided inspiration for our Federal Constitution.

We have the opportunity to learn more about the Onondowagah’s ancestral presence and contemporary culture through the local Native American Cultural Center, who recently collaborated with the City of Rochester to establish the first Indigenous People’s Day, by visits to Ganondagan State Historic Site and Seneca Art & Culture Center, in nearby Victor, NY, by attending Canandaigua Treaty Day tomorrow afternoon-or any Nov 11th; and, by watching the PBS special series *Native America* that, in the 2nd episode, gives great visibility to the history of the Hodinohso:ni Confederacy through the eyes of contemporary Confederacy, including Onondowagah, elders.

## **Summer Sessions 2019 Registration and Pay as Led Status**

*(see minute 2018-11-08)*

The Pay as Led Subcommittee of Sessions Committee is proceeding with implementing the process for Summer Sessions 2019 registrations. This new process will handle the financial aspects of registration under the new challenges of the master billing contract with Silver Bay and Pay as Led. We are distributing a brochure at Fall Sessions that specifies that registration will open in January 2019 and the Pay as Led options will end on May 15th, 2019. As always, folks can register until the last day of Summer Sessions, but we cannot guarantee Pay as Led prices after May 15th.

The additional registration time will allow for staff to adjust to substantially increased workload and will ensure that NYYM can meet the payment dates required by the master billing contract. It will also allow attendees more time to budget and pay for their Summer Sessions expenses.

The foundation upon which we must build our Pay as Led process is the set costs for room and board, per person, as detailed in the attached Silver Bay YMCA room and board rates for 2019 (you can find them on [www.nyyym.org/session/summer-sessions-2019](http://www.nyyym.org/session/summer-sessions-2019)). For every person who attends Summer Sessions in 2019, NYYM is responsible for paying these set room and board rates by the end of Summer Sessions. With a Pay as Led process, though, some participants will pay less than that set rate and some participants will pay more. We trust that f/Friends will be both generous and honest in their discernment on what they are led to pay.

Our initial implementation plan was based on the assumption that NYYM would pay to have the New England Yearly Meeting (NEYM) registration system modified to support our unique needs. That assumption fell apart when we learned that NEYM was planning on having their system rewritten. Our alternative is to build our own process using web forms to collect information, email to communicate registration status and costs to registrants, and an online payment page for collecting payments. We expect the new process to be available for use sometime in

January 2019. As in past years, there will be an alternate process for those who do not use online/email methods.

## **Report from Outreach Working Group**

*(see minute 2018-11-23)*

WHAT: Report to NYYM Fall Sessions, November 9-11, 2018

FROM: The Outreach Working Group and the NYYM Outreach Discernment and Planning Meeting of Oct 6-7, 2018

PURPOSE: To inform Friends of recent developments in generating a strategic Outreach Action Plan for NYYM for the next three years, 2019-2021

### **Background**

Over the past two years, there have been several reports coming to this gathering of Friends from the Outreach Working Group. What we are sharing with you now is a brief, summary report from the OWG, but **primarily it is a report coming from a new, emerging structure** that is being put in place to take outreach in NYYM to a new level.

The OWG was formed in early 2016 with the charge to nurture and encourage the energy for outreach in the Yearly Meeting. Its work has ranged from developing outreach resources to grant-making for outreach projects, but its primary focus has been on assisting monthly meetings in their outreach efforts through the formation of a learning circle called the Outreach Practitioners Circle. At various times up to eighteen meetings have been involved in OPC work, meetings as distant from each other as Buffalo and Conscience Bay, all engaged in learning how to help their meetings be more effective in outreach. At the same time, there were some powerful outreach initiatives being conducted by other Friends; for example Emily Provance's social media training and Melinda Wenner Bradley's hands-on assistance through the Monthly Meeting Partners Project. **But the simple fact remained that the Yearly Meeting, including the vast majority of monthly meetings, was not engaging in outreach learning in any coordinated or intentional way and significant opportunities were being missed.**

## **Major Task**

As the OWG approached its 2018 sunset date, it saw as one of its major tasks a necessity to address this deficit. It requested and received from Yearly Meeting a budget to support a strategic planning process aimed at generating an outreach action plan for the entire Yearly Meeting. Such an outreach plan would elevate the understanding and effective practice of outreach at every level of organization and activity in NYYM, and bring more intentionality and coordination to the Yearly Meeting's outreach efforts.

## **The Process: Assess—digest—discern**

First we needed to assess the status of outreach in the Yearly Meeting and listen to the thoughts and aspirations of Friends regarding outreach. Using the skills of a consultant experienced in collecting and evaluating qualitative and quantitative data, between May and July of this year, focus groups and one-on-one interviews were conducted and a questionnaire distributed to gain the input of Friends. This information was collated, digested and released in the form of a sixty-page report, "Outreach Within New York Yearly Meeting: A Report to Inform Discernment and Planning, Summer 2018."

In early October, a diverse body of twenty-four Friends from around the Yearly Meeting, each having read the Report and carrying a concern for some aspect of outreach, gathered at Chatham-Summit Meeting over the weekend of October 6-7 for a facilitated discussion to discern way forward with the objective of creating the broad outlines of an Outreach Action Plan for 2019-2021.

Several primary themes emerged from the assessment conducted this summer and, subsequently, from the rich discussion at the October discernment gathering. These themes shaped the outreach plan that is emerging.

- One primary theme is that inreach and continuing spiritual growth as well as continued focus on inclusivity and diversity must be the foundation on which effective outreach is built.
- Secondly, Friends said that outreach is frequently hindered, not only by a reluctance to appear to be proselytizing,

but also because the theological diversity among Friends hampers making clear and confident statements about who Quakers are.

- Friends also said that they feel undermined in their outreach efforts by the general lack of awareness about the work of Quakers — or even their existence. It is hard, they say, to get traction for outreach activities when there is so little cultural awareness of Quakerism.
- Finally, another key theme was that, while there are many examples of creative and energetic outreach activities, monthly meetings report that they do not have the skills, personnel, or resources to conduct effective, ongoing outreach. Monthly meetings are asking for more assistance in planning and implementing outreach.

### **Where We Are Now: Strategic Priorities and Implementation Planning**

Building on these themes and coming out of that weekend of discernment, Yearly Meeting now has the outline of a three-year outreach action plan built around four strategic priorities. The discerned priorities are as follows:

**STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1: Nurturing a Spirit-infused Culture as Foundational to Outreach** *Foster a Spirit-infused culture that normalizes and supports bold faithfulness within a framework of radical inclusivity*

**STRATEGIC PRIORITY #2: Communicating Who We Are** *Build our capacity to communicate and act in a way that acknowledges and embraces the breadth of who we are and who we will become*

**STRATEGIC PRIORITY #3: Increasing Awareness of Quakerism** *Create greater awareness of Quakerism in the New York Yearly Meeting geographic area*

**STRATEGIC PRIORITY #4: Building Monthly Meetings' Outreach Capacity** *Build the capacity of monthly meetings in NYYM to do effective outreach*

Priorities need to be supported by implementation plans, and

so the planning group that met in October also identified five implementation priorities to support the strategic areas:

**1. Steering Circle**

*Establish an Outreach Steering Circle to coordinate, evaluate, and monitor the implementation of this Outreach Plan for 2019-2021*

**2. Outreach Coaches**

*Develop a cohort of coaches to take forward implementation of these strategic priorities through work with monthly meetings*

**3. Repository of Outreach Resources**

*Create a searchable, sortable, curated, online repository of outreach tools, practices, and other resources*

**4. Story-Telling Network**

*Establish a storytelling and communications network connected with other elements of the Plan, that identifies and amplifies stories of bold faithfulness to the Divine among Friends, as a means of powerful inreach and outreach*

**5. Build Awareness of Quakers: Targeting and Messaging**

*Identify and mobilize people with marketing, graphic design, and publication expertise and secure a budget for research and marketing; explore and establish a network for collaboration across participating Quaker organizations*

**Implementation**

Friends also defined a structure for implementation. That structure is shown below (on the next page). It includes a Steering Circle to be composed of a representation of Friends working in each of the Strategic Priority areas. They will be charged with coordinating, monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the Outreach Action Plan for 2019-2021.



## Next Steps

The next step in bringing this plan to life is to take the proposal to the Coordinating Committee Weekend in January, where we anticipate there will be further discernment about the content and shape of a final Action Plan, to be presented at Spring Sessions in 2019. As it stands now, accomplishing key parts of the Plan will depend, ultimately, on the financial support of the Yearly Meeting.

With the faithful support of many Friends, **NYYM has taken a bold step forward with the generation of this Plan.** As expressed by individual Friends repeatedly and increasingly over the years, stated clearly and unequivocally in our 2014 Statement of Leadings and Priorities, and reinforced by Friends in the NYYM Outreach Report generated within these past six months, NYYM Friends have been looking for a more informed, effective way to reach out and offer the Quaker path to seekers. We now have the makings of a plan to address some of those

needs in a more thoughtful, comprehensive, and effective way.

We trust that Friends will receive this report with open hearts and minds, that you will lift up the measure of Light that it contains by supporting the Outreach Action Plan however you feel led, and that you will offer Friends entrusted with implementation of the Plan counsel along the way so that it stays on track and firmly grounded in our Quaker faith and tradition.

## **Revised section on clearness committees for Faith & Practice (first reading)**

*(see minute 2018-11-24)*

### **CLEARNESS COMMITTEE**

*[Replaces paragraph on p. 121 of 2018 edition]*

Clearness Committees are focused, private meetings for worship intended to clarify a situation or a decision. Traditionally, the clearness committee is used in determining readiness for a couple to marry or for an individual to be approved for membership. Additionally, the clearness committee can be used for personal discernment—to address particularly stressful personal decisions, to reconcile Friends in conflict, or to seek clarity in leadings and ministries.

To set up a Clearness Committee for personal discernment, an individual or group usually approaches the committee of Ministry and Counsel or Pastoral Care within a monthly meeting, regional meeting, or worship group. The person or persons asking for clearness works with Ministry and Counsel to select a few people who will form the Clearness Committee. It is helpful to designate a convener who will be responsible for scheduling, opening and closing meeting, and managing discussion and worship. The person requesting clearness should have unencumbered participation in the meeting.

A Clearness Committee session begins with a period of worship and maintains the frame of worship throughout. Maintaining a spirit of openness and prayerful waiting, the committee seeks to help the individual discern the path forward. The members are there to listen without prejudice, to help clarify alternatives and their implications, to facilitate communication, and to provide

emotional support for the process of seeking God's will.

Clarity may be reached in one session or it might take several sessions. This process should not be viewed as an occasion for advice nor as a substitute for therapy or professional counseling. When it works well, the Clearness Committee allows an individual to draw on the gathered discernment of Friends to address immediate problems, concerns, or decisions.

p. 114, paragraph 3: replace overseers with pastoral care, lines 2 and 6

## **Restructuring of the Committee for the Fund for Sufferings**

*(see minute 2018-11-25)*

Approved at the September 13th, 2018 meeting of Ministry Coordinating Committee.

**Reorganization of the management of the Fund for Sufferings as handled by the Yearly Meeting:** We propose the following reorganization, which starts with laying down the Committee on Sufferings:

1. We will have a point person for the Fund for Sufferings in lieu of a committee. Nominating Committee will find a point person. The point person will work under the aegis of Ministry CC.
2. The point person will be responsible for getting out the word about the fund, receiving grant applications, and forwarding grant requests to the Ministry CC Clerk with a recommendation on whether or not to provide the funding. The Ministry CC clerk will consider the recommendation of the Fund for Sufferings point person for each grant request received and, if favorable, indicate approval.
3. The point person will work with the NYYM Treasurer to submit vouchers for approved grants.

**Broadened Possible Uses of the Fund:** We seek YM approval to broaden the possibilities for making grants from this fund so that the income is used more readily. We recom-

mend reducing the five Functions and Activities listed in the current Handbook page for the Committee on Sufferings to the following two (Appendix 2):

### **Functions & Activities**

1. To administer the Fund for Sufferings to provide aid and assistance to those who are suffering [financial] hardship because of fidelity to Friends' testimonies.
2. To consider applications for assistance from a Yearly Meeting member wherever that person resides and from any who are faithful participants in worship and action in local meetings. Normally, an application will be forwarded by a local meeting with the anticipation that the Fund will supplement the meeting's financial resources in the matter. In lieu of this, a Yearly Meeting committee may endorse and forward the application.

### ***Appendix 1: Minute 74 of the 1971 Yearly Meeting sessions***

The Minute on Sufferings offered for consideration at the Representative Meeting in May was offered for discussion and decision. It was agreed that:

“Friends have a responsibility to support those who endure sufferings through faithfulness to Friends' Testimony. This responsibility rests first on Monthly Meetings for their members who stand in need. It rests also on the Yearly Meeting for those persons who endure sufferings while implementing Yearly Meeting Concerns. To enable the Yearly Meeting to meet its responsibility, the Peace and Social Action Program is authorized to establish and administer a Fund for Sufferings and to solicit contributions thereto.”

## **Proposed Revision of Handbook Entry for Committee on Sufferings**

*(see minute 2018-11-25)*

Current Handbook Page:

**COMMITTEE ON SUFFERINGS (2000)**

## History

Minute 74 of the 1971 Yearly Meeting Sessions marked the initiation of the Fund for Sufferings under the Peace and Social Action Program. The Fund, raised through voluntary contributions, is meant to provide assistance to those who are suffering hardship because of fidelity to Friends' testimonies. In the sessions of 1975, a Committee on Sufferings was established to administer the Fund, and a budget appropriation was placed in the goals of the Sharing Fund to continue until the Fund reached \$10,000.

## Functions & Activities

1. To administer the Fund for Sufferings to provide aid and assistance to those who are suffering hardship because of fidelity to Friends' testimonies.
2. ~~To determine that the witness to which the suffering is attributed speaks to Friends generally relative to a common heritage and tradition.~~
3. To consider applications for assistance from a Yearly Meeting member wherever that person resides and from any who are faithful participants in worship and action in local meetings. Normally, an application will be forwarded by a local meeting with the anticipation that the Fund will supplement the meeting's financial resources in the matter. In lieu of this, a Yearly Meeting committee may endorse and forward the application.
4. ~~The rendering of assistance rests on evidence that the applicant and any dependents have been diligent in self-help and in the search for alternate resources, particularly local meetings. Such assistance should be a decent level of support, especially when extended to the dependents of applicants.~~
5. ~~Where religious witness involves challenges to authority, legal support must be limited to modest defensive moves and should not include the payment of fines or other financial penalties.~~

## **POINT PERSON FOR FUND FOR SUFFERINGS (2018)**

### **History**

Minute 74 of the 1971 Yearly Meeting sessions marked the initiation of the Fund for Sufferings under the Peace and Social Action Program. The Fund, raised through voluntary contributions, is meant to provide assistance to those who are suffering financially because of fidelity to Friends' testimonies. In the sessions of 1975, a Committee on Sufferings was established to administer the Fund, and a budget appropriation was placed in the goals of the Sharing Fund to continue until the Fund reached \$10,000. In the Fall sessions of 2018, a Point Person on Sufferings replaced the committee and the possible uses of the fund were broadened.

### **Functions & Activities**

1. To administer the Fund for Sufferings to provide aid and assistance to those who are suffering financially because of fidelity to Friends' testimonies.
2. To consider applications for assistance from a Yearly Meeting member wherever that person resides and from any who are faithful participants in worship and action in local meetings. Normally, an application will be forwarded by a local meeting with the anticipation that the Fund will supplement the meeting's financial resources in the matter. In lieu of this, a Yearly Meeting committee may endorse and forward the application.

### **Organization & Method of Appointment**

The Point Person on Sufferings serves a term of three years. The Yearly Meeting appoints the person upon the recommendation of the Nominating Committee. The Point Person receives and processes applications for assistance and forwards recommended action on each application to the Ministry Coordinating Committee Clerk for their approval. Ministry CC receives occasional reports on the status of the Fund for Sufferings.

### **Finances**

The fund is held by the Yearly Meeting as a Designated Use Fund. The Yearly Meeting Treasurer monitors compliance with the fund's designation.

## **Context and History of the Alternative Membership Pathways Working Group**

*which led to the proposal called*

### **Membership Under the Care of New York Yearly Meeting**

*(see minute 2018-11-27)*

The Alternative Membership Pathways Working Group (AMPWG) under the care of Ministry Coordinating Committee (MCC) began out of a 2016 Summer Sessions Quakerism 101 course about the importance of membership in the Religious Society of Friends. Young Adult Friends spoke to barriers they faced in traditional membership and in response, the AMPWG was born to discern new pathways to membership within New York Yearly Meeting and beyond.

Quaker history was reviewed by the group. We learned that initially, identification as a Friend was that of a declaration of inward connection to the Light (God). Formalized membership was created in 1737 to ensure welfare was more carefully distributed to those who were an active part of the faith as well as to provide Committees for Sufferings for persecuted Friends. This formalized membership also sought to prevent ranterism, ensuring leadings could be tested and corporately discerned. Taking into account this history, the AMPWG worked to identify barriers that exist for those who are seeking to either enter Quakerism or remain within it but are isolated from or prohibited from attending regular Monthly Meetings. Some of these barriers are incarceration, schedules, differences in culture, theologies, not being understood on one's spiritual journey, scheduling, distance, and care-taking.

The working group met regularly between 2016 and 2018 and reached out to a wide variety of members and attenders both online and at many a Friends' gatherings. An AMPWG email account welcomed the diverse stories of those who had membership process successes or difficulties. An article was published in *Friends Journal* presenting different viewpoints towards membership with a call for stories from readers. A Powell House weekend of over 30 people later brought together

representatives from three different Yearly Meetings to reflect on and re-envision membership pathways through centered worship and numerous topic explorations. AMPWG additionally facilitated a day of worship sharing at the Friends Center for Racial Justice, holding space for Friends in Western NY, with questions such as: “Knowing that racism has always impacted membership how do we invent new pathways?” Finally, AMPWG also received feedback from the Attica Friends Worship Group and continues to explore ways that alternate pathways can more fully support incarcerated Friends. AMPWG has discerned this attached process to be a new path that we can learn from due to who applies for it and how Friends utilize it to describe their relationship with their spiritual home (even by and under utilization of this process). AMPWG will use this path as continuing revelation as we seek to ensure all Friends, especially those who are incarcerated, have a path to membership.

After this presentation, AMPWG encourages members and attenders to conduct their own discussions on membership and what types of alternative pathways could exist for people who are isolated from or prevented from regularly attending Monthly Meetings. We invite Friends to review Faith & Practice’s entries on membership and see how your meeting’s culture uses that guidance and what may be left unaddressed in both the text and in the proposal that follows.

The following process is the first alternative pathway put together by AMPWG, presented at both 2017 Fall and 2018 Summer sessions for approval by MCC. We welcome Friends’ feedback, ideas, questions, and look forward to moving forward in discernment together about how to be more inclusive to all. Please join us in creating this path and seeing what we learn as we walk down it.

## **Proposal from Alternative Membership Pathways Working Group**

*(see minute 2018-11-27)*

### **MEMBERSHIP UNDER THE CARE OF NEW YORK YEARLY MEETING**

## **Criteria for Applying**

- Friend is actively involved in New York Yearly Meeting business, committees, communities, worship, events, or sessions;
- Friend's life circumstances make it difficult or impossible to regularly attend or find home at a Monthly Meeting (people in remote locations, caregivers, incarcerated Friends, etc.); or Friend feels as though New York Yearly Meeting is their spiritual home;
- Friend is able to give resources of time and/or money to the work of the Yearly Meeting or the entities therein (committees, Powell House, Sessions, etc.);
- Friend is committed to enter wholeheartedly into the spiritual and corporate activities of the Society and willingly assumes responsibility for both service and support as the way opens.

## **Process within Ministry Coordinating Committee**

1. The Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee of Ministry Coordinating Committee considers requests for membership under the care of New York Yearly Meeting.
2. The designee of Ministry and Pastoral Care, with the help of a well-connected Friend, considers application letters and appoints a Clearness Committee of at least three people for each applicant. When selecting Clearness Committee members, attention is paid to geography, needs of the applicant, familiarity, diversity and inclusiveness, and representation from multiple bodies within New York Yearly Meeting.
3. Should the Clearness Committee find the applicant clear for membership under the care of the Yearly Meeting, the Clearness Committee reports back to Ministry and Pastoral Care committee with their recommendation that the applicant be approved as a member under the care of the Yearly Meeting. Upon unity with the recommendation of the Clearness Committee, the Clerk of Ministry and Pastoral Care advises the clerk of Ministry Coordinating Committee and the Yearly Meeting offices to record the new Friend as

a member.

4. On final approval, the new member is welcomed appropriately and is matched with an agreed upon Friend (or two) to guide the new member. The Friend(s) are responsible for support, advice and oversight of the new member, and are expected to maintain contact with their designated Friend regularly for the first two years of membership.
5. Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee receives an annual check-in letter from the Friend and responds as led.

### **Process for Prospective Members**

1. The potential Friend seeking membership writes a letter of application addressed to the clerk of Ministry and Pastoral Care. The letter should include:
  - a. why membership under the care of NYYM is sought at this time;
  - b. why this process was selected by the applicant instead of applying through a Monthly Meeting;
  - c. how the applicant is in unity with Quaker or NYYM principles and testimonies;
  - d. ways that the applicant anticipates involvement in the Yearly Meeting;
  - e. whether the applicant is interested in being a member in perpetuity or for a set period of time; and
  - f. suggested Clearness Committee members.
2. The prospective member is contacted by Ministry and Pastoral Care, to consider the application letter and appoint a Clearness Committee of at least three people. When selecting Clearness Committee members, attention is paid to geography, needs of the applicant, familiarity, diversity and inclusiveness, and representation from multiple bodies within New York Yearly Meeting.
3. The Clearness Committee meets with the applicant (the Clearness Committee may find it necessary to meet without the prospective member at some point).
4. Should the Clearness Committee find the applicant clear for membership under the care of the Yearly Meeting, the

Clearness Committee reports back to Ministry and Pastoral Care committee with their recommendation that the applicant be approved as a member under the care of the Yearly Meeting. Upon unity with the recommendation of the Clearness Committee, the Clerk of Ministry and Pastoral Care advises the clerk of Ministry Coordinating Committee and the Yearly Meeting offices to record the new Friend as a member.

5. The new member is welcomed appropriately and is matched with a Friend (or two) to guide the new member. The Friend(s) are responsible for support, advice and oversight of the new member, and are expected to maintain contact with their designated Friend regularly for the first two years of membership.
6. The new member submits an annual check-in letter to Ministry and Pastoral Care to let them know what has been going on for the past year, whether they need any kind of specific support, or if they would like to adjust their membership status in any way.

## **Report on lawsuit against the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision regarding quarterly meetings in Green Haven Correctional Facility**

*(see minute 2018-11-35)*

### **Background**

Green Haven Prison Preparative Meeting is under the care of Poughkeepsie Monthly Meeting and is part of Nine Partners Quarterly Meeting. Beginning in 1980, full-day “quarterly meetings” were held at Green Haven Correctional Facility (“Green Haven CF”). These quarterly meetings generally lasted from the time of morning worship through mid-afternoon, and included fellowship over a meal (lunch) paid for by Friends. Similar gatherings inside other facilities under the charge of the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (“DOCCS”) occur or have occurred at Auburn,

Otisville and Sing Sing Correctional Facilities. In 2015, Green Haven CF authorities ended these gatherings on the basis that DOCCS' annual Religious Events Calendar identifies Friends as "Protestants" who can participate in a "Family Event" on Pentecost, together with the 18 other faiths designated as Protestant.

Friends made substantial, but unsuccessful, efforts to get the quarterly meetings in Green Haven CF restored. In addition, during the course of trying to resolve this concern through consultation and negotiation with DOCCS, Green Haven CF terminated the Green Haven Preparative Meeting's weekly meetings for worship with a concern for business, perhaps in retaliation. Because DOCCS has failed to address this problem, but rather has expanded the deprivation of Friends' opportunities for worship and fellowship in Green Haven CF, the members of Green Haven Prison Preparative Meeting determined to seek recognition of their rights through a lawsuit brought primarily under the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act, 42 USCS § 2000cc-1 ("RLUIPA"). This statute (similar to the Religious Freedom Restoration Act) requires governments, including DOCCS, to accommodate inmates' religious practices unless the government can prove that permitting the religious activity would jeopardize a compelling governmental interest and that there are no other ways to achieve this compelling governmental interest, which would be less harmful to the inmates' religious freedom.

At Summer Sessions, New York Yearly Meeting approved a minute to participate in the proposed lawsuit, and named Robert Martin (Bulls Head-Oswego Meeting) and Pamela Wood (Morningside Meeting) to serve as liaison for the Yearly Meeting (Minute 2018-07-46, July 27, 2018). Frederick Dettmer (Purchase Meeting) is acting as counsel pro bono. New York Yearly Meeting's Prisons Committee has agreed to cover expenses of the litigation out of its allocations from the Sharing Fund.

### **Developments Since Summer Sessions**

Over the summer, Nine Partners Quarterly Meeting, Bulls Head-Oswego Monthly Meeting and Poughkeepsie Monthly Meeting approved minutes to participate in the lawsuit, and a number of Friends (see list below) also discerned their clearness

to participate in the lawsuit as a representative of their Meeting or in their individual capacity or both.

The lawsuit was filed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York (White Plains branch) on September 18, 2018. Thereafter, the Summons and Complaint were served on the defendants, which process was completed on October 15, 2018. The Complaint is available on the NYYM website at [nyym.org/sites/default/files/FallSessions2018/ComplaintAgainstNewYorkStateDepartmentOfCorrections.pdf](http://nyym.org/sites/default/files/FallSessions2018/ComplaintAgainstNewYorkStateDepartmentOfCorrections.pdf). Defendants have been granted an extension of time to December 21, 2018 to respond to the Complaint by submitting Answers or making a motion to dismiss the Complaint or both.

The Complaint alleges that DOCCS's termination of Quarterly Meetings at Green Haven CF and the recent termination of Green Haven Prison Preparative Meeting's meetings for worship with a concern for business violate the rights of Green Haven Prison Preparative Meeting and its members and attenders, including in particular plaintiffs Yohannes ("Knowledge") Johnson and Gregory Thompson, under (1) the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act; (2) the freedom of religion clauses of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution ("*Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof....*"); (3) the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment ("*No State shall...deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.*"); (4) Article 1, Section 3 of the New York State Constitution ("*The free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship, without discrimination or preference, shall forever be allowed in this state to all human-kind....*"); and (5) Section 610 of the New York Correction Law ("*All persons who may have been or may hereafter be committed to or taken charge of by any of the institutions mentioned in this section, are hereby declared to be and entitled to the free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship, without discrimination or preference.*"). The Complaint also alleges that DOCCS's actions violate the rights of the other plaintiffs, including NYYM, under the First and Fourteenth Amendments and the New York State Constitution. The

Complaint asks the Court to direct the defendants to accommodate plaintiffs' religious practices by (i) reinstating the holding of quarterly meetings at Green Haven Correctional Facility, (ii) removing the Religious Society of Friends from the category of Protestants and celebrants of Pentecost (because that classification is used to deny the requests for quarterly meetings), (iii) reinstating meetings for worship with a concern for business at Green Haven Correctional Facility, and (iv) eliminating a DOCCS rule that limits the ability of Green Haven Prison Preparative Meeting to attract new worshippers. The Complaint also requests that the Court award plaintiffs damages, costs and attorneys fees.

The complete list of the plaintiffs is:

- Green Haven Prison Preparative Meeting - Yohannes (“Knowledge”) Johnson, individually and as Clerk of Green Haven Meeting
- Gregory Thompson, individually and as a member of Green Haven Meeting
- Nine Partners Quarterly Meeting
- Donald Badgley, individually and as Co-Clerk of Nine Partners Quarterly Meeting
- Emily Boardman, individually and as Co-Clerk of Nine Partners Quarterly Meeting
- Bulls Head-Oswego Monthly Meeting
- Carole Yvonne New, individually and as Clerk of Bulls Head-Oswego Meeting
- David Leif Anderson, individually and as Treasurer of Bulls Head-Oswego Meeting
- Poughkeepsie Monthly Meeting
- Frederick Doneit, Sr., as Treasurer of Poughkeepsie Monthly Meeting
- Julia Giordano
- Margaret L. Seely - Solange Muller
- New York Yearly Meeting

The complete list of the defendants is:

- New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision
- Anthony Annucci, DOCCS Acting Commissioner
- Jeff McKoy, DOCCS Deputy Commissioner for Program

Services

- Alicia Smith-Roberts, DOCCS Director of Ministerial, Family and Volunteer Services
- Jamie LaManna, Superintendent of Green Haven CF
- Jaifa Collado, former Deputy Superintendent of Programs at Green Haven CF
- Marlyn Kopp, Deputy Superintendent of Program Services at Green Haven CF.

October 22, 2018

Submitted by: Frederick R. Dettmer (Purchase Meeting)  
 Robert Martin (Bulls Head-Oswego Meeting)  
 Pamela Wood (Morningside Meeting)

### **Consent agenda**

*(see minute 2018-11-38)*

#### **Nominating Committee Report for Fall Sessions 2018**

<i>Officers of New York Yearly Meeting</i>		Class of 2019
Recording Clerk:	Karen Way	New Brunswick
Assistant Treasurer:	Albert Hsu	Wilton

<i>Oakwood Friends School Board</i>		Class of 2021
William Reagan	Easton	
Deborah Wood	Purchase	

#### **Ministry Coordinating Committee**

<i>Committee on Aging Concerns</i>		Class of 2019
Elizabeth Gilmore	Brooklyn	

<i>Youth Committee</i>		Class of 2019
Donald O’Keefe	Housatonic	

		Class of 2021
Kayleigh O’Keefe	Housatonic	

#### **General Services Coordinating Committee**

<i>Sessions Committee</i>		
<i>Members at Large</i>		Class of 2021
Susan Stillman	Montclair	

**Witness Coordinating Committee**

*Members at large* Class of 2021  
Leo Quirk Ithaca

*Indian Affairs Committee* Class of 2020  
Maureen Healy 15th Street

*NYS Council of Churches* Class of 2020  
Regina Haag Old Chatham

**Requests for Release:**

Arlene Reduto from Powell House Committee  
Karen Tibbals from Powell House Committee  
Judith Abraham from Indian Affairs  
Christine Japeley from Indian Affairs

**TRAVEL MINUTES**

**Renewal of a Travel Minute for Emily Provance, dated 10/14/2018**

Dear Friends,

We, the Fifteenth Street Monthly Meeting, continue to unite with Emily Provance’s discernment that she continues to be called by God to travel in the ministry.

In traveling, Emily builds connections with and between people. She’s concerned with exploring how Quaker practices from the past can help Quakers now. She tries to help people who are called to ministry grow into their roles. Traveling among Friends has started a spiritual Fire in Emily, and she wants to share that Fire with Friends everywhere. We hope that you will welcome Emily in your meeting and support her in her work while she is there.

In the Light,

Glenn Josey, Clerk, Fifteenth Street Monthly Meeting

## **Renewal of a Travel Minute for Christopher Sammond**

Poplar Ridge Friends Meeting  
1868 Poplar Ridge Road  
Poplar Ridge, NY 13139  
September 15, 2018

Christopher Sammond, a member of Poplar Ridge Monthly Meeting, carries a longstanding concern about deepening the faith and practice of Friends, especially with the respect to the gathered worship experience and vocal ministry, and he has acted on this concern in a variety of ways and in many venues. Years ago, in seminary, Christopher applied for a residency in Clinical Pastoral Education, because, to use his own words, “I knew by then that I craved working with those who really wanted to find a deeper path to God.”

In his service to New York Yearly Meeting as our General Secretary, Christopher recognized and named the spiritual gifts of those within the Yearly Meeting and beyond, releasing them not only to deepen their own Quaker faith and practice, but often strengthening the monthly meetings and in the wider world.”

Christopher rejoices in the gathering of diversified Friends in the unity of worship and in the spiritual nurture of individuals and groups. Again, in his own words, “Inviting Friends into deeper contact with the Inward Teacher...and creating a container for a group to open powerfully to the presence of the Holy Spirit has been my greatest joy.” Christopher has spent this last year in transition from his years of service as NYYM’s General Secretary, discerning his way forward. We support him as he travels on this long-standing and deeply held concern. He will continue this work with faith communities within and beyond New York Yearly Meeting, traveling with an elder whenever possible. A care and accountability committee, under Poplar Ridge Monthly Meeting’s Ministry and Counsel, is charged with the support of Christopher’s ministry. The committee meets at regular intervals with Christopher to listen, test, and discern where his ministry lies and how it is proceeding.

We expect to revisit this travel minute within one year.  
Hannah Richter, Clerk

## **Renewal of a Travel Minute for Susan (Sue) Regen**

Rochester Friends Meeting  
84 Scio Street  
Rochester, New York 14604  
September 9, 2018

Dear Friends,

Susan (Sue) Regen has a well-established concern for encouraging the practice of forgiveness a spiritual discipline. The authenticity of this work derives from its origins in Sue's persona Journey of forgiveness, and is the source of its profound impact. Since 2002 Sue has been led t support others in this work by providing a total of 68 different events as well as individual accompaniment.

During the period since the approval of her last travel minute in November 2017, she has offered workshops around the country, most recently at Friends General Conference Gathering at University of Toledo in July 2018. Many individuals continue to ask for Sue's support and counsel as they engage with forgiveness issues in their lives. Rochester Friends Meeting recognizes that the practice of forgiveness as a spiritual discipline is foundational to the Quaker testimonies of Peace and Integrity, and that it provides a deepening connection to the Divine for those who engage in the work. The Meeting has appointed an ongoing support committee and has established a fund to support this ministry. Sue travels with an elder.

We took this ministry under our care in 2006, renewed the travel minute in 2008, 2010, 2014 and 2017. Although Sue and her husband Rich moved to the D.C. area in December 2015, they remain members of Rochester meeting, and Sue's forgiveness work remains under the loving care of Rochester Friends Meeting until she is settled in a meeting that can provide spiritual direction for this work. We have renewed her minute of travel.

In peace,  
Jeffrey W. Fitts, Clerk

## **Comments in response to the request by Financial Services for guidance from the gathered Friends**

*(see minute 2018-11-43)*

One Friend expressed her confidence that the money is there. She sees three pockets: the monthly meetings, the annual appeal and the Trustee-managed investments. The children, youth and young adult field secretary is essential to monthly meetings. The individuals who are able to make much larger contributions could be asked to do so. And finally, as a last resort, consider the Trustee-managed funds.

Who would we be, and what would we do with our lives if NYYM had no money?

We were reminded that development committee has received a match of \$50,000 for new recurring contributions. There are people who are waiting to be asked. We know we don't all have the means to give more, but how do we work together to ask those who would like give? Friends are urged to bring this discussion home to our monthly meetings.

A Friend pointed out that a special fundraising effort for this one year would not support an ongoing hire or outreach efforts; the effort must be for multiple years.

One asked if we might calculate the savings in money as well as fossil fuels we could save by substituting electronic communications for meetings to reduce the amounts we spend on transportation.

A Friend reminded us that in the past we have had some large jumps in budget which we approved in faith, and that we can do it again. We have a voice that must be heard. We must hear the voices of the young people. We can't back away from this challenge. This speaks to who we are and what we are, and we must proceed in faith, not backsliding but stepping forward in faith. We need to do it for our own wholeness.

A lot of people struggle with talking about money, not just Quakers. I hear a lot of us talking from that fear response. What

if we have to cut? What if we have to lose some of this vital work. I challenge us to stop talking from a place of scarcity, and start talking from a place of abundance. If every member of NYYM could increase their donation by \$5 a month, we would close this gap. Not all of us can afford \$5 a month, but there are others who can afford \$50 or \$100 a month more. We can take on this challenge and go out and do even more.

Another idea is that Powell House is a substantial part of the NYYM budget. There may be ways that Powell House could help out with the children and youth by depending on part of their staff, until a plan could be worked out to raise funds for a full time field staff.

Early Quakers talked about carrying the weight of a ministry. We are being offered the opportunity come under the weight of the ministry we carry, and we might be thinking too small.

Every Sunday Emily sends a query to those in the Holy Experiment. “What do we need to do to heal from exclusion that has happened and continues to happen?” Let us lift up money as a form of exclusion. This work can never pit Witness vs young adults, Witness vs children. Money is a form of exclusion that young adults have felt for the last few years. They have not felt taken care of. We should not dip into our principal balance. That could do more harm than good.

In shifting from a scarcity to an abundance mindshift, we need to name and hear from the entire community. In order for us not to slip into the default way of ordering our budget, we need to name that this budget is for the care and wellbeing of our entire community.

There are small ways in which we can all help the Development Committee.

Holiday Inn, Rochester, NY  
Saturday, November 10, 2018; 10 a.m.

**NEW YORK YEARLY MEETING**  
**SPRING SESSIONS**  
**April 5–7, 2019**

Oakwood School, Poughkeepsie, NY  
Saturday 10 a.m., April 6, 2019

*Jeffrey Aaron (New Brunswick), Clerk*  
*Elaine Learnard (Conscience Bay), Assistant Clerk*  
*Karen Reixach (Ithaca), Recording Clerk*  
*Willow Bennison (Brooklyn and Oakwood Friends School),*  
*Reading Clerk*

2019-04-01. The meeting centered in worship. The clerk welcomed Friends and offered a reflections on leadings (see page 57). He concluded, *“May words of the Spirit be spoken; may words of the Spirit be heard.”* The clerk then introduced the individuals at the clerks’ table and welcomed visitors: Hazel Powless, Oneida Nation Bear Clan, elder to the Indian Affairs Committee, and Ashleigh Dodd from Orlando, Florida, who has attended NYYM Summer Sessions and is a healer.

2019-04-02. Don Badgley (Poughkeepsie) welcomed Friends on behalf of the Host Task Group and Nine Partners Quarterly Meeting. He counseled us to listen to messages from the Spirit. He invited Friends to attend the Nine Partners gathering, May 5, opening with worship at 10:30 and program “Roots of Injustice, Seeds of Change” at noon, with Buffy Curtis and Liseli Haines as presenters.

2019-04-03. Chad Cianfrani, Head of Oakwood Friends School, warmly welcomed Friends and offered a brief message on the connection of the School with NYYM and with Quaker values.

2019-04-04. Buffy Curtis (Mohawk Valley MM) acknowledged the original inhabitants—the Waping or Wappinger and Mahican—and noted the negative impacts of the Salt Water people (Europeans) on these nations. She offered gratitude for the native nations endurance, gifts, and continuing care of the land today. Her remarks are attached; see page 58.

2019-04-05. The reading clerk read the roll of regions, monthly meetings and worship groups. Friends stood as their meetings were called. All regions were represented.

2019-04-06. Emily Provance (15th Street) and Joe Garren (Brooklyn) described the Creating Generous Congregations workshop at Powell House, August 16-18, 2019, and urged Friends to take advantage of this opportunity. Emily provided background: NYYM is dual affiliated with Friends General Conference and with Friends United Meeting. She and Joe are representatives to FUM, which is affiliated with a Mennonite group, Everance. The organization has been developing programs on the relation of Spirit to money. Joe Garren observed that Everance helped Pendle Hill turn around its finances.

2019-04-07. The clerk introduced Bridget Bower (Perry City), clerk of General Services Coordinating Committee, who brought forward the business of the section.

2019-04-08. Laura Cisar (New Brunswick), NYYM treasurer, reviewed the financial status of the Yearly Meeting as of December 31, 2018 (See page 72 of the printed 2019 Advance (Annual) Reports, available at meetinghouses, or page 39 of the PDF at [nyym.org/sites/default/files/2019-NYYM-AdvanceReports.pdf](http://nyym.org/sites/default/files/2019-NYYM-AdvanceReports.pdf)). She reported that in 2018 95% of income was received and slightly over 100% of budgeted expenses were incurred. The budget shortfall was \$35,194.76, largely due to a deposit to Silver Bay YMCA for summer sessions. She noted that the footnotes are now at the bottom of the sections and explained the report on the Sharing Fund and the designated use funds.

She explained the draft of the financial report for March 2019. The income for Silver Bay (contributions and goods and services) is significantly larger because of the changes related to Pay-as-Led. Covenant donations from meetings stand at 12%, which is lower than at this time last year. Financial reports for each month are posted on the website.

2019-04-09. Mary Harpster (Rahway & Plainfield), clerk of Financial Services Committee (FSC), provided an overview of the process of developing the 2019 budget. At 2018 Summer Sessions the body approved hiring a full-time staff person,

along with a number of local coordinators, to work with youth and young adults and directed Financial Services to include this position in the 2019 budget. In recommending this new position, Personnel estimated the increase to the yearly meeting budget to go from two part-time employees to one full-time, with related expenses, would be approximately \$50,000. In actuality, once the budget was fully analyzed, the increases turned out to total \$135,000 in 2019, with increases every year thereafter.

FSC drafted a proposed 2019 budget as directed. In order to cover the projected increase, it was recommended that funds be drawn down from the invested funds of the yearly meeting. This budget was presented at Fall Sessions but was withdrawn, as there was discomfort with drawing down the invested funds. Financial Services Committee was asked to discern further.

Because the proposed budget was withdrawn, the process for developing an interim budget until Spring Sessions was triggered. That budget basically continued the 2018 budget with a few tweaks. The interim budget has continued until Spring Sessions, at which time Financial Service Committee is presenting a new budget.

2019-04-10. Mary Harpster offered considerations regarding income and expenses that shaped the revision of the proposed 2019 budget:

- Income from monthly meetings is essentially flat, based on information provided by the constituent meetings of our yearly meeting. Contributions from individuals has grown over the last decade with the establishment of the Development Committee, but is not projected to continue to grow at the same rate. With Pay as Led, Sessions income is hard to predict and could have a possible significant negative impact on our ultimate bottom line. There is approximately \$1 million in unrestricted invested trust fund principal that could be liquidated to fund operations. However, this principal currently creates \$58,000 in income towards operating expenses. Liquidating principal would reduce this annual income forever.
- Discretionary increases to expenses have been minimal. The big increase over 2018 is from the Summer Sessions

contract. Since we do not know how Pay as Led will go, we have budgeted to break even (see Summer Sessions Payment under income). At the request of Ministry Coordinating Committee (MCC) there is a \$2500 increase to Powell House in lieu of the requested \$5000; MCC also reviewed their budget and provided cuts to other lines to partially fund this request as well as using about \$1,000 from Meeting Visitation Fund.

- Outreach Working Group line, which is no longer a working group, contains funds to undertake the next steps recommended by the working group. Manhasset MM has pledged three years of funding towards this project. This is in addition to what is in the YM's budget.

2019-04-11. Based on the lack of any increase in income sufficient to pay for the new position, and taking into account the uncertainty of Pay as Led, Financial Services Committee recommends that the new position not be included in the 2019 budget. Work is underway by staff and committees to find ways to do some of the work of this new position within the current budget and resources. Conversations continue about finding the funds for this position.

2019-04-12. The clerk then invited affirmations and concerns from the body.

Friends addressed the decision at Summer Sessions that approved a position for a children and youth secretary. The clerk observed that the decision was made outside the budget process; we are now facing issues that we have not encountered before. Mary indicated that FSC is working toward this goal, and this decision implies a \$350,000 cost over three years. Is this a \$350,000 problem or a \$350,000 opportunity? What is our priority? Could we re-designate income? Would Friends contribute more if we took a chance and funded this program? Are we living in terms of risk vs abundance? Why are we equating this issue with finding money; does this separate rather than unite the body? If we are led as a body, we may need to release current ministries. Once we know the impact of Pay as Led, might we have greater certainty and be better able to entertain fully funding this program? Friends were invited to sit with the

experience of change.

2019-04-13. The clerk observed that we are not yet in unity on the 2019 budget. He reminded Friends that if we are not able to approve a 2019 budget, the interim budget based on 2018 will continue until Summer Sessions. Friends will have the opportunity to discuss the budget and program further at a subsequent session.

2019-04-14. Mary Harpster indicated that Financial Services has started to think about the 2020 budget.

- \$20,400 in trust fund income is no longer restricted. Conversations are occurring with the affected committees and organizations, as promised at Fall Sessions, to discern the right result for each one and the yearly meeting.
- Timing of budgeting process for 2020. FSC may make changes to the process to allow more time for discernment and feedback before Fall Sessions.

2019-04-15. Reading and approval of minutes occurred as the meeting progressed. The reading clerk read announcements. The meeting closed with waiting worship.

Oakwood School, Poughkeepsie, New York  
Saturday 1:40 p.m., April 6, 2019

*Jeffrey Aaron (New Brunswick), Clerk*  
*Elaine Learnard (Conscience Bay), Assistant Clerk*  
*Karen Way (New Brunswick), Recording Clerk*  
*Robin Alpern (Amawalk), Reading Clerk*

2019-04-16. The meeting opened with quiet worship.

2019-04-17. Clerk Jeffrey Aaron welcomed Friends and introduced the clerks' table. He shared a message he heard from a Friend about creating a loving community. It may be hard, said the Friend, but "my mother always told me: 'You can do hard things.'" Jeffrey then reviewed the changed agenda for the day.

2019-04-18. Emily Provance (15th Street), clerk of Ministry Coordinating Committee, introduced Maddy Kelly (Old Chatham) who described her recent experience at the Friends

Committee on National Legislation Spring Training and Lobby Weekend in Washington DC. The Powell House delegation of six youth and two adults attended in-depth training about immigration and the US southern border, listening to personal stories from those who had experienced policy directly. In Washington, they were able to meet with Representative Antonio Delgado and others. They got to know the city and the halls of Congress. Overall, they found the weekend informative, exciting, and empowering.

2019-04-19. The clerkship was changed to Elaine Learnard in order to prepare for a first reading of a *Faith and Practice* revision to create a path to membership with the yearly meeting itself. Elaine added that membership will be the topic for the meeting for discernment at Summer Sessions.

2019-04-20. Emily Provance introduced Jennifer Swann (South Berkshire NEYM, attending 15th Street) and Marissa Badgley (Poughkeepsie), co-clerks of the Alternative Membership Pathways Working Group. They reviewed the history of the working group (attached, page 59). Beginning with Summer Sessions in 2016, AMPWG has explored the history of membership from the beginning of Quakerism until now, noting the changed living and social situations of seekers in the present. The group explored the actual practices in monthly meetings, and gathered extensive information on barriers faced by potential Friends who cannot connect with a local meeting. Barriers include frequent travel, incarceration, distance to a local meeting, scheduling conflicts, caretaking duties, and inability of a local meeting to speak to a person's spiritual condition. In conjunction with the Friends Center for Racial Justice, AMPWG also asked "Knowing that racism has always impacted membership, how do we invent new pathways?"

In developing a new pathway, AMPWG identified ways in which an applicant could demonstrate involvement and commitment to the life of New York Yearly Meeting. The group also identified people and committees in the yearly meeting who could support the new member of the yearly meeting going forward. AMPWG produced a summary listing (1) criteria for applying, (2) the process within the Ministry Coordi-

nating Committee to determine clearness, and (3) the process as experienced by the prospective member (attached, page 62.) AMPWG then collaborated with the Committee to Revise *Faith and Practice* to draft new paragraphs in the membership section of *F&P*.

2019-04-21. Carolyn Emerson (Conscience Bay) gave a first reading of the revised sentences and new passages in *F&P* that define the practice for managing membership through New York Yearly Meeting (attached, page 65.)

Friends spoke in response with questions about the details of the proposed process. Some Friends greeted this change warmly. Another Friend expressed concern that we have not thought through the consequences of this change—for example, there would now be Friends with no monthly meeting to provide religious education, or clearness committees, or memorial services. Another predicted that the new practice would evolve in unforeseeable positive ways, stating that “Membership is a spiritual change that has nothing to do with technicalities.”

As a first reading, this proposal does not require approval.

2019-04-22. Jeffrey Aaron resumed clerkship. He commented on unity of the body of the meeting, which persists through discussion and disagreement. He emphasized the need to listen quietly when someone else is speaking, rather than seeking the clerk’s attention before they are done.

2019-04-23. We returned to the business of considering the budget for 2019. Friends would like to be able to fund a new staff program to support youth and young adults, but there is not enough money in the current budget. Some Friends spoke of spending versus investment; others wondered what we need to sacrifice. Jeffrey spoke of needing a third way. On one hand, we need to be free to find our hearts again, but we also have causes and people who depend on us. Perhaps we are not clear yet about what we really need. But we know there are young adults waiting to find out what we will say. We were reminded that in Summer Sessions 2018 we directed Financial Services to bring us a budget that would support the position we envisioned. For now, we rest in the discomfort of wanting what we cannot yet have, committed nevertheless to seeking the third way outside

this room, through committees, conversations, and monthly meetings. The work continues.

2019-04-24. Minutes were read, corrected, and approved in stages during the session.

2019-04-25. Meeting closed in quiet worship.

Oakwood School, Poughkeepsie, New York  
Sunday morning, April 7, 2019

*Jeffrey Aaron (New Brunswick), Clerk*  
*Elaine Learnard (Conscience Bay), Assistant Clerk*  
*Mary Eagleson (Scarsdale), Recording Clerk*  
*Malcolm Condon (Oakwood), Reading Clerk*

2019-04-26. The meeting opened with a period of waiting worship.

2019-04-27. The clerk welcomed those present, saying it is springtime, and he sees a garden of flowers, all different shapes and colors, all beautiful. He introduced those at the clerks' table.

2019-04-28. Anne Pomeroy read a travel minute for Don Badgley (attached, page 66), who is traveling in the ministry to share the good news of experiential faith, both within Friends and beyond. The travel minute was brought by his monthly meeting, Poughkeepsie. Ministry was offered affirming Don's gifts as a speaker. Friends instructed the clerk to endorse the travel minute.

2019-04-29. Mary Harpster, clerk of Financial Services Committee, brought a recommendation from FSC that the 2019 budget presented yesterday be approved. Financial Services Committee is moving forward with the 2020 budget, having heard the concern expressed yesterday that it should include provision for hiring a children, youth, and young adult field secretary. It is the opinion of the committee that the 2019 budget presented to us is better than the interim budget on which the YM has operated since the beginning of this year. The budget was approved (see page 79 of the printed 2019 Advance (Annual) Reports, available at meetinghouses, or [nyym.org/content/nyym-budget-2019](http://nyym.org/content/nyym-budget-2019)).

2019-04-30. The clerk presented for consideration a recommendation of the Liaison Committee concerning consent agendas (attached, page 67.) The process was never approved by the body; it was adopted from the business community for the sake of convenience. Jeffrey mentioned a concern with the name we use for the practice. We do not approve agendas, and it is a list, not an agenda. The proposal from Liaison is that the list of items should be called “seasoned business items.” It should be prepared by the clerk and published in time for its consideration before the beginning of Spring and Fall Sessions. At Summer Sessions, there will be two lists: seasoned business items and seasoned nominations. The former will be made available by Tuesday of Summer Sessions, and the latter by Thursday.

Jeffrey suggested that the idea was being presented so that any objections that might arise could be addressed by making changes. One concern was that the process would be confusing for those who were not already familiar with the process; another was the timing. The suggested times might not leave enough time for Friends to consider the items carefully. Finally, we need to discern clearly what kind of items we as a body are willing to have on a seasoned list, and which need discernment in the meeting for business. A Friend suggested that if the “seasoned” items were on the list, some might consider it appropriate to bring unseasoned items directly to the body. There was approval for proceeding with the experiment outlined by the report. It remains open to continuing input and discernment.

2019-04-31. Emily Provance, clerk of Ministry Coordinating Committee (MCC), spoke of the ministry of Rebecca Schillenback of Poplar Ridge. She explained the yearly meeting’s process of recording gifts in ministry. The purpose is to recognize that a Friend holds gifts in ministry which are for the community.

Emily read the following letter from Rebecca’s clearness committee to MCC:

Dear Friends,

The Committee to Record Rebecca Schillenback’s Gifts in Ministry in NYYM has completed its work, and joyfully recommends that Rebecca’s gifts in ministry be affirmed and recorded.

Serving on Rebecca’s committee were Astuti Bijlefeld (Central

Finger Lakes Monthly Meeting), Ruth Ann Bradley (Poplar Ridge Monthly Meeting) and Kathy Slattery (Orchard Park Friends Meeting), serving as clerk. Astuti and Kathy took the opportunity to first meet Rebecca at Farmington Scipio Spring Gathering on May 19, 2018, to begin to know each other and the recording process. Ruth Ann was not able to be at this meeting, but has had a long relationship with Rebecca in Poplar Ridge Meeting. In May, Rebecca was just completing her studies at Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School; she graduated with honors in May 2018 with a Masters of Divinity.

Rebecca's support committee at Poplar Ridge had helped her discern her way forward to attend divinity school while balancing family life with her husband and young sons, and also leading worship at Poplar Ridge once a month. Rebecca is always carefully discerning her way forward in her path of ministry, and is grateful for the help and support of her home community and family.

Rebecca's Committee to Record met again at Poplar Ridge on June 13, where all four of us deepened our conversation around ministry and gifts. More information on spiritual path, course of study and practical experience, questions and growing edges were shared both in person and in follow-up emails.

We heard from the Poplar Ridge community about their long-standing relationship with Rebecca and their understanding of her particular gifts in an informal conversation with Rebecca's Committee to Record following worship led by Rebecca on September 16, 2018, where we had an opportunity to hear her bring the message. Some 30 persons from the Poplar Ridge community stayed after worship; everyone spoke. Several persons spoke of Rebecca's maturation over the years and how privileged Friends felt to be a part of nurturing her growth and the coming to fruition of her calling as a minister.

- We heard of Rebecca's love of her family, and of her capacity to draw lessons and metaphors from her own life experience in searching for connections and deeper spiritual guidance.
- We heard of the vibrancy of images in her stories that makes them so memorable, and how she so skillfully weaves them together with scripture and contemporary wisdom which delivers a message that stays with you.
- We heard that she is approachable, she reaches out; even a person on her clearness committee found that Rebecca had

guided her.

- We heard that feeling the pain of the world, for Rebecca, is modulated by the light showing through in a stream of optimism.
- We heard an appreciation of Rebecca's mystical nature, seeing the divine everywhere; moreover, she has the gift to express what she sees eloquently, merging scripture with the new, ancient wisdom with the contemporary.
- We heard that Rebecca is kind; has deep humility; intelligence; a love of learning and scholarship.
- We heard in different words how Rebecca is openhearted, genuine and authentic, and willing to share of herself.

The Committee to Record also heard from Rebecca, in a separate meeting. We heard of her gratitude for finding the best path of service for her capacities, and her love of the Poplar Ridge Meeting community and the opportunities she has had for ministry (also interning at Hospice, and Bible Study at NYYM Summer Sessions 2018). We heard, too, of the tension between a call to ministry and a need to contribute financial support for her family. She is living into the question of where her ministry will take her. Rebecca understands, as do we, that being recorded in the Religious Society of Friends is an important recognition as she continues her calling to the ministry.

We all feel blessed to have had this opportunity to meet and worship deeply together, and to have been part of Rebecca's process. We all look forward to continuing our friendship and support of Rebecca, whatever shape that takes in the future.

At Coordinating Committee Weekend, MCC recorded Rebecca's gifts in ministry and appointed a support committee for her.

2019-04-32. The minutes were approved to this point.

2019-04-33. Pamela Wood gave a brief report on the Greenhaven Prison lawsuit. At Summer Sessions, the yearly meeting approved joining the men in the Greenhaven Preparatory Meeting in suing the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) to reinstate their business and quarterly meetings. On March 29, Fred Dettmer, as counsel, filed a motion for a preliminary injunction that would immediately reinstate the business and quarterly meetings.

Fred underlined the need for volunteer Friends from outside

the prison to join the business and quarterly meetings. DOCCS offered a settlement consisting of daytime business meetings on weekdays, but counsel's opinion is that they need to be in the evenings to accommodate Friends from the outside. Quarterly meetings should be held on weekends, for the same reason. For those reasons, the plaintiffs have not accepted the settlement offer.

2019-04-34. The clerk read two items from Nominating Committee. Friends received a request for release from service on the Friends United Meeting (FUM) Board from Beverly Archibald, Manhattan Monthly Meeting, class of 2019. The appointment of Gabrielle Savory Bailey, Chatham-Summit Monthly Meeting to the FUM Board, class of 2019 was approved.

2019-04-35. The clerk reported on two interim actions taken since Fall Sessions. First, we received a request from the New York State Council of Churches (NYSCOC) to sign on to a petition for bail, discovery and speedy trial reform, and this was done by the clerk and general secretary.

Second, in response to the recent massacre in the mosque in Christchurch, New Zealand, our clerk and general secretary sent a letter to the Christchurch Monthly Meeting. The clerk read this letter (attached, page 69.) A response has been received. Friends expressed gratitude for the witness this letter represents, and asked that the letter be shared with the rest of the yearly meeting. Friends directed the clerk to do so. Another suggested that we should, if such occasions arise in future, also send condolences to the congregation affected, in addition to reaching out to the local Friends' meeting. A Friend noted that the Christchurch incident was widely covered by the media, but within the last couple of weeks, a Quaker meeting in Michigan experienced the arrest of their pastor for a serious crime. This has not been widely publicized, but that meeting must be deeply traumatized, and no one is responding.

The clerk observed that the need for such letters is frequent, and that the responsibility for discerning when letters are needed should not fall on the leadership alone. He asked Friends' support in this ministry.

2019-04-36. Melanie-Claire Mallison, Ithaca, presented the

final report from Sessions Committee: She thanked the host task group for their wonderful work in organizing and carrying out these sessions. She also thanked the hosts who had offered home hospitality, Oakwood Friends School, and Nine Partners Quarterly Meeting. There were 118 participants, all adults.

She reminded us that Summer Sessions this year will be pay-as-led. The deadline for registration is May 15, and payment is needed by June 15. After May 15, the minimum pay-as-led rate may not be available. It is true that registration is possible up to the very end of the Summer Sessions, but it will not be pay-as-led.

2019-04-37. The remaining minutes were approved. Announcements followed.

# ATTACHMENTS

## **Clerk's Opening Message Spring Sessions 2019**

*(see minute 2019-04-01)*

At my regional gathering last Saturday, a Friend made a presentation concerning the environmental crisis facing humanity. Based on in depth, peer review scientific analysis that he secured through his activism, we were informed how humanity can resolve the frightening global warming problems we are facing. We were told at the beginning of the presentation that there are real, viable answers and that one of them is NOT a sense of despair. We were then presented with the list of 80 goals to work toward as individuals and as a society, in order of effectiveness.

The presentation was highly professional including documentation and resources. But what it brought to my mind in particular was the good works that Friends do and have done for humanity throughout our entire history, disproportionate to our small numbers. The work of this Friend was the result of a leading. We see many powerful leadings in the work of many Friends, both in committee work and as individuals. The world is a better place because of Friends. That said, we are imperfect beings and we have stumbled. We lament the fact that it took early Friends decades to pass a minute in opposition to slavery among our own membership and we are still struggling to rid ourselves of the remnants of racism in our own community and in the world at large. But we are facing that struggle and many more, laboring to learn how best to move forward. We teach and uplift each other and we teach and uplift others; our influence is critical in this harsh world. We hold that awareness in our hearts as we face our own institutional difficulties and hard choices. New York Yearly Meeting, including dozens of local meetings, is a place where the divine spark leads to holy work. We celebrate together as we work to make our entire YM stronger and more effective.

A wise Friend among us has said at the opening of some meetings, "May words of the Spirit be spoken; may words of the Spirit be heard."

## **Acknowledgement of Original Inhabitants of the Land**

*(see minute 2019-04-04)*

With humility, we wish to acknowledge and give thanks to the original peoples of this land upon which we reside today—the Wapping or Wappinger and Mahican Nations—who tended and loved this land for over 400 generations before we arrived. Also known as the Highland Indians or the Long Reach Indians, their care of the forests, fields, waters, river, and all wildlife, sustained all beings in a symbiotic and thriving relationship. These “People of the East” have left words that speak their names today:

Mohonk — greatest of rocks

Nayanoch — where water flows out

Asho-okan — strong rapids

The Hudson, the tidal river they called Mough-hikan-ituck—the ever-flowing river, or the river that flows both ways—provided food and transportation for their dugout canoes and trade with their thousands of Indigenous neighbors who thrived along these waterways; the Lenape, Mohawk, Munsee/Unami, and Tappan, to name a few.

Following the arrival of the “Swannekins”—the salt water people, as the Europeans were known—capture, disease, wars, and displacement reduced their populations to near extinction within 100 years. Despite their efforts to tenaciously hold on to their homelands, those left alive were forced to join the Eastern Exodus moving further and further West—or were absorbed by other Indigenous nations, thus “disappearing!”

And yet, today, their resilience and fortitude are seen in the resurgence of their culture, traditional ways, ceremonies, dance, music and crafts. Pow Wow festivals are celebrated seasonally bringing education and cultural community to all. They reside here, among us still, our neighbors in all walks of life.

For their enduring courage and power to survive, for their many gifts and the care of this land—may we give deep and abiding Thanks!

*—Buffy Curtis*

## **Background: Alternative Membership Pathways Working Group**

(see minute 2019-04-19)

The Alternative Membership Pathways Working Group (AMPWG), under the care of Ministry Coordinating Committee (MCC), began out of a 2016 Summer Sessions discussion about the importance to individuals of membership in the Religious Society of Friends. Friends of different age ranges and walks of life spoke to barriers they faced in acquiring traditional membership. In response, the AMPWG was instituted to discern pathways to membership. What we seek is the opportunity to embrace, nurture, and provide accountability to those we do not currently consider for membership.

AMPWG began by reviewing the history of Friends membership. In the 1600s, identification as a Friend was through declaration of an inward connection with the Light (God) and no formal membership existed. Formal membership was created in 1737 to ensure careful attention to each Friend's welfare. It was limited to those who were an active part of the faith. Formal listing provided the basis for Committees for Sufferings on behalf of persecuted Friends. Formalized membership sought to prevent ranterism, ensuring leadings would be tested and corporately discerned. Cradle-rolls and birthright membership were very much a part of Friends meetings but are no longer maintained in most Monthly Meetings.

AMPWG took this background information and delved into the current landscape of Friend's membership within NYYM. It focused on reviewing the *Faith & Practice* membership process and reached out to a wide variety of members and attenders both online and at many Friends' gatherings, over the last few years, to obtain people's stories. The working group met an abundance of folks eager to be a part of who we are or remain within despite a variety of life situations. An AMPWG email account additionally welcomed diverse personal accounts of those who had membership successes or difficulties. In June 2017, an article was published in *Friends Journal* presenting viewpoints toward membership with a call for stories from readers. Those submitted were added to the group's discern-

ment base. A Powell House weekend of roughly 30 people in June 2017 brought together representatives from three different yearly meetings to reflect on and re-envision membership pathways through centered worship, activities, and small group sessions. The AMPWG additionally facilitated worship sharing at the Friends Center for Racial Justice, holding space for Friends in Western NY, with questions such as: “Knowing that racism has always impacted membership, how do we invent new pathways?” Finally, AMPWG has also received feedback from the Attica Friends Worship Group, exploring ways that Friends can more fully support and include incarcerated Friends.

Some of the most important observations made by the working group include: The established *Faith & Practice* membership process does not bear similarity to early Friends’ membership processes during the latter half of the 1600s to the early 1700s, monthly meetings of today do not consistently follow the membership process delineated in *Faith & Practice*, and there has been no significant attention paid to marginalized communities in our society to make those within them feel welcome in membership.

Taking into account this knowledge, the AMPWG worked to identify barriers that exist for those who are seeking to either join Quakerism or remain in it, but are isolated from, or unable to attend, regular monthly meetings. Some of the barriers uncovered include incarceration, differences in culture, scheduling conflicts, distance, caretaking duties, and inability of a local meeting to speak to a person’s spiritual condition. AMPWG concluded from this gathering of stories that there needs to be a new process beyond the one that currently stands and then began drafting one.

While that draft was underway, Friends approached the working group with concerns about creation of alternate pathways to membership. They expressed worry about how these new Friends could be active within our community, how they could assist in serving it, and how they would provide financial support (when able). The group incorporated these concerns into clearness for membership to ensure the community would be well served in this capacity by new Friends. Special attention was paid to financial support because while Friends are usually

reluctant to monetize membership, support is critical when it can be obtained.

AMPWG was also made aware of concerns related to spiritual nurture. People expressed concerns centered around the idea that a pathway to membership, directly through the yearly meeting, would mean new members could not build necessary relationships with Friends. The working group spent time with the Yearly Meeting Ministry Coordinating Committee to ensure this nurture would be given space and attention and emphasis would be put upon it in the membership process through increased diligence.

Because Friends traditionally lived and worked in towns and communities of Friends and often moved as a group to new locations, the challenges of today did not exist. We are at a time in Friends history in which we see new generations rising up as well as new ways of living and family dynamics. New social realities have developed in such numbers that we feel deeply lead to communicate their essence to New York Friends. Today communities of all types are charged with re-evaluating aspects of their structures—due to the radical changes that have arisen in our world.

None of these concerns are particularly new to Quakerism. In 1656, Richard Farnsworthy and William Dewsbury of Balby Meeting in Yorkshire offered the following suggestions, noting difficulties then that are common now:

That the particular meetings by all the children of Light, be duly kept and observed, where they be already settled, every first-day of the week; except they be moved to other places. And that general meetings be kept in order and sweet in the life of God, on some other day of the week than on the First-day, unless there be a moving to the contrary: that so in the light and life, the meetings may be kept, to the praise of God.”

As the Epistle then noted: “these things we do not lay upon you as a rule or form to walk by; but that all, with a measure of the light, which is pure and holy, may be guided: and so in the light walking and abiding, these things may be fulfilled in the Spirit, not in the letter, for the letter killeth, but the Spirit giveth life.”

The first reading that you are about to hear from *Faith and Practice* offers a direct membership in a wider fellowship of Quakers in NYYM, which would be led by a yearly meeting

committee, and members so accepted would be cleared and then cared for by groups established by the Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee, to include such members as could provide oversight and support.

Please help us in creating this path and learning as we walk down it. We firmly believe we are charged with ensuring access to our beloved community and to provide attentiveness to the needs of all Quaker peoples.

## **Membership Under the Care of New York Yearly Meeting**

### *Proposal from Alternative Membership Pathways Working Group*

*(See minute 2019-04-19)*

#### **Criteria for Applying**

- Friend is actively involved in New York Yearly Meeting business, committees, communities, worship, events, or sessions;
- Friend's life circumstances make it difficult or impossible to regularly attend or find home at a monthly meeting (people in remote locations, caregivers, incarcerated Friends, etc.); or Friend feels as though New York Yearly Meeting is their spiritual home;
- Friend is able to give resources of time and/or money to the work of the yearly meeting or the entities therein (committees, Powell House, Sessions, etc.);
- Friend is committed to enter wholeheartedly into the spiritual and corporate activities of the Society and willingly assumes responsibility for both service and support as the way opens.

#### **Process within Ministry Coordinating Committee**

1. The Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee of Ministry Coordinating Committee considers requests for membership under the care of New York Yearly Meeting.

2. The designee of Ministry and Pastoral Care, with the help of a well-connected Friend, considers application letters and appoints a Clearness Committee of at least three people for each applicant. When selecting Clearness Committee members, attention is paid to geography, needs of the applicant, familiarity, diversity and inclusiveness, and representation from multiple bodies within New York Yearly Meeting.
3. Should the Clearness Committee find the applicant clear for membership under the care of the yearly meeting, the Clearness Committee reports back to Ministry and Pastoral Care committee with their recommendation that the applicant be approved as a member under the care of the yearly meeting. Upon unity with the recommendation of the Clearness Committee, the Clerk of Ministry and Pastoral Care advises the clerk of Ministry Coordinating Committee and the yearly meeting offices to record the new Friend as a member.
4. On final approval, the new member is welcomed appropriately and is matched with an agreed upon Friend (or two) to guide the new member. The Friend(s) are responsible for support, advice and oversight of the new member, and are expected to maintain contact with their designated Friend regularly for the first two years of membership.
5. Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee receives an annual check-in letter from the Friend and responds as led.

### **Process for Prospective Members**

1. The potential Friend seeking membership writes a letter of application addressed to the clerk of Ministry and Pastoral Care. The letter should include:
  - a. why membership under the care of NYYM is sought at this time;
  - b. why this process was selected by the applicant instead of applying through a monthly meeting;
  - c. how the applicant is in unity with Quaker or NYYM principles and testimonies;

- d. ways that the applicant anticipates involvement in the yearly meeting;
  - e. whether the applicant is interested in being a member in perpetuity or for a set period of time; and
  - f. suggested Clearness Committee members.
2. The prospective member is contacted by Ministry and Pastoral Care, to consider the application letter and appoint a Clearness Committee of at least three people. When selecting Clearness Committee members, attention is paid to geography, needs of the applicant, familiarity, diversity and inclusiveness, and representation from multiple bodies within New York Yearly Meeting.
  3. The Clearness Committee meets with the applicant (the Clearness Committee may find it necessary to meet without the prospective member at some point).
  4. Should the Clearness Committee find the applicant clear for membership under the care of the yearly meeting, the Clearness Committee reports back to Ministry and Pastoral Care committee with their recommendation that the applicant be approved as a member under the care of the yearly meeting. Upon unity with the recommendation of the Clearness Committee, the Clerk of Ministry and Pastoral Care advises the clerk of Ministry Coordinating Committee and the yearly meeting offices to record the new Friend as a member.
  5. The new member is welcomed appropriately and is matched with a Friend (or two) to guide the new member. The Friend(s) are responsible for support, advice and oversight of the new member, and are expected to maintain contact with their designated Friend regularly for the first two years of membership.
  6. The new member submits an annual check-in letter to Ministry and Pastoral Care to let them know what has been going on for the past year, whether they need any kind of specific support, or if they would like to adjust their membership status in any way.

## **Proposed Revision to *Faith and Practice***

*(See minute 2019-04-21)*

### **Membership through New York Yearly Meeting, First Reading, Spring 2019**

*\*Changes and additions to Faith and Practice appear in italics.*

p.111 Membership in a monthly meeting includes[...] *Membership through New York Yearly Meeting includes membership to NYYM, FUM, and FGC.*

p. 112 Monthly and executive meetings *and New York Yearly Meeting have the authority to admit individuals to membership in the Religious Society of Friends.*

p. 113 Follow SOJOURNING MEMBERSHIP with : *MEMBERSHIP THROUGH NEW YORK YEARLY MEETING. The prospective member is actively involved in New York Yearly Meeting business, committees, communities, worship, events, or sessions. Sometimes life circumstances make it difficult or impossible to regularly attend or join a monthly meeting: reasons include, but are not limited to, those living in remote locations, caregivers, incarcerated persons, or those not finding a spiritual home in an adjacent monthly meeting. Those seeking membership should be prepared to give resources of time and/or money and participate in the work of the yearly meeting or its committees, task groups, Sessions, and Powell House. A commitment to enter wholeheartedly into the spiritual and corporate activities of the Society and to assume responsibility, as way opens, is expected.*

p. 113 *APPLICATION FOR MONTHLY MEETING MEMBERSHIP.* Replace “overseers” in several places with “*ministry and pastoral care*”

p. 115 *APPLICATION FOR NEW YORK YEARLY MEETING FOR MEMBERSHIP. The prospective Friend should write a letter addressed to the clerk of Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee of New York Yearly Meeting stating the reasons for joining the Religious Society of Friends and why membership under the care of New York Yearly Meeting is sought at this time, rather than monthly meeting membership. The letter should include how the applicant is in unity with Friends testimonies and principles, and how the applicant envisions being involved in New York Yearly Meeting.*

*A designee of Ministry and Pastoral Care and at least one other Friend, with broad connections to the Yearly Meeting, will consider*

*the application letter and appoint a Clearness Committee of at least three people. If the applicant is recommended for membership by the Clearness Committee and the Pastoral Care Committee subsequently unites with that recommendation, the Clerk of Ministry and Pastoral Care will advise the clerk of Ministry Coordinating Committee and the Yearly Meeting office to record the new Friend as a member. Ministry Coordinating Committee may appoint a welcoming committee.*

p.115 TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP: When a *yearly meeting body with the authority for membership* receives a request for transfer from one of its members, *Ministry and Pastoral Care* or the meeting on ministry and counsel should carefully inquire into the condition of the member's religious and temporal affairs. If, on such inquiry, it seems proper to do so, *the meeting or committee should direct its clerk to issue a minute of transfer and promptly forward it to the clerk of Ministry and Pastoral Care (for yearly meeting membership) or to the clerk of a monthly meeting.*

## **Travel Minute for Don Badgley**

*(See minute 2019-04-28)*

Don Badgley, a member in good standing at Poughkeepsie Meeting, has brought forward a calling to continue his travels in ministry to share the Good News of Experiential Faith. This ministry comes from a deeply personal spiritual center. His leading is to do outreach among Friends and in communities beyond Friends so to share the Experience of his Faith. Don hopes to encourage other Friends to find more ways to express to the world their Experiences of the Divine Light and to reach others by pointing to the Divine Source that is available to all.

Don has been traveling in the ministry for more than five years with the understanding that as Friends we are called to preach and share the Truth we discern under the guidance of the Divine Light. He will continue to travel as led in waiting worship and by invitation. We commend him to your care.

Poughkeepsie Meeting supports Don in his leading to travel in this ministry. The meeting understands that the content of his ministry will evolve as he continues to discern his leading. The meeting and Don's Anchor Committee continue to encourage Don to diligently seek and follow the Leading of the Spirit

during this ministry. The meeting also encourages those who receive this ministry to do so with the same diligence in seeking to discern where the Spirit may be leading them as individuals and as communities. We invite you to let us know of Don's service by endorsing this minute below.

Yours faithfully for Poughkeepsie Friend Meeting,  
Jean Doneit, clerk

## **Proposed Changes to the Consent Agenda Process**

*(See minute 2019-04-30)*

### **Background**

1. Concerns about the title "consent agenda":
  - a. not clear without explanation
  - b. term "consent" implies passivity, current concerns about unwanted sexual advances emphasize that passive consent is insufficient; the term is misleading and not in keeping with Quaker concern for integrity
  - c. we do not generally consider approval of "agendas", but of concerns, minutes, nominations, etc.
2. Concern about the specifics of timing for presentation of the final version of consent agenda, which was changed too frequently and too late in the view of some Friends at Summer Sessions 2018.
3. Concern about nominations perhaps needing to be a separate process so that other items can be presented earlier and considered without the timing pressure that exists for the Nominating Committee.

### **Proposal**

1. If Friends approve, Liaison plans to experiment with changing the term "Consent Agenda," using the term "seasoned" instead of "consent" and dropping the word "agenda" in this context. Seasoned items are matters that the Clerk expects can be approved without discus-

sion, that is, they have been seasoned by others prior to being brought forward for approval. Accordingly, the Clerk makes available a list of **Seasoned Business Items** and, at a subsequent business meeting, asks for approval of the list. If anyone does not agree that a specific item on the list is ready for approval without discussion, that Friend should alert the Clerk prior to the business meeting so that the item can be removed from the list to be approved without discussion.

2. For spring and fall sessions, the final version of the list of **Seasoned Business Items** including any nominations will be published in advance no later than Thursday of the weekend of the gathering, with copies also made available on paper for Friends when they arrive. Anything to be added after the deadline will be added to a regular business agenda. Approval by gathered Friends will be sought at the second or third business session.
3. For summer sessions, there will be two lists of seasoned items: for general business, the list of **Seasoned Business Items**, and for nominations the **Seasoned Nominations List**. The name changes and the new processes will be presented at Spring Sessions 2019 and an explanation will be available in advance of both Spring and Summer Sessions 2019.
  - a. General business:
    - i. The list of **Seasoned Business Items** will be made available as early as is feasible, and no later than Tuesday of the summer sessions. It will be made available on paper, if possible in the Quaker Update, and electronically.
    - ii. Anything to be added after the deadlines will be added to the regular agenda.
  - b. Nominations:
    - i. A **Preliminary Nominations List** will be made available for first review no later than the Wednesday of Summer Sessions at 1:00 p.m. It will be made available on paper to be posted and, if feasible, also

electronically. Announcements will be made in advance by the Clerk as to its availability.

- ii. There can be changes to the **Preliminary Nominations List** up until 1:00 p.m. of the Thursday of Summer Sessions. This review period provides everyone the opportunity to consider the proposed nominations and to speak with the Nominating Committee if there are questions or suggestions about the nominations. As of 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, the Preliminary Nominations List, with any amendments made thereto, will become the **Seasoned Nominations List**.
- iii. Any nominations to be made after the Thursday 1:00 p.m. deadline will be added to a regular business agenda.
- c. All seasoned business lists will include contact individuals and their contact data in case of any concerns that could lead to a request for the item to be removed from the Seasoned Business Items list.

## **Interim Action Taken by Clerk and General Secretary**

*See minute 2019-04-35*

### **Letter to Christchurch Meeting in New Zealand**

March 17, 2019

Michael Winter, Clerk  
Christchurch Monthly Meeting  
Christchurch, New Zealand  
By email: CH.clerk@quaker.org.nz

Dear Friends in New Zealand,

When any among us is injured or killed, we all suffer. And so we know that Friends in New Zealand are suffering now, and our hearts go out to you. Know that, just as when Friends from around the world prayed for us after the attacks of 9/11/2001

and at other times, our prayers and the prayers of Friends around the world are being offered for the healing of your nation and your people.

We send you our deepest condolences on the tragic incident of blind hatred in Christchurch. We pray for the full recovery of your community's injured and for the emotional recovery of those who lost friends and family, and for your entire community. We pray that the felt presence of the Divine Spirit, so palpable to so many Friends and others, can be found once again, knowing that the Ocean of Love can overcome the Ocean of Darkness.

We wish you peace and we send you our love.

Jeffrey Aaron, Clerk  
Steve Mohlke, General Secretary  
New York Yearly Meeting  
cc: ymclerk@quaker.org.nz

**NEW YORK YEARLY MEETING**  
**THE 324TH NEW YORK YEARLY MEETING**  
**SUMMER SESSIONS—MINUTES**  
**July 21–27, 2019**

Silver Bay, NY

Sunday, July 21, 2019; 6:45 p.m.

*Jeffrey Aaron (New Brunswick), Clerk*  
*Elaine Learnard (Conscience Bay), Assistant Clerk*  
*Mary Eagleson (Scarsdale), Recording Clerk*  
*Robin Alpern (Amawalk), Reading Clerk*

2019-07-01. Friends gathered into a period of waiting worship. Out of the silence, Barbra Bleecker, Montclair Monthly Meeting, offered a prayer of celebration and thankfulness for this gathering of the Religious Society of Friends. The prayer (attached, see page 95) expresses gratitude for our deep sacred places within, for our traditions of peace and simplicity, and for our growing ability to discern our own ignorance and lack of acceptance of those we may have considered “different.” Buffy Curtis, Mohawk Valley Monthly Meeting, gave an acknowledgement of the Native land we stand on (see page 96). Though known as the “Mohawk Hunting Grounds,” the hunting lands were shared by a number of native nations. We thank them for the care they took of these lands and this lake, and for the tradition of caring for the Earth they passed down to their descendants, who live among us to this day.

2019-07-02. Jeffrey Aaron, New Brunswick Monthly Meeting and serving as clerk of the yearly meeting, welcomed us to the 324th gathering of New York Yearly Meeting. He noted that our first gathering, held in 1695, predated the formation of the United States of America. He asked those who are here for the first time, or returned after a long absence, to stand. Friends greeted them with joy.

2019-07-03. Robin Alpern, Amawalk Monthly Meeting, read the roll call, by region only. All regions were represented.

2019-07-04. Two of the coordinators of Junior Yearly Meeting, Dawn Pozzi of Rochester Monthly Meeting and Sylke Jackson of Rockland Monthly Meeting, introduced the program of Junior Yearly Meeting. The leaders of each group were introduced, and left leading the children in their groups for their preliminary group meetings.

2019-07-05. Those remaining in the auditorium settled into waiting worship once again.

Monday, July 22, 10:45 a.m.

*Jeffrey Aaron (New Brunswick), Clerk*  
*Elaine Learnard (Conscience Bay), Assistant Clerk*  
*Mary Eagleson (Scarsdale), Recording Clerk*  
*Marvea Thompson (Brooklyn), Reading Clerk*

2019-07-06. The meeting began with waiting worship. We gathered for the first time in the newly constructed Wishard Room of the Boyd Conference Center at Silver Bay. Out of the silence, our presiding clerk welcomed us, commenting on the blessings of abundance, in reports of good works Friends have been doing, and in visitors. Jeffrey Aaron introduced those at the clerks' table; visitors: George and Marjory Rubin, (Medford Monthly Meeting, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting), Judith Nandikove, (Nairobi Yearly Meeting), Arthur Boyd and Meg Meyer (Baltimore Yearly Meeting and Ramallah Friends School); Steven Donahoe (FCNL); LVM Shelton (Plainfield Monthly Meeting of New England Yearly Meeting, and Friends General Conference); David Male (Ohio Yearly Meeting and Olney Friends' School); Liberty Goodwin and Paul Klinkman (Providence Rhode Island).

2019-07-07. Visiting Friends were asked to stand and introduce themselves.

2019-07-08. Minutes of the opening gathering last evening were read and approved with corrections.

2019-07-09. The attached memorial minute for Mia Tatiana Kissel Hewitt, Chatham-Summit Monthly Meeting, was read by

her daughters Allison and Rachel Hewitt. (See page 97.) Mia will be remembered as one who lived her life fully, with energy, intensity, a fierce passion for the causes and people she loved, and a deeply held Quaker faith that nourished all that she did. All her life, Mia was an active member of Chatham-Summit Meeting, and also regularly attended yearly meeting sessions and Powell House events. Among Friends, she was known as someone who built community and who was gifted in pastoral care, showing up when people needed her. She treasured family times spent with her husband Mark, daughters Allison and Rachel, and step-daughter Sarah, and she made her home in Bernardsville a place of casual warmth and comfortable gatherings.

Ministry followed.

2019-07-10. Marissa Badgley, Young Adult Spiritual Nurture Series coordinator (YASNS), reported on the YASNS. The seventeen young adults and elders who gathered at Powell House July 20-21, 2019 to discuss and discern what young adults across New York Yearly Meeting need offered the following testimony.

Young Adult Friends from New York Yearly Meeting are grateful to the Yearly Meeting, the Spiritual Nurture Working Group, Monthly Meetings, and Friends of all ages for their support of the Young Adult Spiritual Nurture Series between October 2018 and July 2019. The time we have spent together in community has been precious, offering us myriad opportunities to explore our Faith, build our skills, connect across differences, and exist fully as our most authentic selves. We have been nurtured, lifted, challenged, coached, loved, and accepted by each other, our elders, and our facilitators. We are enriched and encouraged by the deep diversity of those choosing to participate in the retreats and appreciate growing and learning with Friends of varying races, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientations, abilities, backgrounds, and other identities. We feel Spirit moving and shaking and living and working within us and around us, and we sense that we are closer to existing in a Religious Society that sees us, hears us, knows us, and invests in us. We have faith that Way will continue opening for our ministries and gifts to be supported and uplifted in meaningful, sustainable, and mutually beneficial ways. We have faith that our voices will be heard.

Eight needs of young adults were lifted up:

- Sustainable infrastructure to support, encourage, and nurture them at the yearly meeting level
- Access to meaningful opportunities to connect and be in community beyond monthly meetings and yearly meeting sessions
- Mentoring, eldership, and spiritual accompaniment
- Investment and resources to build their capacity as Quaker leaders, ministers, elders, and community builders
- Quaker spaces to be safe for all, but especially for those people who are not in positions of power and/or privilege
- Attention to be paid to accessibility in all its forms
- Quaker spaces to center joy and authenticity, and allow for fluidity, creativity, curiosity, spontaneity, and play.
- Our yearly meeting to be open to continuing revelation and to trust that young adults are grounded and Spirit-led.

The full report crafted by the group is on page 99. Marissa asked those who had participated in the series to stand; then in addition, those young adults present who had not participated in the series. [Report is also available at [bit.ly/YAFreport](http://bit.ly/YAFreport)]

Ministry followed.

2019-07-11. Minutes approved to this point.

Wednesday, July 24, 10:45 a.m.

*Jeffrey Aaron (New Brunswick), Clerk*  
*Elaine Learnard (Conscience Bay), Assistant Clerk*  
*Karen Way (New Brunswick), Recording Clerk*  
*Marvea Thompson, (Brooklyn), Reading Clerk*

2019-07-12. Friends gathered in meeting for worship. Clerk Jeffrey Aaron quoted Alan Alda on the difficulty and hope of communication.

Jeffrey then introduced the clerks' table. He reminded us that Quakers are not tolerant, but accepting, and that the fact we have always done something in the past is not sufficient reason to continue doing it. Specifically, he proposed that Friends who wish to speak should give their names, and, if so led, whatever

else they wish to provide as an affiliated meeting or group. He asked anyone who is uncomfortable with that change to let him know after our summer business sessions are done.

Jeffrey announced a threshing session for Friday to explore how to overcome obstacles in the path of what we want to do—at this time we will be focusing on the stumbling block of finances in the path of hiring a field secretary for youth and young adults, and in divesting from fossil fuels.

He also reminded us that in each session we share a finite amount of time.

2019-07-13. Jeffrey noted that we have received many delightful letters of introduction from visiting Friends. Although we would like to read all of them, we are instead going to post them in the Inn where we can read them individually. Jeffrey listed:

- Letter from Medford Monthly Meeting introducing George Rubin, former clerk of NYYM, and Margery Rubin, clerk of Haddonfield Quarter of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.
- Travel minute for LVM Shelton from Plainfield Monthly Meeting in New England Yearly Meeting
- Letter of introduction from FCNL for Stephen Donahoe
- Travel minute from Baltimore Monthly Meeting for Margaret Boyd Meyer and Arthur Meyer Boyd

2019-07-14. Jeffrey introduced Sylke Jackson (Rockland), who reported on behalf of the Friends World Committee on Consultation (FWCC). Sylke introduced Gloria Thompson (Manhattan) who gave the first part of a 3-part report.

Gloria described World Quaker Day, which is scheduled for Sunday, October 6, 2019. Each meeting can upload their celebration of the day to an FWCC website. FWCC has also organized a Traveling Ministry Core, a group of Friends of many ages who visit meetings and describe their personal journeys as Friends. There are resources on the FWCC website that facilitate inviting or joining the Traveling Ministry. There are many resources on the FWCC website for young adults.

Martin Glazer read a report written by Sarah Glazer, describing a week-long FWCC conference in Kansas City titled “Come and See.” The conference brought together American Quakers

of all types, encouraging mutual learning.

Sylke gave the final section of the report, reminding us that last year in NYYM's Summer Sessions we described ourselves as resonating with a call to take action against climate change, including divesting funds connected with fossil fuels (minute 2018-07-34). This is a 5-year project across many yearly meetings, and progress can be explored on the FWCC website. Sylke offered a minute calling for divestment of NYYM funds in 3 years.

The ad hoc group for ecological investment recommends that NYYM begin the process of divesting a percentage of at least 25% of current holdings from the Friends Fiduciary Corporation Growth & Income Fund and investing these monies into the Friends Fiduciary Green Fund or Geos Essex Fund, both funds that are divested from fossil fuels. We recommend that NYYM be totally divested within three years. This process will be closely monitored and will be modified as needed.

She also presented a chart of financial results suggesting that losses or gains from divestment would vary but might not be unbearable.

2019-07-15. Roseann Press (Housatonic), Clerk of Trustees, said she supports divestment, adding that a very small percentage (1.2%) of our Friends Fiduciary investments are connected to fossil fuels. This concern is on the agenda for the Trustees meeting on Friday, and will also be raised at the Threshing Session on Friday.

2019-07-16. Anne Liske (Albany) and Anita Paul (Schenectady) presented the State of Society Report for 2018 (see page 107). The report synthesized 42 State of the Meeting reports from constituent meetings and worship groups. Six meetings reported growth; many described the challenges and joys of finding ways to expand community and outreach. Meetings continue both to witness to Quaker testimonies and deepen their spiritual lives.

The individual State of the Meeting reports are gathered in a binder for Friends to read at Silver Bay and will be available online at [nyym.org/content/nyym-state-society-report-2018](http://nyym.org/content/nyym-state-society-report-2018)

2019-07-17. Jeffrey introduced LVM Shelton, visiting from Plainfield Meeting, New England Yearly Meeting. LVM spoke

of Friends General Conference, which is much more than the annual Gathering. FGC has a mission to understand the needs of Friends and their meetings on all levels. With that in mind, FGC has gone through two years of self-examination of the ways in which FGC is a white supremacist organization. This process is offered as a model for other organizations planning such a journey. In a future session, Karen Snare (Bulls Head-Oswego) will review how we can access the resources of FGC via their website.

Thursday, July 25, 10:45 a.m.

*Jeffrey Aaron (New Brunswick), Clerk*  
*Elaine Learnard (Conscience Bay), Assistant Clerk*  
*Mary Eagleson (Scarsdale), Recording Clerk*  
*Robin Alpern (Amawalk), Reading Clerk*

2019-07-18. The clerk welcomed those present, commenting on how this is our community of affirmation. He introduced the clerks' table.

2019-07-19. Lindsey Butler, from the Silver Bay YMCA, welcomed us and reported on improvements in the parking lot, treatment of wastewater, and holding basins for stormwater runoff. The William Boyd Center was completed in September, 2018. Although not LEEDS certified, it includes many environmentally friendly features. The money spent on these improvements has contributed almost \$40 million to the local economy.

One Friend commented on the "meat focus" in the menu and lack of composting. Another asked about blue-green algae. Lindsey took both comments under advisement.

2019-07-20. Stacie Faraone and Janet Poole, of Albany Monthly Meeting, read the attached memorial minute for Barbara Spring (page 111). Before they began, the clerk noted that a memorial meeting for Barbara was to be held at the Chapel in the afternoon, and that her daughter and granddaughter would be present. Barbara lived in many places throughout her life, arriving in Albany in 2006. She is perhaps best known to Friends in New York for her work with Anita Paul in founding the Aging Resources, Consultation and Help program (ARCH), originally

under the sponsorship of the Friends Foundation for the Aging (FFA) and now under the care of our yearly meeting.

In addition to her passion for helping Friends age and die well, Barbara was deeply committed to countering racism. She served for many years as clerk of Albany Meeting's Friends for Racial Justice Committee. Under Barbara's leadership, the committee reached out to other faith organizations to plan together a community conference in 2017, *Building the Beloved Community: Beyond Racism*.

After moving to Albany, Barbara became active in the Iran Project of Women Against War. In 2007 she traveled to Iran as a member of a citizen diplomacy delegation of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, speaking about the need for a peaceful US-Iran relationship on her return. She was also deeply concerned about living with respect for the environment and for her retirement built a very small, very green, house.

In all of her projects she saw herself as a bridge person, making connections and bringing people together. She did this to enrich the lives of others and for the pleasure she got from seeing connections made. She taught by example how to live into our dying with verve and wisdom.

Ministry followed.

2019-07-21. George and Margery Rubin, now of Medford Monthly Meeting of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, shared the following minute from their monthly meeting, and forwarded from Haddonfield Quarterly Meeting. It has also been forwarded to Philadelphia Yearly Meeting for their consideration.

Haddonfield Quarterly Meeting joins with people of good will everywhere in affirming the way of love. We denounce the normalization of hate and violence in society and within ourselves. We commit to working with others to build trust and understanding in our wider community.

The minute was referred to Witness Coordinating Committee.

2019-07-22. Laura Cisar (New Brunswick) gave the Treasurer's Report as of June 30, 2019 (see [www.nyym.org/sites/default/files/TreasurersReport-2019-06.pdf](http://www.nyym.org/sites/default/files/TreasurersReport-2019-06.pdf)). She explained that the treasurer's reports are posted every month on the yearly meeting website (see [nyym.org/content/nyym-treasurers-reports-2019](http://nyym.org/content/nyym-treasurers-reports-2019));

they are also emailed to monthly meeting clerks and treasurers. Laura explained where Friends can find specific information about various parts of the budget and invested funds.

The surplus shown on the June report reflects the money collected to pay Silver Bay for lodging at Summer Sessions, but not yet paid. Also, grants are received at the beginning of the year and expended during the year. To date, we have received 38% of the anticipated covenant donations from monthly meetings. This is lower than expected, as are individual contributions at 19% of the goal.

2019-07-23. Doug Way (New Brunswick) and Steve Mohlke (Ithaca) reported on the Pay as Led program initiated this year (attached, page 115). Doug reviewed the history of Pay as Led, which we began to plan 2 years ago. We will not have final numbers until week's end but the overall status is WE DID IT.

WE DID IT means that the dollars we received from people attending summer sessions equals the dollars we need to pay to Silver Bay, plus the amount Friends paid last year for registration. The bottom line is that Pay as Led has had zero impact on the operating budget of the yearly meeting.

Doug showed a pie chart showing that  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the people were led to pay the standard fee, a  $\frac{1}{4}$  paid less, and half paid more.

In addition, the downward trend on the number of registrants was reversed. About  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the registrants were either attending for the first time or returning after a long absence. 74 young adults attended. At Fall Sessions, there will be a final accounting and a plan for next year.

This year, for the first time, we did "master billing," in which our staff and volunteers collected payments and assigned rooms. This was required by Silver Bay, and would have had to be done in any case. This absorbed much staff and volunteer time, and translates also to real costs to the operating budget.

A Friend expressed concern that Friends who paid more than the full cost for their rooms at Silver Bay might not have made as much financial contribution to the operating budget as they might have otherwise. Others expressed gratitude to the yearly meeting for the feeling of inclusivity generated by Pay as Led.

2019-07-24. Minutes approved to this point.

Thursday, July 25, 2:45 p.m.

*Jeffrey Aaron (New Brunswick), Clerk*  
*Elaine Learnard (Conscience Bay), Assistant Clerk*  
*Karen Reixach (Ithaca), Recording Clerk*  
*Suzanne Blackburn (Genesee Valley), Reading Clerk*

2019-07-25. The meeting opened with expectant worship. The clerk introduced those at the clerks' table.

2019-07-26. Barbra Bleecker, clerk of Montclair Monthly Meeting, read the memorial minute for Madeline Schwinge McClure (April 4, 1927–May 22, 2018). Madeline attended Antioch College, where her interest in interracial activities began and where she first experienced a Quaker meeting for worship. She joined Montclair Meeting in 1958 and over the next 50 years served her meeting and NYYM, focusing especially on black concerns. In 1965 and again in 1967, the McClures welcomed into the family two sixteen year old African-American daughters to attend the local high school with her daughter Kit: Emily from Mississippi and Mary Jane from Tennessee. When daughter Emily faced open racial discrimination at the local high school, Madeline successfully ran for the Regional High School Board of Education in her community, to deal more effectively with the situation. Madeline McClure went back to school when she was 51 years old. After completing her degree in computer science, she was employed by AT&T. She and her husband George retired in 1994 and in 1997 moved to Arbor Glen CCRC in Bridgewater, NJ, where they remained active in their community and attended Plainfield Friends Meeting. Madeline was predeceased by her husband George McClure, a marriage marked by mutual support and service.

Ministry on the life of this quiet and effective Friend spoke to the moments of connection, her quiet consideration, the appreciation of the role of memorial minutes as a way of deepening connection with a Friend, and the strong, kind model that she offered. Minute is attached on page 116.

2019-07-27. Frederick Dettmer (Purchase) is the attorney for the Green Haven Preparative Meeting lawsuit against DOCCS's (NY's Department of Corrections and Community Supervision)

termination of Quaker quarterly meeting at Green Haven Prison, which had been regularly held for over 30 years. At Summer Sessions 2018, Friends approved a minute (2018-07-46) “to support any legal action initiated by individual members of the Green Haven [Prison] worship group against the NY [Department of Corrections and Community Supervision][“DOCCS”] in pursuit of their religious rights under the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act.” [“RLUIPA”] The lawsuit asks the court to order DOCCS to reinstate quarterly meetings and meetings for worship with a concern for business at Green Haven Correctional Facility on the same terms as previously existed. A motion for a preliminary injunction, reinstating the quarterly meetings and meetings for business, was filed in March 2019.

A settlement offer by DOCCS has provided opportunity for deep discernment. Friends found renewed faith in our practice, in the words of *Faith and Practice* (page 31 in the 2018 edition), “to speak the truth as we know it, honestly and forthrightly, speaking plainly from our own lives.” Whether we could carry on under the system proposed by DOCCS isn’t the right question. *Faith and Practice* (page 30) counsels that “We are called to a genuineness of life and speech that leaves no room for deceit or artificiality.” If we are to be faithful, we cannot pursue a typical litigation settlement negotiation. We can only speak our truth as we know it, test it, and reaffirm it.

Friends seek dialogue and a common way forward. An active prison ministry requires an active, dynamic working relationship with the corrections system, and at bottom that is what we seek. DOCCS’ arbitrary actions can grind volunteers down. Nonetheless, our prison ministry is in need of support if it is to survive. Green Haven Prison Meeting needs the active care of outside Friends if it is to survive and flourish. If we insist that DOCCS permits Green Haven Meeting to hold weekly meetings for worship with a concern for business, we must also commit ourselves to guide and support those seekers behind bars, and to participate in their sessions consistently and robustly. If we insist on quarterly meetings held over 5-6 hours on a Saturday, we must commit ourselves to prepare for and to participate in them consistently and robustly. We owe that to the inmates, to

DOCCS, and to ourselves, to support, to bolster, to expand the ranks of Friends laboring with this ministry.

A hearing on the preliminary injunction will be scheduled before the judge; Friends will be alerted and are urged to attend that session to demonstrate that this is not an individual suit, but a suit on behalf of our Religious Society.

Questions and accounts of experience with DOCCS arose from the body.

Fred distributed a report on the lawsuit and reminded us that the legal papers are on the NYYM website.

2019-07-28. Leo Quirk (Ithaca and Bloomington, Indiana) read a report on the changes to structure from minute 2018-04-06.

They summarized the status of each component, and also noted that changes include not only structure but also practices, such as distributed clerking. They invited comments and suggestions for innovation. The report is attached (see page 117) and is on the NYYM website.

2019-07-29. Leo Quirk then offered the following background and minute from Liaison Committee:

Nurture Coordinating Committee (NCC) and the Nurture Section were suspended at Spring Sessions 2018 (see minute 2018-04-06), as an experiment, with the plan for a report at Summer Sessions 2019. All constituent bodies in its care were transferred to other CCs or to Liaison.

In light of the many prior years of difficulty for NCC and the successful functioning of our Yearly Meeting despite its suspension, Liaison Committee proposes that Friends lay down Nurture Coordinating Committee (NCC) and the Nurture Section. The current arrangement for the entities formerly under its care may yet be revised as the review of our structure continues.

Friends approved.

2019-07-30. Karen Snare (Bulls Head-Oswego), clerk of NYYM Representatives to Friends General Conference Central Committee, described FGC's institutional assessment on racism. In the course of the process begun in the fall of 2017, and reported in fall 2018, FGC has moved from awareness of the difficulties to enthusiasm about becoming an actively anti-racist faith community. Awareness of leading edge and trailing edge

dynamics supports leaders and helps “trailers” to move. An implementation team of 10 members with diverse membership will assist FGC in making the recommendations a reality and provide direction moving forward.

Karen then listed elements of the FGC website ([www.fgcquaker.org](http://www.fgcquaker.org)), including the membership of the implementation team and the full report as well as a summary, a 6-minute video, the Quaker Cloud, the FGC bookstore, the Gathering, news, Quaker Speak, Quaker Finder, and e-retreats (4-week online opportunities). The next FGC Gathering is June 28 to July 4, 2020, in Radford VA, with the theme Way Will Open. She urged Friends to consider service as a representative to FGC and reminded Friends that FGC is not *they* but *us*.

2019-07-31. Elaine Learnard (Conscience Bay) clerked the remainder of the meeting for worship with attention to business. Roseann Press (Housatonic), Clerk of the New York Yearly Meeting Board of Trustees, reported that the anticipated sale of the Yorktown property will derive an estimated \$135,000 in net income. The Trustees offered the following minute:

The Yearly Meeting authorizes the NYYM Trustees to place the monies derived from disposition of the property known as the Calvary Bible Church and parsonage in Yorktown Heights, NY, under management by the Trustees (as has been done with previous property sales, most recently the Plattekill and Stamford-Greenwich meetinghouses).

After clarifications, Friends approved.

In the spirit of transparency the Trustees reported that they intend to place \$100,000 of the proceeds into the Meeting Houses and Properties Designated Use Fund, raising the fund’s principal from about \$50,000 to \$150,000 (and producing annual distributions in the future of approximately \$5,550 as compared to \$1,850 in 2018 distributions) and to place the remainder in the Trustee Reserve, whose use will be determined by the Trustees in the future.

Friends offered suggestions for the use of the funds.

Spee Braun, financial clerk of the Trustees, summarized the use of funds from Meeting Houses and Properties Designated Use Fund to assist meetings to maintain and improve their facilities.

2019-07-32. Roseann Press then introduced the first reading of the changes to the by-laws by explaining that our yearly meeting is a legal entity defined by the laws of New York State. In summary, Trustees propose revising the yearly meeting's by-laws to accomplish three goals: (1) clarifying and distinguishing between the identity of the "officers" of the corporation for certain legal and financial matters and the "officers" of the Society for the spiritual concerns of the body; (2) increasing the maximum size of the Board of Trustees from five to seven trustees to five to ten so that a broader diversity of Friends and skills can be represented on the board; and (3) shortening the length of a trustee's term from five years to four years and reducing the number of terms a trustee can serve consecutively from three terms to two terms, which will reduce the total number of consecutive years a Friend can serve as a trustee from fifteen to eight years, in order to increase the transparency of and opportunities for participation in the work of trustees. (See attached, page 121, for full summary of changes.)

2019-07-33. The meeting closed in waiting worship.

Friday, July 26, 10:45 a.m.

*Jeffrey Aaron (New Brunswick), Clerk*  
*Elaine Learnard (Conscience Bay), Assistant Clerk*  
*Karen Way (New Brunswick), Recording Clerk*  
*Suzanne Blackburn (Genesee Valley), Reading Clerk*

2019-07-34. Friends gathered in Meeting for Worship. Clerk Jeffrey Aaron quoted President John Adams regarding the essential function of mystery and humility in human understanding. Jeffrey then introduced the clerks' table and reviewed plans for the session. Said Jeffrey, "Every day is an experiment."

2019-07-35. Jeffrey introduced visitor Peter Cook, Executive Director of the New York State Council of Churches.

2019-07-36. Sunfire Kazmayer (Easton) reported on his travel minute to the 2018 Parliament of the World Religions. The gathering dealt with difficult topics, including climate emergency, climate refugees, and despair. Nevertheless, partic-

ipants generated hope that there could be a better world. Acknowledging that he was “speaking to the choir,” Sunfire said the message to the choir is “SING LOUDER.” There is danger ahead and the challenge is urgent. Friends spoke in support.

2019-07-37. Steve Mohlke (Ithaca), General Secretary of NYYM, gave his annual report. He addressed the complex issues of bias and inclusion. Steve has realized some of his own internal biases. We all have biases—how do they get in the way of making the YM inclusive? He described his own process of developing goals that are neither too vague nor too numerous. He finally came up with three goals: staffing, anti-racism, and clerking/decision making.

1. Staffing faces the restriction of funding. Do valuable staff need to leave in order to make room for a Youth and Young Adult Field Secretary?
2. Racism is both an individual and systemic problem.
3. Good clerking and decisions can make it possible for staff to work and for the YM to address racism and inclusivity.

Steve spent much of his time this year on Pay as Led, a new policy which has an anti-racist potential. Decisions about how to discern and administer exceptions to policy also have implications for racism. Quakers struggle with policy. Is it more important for me to get my way than to live in community? Steve developed several queries:

- Do our policies adequately protect against bias?
- Are our policies strict enough to be meaningful and flexible enough to be followed?
- Is it reasonably feasible to update our policies?
- Is the process for updating our policies accessible and inclusive?

The best part of this week for Steve was a meeting with young adults and not-so-young adults on financial issues. The meeting led to young adults volunteering to be nominated to Development and other committees. A new energy is moving on so many levels. Steve mentioned that envelopes in the Inn are available for donating to the yearly meeting. We can do this.

2019-07-38. Dennis Haag (Old Chatham), Executive Co-Director of Powell House, reported on the most recent year. Powell House is more than its excellent youth program. There are also adult conferences, including monthly meeting retreats, and rental groups such as a recent retreat for former gang members trained by Alternatives To Violence. All participants in the Powell House experience are given space to play, to connect, and to grow. Dennis stated that great change in a person’s life can come from 5 minutes of intervention. He left us with a query: What will you do with your 5 minutes?

2019-07-39. In accordance with our practice with Seasoned Business Items (formerly consent agenda), the clerk asked for approval of previously posted contents which required no amendments. Friends approved:

2019-07-40. Adjustments were made to the practice of “first and second readings” (attached, page 124).

2019-07-41. Changes were made to the Consent Agenda process, including the new name “Seasoned Business Items” (attached, page 125).

2019-07-42. Previously posted nominations for appointment to service were approved. (See the Friends Under Appointment section of this *Yearbook*.)

2019-07-43. Deb Wood (Purchase), clerk of the Nominating Committee, read the names of individuals whose nominations must be approved separately, because they are not members of a monthly meeting in NYYM, or were asked to serve for a 7th year of service. Friends approved:

<i>Board of Oakwood Friends School</i>	class of 2022
Patrick Crowley ('13)	Pacific YM
Robert Heidel	Baltimore YM
Philip Richmond	Baltimore YM
<i>Elsie K Powell House Inc.</i>	class of 2024
Matthew Lindop	Saratoga (attender)
<i>Committee to Revise Faith and Practice</i>	class of 2020
Tim Connolly	Purchase (attender)

*Communications Committee* class of 2020  
Jennifer Swann ('17) South Berkshire, NEYM

*Supervisory Committee for General Secretary* class of 2020  
Ileana Clarke ('17) co-opted Cornwall (attender)

Deb also read nominations received too late to be included in the Seasoned Business process. Friends approved:

*Records* class of 2022  
Hans Jergen Ridgewood

*American Friends Service Committee* class of 2022  
Hans Jergen Ridgewood

*Prisons Committee* class of 2022  
Phyllis Bunker Poplar Ridge

*Conflict Transformation* class of 2022  
Kirsten Cole Brooklyn

*Sessions* class of 2022  
Emily Michaud Old Chatham

Ann Nunes Wilton (attender)

Robin Mullaney Old Chatham (attender)

*Black Concerns Committee* class of 2022  
Jerry Leaphart Wilton

*State of Society Report* class of 2022  
Joanna Oltman Smith Brooklyn

2019-07-44. Rima Segal (Rochester) presented the first reading of the Epistle.

2019-07-45. As Rima completed her reading, the children and grown-ups of Junior Yearly Meeting entered the auditorium, playing guitars and singing "River." As we sang together, the yearly meeting community was completed by their presence.

Friday, July 26, 7:00 p.m.

*Jeffrey Aaron (New Brunswick), Clerk*  
*Elaine Learnard (Conscience Bay), Assistant Clerk*  
*Karen Way (New Brunswick), Recording Clerk*  
*Marvea Thompson, (Brooklyn), Reading Clerk*

2019-07-46. Friends of all ages gathered in meeting for worship.

2019-07-47. Jeffrey introduced Melanie Claire Mallison (Ithaca), clerk of Sessions Committee, who reported the numbers for the week. There were 501 total participants; 400 adults and 101 children. 95 people came for the first time; 74 identified as young adults. A total of \$7,278.79 was raised; Fun(d) Fair raised \$789, Tagless Tag Sale, \$1,689.79, and Café Night \$4,800. (Note: each of those numbers is higher than last year.)

Melanie Claire invited Friends to Fall Sessions to be held November 1-3 at Powell House, Old Chatham, NY.

2019-07-48. Leo Quirk (Ithaca) spoke for several yearly meeting groups in addressing the needs of young adults:

Throughout this week, many concerns have been raised related to the nurturing of our youth and young adult Friends.

We hear you.

We are taking action steps to support you.

Several concrete action items rose out of conversations today. Spiritual Nurture Working Group, in partnership with Youth Committee and Aging Concerns Committee, is creating a spiritual mentorship program serving young adults and new Friends. They are also developing a mentorship workshop at Powell House. A working group has been formed to look deeper into the money and job description needed for a Youth and Young Adult Field Secretary. Ministry Coordinating Committee committed to addressing the 8 concerns raised in the report from Young Adult Friends, one concern at each of their meetings this year. Another group is contacting youth to ask them to state their needs in their own voices. Many other committees discussed concrete ways to nurture the gifts and leadership of young adults and learning Friends. Monthly and quarterly meetings are also encouraged to further this discussion. We can *all* take a part in nourishing our Quaker community.

2019-07-49. Dawn Pozzi (Rochester) and Sylke Jackson (Rockland), Junior Yearly Meeting Coordinators, thanked the high school group for their fine work and success with Cafe Night. Dawn urged Friends to consider the joys of working with the children. JYM needs to know by May if you can volunteer.

Next year's coordinators will be Dawn Pozzi and Ellie Rosenberg. Bryant Henning is going to be the Apprentice Coordinator, following the steps of Dawn and Ellie. "Thank you for blessing us with your children. We love them."

2019-07-50. Sylke Jackson introduced the Pre-Kindergarten group, which gave its report wearing amazing hats. A beautiful rainbow was unrolled as a backdrop for a list of all the good things the children remembered:

I remember...how we were new to each other; now we know everyone sits together; our group changes every day with different children.

I remember...a frog, and a toad, and a snake; a turtle splashed the water, at the Nature Center.

I remember...Don came singing, dancing, drumming, and instruments in the game with toucans.

I remember...everybody had a turn; I love dolls because they are soft; I remember my mommy and my daddy; I really love my family and they care all about me.

I remember...we ate snack every day; we played in the playground; we jumped in the pool; we explored colors and light and rainbows; we sang songs about being the same and different.

The rest of the community joined them in singing "This Little Light of Mine."

2019-07-51. 1st through 3rd graders sat in a neat row to act out the activities of their week. As their report was read, they acted out each game.

When we met on Monday, most of us didn't have a lot of friends.

We broke the ice by sharing how we wanted to be treated, wrote our group agreements, and played a lot of games. Red light/green light made some of us really mad, so we listened to each other and tried to make the game more fair.

Snakes in the grass was one of our favorite games but we had to be gentle with our snake friends to make sure all of us had fun.

Angel Ramos challenged us to reach out and include others even if they don't walk or talk or look like us. We all agreed to try to make new friends this week.

We had lots of special guests that played games with us. Chris and Mike taught us how to turn into animals and take care of a dragon's egg. The high schoolers talked with us about gender and pronouns. Melissa Keeley led us in a cool scavenger hunt at the nature center and we dug for dinosaur bones in the sand pit.

The high schoolers played parachute games and taught us Marco Polo during beach day. We each met our own high school buddy and became fast friends. We had a blast at Fun(d) Fair and some of us even performed at Café Night. When we played the blanket game on Wednesday, we started remembering each other's names. After a week together, we can't wait to come back to Summer Sessions next year as good friends!

**2019-07-52. The 4th-6th graders reported that they learned how to be INCLUSIVE while having fun:**

The following are the things we accomplished over the course of this week:

- We played games as we got to know each other and discussed how to include people in our community. We also learned about committees and formed committees for games, Fun(d) Fair, and epistle.
- We gathered and went canoeing, learning to work together through paddling our boats.
- We enjoyed games and laughter in the sun at Slim Point Beach. Our face painting and cup game booth were a big hit at the Fun(d) Fair.
- The games committee taught many of us a new game called Yoshi and we used our awareness to complete a nature scavenger hunt.
- We ended the week with community building games with Chris and Mike before gathering for community singing.

Our epistle committee developed five topics to demonstrate for you how to be inclusive in our community.

1. Treat others how you would like to be treated.
2. Give advice to people who need (and want) it.

3. No one has to sit alone. Invite them to join.
4. Active listening.
5. Smile, smile, smile.

For each of the five topics, the group performed a short skit, showing the wrong and then right behavior.

2019-07-53. The junior high group (grades 7-9) sang a song describing their week, to the tune of Rise and Shine (the Noah's Ark song.)

On Monday we learned each others names (x2)

Talked about identity

Here at Silver Bay

(CHORUS)

We love J-YM-mmm

Every day is tons of fun

here at Silver Bay

On Tuesday we read about global warming

Tuesday we discussed inclusivity

Played some games with Chris and Mike

Here at Silver Bay

We love J-YM-mm...

On Wednesday we went down and swam in the lake (x2)

got sponges thrown in our faces

Here at Silver Bay

We love J-YM-mm...

On Thursday we discussed Quakerism (x2)

went outside and looked at organisms

Here at Silver Bay

We love J-YM-mm...

On Friday we gave affirmations (x2)

sang some songs in celebration

Here at Silver Bay

We love J-YM-mm...

2019-07-54. The high school group took turns in reading their epistle (sadly, the enthusiastic illustrations won't fit in the minute):

Monday: Introduction, name whips, expectations, and a few games. Mike and Chris visited and played more games. Then we

made personality maps and discussed them.

Tuesday: We talked about divesting and our environment with Diane Keefe, then we discussed immigration with Steven from FCNL. After discussion we wrote postcards to our senators addressing our issue with the treatment of immigrants.

Wednesday: We went out for worship on the water and sat peacefully in silence, until Eamon fell off his kayak. We only judged him a little bit. We then had a talk about our impact on the climate with Reb, Paul, and Alice. Then we panicked about the end of the world...and what to put in the epistle.

Thursday: We gathered in worship outside the boathouse and ventured out on a nature hike to Slim Point. We settled in a field and played games, then met with the 1-3 graders and briefly played parachute games. We partnered with beach buddies and together we marched back down to the beach. We spent the rest of the day having beach fun and eating fruit leather.

Friday: We met outside the boathouse once more for silent worship with attention to the theme of inclusivity. Angel Ramos came to sit with our group and speak to us about living with power, finding ways to include people, and confronting racism by living as an example. We talked about being brave as Quakers with integrity, speaking out against hate. We kept this in mind as the group gathered for games and the epistle committee met. Holding the idea of community close, Quakers of all ages joined us in the boathouse for singing.

Next year's high school clerks were announced: Maia Mascari and Jasper Smith, with Eamon Glynn as an alternate. Additionally, the HS group has two new members of Community Response Team (CART): Trinity Lawson and Eddie Laughter.

Copies of *Faith and Practice* were presented to this year's graduating seniors: Abby Byrtus, Majesty Hopkins, Analea Blackburn, Kayleigh O'Keefe, Stephanie Lane, Rachel Hewitt, Lucien Alexander-Ray, and Micah Clay.

2019-07-55. Deb Wood read a list of additional nominations received since the previous business session.

<i>Personnel</i>		class of 2022
Marissa Badgley	Poughkeepsie	
<i>Friends General Conference</i>		class of 2022
Helen Mullen	Brooklyn	

<i>Elsie K. Powell House</i>		class of 2024
Louise Tiano	Rochester	
<i>Black Concerns</i>		class of 2022
Jerry Leaphart	Wilton	
<i>Sessions</i>		class of 2020
Bryant Henning	(attends Powell House)*	
<i>Prisons Committee</i>		class of 2022
Gary Barnes	Buffalo	
<i>Development</i>		class of 2022
Mary Hannon Williams	Bulls Head-Oswego	

Friends approved.

2019-07-56. Rima Segal gave a second reading of the New York Yearly Meeting Epistle. With slight changes, Friends approved; see attached, page 129.

2019-07-57. The Reading Clerk read an explanation and a minute from Liaison Committee to change the status of reading clerks to conform with the by-laws. (The explanation is attached, see page 128.)

From date of approval of this minute, reading clerk will become a volunteer position, to be sought by Sessions Committee as a part of their regular list of necessary volunteers for each gathering. Reading clerks will no longer be officers of New York Yearly Meeting. They will no longer be nominated by NYYM Nominating Committee. Changes to the NYYM *Handbook* and *Yearbook* will be made after this approval by the appropriate bodies with no further approvals needed by gathered Friends.

Friends approved.

2019-07-58. Jeffrey reviewed three interim actions taken between Spring and Summer sessions:

1. Letter to New York Legislative leaders joining with “Faith Leaders Urging New York to Enact HALT Solitary Confinement.” HALT (Humane Alternatives to Long Term Solitary Confinement) is a bill calling for an end to solitary confinement.
2. Letter to His Eminence Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith,

Archbishop in Sri Lanka, offering condolences for recent terrorist attacks in his country.

3. Letter congratulating Marion Cole, Choir Director of Farmington Friends Church, on the occasion of a celebration of her 50 years of service.

2019-07-59. Jeffrey then re-introduced visitor Peter Cook, Executive Director of the New York State Council of Churches. The council certifies chaplains to work in prisons, and Peter Cook would like to include Quakers in that certification program. The council also does extensive social justice work, addressing problems in budget policy, immigration, the cash bail system, farm workers, and other situations that oppress vulnerable people. The council is preparing seminars to help faith communities with burdensome buildings repurpose them to better fulfill their mission. In a last observation, Peter praised the range of ages in the Auditorium, unequalled in his experience with other denominations, urging us to nurture that aspect of our community.

2019-07-60. Jeffrey shared words on the topic of Quaker practice. "Like worship itself, these Quaker practices are often subtle and easily thwarted, though they are powerful and well worth the discipline and well worth careful study."

2018-07-61. After approval of the minutes, Friends entered expectant worship to close the 324th business portion of Summer Sessions of New York Yearly Meeting.

# ATTACHMENTS

## Thanksgiving Prayer

*(see minute 2019-07-01)*

Thou who hath led us to gather here in prayer to celebrate this annual gathering of the Religious Society of Friends, we give humble thanks. We acknowledge the depth of our religious traditions and how you have called us together as Friends, as Family.

Thank you for those deep sacred places within that honor simplicity and peace, those places of Light and Love.

Let us find such a place within ourselves, in each other and in the world.

Places where we all may find acceptance and belonging.

Let us create these places, let us restore them. Let us strengthen them and let us protect them. May these places within be nourished by Divine eternal wisdom.

We give thanks because Thou hath given us the wisdom to discern injustice and the courage to stand for peace, integrity, truth and freedom.

Give us the strength to stand against the ignorance of sexism, the promotion of racism, and the condemnation and defamation of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people.

Today as we pray together, we embrace the Oneness that connects us all. Cleanse us from bigotry, racism, intolerance and harsh judgment of others. We rejoice that our practice of sitting in receptivity enables us to be imbued with Truth and Divine understandings.

We rejoice that so many of us are called to serve in ways that strengthen our global community. Let Your Light shine through our lives; that in each and every community we come from, we can be beacons of Peace and reconciliation.

May we be forgiven of our transgressions against the African-American, the Native American, and those we have warred against.

May we learn from our mistakes, that the people who have died from them should not have died in vain.

May hatred no longer find fertile ground in which to grow here. May all of us feel Grace upon us. May anything that is not like Grace be cast out of our midst.

Reignite the Spirit of truth in our hearts. That Spirit that found sacred fire in the heart of George Fox.

We cherish the memories of those who have gone before us, all of those Friends who paved this path of Peace. We honor their commitment and their sacrifices. And we pray to continue their work.

May we be repaired.

May we be forgiven.

May our children be blessed.

May we be renewed.

We surrender our destiny to the Divine.

Amen (And so it is)

—Barbra Bleecker

## **Acknowledgement of the Land**

*(see minute 2019-07-01)*

We wish to acknowledge that the land we stand on today, though sometimes known as the Mohawk Hunting Ground, was used for hunting by many Native Nations under the treaty or wampum of “The Dish with One Spoon.” This Wampum between the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) and many other neighboring Native Nations is an agreement that there is only one dish, Mother Earth. We will take only what we need from her, leave enough for others and keep the dish clean. No knives shall be used as we eat from this dish, only a spoon, so that there will be no risk of blood being spilt, or wars started. The hunting lands are shared by all.

These and many other New York lands were taken by settlement of Europeans, as well as wars and unfair treaties, destroying and displacing the peoples who lived and hunted there. In making this acknowledgement, we revive their presence here

and we thank the Mohawks and other Nations for the care they took of these lands and this lake and for their wisdom passed on to their descendants who live amongst us today.

## **Memorial Minute**

### **Mia Tatiana Kissil Hewitt (1966-2018)**

*(see minute 2019-07-09)*

Mia Tatiana Kissil Hewitt will be remembered as one who lived her life fully, with energy, intensity, a fierce passion for the causes and people she loved, and a deeply held Quaker faith that nourished all that she did.

Born on April 14, 1966, Mia was an active member of Chatham Summit Monthly Meeting throughout her life. As a child she came to meeting with her parents Don and Claire and attended First Day School with her brother Matthew. In June, 1996, the meetinghouse was the site of her joyful marriage to Mark Alan Hewitt, and in 2002 and 2004 the Meeting celebrated the births of their daughters Allison and Rachel. As an adult, Mia contributed her energy to many tasks in the Meeting, including editing the newsletter and serving on the committees for Religious Education and Ministry and Counsel. At the time of her death she was looking forward to moving into the role of clerk of the meeting.

Mia was also active in the wider Quaker world. As a teen, she enjoyed youth weekends at the Powell House Conference Center and later passed that love to her husband and daughters, all of whom became Powell House boosters and frequent attenders at PoHo programs. Mia was active and visible throughout the yearly meeting; she enjoyed attending Sessions with her family, especially Summer Sessions at Silver Bay, and held several leadership positions in NYYM, including Clerk of the Advancement Committee. Among Friends, she was known as someone who built community and who was gifted in pastoral care, showing up when people needed her. One Friend described her as having the gift of “helping people hear each other and knowing what it is we need to be listening for.”

When Chatham Summit Meeting gathered sorrowfully to

mourn Mia's loss and celebrate her life, memorial services were held at the same time at Powell House and at Brooklyn Meeting to accommodate all those who wanted to attend.

Mia was a devoted wife and mother and took unending delight and pride in her family. She wore her "Marching Band Parent" sweatshirt proudly and never missed a concert or school production. She treasured family times spent with Mark, Allison, Rachel and step-daughter Sarah, and she made her home in Bernardsville a place of casual warmth and comfortable gatherings.

Mia both received and gave joy through music. With her parents and husband, she shared a love of bluegrass music festivals, and she fostered a love of music in her daughters. A gifted singer, Mia was a long-time member of the Harmonium Choral Society of Morris County. She served on the choral society board, and it was at Harmonium that she met her husband Mark and many of her closest friends. For over twenty-five years of concerts she radiated joy from her place in the soprano section. In tribute to her life, Harmonium collaborated with the Alumni of the Yale Russian Chorus to produce a marvelous memorial concert in spring, 2018.

In addition to being dedicated to peace and equality, Mia practiced and advocated for stewardship of the earth. She savored the natural world and enjoyed hiking with her dog Trixie and camping in New Jersey parks. Photos of Mia often show her outdoors, smiling and rosy-cheeked. It was one of life's unexplained contradictions that, despite being a non-smoker and living a healthy lifestyle, she was stricken with lung cancer.

A graduate of Morristown High School, she received a B.A. in 1988 from Guilford College and later pursued graduate work in English at Drew University. Using her communication and writing skills, she began her career as a communications professional at Lucent Technologies. Later, aligned with her convictions about equality, she worked for ten years as an administrator at the Rutgers University Race and Ethnicity Institute and five years at the Institute for Education Law and Policy at Rutgers Law School in Newark.

In mid-life, led by a deepening faith and an understanding of her own gifts, Mia enrolled in a Master of Divinity program

at Earlham School of Religion with the goal of becoming a hospital chaplain. She dove into her studies eagerly and filled her bedroom with books on church history and scripture. She took great joy in discussing theology, women in the ministry, and Biblical interpretation. Though her dream of becoming a chaplain was interrupted by illness, she in fact ministered to many in the course of her illness through her courage, optimism, and steadfast faith.

Mia passed away on February 28, 2018 at her home in Bernardsville. Her caring, intuitive, and joyful spirit could not be stilled by her illness. In the last year of her life she wrote a blog for friends and family that chronicled her ferocious battle with cancer. The entries were humorous and insightful, often with an embedded link to a piece of music that encapsulated Mia's struggle and hopes. Her voice and spirit came through clearly in the one-word affirmation that concluded each blog entry and that expressed her intent to move ever onward, ever higher. "Excelsior!"

*Approved by Chatham-Summit Monthly Meeting in a meeting for business on January 13, 2019. Jeff Bird, Clerk.*

## **Young Adult Spiritual Nurture Series Final Report, July 2019**

*(see minute 2019-07-10)*

"The largest impact from the Series has been the opportunity to meet more young Friends from across the Yearly Meeting. Sharing our faith and experiences have been invaluable. I would love for the series to continue going forward as we search and experiment on what shape Quakerism works for us." —Bruce Steinberg, Brooklyn Monthly Meeting

### **Overview**

The Young Adult Spiritual Nurture Series was offered through New York Yearly Meeting and under the care of the Spiritual Nurture Working Group between October 2018 and July 2019. The six-part series included three day-long retreats and three weekend-long retreats and provided over fifty young adult Friends (ages 18-35ish) with opportunities to connect with each other in Faith and community, build skills related to Quaker

process and practice, and enrich their faith and understanding as Friends. The final retreat culminated with a joyful caravan of fifteen participants and three elders to NYYM Summer Sessions at Silver Bay.

Workshops and retreats were developed based on the expressed needs of young adults from across the yearly meeting and included:

1. Living Faithfully in and as Community, Quaker Intentional Village-Canaan
2. The Intersection of Faith and Everything Else, Fifteenth Street
3. What is Discernment? Quaker Decision-Making in the 21st Century, Poughkeepsie
4. Clerking in the 21st Century, Powell House
5. Why Am I? An Exploration of Authenticity, Integrity, and Courage, Fifteenth Street (moved from Farmington)
6. What Do Young Adults Need?, Powell House

## Results

**Total Attendance:** 140 participants

**Total Individuals Served:** 50

**Participation Average:** 2.7 workshops/person, with 14 people attending four or more workshops

[The Series] was vital and uplifting. It exercised parts of my intellect, laid bare my emotional state and freed my spirit to be seen and valued amongst my community! –YASNS Participant

I appreciated meeting so many others and finding trusted spiritual community with them. I loved the presence and role of the elders in the group. –YASNS Participant

When participants were asked about how participating in the Series impacted them:

- **100%** now have a stronger Quaker community
- **100%** would definitely or likely participate in a Series like this again
- **94%** have built skills related to Quaker process and practice

- **94%** feel more connected to other Young Adults in NYYM and beyond
- **94%** feel more connected to Quakerism
- **89%** strengthened their own spiritual practices
- **83%** feel more connected to NYYM
- **83%** feel more supported and/or nurtured on spiritual journey
- **78%** increased their participation in Quaker events and activities (at any level)

### ***Participation in Other Yearly Meeting Events***

- 16 participants attended Meetings for Discernment in February 2019 (10 first-time attenders)
- At least 22 participants attended Summer Sessions at Silver Bay (5 first-time attenders)

### **Our Testimony**

This testimony is offered by the seventeen young adults and elders who gathered at Powell House July 20-21, 2019 to discuss and discern what young adults across New York Yearly Meeting need. As a subset of the Young Adult Friends who live and worship across our yearly meeting, we present the following with one voice and a shared commitment to the strengthening and nourishing of our yearly meeting's spiritual condition.

Young Adult Friends from New York Yearly Meeting are grateful to the yearly meeting, the Spiritual Nurture Working Group, monthly meetings, and Friends of all ages for their support of the Young Adult Spiritual Nurture Series between October 2018 and July 2019. The time we have spent together in community has been precious, offering us myriad opportunities to explore our Faith, build our skills, connect across differences, and exist fully as our most authentic selves. We have been nurtured, lifted, challenged, coached, loved, and accepted by each other, our elders, and our facilitators. We are enriched and encouraged by the deep diversity of those choosing to participate in the retreats and appreciate growing and learning with Friends of varying races, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientations, abilities, backgrounds, and other identities. We feel Spirit moving

and shaking and living and working within us and around us, and we sense that we are closer to existing in a Religious Society that sees us, hears us, knows us, and invests in us. We have faith that Way will continue opening for our ministries and gifts to be supported and uplifted in meaningful, sustainable, and mutually beneficial ways. We have faith that our voices will be heard.

### **Acknowledgements of Conditions**

We recognize, name, and affirm that not all young adults can actively or even passively participate in traditional Quaker contexts including but not limited to monthly meetings, the yearly meeting, and even series such as the one we just completed. We recognize, name, and affirm that inaccessibility to such Quaker spaces and/or events sometimes translates to a sense of spiritual homelessness that can be alienating, uncomfortable, and spiritually traumatizing for some young adults who live, worship, work, and/or gather in community as Friends. We recognize, name, and affirm that these Friends are part of our Beloved Community and are fundamental to the future of Quakerism.

We recognize, name, and affirm that this work of supporting young adult friends cannot be delegated or siphoned to any one committee, person, or staff member. We affirm that it is the job of every person within the yearly meeting, including us, to create and sustain inclusive, accessible, loving, authentic, accepting, supportive, grounded, innovative, safe, and open-minded spaces for Young Adult Friends and all Friends.

We recognize, name, and affirm that resources of time, money, and energy are limited, and that Young Adult Friends are not the only marginalized population needing or deserving of additional resources. We appreciate transparency from the yearly meeting and other bodies around these decisions.

### **What do Young Adults Need?**

In the spirit of these three acknowledgments, we offer the following eight needs. The first four include specific action items and the second four are principles that we are holding in the Light.

- 1. We need sustainable infrastructure to support, encourage, and nurture us at the yearly meeting**

**level.** We believe that the community that we have built is a strong first step and also know that true stewardship of and care for the young adult community requires the yearly meeting to invest in us and in our futures by funding a full-time, multi-year Field Secretary position devoted exclusively to building and sustaining young adult Friends. We would like to be included in conversations about how to fairly compensate and recognize the work of this important position.

2. **We need access to meaningful opportunities to connect and be in community beyond monthly meetings and yearly meeting sessions.** These formal spaces are vital to our yearly meeting and we are enriched when we have the opportunity and ability to participate fully. We yearn for more spaces, both physical and virtual, to learn, grow, and share in our experiences of life and God both as young adults and across generations. Our spiritual energy increases when we are together, especially when we are together outside of business meetings and meeting-house walls. We crave community grounding and support and seek opportunities to be more interconnected across the entire yearly meeting. We are open to the many ways that this might happen and encourage further exploration of how to continue programming like the Young Adult Spiritual Nurture Series and how to support other Quaker spaces in being more inclusive and accessible to people in the young adult stage of life.
3. **We need mentoring, eldership, and spiritual accompaniment to support our personal journeys, to develop our Divine gifts, and to nurture our leadings and ministries.** Throughout the Spiritual Nurture Series, we appreciated having the space and comfort to open our hearts, and it was a great relief to have elders who were willing to listen and hold us. Young adulthood is a unique time, brimming with transitions, identity exploration, challenges, and spiritual questioning. We seek help in navigating the light and the shadows by creating official mentoring and eldership structures that include a

system for identifying people within the yearly meeting who may walk with us on our spiritual journeys and help us remain connected to our Faith and community when we cannot be together in person or when we feel distant, separate, or alone. We encourage exploration of how to effectively use technology to create grounded, Spirit-centered spaces across distance.

4. **We need investment and resources to build our capacity as Quaker leaders, ministers, elders, and community builders.** We are humbly aware of how much we don't know and feel tremendous responsibility to learn and build our skills so that we can fully participate in and continue to uphold Quaker traditions and practices. Just as we seek to be in community, so too do we want to learn how to build that community. Just as we seek elder-ship, so too do we want to learn how to serve as elders and learn more about how elders have developed on their own spiritual journeys. During the Series, some of us had the chance to learn about discernment, clerking, and eldering and realized that we have gifts and strengths in these areas. We desire opportunities to safely practice these and other critical skills so that when the time comes, we can step up in service to our committees, meetings, and yearly meeting.
5. **We need to feel that when we enter a Quaker space, it is safe for all but especially for those people who are not in positions of power and/or privilege.** Some of us hesitate to enter or participate in more formal Quaker spaces because we or our peers do not feel comfortable being our most authentic selves. We experience the damaging impact of power and privilege in the yearly meeting, including experiences of tokenism, exclusion, and devaluing of marginalized voices, including those of young adults. We worry that Quakers' tendency to lecture or preach about history and quickness to defend practices and ourselves pushes some Friends (further) into the margins or completely off the page. We recognize that these dynamics happen more to some than to others, in

some meetings more than others. We seek a yearly meeting that is committed to equity and liberation in both word and action, where we can each be loved as who we truly are.

6. **We need to pay attention to accessibility in all its forms.** Some Friends have greater access to Quakerism and the yearly meeting than others. Physical disabilities, geographic distance, language barriers, finances, caregiving, life transitions, incarceration, culture, transportation, language, and modes of ministry rise for us as barriers that jeopardize full participation for all Friends, and young adult Friends in particular. We seek to participate in a Faith that is accessible and penetrable, welcoming and alive for all.
7. **We need Quaker spaces to center joy and authenticity, to allow for fluidity, creativity, curiosity, spontaneity, and play.** We hunger for spaces where leisure and structure are equally embraced, where there is time for deep sharing and deep conversation, authentic connections and personal discernment. We appreciate opportunities to break bread together, to be outside together, to experiment and be vulnerable together. We need spaces to share our music, art, poetry, dance, and vocations as the ministries that they are. We wonder how meetings for worship might adapt to include nonverbal ministry and how we might provide space for creative expression in yearly meeting business.
8. **We need for the yearly meeting, *our* yearly meeting, be open to continuing revelation and to trust that we are grounded and Spirit-led rather than lazy, entitled, or naïve. The source of our desire for change and our foundation as a community is profound love, mutual understanding, and hope for a vibrant yearly meeting that addresses the real needs of Friends in the twenty-first century.** Many young adults in New York Yearly Meeting feel that our needs and voices don't matter, especially when they do not fit into traditional forms or official practices. We hear that we are loved and appreciated but it is hard to hear

the love when we feel belittled, dismissed, or unimportant. We yearn for a yearly meeting that trusts our ministries, our leadings, and our discernment, that names and uses our gifts and listens deeply to our joy and to our pain. We yearn for a yearly meeting that hears and acknowledges our concerns and works actively to address those concerns even when not convenient, expedient, or perfectly aligned with how things have always been. This requires each of us to listen and love harder, to trust and dream bigger.

With humility, gratitude, and prayerful optimism, these Young Adult Friends wish to communally drop the veil, to encourage us all to see each other with fresh eyes and fresh hearts, to become one body that is welcoming and supportive of all its parts. We recognize and celebrate our place in this Beloved Community and understand that we cannot expect our needs to be met without our own faithful participation. At the same time, we ask for help in constructing a container and vessel for our continued growth and nurture as young adult Friends. The Young Adult Spiritual Nurture Series was just the beginning. We hunger, in Faith and in Love, for more.

We are aware that we have named needs for spiritual support and accountability that are needed in all corners of our yearly meeting and not exclusively for young adults. We also recognize that expressing our needs in this form could serve to further divide us from the body of which we are an integral part. Our intention is to build bridges, to create wholeness, to increase consciousness, and to strengthen our community. Over this week and in the months to come, we invite Friends of all ages to consider how the needs young adults have expressed might translate to other Quaker contexts and challenges. We also invite you to get to know us, to listen with us, to hear and experience how God is alive in our lives right now. And finally, we invite you to start today. We do not need permission to do this important work of building and nurturing community. We must simply start. We invite you to the starting block. Ready. Set. Let's go.

## **State of Society Report**

*(see minute 2019-07-16)*

The 2018 collection of annual State of Meeting reports is a gift infused with wonder and wisdom shared from around the yearly meeting. The forty two reports submitted this year vary widely, from the way information was gathered and threshed to the style and format of the final documents. This year's committee of two was a wee bit late out of the starting gate with the annual guidance document and yet the responses from meetings, prison worship groups and their members are collectively Spirit-filled with ideas to challenge and uplift us all.

Six meetings reported being bigger this year; enriched with new and more diverse membership, “we are thriving” and “the buoyancy of youth brings optimism for our future”; others are smaller, older, having lost long-time members, finding the need to reduce committee work and struggling financially. Most reports describe one way or another the love and appreciation for the sustained rhythm of worship, meaningful relationship with children and families, community projects and concerns, shared readings, advocacy and outreach, caring for one another, and shared time together. One report states, “Love gathers us up. We hope to continue growing in ways we may not even know,” another celebrates “the quality and collegiality of our meeting,” and, another that “Spiritual nourishment is strong and steady!” One notes “[we] remain small and intimate, expressing the fundamentals of searching for the truth, centering down and focusing on the inner light;” a second reports “we feel the power of transforming love in our worship” while describing that there are differences in the words used by those who speak to express that experience.

In another report a meeting celebrated the value of “our strengths—our worship, our witness, and our desire to improve our relationships.” One prison worship group explains “understanding situations and comments from different perspectives helps us find that which is the good and true in whatever comes our way...being honest with God first and having that honesty carry on to others.” A member of one meeting asked the meeting to hold a conference to focus on the query “What would it take

to achieve a world where every human could lead a decent and dignified life?” Some reports are shorter—one wrote: “In the spirit of Simplicity and Integrity, this report doesn’t need to be long, just say what we want it to say.” This year’s shortest and simplest reads:

The snow melts  
and is washed away  
by clear cold streams.  
And we are still here.

The average length is a page or two; some longer with more reflection on both the process and time spent together creating the report as well as the results. One meeting conducted a survey to gather individual input, another held a Community Worship session using a query about three of the testimonies, a third asked committees to think about the testimonies as they were reflected in their work across the year (this was the longest of the reports—nearly four pages!)

Many reports describe trying new approaches to sustaining and enriching the meeting—new ideas for worship, outreach activities, social gatherings, and other practices; illustrating the life of the Spirit within the meeting and the wider community. These include: a welcome flag; a Seeker’s corner in the meetinghouse; “third day” evening worship time; using queries from Britain and New York Yearly Meetings to start worship; a contemplative singing group; a monthly meeting to engage in civil discourse over public issues; a “Quaker Activism” group that meets periodically to determine projects to make the Quaker “message” more visible in the community; hosting a monthly multi-faith racial justice gathering and a “What Canst Thou Say” spiritual journey sharing group.

One meeting used “listening posts” during which participants gather in small groups to “listen intentionally and deeply to what is on our hearts and minds” and “vision together what kind of meeting we want to be.” One smaller meeting mails monthly devotionals to members, they stay in touch with one another by phone and hold a monthly conference call for healing prayer and worship; another meeting has established a regular schedule of online worship with a growing fellowship; another holds once a month Community Worship; and another established a

worship group in Spanish for area farm workers. In one meeting the December holiday season included a play written by a member and a cookie-decorating day organized by one family. Two meetings, nearby to one another, share responsibility for hosting worship on campus at a local college every two weeks. Another meeting stressed the importance of providing childcare for all events, paid as needed. One meeting schedules worship with a concern for business every other month; an alternate idea that is “working well” for a smaller meeting is to restructure to a “committee of the whole” for all but two committees—Ministry and Counsel, and Buildings and Grounds. A third meeting shared the value and meaningful use of a restorative process in support of a concern affecting the meeting.

Throughout the reports are rich and varied ways to describe how the Quaker testimonies anchor aspects of community practice and form the basis for individual members’ witness or ministry. One meeting wrote that the testimonies “give us a well to draw from, reminding us to be simple people, peaceful people, and people of integrity;” another declares “our testimonies are the waters that sustain us; our meeting is the vessel that holds them,” and others that “community is a verb” and “living the Testimonies is being who we are—seekers who try to know and live what is true.” One recognized that “our collective worship plays an important part in fueling individual activism” and described the unique ways their individual members felt supported in their leadings.

Meetings wrestled with the discussion of the testimonies—“meeting for worship helps us approach the source that gives rise to our testimonies” at the same time that “we struggle to live out the testimonies in a world that doesn’t share our values.” “Testimonies must be tested and lived into, not simply professed.” “We are reminded that the testimonies are the outward expression of an inward transformation. We feel cautious about framing testimonies as a credo, a checklist of goals or qualities to be adhered to, rather than as fruits of the Spirit.” One meeting began their report by stating “This has been a year of deep reflection and inward work for our meeting” as we “continue to move closer to our Quaker roots,” and are “seeking consistent community-wide messaging that reflects

our inward journey and testimonies.”

Simplicity and care of the earth are evident in descriptions of how both meetings and individual members choose sustainable stewardship for their buildings and properties and work on behalf of local environmental issues. Peace work is central to many long term efforts around the yearly meeting, letter-writing and visiting elected officials, regular vigils and demonstrations on local, national and international issues, and support of refugee and immigrant issues in many communities. Other meetings support local food cupboards, soup kitchens, donate gently used furniture, and a variety of other service projects.

Our prison worship groups shared deeply the value of their time together, reminding the wider circle of the yearly meeting that within those walls is the “hardest place to live out being a Quaker and living the testimonies.” Their wise and Faith-rich words included: “In an oppressive environment, the Spirit in us can break down and die....But the Light within cannot be extinguished. In our circle, we offer affirmation—a reflection of how far we have come as individuals and as a community.” Another group wrote: “There are many people in prison who make maintaining Integrity very difficult....Friends help us check when we are in danger of hiding our self or succumbing to the prison culture....We understand that an important part of Integrity is intent. No matter how an interaction turns out, we and those who support us, focus on our intent to decide whether we are maintaining our Integrity.” “We can bring insight into how our environment has impacted and continues to impact the choices we make. There is a Yin/Yang to life in prison and one of the gifts we have to give is helping others see that and being aware when we need that insight ourselves.”

At the end of completing their report this year, one meeting concluded “there was agreement that the process, and the report itself, have been tremendously valuable to us, in ways known and yet to be known” and indicated they continue to welcome the process of creating their “State of the Meeting” report. On behalf of the Ministry and Counsel Coordinating Committee for New York Yearly Meeting, the writers of this year’s State of Society report invite each of our meetings and worship groups to consider this statement, and to be open to the value of the

annual opportunity for shared community conversations.

*Compiled and respectfully submitted  
by Anne Liske and Anita Paul, State of Society Committee*

## **Memorial Minute**

### **Barbara K. Spring (1943-2019)**

*(see minute 2019-07-20)*

Barbara K. Spring was born on March 17, 1943, the third child and only daughter to Robert and Leola Bayles, then of Colorado Springs. Her family lived in many places including camping for a year in Gallup, New Mexico, and she characterized her childhood as “simple living.” She figured that by the time she died, she had lived in 46 different homes throughout her life. Barbara often attributed her drive to make community to her relatively unsettled childhood.

For high school, Barbara attended a Brethren in Christ academy in California and, against her mother’s wishes, went on to college, graduating with a Bachelor’s Degree in education. She earned a Master’s Degree in Early Childhood Education at Indiana University at Bloomington, and later, a Ph.D. in Gerontology from Union Graduate School at the age of 50.

In her late 20’s, Barbara moved with her husband to Zambia for two years of mission teaching with the Brethren in Christ Church. It was here that she had her daughter Tabitha. Two years later, after returning to the United States, she had her son, Jeremy.

Barbara and her family first attended Friends Meeting at Harrisburg Monthly Meeting, Pennsylvania in about 1975, becoming active members shortly thereafter.

Barbara moved with her family to Billings, Montana in 1981. She became a member of Billings Friends Meeting, which convened for many years in the living room of local Friends, Tom and Ruth Towe. In the early 1980s, Barbara was part of a group of Montana Friends that started Montana Gathering of Friends, including northern Wyoming, under North Pacific Yearly Meeting. MGOF continues to have semi-annual meetings.

In 1990, she moved to Missoula, Montana and became a

member of Missoula Friends Meeting. She used her training and experience as a real estate agent to assist and advise the purchase of Missoula Meeting's meeting house in 1993, financing the costs using rental income and personal contracts with Friends.

Along with cherishing her relationships in whatever community she resided, Barbara loved traveling. She often stated that her two years in Africa were some of the best years of her life. Barbara took great delight in all of the varied children of God, and loved to travel, to see and celebrate diverse cultures. She traveled frequently, often internationally, including a six month round the world trip with a dear friend, collecting many treasured memories that she recounted over her remaining years.

At the heart of Barbara's community were her children and grandchildren. After her grandchildren Jack and Nora were born, she moved to Albany, New York from Missoula in the Fall of 2006. For the next twelve years Barbara took a very active role in the lives of her grandchildren, and made her home with them for several years.

Upon moving to New York to be with family, Barbara immediately became active in Albany Monthly Meeting, which received her transfer of membership in 2008.

In her work life and community, Barbara started many groups and projects, and rejoiced in passing them along to others to continue. She also liked to work in teams because it enriched her work and provided for strong foundations to grow.

She worked with Ira Byock to start The Missoula Demonstration Project, a community-based program to collect stories about and provide solutions and guidance for support during the dying process. Ira used the work they did together to write the books *Dying Well: The Prospect for Growth at the End of Life* and *The Four Things That Matter Most*. Barbara often reminded people of these four things to remember to say at the end of life, "Please forgive me," "I forgive you," "Thank you," and "I love you," usually adding a fifth: "Goodbye." She used these herself many times in the last few months of her life.

In 2007 she and Anita Paul of Schenectady Monthly Meeting embarked on another such project. At that year's New York Yearly Meeting (NYYM) Summer Sessions, they attended an interest group with representatives of the newly formed Friends

Foundation for the Aging (FFA), and promptly launched a pilot program to offer consultations on aging and end of life to Friends in the Albany metro area. The success of that pilot became the ARCH (Aging Resources Consultation and Help) Program of NYYM, funded by FFA and under the care of NYYM's Committee on Aging Concerns (CAC). With persistence and help from the CAC, she and Anita grew ARCH into a volunteer-fueled ARCH Visitor Program, offering training for ARCH Visitors to gain a sense of confidence in making referrals to appropriate services, spiritual listening, and building meeting capacity to care for one another as we grow older. In the last few years the ARCH program has begun to expand beyond the borders of NYYM, creating sister programs among Friends in other places. Many Friends remarked at the end of her life how this training she had provided to others came back to her as Friends turned their capacity to organize their care to her dying process.

Barbara led ARCH trainings for Albany Meeting members and recruited several to be ARCH Visitors. Barbara reminded Friends to ask for help when needed and to be available to help others. She helped the entire meeting develop a loving, caring culture for one another. Her work with positive aging also extended beyond the Quaker community. She organized and nurtured two Seasons groups of Quaker and non-Quaker older women in the Albany area, which both have continued for over ten years meeting monthly to share support and perspectives on the experiences of aging.

In addition to her passion for creating cultural change in our society's ageism and death denial, she was passionate about racial justice and healing. Barbara often spoke about how moving to the more racially diverse Albany area opened her eyes to new aspects of racism. She quickly volunteered to support the community's Underground Railroad History Project, joined Albany Meeting's Friends for Racial Justice Committee and was its inspired clerk for many years. She was deeply involved in developing the committee's Stories for Racial Justice Program which offered listening and learning experiences to the wider community.

Under Barbara's leadership, Friends for Racial Justice reached out to other faith organizations to plan together a community conference in 2017, *Building the Beloved Community: Beyond*

Racism. The conference created an ongoing network which facilitated discussions about racial history and racial justice. The group has educated itself and others about implicit bias, white privilege and how to be a good white ally. Barbara and others in the Beloved Community group participated in rallies and other events supporting racial justice and were involved in educational initiatives organized by the Institute for Racial Equity and Healing at the Macedonia Baptist Church.

In the fall of 2017, an African American friend asked Barbara to read *Gather at the Table*, a book written by a descendant of a slave and a descendant of a family that held slaves. Barbara formed a book group to read it together, after which Barbara and several others attended a national Coming to the Table Conference, resulting in the creation of an Albany Coming to the Table group in the summer of 2018. She was also on the Board of Albany's Grand Street Community Arts organization, helping to create a low power radio station to serve a largely African American area of Albany. Barbara involved others in lobbying on behalf of racial justice issues in the state legislature. At the end of her life she brought her concerns about aging and racism together through exploring providing ARCH services to those who are growing old while incarcerated.

Barbara put into practice other Quaker testimonies as well. After moving to Albany, Barbara became active in the Iran Project of Women Against War. In 2007 she traveled to Iran as a member of a citizen diplomacy delegation of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, speaking about the need for a peaceful US-Iran relationship on her return. Barbara was also deeply concerned about living with respect for the environment and for her retirement built a very small, very green, house.

In all of her projects she saw herself as a bridge person, making connections and bringing people together. She did this to enrich the lives of others and for the pleasure she got from seeing connections made. She taught by example how to live into our dying with verve and wisdom.

She died on June 11, 2019 surrounded by her family at her home in Voorheesville, New York.

*Approved at Albany Monthly Meeting business session  
July 14, 2019, Anne Liske, Clerk*

## **Pay as Led Report to Summer Sessions 2019**

*(see minute 2019-07-23)*

Two years ago we started discussing Pay as Led, and last year we decided to try this experiment. We approved offering options to people who attend Summer Sessions to choose how much to pay for their stay with a minimum below the real cost. The motivation was to make Summer Sessions more affordable to those who find the cost a burden and encourage more people to attend. Others, we hoped, would be willing to pay more than the real cost in order to help make up the difference.

### **What about the money?**

We will not have final numbers until later—probably after the end of this week—as final payments and refunds are still being processed, but the overall status is: we did it. We rose to the challenge that we accepted last year. More specifically, we took in enough money to cover our costs to Silver Bay plus an amount similar to what we collected in registration fees last year. So, there is no additional impact on NYYM operations expenses compared to prior years.

About  $\frac{1}{4}$  of attending families (24.4%) paid the standard amount (covering the Silver Bay charges and the registration charges), another  $\frac{1}{4}$  (26%) paid less than the standard charges, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  (49.6%) paid more.

### **Adults and Children Attendance Rates**

While it is difficult to absolutely ascribe changes to PaL it seems likely that it had a significant impact on attendance rates. After several years of declining attendance, 2019 showed a significant increase in adult attendance. There was a slight increase in the number of children.

### **Attendance History**

20% of us are first time attenders, and over  $\frac{1}{4}$  are either first timers or people who have not attended in a long time (self-defined).

### **Attendance by Age Group**

We don't have good statistics from prior years, but roughly 15% of us this year are young adults.

## **Next Steps**

Expect to see final accounting reported at Fall Sessions along with a recommendation for continuing PaL (or not) for 2020.

## **Memorial Minute**

### **Madeline S. McClure (1927-2018)**

*(see minute 2019-07-26)*

#### **Madeline McClure, Racial Justice Advocate and Quaker**

Madeline Schwinge McClure was born in Yorktown, NY to Myrtle and Henry Schwinge, and raised in Secaucus, NJ. She attended Antioch College, a sister college to Wilberforce College, named for the British abolitionist, in Dayton, OH. This was where her interest in interracial activities began and where she first experienced a Quaker Meeting for Worship.

Madeline Schwinge married George McClure in 1948, and they settled in Little Falls, NJ. During her days as a home-maker, Madeline served as president of Verona League of Women Voters and a member of the New Jersey State Board of the LWV.

Madeline became a member of Montclair Monthly Meeting in 1958. While her daughter was growing up, Madeline served on the Religious Education Committee. During her over 50 years of active participation in Montclair Monthly Meeting, she served on Ministry, Nominating, and Peace Committees. She was also active in New York Yearly Meeting as clerk of Junior Yearly Meeting committee, clerk of the Race Relations, Sharing Fund, Black Development, Black Concerns, and Witness Coordinating Committee. Her interest in the Friends testimony for Black Concerns was supported by her husband George and daughter Kathleen (Kit). Madeline took Kit to the historic 1963 civil rights movement March on Washington.

In 1965, and again in 1967, the McClures welcomed into the family two sixteen year old African-American daughters to attend the local high school with Kit: Emily from Mississippi and Mary Jane from Tennessee. Both daughters have loving extended families of their own. The McClures and both daughters' families have life-long connections made over the years.

When daughter Emily faced open racial discrimination at the

local high school, Madeline successfully ran for the Regional High School Board of Education in her community, to deal more effectively with the situation.

Madeline McClure went back to school when she was 51 years old. She took Computer Science courses and received her B.S. in Computer Science from Montclair College in 1984. After completing her degree she was employed by AT&T. She and her husband George retired in 1994 and in 1997 moved to Arbor Glen CCRC in Bridgewater, NJ where they remained active in their community and attended Plainfield Friends Meeting.

Madeline was predeceased by her husband George McClure, daughter Emily Smoot Borom, and brother Henry (Buddy) Schwinge. She is survived by her sister Virginia Schwinge Degraw, daughter Mary Jane Johnson and John Johnson of Dayton, Ohio, daughter Kathleen McClure and Peter Matsoukas of NYC, beloved grandson Trevor Chase Johnson and Tasia Johnson of Chicago, and a large extended family.

*This minute has been approved by  
Montclair Monthly Meeting, Barbra Bleecker, Clerk.*

## **Liaison Report on the Evolution of NYYM Structure**

*(see minute 2019-07-28)*

*At Spring Sessions 2018, Friends approved the beginning of an experiment in revisions to our yearly meeting structure, with the expectation of a report to come to Summer Sessions 2019. This approval was memorialized in minute 2018-04-06, which is available in the 2018-2019 Yearbook, pages 24 to 26. This is the expected report from Liaison Committee.*

The experiment included the following specific provisions, noted in the minute of approval:

- Suspension of Nurture Coordinating Committee (NCC), its constituents transferred as follows:
- Aging Concerns Committee to General Services Coordinating Committee (GSCC),

- Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM) to become a subcommittee of Sessions Committee, a part of GSCC,
- Epistle Committee, Powell House, and Youth Committee to Ministry Coordinating Committee,
- Reps of FGC, FUM, and FWCC to an “affiliate group” linked with Liaison Committee,
- Oakwood Board to the care of Liaison Committee.

It is appropriate to provide some clarifications why this experiment was undertaken and the concerns that were expressed, as well as how it now stands.

- NCC was suspended because there was little life in the committee, which had been struggling for some years. There was no appropriate rising new clerk and few committee members and reps attended the most recent meetings. A concern was expressed about suspending “nurture itself,” but of course, there is nurture in all that we do, and certainly in the work of the other CCs.
- Aging Concerns seemed to be a good fit in GSCC, particularly in light of the fact that the ARCH Coordinators, who have a close supporting and nurturing relationship with Aging Concerns, have been integrated as staff into our yearly meeting structure. This arrangement seems well suited.
- JYM also seems well suited as a subcommittee of Sessions in light of the fact that their exclusively Summer Sessions related work is closely related to the work of Sessions Committee. The current clerk of Sessions Committee enthusiastically approves of this relationship.
- Epistle, Powell House and Youth Committee seemed like a good fit for MCC; however, MCC members expressed concerns that they would need more meeting time to address the concerns of all their constituent bodies. This arrangement so far seems to be working out, along with creative new ways that that committee has begun to use to meet its needs. From the committee minutes: *Many of us feel that the question isn't just about whether the slightly modified new structure is working well enough. We need to seek actively for what structure we need to have.*

- Moving FGC, FUM, and FWCC to Liaison as a group of “Affiliates” seems to be functioning at least as well as it did as a part of NCC, but questions and concerns remain. The designated contact person on Liaison for these bodies is the Assistant Clerk of our yearly meeting, currently Elaine Learnard, who has reached out to them. They tend to function on their own and are as much reps to their wider Quaker bodies as they are a part of our yearly meeting. They are being invited to report on a rotating basis to our gatherings, which is a positive step forward. We may wish to consider whether other bodies of reps to other wider Quaker bodies, currently mostly on Witness Coordinating Committee (WCC), should also become a part of this structural change, but whether or not any of these entities belong in the care of Liaison Committee or elsewhere is a question yet to be considered further, as well as the specific relationship to our Yearly Meeting Assistant Clerk.
- The move of Oakwood Board to Liaison was separated from the other affiliates because Oakwood, though also a separate entity, is very much NYYM’s “own” school, and is recognized and cherished as such by both NYYM and Oakwood. The relationship through Liaison Committee, however, is another matter to consider further in the future.

There was a sense of the meeting that the establishment of “yet another” ad hoc committee on the structure of our yearly meeting was not how we should proceed in light of the many prior such committees over recent decades. Therefore, Liaison Committee has asked Friends to make suggestions to committees they serve on and to consider that the CC clerks would welcome any specific recommendations. In addition, appropriate informal experiments and small changes could be undertaken by committees and others.

There have been few such specific recommendations to this point; however, there are experiments that are very promising, including the referenced new practices within MCC itself.

One such experiment has been referred to as “distributed clerking.” The role of clerk, in particular for some committees, is extensive enough that it is difficult to find new clerks who have all the experience and skills, as well as the availability and

willingness to commit to the extensive work involved. Breaking the work down and distributing it among several persons already began at Summer Sessions 2018. WCC and Financial Services Committee each distributed the workload to three committee members in order to find a replacement for the retiring clerk. Both committees seem to be functioning well since then, and the idea, now referenced as “distributed clerking,” may well become an important concept as we move forward in the future. In fact, there are other yearly meetings in which there are two yearly meeting clerks, one for the annual gathering and one for the interim gatherings. NYYM may wish to consider that approach as well. The current clerk of our yearly meeting has already had our assistant clerk do some clerking at our gatherings and expects to do so more as time goes on.

Other specific concerns are being considered by Liaison and perhaps by others, though not yet reported to Liaison, such as small study groups of volunteers to assist where there appear to be problems. One such problem is NYYM’s Nominating Committee, whose membership is currently entirely by appointment from the regions, weighted by regional membership numbers. This system has not been functioning well for many years and is a critical problem. Four of the nine regions have no representatives and most of the others are underrepresented or represented by one individual who has served for perhaps too many years. The committee has been much too small and with insufficient knowledge about potential individuals to serve from those regions that do not have representatives.

Another study group may be formed to consider revising our *Handbook* to be more descriptive than prescriptive, which is to say, make it more flexible and descriptive of best practices than a rule book, which in effect it currently is. This is currently how some other yearly meetings handle their handbook.

Another study group may recommend so-called permanent committees and semi-permanent committees with “sunset dates” to review if there is insufficient life to continue when they are reviewed—or some other process to enable easier laying down of committees that no longer have life.

Other ideas include possible merging of some committees or converting a committee into an appointee or an appointee with

an assistant.

We are also experimenting with revisions to the so-called “consent agenda,” as Friends are aware from our discussions during Spring and Summer Sessions 2019. That process was never formalized by minute or specified as to structure, which we are doing at this time.

Changes are also being made to Interim Actions by the Clerk and/or General Secretary. This process was approved by minute in 2014. We are in process of making a revision to the process of reporting all interim actions by dissemination at time of action *and* by report at the next gathering.

Friends are asked to consider all such ideas and to make known their thoughts, both as to the ideas and to where they may apply in their committee work. In addition, Friends are invited to make new suggestions at any time to any member of Liaison Committee.

At this time, there are no specific proposals for consideration for approval other than the proposed laying down of NCC, which will follow.

## **Summary of Changes to 2017 Version of NYM By-Laws**

*(see minute 2019-07-32)*

### **Article II. Board of Trustees**

Paragraph 1. Appointment: The number of members of NYM to be appointed to serve as trustees is sought to be changed from between 5 and 7 trustees to between 5 and 10 trustees as the Board of Trustees feels the need for a larger Board in order to properly conduct the regular business of the Board.

Also, the Board of Trustees seeks to reduce the number of years each trustee serves from 5 years to 4 years in order to encourage more members of NYM to consider appointment as trustees. It is felt that whatever is lost by reducing the number of years of each term is outweighed by the likelihood that more members of NYM will consider serving as trustees when asked to do so by Nominating.

Further, the Board of Trustees seeks to reduce the number of

consecutive terms a trustee may serve on the Board from 3 terms to 2 terms as the Board feels that the more frequent addition of trustees to the Board outweighs any benefit of having trustees serve more than two consecutive terms.

Additionally, the Board feels that, in the event of a vacancy, a trustee can serve up to 2 years to fill the vacancy of a trustee who is unable to complete the balance of his term and still be considered eligible for the subsequent appointment of 2 consecutive 4 year terms.

Last, for its more effective functioning, the Board of Trustees is seeking the input of the Clerk of NYYM and the Treasurer of NYYM in the business before the Board whenever possible or necessary and seeks to make them ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees in order to facilitate their input.

Paragraph 3. Officers of the Trustees: The Board of Trustees seeks to appoint an Assistant Clerk in order to conduct the regular business of the Board in the absence of the Clerk of the Trustees.

The Board seeks to re-title the Secretary of Trustees as the Recording Clerk and the Financial Officer as the Financial Clerk in keeping with the usual practice of Friends.

The Board seeks to delete “The Clerk of the Trustees shall act as President of the Corporation when the acts of such an officer are required”. In order to understand the reason for the deletion of this sentence here, see the changes to Article III. Officers below.

Paragraph 4. Meetings: The Board seeks to change the title of Secretary to Recording Clerk.

Paragraph 5. Quorum: Although it is hoped that the Clerk of NYYM and the Treasurer of NYYM will be able to attend a significant number of meetings of the Board of Trustees, the Board recognizes that this will depend more on their time availability and whether they feel the need to attend a particular meeting. Therefore, the Board seeks to have their inability to attend a given meeting not affect the quorum requirement necessary for the Board to transact business at that meeting.

Paragraph 7. Limitations on Responsibilities and Liabilities: Add at the end of Paragraph 7 “, nor do the Trustees have authority over the spiritual concerns and the programs of the Corporation.”

The Board seeks to further clarify its role in the functioning of the Corporation by setting forth these additional limitations in Paragraph 7.

### **Article III. Officers**

Paragraph 1. Officers of the Corporation: The Board seeks to specifically identify the additional officer(s) the Corporation may appoint in the future by adding at the end of the second sentence of Paragraph 1. “, including one or more assistant treasurers.” The NYYM Treasurer has identified this as a need of NYYM going forward and the Board of Trustees agrees.

Further, the Board seeks to include a third sentence at the end of Paragraph 1. “The Clerk of Trustees shall serve as President of the Corporation, the Assistant Clerk of the Trustees shall serve as Vice President of the Corporation and the Recording Clerk of the Trustees shall serve as Secretary of the Corporation.” Trustees seek this additional sentence in response to the concerns of our NYYM Treasurer that the practice of Friends in its titling of its Officers of the Corporation is confusing to the banks NYYM does business with, NYYM’s investment manager and NYYM’s insurers. In the secular business world as well as in the nonprofit universe and with other religious corporations, it is the usual practice more often than not that the officers of a corporation are titled as President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. However, it is the practice of Friends and NYYM to call our “officers” clerks, assistant clerks, recording clerks and treasurers. The term “officers” doesn’t translate completely into the terminology of “clerks” as practiced in NYYM. By having the Clerk of the Trustees serve as the President of the Corporation, the Assistant Clerk of the Trustees serve as the Vice-President of the Corporation and the Recording Clerk of the Corporation serve as Secretary of the Corporation, it will make our banks, insurers and investment manager more comfortable doing business with us and make it easier for our NYYM Treasurer to have contracts signed and generally conduct our business with

the secular, outside world.

Paragraph 2. Clerk of the Corporation: In the first sentence, insert after “The responsibilities of the Clerk” the words “of the Corporation”; in the last sentence, delete the word: “necessary”.

Paragraph 5. Treasurer of the Corporation: Replace the title “financial officer” with the title “Financial Clerk” both times that it appears in Paragraph 5.

## **Article V. Meetings of the Corporation (“Sessions”)**

Paragraph 4. Presiding Officer: After the words, “unavailability to serve”, insert “or a conflict of interest,”

## **First and Second “Readings” or First and Second “Presentations”**

*(see minute 2019-07-40)*

### **Draft concept for possible change of practice**

Sometimes, changes traditionally require first and second readings. Recently, there were proposed changes to the legal language of the trustees’ bylaws. At the time of first “reading”, we found that a reading of the legal language would have been difficult, very time consuming and tedious, and we agreed at that time to a “summary presentation” of the recommended changes in lieu of a full “reading,” for the “first reading.” The second “reading” has not yet come before gathered Friends because the trustees are in the process of ongoing language discernment. A similar concern could arise for other changes, such as for Handbook changes or extensive changes in *Faith and Practice* language.

Liaison proposes a change in our process:

We recommend permission for the possibility that there be first and second “presentations” where considered appropriate by the Clerk in lieu of first and second readings. In the event the Clerk so decides, the entire proposed wording will be printed in the Advance Reports, subject to reversion back to a full reading

on request of anyone up to the actual anticipated presentation, similar to the current process for consent agenda items. If there are provisions in *Faith and Practice* for first and second readings, and this recommendation is approved, it will go to the Committee to Revise *Faith and Practice* for a formal change.

## **Proposed Changes to the Consent Agenda Process 2019**

(see minute 2019-07-41)

### **Background**

1. Concerns about the title “consent agenda:”
  - a. not clear without explanation
  - b. term “consent” implies passivity, current concerns about unwanted sexual advances emphasize that passive consent is insufficient; the term is misleading and not in keeping with Quaker concern for integrity
  - c. we do not generally consider approval of “agendas,” but of concerns, minutes, nominations, etc.
2. Concern about the specifics of timing for presentation of the final version of consent agenda, which was changed too frequently and too late in the view of some Friends at Summer Sessions 2018.
3. Concern about nominations perhaps needing to be a separate process so that other items can be presented earlier and considered without the timing pressure that exists for the Nominating Committee.

### **Proposal**

1. Liaison plans to experiment with changing the term “Consent Agenda,” using the term “seasoned” instead of “consent” and dropping the word “agenda” in this context. The use of the term “seasoned” is proposed to indicate that, in the opinion of the clerk, these items are ready for action by gathered Friends at sessions and need no further seasoning; if any Friend feels additional seasoning is

merited, the item will be removed by contacting the clerk in advance of the list's presentation. An explanation of the process will be provided in writing on the heading all uses of the process.

2. For spring and fall sessions, the final version of the list of **Seasoned Business Items** including any nominations will be published in advance no later than Monday of the week of the gathering, with copies also made available on paper for Friends when they arrive. Anything to be added after the deadline will be added to a regular business agenda. Approval by gathered Friends will be sought at the second or third business session.
3. For Summer Sessions, there will be two lists of seasoned items: for general business, the list of **Seasoned Business Items**, and for nominations the **Seasoned Nominations List**. The name changes and the new processes will be presented at Spring Sessions 2019 and an explanation will be available in advance of both Spring and Summer Sessions 2019.

a. General business:

- i. The list of **Seasoned Business Items** will be made available as early as is feasible, and no later than Tuesday of Summer Sessions. It will be made available on paper, if possible in the Quaker Update, and electronically.
- ii. Anything to be added after the deadlines will be added to the regular agenda.

b. Nominations:

- i. **Preliminary Nominations List** will be made available for first review no later than the Tuesday of Summer Sessions at 1:00 p.m. It will be made available on paper to be posted and, if feasible, also electronically. Announcements will be made in advance by the clerk as to its availability.
- ii. There can be changes to and deletions from the Preliminary Nominations List up until 1:00 p.m.

of the Wednesday of Summer Sessions. This review period provides everyone the opportunity to consider the proposed nominations and to speak with the Nominating Committee if there are questions or suggestions about the nominations. As of 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, the Preliminary Nominations List, with any amendments made thereto, will become the Seasoned Nominations List.

iii. Any nominations to be made after the Wednesday 1:00 p.m. deadline will be added to a regular business agenda.

c. All seasoned business lists will include contact individuals and their contact data in case of any concerns that could lead to a request for the item to be removed from the Seasoned Business Items list. Items can be removed from the list up until the beginning of the meeting for business at which the list is considered for approval. Consideration for approval of both lists will be requested at a Friday business meeting.

4. All future written use of **Seasoned Business Items** lists will include the following explanation in writing:

Seasoned Business Items lists are similar to “consent agendas” of the business world. The list of items is published in advance with an expectation of approval without discussion at an upcoming business session. These are items that the clerk believes need a decision or need to be recorded in our minutes but do not require any consideration during the business session. Anyone may seek clarification from a contact person in advance, if one is designated by an item on the list. Anyone may request that the clerk remove any item from the Seasoned Business Items list. This can happen up until the time when we are ready to approve the list. The clerk will first ask if any items need to be removed from the list. The clerk will then ask for approval of the entire list. No explanation is needed when asking for an item to be removed from the list just before approval. When asking for an item to be removed from the list in advance, it would help the clerk to know why. Items removed from the Seasoned Business Items list are added to the regular agenda.

## **Proposed Minute to Change Status of Reading Clerks**

*(see minute 2019-07-57)*

### **Explanation:**

- Reading clerks have been listed as “Officers of New York Yearly Meeting” in the annual *Yearbooks*. They are nominated for one year terms by NYYM Nominating Committee, to serve at the three annual gatherings: spring, summer, and fall.
- At many spring and fall gatherings, some appointed reading clerks can not attend and volunteer replacements need to be found. In many cases, this provides an opportunity for Friends of all ages to serve our yearly meeting in an “entry level” capacity, in particular from among Oakwood Friends and from the given host regions. These opportunities have been enthusiastically welcomed both by the volunteers and by gathered Friends.
- It is difficult for Nominating Committee to find Friends willing to serve in this capacity, in part because of the expectation that they will attend and serve at all three gatherings.
- The proposed bylaws to be presented for consideration for approval at these Summer Sessions includes a detailed specification of the officers of NYYM, the wording of which does not include reading clerks.

### **Minute, proposed by Liaison Committee in consultation with Nominating Committee:**

From date of approval of this minute, reading clerk will become a volunteer position, to be sought by Sessions Committee as a part of their regular list of necessary volunteers for each gathering. Reading clerks will no longer be officers of New York Yearly Meeting. They will no longer be nominated by NYYM Nominating Committee. Changes to the NYYM *Handbook* and *Yearbooks* will be made after this approval by the appropriate bodies with no further approvals needed by gathered Friends.

## Epistle

### The 324th New York Yearly Meeting Summer Sessions • July 21-27, 2019

To Friends Everywhere:

We send loving greetings from Silver Bay on Lake George in New York State, where we have gathered as a yearly meeting since the 1940s. We sit on lands that were once Mohawk hunting grounds, shared by treaty with many nations. We thank the Mohawks and other nations for their care of the lands and the lake. For this our 324th gathering for Summer Sessions, we are 501 Friends, including 103 Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM), from babies to high school. We are queer and straight, trans and cis, young and old, differently abled, people of all colors, with origins in many lands, bearing legacies of dispossession and harm that we struggle to redress, along with bounties of love and care and gratitude for the diverse truths that we bring together. We join in thankfulness for the divine love that infuses at once our joyful gathering and our shared striving for justice and renewal.

The theme of our Sessions this year was **Friends Come in All Ages, Sizes, and Colors: Our Path Toward Being Inclusive**. Our theme marked two important landmarks in the life of our Yearly Meeting. This year we implemented a Pay-as-Led program. Half of the attenders contributed above the basic rate, to provide financial support for others to attend. We had seventy-four more attenders than last year. We struggled with expanding our understanding of membership. In both initiatives we look to a future in which the gifts of the spirit among us can be embraced in ever widening circles. We celebrated in particular that our Meetings for Discernment, which we have been cultivating for twelve years, provided a vessel for this unfolding truth.

It was fitting that the plenary session that opened our gathering was led by Chris DeRoller and Mike Clark, the longtime youth directors at Powell House, our retreat center. Chris and Mike led us in group activities that grew our sense of togetherness and mutual awareness. Chris read to us from a book that

had once inspired her, “What [the world] needs most today is communities of love, little islands flung everywhere...to answer without words the million and one questions that arise in the hearts of people—to witness by being.”\* For many of our younger Friends, the Powell House youth program has been vital to their experience as Friends—it drew us together to gather under the mantle of that practice. Chris and Mike quoted young people from Farmington-Scipio Meeting and Powell House high school seniors about their experience of Friends. As Chris and Mike observed, quoting Joan Baez, in a time of crisis we must, “arm up with love and come from the shadows.”

As always our gathering was very rich and diverse in experience—with visitors, interest groups, exhibits, play, Bible Study—but everywhere we felt informed by the fresh breath of promise that growth and change in our body offered. Each morning we gathered before business for Community Worship, hosted by different groups. A Friend named Nikki Holland, the new Director of the Belize City Friends Center, sounded the new note of inclusion by describing how, living in Mexico far from a Quaker Meeting, she learned about Quakerism and sought out the New Association of Friends in Indiana to support her membership.

Among the many issues of passionate concern to Friends: we seasoned a recommendation to divest as a yearly meeting from fossil fuels; we heard urgent calls to rise together to protect immigrants and refugees; and we were reminded anew of the pressing need to undo white supremacy both structurally in the larger society, in our religious society, and personally. Margery Rubin, clerk of Haddonfield Quarterly Meeting of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, and her husband George Rubin, former clerk of the New York Yearly Meeting, were sent by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, where they now reside, with a minute against hate. We were reminded of the importance of serving our monthly meetings, particularly remote meetings, and understanding their needs. We feel a tender call to embrace and nurture our prison worship groups and heed the witness of those damaged by mass incarceration. Our young adult Friends organized a Young Adult Spiritual Nurture Series of gatherings this year; they call on us to support vital infrastructure for building our community and including them in the conduct of business. We

considered how to provide staff support for young adults in a threshing session.

Behind the scenes, under the guidance of our priorities process, our staff and committees have labored to make the works of our yearly meeting more transparent and accountable.

When we come together in Silver Bay, the power of our gathered love, amidst the grandeur of our natural setting, fills us with a sense of awe and promise, even amidst dire threats to peace, security, and our beloved earth, here and around the world, and fears for the fragile future of our Society. We gather in wonder at the power of God's love to transform us inwardly and unite us in pursuit of a more compassionate world.

*Jeffrey Aaron, Clerk*

\* *I Live On an Island* [a.k.a., *Welcome Pilgrim*], by Catherine de Hueck Doherty (1979)

# STATISTICAL REPORT—2019

Prepared from reports sent by monthly meeting recorders

Total Members 2018	Total Members 2019	ADDED				REMOVED				
		Adults	Youth	Birth	Request	Transfer	Death	Release	Transfer	Discontinuance
<b>ALL FRIENDS</b>										
97	99	92	7	0	0	4	1	1	0	0
33	33	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
105	100	99	1	0	0	0	3	1	2	0
32	32	30	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
55	45	45	0	0	2	0	2	1	0	0
<b>322</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>BUTTERNUTS</b>										
8	9	9	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
15	14	14	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
21	23	23	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	0
18	18	17	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21	21	21	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
<b>82</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Total Members 2018	Total Members 2019	ADDED				REMOVED			
		Adults	Youth	Birth	Request	Transfer	Death	Release	Transfer Discontinuance
<b>FARMINGTON-SCIPIO</b>									
68	69	56	13	0	0	2	0	1	0
6	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	19	19	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
16	16	16	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
129	81	81	0	0	0	0	4	3	0
21	18	18	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
18	19	11	8	0	1	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
141	141	137	4	0	2	1	2	1	0
57	45	45	0	0	4	0	0	16	0
17	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
97	95	84	11	0	2	0	2	0	0
105	100	95	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
52	57	55	2	0	0	3	3	0	1
<b>745</b>	<b>673</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>3</b>
									<b>2</b>

Total Members 2018	Total Members 2019	ADDED				REMOVED				
		Adults	Youth	Birth	Request Transfer	Death	Release	Transfer	Discontinuance	
<b>LONG ISLAND</b>										
15	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
39	39	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	35	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
30	29	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
56	56	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
75	76	3	3	0	2	0	1	0	0	0
<b>268</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>NEW YORK</b>										
257	263	236	27	0	5	2	0	1	0	0
207	207	194	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
28	25	23	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
14	14	12	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
62	62	60	2	0	1	2	1	1	3	0
2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>570</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>

Total Members 2018	Total Members 2019	ADDED				REMOVED				
		Adults	Youth	Birth	Request	Transfer	Death	Release	Transfer	Discontinuance
<b>NINE PARTNERS</b>										
46	44	44	0	0	1	1	0	1	3	0
15	14	14	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
44	44	36	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
41	40	38	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
54	50	50	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0
<b>202</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>NORTHEASTERN</b>										
59	53	47	6	0	0	1	4	0	3	0
61	62	60	2	0	2	1	2	0	0	0
41	41	39	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	11	11	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
60	57	57	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
22	22	20	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	0
11	11	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
41	33	33	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
17	17	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>321</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>

Total Members 2018	Total Members 2019	ADDED				REMOVED				
		Adults	Youth	Birth	Request	Transfer	Death	Release	Transfer	Discontinuance
<b>PURCHASE</b>										
7	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
70	68	62	6	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
7	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	20	20	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
116	117	114	3	0	0	2	1	0	0	0
98	92	89	3	0	0	2	1	4	0	0
90	92	86	6	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
<b>407</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>SHREWSBURY-PLAINFIELD</b>										
44	44	42	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30	29	29	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
84	81	77	4	0	2	0	3	0	2	0
31	27	25	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
<b>189</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>3107</b>	<b>2987</b>	<b>2826</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>4</b>

1 Figures submitted for 2018 and 2019 were inconsistent.

2 2018 figures repeated; figures for 2019 not available at press time.

3 Figures in the Transfer columns reflect both transfers within NYYM and members joining or leaving NYYM. This accounts for the statistical variance in the report.

## **Friends Under Appointment to New York Yearly Meeting**

15 Rutherford Place  
New York, NY 10003  
212-673-5750 • office@nyym.org

Appointments to committees and other agencies will be found as follows:

- Officers, p. 138
- Committees Outside Coordinating Committee Structure, p. 138
- Representatives to Affiliate Groups, p.139
- Meetings for Discernment, p. 141
- Ministry Section, p. 144
- General Services Section, p. 149
- Witness Section, p. 157
- Spring and Fall Sessions Representatives, p. 164
- Friends Recorded in the Ministry and Those Serving as Pastors in the Yearly Meeting, p. 167

Addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses of Friends under appointment to the yearly meeting are in the final pages.

The following symbols are used in this section:

C—Clerk (multiple Cs = co-clerks)

AC—Assistant Clerk

CV—Convener

P—President

R—Recording Clerk

T—Treasurer, Financial Clerk

VP—Vice President



John Scardina ('11) Purchase

2021

Elizabeth Porter ('15)

NEYM\*

William Reagan ('15)

Easton

Deborah Wood ('18)

Purchase

2022

Patrick Crowley ('19)

Pacific YM\*

Robert Heidel ('19)

Baltimore YM\*

Michael Quinland ('13)

Westbury

Philip Richmond ('19)

Baltimore YM\*

*\* by permission of New York Yearly Meeting*

## **Affiliate Groups**

### **Friends General Conference**

1216 Arch St. #2B, Philadelphia PA 19107

Telephone 215-561-1700

[www.fgcquaker.org](http://www.fgcquaker.org)

#### *Members of Central Committee*

2020

Anne Pomeroy ('15)

New Paltz

Pamela Boyce Simms ('17)

Hudson

2021

C—Karen Snare ('18)

Bulls Head-Oswego

2022

Helen Mullin ('19)

Brooklyn

Jill Nanfeldt ('16)

Chatham-Summit

Edward Seliger ('16)

New Paltz

#### *Ex-officio member*

NYYM Clerk

Jeffrey Aaron

## **Friends United Meeting**

101 Quaker Hill Dr., Richmond IN 47374

Telephone 765-962-7573

[www.fum.org](http://www.fum.org)

### *Members of the General Board*

2020

Gabrielle Savory Bailey ('19) co-opted	Chatham-Summit
Joseph Garren ('17)	Brooklyn
C-Emily Provance ('17)	Fifteenth Street

### *Friends United Meeting Triennial in Kenya*

2020

Gabrielle Savory Bailey	Chatham-Summit
Joseph Garren	Brooklyn
David Herendeen	Easton
Dwight Huey	Manhattan
Emily Provance	Fifteenth Street
Leo Quirk	Ithaca

## **Friends World Committee for Consultation**

1506 Race St., Philadelphia, PA 19102

Telephone 215-241-7250

[www.fwccworld.org](http://www.fwccworld.org)

2020

Angela Hopkins ('17) *	Ithaca
C-Sylke Jackson ('14)*	Rockland

2021

Isabella Aguirre ('15)*	Purchase
Michael Clark ('18)	Old Chatham
Sarah Glazer ('18)*	Rochester
Lucy Jackson ('18)	Rockland

2022

Jillian Smith ('16) *	Saratoga
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*\* Representatives to the Section of the Americas  
January-December of the years following appointment.*

**New York Yearly Meeting  
Meetings for Discernment  
Steering Committee**

*At-large members appointed by Meetings for Discernment*

	2020	
Beverly Archibald ('14)		Manhattan

	2021	
Barbra Bleecker		Montclair
Mahayana Landowne		Brooklyn

*Ex-officio members*

NYYM Clerk	Jeffrey Aaron
C–NYYM Assistant Clerk	Elaine Learnard
NYYM General Secretary	Steve Mohlke

*Representative from Ministry Coordinating Committee:  
Angela Hopkins*

*Representative from General Services Coord. Committee:  
vacant*

*Representative from Witness Coordinating Committee  
Ruth Bryan*

## Appointees from Monthly Meetings to Meetings for Discernment

### All Friends

Chatham-Summit .....	
Dover-Randolph .....	William Hal Haydock
Montclair .....	Barbra Bleecker
Ridgewood .....	
Rockland .....	Sylke Jackson

### Butternuts

Binghamton .....	
Butternuts .....	Deborah Dickinson
Hamilton .....	Robert Schutt
Mohawk Valley .....	Elizabeth (Buffy) Curtis
Unadilla .....	

### Farmington-Scipio

Buffalo .....	Susan Tannehill
Central Finger Lakes .....	
Collins .....	James Hall
Elmira .....	
Farmington .....	
Fredonia .....	Betty Perkins
Genesee Valley .....	Suzanne Blackburn
Ithaca .....	Angela Hopkins
Orchard Park .....	Kathy Slattery
Perry City .....	
Poplar Ridge .....	Christopher Sammond
Rochester .....	Kenn Harper
Syracuse .....	

### Long Island

Conscience Bay .....	Carolyn Emerson, Elaine Learnard
Jericho .....	Anne Smith, Morley Smith
Manhasset .....	Irene Goodman, Barbara Meli
Matinecock .....	
Peconic Bay .....	
Shelter Island .....	
Westbury .....	

**New York**

- Brooklyn . . . . .
- Fifteenth Street . . . . .
- Flushing . . . . . John Choe
- Manhattan . . . . . Beverly Archibald
- Morningside . . . . . Peter Beck
- Staten Island . . . . .

**Nine Partners**

- Bulls Head-Oswego . . . . . Lee Haring
- Catskill . . . . .
- Cornwall . . . . . Emily Boardman
- New Paltz . . . . . Anne Pomeroy, Ed Seliger
- Nine Partners . . . . .
- Poughkeepsie . . . . . Donald Badgley

**Northeastern**

- Adirondack . . . . .
- Albany . . . . . Carol Barclay, Pierre Douyon
- Easton . . . . . Robert (Sunfire) Kazmayer, Jeannine Laverty
- Hudson . . . . . Lisa Edstrom
- Old Chatham . . . . . Nathaniel Corwin
- Quaker Street . . . . .
- Saranac Lake . . . . . Beatrice Beguin
- Saratoga . . . . . Lori Dawson, Rebekah Rice
- Schenectady . . . . .

**Purchase**

- Amawalk . . . . .
- Chappaqua . . . . .
- Croton Valley . . . . .
- Housatonic . . . . .
- Purchase . . . . . Deborah Wood
- Scarsdale . . . . . Ruth Bryan
- Wilton . . . . . Martha Gurvich, Jerry Leaphart

**Shrewsbury & Plainfield**

- Manasquan . . . . .
- New Brunswick . . . . . Jeffrey Aaron
- Rahway & Plainfield . . . . . Roger Dreisbach-Williams
- Shrewsbury . . . . .

# Ministry Section

## Ministry Coordinating Committee

### *Representatives from Regional Meetings*

All Friends . . . . .	
Butternuts . . . . .	
Farmington-Scipio . . . . .	Kenn Harper
Long Island . . . . .	Carolyn Emerson
New York . . . . .	Hugo Lane
Nine Partners . . . . .	Anne Pomeroy
Northeastern . . . . .	David Herendeen
Purchase. . . . .	
Shrewsbury & Plainfield. . . . .	Roger Dreisbach-Williams

### *Representatives from Committees & Task Groups*

Alternate Pathways to Membership Working Group . . . . .	Jennifer Swann
Conflict Transformation. . . . .	Hugo Lane
Faith & Practice. . . . .	Karen Way
Ministry and Pastoral Care . . . . .	Barbra Bleecker, Anita Paul
Powell House Committee. . . . .	Mary A. Brown
Spiritual Nurture Working Group . . . . .	Lucy Harper
State of the Society . . . . .	Anita Paul
Sufferings. . . . .	Carolyn Emerson
Youth Committee . . . . .	Howard Gibbs-Hobgood
Task Group on Racism. . . . .	Angela Hopkins
Worship at Yearly Meeting Sessions . . . . .	Anita Paul

### *Members at large, appointed by New York Yearly Meeting*

	2020	
Anne Pomeroy ('17)		New Paltz
Angela Hopkins ('17)		Ithaca
	2021	
Irene Goodman ('16)		Manhasset
C–Emily Provance ('15)		Fifteenth Street

2022

Roger Dreisbach-Williams ('16)  
Arlene Johnson ('19)

Rahway & Plainfield  
Chatham-Summit

*Outreach Working Group Contacts*

Arlene Johnson  
Robin Whitely  
office@nyym.org

*Spiritual Nurture Working Group*

Lucy Harper  
Anne Pomeroy

*Task Group on Racism in NYYM*

Mary Pugh Clark  
Nancy Cooper  
Charley Flint  
C–Angela Hopkins

**Committee on Conflict Transformation**

2020

C–Karen Reixach ('15)

Ithaca

2021

Stuart Bartram ('18)  
Wilbur Bontrager ('15)  
Hugo Lane ('18)

Genesee Valley  
Farmington Friends  
Flushing

2022

Kristen Cole ('19)  
David Fletcher ('19)  
Abraham Levin ('19)  
Grace Pérez-de-la-Garza ('19)  
Denise Sherman ('19)

Brooklyn  
Morningside  
Wilton  
Fredonia  
Bull-Head Oswego

**Epistle Committee**

2020

C–Rima Segal ('15)  
Ryan Yorke ('17)

Rochester  
Purchase

2022  
Julia Giordano Catskill

**Ministry and Pastoral Care**

2020  
Anita Paul ('14) Schenectady  
Kenn Harper ('14) Rochester

2021  
Emily Provance ('15) Fifteenth Street  
Beverly Archibald ('18) Manhattan  
Jennifer Swann ('18) South Berkshire  
(NEYM\*)  
Janice Ninan ('18) Collins

2022  
Donald Badgley ('19) Poughkeepsie  
Barbra Bleecker ('16) co-opted Montclair  
David Herendeen ('19) Easton  
Maureen McGovern ('16) Brooklyn  
Marvea Thompson ('16) Brooklyn

*\* by permission of Yearly Meeting*

**Committee to Revise *Faith & Practice***

2020  
Susan Bingham ('17) Montclair  
Timothy Connolly ('19) Purchase (attender)  
C—Karen Way ('17) New Brunswick

2021  
Donald Badgley ('18) Poughkeepsie  
Claire Simon ('18) Montclair

2022  
Roger Driesbach-Williams ('19) Rahway & Plainfield  
Benjamin Frisch ('19) Brooklyn  
Ann-Marie Scheidt ('19) Conscience Bay  
Brandy Witthoft ('19) Syracuse

## **Elsie K. Powell House Inc.**

524 Pitt Hall Rd., Old Chatham NY 12136

Telephone 518-794-8811

[www.powellhouse.org](http://www.powellhouse.org)

Directors: Dennis & Regina Haag (Old Chatham)

### *Members of the Corporation*

#### 2020

Mary A. Brown ('15)	Saranac Lake
Mary Harpster ('10)	Rahway & Plainfield
Katharine Leary ('15)	Purchase
Miriam McGiver ('10)	Quaker Street
T–Margaret Morgan-Davie ('10)	Mohawk Valley
Jillian Smith ('15)	Saratoga
Anna Staab ('15)	Purchase

#### 2021

Margaret Lew ('16)	Fifteenth Street
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#### 2022

Susan Bingham ('17)	Montclair
David Eskin ('17)	Purchase
David Frackman ('17)	Brooklyn
Arlene Reduto ('17)	Saratoga

#### 2023

Elise Bacon ('18)	New Paltz
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#### 2024

Darleen Farley ('19)	Farmington
Matthew Lindop ('19)	Saratoga (attender)
Cynthia Marvin ('19)	Rochester
Louise Tiano ('19)	Rochester

### **State of the Society**

#### 2020

Anne Liske ('17)	Albany
Joanna Oltman Smith ('19)	Wilton (attender)

#### 2022

Anita Paul ('19)	Schenectady
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## **Committee on Sufferings**

2022

Carolyn Emerson ('16)

Conscience Bay

### **Worship at Yearly Meeting Sessions**

2021

C–Barbra Bleecker ('16)

Montclair

Anita Paul ('18)

Schenectady

2022

Beverly Archibald ('16)

Manhattan

David Herendeen ('19)

Easton

### **Youth Committee**

2020

C–Howard Gibbs-Hobgood ('17)

Fifteenth Street

Lucy Jackson ('17)

Rockland

Terence Ward ('16)

New Paltz

2021

Isabella Aguirre ('18)

Purchase

Elise Bacon ('18)

New Paltz

Kayleigh O'Keefe('18) co-opted

Housatonic

2022

Thomas Goodridge ('19) co-opted

Morningside

Adria Gulizia ('19)

Chatham-Summit

Barbara Menzel ('19)

New Brunswick

Eleanor (Ellie) Rosenberg ('16)

Ithaca

#### *Ex-officio members*

Powell House Youth Directors Chris de Roller & Michael Clark

# General Services Section

## General Services Coordinating Committee

### *Representatives of committees and agencies*

Aging Concerns . . . . .	Charlene Ray
Audit . . . . .	Linda Houser
Communications . . . . .	Jennifer Swann, Sarah Way
Development Committee . . . . .	Dare Thompson
Financial Services . . . . .	Mary Harpster
Mosher Fund . . . . .	Beatrice Beguin
Nominating . . . . .	Benjamin Frisch
Personnel . . . . .	
Records . . . . .	
Sessions . . . . .	Melanie-Claire Mallison
Supervisory Committee for the General Secretary . . . . .	Barbara Menzel
Trustees, Lindley Murray Fund . . . . .	
Trustees, Yearly Meeting . . . . .	Roseann Press

### *Ex-officio members*

NYYM Clerk . . . . .	Jeffrey Aaron
NYYM Assistant Clerk . . . . .	Elaine Learnard
NYYM Treasurer . . . . .	Laura Cisar
NYYM Trustee Financial Clerk . . . . .	Christine (Spee) Braun

### *Members at large, appointed by New York Yearly Meeting*

#### 2020

Matthew Scanlon ('17) . . . . .	Scarsdale
Marissa Badgley ('17) . . . . .	Poughkeepsie

#### 2021

Lisa Gasstrom ('15) . . . . .	Westbury
Mark Hewitt ('15) . . . . .	Chatham-Summit
Susan Stillman ('18) . . . . .	Montclair

#### 2022

C—Bridget Bower ('19) . . . . .	Perry City
Robin Gowin ('19) . . . . .	New Brunswick

## Committee on Aging Concerns

2020

C–Jill McLellan ('14) Buffalo  
Jan Philips ('17) Ridgewood

2021

Beverly Archibald ('19) Manhattan  
C–Charlene Ray ('15) Morningside  
Mabel Ilusa Kidiga ('18) Manhattan

2022

Matthew Bell ('18) Fifteenth Street  
Carl Blumenthal ('19) Brooklyn  
Barbara Chase ('19) Ithaca  
R–Linda Chidsey ('16) Housatonic

### ***Aging Resources, Consultation and Help (ARCH)***

#### ***ARCH Local Coordinators***

Gabrielle Savory Bailey, *New Jersey*  
Martha Gurvich, *Purchase Quarter*  
Mahayana Landowne, *New York City*  
Kathy Slattery, *Farmington-Scipio Region*

#### ***Liaison to Personnel Committee***

Matthew Bell

### **Audit Committee**

2020

Elizabeth Enloe ('17) Fifteenth Street  
Martha Hyde ('17) Brooklyn

2021

Linda Houser ('15) Purchase

2022

CV–Stephen Reul ('17) Schenectady

#### ***Liaison to NYYM Treasurers***

Albert Hsu, Assistant Treasurer

*Liaison to the NYYM Trustees*

James Whitely

**Communications Committee**

2020

Alan Brenner ('17)	Shrewsbury
Stephen Fortuna ('17)	Matinecock
Adam Segal-Isaacson ('17)	Brooklyn
Jennifer Swann ('17)	South Berkshire (NEYM)*
Gloria Thompson ('17)	Manhattan

2021

Susan Weisfeld ('18)	Scarsdale
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*\*by permission of Yearly Meeting*

*Ex-officio members*

Communications Director	Sarah Way
Digital Communications Director	Chad Gilmartin

**Development Committee**

2020

C—Jerry Leaphart ('16)	Wilton
James Malchow ('17)	Rahway & Plainfield
Dare Thompson ('17)	Poughkeepsie

2022

Isabella Aguirre ('19)	Purchase
Lily Bergstein ('19)	New Paltz
Frederick Doneit ('19)	Poughkeepsie
Bryan Wigfall ('19)	Morningside
Mary Hannon Williams ('19)	Bulls Head-Oswego

*Ex-officio member*

General Secretary	Steve Mohlke
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## Financial Services Committee

2020

<b>C</b> –Mary Harpster ('17)	Rahway & Plainfield
Albert Hsu ('17)	Wilton
Douglas Way ('17)	New Brunswick

2021

Robin Gowin ('15)	New Brunswick
Mary Hannon Williams ('18)	Bull Head-Oswego

2022

Lisa Gasstrom ('17)	Westbury
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### *Ex-officio members*

General Secretary	Steven Mohlke
NYYM Treasurer	Laura Cisar ('16)
NYYM Trustees Financial Clerk	Christine (Spee) Braun

### *Regional/Quarterly Meeting Treasurers*

All Friends Regional Meeting . . . . .	
Butternuts Quarterly Meeting . . . . .	Paul Buckingham
Farmington-Scipio Regional Meeting . . . . .	Pat Sewell
Long Island Quarterly Meeting . . . . .	Todd Tilton
New York Quarterly Meeting . . . . .	Lynn von Salis
Nine Partners Quarterly Meeting . . . . .	Tom Houghton
Northeastern Regional Meeting . . . . .	James Ralston
Purchase Quarterly Meeting . . . . .	Albert Hsu
Shrewsbury & Plainfield Half-Yearly Meeting . . . . .	Robin Gowin

## Committee on the Expenditure of the H.H. Mosher Fund

2020

Stephen Fortuna ('15)	Matinecock
<b>R</b> –Caroline Lane ('15)	Flushing
<b>T</b> –Ruth Ralston ('10)	Saratoga
John Scardina ('15)	Purchase
Rima Segal ('15)	Rochester

2022

Maria Crosman ('17)	Adirondack
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2023

Anita Paul ('18)	Schenectady
Marvea Thompson ('18)	Brooklyn
Janet Carter ('18)	Bulls Head-Oswego

2024

C–Beatrice Beguin ('14)	Saranac Lake
Caroline Webster ('14)	Bulls Head-Oswego

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

*Appointed by Quarterly, Half-yearly, or Regional Meetings*

### All Friends (2)

*vacant*

### Butternuts (1)

*vacant*

### Farmington-Scipio (4)

Heather M. Cook	Central Finger Lakes
Grace Pérez-de-la-Garza	Fredonia

### Long Island (2)

Irene Goodman	Manhasset
Herb Lape	Westbury

### New York (3)

C–Benjamin Frisch	Brooklyn
C–Joseph Garren	Brooklyn

### Nine Partners (2)

*vacant*

### Northeastern (2)

Robert (Sunfire) Kazmayer	Easton
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### Purchase (3)

Diane Keefe	Wilton
Martha Gurvich	Wilton
Susan Weisfeld	Scarsdale

### Shrewsbury & Plainfield (2)

Karen Way	New Brunswick
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## **Personnel Committee**

2020

Benjamin Frisch ('17)

Brooklyn

Laura Higgins ('17)

Wilton

2021

Pamela Wood ('17)

Morningside

2022

Michael Mascari ('19)

Westbury

*Liaison to Supervisory Committee for the General Secretary*

Pamela Wood

## **Records Committee**

2021

Christopher Klemek ('15)

Easton

2022

Hans-Jürgen Lehmann ('19)

Ridgewood

## **Sessions Committee**

*Members at large*

2020

C–Melanie-Claire Mallison ('14)

Ithaca

Robin Mullaney ('18)

Old Chatham  
(attender)

Ann Nunes ('18) co-opted

Wilton (attender)

Deborah B. Wood ('17)

Purchase

2021

Susan Stillman ('18)

Montclair

2022

Emilie-Anne Michaud ('19)

Old Chatham

Eleanor (Ellie) Rosenberg ('19)

Ithaca

Bryan Wigfall ('19)

Morningside

*Ex-officio members*

JYM Coordinators . . . . Dawn Pozzi, Eleanor (Ellie) Rosenberg  
NYYM Clerk . . . . . Jeffrey Aaron  
NYYM Assistant Clerk . . . . . Elaine Learnard  
NYYM General Secretary . . . . . Steve Mohlke  
NYYM Associate Secretary . . . . . Helen Garay Toppins

*Section representatives*

General Services . . . . .Melanie-Claire Mallison  
Ministry . . . . . Hugo Lane  
Witness . . . . .Elizabeth (Buffy) Curtis, Diane Keefe

*Junior Yearly Meeting Subcommittee*

Robin Mullaney  
Ann Nunes  
Dawn Pozzi  
Eleanor (Ellie) Rosenberg  
C—Susan Stillman

*Pay-as-Led Subcommittee*

Melanie-Claire Mallison  
Steve Mohlke

**Supervisory Committee  
for the General Secretary**

2020

Ileana Clarke ('17) co-opted Cornwall (attender)

2021

Peter Laughter ('18) Brooklyn  
C—Barbara Menzel ('17) New Brunswick  
Andrew Tomlinson('15) Chatham-Summit

*Liaison from Personnel Committee*

Pamela Wood

## Yearly Meeting Staff

15 Rutherford Pl., New York NY 10003  
Telephone: 212-673-5750; Fax: 212-673-2285

Marissa Badgley, Interim Young Adult Field Secretary  
Chad Gilmartin, Digital Communications Director  
Callie Janoff (Brooklyn), ARCH\* Director  
Steven Mohlke (Ithaca), General Secretary  
Walter Naegle, Administrative Associate  
Helen Garay Toppins (Morningside), Associate Secretary  
Sarah Way (Brooklyn), Communications Director

*\*Aging Resources, Consultation and Help*

## Trustees of Lindley Murray Fund

2020

Matthew Scanlon ('10)  
Arlene Reduto ('17)

Scarsdale  
Saratoga

2022

Renelda Walker ('12)  
Carol Warner ('16)

Poughkeepsie  
Rahway & Plainfield

## New York Yearly Meeting Board of Trustees

2020

Keith Johnson ('15)

Chatham-Summit

2021

C—Roseann Press ('16)

Housatonic

2022

AC—James Whitely ('07)

Chatham-Summit

2023

FC—Christine (Spee) Braun ('13)  
Peter Close ('18)  
RC—Dare Thompson ('18)

Old Chatham  
Purchase  
Poughkeepsie

*Ex-officio\**

NYYM Clerk  
NYYM Treasurer

Jeffrey Aaron  
Laura Cisar

*\* contingent on approval of the revised by-laws*

# Witness Section

wcc-clerks@nyym.org

## Witness Coordinating Committee

### *Representatives from committees and agencies*

Alternatives to Violence Project . . . . . Jill McLellan  
American Friends Service Committee . . . . . Lucinda Antrim  
Barrington Dunbar Fund . . . . . Naceo Giles  
Black Concerns . . . . . Emilie Gay, Helen Garay Toppins  
Bolivian Quaker Education Fund . . . . . Jens Braun  
Conscientious Objection to Paying for War Working Group  
. . . . . Jens Braun  
Earthcare Working Group  
. . . . . Robert (Sunfire) Kazmayer, Margaret McCasland  
European American Quakers Working to End Racism  
. . . . . Sarah Faith Dickinson, Anne Liske  
Friends Committee on National Legislation . . . . . Diane Keefe  
Friends Peace Teams . . . . . Shirley Way  
Indian Affairs . . . . .  
National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund . . . . . Jens Braun  
National Religious Campaign against Torture . . . . . Paul Rehm  
New Jersey Council of Churches . . . . . Jan Philips  
NYS Council of Churches . . . . . Regina Haag  
Prisons . . . . . Pamela Wood  
Quaker Earthcare Witness . . . . . Alice McMechen  
Right Sharing of World Resources . . . . . **R**—Mary Eagleson  
William Penn House . . . . .  
World Ministries . . . . . Susan Weisfeld

### *Members at large, appointed by New York Yearly Meeting*

2020

Andrew Mead von Salis ('14)                      Brooklyn

2021

Jens Braun ('17)                                      Old Chatham  
Margery Cornwell ('18)                              Fifteenth Street  
Diane Keefe ('18)                                      Wilton  
C—Leo Quirk ('18)                                      Ithaca

Janice Ninan ('18)  
C—Rebekah Rice ('19)

Collins  
Saratoga

2022

Robert Martin ('19)  
Margaret McCasland ('19)

Poughkeepsie  
Ithaca

*Resource people*

Death Penalty ..... Judy Meikle  
Peace Concerns ..... Diane Keefe  
Right Sharing of World Resources ..... Mary Eagleson

*Finance Subcommittee*

Jens Braun  
Mary Eagleson  
Diane Keefe  
Helen Garay Toppins

**Alternatives to Violence Project, Inc. Committee**

info@avp.org  
P. O. Box 6851, Ithaca, NY 14851-6851  
Telephone 800-909-8920  
www.avpny.org

Office Coordinator: Shirley Way (Ithaca)

2020

David Fletcher ('17)  
Crystal Heshmat ('17)  
C—Jill McLellan ('14)

Morningside  
Albany  
Buffalo

**American Friends Service Committee**

1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102  
Telephone 215-241-7000  
www.afsc.org

*Members of the Corporation*

2021

Lucinda Antrim

Scarsdale

2022

Lisa Gasstrom ('19)

Westbury

Hans-Jürgen Lehmann ('19)

Ridgewood

*AFSC Area offices*

89 Market Street, 6th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102; 973-643-1924;  
www.afsc.org/office/newark-nj

15 Rutherford Place, New York, NY 10003; 212-598-0950;  
www.afsc.org/office/new-york-ny

54 Broad Street, Suite 201, Red Bank, NJ 07701  
For information contact 212-598-0950

**Committee for the Barrington Dunbar Fund  
for Black Development**

2020

CV—Helen Garay Toppins ('14)

Morningside

2021

Naceo Giles ('18)

Brooklyn

Glenn Josey ('18)

Fifteenth Street

Susan Weisfeld ('15)

Scarsdale

2022

Gloria Thompson ('19) (co-opted)

Manhattan

Marvea Thompson ('16)

Brooklyn

**Committee for Black Concerns**

2020

Sarah Faith Dickinson ('17)

Butternuts

C—Emilie Gay ('17)

Brooklyn

Naceo Giles ('17)

Brooklyn

Jeffrey L. Hitchcock ('14)

Rahway & Plainfield

2021

Nancy Cooper ('18)

Rochester

C—Helen Garay Toppins ('15)

Morningside

Leila Archibald ('18)

Manhattan

2022

Jerry Leaphart ('19)

Wilton

## **Bolivian Quaker Education Fund**

65 Spring St., Fredonia, NY 14063

www.bqef.org

Office Administrator: Vickey Kaiser (Fredonia)

### *Representative*

2021

Jens Braun ('17) (co-opted)

Old Chatham

### **Conscientious Objection to Paying for War Working Group**

Beatrice Beguin

Saranac Lake

**CV**–Jens Braun

Old Chatham

Daniel Jenkins

.....

Andrew Mead von Salis

Brooklyn

Karen Reixach

Ithaca

Caroline Webster

Bulls Head-Oswego

### **Earthcare Working Group Steering Team**

Roy Allen

Rochester

Sheree Cammer

Albany

**C**–Robert (Sunfire) Kazmayer

Easton

**C**–Margaret McCasland

Ithaca

Alice McMechen

Cornwall

Janet Soderberg

Fifteenth Street

### **European American Quakers Working to End Racism Working Group**

Robin Mallison Alpern

Amawalk

**C**–Mary Pugh Clark

Montclair

Sue Clark

Albany

Sarah Faith Dickinson

Butternuts

Jeffrey L. Hitchcock

Rahway & Plainfield

Evelyn Kennenwood

Syracuse

**C**–Anne Liske

Albany

Judy Meikle

Wilton

## **Friends Committee on National Legislation**

245 Second St. NE, Washington, DC 20002

Telephone 202-547-6000

[www.fcnl.org](http://www.fcnl.org)

2020

Patricia Frascatore ('17)

Brooklyn

Cynthia Schlegel ('14)

Fifteenth Street

2021

Stephen Fortuna ('15)

Matinecock

Mary Hannon Williams ('18)

Bulls Head-Oswego

2022

Henry Hoffman ('19)

Purchase

Dwight Huey ('19)

Manhattan

## **Friends Peace Teams**

1001 Park Ave., St. Louis, MO 63104

Telephone 877-814-6972; 314-621-7262

[www.friendspeaceteams.org](http://www.friendspeaceteams.org)

### *Representative*

2020

Shirley Way ('14)

Ithaca

## **Indian Affairs Committee**

2020

Ian Hansen ('17)

Fifteenth Street

Maureen Healy ('17)

Fifteenth Street

Rebekah Rice ('14)

Saratoga

2021

Ann-Marie Scheidt ('17)

Conscience Bay

Julie M. Finch ('18)

Fifteenth Street

C-Elizabeth (Buffy) Curtis ('15)

Mohawk Valley

2022

C-Liseli Haines ('18)

Mohawk Valley

Amy Hundley ('16)

Brooklyn

T-Madeline Schmitt ('16)

Rochester

**National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund**

2121 Decatur Pl. NW, Washington, DC 20008

Telephone 202-483-3751

[www.peacetaxfund.org](http://www.peacetaxfund.org)

*Representative to Board*

2020

Jens Braun ('17)

Old Chatham

**National Religious Campaign against Torture**

110 Maryland Avenue NE, Suite 502, Washington, DC 20002

Telephone 202-547-1920

[www.nrnat.org](http://www.nrnat.org)

*Representative*

2021

Judy Meikle ('15)

Wilton

Maggie Stevenson ('19)

Wilton

**New Jersey Council of Churches**

176 W. State St., Trenton, NJ 08608-1190

Telephone 609-396-9546

[www.njcouncilofchurches.org](http://www.njcouncilofchurches.org)

*Representatives to Governing Board*

2020

Jan Philips

Ridgewood

**New York State Council of Churches**

1580 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12205

Telephone 518-436-9319

[www.nyscoc.org](http://www.nyscoc.org)

*Representatives to the Collegium*

2022

Regina Haag ('19)

Old Chatham

Robert (Sunfire) Kazmayer ('19) Easton

### **Prisons Committee**

2020

**R**—Suzanne Blackburn ('14) Genesee Valley  
**T**—Ernestine Buscemi ('17) Morningside  
William Carr ('19) co-opted Brooklyn

2021

Jill McLellan ('18) Buffalo  
Judy Meikle ('18) Wilton  
Helen Garay Toppins ('18) Morningside

2022

Robin Mallison Alpern ('19) Amawalk  
Gary Barnes ('19) Buffalo  
Phyllis Bunker ('19) Poplar Ridge  
Matt Scanlon ('19) Scarsdale  
C—Pamela Wood ('16) Morningside

### **Quaker Earthcare Witness**

P.O. Box 6787, Albany, CA 94706  
Telephone 510-542-9606  
[www.quakerearthcare.org](http://www.quakerearthcare.org)

#### *Representative*

2022

Roy Allen ('19) Rochester  
Alice McMechen ('19) Cornwall

### **William Penn House**

515 E. Capitol St., Washington, DC 20003  
Telephone 202-543-5560  
[www.williampennhouse.com](http://www.williampennhouse.com)

*National Consultative Committee*

*vacant*

## Committee on World Ministries

2020

Edward Doty ('17)	Purchase
Martha Gurvich ('14)	Wilton
David Herendeen ('17)	Farmington
Arlene Reduto ('14)	Saratoga
Lisa Stewart ('18)	Hudson

2021

David Gerhan ('18)	Schenectady
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2020

C-Susan Weisfeld ('16)	Scarsdale
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## Spring and Fall Sessions Representatives

*appointed by monthly meetings*

### All Friends

Chatham-Summit	.....
Dover-Randolph	William Hal Haydock
Montclair	Mary Pugh Clark
Ridgewood	Hans-Jürgen Lehmann
Rockland	Sylke Jackson

### Butternuts

Binghamton	.....
Butternuts	Sarah Faith Dickinson
Hamilton	.....
Mohawk Valley	Elizabeth (Buffy) Curtis
	Liseli Haines
Unadilla	.....

### Farmington-Scipio

Buffalo	.....
Central Finger Lakes	John Cooley
Collins	.....
Elmira	.....
Farmington	.....

Fredonia  
Genesee Valley  
Ithaca

Ronald Peterson  
Suzanne Blackburn  
Angela Hopkins  
Karen Reixach

Orchard Park  
Perry City  
Poplar Ridge

.....  
.....  
David Connelly  
Phyllis Bunker

Rochester  
Syracuse

.....  
.....

**Long Island**

Conscience Bay

Carolyn Emerson  
Elaine Learnard

Jericho

Anne Smith  
Morley Smith

Manhasset

Irene Goodman  
Barbara Meli  
David Sinclair

Matinecock  
Peconic Bay  
Shelter Island  
Westbury

.....  
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.....

**New York**

Brooklyn  
Fifteenth Street  
Flushing  
Manhattan

Andrew Mead von Salis  
.....  
Cheshire Frager  
Beverly Archibald  
Margaret Mulindi

Morningside  
Staten Island

Pamela Wood  
.....

**Nine Partners**

Bulls Head-Oswego  
Catskill  
Cornwall  
New Paltz  
Nine Partners  
Poughkeepsie

Karen Snare  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
Donald (Don) Badgley

## **Northeastern**

Adirondack	.....
Albany	Robin Mallison Alpern
Easton	David Herendeen
	Robert (Sunfire) Kazmayer
Hudson	.....
Old Chatham	Christine (Spee) Braun
Quaker Street	.....
Saranac Lake	Mary A. Brown
Saratoga	Lori Dawson
	Rebekah Rice
Schenectady	Anita Paul

## **Purchase**

Amawalk	Robin Mallison Alpern
Chappaqua	Sirkka Barbour
Croton Valley	.....
Housatonic	Roseann Press
Purchase	Deborah Wood
Scarsdale	Mary Eagleson
Wilton	Martha Gurvich
	Jerry Leaphart

## **Shrewsbury & Plainfield**

Manasquan	.....
New Brunswick	.....
Rahway & Plainfield	Carol Coulthurst
	Roger Dreisbach-Williams
Shrewsbury	Alan Brenner

## **Members of the Yearly Meeting Recorded in the Ministry**

James Atwell  
Sunday Blackmon  
Ruth Ann Bradley  
Linda Chidsey  
Maria Crosman  
Darleen Farley  
Regina Baird Haag  
David Herendeen  
Janice Ninan  
Anita Paul  
Roxanna Pinkerton  
Frances F. Sokol

Butternuts  
Albany  
Poplar Ridge  
Housatonic  
Adirondack  
Farmington  
Old Chatham  
Farmington  
Collins  
Schenectady  
Chappaqua  
Butternuts

## **Yearly Meeting Pastors**

Trish Eckert  
Thomas W. Fiet  
David Herendeen  
Janice Ninan  
Lucy Price  
Benjamin Shaw

Farmington  
Nine Partners  
Manhattan  
Collins  
Adirondack  
Unadilla

**LOCAL MEETING INFORMATION  
& APPOINTMENTS  
AND  
CALENDARS OF QUARTERLY, HALF-YEARLY,  
AND OTHER REGIONAL MEETINGS**

In the listings for meetings,

C = Clerk (multiple Cs = Co-clerks)

M = Clerk of Ministry & Counsel

P = Pastor

PS = Clerk of Peace & Social Action

RE = Clerk of Religious Education

T = Treasurer or Finance Clerk

**Prison Meetings/Worship Groups**

Attica—Farmington-Scipio Region

Auburn—Farmington-Scipio Region

Cayuga—Farmington-Scipio Region

Green Haven—Nine Partners Quarter

Orleans—Farmington-Scipio Region

Otisville—Purchase Quarter

Sing Sing—Purchase Quarter

Woodbourne—Morningside Meeting

Although prison meetings and worship groups are listed with their regional meetings, Friends from other regions may participate.

## ALL FRIENDS REGIONAL MEETING

aa.lleenn@verizon.net (Alice Coulombe)

C—Alice Coulombe, 15 Hansen Ave., New City, NY 10956; 845-638-1864, ahcoulombe@gmail.com

### *Calendar*

All Friends Regional Picnic: August 23, 2020 at Dover-Randolph

**Chatham-Summit Monthly Meeting**—11:00 a.m.; 158 Southern Blvd., Chatham, NJ 07928; 973-635-2161; jeffhb@glenro.com; www.chathamquakers.org

C—Jeffrey Bird, 68 Lawrence Rd., Randolph, NJ 07869; 973-366-9455; jeffhb@glenro.com

C—Suzanne Mandala, 558 Westfield Rd., Scotch Plains, NJ 07076; 908-889-0706, smandala@verizon.net

M—Patricia Runkle, 51 Silver Spring Rd., Short Hills, NY 07078; 973-379-0066, pmrunkle@verizon.net

PS—Jeffrey Bird (*see clerk*)

RE—Jim Mandala, 558 Westfield Rd., Scotch Plains, NJ 07076; 908-889-0706, jmandala@verizon.net

RE—Gertrude Sloan, 1132 Hetfield Ave., Scotch Plains, NJ 07076; 908-789-2163, swingertie@comcast.net

T (2018-2019)—Mark Harper, 13 Lindbergh Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920; 908-696-1339, harper1313@verizon.net

**Dover-Randolph Monthly Meeting**—11:00 a.m.; Randolph Meetinghouse, 190 Quaker Church Road (corner of Quaker Church Road and Quaker Ave.), Randolph, NJ 07869; 973-361-9427; doverrandolphmeeting@gmail.com; www.doverrandolphmeeting.org; www.facebook.com/DoverRandolphFriendsMeeting; *mail to: William H. Haydock, 190 Laurel Hill Rd., Mountain Lakes, NJ 07046*

C—Chris Nugent, 38 Adler Court, Rockaway, NJ 07866; 201-323-5827; chrisnugent269@gmail.com

C—William Hal Haydock, 190 Laurel Hill Rd., Mountain Lakes, NJ 07046; 973-334-2576

PS—Carol Graham, 26 Highland Trail, Denville, NJ 07834; 973-627-0651, 26lighthouse@optonline.net

RE—Thomas Graham 26 Highland Trail, Denville, NJ 07834; 973-627-0651, 26falcon@optonline.net

T—Thomas Graham *see above*

**Montclair Friends Meeting**—11:00 a.m. (10:00 a.m. July & August); 289 Park St. (corner of Gordonhurst Ave.), Montclair, NJ 07043; 973-744-8320; montclairfriends@gmail.com; montclairmeeting.wordpress.com/ and www.facebook.com/groups/montclairfriends/

C—Barbra Bleecker, 1 Clairidge Dr., Unit 725, Verona, NJ 07044; 973-873-8338, barbra@revbarbra.org

M—Mary Pugh Clark, 77 Evans Ave., Bloomfield, NJ 07003; 973-953-5071, marypughc@mac.com

PS—Susan Stillman, 28 Orange Rd., Montclair, NJ 07042; 973-783-0118, sustillman@gmail.com

T—Eric Hellman, eric@hellman.net

**Ridgewood Monthly Meeting**—10:30 a.m.; 224 Highwood Ave., Ridgewood, NJ 07450; 201-670-1610 (Jan Philips); philips.jan@gmail.com

C—Andrew Lowry, 441 Hawthorne Pl., Ridgewood, NJ 07450; andrewblowry@gmail.com

M—Jan Philips, 234 Union St., Ridgewood, NJ 07450; 201-670-1610; philips.jan@gmail.com

PS—Patricia LaRocco, 6-02 Morlot Ave., Fair Lawn, NJ 07410; 201-796-4553, patl602mor@gmail.com

RE—Han Lee Hanbom, conflicted@gmail.com

T—David Christiansen, 79 Grove St., Waldwick, NJ 07463; nolanchristiansen@gmail.com

**Rockland Monthly Meeting**—11:00 a.m.; 60 Leber Rd., Blauvelt, NY 10913; 845-638-1864, ahcoulombe@gmail.com; www.rocklandfriends.org

C—Alice Coulombe, 15 Hansen Ave., New City, NY 10956; 845-638-1864, ahcoulombe@gmail.com

M—Eric Jimenez, emjimenez@gmail.com, 201-403-4788

RE—Sylke Jackson, 2 Dickinson Ave., Nyack, NY 10960; sylkej@gmail.com

T—Kitty Ufford-Chase, 17 Cricketown Rd., Stony Point, NY 10980; kitty@stonypointcenter.org

T—Eric Jimenez, see above

T—Harris Eckstut, harris@eckstutconsulting.com, 267-474-8101

## BUTTERNUTS QUARTERLY MEETING

liselih@juno.com

C—Liseli Haines, 2936 Austin Rd., Clinton, NY 13323; 315-982-1653; liselihaines@gmail.com

C—Joyce B. Thomas, 6964 State Rt. 79, Chenango Forks, NY 13746; 607-648-8448, jthomas581@aol.com

T—Paul Buckingham, 16 Cambridge Ave., Morrisville, NY 13408; 315-813-2880; pbuckingham@twcny.rr.com

### *Calendar*

Sept. 13-14, 2019      White Eagle Retreat Center

January 19, 2020      Hamilton Meeting

May 17, 2020          Unadilla Meeting (tentative)

Sept. 11-12, 2020      Sky Lake Retreat Center (Windsor, NY)

**Binghamton Community Friends Meeting**—10:30 a.m., at Fairview United Methodist Church, 254 Robinson St., Binghamton, NY 13904; enter at rear door near parking lot; 607-648-8448; Email: jthomas581@aol.com; *mail to address above*. Check meeting website at binghamtonquakers.org or call before coming.

C—Joyce B. Thomas, 6964 State Rt. 79, Chenango Forks, NY 13746; 607-648-8448, jthomas581@aol.com

M—Nan Olsen, *c/o meeting's address*; 607-743-6437; olsennancy06@gmail.com

PS—Ralph McGrew, 9 Hickory Rd., Binghamton, NY 13905; 607-722-0467; mcgrewrv@sunybroome.edu

T—Joyce B. Thomas, *see above*

**Butternuts Monthly Meeting**—11:00 a.m., First United Presbyterian Church (*red door*), 2 Walling Ave. (*corner of Main St., enter on Roosevelt Ave. and use walkway*), Oneonta, NY 13820; 607-435-9951, debdickinson2@gmail.com; *mail to P.O. Box 242 Oneonta, NY 13820*

C—James Atwell, 24 Delaware Ave., Cooperstown, NY 13326; 607-547-5895; jatwell1@stny@rr.com

C—Deborah Dickinson, Box 238, Fly Creek, NY 13337; 607-435-9951, debdickinson2@gmail.com

M—Deborah Dickinson, *see above*

PS—*committee of the whole*

RE—Deborah Dickinson, *see above*

T—Terry Bradshaw, 163 State Route 10, Stamford, NY 12167;  
607-652-9143; jambunny2@hotmail.com

**Cooperstown Worship Group**—Thursdays at 5:30 p.m.; Cooperstown Presbyterian Church, 25 Church St., Cooperstown NY 13326; contact Deborah Dickinson, 607-435-9951; call before coming; debdickinson2@gmail.com.

**Hamilton Monthly Meeting**—11:00 a.m., Chapel House, Colgate Univ., Chapel House Rd., Hamilton, NY 13346; 315-228-8401; john.bailey50@gmail.com; www.quakercloud.org/cloud/hamilton-friends-meeting; *mail to clerk*

C—Robert Schutt, 40 Montgomery Street, Hamilton, NY 13346; schuttrb@gmail.com

T—Paul Buckingham, 16 Cambridge Ave., Morrisville, NY 13408; pbuckingham@twcny.rr.com

**Mohawk Valley Friends Meeting**—10:00 a.m.; 2981 Austin Rd., Clinton, NY 13323; 315-982-1653, MohawkValleyFriends@gmail.com; www.mohawkvalleyfriends.org

C—Isabelle Haines, 2936 Austin Road, Clinton, NY 13323, ViginiaIsabelle@gmail.com

T—Alexander Haines-Stephan, 2936 Austin Rd., Clinton, NY 13323; 315-525-3808, ahainesstephan@gmail.com

**Oneonta Worship Group**—11:00 a.m.; meeting location same as Butternuts Monthly Meeting; contact Deb Dickinson, Box 238, Fly Creek, NY 13337; 607-435-9951, debdickinson2@gmail.com

**Unadilla Monthly Meeting**—10:30 a.m.; 747 Otsego County Hwy. 2, Unadilla, NY 13849; 607-563-2053; dpdeforest@frontiernet.net (David DeForest); *mail to PO Box 232, Unadilla, NY 13849-0232*

C—David DeForest, 285 County Hwy. 2, Mt. Upton, NY 13809; 607-563-2053, dpdeforest@frontiernet.net

T—Pastor Benjamin Shaw, 23 Avery St., Sidney, NY 13838; 607-563-2266; benjamin.shaw47@yahoo.com

P—Pastor Benjamin Shaw, see above

**Woodbourne Prison Worship Group**—1:00–3:00 p.m. first, second, third, and fourth Sundays; under the care of Morningside Meeting; contact Helen Garay Toppins; c/o 15

Rutherford Pl., NY NY 10003; 212-673-5750, office@nyym.org; or Ernestine Buscemi, or Pamela Wood

## **FARMINGTON-SCIPIO REGIONAL MEETING**

kathyslattery62@gmail.com (clerk)

www.quakerwny.com

C—Kathy Slattery, 7920 Kellogg Hill Rd., South Dayton, NY 14138; 716-397-1016; kathyslattery62@gmail.com

C—Angela Hopkins, Friends Center for Racial Justice, Burt House, 227 N Willard Way, Ithaca, NY 14850; angela@fcrj.org

M—Donna Beckwith, 4071 Tichenor Rd., Hector, NY 14841; 607-546-5472; dmbeckwith@yahoo.com

T—Patrick Sewell, 166 Crescent Place, Ithaca, NY 14850; p.w.sewell@gmail.com

### *Calendar*

September 21, 2019 Farmington Friends Meeting

**Attica Prison Worship Group**—5:30 p.m. Fridays; under the care of Farmington-Scipio Regional Meeting; contact Suzanne Blackburn, 9609 Riley Lane, Nunda, NY 14517, (585)245-1649, kandsblackburn@gmail.com

**Auburn Prison Preparative Meeting**—6:30 p.m. Saturdays; under the care of Farmington-Scipio Regional Meeting; contact Jill McLellan, 2025 County Rd. 4, Stanley, NY 14561, 585-526-5202, mctornow@gmail.com

**Buffalo Monthly Meeting**—10:30 a.m.; 1272 Delaware Ave., Buffalo, NY 14209; 716-892-8645; info@buffaloquakers.org; www.buffaloquakers.org

C—Susan (Sue) Tannehill, 8750 Tonawanda Creek Rd., Clarence Center, NY 14032; 716-406-8495, sue.tannehill@gmail.com

M—Virginia Riordan, c/o 1272 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14209, Ginny@ginnyandtheangels.com

T—Ted Dziekonski, 440 Pleasant Ave., Hamburg, NY 14075; 716-649-8064, tdziek35@verizon.net

**Cayuga Prison Worship Group**—6:30 p.m. second and fourth Fridays; contact Dilwyn Otis, 3067 Rt. 34B, Aurora,

NY 13026; 315-364-8102, djo2@cornell.edu; under the care of Farmington-Scipio Regional Meeting and Poplar Ridge Meeting

**Central Finger Lakes Monthly Meeting**—10:30 a.m.; July & August: call for location; Fisher Center, Hobart and Wm. Smith Colleges, 640 S. Main St., Geneva, NY 14456; 315-789-8792; cherryrahn@yahoo.com; *mail to clerk*

C—Cherry Rahn, 16 Jay St., Geneva, NY 14456; 315-789-8792; cherryrahn@yahoo.com

M—John Cooley, 4798 Dundee-Himrod Rd., Dundee, NY 14837; 607-243-7077, jhcooley@aol.com

T—Heather M. Cook, 4798 Dundee-Himrod Rd., Dundee, NY 14837; 908-377-9665; burritolass2@gmail.com

**Chautauqua Summer Meeting**—9:30 a.m. (end of June through August); Unitarian House, 8 Bliss Ave., Chautauqua, NY; under care of Fredonia Monthly Meeting; contact: Deborah First, 716-450-9414; deborahfirst@mac.com; *mail to: Box 71, Chautauqua, NY 14722*

**Christ is the Answer International Fellowship**

(Preparative meeting under the care of Buffalo Monthly meeting)—4:00-6:30 p.m. (approximate end time); 1272 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14209 (basement area—door to your right as you enter the vestibule in the rear of the building) Programmed worship. Pastor Ndanga Ramazani is a Quaker Pastor from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Service is in Swahili, Translation available. All are welcome.

P—Ndanga Ramazani, (716) 939-2715; ndanga212@yahoo.com

**Collins Friends Meeting**—11:00 a.m.; 2345 Main St., Collins, NY 14034; 716-377-2206; bgfs@roadrunner.com; *mail to Box 243, Collins, NY 14034-0243*

C—Ellen Hamilton, 1403 Bagdad Road, Collins, NY 14034

M—James Hall, PO Box 331, Collins, NY 14034; 716-532-4839; bgfs@roadrunner.com

P—Janice Ninan, 13961 Sisson Hwy., Collins, NY 14034; 716-532-4730, bgfs@roadrunner.com

RE—Suneil (Nick) Ninan, 8327 Maple Hill Rd., Cattaraugus, NY 14719; 716-532-6212

T—Douglas Martindale, 14299 Bagdad Rd., Collins, NY 14034

**Elmira Monthly Meeting**—10:30 a.m. Saturdays; 4575 Pine Hill Rd., Corning, NY 14830; 607-962-4183

C—James L. Hunter, R.F.D. #3, 4575 Pine Hill Rd., Corning, NY 14830; 607-962-4183

C—Robert Darling, Box 172, Keuka Park, NY 14472; 315-759-3151

T—Pamela F. Hunter, 4575 Pine Hill Rd., Corning NY, 14830; 607-962-4183

**Farmington Friends Meeting**—unprogrammed worship: 8:00 a.m.; programmed worship, 11:00 a.m.; 1st Sunday in July: 10:00 a.m.; 187 County Rd. 8, Farmington, NY 14425; [www.fgcquaker.org/cloud/farmington-friends-church](http://www.fgcquaker.org/cloud/farmington-friends-church); *mail to 140 Church Ave., Farmington, NY 14425-0185*

C—Darleen Farley, 86 East Main Street, Clifton Springs, NY 14432; 585-356-5767; [cyndar@ottcmail.com](mailto:cyndar@ottcmail.com)

M—Jen Perry, 184 Village Lane, Rochester, NY 14610; 585-319-2998; [jen1\\_perry@yahoo.com](mailto:jen1_perry@yahoo.com)

P—Trish Eckert, 140 Church Ave., Farmington, NY 14425; 765-977-5742; [eckerttrish@gmail.com](mailto:eckerttrish@gmail.com)

PS—Willie Bontrager, 5048 Rt. 96, Shortsville, NY 14548; 585-289-9641; [wmbontrager@gmail.com](mailto:wmbontrager@gmail.com)

RE—*under the care of Ministry & Counsel*

T—Gardner Soule, 415 Cline Rd., Victor, NY 14564; 585-820-5640, [learking@rochester.rr.com](mailto:learking@rochester.rr.com)

**Fredonia Monthly Meeting**—10:30 a.m. for worship sharing/singing/discussion/Bible study, 11:00 a.m. meeting for worship, year round; Barlow's Mill, 369 W. Main St., Fredonia, NY 14063; 716-358-6419 (Ron Peterson); [rmselec@netsync.net](mailto:rmselec@netsync.net); [www.fredoniafriends.org](http://www.fredoniafriends.org); *mail to Box 525, Fredonia, NY 14063-0525*

C—Ron Peterson, Box 813, Jamestown, NY 14702-0813; 716-358-6419, [rmselec@netsync.net](mailto:rmselec@netsync.net)

C—Sharon Bartoo, 382 Chestnut St., Fredonia, NY 14063; 716-672-6466, [sbartoo@netsync.net](mailto:sbartoo@netsync.net)

M—Betty Perkins, 69 Washington St., Westfield, NY 14787; 716-326-6434, [b.perkins6998@gmail.com](mailto:b.perkins6998@gmail.com)

PS—Jeffrey Barr, c/o 54 Maple Ave., Fredonia, NY 14063; 207-229-6630; [dr.barr@gmail.com](mailto:dr.barr@gmail.com)

T—Ted First, PO Box 71, Chautauqua, NY 14722; 716-499-0055, [tcfirst@icloud.com](mailto:tcfirst@icloud.com)

T—Grace Pérez de la Garza, 19 Gillis St., Fredonia, NY 14063; 716-672-2564

**Genesee Valley Executive Meeting**—10:00 a.m., 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays; Please call for current location; 585-204-6611; geneseevalleyquakers@gmail.com; www.nyym.org/dansville; *mail to PO Box 2, Danville, NY 14437*

C—Jeffrey SymesLatini, 7036 Whitney Valley Rd., Almond, NY 14804; 607-276-2211, jsymeslatini@yahoo.com

M—Stuart Bartram, 8509 Hudson Rd., Wayland, NY 14572; 585-369-7744, sturtyb@gmail.com

RE—Beth SymesLatini, 7036 Whitney Valley Rd., Almond, NY 14804; 607-276-2211, slsimpleluxuries@yahoo.com

T—Keith Blackburn, 9609 Riley Lane, Nunda, NY 14517; 585-468-5274, kandsblackburn@gmail.com

**Greater Canandaigua Area Midweek Meeting**—6:00 p.m. potluck, 7:00 p.m. worship, every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays; contact Jill McLellan or John Tornow, 2025 County Rd. 4, Stanley, NY 14561; 585-526-5202; mctornow@gmail.com

**Ithaca Friends Meeting**—10:30 a.m., Third Street Meetinghouse, 120 Third St., Ithaca, NY 14850 throughout the year, 607-229-9500; in addition, from June-August: 10:00 a.m. at Hector Meetinghouse, 5066 Perry City Rd., Trumansburg, NY 14886; also, Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. at Friends Center for Racial Justice; 607-319-4645; clerk@ithacamonthlymeeting.org; www.ithacamonthlymeeting.org; *mail to: 120 Third St., Ithaca, NY 14850*

C—John Lewis, 237 W. King Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850; 607-227-6273; johnslewisiv@gmail.com

M—Elizabeth Schneider, 805 South Plain St., Ithaca, NY 14850; 607-273-3566; neschneid@aol.com

PS—Elizabeth Schneider, *see above*

T—Michael Simkin, 120 Third Street, Ithaca, NY 14850; 607-387-5174, mes13@cornell.edu

**Orchard Park Monthly Meeting**—11:00 a.m.; 6924 E. Quaker Rd., Orchard Park, NY 14127 (Rt. 20A & Freeman Roads); first Sunday of each month at Fox Run Retirement Community, 1 Fox Run Lane, Orchard Park, NY 14127, 10:00 a.m.; 716-397-1016, kathyslattery62@gmail.com (Kathy Slattery); www.nyym.org/orchardpark; *mail to: 6924 E. Quaker Rd., Orchard Park, NY 14127*

C—Kathy Slattery, 7920 Kellogg Hill Rd., South Dayton, NY 14138; 716-397-1016, kathyslattery62@gmail.com

C—Alison Hyde, for Crossroad Springs only; ahyde37492@aol.com

C—Chuck Zelasko, 60 South Shore, Orchard Park, NY 14127; chuckzelasko@gmail.com

M—Committee of the whole

PS—Committee of the whole

RE—Committee of the whole

T—Dale Jacobs, 5953 Broadway St. #134, Lancaster, NY 14086; ccfarm@frontiernet.net

**Orleans Prison Worship Group**—6:30 p.m. second and fourth Friday: Jill McLellan, 2025 County Rd. 4, Stanley, NY 14561, 585.526.5202, mctornow@gmail.com; under the care of Farmington-Scipio Regional Meeting

**Perry City Monthly Meeting**—11:00 a.m. September-May; 10:00 a.m. June-August; 6324 NYS Rte 227, Hector, NY 14886; quakers@perrycityfriends.org; www.perrycityfriends.org; *Mail to: P.O. BOX 291, Trumansburg, NY 14886*

C—Ralph B. (Barry) Robinson, 145 Northview Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850; 607-319-0554, rbarryrobinson@gmail.com

M—Bridget Bower, 145 Northview Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850; 607-319-0554, bkbower@gmail.com

T—Bridget Bower, *see above*

**Poplar Ridge Monthly Meeting**—10:00 a.m.; 1868 Poplar Ridge Rd., Aurora, NY 13026, off Rt. 34B, east of the Four Corners; 315-729-3784; hannahrichter79@gmail.com; www.quaker.org/poplar/; *mail to: PO Box 146, Aurora, NY 13026*

C—Hannah C. Richter, 966 Bartnick Rd., Genoa, NY 13071; 315-729-3784, hannahrichter79@gmail.com

M—Charles Weld, 18 Park St., Moravia, NY 13118; 315-497-2254; ccameronweld@gmail.com

T—Ruth Ann Bradley, 18 Park St., Moravia, NY 13118; 315-497-2254; rabradley33@hotmail.com

**Rochester Monthly Meeting**—11:00 a.m.; Tuesdays, 12:15 p.m.; 84 Scio St., Rochester, NY 14604 (across from East End Garage; corner of Charlotte St.; entry and parking on Charlotte St.); 585-325-7260; rfm.co.clerk@gmail.com; www.rochesterquakers.org

C—Jeffrey Fitts, 218 Mayflower Dr., Rochester, NY 14618; 585-709-6478, RFM.co.clerk@gmail.com

PS—Lyle Jenks, 24 King Street, Rochester, NY 14608, 585-224-0228 lyle.jenks@gmail.com

T—Sarah Fitts-Romig, 218 Mayflower Dr., Rochester, NY 14618; 585-230-2605, TreasurerRFM@gmail.com

**Syracuse Monthly Meeting**—10:30 a.m.; 821 Euclid Ave., Syracuse, NY 13210; 315-476-1196; syrquakers@gmail.com; www.nnym.org/syracuse; also look for *Syracuse Friends Meeting* on Facebook; *mail to: 821 Euclid Ave., Syracuse, NY 13210*

C—Joan E. Savage, 201 Houston Ave., Syracuse, NY 13224; 315-472-5785, joanopesavage@gmail.com

M—Evelyn Kennenwood, 211 Crawford Ave., Syracuse, NY 13224; 315-317-1014; evykenn2012@gmail.com

PS—Judith Wellman, 2 Harris Hill Rd., Fulton, NY 13069; 315-529-7808; historicalnewyork@me.com

RE—Derek Currie, 315-396-6225; derekcurrie@mac.com

RE—Judith Wellman, *see above*

T—Joan E. Savage, *see above*

## LONG ISLAND QUARTERLY MEETING

elearnard@gmail.com (Elaine Learnard)

C—Executive Committee—Elaine Learnard, 122 Randall Avenue, Port Jefferson, NY 11777; 631-928-2768, elearnard@gmail.com

T—Todd Tilton, 10 Garfield Ave., Glen Head, NY 11545; 516-671-1925, tilton45@optonline.net

*Calendar*

TBD

**Bethpage Preparative Meeting**—*Suspended*—Contact Valerie E. Smith, 9 School Lane, Lloyd Harbor, NY 11743; 631-423-9361, vesmith@optonline.net

**Conscience Bay Monthly Meeting**—11:00 a.m. Sept. 1 to June 30; 10:00 a.m. July 1 through August 31; 4 Friends Way (one mile north of NYS Rt.25A, west off Moriches Rd.), St. James, NY 11780; 631-928-2768; georgef1151@yahoo.com (clerk); www.consciencebayquakers.org; *mail to address above*

C—George Fisher, 22 Watson Lane, Setauket, NY 11733; 646-

593-1648, georgef1151@yahoo.com  
M—Carolyn Emerson, 29 Triangle Dr., Setauket, NY 11733;  
631-689-2825, ccemerson2@gmail.com  
PS—Richard Morgan, 25 Andiron Lane, Brookhaven, NY 11719;  
631-286-0694 (2:00–8:00 pm), richmorgan2001@yahoo.com  
RE—George Fisher, *see above*  
T—Judy Messier, 14 Woodstock Place, Lake Grove, New York,  
11755; 631-585-2025, jcm5104@gmail.com

**Jericho Monthly Meeting**—11:00 a.m.; 6 Old Jericho  
Tpke., Jericho, NY 11753; 631-423-9361, vesmith@optonline.  
net (Valerie Smith, clerk); www.jerichofriendsmeeting.org;  
*mail to c/o Valerie Smith, clerk, 9 School Lane, Lloyd Harbor,  
NY 11743*

C—Valerie E. Smith, 9 School Lane, Lloyd Harbor, NY 11743;  
631-423-9361, vesmith@optonline.net  
M—Thomas Abbe; thomas@thomasabbe.com  
T—Jimmy Titus, 159 Old Cedar Swamp Rd., Jericho, NY  
11753; 516-681-5026, jct1635@aol.com

**Manhasset Monthly Meeting**—10:00 a.m.; 1421 Northern  
Blvd. & Shelter Rock Rd., Manhasset, NY 11030; 631-421-  
0259; quakerirene@gmail.com; www.nyym.org/manhasset  
C—Irene Goodman, 19 W. Lyons St., Melville, NY 11747; 631-  
421-0259, quakerirene@gmail.com  
M—Barbara Meli, 28 Moores Hill Rd., Oyster Bay, NY 11771;  
516-922-6820; gilley@optonline.net  
T—David Sinclair, 50 Ridgecrest St, Huntington, NY 11743;  
516 398-7774, davidsinclair1482@gmail.com

**Matinecock Monthly Meeting**—10:00 a.m.; 267 Duck  
Pond Rd., Locust Valley, NY 11560; 516-671-8977; thawkins@  
barcap.com (Tom Hawkins) and glg2727@aol.com (Gloria  
Graham); www.longislandquakers.org

C—Tom Hawkins, 123 Duck Pond Rd., Glen Cove, NY 11542;  
516-671-8977, thawkins@barcap.com  
C—Gloria Graham, 98 Falmouth Place, Albertson, NY 11507;;  
516-669-6023, glg2727@aol.com  
M—Nancy Tilton, 82 Fairview Place, Sea Cliff, NY 11579;  
ntilton173@aol.com  
PS—Karen Hartman, 11 Joel Place, Port Washington, NY  
11050; karenhartman@gmail.com

RE—Stephen Fortuna, 27 Kaintuck Lane, Locust Valley, NY 11560; 516-671-1505, [steve.scservices@gmail.com](mailto:steve.scservices@gmail.com)  
T—Joseph Podbela, 8 Serenite Lane, Muttontown, NY 11791; 516-484-4628, [jpodbela@jetairservice.com](mailto:jpodbela@jetairservice.com)

**Peconic Bay Friends Meeting**—10:00 a.m.; *meeting in members' homes (call for location)*; 631-728-6291; [henrywmoeller@gmail.com](mailto:henrywmoeller@gmail.com); *mail to*: PO Box 233, 15 W. Montauk Hwy., Hampton Bays, NY 11946

C—Barbara M. Moeller, 15 W. Montauk Hwy. PMB 234, Hampton Bays, NY 11946; 631-728-6291, [henrywmoeller@gmail.com](mailto:henrywmoeller@gmail.com)

T—Henry W. Moeller, 15 W. Montauk Hwy. PMB 234, Hampton Bays, NY 11946; 631-728-6291, [henrywmoeller@gmail.com](mailto:henrywmoeller@gmail.com)

**Shelter Island Monthly Meeting**—10:30 a.m. March 1–December 31, Quaker Monument at Sylvester Manor, 116 N. Ferry Rd. (Rt. 114), Shelter Island, NY, rain or shine; 631-749-1603; [pathunt@optonline.net](mailto:pathunt@optonline.net); *mail to PO Box 3, Shelter Island Heights, NY 11965-0003*

C—P. A. T. Hunt, PO Box 28, Shelter Island Hts., NY 11965-0028; 631-749-1603, [pathunt@optonline.net](mailto:pathunt@optonline.net)

T—James Pugh, PO Box 520, Shelter Island, NY 11964-0520; [ctrain100@aol.com](mailto:ctrain100@aol.com)

**Westbury Monthly Meeting**—11:00 a.m.; 550 Post Ave., Westbury, NY 11590; 516-333-3178; [www.westburyquakers.org](http://www.westburyquakers.org)

C—Christa Farmer, 550 Post Avenue, Westbury, NY 11590; [christafarmer2011@gmail.com](mailto:christafarmer2011@gmail.com)

C—Miriam Chaves Ortiz

C—Martha Smith

C—Herb Lape, 21 Orchard Pl., Huntington, NY 11743; 631-456-9081, [lapeherb@gmail.com](mailto:lapeherb@gmail.com)

M—Herb Lape, *see above*

RE—Ann Basset-Short, 2968 Verity La., Baldwin, NY 11510; (516) 223-2443; [basset.short@verizon.net](mailto:basset.short@verizon.net)

T—Todd Tilton, 10 Garfield Ave., Glen Head, NY 11545; 516-671-1925, [tilton45@optonline.net](mailto:tilton45@optonline.net)

## NEW YORK QUARTERLY MEETING

newyorkquarterlymeeting@gmail.com

www.nycquakers.org

C—Nancy Britton, 1100 Grand Concourse, Apt. 2F, Bronx, NY; 646-338-3937, nancy@brittonfamily.org

RC—Ian Hansen, Dept. of Behavioral Sciences, York College, 94-20 Guy R. Brewer Blvd, Jamaica, NY 11451; 347-466-3562; ianthehansen@gmail.com

M—Steven Monroe Smith, 55 Barrow St., #10, New York, NY 10014; 646-409-8899; stviepesce@gmail.com

T—Lynn von Salis, Lvonsalis@gmail.com

### *Calendar*

October 27, 2019 Morningside Meeting

January 19, 2020 Brooklyn Meeting

April 19, 2020 Fifteenth Street Meeting

July 18, 2020 Quaker Cemetery, Prospect Park,  
Brooklyn

October 18, 2020 Flushing Meeting

### **Brooklyn Monthly Meeting—9:00 a.m. & 11:00**

a.m., Sundays; 6:30 p.m., Tuesdays; 110 Schermerhorn St., Brooklyn, NY 11201; 718-625-8705; email: clerk@brooklynmeeting.org; www.brooklynmeeting.org; *mail to Box 6123, Brooklyn, NY 11202-6123*

C—Joan Malin, 242 Greene Ave., #4C, Brooklyn, NY; 718-832-7441; joanmal53@gmail.com

M—Elizabeth Blake, 33 Bond St. #2422, Brooklyn, NY 11201

PS—Brendan Glynn, 278 Sterling Pl., Brooklyn, NY 11238; 347-666-1562, brendanglynn86@gmail.com

RE—Andres Colapinto, 166 23rd St. Apt 2L, Brooklyn, NY 11232; 631 974 0587, andrescolapinto@gmail.com

T—Eli Blood Patterson, 20 Plaza St. E., Brooklyn NY 11238, bloodpatterson@gmail.com

### **Downtown Manhattan Allowed Meeting—**outdoor

worship, May through September only, weather permitting, Thursdays 6:00-7:00 p.m.; at the Labyrinth at NW corner of Battery Park, 10004; clerk: Sally Campbell, 252 West 91<sup>st</sup> St., #64, New York NY 10024-1135; 646 489-4175; scampfriend@earthlink.net

**Fifteenth Street Monthly Meeting**—9:30 and 11:00 a.m.;  
15 Rutherford Pl. (E. 15th St. between 2nd & 3rd Aves.), New  
York, NY 10003; 212-475-0466; fifteenthstreetny@yahoo.com;  
fifteenth.quaker.org

C—Glenn Josey, 272 Quincy St., Brooklyn, NY 11216; 917-923-  
9348, clerk15th@gmail.com

M—Elizabeth Enloe; e.j.enloe@gmail.com

M—Claire Litherland; litherland.c@gmail.com

PS—Margery Cornwell; cheetahcm@netscape.net

PS—Julie M. Finch; parkerhead@earthlink.net

RE—Ann Kjellberg; kjellzer@pipeline.com

T—Jimmy Gowens; jimmygowens@gmail.com

T—Tony Shitemi; 646-221-5266, tshitemi@uai-ny.com

**Flushing Monthly Meeting**—11:00 a.m.; 137-16 Northern  
Blvd., Flushing, NY 11354; 929-251-4301; flushingfriends@  
gmail.com; www.flushingfriends.org; *mail to: 137-16 Northern  
Blvd., Flushing, NY 11354*

C—Caroline Lane, 150-25 72nd Road #3C, Kew Gardens, NY  
11367; 718-268-0969, lcaroline4@gmail.com

M—Wendy Burns, 32-38 156th St., Flushing, NY 11354;  
wburns11@gmail.com

PS—John Choe, 138-25 31st Dr. #4B, Flushing, NY 11354; 646-  
783-8985, john@flushingfriends.org

RE—Dan Truman, 41-42 50th St. #3A, Woodside, NY 11377;  
347-239-9075, dantruman1888@gmail.com

T—Ninon Rogers, 41-42 50th St #3A, Woodside, NY 11377;  
917-923-5747, ninon@ninonrogers.com

**Manhattan Monthly Meeting**—9:30 a.m. first, third,  
and fifth Sundays; Bible study 10:00 a.m. second Sunday;  
15 Rutherford Pl. Room 1 (E. 15th St. between 2nd & 3rd  
Aves.), New York NY 10003; 212-673-5750; www.nyym.org/  
manhattan

C—Margaret Mulindi, 315 Ave. C #1B, New York, NY 10009;  
212-228-0067, mmulindi@yahoo.com

C—Gloria Thompson, 1590 Unionport Rd. #2B, Bronx, NY  
10462; gpto252@yahoo.com

P—David Herendeen, 25 Steuben St., Schenectady, NY 12307;  
518-836-7209, dherendeen55@yahoo.com

RE—Gloria Thompson, *see above*

T—Beverly Archibald, 153-01 Jamaica Ave., #227, Jamaica NY  
11432 718-570-6495, abevq2003@gmail.com

**Morningside Monthly Meeting**—11:00 a.m.; 490 Riverside Dr., New York, NY 10027 (entrance at 91 Claremont Ave., Floor 12T); scampfriend@earthlink.net (Sally Campbell); www.morningsidemeeting.org; mail c/o Campbell, 252 W. 91st St. #64, New York, NY 10024

C—Jane Alexandre, 90 Hillside Place, Tarryton, NY 10591; jane.alexandre@gmail.com

M—Edward Elder, 377 Douglass Street, #1B, Brooklyn, NY 11217-4500, dragonfrog@msn.com

PS—Corona Machemer, 200 Cabrini Blvd., Apt. 18, New York, NY 10033; 212-740-6788; coronamach@aol.com

T—Daniel Seeger, 1382 Newtown-Langhorne Road, Unit B-107, Newtown, PA 18940; 609-405-1234; dseeger8000@gmail.com

**Staten Island Executive Meeting**—Please call or email to confirm dates, times, and locations, as we do not meet every week: Ted Lochwyn, 718-727-4535 (home), or 917-617-4207 (mobile); t.lochwyn@gmail.com. Usual Meeting for Worship location: 651 Broadway. During warmer months, alternate location, outdoors, at ruins of jetty, NE end of South Beach. More detailed directions and mailing address at statenislandquakers.org.

**NINE PARTNERS QUARTERLY MEETING**  
don51249@aol.com (Donald (Don) Badgley)

C—Donald (Don) Badgley, 7 Tall Pines Rd., New Paltz, NY 12561; 914-388-0382; don51249@aol.com

T—Tom Houghton, 341 Old Post Rd., Marlboro, NY 12542; 845-236-4421, scotthoughton@verizon.net

*Calendar*  
TBD

**Bulls Head-Oswego Monthly Meeting**—10:30 a.m.; 1323 Bulls Head Rd., Clinton Corners, NY 12514; 845-293-2578; bullsheadquakermeeting@gmail.com; Midweek worship at 6:00 p.m. on Thursdays in private homes; bullshead.quaker.org

C—Julia Giordano, 11 Scenic Dr., Hyde Park, NY 12538; 212-979-0170, juliaagiordano@gmail.com

T— Leif Anderson, 5 Longview Road, Clinton Corners NY 12541; 845-266-4912, davidleifanderson@aol.com

**Catskill Mountain Monthly Meeting**—10:00 a.m.  
April–November (call for winter locations); 8197 State Rte. 55, Neversink, NY 12788; 845-985-2814; jhiggins001@hvc.rr.com; *mail to clerk*

C—Steven Monroe Smith, 186 Peekamoose Road; Sundown, NY 12740; (646) 409-8899; stviepesce@gmail.com  
T—Chris Dembergh, PO Box 81, Woodbourne, NY 12788; cdembergh@yahoo.com

**Cornwall Monthly Meeting**—10:30 a.m. (except for last Sunday in August: 11:00 a.m. at the Historic Smith Clove Meetinghouse; call for location); 60 Quaker Rd., Rt. 107, Cornwall, NY 12518, adj. to Cornwall Hospital; 845-534-7474; info@cornwallquakers.org; www.cornwallquakers.org; *mail to Box 275, Cornwall NY 12518-0275*

C— Justin Kimple, 39 Merrill Road, Cornwall, NY 12518; rivertaco21@aol.com  
M— Kendall Cornell, 310 W. 4th Street, #7, New York, NY 10014; kendall.star@earthlink.net  
PS—Margaret Kimple, 80 Merrill Road, Highland Mills, NY 10930  
RE—Margaret Kimple, *see above*  
T—Tom Houghton, 341 Old Post Rd., Marlboro, NY 12542; scotthoughton@verizon.net

**Green Haven Prison Preparative Meeting**—6:00-8:30 p.m. Fridays; contact: Robert Martin, robertmartin1943@hotmail.com; under the care of Poughkeepsie Meeting

**New Paltz Monthly Meeting**—10:30 a.m.; 6:30 p.m. Thursdays (6:00 simple meal; 7:30-8:30 spiritual conversation; chilcare provided); 8 N. Manheim Blvd., New Paltz, NY 12561; 845-255-5791; edseliger@gmail.com (Ed Seliger); www.quakercloud.org/cloud/new-paltz-friends-meeting. Facebook: newpaltzquakers  
C—Ed Seliger, 969 Old Post Rd., New Paltz, NY 12561; 845-384-6090, edseliger@gmail.com  
M—Taylor Eskew, 204 Cherry Hill Rd., Accord, NY 12404; 845-687-9816, rteskew@gmail.com  
M—David Cardall, 771 Ulster Landing Rd., Saugerties, NY

12477; 845-336-8876, dcardall@hvc.rr.com  
T—Patrice Salone, 1094 Rte. 44-55, Clintondale, NY 12515;  
845-883-0265, psalone1@hotmail.com

**Nine Partners Monthly Meeting**—June-September  
(Labor Day): 9:00 am at Nine Partners Meetinghouse, Rt.  
373, Millbrook, NY 12545; September (after Labor Day)-  
May (Memorial Day): 9:00 am at Lyall Memorial Federated  
Church, 30 Maple Ave., Millbrook, NY 12545; 845-677-3485;  
*mail to PO Box 426, Millbrook, NY 12545*

C—Douglas W. Doyle, 918 S. Anson Rd., Stanfordville, NY  
12581; 845-868-7148, dwdoyle@aol.com

P—Thomas W. Fiet, Lyall Memorial Federated Church, *see  
above*

**Poughkeepsie Friends Meeting**—10:00 a.m. at  
meetinghouse, also Wednesday 11:00 a.m. at College  
View Towers; 249 Hooker Ave. (corner of Whittier Blvd.),  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603; 845-454-2870; pokfriendsmeeting@  
gmail.com; www.poughkeepsiequakers.org

C—Jean Doneit, 34 Lincoln Dr., Poughkeepsie, NY 12601; 845-  
297-5046; jdoneit@optonline.net

RC—Rachel V. Ruth, 100 College Ave., Poughkeepsie, NY  
12603; 845-473-0339; rvr214@gmail.com

M—Maureen Derasmo, 12 Mill Lane, Pleasant Valley, NY  
12509; 845-453-3998; maureenbsna@hotmail.com

RE—Dare Thompson, 36 Reservoir Road, Marlboro, NY  
12509; 845-236-3074; darethompson@gamil.com

T—Fred Doneit, 34 Lincoln Dr., Poughkeepsie, NY 12601; 845-  
297-5046; fwdoneit@optonline.net

### **NORTHEASTERN REGIONAL MEETING**

nat\_corwin@yahoo.com (Nathaniel Corwin)

C—Nathaniel Corwin, 5 Woodridge Rd., Delmar NY 12054;  
518-439-0643, nat\_corwin@yahoo.com,

M—David Herendeen, 25 Steuben St. 1<sup>st</sup> fl., Schenectady, NY  
12307; 518-836-7209, dherendeen55@yahoo.com

T—James Ralston, 3 Sky Trail Rd., Edinburg, NY 12134; 518-  
863-4041, j\_ralston@roadrunner.com

*Calendar*

October 20, 2019

Saratoga Meeting

Spring 2020

TBA

**Adirondack Monthly Meeting**—10:30 a.m.; Sunday school 10:30 a.m., September–May; 27 Saratoga Ave., S. Glens Falls, NY 12803; 518-793-3755; adirondackfriendsmeeting@gmail.com; www.adirondackfriendsmeeting.org

C—Anni Stewart, 66 West Notre Dame St., Glens Falls, NY 12801; 518-798-1601, annignsfls@gmail.com

M—Diana DeBlois, Route 9, Fort Edward, NY 12828; 518-798-1806

P—Lucy Price, 25 Saratoga Ave., South Glens Falls, NY 12803; 518-793-3755, mazziobbrown@gmail.com

RE—Diana DeBlois, *see above*

T—Sherrill & Megan Pronto, 199 Redmond Rd., Gansevoort, NY 12831; 518-745-8017, prontos4@hotmail.com

**Albany Monthly Meeting**—10:00 a.m.; 727 Madison Ave., Albany NY 12208; 518-436-8812; caretaker@albanyquakers.org; www.albanyfriendsmeeting.org; *mail to meeting*.

C—Anne Liske, 227 Madison Ave., Albany, NY 12210; 518-256-8230; aliske@twc.org

M—Maud Easter, 12 Laurel Dr., Delmar, NY 12054; 518-475-9532; maudpeaster@gmail.com

PS—Paul Rehm, 22 Timber Point Rd., Greenville, NY 12083; 518-966-5366; kprehm@aol.com

RE—Christine Koster, 6 York Rd., Albany, NY 12203; 518-862-1895; ckoster2@nycap.rr.com

T—Janet Poole, 22 Point View Dr., East Greenbush, NY 12061; 518-477-5443; jpoole939@yahoo.com

**Easton Friends Meeting**—11:00 a.m., mid-September–June: North Meetinghouse, 1778 State Route 40, Greenwich, NY 12834; July to mid-September: South Meetinghouse, 227 Meetinghouse Rd., Easton NY 12154; 518-677-8934 or 518-469-3467, billreagan533@gmail.com; www.nyym.org/easton; *mail to 1778 State Rt. 40, Greenwich, NY 12834*

C—Bill Reagan, 20 East Main St., Cambridge, NY 12816; 518-677-8934, billreagan533@gmail.com

M—Rotating: Val Reagan and Margaret Waterson; valreagan@hotmail.com; margawaters@gmail.com

PS—Jeannine Laverty, 115 Lawrence St., Saratoga Springs, NY

12866; 518-587-8932, jlaverty@nycap.rr.com  
RE—Amy Caccia, 283 Ryan Gross Rd., Johnsonville, NY  
12094; 518-703-0331; aecangora@aol.com  
T—Bill Figlozzi, 15 Frog Way, Cambridge, NY 12816; 518-572-  
2144, wfiglozzi@gmail.com

**Hudson Friends Meeting** (officially Taghkanic-Hudson  
Monthly Meeting)—10:30 a.m.; 343 Union St., Hudson, NY  
12534; 917-887-6074 (clerk); clerkhudsonmeeting@gmail.  
com; www.quakercloud.org/cloud/hudson-friends-meeting

C—Donna Barrett, 297 Miller Rd., Hudson, NY 12534; 917-  
887-6074, dbarrett518@gmail.com

C—Lisa Edstrom, 366 Carlton Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11238/P.O.  
Box 162, Copake, NY 12516; 646-425-8497, lisanedstrom@  
gmail.com

T—Kristina Gibson, 42 Prospect Ave., Catskill, NY 12414; 814-  
441-6659, kgibsone@gmail.com

**Old Chatham Monthly Meeting**—11:00 a.m.; 539 County  
Route 13, Old Chatham, NY 12136-3410; 518-794-0259;  
oldchathamquakers@gmail.com; www.oldchathamquakers.  
org; *mail to PO Box 165, Old Chatham, NY 12136-0165*

C—Jens Braun, 241 Bradley's Crossing Rd., Stop #11, E.  
Chatham, NY 12060; 518-392-0891, sjbraun@taconic.net

M—Farid Gruber 40 Albany Turnpike, Old Chatham, NY  
12136; 518- 669-0105, farid@taconic.net

M—Laura Schwartzberg, 123 Bradleys Crossing Road, East  
Chatham, NY 12060; 518- 392-0024, Lauraschwartzberg@  
gmail.com

PS—Bob Elmendorf/Ann Rommel, PO Box 76, Malden Bridge,  
NY 12125; 518-766-2992, poetapoetus@taconic.net

RE—Sandra Beer, 217 Bradleys Crossing Rd., East Chatham,  
NY 12060; 518-392-1971, beer@igc.org

T—Bev Thompson, 315 Kinderhook Lane, Nassau, NY 12123;  
518-766-3982, ocmmtreasurer@gmail.com

**Quaker Street Monthly Meeting**—10:00 a.m. Easter  
through last Sunday in October; 11:00 a.m. November to  
Easter; 10226 Duanesburg Rd., Route 7, Quaker Street, NY;  
518-895-8169; jpeters46@yahoo.com (John Peters); *mail to  
Box 102, Quaker Street NY 12141-0102*

C—John D. Peters, P.O. Box 146, 219 Quaker Lane, Quaker  
Street, NY 12141; 518-895-8169, jpeters46@yahoo.com

T—Amy G. White, 218 Gardnersville Rd., Cobleskill, NY 12043; 518-234-3681, agwhite@nycap.rr.com

**Saranac Lake Monthly Meeting**—9:30 a.m.; 96 Church St., Baldwin House, Saranac Lake, NY 12983; 518-891-2709, mabrown214@hotmail.com; *mail to c/o Mary Brown, clerk, 18 Hemlock Ln., Saranac Lake, NY 12983*

C—Mary A. Brown, 18 Hemlock Ln., Saranac Lake, NY 12983; 518-891-2709, mabrown214@hotmail.com

RE—Emily Foppet, 96 Durocher Rd., Saranac, NY 12978; 518-293-2792; emilyfoppet@gmail.com

T—Suzanne Beaumont, 267 Patent Rd., Peru, NY 12972; 518-643-0925; beaumont.suzanne@gmail.com

**Saratoga Monthly Meeting**—10:00 a.m.; 571 State Rt. 32 at County Rd. 71, Quaker Springs, Stillwater, NY 12170; 518-863-4041; clerk.saratoga.friends@gmail.com; www.saratogaquakers.com; *mail to: 571 State Rt. 32, Stillwater NY 12170*

C—Jennifer Lindop, 546 Route 67, Mechanicville, NY 12118; 518-225-9493, lindopjen@gmail.com

C—Ruth Ralston, 3 Sky Trail Rd, Northville, NY 12134; 518-863-4041, j\_ralston@roadrunner.com

M—Jean Seiler, 15 Hill Rd., Stillwater, NY 12170; 518-583-7813, jean@profitpln.com

T—Michael Lesser, 7 Grants Way, Gansevoort, NY 12831; 201-341-7982, m.lessor@yahoo.com

Schenectady Monthly Meeting—9:00 a.m. May through October, 10:00 a.m. November through April; 427 Franklin St., Schenectady, NY 12305; 518-383-3482; olmstedrm@gmail.com; syzdeklarry@yahoo.com;; www.nyym.org/schenectady; mail to: PO Box 638, Schenectady NY 12301

C—Ruth Olmsted, 43 Riverview Rd., Clifton Park, NY 12065; 518-383-3482, olmstedrm@gmail.com

C—Lawrence Syzdek, 43 Riverview Rd., Clifton Park, NY 12065; 518-383-3482, syzdeklarry@yahoo.com

PS—Anita Paul, 123 Cherry Blossom Court, Rotterdam, NY 12306; anitalouisepaul@gmail.com

T—David Gerhan, 123 Cherry Blossom Court, Rotterdam, NY 12306; gerhand@union.edu

## PURCHASE QUARTERLY MEETING

[purchasequarterfriendsny@gmail.com](mailto:purchasequarterfriendsny@gmail.com)

C—Mary Eagleson, 113 Greenacres Ave., White Plains, NY 10606; [mleagleson@aol.com](mailto:mleagleson@aol.com)

M—Laura Higgins, 346 Sunrise Hill La., Norwalk, CT 06851; 203-981-5267, [laurahiggins203@hotmail.com](mailto:laurahiggins203@hotmail.com)

T—Albert Hsu, 66 Wilton Ave. #4, Norwalk, CT 06851; 347-989-6366; [alhsu64@gmail.com](mailto:alhsu64@gmail.com)

### *Calendar*

October 27, 2019      Scarsdale

February 2, 2020      TBD

May 3, 2020            TBD

August 5, 2020        TBD

November 1, 2020      TBD

**Amawalk Monthly Meeting**—10:30 a.m.; 2467 Quaker Church Rd., Yorktown Heights, NY 10598; 914-523-2134, [amawalkmeeting@gmail.com](mailto:amawalkmeeting@gmail.com); [www.nyym.org/amawalk](http://www.nyym.org/amawalk)

C—Robin Alpern, 228 Union Ave., Peekskill, NY 10566; 914-736-5447; [robin.alpern@gmail.com](mailto:robin.alpern@gmail.com)

T—Pamela Yager, c/o Amawalk Monthly Meeting (see address above)

**Chappaqua Monthly Meeting**—10:30 a.m.; 420 Quaker Rd., Chappaqua, NY 10514; 914-238-3170; [chappaqua.quakers@gmail.com](mailto:chappaqua.quakers@gmail.com); [www.chappaquafriends.org](http://www.chappaquafriends.org)

C—John Attanasio, [jattanasio65@gmail.com](mailto:jattanasio65@gmail.com); 914-737-9089

C—Allyson Jacobs, [ALRose05@hotmail.com](mailto:ALRose05@hotmail.com); 570-204-6096

C—Matthew Jacobs, [mjacob01@alumni.risd.edu](mailto:mjacobs01@alumni.risd.edu); 570-204-7515.

M—Meredith Downey, 310 Manville Road L-2, Pleasantville, NY 10570; 914-769-0971, [mldbeagle@hotmail.com](mailto:mldbeagle@hotmail.com)

T—Kristina Sibinga, 310 Bedford Rd., Chappaqua, NY 10514; [sibinga@gmail.com](mailto:sibinga@gmail.com)

**Croton Valley Monthly Meeting**—11:00 a.m.; 210 Meetinghouse Rd., Mt. Kisco, NY 10549; 914-941-2352; [fourways1379@msn.com](mailto:fourways1379@msn.com) (Stephen Ballou); [www.nyym.org/crotonvalley](http://www.nyym.org/crotonvalley)

C—Stephen Ballou, 58 Iroquois Rd., Ossining, NY 10562; 914-941-2352, [fourways1379@msn.com](mailto:fourways1379@msn.com)

M—Stephen Ballou, *see above*

T—Glen Johnson, 2819 Birch St., Yorktown Heights, NY 10598; 914-245-7072, glenjohnson1112@gmail.com

**Housatonic Monthly Meeting**—10:00 a.m.; 300 Danbury Rd., New Milford, CT 06776; 860-355-9330; cssontheriver@gmail.com; www.housatonicmeeting.org; *mail to PO Box 43, New Milford, CT 06776-0043*

C—Larry Cargill, 25 Munger Lane, Bethlehem, CT 06751; 203-266-4602, lccargill428@gmail.com

T—Cathy Setterlin, 20 Paper Mill Rd., New Milford, CT 06776; 860-355-1205, cssontheriver@gmail.com

M—Laura Mayer, 48 Pine Tree Hill Rd., Newtown, CT 06470; 203 770 6761, blmayer@sbcglobal.net

**Otisville Prison Worship Group**—12:30 p.m. Saturdays; under the care of Purchase Quarterly Meeting; contact: Ruth Matthews, 27 Cambridge Court, Highland, NY 12528; 914-945-0780, ruthmatthews465@gmail.com; or Anne E. Wright, 355 Old Tarrytown Road, #402, White Plains, NY 10603; 914-949-7201 or 914-588-9793; sing2b@gmail.com

**Philipstown Worship Group**—10:00 a.m. second and fourth Sundays in homes of members. Under the care of Purchase Meeting. Contact Shasta Crombie for information/location: shastadaisy1@yahoo.com

**Purchase Monthly Meeting**—10:30 a.m.; also second Thursdays at 7:00 p.m., under the care of Purchase Quarter; 4455 Purchase St. (Rt. 120, corner of Purchase & Lake Streets), Purchase, NY 10577; 914-946-0206; jnicklinolsen@gmail.com (Jane Olsen); www.purchasemeeting.org; *mail to: Box 164, Purchase, NY 10577-0164*

C—Deborah Wood, 3217 Kendal Way, Sleepy Hollow, NY 10591; 914-922-1553; debwood2265@outlook.com

M—Patricia Rallis, 491 Old Chappaqua Rd, Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510; 914-804-7006, PRSwartz@optonline.net

T—Daniel Hewitt, 290 Collins Avenue #6B, Mount Vernon, NY 10552; 914-646-3172; danielphewitt@yahoo.com

**Scarsdale Monthly Meeting**—11:00 a.m.; 133 Popham Rd., Scarsdale, NY 10583 (about ½ block west of Rt. 22); 914-472-6550; bowenalpern@gmail.com (Bowen Alpern);

[www.scarsdalefriendsmeeting.org](http://www.scarsdalefriendsmeeting.org); *mail to: 133 Popham Rd., Scarsdale NY 10583*

C—Bowen Alpern, 1840 Crompond Rd. #7B4, Peekskill, NY 10566; 914-402-1248, [bowenalpern@gmail.com](mailto:bowenalpern@gmail.com)

PS—Mary Eagleson, 113 Greenacres Ave., White Plains, NY 10606; 914-328-7943, [mleagleson@aol.com](mailto:mleagleson@aol.com)

RE—Mary Eagleson, *see above*

T—Mary Eagleson, *see above*

**Sing Sing Prison Worship Group**—8:15 a.m. Sundays, 6:15 p.m. Thursdays; contact: Matt Scanlon, [mpscanlon@aol.com](mailto:mpscanlon@aol.com); under the care of Purchase Quarterly Meeting

**Wilton Quaker Meeting**—10:00 a.m.; 317 New Canaan Rd. (Rt. 106), Wilton, CT 06897-3322; 203-762-5669; [clerk\\_01@wiltonfriends.org](mailto:clerk_01@wiltonfriends.org); [www.fgcquaker.org/cloud/wilton-quaker-meeting](http://www.fgcquaker.org/cloud/wilton-quaker-meeting)

C—Martha Gurvich, 41 Hyatt Ave., Norwalk, CT 06850; 203-838-3433; [margurvl@aol.com](mailto:margurvl@aol.com)

M—Peter Murchison, 145 Keeler Dr., Ridgefield, CT 06877; 203-788-6768; [mo@wiltonfriends.org](mailto:mo@wiltonfriends.org)

PS—Diane Keefe, 249 Chestnut Hill Rd., Norwalk, CT 06815; 917-312-4601; [peace@wiltonfriends.org](mailto:peace@wiltonfriends.org)

T—Albert Hsu, 66 Wilton Ave. #4, Norwalk, CT 06851; 347-989-6366, [treasurer@wiltonfriends.org](mailto:treasurer@wiltonfriends.org)

## SHREWSBURY & PLAINFIELD HALF-YEARLY MEETING

[www.nyym.org/sphym](http://www.nyym.org/sphym)

C—*rotating*

M—Roger Dreisbach-Williams, 25 Tumble Creek Rd., Easton, PA 18042; 610-258-0243, [hillside@rcn.com](mailto:hillside@rcn.com)

T—Robin Gowin, 37 Outcalt Rd., Edison, NJ 08817; 732-287-6385, [landr100@gmail.com](mailto:landr100@gmail.com)

*Calendar*

September 21, 2019

Shrewsbury Meeting

March or April TBA, 2020

Plainfield Meeting

**Manasquan Friends Meeting**—11:00 a.m.; 2257

Meetinghouse Rd., Manasquan, NJ 08736; [www.manasquanquakers.org](http://www.manasquanquakers.org);

*mail to Box 522, Manasquan NJ*

08736-0522

C—James Jones, 2405 Lenape Trail, Manasquan, NJ 08736; 732-528-7380; jrbjjones@optonline.net

M—Norma Heller, 1731 L St., West Belmar, NJ 07719; 732-233-4364, rhelle1948@yahoo.com

M—Eleanor Novek, 121 Woodland Ave., Neptune City, NJ 07753; 732-988-0998, enovek@monmouth.edu

PS—Eleanor Novek, *see above*

RE—Norma Heller, *see above*

T—Chad Dell, 121 Woodland Ave., Neptune City, NJ 07753; 732-988-0998; cdell@monmouth.edu

**New Brunswick Monthly Meeting**—10:30 a.m. Sundays; 109 Nichol Ave., New Brunswick NJ 08901; 732-846-8969; clerk.nbquakers@gmail.com; www.newbrunswickquakers.org

C—Robin Gowin, 37 Outcalt Rd., Edison, NJ 08817; 732-287-6385; Landr100@gmail.com

M—Mary Ann Allard, 208 Amherst Street, Highland Park, NJ, 08904; chezallard@optonline.net

M—Douglas Way, 38 Juniper Lane, Piscataway, NJ 08854; 732-878-2757, papadougway@gmail.com

PS—Laura Cisar, 37 Outcalt Rd., Edison, NJ 08817; 732-287-6385, landr@optonline.net

T—Laura Cisar, *see above*

**Rahway & Plainfield Monthly Meeting**—10:30 a.m.; 225 Watchung Ave. (corner of Watchung and E. 3rd St.), Plainfield, NJ 07060; 908-757-5736; karenjtibbals@yahoo.com; www.plainfieldquakers.org; *mail to: 225 Watchung Ave., Plainfield NJ 07060*

C—Alex Ridgway, 35 Linden Ave., Metuchen, NJ 08840; aridgway@gmail.com; 732-516-0843

C—Karen Tibbals, 5 Kestrel Court, Washington NJ 07882; 732-266-7692; karenjtibbals@yahoo.com

M—Debora Sims, 19 Bryant Court, Somerset, NJ 08873; 908-938-2409; djsims2000@msn.com

PS—Donna Madison, 668 Sycamore St., Rahway, NJ 07065-3306; madisontwofish@aol.com

RE—Rachel Gelderman, P. O. Box 1590, Montague, NJ 07827; rgelderman@embarqmail.com

T—Mary Harpster, 216 Columbia Ave., Metuchen, NJ 08840; 908-930-8721; mlharpster@optonline.net

**Shrewsbury Monthly Meeting**—10:30 a.m.; 375 Sycamore Ave. & Route 35, Shrewsbury, NJ 07702; 732-741-4138; clerk@shrewsburyquakers.org; www.shrewsburyquakers.org; *mail to Box 92, Shrewsbury NJ 07702-0092*

C—Alan Brenner, 33 Belle Pl., Neptune City, NJ 07753; 732-890-6197, alan@abcompcons.com

M—Gay Edelman, 133 Statesir Pl., Red Bank, NJ 07701; 732-275-2512, gayedelman@gmail.com

T—Jean-David Beyer, 6 Parker Pl., Shrewsbury, NJ 07702; jeandavid8@verizon.net

## **OTHER MEETINGS IN NEW YORK YEARLY MEETING AREA**

**St. Lawrence Valley Friends Meeting**—An allowed meeting under the care of Ottawa Monthly Meeting. 5:00 p.m.; Christian Science Reading Room, 28 Elm Street, Potsdam, NY 13676; 315-386-4648; bburdick@twcnny.rr.com

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## **New York Yearly Meeting Sessions**

### **2019 Fall Sessions**

November 1–3

Host: Northeastern Region

Powell House & Old Chatham Friends  
Meetinghouse

### **2020 Spring Sessions**

April 3–5

Host: Sessions Committee

Oakwood Friends School

### **Summer Sessions**

July 19–25

Silver Bay YMCA, Silver Bay, NY

### **Fall Sessions**

November 6–8

Host: Shrewsbury & Plainfield

Half-Yearly Meeting

Location: TBA

### **2021 Spring Sessions**

April 9–11

Host: Long Island Quarter (invited; to  
be confirmed)

### **Summer Sessions**

July 25–31

Silver Bay YMCA, Silver Bay, NY

### **Fall Sessions**

November 5–7

Host & Location: to be announced

# New York Yearly Meeting Religious Society of Friends

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## Future NYYM Sessions Dates

### 2020

Spring Sessions . . . April 3–5

Summer Sessions . . July 19–25

Fall Sessions . . . . . Nov. 6–8

### 2021

Spring Sessions . . . April 9–11

Summer Sessions . . July 25–31

Fall Sessions . . . . . Nov. 5–7

*For more Sessions dates and  
locations see inside back cover*