

PYM Children's Program Committee Report to Rep Comm

March 2017

Chamba Cooke (clerk), Carol Cruickshank and Peggy Craik

This year's committee is comprised of three members who are in their second year on the committee. Nominating is working on finding three more members to fill the committee. **If you know anyone who may be interested please let Sue Torrey, the nominating committee member who is spearheading the search, or Stephen Matchett, the nominating clerk.** We are grateful for the continuing involvement of Alyssa Nelson (YPC) and Sally Kingsland (as M&O rep).

With the success of last year's program we decided to rehire Nate Secrest as the program's coordinator for the upcoming Annual Session. Nate has given valuable insights in our meetings, and has been fully participating in the committee's work. Chamba Cooke, currently clerk of the committee, is willing to fill the position he did last year, committee elder, as an active support for Nate during PYM itself.

We looked at the sense of inequity felt around our giving Children's Program teachers an extra 100 dollars stipend. Along with the volunteer aspect of working at PYM, the FRAPs in Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM) were not getting any such stipend. After some research and discernment we came to the decision to not offer the stipend and find another way to acknowledge the wonderful work of our teachers.

The night program for Children's Program participants created last year was very much appreciated so will be happening again. We are hoping to have it on the schedule this year.

We have come up with a cheaper (in the long run) and more efficient way for PYM to store its equipment between Annual Sessions. The finance committee will have in the proposed budget \$2,500 for the purchase of an enclosed trailer. The effect will be no need to rent a van yearly, nor the need to unload and reload. We will have only the mileage for pull the trailer. Any questions, please ask one of us.

The most important factor for the program to be a success is developing a healthy applicant pool to draw the teachers from. **Do you know someone who is inspired by working with young people? Does your meeting have individuals who have contributed to your Children's Program? Please send them our way!** Chamba has an advertisement coming out in Western Friend and he will send an electronic version of it to each representative. We request that you pass the announcement on to your newsletter editor for inclusion in the March, April and May newsletter of every PYM meeting.

Our committee is dedicated to furthering the Annual Session's Children's Program as a healthy and vibrant part of our Yearly Meeting. Diego Navarro's vision of more inclusion of the children into the plenary sessions was appreciated last year. We want to review what worked and what didn't to further the success of the integration.