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List of Minutes of Action

Minute AS 2018-1: We approve the Pacific Yearly Meeting Website Policy statement as proposed by the Communications Committee in Attachment 7, to replace the Website Policy statement that was approved by PYM in 2007.

Minute AS 2018-2: We approve the Joint Proposal from Children’s Program Committee, Ministry and Oversight Committee, and Nominating Committee, to create and charge an ad hoc committee to investigate issues regarding the Children’s Program Coordinator position, as presented in Attachment 10. We approve the following to serve on the committee: Julie Harlow, Chamba Cooke, Sally Kingsland and Roy Allen.

Minute AS 2018-3: We approve the budget presented by Finance Committee in its revised form [Attachment 16] and now including the following amendments:
- $400 added to the Faith and Practice Revision line for increased travel
- $300 added to the Peace and Social Order line for travel
- $200 added to the Quaker Earthcare Witness line for travel
- $2,785 added to the Youth Programs personnel cost line for a 7.5% merit raise for the Youth Programs Coordinator.

Minute AS 2018-4: Pacific Yearly Meeting is considering affiliation with Friends General Conference but did not reach unity at the 2018 sessions. Among the reasons Friends felt in support of this step was the significant benefit our meetings gain from FGC’s resources and services, at little or no cost. At the same time, concerns about cost of affiliation were raised. We ask our Ministry and Oversight Committee to direct our monthly meetings to consider whether PYM should affiliate with FGC, and to ask themselves what their Meeting would be led to contribute should Pacific Yearly Meeting approve such affiliation. It is understood that responses from each monthly meeting will reflect its financial resources. Over the next year we ask monthly meetings and worship groups to consider the financial information available about affiliating with FGC regarding number of delegates and levels of additional contribution per member.

Minute AS 2018-5: We approve the Nominating Slate as presented in Attachment 20.

Minute AS 2018-6: We approve the names brought to us for service on our Nominating Committee: William O’Connell [Las Vegas], for a term ending in 2020, Sue Torrey [Central Coast], Jorge Morales [San Jose], and Joe Magruder [Berkeley] for terms ending in 2021, and Sue Torrey to serve as Clerk for one year.
Minutes
Plenary I – Opening Plenary
Seventh Month 13, 2018

We began our 72nd annual session with silent worship.

1. Welcome
Clerk Diego Navarro welcomed all to the session, introduced those at the table, and reflected on this year’s theme of radical vulnerability as expressed in the Clerk’s Call to annual session. His own experience early in his own life was of the sense of nurture and caring in the yearly meetings of his youth. Friends faced challenging political issues then, as we do today. Early Friends, as we know, lived during a time of revolution and political conflict. In Diego’s experience on the AFSC National Board, immigration was an important issue and deeply searching meetings were held to discern whether to obey laws in tension with Quaker faith. We hope that we will be faithful to the calling of Spirit in these coming days as we seek to address our own circumstance and responsibility in a troubled world.

2. Walker Creek welcome
Chris from Walker Creek Ranch welcomed us, explaining that Walker Creek functions mainly in the education of children in the world of nature. He encouraged us to take advantage of the many trails. There are tame deer with young ones who may be defensive. He offered guidance regarding meals, coffee, smoking safety, and building care. The pond is available for swimming and boating when a Walker Creek lifeguard is there.

3. First Nations welcome
Sally Kingsland, Co-clerk of Ministry and Oversight Committee, called our attention to the history of the first nations people who were early custodians of this land. Sky Road Webb, descendent of the Coast Miwok, a teacher of tribal ways, spoke to us of his tradition. We learned that the variety of tribal groups and languages in the area was immense. He sang to us and led us in song.

4. Roll Call
Sharon Gates, Assistant to the Clerk, read the roll, and Friends welcomed each other as each meeting or worship group stood to indicate their presence. [Attachment 1]

5. Visitors welcome
Our Clerk welcomed first time attenders and visitors to our session. Visitors included Jonathan Vogel-Borne [Cambridge Monthly Meeting, New England Yearly Meeting], Yulieed Avila Iturbe [Junta Mensual de Cd. Victoria and FWCC traveling minister], Miguel Costap Bala [from Guatemala and director of the Guatemala Scholarship Program], Rachel Ernst Stalhut [from FGC and Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting], Dan Strickland [from Orange Grove Monthly Meeting but also bringing greetings from Seoul Monthly Meeting in South Korea], Christina Ashley [Whittier Monthly Meeting, Iowa Yearly Meeting and field secretary for FCNL], Maia Wolff Ostrom [formerly of our yearly meeting, now from North Pacific Yearly Meeting, here with
family], Laura Magnani, American Friends Service Committee, and Vicki Carroll [Central Coast Monthly Meeting and FCLCA].

6. Youth programs
Leaders of Children’s program, and Junior Yearly Meeting, encouraged us to visit their programs and Young Adult Friends announced their presence. Diego introduced Chamba Cook [Grass Valley], clerk of Children’s program committee, JYM Clerks Charlie Shaw [Santa Monica], Ari Standish [Berkeley], and Eleanor Steffy [Sacramento], and adult JYM committee clerk Muriel Strand [Sacramento].

7. Respectful relationships
Thistle West and Charlie Shaw of M&O’s Respectful Relationships subcommittee spoke to us of respectful relationships, and gave us opportunity for brief conversation with one another to share what we feel welcomes us here. Respectful relationships guidelines, which had been distributed in advance, were read to us.

8. Ministry and Oversight
Sally Kingsland and Kylin Navarro Burger, Co-clerks of Ministry and Oversight, introduced those members of the committee present. Sally and Kylin spoke of their many forms of work on behalf of the yearly meeting, and welcomed all of us to come to them with questions or suggestions. They reviewed in detail some of their subcommittees and areas of work. A bell will be rung shortly before plenaries as a reminder.

9. Arrangements
Sarah Tyrell and Bronwen Hillman, Co-clerks of Arrangements Committee, reviewed arrangements for the session. Jan Turner [Humboldt], coordinates special needs regarding food, and spoke of provisions for this. This year a more detailed ingredients list will be posted. She encouraged all with special food needs to take responsibility themselves for asking about food, and to be patient with the efforts of staff to serve their needs. Bronwen Hillman explained how the information station works. George Mills, Secretariat Clerk, encouraged us all to help him keep work for the Daily Miracle simple. He explained how submissions are to be made—email is preferred. He reminded us that most of the information relevant to our gathering is on the web site, now easily accessible through the WiFi system here.

10. Closing
Our clerk reviewed some elements of our schedule as the session moved toward its close. Sharon Gates, Assistant to the Clerk, read announcements and we closed with worship.
Plenary II - Keynote Addresses  
Seventh Month 14, 2018  
Carin Anderson and Elena Anderson-Williams  
Faithfulness: A Call to Practice Radical Vulnerability and Love

1. Opening
We gathered in worship. The Clerk expressed gratitude for our two speakers’ willingness to speak to the theme of this year’s Annual Session. He spoke of two elements of this theme: opening to a call without knowing where it will lead, and giving oneself to the guidance of a community. The power of the spirit is awake where there is suffering; is our comfort a danger to our availability to this power?

Diego spoke of his first meeting with Elena after her return from the Quaker Youth Pilgrimage; he felt in her a fire and a sense of calling. He met Carin after her return from Colombia years ago, where she had been accompanying a town in danger from violence. She has recently been drawn to work with refugee children. We returned to silence out of which our speakers shared.

2. Elena Anderson-Williams
Elena spoke. Faithfulness in ministry is birthing a witness together—we are joined in this. A childhood myth of a noble calling and answer lived in Elena early in her life. She craved certainty and waited. She hoped to move quickly beyond what constrained her. Yet the waking up did not come quickly or easily. In her failures and longing, she knew she needed divine intervention. She felt helpless and unworthy. How could she be an instrument of God, how was she to be faithful? She was answered in her life: faithfulness, she found, was not about goodness, being right, or even service. What was required was to be a fool for God, to be broken open before the world, to be fierce in love and in the following of that love. A wild faith of no boundary, beyond our concepts and fears. When she was 23 two teens, one pregnant, with substance abuse and other challenges, arrived to live with her. Told this was beyond her by others, she nevertheless stood firm to be a channel for God’s love. Finally she came to her own limit in holding this care—in this moment of breaking apart, the words of Isaac Penington coursed through her—give over thine own willing…and let that breathe in thee. She gave it all over and up to God and was broken not apart but open. She became able at every turn to answer in love. This great and terrible truth, she feels now in her bones. Then she felt a call, which she resisted but then responded to, to work for a time in Belfast at Quaker Cottage. Upon her return, she learned she had been “tenderized” in the hardness of this period in Belfast. Her work with women and children in suffering was a work of extending care and obedience to God; she could love them unconditionally. What does it mean to be formed for fellowship, she asked herself, and how does this affect her relationship to the larger community of Friends? Willing to be exposed and foolish, she fears judgment even in the open loving community; she fears being seen as one of those in need of being served, rather than one in service. How do the lines of service and being served work in the matter of being faithful? She finds herself able to bring her love of life into community when she no longer is asking what needs to be served, when she feels our common sinking down to the seed, to the sweet yoke. Faithfulness is for her the feeling of joyfulness now present for her in every interaction. This forms her instinct for life. Yet this requires standing with feet on the abyss. Humility must be there but also the willingness to stand...
as a living testament to the embodiment of grace. We must answer every call in being ready to be obedient, even while discernment must follow.

3. Carin Anderson
With Kylin Navarro Burger, Carin sang. *We shall be known by the company we keep—it is time now—we shall learn to lead in love.* Carin spoke of a transformation of life two decades ago when she learned ways of following the leadings of the Spirit. This led to years of following ---- yet she began to feel that her own callings led her out of the Quaker community where she felt them unwelcome. A decade ago she shared a message that she felt was not heard and she began to withdraw from the Quaker community to experiment on her own. When invited to speak at this annual session, she wanted to refuse but did not—and began to understand there was a message she was called to give, discomforting as it might be to us and to her. She told us a story. When ten years old she lived in Hong Kong—a place of fascination but also great economic inequity. She saved her allowance to give to the “poor people.” It however was a deep hurt to see this way in which the world was not right. This abiding sensitivity to suffering has called her to work in many ways, in many places, especially with children. In El Salvador and then in Colombia she sought to be of service and brought these stories home to this Quaker community. She hoped to inspire some action to change these conditions and found support in many. Yet most of what moved her felt too difficult to share. She moved on because she could not say these words: “we are in relationship with these many people who suffer, who grow our bananas, make our clothing, make our computers. We are connected to their suffering and we know it.” Yet we are able to rationalize in some way these relationships and remain able to live on in our current ways. She spoke of Woolman’s powerful account of a vision of human suffering in the silver mines, where he heard the voice that said “John Woolman is dead.” He comes to understand that the message was the death of his own will—he saw the “silver vessels” in homes he visited as his connection to this suffering. Woolman could not experience the fruits of the suffering of others without feeling that suffering. He knew his liberation was bound up with theirs. Are we like the 18th century Friend slaveholders? How much of our wealthy lives rests on a modern slave system? We share a set of norms that buffers real challenge to our ways—convincing us that having a car, a computer, a cell phone, is “normal.” We live a first world life while few among us genuinely challenge this system. What happens to our integrity and relationship with God when the daily acts of our lives involve the “purchase” of oppressive systems. Slaveowners used many practical arguments for perpetuating their system. We also have made acceptable our own living off of the suffering of others. Carin in her own experiments has not figured out the solution yet she has found much in her search. Her own radical shedding of possessions to move into a very small hand-built home in Chico, was a transforming experience. The simplicity and quiet opened her. Her abandoning of car ownership was another experiment—in which she found a liberation, even in the midst of the many challenges. In these experiments she has felt lonely and sometimes a burden to her first world family and friends. What has she learned? We need community—the personal experiment is not enough. We must corporately experiment, for there is much complexity in figuring out how to do it. For each the experiment will be different—yet in each life, steps are possible. The failure is of collective imagination. Alternatives exist even if we do not now see them. We seek to live into a world that will nurture all of us. Like spokes of a wheel, all these experiments lead us to a center. For us, tweaking at the edges of a life is not enough. A
paradigm shift is required, hard as it is. But to be able to look our human family in the eye, is to see the face of God.

4. Closing
After worship and responses, we closed our session.
The Presiding Clerk opened the plenary with expectant silence, inviting us to continue in worship through the close of the Annual Session on Wednesday.

1. Epistle Reading
Judith Searle, Reading Clerk, read from the epistle of Great Plains Yearly Meeting.

2. Clerk’s Remarks.
The Presiding Clerk introduced those at the facing table and thanked the M&O committee for its work and the leadership of the co-clerks Sally Kingsland and Kylin Navarro Burger. He informed us that, for Friends who would prefer to speak in Spanish, there are those who stand ready to assist in translation, a service being facilitated by the Committee on Racial Justice.

Diego shared some reminders of our practices as Friends in corporate discernment: Come with prepared, but open minds. Keep low. Wait for the clerk to recognize you and for the microphone, and state your name and meeting each time you speak. Don’t share everything on your mind; be authentic. It is often difficult to discern whether the spirit is moving one to speak—if you do speak ask yourself: how do you feel when you sit down? Complete? We are an experimental religion. Step up, then step back; just speak once on a topic. Conventional time is different from spiritual time, there is no need to feel compelled to decide everything now.

Diego reported for the M&O committee the names of the Epistle Committee: Steve Birdlebough [Redwood Forest], Will Rogers [Berkeley], Barbara Allen [Berkeley] and Gayle Thomas [Santa Monica] as alternate.

Both Peace and Social Order Committee and Ministry and Oversight Committee have read all State of the Meeting Reports, which are posted on the PYM website. Thistle West and Shayne Lightner, Ministry and Oversight members, reported that many monthly meetings seem concerned with a shrinking and aging membership, though many did report increased visitors and children. There is a sense that for many meetings a question sits unclear or unaddressed: what is our work as a Quaker meeting? Shayne and Thistle asked us to pair with a partner and have a brief discussion about the state of our Meetings. In concluding their report, they noted that more meetings are experimenting and engaged in outreach efforts. Serving the needs of elders is a challenge. Some are restructuring to reduce the number of committees, and a number work to bring conflict out into the open.

David Breitzman and Linnea Hanson, Peace and Social Order Committee members, then reported. They reviewed their survey of the broad categories of actions that Meetings are engaged in and distributed to us a useful flyer showing this array of work. Their scheduled interest group is an opportunity to explore this further.

Friends spoke out of the silence with initial responses to these issues. More time will be spent in discernment at later plenaries.
4. Treasurer’s Report
Roy Allen, Treasurer, reported that we have received an IRS determination letter recognizing PYM as 501(c)(3) [Attachment 2]. This is not a “group letter” and does not grant our constituent monthly meetings this status. He then called our attention to certain elements in his Treasurer’s Report [Attachment 3], which we then accepted.

5. First Reading of Decision/Discernment Items
The Clerk explained that this first reading of discernment items will be followed at the close of plenary by committee listening time outside the dining hall during which those wishing may share their thoughts concerning the proposals with the committees. Those wishing to participate in discernment should read the advance reports, available on the web site, first. The committees will report back to the plenary on Monday.

A. Finance Committee: Budget & Augmentations
Deborah Marks, Finance Committee member, presented the report [Attachment 4]. Our values are embodied in our budget and it represents seeds for the future. Membership is down by 33 members, which will increase the per person assessment. Deborah brought attention to several other items in the report, including a proposal for an increase in the Youth Program Coordinator’s salary, presented for our discernment.

B. Nominating Committee: Slate & New Policy
Sue Torrey, Nominating Committee Clerk, presented the committee’s report [Attachments 5 and 6] and a preliminary Nominating Slate [not attached]. The nomination slate is not yet complete and will come to a later plenary [for final approved slate, see Attachment 20]. She read for our consideration a proposed new Presiding Clerk transition policy which has been piloted since Representative Committee Meeting this year.

C. Communication Committee: Website Policy
Lawrence Alderson, Interim Clerk of Communications Committee, reported that the committee is proposing a website policy for our consideration at this session [Attachment 7]. In addition, the committee asked for help from those who are familiar with website privacy policies.

D. Ministry and Oversight: FGC Affiliation
Shan Cretin, Ministry and Oversight Committee, presented the committee’s work on the matter of FGC affiliation, a step being proposed for our discernment this session. She highlighted a number of aspects of such affiliation that should help inform our decision. For M&O’s summary of monthly meetings’ reflections on FGC affiliation, see Attachment 8. For a report on estimating the costs of FGC affiliation see Attachment 9.

E. Joint Proposal: CPC Employment Issue
Sally Kingsland, Ministry and Oversight Co-clerk, Chamba Cook, Children’s Committee Co-clerk, and Sue Torrey, Nominating Committee Clerk, presented a joint proposal from their three committees [Attachment 10]. The proposal, to establish an ad hoc committee to explore...
questions regarding the children’s program coordinator position, has been seasoned by their committees and they are proposing it for our consideration.

6. Announcements.

The plenary closed with continuing worship.
Plenary IV  
Seventh Month 15, 2018  

1. Epistle Reading  
Judith Searle, Reading Clerk, read from the New England Yearly Meeting epistle 2017. Living into transformation, their theme, spoke to their condition in this time. They bore witness to many movements of the Spirit within their meeting that have opened the way to transformation. In the imaginal cells of a caterpillar’s transformation, they found the image of their own calling.

2. Welcome  
Our clerk Diego Navarro introduced those at the table serving this session. One visitor was welcomed: John Lindsay-Poland, AFSC Oakland. Diego acknowledged that our keynote speakers were well used by the Spirit yesterday and we hold them today in our hearts.

3. Reflections on Quaker process  
Sandy Kewman, nominated as incoming Presiding Clerk, shared words with us. We were earlier reminded at this session that many early Friends were young, taken where they were, as they were-- so also are we taken and accepted by God as we are. The light is in each; divine guidance serves us continually. May we maintain this sense of worship as we work today, holding one another and our Clerk in gratitude for this time together. With attention and open heartedness, we listen, receiving the gift of time and truth as Spirit leads us. In Penington’s words: Give over thine own willing, give over thine own running, give over thine own desiring to know or to be anything, and sink down to the seed which God sows in the heart, and let that grow in thee, and be in thee, and breathe in thee, and act in thee, and thou shalt find by sweet experience that the Lord knows that, and loves and owns that, and will lead it to the inheritance of life, which is his portion.” In love, let us hold each speaker, and be faithful.

4. Introduction to the session  
Diego explained how the written record of our sessions will take shape—according to the different types of purposes for which we gather. For some sessions, formal minutes serve us; for some open sessions, notes will be kept that will be available but not read back or included in the minutes proper. Diego noted that materials for our preparation for this and other sessions are in the advance packet on our PYM website. In the current plenary we begin our discernment on the issue of “Witnessing to a Troubled World”.

In introducing this present session, he observed that in these past years of clerking he has sensed elements of tension within the community. He is inviting us this year to engage with such tension. As Quakers, we are a visceral religion. He called upon us to be sensitive to how Spirit embodies us as we face this challenging part of our common life. He referred to a Western Friend article: those approved by God are the peacemakers who show up to help to heal the breach. This is a lesson timely and relevant to us. He outlined the program for this and subsequent sessions that will address the theme of listening to the spirit, seeking visions of how we can witness to a troubled world. Five speakers will open our process of discernment today, and at later sessions we will address specific concrete issues. Later in the week we will come together to see if unity has arisen or is forthcoming.
5. Listening to the Spirit: Five Visions

Five friends then presented alternative visions of how we, PYM Annual Session, can witness to a troubled world.

Shan Cretin [Santa Monica Monthly Meeting], recent director of AFSC, spoke to us. Our world is troubled and our response must be more than words. Her experience with Britain Yearly Meeting has shaped her understanding of business process and unity. Unity as she now understands it is not the condition of each in the room sharing a perspective, but the shared sense that the leadership of Spirit has been found. Britain Yearly Meeting conducts its process with this view. A careful movement that is built on waiting, shapes their way. Often issues are worked through over three years, as intervening work each year enriches further discernment and ultimately often leads to steps in action. Burundi Friends also have a broader and more active process that might inspire us in our search for ways to witness.

David Hartsough [San Francisco Monthly Meeting], spoke of the urgency of these times, and the present call for action. Our country is at war in seven mainly Muslim countries; immense resources are expended in this military action, and as a result are unavailable for real needs. Dark prospects before us have been explored in recent writings. David proposed that we should ask our Peace and Social Order Committee to come to each yearly meeting session with a single priority issue that the whole yearly meeting would wrestle with in the coming year, seeking ways to respond faithfully. A panel might help initiate this year of work; interest groups would aid in this “seeding.” A minute might arise, a joint action might develop. A call would be sent to all monthly meetings to engage with this issue; reports would be invited from monthly meetings at the following yearly meeting. The world needs to hear from us; we have the capacity to speak and to act. All in God’s world are our brothers and sisters.

Anthony Manousos [Orange Grove Monthly Meeting], spoke of minutes of concern, his view of their usefulness and their power. The discernment and even the conflict involved, may be useful in discovering a shared following of a leading. Minutes of concern, in his experience, have been effective and led to action. He spoke of a number of examples on environmental issues and homelessness. A minute of concern does not require that all in the meeting act, but that all in the approving community are ready to support action. He feels a great sadness that our yearly meeting has not approved minutes of concern during this difficult time, and this silence has been painful to him, felt as an absence of the voice of conscience in his community. He recommends that we approve a proposed procedure already prepared [included in the Packet of Advance Materials], so we can move ahead in approving minutes of concern.

Shannon Frediani, Clerk of Peace and Social Order Committee, asked: what are we stretching toward? The movement toward action requires us to engage with our vulnerability, being present to suffering, ours and that of others. How do our hearts break open, how do we change? What does transformation look like? Can we see one another’s “heart vision?” We need one another in this process, and we need to know and love one another in this. There will be many forms of our bringing love to the world.
Sally Kingsland, Co-clerk of Ministry and Oversight Committee, senses that we all desire lives of transformation and power, as Spirit moves through us. We long for this and are united by it. Prophetic witness requires that God be our center and leader, that we give over our lives. This requires overcoming of ego, spiritual accountability, the testing and support of community. This depth is required for our actions to be more than merely political. For this spiritual deepening we need authentic spiritual education and community building. We need spiritually mature guides. We need our inner transformation to precede the transformation of the world. This requires listening with expectation and responding—and sometimes this response is: to wait. The M&O document Faithfulness in Action is one guide to this work. The Eldering subcommittee is an instrument of this work also. Those following leadings and elders might regularly gather, not only at Annual Session. What are we working towards? For early Friends, the kingdom of God was a clear destiny. Are we willing to be so led and to risk our comfort to follow God’s way? Even the great strife in the world today can be faced: we are called to our part, and with God’s guidance and strength can follow that call.

Following the silent worship after the speakers, Diego offered reflections on what he had heard so far. Our witness may be a multi-year process; it will require preparation, structures of gathering, the identification of ministers and support for them. At annual sessions we may develop a minute calling for action in monthly meetings or on the part of those gathered at the session.

Friends spoke out of worship that followed: We hear a call to a new way forward, a sense of new visions. Support of leadings in a number of monthly meetings is active; this support is crucial. Every person in our meetings should have some form of clearness opportunity, to listen for a leading and support for moving forward. Sensing the possibility of a leading opens us, and meeting support is a key to this. The witness of integrity is our calling at every level of our lives. To live by truth and integrity is a radical way. Minutes of concern have dangers—our own history as a yearly meeting suggests they sometimes lead us to leave behind the concern expressed. Our testimonies if genuinely enacted may also transform our relationships.

Clerk Diego read his further sense of the discernment in closing our session, reminding us that we move forward with this beginning exploration to deeper levels of searching in future sessions. He hears a multi-year process proposed, a single topic centering the annual session; we identify the ministers bringing the issue, and shape our gatherings to explore and test these leadings. We exercise with integrity, experimenting with our personal and corporate lives, and at annual sessions we take steps—we may join in minutes, in action, in calling our monthly meetings to a year of discernment.

6. Friends Peace Teams
Gay Howard then spoke to us of Friends Peace Teams work. Her report is attached [Attachment 11]. This is a work of witness in a troubled world. FPT works in areas recovering from war, and teaches ways to react peacefully. Preschools are one instrument. In many settings, indigenous traditions and AVP contribute to the work. Quaker discernment practices are taught. FPT is in Africa, Central America, and Asia. FPT is run by a council of yearly meeting representatives. Participation is open to Friends—through volunteering or financial help. It is a global project.
7. Closing
We closed our plenary meeting with worship following announcements.
Meeting for Memorials  
Seventh Month 15, 2018

The Meeting for Memorials plenary session opened with silent worship.

1. Reader: Benjamin Hofvendahl, Santa Cruz:

“Don’t be dismayed at goodbyes. A farewell is necessary before you can meet again. And meeting again, after moments or lifetimes, is certain for those who are friends.”
- Richard Bach

Nancy Brock Beck, Redwood Forest  
Harriet Blume, Inland Valley  
Phoebe Calma, Palo Alto  
John Dackawich, Visalia  
Shirley Jean Dakawich, Visalia

2. Reader: Robin Johnson, Santa Cruz:

“I believe that imagination is stronger than knowledge. That myth is more potent than history. That dreams are more powerful than facts. That hope always triumphs over experience. That laughter is the only cure for grief. And I believe that love is stronger than death.”
- Robert Fulghum

Mary Davenport, Redwood Forest  
James Ellis, Orange County  
Micki Graham, Strawberry Creek  
Barbara Graves, Strawberry Creek  
Neil Hendricks, Reno

3. Reader: Patricia Portillo, Sacramento:

“Death is nothing else but going home to God, the bond of love will be unbroken for all eternity.”
- Mother Teresa

Charles “Chuck” Hubbell, Claremont  
Nils Hultman, San Jose  
William “Bill” Lovett, Visalia  
Josie Angeline Malcolm, Central Coast  
Dona Mareé, Davis  
Jim Myers, Inland Valley/Las Vegas
4. Reader: Ari Standish, Berkeley:

“There is a sacredness in tears. They are not the mark of weakness, but of power. They speak more eloquently than ten thousand tongues. They are messengers of overwhelming grief… and unspeakable love.”
- Washington Irving

Grace Noda, Davis
Meg Palley, Grass Valley
Leslie Preston, Berkeley
Warren Riner, Claremont
Dewey Val Schorre, Ojai

5. Reader: Judith Favor, Claremont:

“A death is not the extinguishing of a light, but the putting out of the lamp because the dawn has come.”
- Unknown

Jim Shuman, Santa Monica
Barbara Bell Smith, Monterey Peninsula
William “Bill” Spencer, Humboldt
Sharon Stewart, Grass Valley
Benj Thomas, Redwood Forest

The meeting closed with worship and Kathryn Manolo, Berkeley Meeting, leading us in “Swing Low, Sweet Chariot.”
Plenary V
Seventh Month 16, 2018

1. Epistle reading
Judith Searle, Reading Clerk, read from the epistle from Belgium Yearly Meeting.

2. Welcome to the session
The Presiding Clerk welcomed us to Plenary V and thanked the Reading Clerk. He introduced himself and the others at the facing table. He expressed appreciation for the work of many at the session, especially the Arrangements Clerks and M&O Committee.

3. Visitors
Clerk Diego invited visitors to introduce themselves. We welcomed Jackie Stillwell from Mt. Monadnock Monthly Meeting, New England Yearly Meeting, who serves as the General Secretary for Right Sharing of World Resources.

4. Reflections on Quaker Process
Clerk Diego then introduced Sara Rose House Lightner, Clerk of Southern California Quarterly Meeting, to remind us of elements of our Quaker process. She explained she has been working on positive affirmation in beginning each day, and read to us from our Faith and Practice. As we go through the discernment process, we ourselves are transformed and amazed at how the process has worked. She offered several queries to us regarding discerning whether one is being led to speak in ministry during worship on the occasion of business.

5. Introduction to the session
Clerk Diego spoke to the place of this plenary in our work for the week. Here, we are addressing the fact that we have a “world on fire,” and are trying to figure out how we, as a society, can respond. We can look at how strategies of the past were effective. Use of strategic planning and rational thought, however, is just one way to approach our issues. Early Friends relied on an experimental religion to—as led by the spirit—try out small steps. Where is our integrity as individuals and as a society that lives in this world? Strategic planning may be useful but not sufficient. If in unity we begin to discern the experiments we can use to follow the spirit, it will lead us to a strategy that will work. Diego drew on his experience among Young Friends in the design of the annual sessions in these three years. Each day we are in contemplation from morning to 3:00 in the afternoon. This is different than in our day-to-day lives. This can change us throughout the week so that we are open to Spirit apart from our rational minds. Here in the third day of this experiment we will continue to see where the spirit is leading us. In Diego’s experience, sometimes a sense of crisis and urgency prepares us for the finding of unity.

Diego explained that we’ve arrived at the point where we need to begin our discernment around the proposals that have been presented. We begin the search for living in integrity. He called us to a level of discernment that is deeper than merely deciding what word should be used. Our specific issues before us are important, but there is also a larger question at the center of this week which we want to preserve our major time and attention for. Using our Quaker business discipline, let us give these issues before us the time they need, but no more. Diego read
Douglas Steere’s words from Faith and Practice regarding Friends’ decision making. If we’ve felt heard, if we’ve had an opportunity to share concerns with the committees during open committee time and spoken if moved to in plenary, then our service has been given, our way forward will be found.

6. Minutes from Plenary III
The Minutes from Plenary III were read and approved with minor corrections.

7. Communications Committee Proposal re Website Policy
Lawrence Alderson, interim Clerk of Communications Committee spoke to us. Their committee time hosted a good discussion, but received no feedback on the website policy. We arrived in unity on the following minute:

**Minute AS 2018-1:** We approve the Pacific Yearly Meeting Website Policy statement as proposed by the Communications Committee in Attachment 7, to replace the Website Policy statement that was approved by PYM in 2007.

8. Joint Proposal from Children’s Program, Ministry and Oversight, and Nominating Committees
Chamba Cook, Sally Kingsland, and Sue Torrey reported that there were no significant questions brought to them about the proposal itself. After a brief explanation of the proposal, we came to unity on the following:

**Minute AS 2018-2:** We approve the Joint Proposal from Children’s Program Committee, Ministry and Oversight Committee, and Nominating Committee, to create and charge an ad hoc committee to investigate issues regarding the Children’s Program Coordinator position, as presented in Attachment 10. We approve the following to serve on the committee: Julie Harlow, Chamba Cooke, Sally Kingsland and Roy Allen.

9. Nominating Committee Proposal re Clerk Transition
The proposal for Presiding Clerk transition [contained in Attachment 5] was brought again by Sue Torrey, Nominating Committee Clerk, who reported that several Friends attended its open committee time but no issues were raised concerning the proposal. The issue of financial implications of the proposal came forward. Noting that we have several years to consider this aspect of the proposal, the Clerk, with the approval of the body, referred the proposal to Finance Committee for review, requesting that it be brought back to us either this week or at Representative Committee 2019.

10. Friends General Conference Affiliation
Shan Cretin, Ministry and Oversight member, reported that a lively group of folks came to committee time. Friends questioned some changes in FGC over the years, but also acknowledged the value of the organization. Shan reported overhearing an observation that, in a time in which the world is becoming more divided, the act of reaching out and affiliating would feel like making a statement of wanting to be part of larger things. One question posed was what would happen to monthly meetings now separately affiliated with FGC, particularly what
financial effects might result. Shan noted the difficulty in answering this, since it depends on choices made by monthly meetings. She outlined the three steps of decision before us., First, we need to decide if, as a body, we are led to affiliate with the FGC. Second, if we agree to affiliate, we also need to consider whether to affiliate with two or three representatives. Third, we need as well to decide what level of support we want to provide the organization if we affiliate.

The clerk opened the question to the gathered community and a number of Friends spoke. Some felt reservations and proposed those interested in affiliation could involve themselves independently. Some were concerned with the strain on finances and support of other affiliations. Some addressed diversity—whether affiliation would strengthen or reduce our own move to a more diverse community. Will the additional costs burden meetings of scarce resources? Are we reluctant to leave behind an identity of Beanite independence? Are we out of integrity in relying on FGC resources but not carrying part of the burden of cost and participation? In bringing this discernment period to a close, the Clerk noted a number of Friends who still carried concerns regarding this proposal, but who hadn’t spoken. A further session with the committee was scheduled for later in the afternoon, and the item was carried forward to a subsequent agenda.

11. Ministry and Oversight Committee Report
Kylin Navarro Burger and Sally Kingsland, Co clerks of Ministry and Oversight Committee, presented parts of their report, presently posted on the website [Attachment 12]. Most, but not all, of its activities are in that report. They reviewed all evaluations from Annual Session 2017 and wrote a summary which can be found as an attachment to the RepCom 2018 minutes. Some of the committee’s unreported work lies in its support of individual Friends and in looking at big picture items. It has spent time in discernment on its name [see Attachment 13] and in doing so has focused on what the committee does. It is still uncomfortable with the use of the word “oversight” in its name.

M&O, assisted by Arrangements Committee, is trying to make the annual sessions more of a volunteer event. They reported on the use of the attendance assistance fund. There were 45 requests which assisted 63 Friends to attend the sessions. Donations of $1,500 from other attenders augmented the fund of $9,000 plus $2,000 from Young Friends.

12. Quaker Earthcare Witness Representative Report
Catya de Neergaard, one of our two representatives to Quaker Earthcare Witness, read from a document which shows the interface between QEW and Monthly Meetings where QEW has liaisons independent of PYM [Attachment 14]. She explained that QEW is having some problems caused by entrenched power and the lack in different kinds of diversity. We were encouraged again to take, independently and corporately, two concrete steps each year to reduce our carbon footprints. For written reports from both of our QEW Representatives, see Attachment 14.

13. Closing
Announcements were read. The Plenary was closed with continuing worship.
Plenary VI
Seventh Month 16, 2018

1. Epistle Reading
Judith Searle, Reading Clerk, read from the epistle of Intermountain Yearly Meeting. Where your treasure is, so will your heart be also.

2. Reflections on Quaker process
Sue Torrey, Clerk of Nominating Committee, spoke to us on our Quaker practice. She recalled a phrase from her Episcopal upbringing: “Keeping our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God.” She hears in this an allusion to the visceral nature of our religion: spirit speaks through our body. As Friends, we keep low also, and as we get older our bodies help us in this. We avoid attachment that brings rigidity: Was thee faithful, did thee yield? Sometimes we must listen to our bodies, not our mind. Tightness as opposed to yielding is often first felt in the body. “Give over thine own willing, give over thine own running, give over thine own desiring to know or be anything and sink down to the seed which God sows in the heart.”

3. Introduction to the session
Clerk Diego reflected on some practices he employs in calling on speakers. He asked for compassion and trust in how he negotiates the many requests and the limited time. The upcoming report from Peace and Social Order Committee on homelessness will serve as a concrete example inviting us to wrestle with the call to witness. Finance will propose the budget, and if needed have a listening session immediately following plenary. He then informed us of further items on this agenda. A dance and tabling fair will follow the plenary.

4. Reading of the Minutes from Plenary V
The minutes of plenary V were approved as read.

6. Report from the Quarterly Meeting Coordinating Team
Sarah Rose House-Lightner, Clerk of Southern California Quarterly Meeting, Sandy Kewman, immediate past Clerk of College Park Quarterly Meeting, and Sharon Gates, Assistant to the Clerk, reported on the work of this team. Sharon reviewed its purpose and membership. Sandy and Sarah read from an account of their work [Attachment 15], of their rising sense of covenant community in the course of that work. They felt a longing, arising from this sense, for it to grow in our greater community. They worked to move past their own defenses as they learned to work together. They wrestled with many issues present in their quarterly and yearly meeting communities, asking themselves how they could go deeper in service to these. They feel hungry for more connection, for their own experience of covenant to be present among us all. They invite all to approach them to learn more about their work, their learning, and their hope.

7. Homelessness
Members of our Peace and Social Order Committee, David Breitzman, Judith Favor, Shannon Frediani, and Allison Kirkegaard, brought the issue of homelessness to us as an example of and challenge to our witness. Shannon spoke of a retreat experience at Santa Cruz Monthly Meeting. Homelessness was identified as a meeting concern. The Oral Histories Project was part of this.
Much was learned at a later gathering and from the presence of homeless people. This moved Santa Cruz Friends to become engaged actively in the homeless issue in their community. Judith told a story of the experience of her home meeting Claremont. A ministry regarding a particular homeless person led to a visceral response among the meeting members, a threshing session, and a decision for action in their meeting for business. CHAP, Claremont Homeless Advocacy Program, was formed. The meeting members now provide ongoing service for a number of homeless guests. They are careful with language, extending respect and sensitivity. They moved also to collaboration with the larger community. Allison spoke of her experience this summer as an opening host for CHAP. She noticed that each guest welcomed her, and she realized that even as a part of Claremont meeting, she was entering a newly created additional community to which she was welcomed by these guest residents. She began to think of them not as “others” but as friends. This week she has also appreciated those who elder and hold us in worship at annual session—she senses that Claremont’s CHAP guests also hold meeting members in this way during the week. David read to us from the UN Declaration of Human Rights, specifically the economic and social rights listed there, which include the right to shelter. San Francisco monthly meeting has grown, like Claremont, to feel itself living in the midst of a surrounding homeless community and has responded. Homelessness refers not to persons but to a material condition growing from the absence of compassionate active recognition of a right to shelter.

Diego then posed the query: What are we learning about that we should be witness to? Friends responded: “Housing First” is the need, spoke a friend from San Diego who feels a responsibility for this lack. What is the role of our minutes in this regard? What about a “minute of the heart,” expressing an aspiration and not an outcome? Are we seeing people falling over a waterfall, then trying to save them, but not moving upstream to eliminate the cause? Lack of affordable housing is the cause.

8. Finance Committee Report

Deborah Marks, Finance Committee member, presented the current Finance Report [Attachment 16]. Amendments were proposed to the originally proposed budget. The per member expected contribution based on this revised budget would be: $52 for Friends in Hawaii, $30 for Friends of Mexico City, and $122 for all others. A question regarding the effect of this budget on reserves was posed; the Treasurer answered that on paper approximately $13,000 appears as a deficit, but he believes, because expenses have been generally overestimated, that we will break approximately even this fiscal year, with little if any effect on reserves. Other questions arose: Should the possible restructuring of responsibilities and costs of children’s program coordinator affect our decision regarding the Youth Program Coordinator salary change? Is the Unity with Nature figure sufficient, considering some possible future directions of the committee?

Clerk asked for approval of the budget proposed and found unity.

Minute AS 2018-3: We approve the budget presented by Finance Committee in its revised form [Attachment 16] and now including the following amendments:
$400 added to the Faith and Practice Revision line for increased travel
$300 added to the Peace and Social Order line for travel
$200 added to the Quaker Earthcare Witness line for travel
$2,785 added to the Youth Programs personnel cost line for a 7.5% merit raise for the Youth Programs Coordinator.

9. Nominating Committee
Sue Torrey, Clerk of Nominating Committee, presented the nominations slate as presently constituted [not attached]. It is still in process. She read changes to the advance posted report as they appear in the present version and explained some of the details of the nominating work in doing so. Unity with Nature Committee has not been functioning well this year and has required attention from Ministry and Oversight and Nominating Committee. Unity with Nature Committee has been asked to enter a period of discernment regarding its purpose and composition, facilitated by Eric Sabelman, a former clerk of the committee who has not been involved with the present committee. The outcome of that process will be reported to Nominating Committee and will include recommendations on whether the committee should continue, and, if not, whether its work is to be laid down or folded into another committee. If the report includes a recommendation that the committee continue, the outcome will also include information for input into a job description that articulates how the committee is to move forward.

FCNL has said they will cover costs of additional representatives attending their meeting beyond the two we fund. Nominating committee has found one young friend willing to serve in this FCNL work, and others are sought. Sue invited us to bring questions to the committee if we have them regarding these nominations and the committee’s work.

10. Registrar’s Report
Joe Magruder, Co-registrar, reported. The following are numbers updated after the end of annual session, slightly changed from those reported in this plenary: About 297 persons have attended this session, compared with 307 last year. There are 244 adults, 24 teens, and 29 children. The median age is 59; last year it was 58.

11. Closing
After announcements, we closed the plenary with expectant silent worship.
1. Epistle Reading
Judith Searle, Reading Clerk, read from the epistle of Ireland Yearly Meeting, meeting in Northern Ireland.

2. Introduction to the session
Clerk Diego Navarro introduced those at the table. This intergenerational plenary will begin with reflections from two young Friends. Diego offered thoughts on why we come to yearly meeting. There are two types of plenary sessions he has structured into this week—one type to accomplish the business of our community, the other to reach to the deeper movements guiding us. One purpose of the annual session gathering is to share monthly meetings’ actions, as they may inform and inspire us in our home meetings’ work. He told us of the remaining agenda items, and posed the query guiding this session: How do we support our young adults in witnessing to the world?

3. Minutes from Plenary VI
The action minute from Plenary VI was read and approved as recorded in those minutes. The narrative minutes will be posted later today for comments.

4. Reflections from Young Friends on Quaker process
Eleanor Steffy [Sacramento], Ari Standish [Berkeley], Santiago Myers [San Francisco], and Graciela Martinez [Visalia], shared views on Quaker process. It takes forever, but it is important that everyone is taken care of, even if they don’t share in the outcome. Silence—sometimes an occasion for some of them to catch up on sleep—is also the context for their work. Tabling matters sometimes serves procrastination but also has a serious purpose. With humor and a sensitivity to the underlying richness of their community, the young Friends shared their experience with us.

5. Naming Committee
Claudia Kirkpatrick, Convenor of the Naming Committee, presented for the first time names for Nominating Committee. Sue Torrey [Central Coast], Joe Magruder [Berkeley], Jorge Morales [San Jose], and William O’Connell [Las Vegas], are proposed to serve, with Sue Torrey named to serve as Clerk. Claudia then read the rest of the full slate of the Nominating Committee members for the coming year.

6. Reunion General in Mexico City
Barbara Babin [Redwood Forest], Austin Standing [Orange Grove], Rebekah Percy [La Jolla], Berthe Pena [Mexico], and Yulieed Avila Iturbe [Junta Mensual de Cd. Victoria], reported on their shared experience at Reunion General this past May in Mexico City. Barbara Babin, who served as observer, shared from her experience [Attachment 17]. The theme there was “How are our youth called to serve God?” There are different ways to pose this question, but it is one we recognize. Rebekah and Austin were asked to serve as elders for Barbara, and the three of them were asked to offer a panel there. Spirit moved powerfully among them in this work. The
queries they employed had a deepening effect through the weekend. Austin spoke of the challenges and opportunities of working with both programmed and unprogrammed Friends, a new and valuable experience for him. He felt the rich possibilities in this crossing of borders. Rebekah felt the opportunities of interaction also, to share worship with those from programmed traditions and of other cultural backgrounds. She brings back a new respect for listening to all voices. Bertha felt the spirit move in her as a result of this experience. She was glad to see many young people, with loving presence evident. The whole community gratefully witnessed the unanticipated formation of a young Friends group in the gathering. Yulieed spoke of the growing sense of the need for an active spiritual life among the young Friends. A number of them there felt led by Spirit, and now she is connected to nine or ten young Friends who feel community together. She told us also she will carry much from her visit here back to her own meeting. Barbara then reminded us of the importance of our support of the presence and experience of youth in our own meetings. There are efforts to continue this youth community building and service, and the Vogel fund is a resource in supporting travel experiences and the training of young Friends in Quaker ways. She encouraged us to read the posted report and consider how we might support this work.

Diego then opened the session to responses from Friends gathered, and since this was the intergenerational plenary, he looked especially for young Friends’ participation. Friends offered responses to the presentation: The accent on “we” in the query “How do we support our young adults” is important—it is all of us. Bringing that of God, living our testimonies, being heard and loved, allowing, forming community, are ways to offer this support. Giving youth opportunities for making real contributions to the community is a path toward growth and witness. Ask youth in. Draw on FWCC to cultivate local and regional gatherings among youth. Get involved with youth in your own meeting. Listen to them. Be a family for youth, a place where youth can come to share their deepest yearnings. Such rich relationships among youth continue and are valued. Friends responded out of the silence.

7. Immigration
We heard three personal accounts of experiences with immigration. Miguel Costop-Bala, director of the Guatemala Scholarship Program, shared a personal story. His father used to say, with a handful of soil in his hand: “This is our life, do not separate from her.” The earth was an integral part of his being, as it is for many others in Miguel’s home community. Immigrants do not want to leave their land, but feel they are forced to. In a recent visit the U.S. Vice President delivered the message, that this immigration must stop or harsh consequences will result. He emphasized respect for borders. Great expense is being given to stop this immigration. There is an absence of awareness or admission that the U.S. government has over time created the conditions that force this immigration—appropriation of land, undercutting of traditional community. What is being done here to address the conditions the U.S. has contributed to and that are the fundamental problem? It is complicated, because responsibility is not evenly distributed in the U.S., yet all bear some of this responsibility to act toward a remedy. Quakers, as a deeply faithful community, are called to be a light to the world. Friends seek their own inner light, but do they reach out to help others to find their own inner light? Those immigrating at our borders seek one thing: a better life.
Patricia Portillo, Director of the Sacramento Meeting Undocumented Student Scholarship Program, spoke of her own experience of immigration, the time when she arrived here in the trunk of a car from Mexico. The U.S. denied refugee status to immigrants at that time. She often woke up with nightmares in the following years, when news reminded her of her frightening experiences in El Salvador. Extortion, often under threat of death and creating a constant condition of fear, is still today widespread there, as she witnessed in a recent visit. Economic conditions are oppressive. Cycles of violence are vicious. Not much has changed since earlier times.

Donna Smith, Clerk of Latin America Concerns Committee, asked: how are we instruments of reconciliation and love? True community calls us to make bonds of love evident and active. She spoke of her experience working as a nurse with immigrants. One story she heard from a woman who escaped from El Salvador still moves her. Child-parent separation has beset thousands and caused deep wounds of guilt and abandonment. Efforts at remedy are inadequate and many broken families remain. In 2014 Pacific Yearly Meeting supported a project in response to the needs of children at the border. Donna spoke of her experience in this work, witnessing abuse and neglect in detention centers. In moving words she spoke of the painful disregard of suffering our policies represent. Root causes are not being addressed. We are called as Friends to respond in many ways. Donna called us to each respond individually—with letters, donations, offering of sanctuary, assistance to others, as witness in immigration court. Many in our community are already responding and to those she is grateful. Matthew 25:35-40 calls to us: “...when I was a stranger you welcomed me.” Donna mentioned that a Call to Action will be posted on the LACC web page on the PYM website after the Annual Session ends.

Diego again opened the session to Friends’ responses. The School of the Americas is tied to the root causes of this immigration, as trainer of many who oppress in these countries. An invitation was issued to attend an interest group to organize youth and others to join in an action there this fall.

Diego reminded us that early Friends took small steps; what can we do to witness to this world? One friend sees in the School of the Americas an opportunity for her daughter, a fierce actor for justice. Climate change looks to make all of these problems including suffering in immigration, worse, and action to reverse it may help reduce this suffering as well. Can we all look for ways to be more flexible and supportive in our meetings, especially for families distressed in these times? Might every monthly meeting establish a scholarship fund to allow one young person to engage in some way with this issue? We are often cheap and stingy with our money and need to step forward. Earlier Friends have been more generous in supporting service. How do we use the word “we?” Youth, Latinos, African Americans are in this tent—we must recognize that “we” should not be used to express “over against” but rather “including.”

8. Closing
After announcements and a final sharing on the query, we closed with silent expectant worship.
1. Epistle reading
Judith Searle, Reading Clerk, read from the 2017 Britain Yearly Meeting epistle. Faith without works is dead. “Living out our faith in the world” was their theme. How to respond in our fractured world was their question. In all things Spirit will direct us.

2. Opening
Clerk Diego Navarro introduced those at the facing table. He announced that a video process that had occurred at a previous plenary session has been stopped.

3. Reflections on Quaker process
Shan Cretin, member of Ministry and Oversight Committee and former PYM clerk, spoke of our Quaker process. She has worked in secular decision making and developed considerable skill in that work of “for” or “against,” and in the marshaling of arguments for one’s position. Quaker process is different. The question is: is there something I can offer in efforts to discover what Spirit would have of us? She pays attention to her body in deciding whether to speak in worship—what if she waited similarly for this signal in meeting for business? This is the challenge. She told a story—a weighty Friend stood aside on a decision for a project, yet on rise of meeting wrote a significant check to support it, as it was, the Friend noted, a decision of the meeting.

4. Introduction to the session
Diego told us this plenary has elements of both types of plenary sessions—there is business at the beginning but discernment at the end. He reviewed the elements of the scheduled agenda.

5. Nominating Committee
Sue Torrey, Clerk of Nominating Committee, presented an updated slate, noting the new additions on a displayed list. The names will be considered for approval at tomorrow’s plenary.

6. Faith and Practice Revision Committee
Laura Magnani, Co-clerk of this committee, briefly explained how the revision is developing, through use of a “rolling” model [Attachment 18]. Drafts of three sections are on the website and the committee invites group comment from meetings, committees, or groups like Young Adult Friends or JYM (not from individuals please). These three sections are: Leadings, Youth Programs Coordinator, and Advices and Queries on Reaching Out.

7. Epistle
Steve Birdlebough, member of the Epistle Committee, introduced the other committee members and then read a draft of our PYM epistle, now posted on the side of the dining hall. Friends can offer comments to committee members or email Barbara Allen at the address listed in the Daily Miracle.
8. Friends General Conference Affiliation

Shan Cretin summarized where we are in regard to the question of whether to affiliate with FGC. Listening sessions have raised important questions, not all of which are answerable. She reminded us of the historical context—we have a long history of identity as a maverick meeting and this affiliation would be a significant step toward another identity. Our discernment has moved away from simple “for” and “against” expressions. We are exploring different meanings this step might have. Regarding our resources, for example, some can see our wealth as a reason for holding to our self-sufficiency; others see it as a call to share and strengthen a larger community with it. A possible step is that we at this point take this question back to our monthly meetings for seasoning, since the financial elements have only recently become available. Diego tested support of the decision to affiliate with FGC, and seeing there were a number of Friends who felt unable to join in supporting such a step, he recommended returning the matter to monthly meetings. After further sharing of views, he put off the consideration of action until tomorrow, proposing that he and Shan should consult and bring a recommendation to the plenary then after consultation with concerned Friends over dinner. The meeting expressed support for this step.

9. Further Discernment Around the Integrity of Our Personal and Meeting Life

Gordon Bishop [Grass Valley], Carin Anderson [Chico], and Elena Anderson-Williams [Redwood Forest], initiated our exploration. Gordon spoke of experience in Strawberry Creek Meeting, where the meeting for worship on occasion could sink so low that a certain Friend of deep grounding could rise to speak. Can we also bring ourselves to this depth? Carin asked: how do we witness to a broken world? With our head, seeking issues, with our hearts, feeling sorrow, but even deeper, from the depth of the still small voice. We may hear there the call of God, to a work that may even frighten us but is our true place and witness. Elena asked: what is this opportunity before us? There is not a person here that is satisfied for this community to gather and labor in search of a mere opportunity for rest and comfort. As our Young Friends noted, our work is an exercise of care; love is the first motion. Can we hold and trust each other enough to sink down to the seed? Can we own the truth of God’s presence there?

Friends settled into worship and spoke out of silence.

A word has been too absent in this session: Joy. All evil is said by Barclay to arise from a seed; yet all evil can be overcome by another seed in every person in this room. Spiritual courage in a world of hostility is the flip side of vulnerability. By it one may publicly act without fear, to cry, pray, meet, act, in the light of God.

Being right is not enough. Right must be backed by power, the power of people, in political lobbying. What is deeper than right is community.

Teach me Lord to wait.

How much are we shaped by the seeping-in of the world of news and media? What is the boat that can rescue the children at the border? Whatever it is, I would go.
10. Closing
Clerk Diego brought the discernment session to a close, we heard announcements and shared silent expectant waiting.
1. Introduction to the Session

Clerk Diego Navarro spoke of the session before us. He sees the opportunity here in our final plenary to sense where we are in possibility—the waking up of our Quakerism to reaching out and acting in the world. We are asleep. We’ve too often abandoned our practices. Testimonies are the fruits of these practices. What are these practices? Going to deep worship, sensitizing ourselves to leadings through clearness work, acting in support and in care, opening ourselves to concerns arising in some in our community, for the suffering conditions of the world. Diego reviewed the agenda before us, including two items added to the scheduled agenda that we will begin with.

2. Friends General Conference Affiliation

Diego spoke to us first on our process, and the responsibility we all have to listen carefully to the nature and depth of all voices as we search for our way forward. For those questioning affiliation, there is important work also—a discernment of the source of that resistance and its place in our search. A deep level of conscientious objection may call one to stand opposed to a general sense of a way forward felt by others; another sort of personal resistance may not have this weight, and joining in the support of a way forward sensed by larger community is right even with reservations. How will we now move on the matter before us? Can we use this powerful practice our community has developed as we search for unity?

In yesterday’s plenary we had asked Diego and Shan Cretin to consult and bring recommendations for a way forward in this matter, and Diego read parts of their prepared document. Then he asked us: What is God is calling us to do right now?

Sensing unity from our earlier considerations of this topic in plenaries and listening sessions, the Clerk asked for approval of affiliating with FGC. A number of Friends stood to indicate they could not join in this approval. Clerk asked if these Friends had new light to bring to the discernment or could articulate a deep and compelling sense that this was the wrong step. Friends expressed a number of reservations about this affiliation. One reason voiced for a stand against present affiliation was that since monthly meetings were not aware of previously unavailable information on costs of affiliating, we should not move ahead. Another concern raised was whether requirements for the number of PYM representatives to FGC would exceed our current policy guidelines. In addition, some fear was expressed that involvement with FGC would spread us too thin and limit energy and resources for continued involvement with other Quaker organizations, or within our own PYM community.

After further discernment, our clerk sensed the meeting was in support of affiliation and asked which Friends desired to be recorded as standing aside. The number who stood with continuing reservations that could not be set aside was sufficient to cause the Clerk to change his reading of the sense of the meeting. Noting he felt a strong movement within the yearly meeting to affiliate but also that there are a significant number still with reservations, he proposed that we continue to discern.
In considering a way forward in this discernment, our Clerk read again from the statement formulated in consultation with Shan Cretin last evening. The statement they brought to us included 1- a body of text which framed the question of affiliation, and 2- a number of draft minutes for us to consider. The first part of the material, framing the question, includes the following:

As we agreed in the last plenary, Shan and I met with Friends at supper time and received feedback. The previous plenary and listening sessions had been structured to hear questions and concerns, with inadequate time to hear from those who sense that it is time for PYM to affiliate. As we were asked to prepare a minute for this plenary, Shan and I considered what we have heard at this annual session and over the three years that Friends have been laboring with the question of whether Yearly Meeting is called to affiliate with FGC. We have heard from Friends that affiliating with FGC will bring PYM into integrity, recognizing that our yearly, quarterly, and monthly meetings as well as individual Friends make widespread use of FGC resources without sufficiently supporting FGC financially and organizationally.

In our State of the Society session it became clear that we are shrinking in numbers. Friends have stated that we desire greater diversity. We have benefited from FGC’s resources with visits from Vanessa Julye over five years, Rachel Ernst Stahlhut’s Spiritual Deepening interest group this year, and visits from other FGC staff. Affiliating with FGC is an opportunity to join other Friends in becoming stronger and having the support to grow and effectively welcome diversity.

Friends have also stated they are uncomfortable with the change of identity as a Beanite yearly meeting, and question how we will address the details of our financial commitment. Although we could continue with individuals voluntarily participating in FGC activities this limits who could afford to participate and loses the corporate nature of the relationship.

Our clerk read the draft minutes included in the document. He proposed an amended version of one of them, proposing that our Ministry and Oversight Committee ask monthly meetings to continue discernment in the coming year. In support of this, we approved the following:

**Minute AS 2018-4:** Pacific Yearly Meeting is considering affiliation with Friends General Conference but did not reach unity at the 2018 sessions. Among the reasons Friends felt in support of this step was the significant benefit our meetings gain from FGC’s resources and services, at little or no cost. At the same time, concerns about cost of affiliation were raised. We ask our Ministry and Oversight Committee to direct our monthly meetings to consider whether PYM should affiliate with FGC, and to ask themselves what their Meeting would be led to contribute should Pacific Yearly Meeting approve such affiliation. It is understood that responses from each monthly meeting will reflect its financial resources. Over the next year we ask monthly meetings and worship groups to consider the financial information available about affiliating with FGC regarding number of delegates and levels of additional contribution per member.
3. Ministry and Oversight
Our Clerk read a statement from our Ministry and Oversight Committee regarding a skit at our community night last night, and we entered silence together. Friends shared responses to the statement.

Statement from M & O on Community Night

Last night there was a skit about the trauma of slavery that was hurtful. We believe that there was no malice intended, but it was inconsistent with our testimonies as Friends and has harmed our community.

This is not the first time something like this has happened which has led some Friends to avoid community night all together.

We want this to be a learning opportunity. M&O facilitates community night and feels responsible and recognizes that there is work to be done.

In the coming year M&O will review the process to prevent another hurtful performance. We want family night to be a beautiful and happy experience where everyone feels safe and welcome.

4. Epistles
Preschool
Winnie Sunshine [LaJolla] presented the preschool epistle: “We played. We like to play with blocks. We play with play dough. We are all Friends.”

Elementary school
Julian and Harriet Kingsland [Palo Alto children] read the elementary epistle wondrously displayed on a banner. Illustrations of their activities were accompanied by their names written as well. Friends responded with delight and appreciation.

Middle school
Middle school children joined in a shared reading of their epistle. They hiked, played with little kids, found cattails, caught and let go two fish, played volleyball. They went to the campfire and the dance, meeting for memorials. They took turns being clerk of the day. Aurora didn’t want to go home. Approved in unity.

Junior Yearly Meeting
JYM members sang “Service Project Blues,” a song inspired by their despair at not having a service project opportunity. Lack of sleep was a feature of this bluesy rendition. They read the list of their new officers [listed below].

Young Adult Friends
We heard from the floor that they are a part of us all and have no separate epistle.
Pacific Yearly Meeting
Two members of the Epistle Committee, Barbara Allen and Will Rogers, read our 2018 epistle.

We accepted all of these epistles with joy and gratitude and will send them to be posted promptly on the web site [Attachment 19].

5. Junior Yearly Meeting officers
Co Clerks: Charlie Shaw [Santa Monica], Elinor Steffy [Sacramento], Callum Standish [Berkeley], Gabi Alvarado [Sacramento]
Clerk of M&O: Santiago Myers [San Francisco]
M&O members: Eben Green [Santa Cruz], Aaron Cantu [Santa Cruz], Alby Penny [La Jolla], Robin Johnson

6. Nominating Committee
Sue Torrey, Nominating Committee Clerk, brought the final Nominations Slate to us to consider for approval [Attachment 20]. We approved the report as presented:

Minute AS 2018-5: We approve the Nominating Slate as presented in Attachment 20.

We heard these new names for a first reading:
   Vivian Carlson [Honolulu] to convene Children’s Program Committee
   Chamba Cooke [Grass Valley] to convene the ad hoc committee on the Children’s Program Coordinator
proposing them to be considered for approval at Representative Committee 2019.

7. Naming Committee
We heard for the second time the names brought for service on our Nominating Committee, and approved them for service.

Minute AS 2018-6: We approve the names brought to us for service on our Nominating Committee: William O’Connell [Las Vegas], for a term ending in 2020, Sue Torrey [Central Coast], Jorge Morales [San Jose], and Joe Magruder [Berkeley] for terms ending in 2021, and Sue Torrey to serve as Clerk for one year.
8. Clerk’s closing remarks
Clerk Diego offered closing remarks, reading from closing remarks of a Pacific Yearly Meeting in 1958. He thanked his elder Elaine Emily. He then invited incoming Presiding Clerk Sandy Kewman forward to close the session and lead us into worship. We leave the valley and return to a less peaceful world, to return and gather here again at annual session July 12-17, 2019.

Action minutes were read and approved.

We heard announcements and closed the 72nd session of Pacific Yearly Meeting with worship.

Respectfully submitted,
  Diego Navarro, Presiding Clerk
  Jim Anderson, Recording Clerk
  Sharlene Roberts-Caudle, Recording Clerk
  George Mills, Secretariat Editor

Reports which were submitted to this annual session by PYM committees or officeholders but which were not taken up in any plenary are included here as Attachments 21 through 34.
Attachments

A-1. Roll Call
A-2. IRS 501(c)(3) Determination Letter
A-3. Treasurers Report
A-4. Finance Com Report r7-13
A-5. Nominating Com Report
A-6. Nominating Com Report Supplement r7-12
A-7. Website Policy Revision Proposal
A-8. M&O Monthly Meeting Reflections on FGC Affiliation
A-12. Ministry and Oversight Com Report r7-15
A-13. M&O Name Change Reflections June 2018
A-14. Quaker Earthcare Witness Reps Reports
A-15. Quarterly Meetings Coordination Team Report
A-16. PYM Budget 2018-2019 as Approved r7-27
A-17. RGAM Observer Report
A-18. Faith and Practice Revision Com Report
A-19. PYM Epistles 2018
A-20. Nominating Slate Final Approved r7-18
A-21. Arrangements Com Report
A-22. Childrens Program Com Report v2
A-23. Communications Com Report
A-25. Latin American Concerns Com Report
A-26. Peace and Social Order Com Report
A-27. PYM Holding Corp Report
A-28. Quaker Oaks Farm Spring Camp 2018 Report
A-29. Racial Justice Subcom Report
A-30. Statistical Report
A-31. Unity with Nature Com Report
A-32. Youth Programs Coordinating Com Report r7-2
A-33. Evangelical Friends Church Southwest Rep Report
A-34. FCNL Reps Report
### A-1: Roll Call of Meetings and Worship Groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call Order</th>
<th>Present?</th>
<th>Meeting or Worship Group</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Mexico City MM, Oaxaca WG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Y?</td>
<td>Big Island MM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Honolulu MM, Maui WG, Molokai’ WG, Kauai WG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>San Diego MM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>La Jolla MM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Orange County MM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>Marloma Long Beach MM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Inland Valley MM, Las Vegas WG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Santa Monica MM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Claremont MM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Orange Grove MM, Whitleaf WG, Conejo Valley WG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Santa Barbara MM, Ojai WG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Central Coast MM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Visalia MM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Monterey Peninsula MM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Live Oak MM, Soledad WG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>Fresno MM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Santa Cruz MM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>San Jose MM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Palo Alto MM, San Mateo worship group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>San Francisco MM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Strawberry Creek MM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Berkeley MM, Livermore WG, Oakland WG</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Delta MM, Sierra Foothills WG</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>Napa Sonoma MM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Apple Seed MM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Redwood Forest MM, Friends House WG, Lake County WG, Ukiah WG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Davis MM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Sacramento MM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>Carson City WG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Grass Valley MM, Placer County WG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>Mendocino MM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Reno MM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Chico MM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>Redding MM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>Humboldt MM, Southern Humboldt WG</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dear Applicant:

We're pleased to tell you we determined you're exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3). Donors can deduct contributions they make to you under IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under Section 2055, 2106, or 2522. This letter could help resolve questions on your exempt status. Please keep it for your records.

Organizations exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3) are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined you're a public charity under the IRC Section listed at the top of this letter.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that you're required to file Form 990/990-EZ/990-N, our records show you're required to file an annual information return (Form 990 or Form 990-EZ) or electronic notice (Form 990-N, the e-Postcard). If you don't file a required return or notice for three consecutive years, your exempt status will be automatically revoked.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that an addendum applies, the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter.

For important information about your responsibilities as a tax-exempt organization, go to www.irs.gov/charities. Enter "4221-PC" in the search bar to view Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, which describes your recordkeeping, reporting, and disclosure requirements.
Sincerely,

Stephen A. Martin

Director, Exempt Organizations
Rulings and Agreements
General Account Budget vs. Actual

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY 2016-2017 (ending 9/30/2017)</th>
<th>FY 2017-2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUE</strong></td>
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<td>4100 — Miscellaneous Contributions to PYM</td>
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<td>4101 — Contributions from Member Meetings</td>
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<td>4102 — Miscellaneous Income</td>
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<td>4104 — Return on Invested Capital</td>
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<td>4106 — Transfer from (to) YPC Reserve</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
<td>139,366</td>
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Expected contribution (aka assessment) per member (Calif. and Nev., Guatemala and Hawaii, Mexico City): $111, $49, $30

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>EXPENSES</strong></th>
<th>FY 2016-2017 (ending 9/30/2017)</th>
<th>FY 2017-2018</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GENERAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>Actual</td>
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<td>5202 — Clerk’s Travel &amp; Discretionary <strong>R2713</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>5203 — Expenses of Officers</td>
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<tr>
<td>5204 — Website Hosting</td>
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<tr>
<td>5206 — Young Friends PYM Attendance Assistance</td>
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<td>5208 — Travel-Repcom - Mar. &amp; Ann. Sess.</td>
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<td>5209 — Young Friends Officers’ Expense</td>
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<td>200.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>5210 — Audit Account <strong>R2723</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>5212 — Latin America Concerns Outreach <strong>R2749</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5213 — PYM Attendance Assistance Fund (M&amp;O)</strong></td>
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<td>5214 — Holding Corporation Expenses</td>
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<td>5215 — Western Friend</td>
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<td>5216 — Misc. Operating Expenses</td>
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<td>5217 — Insurance - Sexual Misconduct</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SUBTOTAL GENERAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
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<td>33,861.95</td>
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<th>FY 2017-2018</th>
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<tr>
<td>5221 — Ad Hoc Committees</td>
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<tr>
<td>5222 — Children’s Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>5224 — Fath and Practice Revision</td>
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<td>5225 — Finance</td>
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<td>411.91</td>
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<td>5227 — Junior Yearly Meeting</td>
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<td>5228 — Ministry &amp; Oversight</td>
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<td>5229 — Nominating</td>
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<td>5230 — Peace &amp; Social Order</td>
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<td>5231 — Religious Education for Children</td>
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<tr>
<td>5232 — Secretariat</td>
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<tr>
<td>5233 — Sites</td>
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<tr>
<td>5235 — Unity with Nature</td>
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<td>5237 — Committee Supplemental Expense <strong>R2714</strong></td>
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<td>5238 — Latin American Concerns</td>
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<td><strong>SUBTOTAL COMMITTEE EXPENSES</strong></td>
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<td>10,385.07</td>
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<th><strong>SUPPORT OF FRIENDS ORGANIZATIONS</strong></th>
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<th>FY 2017-2018</th>
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<tr>
<td>5251 — Friends Committee on National Legislation</td>
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<td>500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>5252 — Friends Committee on Legislation of California</td>
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<tr>
<td>5254 — FWCC</td>
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<tr>
<td>5255 — Quaker United Nations Office NY</td>
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<tr>
<td>5256 — William Penn House, Washington</td>
<td>250</td>
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<tr>
<td>5260 — AFSC</td>
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<tr>
<td>5261 — Friends House Moscow Support Ass’n</td>
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<tr>
<td>5262 — Casa de los Amigos</td>
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<tr>
<td>5264 — Friends General Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>5266 — Quaker Earthcare Witness</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SUBTOTAL SUPPORT OF FRIENDS ORGS</strong></td>
<td>4,750</td>
<td>4,750.00</td>
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General Account Budget vs. Actual

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<th>Account Description</th>
<th>FY 2016-2017 (ending 9/30/2017)</th>
<th>FY 2017-2018</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>Actual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONFERENCE TRAVEL/PYM DELEGATES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5271 — Western Friend Board</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>757.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5275 — AFSC (2)</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>431.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5277 — FCNL (2) &amp; William Penn House (1)</td>
<td>3,400</td>
<td>2,784.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5278 — FGCentral Committee</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5279 — FWCC, Section of the Americas</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,057.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5280 — Friends United Mtg, (Triennial)</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5281 — Gen. Reunion of Friends Mexico</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>541.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5283 — Evangelical Friends Church Southwest</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5284 — Quaker Earthcare Witness (2)</td>
<td>2,200</td>
<td>2,200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5287 — FWCC World Plenary</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5288 — Young Friends Travel</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>847.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5289 — Friends Peace Team Board (1)</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUBTOTAL CONFERENCE TRAVEL/PYM DEL</td>
<td>14,000</td>
<td>8,621.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YOUTH PROGRAM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6105 — Youth Program Supervisory Committee</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,271.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6110 — Personnel Costs</td>
<td>63,788</td>
<td>61,368.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6140 — Insurance</td>
<td>610</td>
<td>610.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6150 — Professional Development</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>269.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6160 — Office</td>
<td>2,700</td>
<td>2,745.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6170 — Events</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6190 — Administration &amp; Travel</td>
<td>7,350</td>
<td>4,443.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUBTOTAL PROGRAMS</td>
<td>76,548</td>
<td>70,707.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL EXPENSES</td>
<td>150,728</td>
<td>128,326.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRANSFER TO (FROM) GENERAL RESERVES</td>
<td>(11,362)</td>
<td>9,649.98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expense accounts with a bold face R27xx following the account name have that associated reserve fund (see Balance Sheet). Transfers from these special reserves are negative (enclosed in parentheses) in the Transfers column. A positive transfer means that funds remaining in the expense account at the end of the year were transferred to the associated reserve; a negative number indicates transfers from the reserve to cover over-budget expense. In Conference Travel account names, (n) is the number of representative or delegate trips funded, effective with FY 2016-2017.

COMMENTS ON ACCOUNT LINES HIGHLIGHTED ABOVE

5213 - Attendance Assistance Fund
The actual total of attendance assistance grants for AS 2017 was $8,953.
Contributions by Annual Session attendees paid $1,319 towards these grants.

5279, 5280, 5281, 5287
For less-than-annual events, we budget a portion of anticipated expenses annually.

Transfer to (from) General Reserves
Income exceeded expenses for this year for the first time in several years. Good news!
**General Account Balance Sheet**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account Number and Title</th>
<th>9/30/2016</th>
<th>9/30/2017</th>
<th>5/31/18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1701.1 — General Acct checking (WF-&gt;Redwood Credit Union)</td>
<td>13,478</td>
<td>39,682</td>
<td>11,526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1701.2 — General Acct savings - Redwood Credit Union</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>42,081</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1704.01 — Invested Capital (Friends Fiduciary)</td>
<td>85,516</td>
<td>93,176</td>
<td>100,079</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1704.7 — Vogel Endowment (Friends Fiduciary)</td>
<td>472,074</td>
<td>494,456</td>
<td>523,088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1706 — Prepaid Expenses</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll refunds</td>
<td>180</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1720 — Inventory of <em>Faith &amp; Practice</em></td>
<td>2,068</td>
<td>2,068</td>
<td>2,068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1750 — FGC Meeting House Fund Note</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>583,341</td>
<td>629,613</td>
<td>679,022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIABILITIES AND RESERVES</strong></td>
<td>Reserve Caps</td>
<td>Reserve Caps</td>
<td>Reserve Caps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2400 — Payroll Withholdings</td>
<td>1,033</td>
<td>1,068</td>
<td>1,665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2500 — Payroll Taxes Payable</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2701 — Accounts Payable</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2704 — Credit Cards</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2712 — Student Conscience Fund</td>
<td>17,843</td>
<td>17,843</td>
<td>17,843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2713 — Clerk’s Travel &amp; Discretionary (5202) Reserve</td>
<td>1,761</td>
<td>1,444</td>
<td>1,444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2714 — Committee Supplemental (5237) Reserve</td>
<td>1,026</td>
<td>1,168</td>
<td>1,168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2721.1 — Pre-Publishing Reserve (F&amp;P)</td>
<td>4,318</td>
<td>4,318</td>
<td>4,318</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2722 — Equipment Purchase (5207) Reserve</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2723 — Account Audit (5210) Reserve</td>
<td>3,590</td>
<td>3,590</td>
<td>3,590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2732 — PYM Traveling Friend Fund (M&amp;O)</td>
<td>2,321</td>
<td>2,321</td>
<td>2,321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2733 — Fund for Concerns (M&amp;O)</td>
<td>4,742</td>
<td>5,067</td>
<td>5,493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2734 — Sharing Fund (M&amp;O)</td>
<td>2,116</td>
<td>2,236</td>
<td>2,236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2735 — FGC Scholarship</td>
<td>828</td>
<td>828</td>
<td>828</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2736 — Unity with Nature Project Fund</td>
<td>1,679</td>
<td>2,813</td>
<td>2,834</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2737 — QEW Travel (5286) Reserve</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2742 — Young Friends Travel (5288) Reserve</td>
<td>1,874</td>
<td>1,527</td>
<td>1,527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2743 — FWCC, Sect of Amer Travel (5279) Reserve</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2744 — FGC Travel (5278) Reserve</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2745 — FUM Travel (5280) Reserve</td>
<td>989</td>
<td>1,389</td>
<td>1,389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2746 — Gen. Reunion Fr. Mex. Travel (5281) Reserve</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>958</td>
<td>958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2747 — FWCC World Plenary Travel (5287) Reserve</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2748 — Western Friend Board Travel (5271) Reserve</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2749 — Latin Amer. Concerns Outreach (5212) Reserve</td>
<td>478</td>
<td>378</td>
<td>378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2780 — Youth Program Coordinator Reserve</td>
<td>1,383</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2781 — Bob Vogel Endowment</td>
<td>472,074</td>
<td>494,456</td>
<td>523,088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2782 — Vogel Youth Work Reserve</td>
<td>13,049</td>
<td>14,928</td>
<td>10,325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excess of YTD Income over Expense</td>
<td>46,243</td>
<td>67,551</td>
<td>67,551</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND RESERVES</strong></td>
<td>583,341</td>
<td>629,613</td>
<td>654,938</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**

**Uncommitted Reserves:** Our General Account reserves are up, because General Account income exceeded expenses this year, in addition to the investment return on our Friends Fiduciary accounts.
### 2017 Annual Session Budget vs. Actual; 2018 Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>2017 Budget</th>
<th>2017 Actual</th>
<th>2018 Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8210 — Miscellaneous session income</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8220 — Fees from Attenders</td>
<td>112,000</td>
<td>103,440</td>
<td>104,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8221 — Registration discounts (travel-related)</td>
<td>(1,850)</td>
<td>(2,000)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8230 — Fees paid from Session accounts</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,843</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8240 — Fees paid from PYM General accounts</td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td>12,338</td>
<td>11,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8250 — Interest on PYM Sessions bank account</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8271 — Carbon Offset donations received</td>
<td>664</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8272 — Carbon Offset donations pd to UWN Project Fund</td>
<td>(664)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8280 — Donations received for Annual Session</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income:</strong></td>
<td><strong>134,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>125,207</strong></td>
<td><strong>123,600</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>2017 Budget</th>
<th>2017 Actual</th>
<th>2018 Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8410 — Registrar's expenses</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8420 — Secretariat expenses</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8430 — Arrangements expenses</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>1,215</td>
<td>2,390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8440 — Children's program</td>
<td>12,500</td>
<td>11,469</td>
<td>11,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8450 — Cost of facilities</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>94,611</td>
<td>97,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8460 — Junior Yearly Meeting</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>5,403</td>
<td>6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8470 — Young Adult Friends</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8480 — Breakage and equipment</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8490 — PYM Clerk's invited guests</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,653</td>
<td>1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8500 — Insurance</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>568</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8530 — Bank fees</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8531 — Online payment service fees</td>
<td>648</td>
<td>800</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8540 — Miscellaneous expense</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8550 — Fee for registration services</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8560 — Contingency expenses</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expense:</strong></td>
<td><strong>128,100</strong></td>
<td><strong>118,959</strong></td>
<td><strong>125,290</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT):      | **5,900**   | **6,248**   | **(1,690)** |

### Session Balance Sheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>9/30/2016</th>
<th>9/30/2017</th>
<th>5/31/18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8001 — Checking account - Wells Fargo</td>
<td>64,976</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8002 — Checking account - Redwood Credit Union</td>
<td>36,202</td>
<td>15,289</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8003 — Friends Fiduciary investment account</td>
<td>38,460</td>
<td>41,309</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8035 — Deposits on Future Sessions</td>
<td></td>
<td>20,981</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>64,976</strong></td>
<td><strong>74,662</strong></td>
<td><strong>77,579</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities and Reserve</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8040 — Accounts Payable</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8050 — Loan Payable to General Acct</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8900 — PYM Session Reserve</td>
<td>64,976</td>
<td>74,662</td>
<td>77,579</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Reserve</strong></td>
<td><strong>64,976</strong></td>
<td><strong>74,662</strong></td>
<td><strong>77,579</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SUMMARY

(none provided)

Narrative to accompany FY2018-19 Proposed Budget, which is submitted as a pdf file

This budget is a draft only; it is possible that some details may be changed before a final proposed budget is brought to the Annual Session.

Listed below are explanations for changes from the prior budget, including FinCom’s changes to requests received from committees; a note on income; and finally, a historical perspective. Please note: only some committee clerks and delegate responded to the Assistant to the Clerk’s request for budget information, in time to be included in the draft proposed budget.

As usual, an open session will be held by FinCom during the Annual Session where anyone can ask questions, argue, etc.

Unity with Nature request for travel to Quaker Earthcare Witness (account 5286)

UwN Committee members’ request, Clerk not in unity, was $2,550. Current fiscal year budget is $2,200.

Finance Committee’s recommendation is against this increase, given declines in Meeting memberships and a 2016 decision to decrease funds PYM-wide for delegate travel.

Communications request for Zoom internet meeting hosting (account 5239)

Communications Committee is separately submitting its research on Zoom meeting hosting and its recommendation for $1,200 annual expenditure for per-minute hosting services.

FinCom supports ComCom’s wish to save YM costs by using teleconferencing in place of in-person meetings and the attendant travel costs. However, we recommend the less expensive option of two $150 per-host hosting contracts, which doubles the current capacity of teleconferencing, and finding that that should be sufficient until further usage demand is noted.

Note: Zoom licenses had previously been paid by Faith & Practice Revision Committee, and will now be paid from the Communications budget.

YPC Salary and Travel Allowance request (accounts 6110, 6190)

FY2017-18 salary costs are budgeted at $64,656. YPCC requested a 7.5% salary increase in addition to COLA, bringing salary costs to $71,375.

FinCom supports the increase in real wages for the YPC position, recognizing Alyssa Nelson’s skill and competence as well as her fully demonstrated value to YM, and noting that she has not had a raise other than COLA since starting in this position. However, FinCom members expressed concerns over this big bump to the budget in one year and suggest an alternative of approximately 2% salary increase annually (in addition to COLA) for 3 years, to allow for a smoother increase to the budgeted amounts.

FY2017-18 budgeted YPC administrative and travel costs are $10,500. The request for FY2018-19 is backed down, to $7,550, since 2017 included a one-time underwriting of an automobile lease for Alyssa.
Sexual Misconduct Insurance budget (account 5217) changed to zero
This insurance has been budgeted at $350 for years, but actually PYM is not billed separately for this coverage - it’s already covered elsewhere in the budget.

Faith & Practice Revision budget (account 5224) reduced from $3,000 to $1,500
F&PR has been budgeted $3,000 for several years running, but underspent by over $2,500 for the past two fiscal years. Adjusted downward in consultation with a co-Clerk.

Income side note
The Statistical Report is not yet available, so we can’t yet give a meaningful Income Budget. We are omitting the income rows in the budget, and will add that information, including proposed per-member Expected Contribution (aka “assessment”) rates when the finished budget is presented at the Annual Session.

Historical Note on the Budget vs. Actual - a Context
We budget conservatively, over-projecting expenses and under-projecting income

Over the last four completed fiscal years, PYM has spent
95% of General expenses budgeted,
72% of Committee expenses budgeted
100% of budgeted support of Friends organizations
71% of budgeted delegate travel; for an overall 86% spent of non-YPC budget.

Ninety-six percent of YPC budget was actually spent.

As for assessments over the same 4-fiscal-year period, 98% of Expected Contributions from monthly Meetings were actually received.

The Committee consists of:
Roy Allen (also ex officio as Treasurer), Emma Castanedo, Sandy Farley, Sherri Sisson (ex officio as Statistical Clerk), Sharon Shen, Carolyn Stephenson; David Barrows, Clerk, Deborah Marks, interim/acting Clerk.
SUMMARY

In addition to the usual nominations of PYM officers, committees and delegates for the 2018-2019 service year, Nominating Committee is bringing a policy proposal for your consideration. The nominations will be brought in a separate document or “nominating slate”, which may go through several revisions in the course of annual session as additional nominees are added. The proposal follows.

Proposal for a Change in Policy regarding the Transition of Presiding Clerks

Background:
Through conversations with a proposed nominee for Presiding Clerk, with the current Presiding Clerk and with the Ministry and Oversight Committee Clerks, the Nominating Committee has become more aware of the need for continuity and support for the incoming Presiding Clerk and proposes the following to achieve that support:

Proposal:
1. Nominating Committee will bring forward the name of a proposed Presiding Clerk to the Annual Session the year before that person would take office.

2. Once Approved at AS, that nominee will be invited to shadow the current Presiding Clerk, attend all meetings, receive all communications, and be in contact and conversation with the current Presiding clerk for as much of that year as the incoming clerk desires.

3. The purpose of this overlap is to familiarize the incoming Clerk with the variety of connections necessary to the work of the Clerk, not to diminish or curtail innovation or creativity.

4. This change does mean that the Presiding Clerk is serving the YM for up to 4 years: up to one year of introduction and exposure as Rising Clerk, and three years (approved one at a time) as Presiding Clerk.

For the Nominating Committee, Sue Torrey, clerk.
SUMMARY
This report supplements the Nominating Committee report to Annual Session 2018 which was posted to the PYM website on 7/4. A full Nominating Slate dated “as of 2018-07-03” was posted at the same time. Both are included in the Packet of Advance Materials. This second part of our report places some additional names in nomination (first reading) and gives more background about Nominating Committee process.

Report
Nominating Committee published on the PYM website its initial slate, dated 2018-07-03, of nominations for PYM officer, committee and delegate positions for approval at Annual Session. Today's plenary may be considered the first reading of those nominations. We have some additions and changes to that report to bring to you today. And there may be further additions and changes in the days ahead, as our work is not finished. During the final business plenary, PYM will be asked to approve those names that have gotten first readings in earlier plenaries.

The changes to the July 3 Slate are the following:

Childrens Committee – Marcus Melander should not be italicized or have asterisk, as he was approved at RepCom

Latin American Concerns Committee - Agreement with Nominating and Latin American Concerns Committee that structure would be well served by naming one committee member each year for a total of 3 and then the 3 appointments from the Casa, El Salvador, and Guatemala. I did not see this in their report but all are in agreement with this.
Linda Rowell Co-Clerk with Donna Smith Co-Clerk

Nominating committee - Rebekah Percy resigned before RepCom (I missed it)

Friends Peace Team – New nomination of Gay Howard, term ending in 2021

Friends United Meeting – Next triennial in 2020 so could show that in the report.

There are open positions for which our committee will be in a discernment process throughout this annual session. In that process we look at balancing the committee in many ways. If there is a position in which you have indicated interest for which your name has not been brought forward, please know we have a list of those we are considering, if not now, in the future. If you have not yet taken the time to do so, or even if you have notified us of your interest, we would welcome information submitted to us on the “pink sheets” which are available at registration, in the information booth on the dining patio and in the back of the plenary tent.

This year has been impacted by several committees with difficult issues or conflicts which we have tried to address with compassion and clarity. The nominating committee has gone into a worshipful process for every officer, committee and representative. It is not fast or efficient, but it has been deeply
meaningful to us, as a committee, and we hope that worshipful discernment is reflected throughout the work of those officers and committees throughout the coming year.

As always, we continue to work on job descriptions in an attempt to keep them useful and up to date. This has been especially challenging with the changing structure. Our goal this coming year is a repeat of the goal last year which we were unable to meet. We would like to have accurate job descriptions easily and consistently available on the yearly meeting website.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Torrey
Nominating Committee Clerk
A-7: Communications Committee
Proposed Revision of the PYM Website Policy

SUMMARY

The PYM Communications Committee brings a revised Pacific Yearly Meeting Website Policy statement to PYM 2018 Annual Session for consideration. The committee recommends that PYM approve this new policy statement to replace the one which was approved in 2007.

Background:
The PYM Website Policy statement approved in 2007 ([https://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/website-policy/](https://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/website-policy/)) is now badly out of date. It does not reflect how PYM’s use and management of the website has evolved. The Website Working Group of the Communications Committee spent several months this year working on a revision to the policy, with periodic seasoning by the full committee. A draft revision was approved “in substance” by the full Communications Committee at its meeting on July 9, 2018. Two members of the committee were authorized to work together to make some clarifying changes and the version we bring to you now incorporates their changes.

Note that this policy covers only the website. Communications Committee is just beginning to investigate broader privacy and data security issues which would affect all PYM’s uses of data. For that reason the website policy itself only touches on privacy in very general terms.

Proposed Minute: PYM approves the Pacific Yearly Meeting Website Policy statement as proposed by the Communications Committee [Attachment TBD], to replace the Website Policy statement that was approved by PYM in 2007.

The proposed new policy statement is below.

-- Submitted by George Mills, Clerk, Website Working Group of Communications Committee
July 12, 2018,

**Pacific Yearly Meeting**
**Website Policy**

**Purposes**

The purposes of the official Pacific Yearly Meeting Website are to:
1. Support communication within Pacific Yearly Meeting (PYM),
2. Inform the PYM community, other Friends, and the world at large about relevant activities and events, and
3. Introduce the general public to Friends and to PYM-affiliated Quarterly Meetings, Monthly Meetings, and Worship Groups.

**Policies**

1. **Website Management**
   1.1. The PYM Website is under the care of the PYM Communications Committee, which is responsible for its technical maintenance, design, and content.
A-7: Communications Committee
Proposed Revision of the PYM Website Policy

1.2. Communications Committee shall appoint and define the duties of “Editors” and other roles as needed to develop and maintain the site.
1.3. Editors are automatically *ex officio* members of Communications Committee if they are not otherwise already members.
1.4. Only the Editors may actually place and remove content on the Website.
1.5. The Editors may publish any content that serves the Purposes of the Website and is consistent with these Policies.
1.6. In case of uncertainty about the appropriateness of content posted or proposed for the Website, the Communications Committee as a whole will discern.

2. Content Guidelines: Friends Practices and Beliefs
2.1. The Website should reflect and serve PYM as a community and not necessarily Friends in general.
2.2. PYM’s Faith and Practice and foundational documents (e.g., Bylaws, Articles of Incorporation, policies, etc.) should serve as a guideline for what goes on the Website.
2.3. The Website also publishes material supporting the charges of PYM officers, staff persons, committees, or delegates; or Quarterly Meetings, local meetings or organizations within PYM.
2.4. The Website may contain statements about Friends’ practices and beliefs, as long as any such statement reflects the viewpoint or practices of a significant number of Friends, or is an important statement about Friends, either from the past or in the present. Such statements do not necessarily have to represent an adopted position of PYM, or even the views of any Quarterly Meeting or Member or Attender of a Monthly Meeting or Worship Group in PYM. Typically, attribution is given for statements by individual Friends or identifiable groups of Friends when published on the PYM website.
2.5. In cases where a statement might be mistakenly construed that it represents the considered opinion of PYM, when in fact it does not, an explicit notice, “This statement does not necessarily reflect the views of Pacific Yearly Meeting,” will be displayed near the statement.
2.6. From time to time, PYM might formally agree to publish a statement that does reflect a viewpoint that has been considered and approved by PYM. Such statements will be marked as such.
2.7. The Website may use links to outside organizations with which the PYM has a strong and comfortable relationship (such as organizations to which PYM makes financial contributions or sends representatives) or as the Editors determine to be in good order. On occasion, content from outside organizations may be published directly on the Website with appropriate attribution.

3. Content Requests:
A-7: Communications Committee
Proposed Revision of the PYM Website Policy

3.1. All requests for publication on the Website should be submitted to the Editors (in some cases via the PYM Assistant to the Clerk).
3.2. Requests for publication of material should be made with sufficient lead time.
3.3. The Editors may suggest changes to, or reject entirely, proposed content that, in their judgement, does not conform to the purposes and guidelines of the Website.
3.4. Content placed on the Website should generally be attributed (name and role of the author) and dated when entered.
3.5. It is the responsibility of the submitter to inform the Editors when content becomes obsolete and should be changed or removed; nevertheless, the Editors may remove content at any time.

4. Privacy and Data Security
4.1. Communications Committee will develop a separate policy proposal covering web privacy and data security, which will go through the usual PYM seasoning process.
4.2. We intend that the Website comply with all applicable privacy and data security regulations, such as the European Union General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).
4.3. We intend to reasonably protect the privacy of members of the PYM community while retaining the ability to share enough information to conduct and communicate the work of PYM.

5. Accessibility
5.1. Information on the Website should be accessible to people with disabilities, conforming as much as possible with generally accepted accessibility guidelines, such as the W3C Web Content Accessibility Guidelines.
5.2. Material should be formatted as much as possible to allow quick viewing by visitors with average computer skills.
A-8: Ministry and Oversight Summary of Monthly Meeting Reflections on FGC Affiliation

Nineteen of our 36 monthly meetings provided a summary of their threshing on the question of PYM’s affiliating with FGC. In addition, Young Adult Friends provided input.

Three monthly meetings (Davis, Grass Valley, and Sacramento) are already affiliated with FGC and two of these meetings send a representative to FGC Central Committee paid for (at least in part) from monthly meeting funds, in addition to the Pacific Yearly Meeting observer covered by yearly meeting funds. Berkeley Meeting has minuted its intention to affiliate with FGC if Pacific Yearly Meeting does not. At least one other monthly meeting has explored the possibility of independent affiliation in recent years. At least fifteen of the nineteen meetings report already using FGC resources. Affiliating with FGC was seen as acting in integrity to support our de facto use of these resources.

At two meetings, earlier decisions by FGC were questioned. These involved laying down particular programs or dropping financial support for FWCC Section of the Americas. At one meeting some Friends expressed concern about the “secularization” of FGC, while others spoke appreciatively of the support and services offered. At several meetings Friends noted that by affiliating with FGC, PYM could actively support FGC programs now seen as valuable and have a voice in future decisions about laying down or adding new programs. There was agreement that delegates to FGC should be well-prepared to engage fully in FGC decision-making and committee work.

Friends at one monthly meeting asked for additional information about the demographics of FGC affiliate meetings. While there was a question about affiliating with a group whose members are largely white, there was also acknowledgment that FGC approaches social issues such as racism and the full inclusion of LGBTQI people in religious life from a spiritual perspective that is consistent with PYM Faith and Practice. PYM has also benefited from FGC’s Ministry on Racism.

Many Friends saw an advantage to being affiliated with a broad range of monthly meetings. Affiliation was seen as potentially helpful in making the Religious Society of Friends and PYM monthly meetings more visible. One monthly meeting suggested that it is time for PYM to let go of its historically-rooted Beanite attitude of independence and join the broader family of Friends represented by FGC. Friends expressed hope that with PYM affiliation, along with IMYM, FGC Gathering could be held on the West Coast more frequently.

Thirteen of the nineteen meetings and Young Adult Friends generally favored affiliation, although only five of those had formally minuted support for affiliation at some time. Among the remaining six meetings, most reports included comments both favorable to and opposed to affiliation. One of these six reported that they had no objection to affiliation but could not say whether PYM should affiliate and were happy to have the Yearly Meeting make that discernment.

Questions about the cost of affiliation were raised by a most meetings. What will the cost be and are the advantages of affiliation worth the cost? Three meetings expressed willingness to raise their PYM dues “by a modest amount” to support affiliation. M&O is working with Finance Committee to bring clear statement of the financial implications of FGC affiliation to annual session to assist Friends in the discernment process.

List of Monthly Meetings Responding:
Berkeley, Central Coast, Claremont, Davis, Grass Valley, Humboldt, Honolulu, Inland Valley, La Jolla, Live Oak, Napa, Palo Alto, Redwood Forest, Reno, Sacramento, Santa Cruz, Santa Monica, Strawberry Creek, Visalia.

Submitted by Shan Cretin, for the Ministry and Oversight Committee
Revised 3 July 2018
Estimating Cost of FGC Affiliation

Bottom Line Summary

- The estimated costs of supporting all travel for 2 representatives to FGC is $3,707 or $3.01/Pacific Yearly Meeting member.
- The estimated costs of supporting all travel for 3 representatives to FGC is $5,051 or $4.10/Pacific Yearly Meeting member.
- In addition to these costs, Pacific Yearly Meeting would choose to make a contribution to FGC of between $1 and $3 per Pacific Yearly Meeting Member.
- Pacific Yearly Meeting currently budgets $1.22/Pacific Yearly Meeting member to cover the travel cost of an observer and an additional contribution to FGC.
- If Yearly Meeting chooses to contribute $1.50 and sends 2 representatives, the cost per Pacific Yearly Meeting member would be $4.51, or $3.29 more than current cost.
- If Yearly Meeting chooses to contribute $1.50 and sends 3 representatives, the cost per Pacific Yearly Meeting member would be $5.60, or $4.38 more than current cost.

Methods

Number of Representatives: The financial implications of Pacific Yearly Meeting affiliating with FGC assuming depend on whether we send 2 or 3 representatives. Barry Crossno, General Secretary of Friends General Conference, indicated that given our current size, we could have up to 3 representatives and while FGC would prefer that we send 3, we could elect to send only 2.

Central Committee Meeting Costs: Central Committee meetings are held at the Pearlstone Retreat Center. Pacific Yearly Meeting representatives would fly into Baltimore International Airport and pay for a shuttle to and from the retreat center, about $75 round trip. For Central Committee, representatives can choose varying accommodations (single occupancy, double occupancy or cabin). Assuming double occupancy, food and lodging is about $350 per person.

Executive Committee, Program, and Administrative Meeting Costs: Our first representative would be part of the FGC Executive Committee and that committee meets three times in addition to the Central Committee meeting. Two of these meetings are held on the East Coast or the South (in the winter) and have been in Ottawa once in recent years. The third is in Philadelphia. These meetings are usually hosted by monthly meetings that provide hospitality and meals, for which participants contribute $35 to $50. If PacYM affiliates, and one of our monthly meetings offered to host an FGC Executive Committee Meeting, such a meeting could be on the West Coast in the future.
The second representative could either elect to be on a program committee, which is likely to meet one time in addition to the Central Committee meeting, or an administrative committee, which is likely to meet twice in addition to the Central Committee meeting. Administrative committee meetings are held in Philadelphia, with the possibility of attending these meetings by teleconference. FGC encourages representatives from more distant locations to attend one meeting face to face before taking advantage of the teleconference option. The costs in Option 1 are based on the assumption that our representative to an administrative or program committee will only attend one meeting face-to-face and will teleconference in for any additional meetings.

The third representative, if we choose to have three, would also select a program or administrative committee. Option 2 again assumes that each of our representatives to program or administrative committees will only attend one meeting face-to-face and will teleconference in for any additional meetings.

Affiliation with FGC (with either 2 or 3 representatives) would require an exception to the Pacific Yearly Meeting policy adopted in 2016 that has guided budgeting for travel to other Quaker organizations, namely a cap of 2 trips per year.

**Estimating Travel Costs:** The cost of travel was estimated based on Expedia.com airfares booked 7 weeks in advance and choosing, not the cheapest fare offered, but the fourth or fifth cheapest fare offered and one that was on a major airline. Travel costs depend on which airports our yearly meeting representatives depart from as well as the destination. The Travel Worksheet page of the attached spreadsheet looks at travel from seven airports within Pacific Yearly Meeting (Fresno, Honolulu, Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, San Jose) to six airports in the East/Midwest/South where administrative, program and Executive Committee meetings might, including Baltimore for the Central Committee meeting. The cost of getting to and from the home airport reflect either public transportation, if available, or a shared shuttle service. Hosts arrange to pick people up at the arriving airports EXCEPT for Central Committee as noted above. Since many Friends would have a friend or family member drive them to the airport, actual airport transfer costs are likely to be lower.

Clearly a representative from Honolulu or Fresno would incur larger travel costs than one near Los Angeles or San Francisco with other cities in between. Presumably with 2 or 3 representatives, not all would be from the most expensive cities.

Based on the averages, I estimated that Assuming that the Central Committee meeting is held at the Pearlstone Retreat Center, the average travel cost of a Baltimore trip was $469, including the shuttle to and from the retreat center. Representatives to Central Committee meetings also pay approximately $350 for food and lodging. The average cost of a round trip to the other cities would average $517/per person.

The Cost of Affiliation page of the attached spreadsheet brings together all of these estimates to arrive at estimated costs for affiliating with 2 representatives (Option 1) or 3 representatives (Option 2). Finally, to arrive at the costs per Pacific Yearly Meeting
member, the total costs were divided by 1,233, the number of members reported in the 2018 statistical report.

**Choosing the Yearly Meeting Level of Contribution:** FGC reports that on a per capita basis, currently affiliated yearly meetings pay between $1 and $3 per member. The spreadsheet shows the impact of contributing $1.50 per member, as assumption that can easily be changed.

**Current Yearly Meeting Expenses Related to FGC:** The spreadsheet also estimates the current yearly meeting expenses in our support for FGC ($500) and in sending a representative (budgeting $1,000 with latest actual expense at $867).

**Current Monthly Meeting Expenses Related to FGC:** For information only, the contributions to FGC from the three independently affiliated monthly meetings are also reported. In the past year, these affiliated monthly meetings have been represented by the same Friend at the Central Committee Meetings and that Friend has not requested reimbursement for expenses.

Finance Committee Clerk has also been in the process of polling unaffiliated monthly meetings as to their current contributions to FGC. There is room in the attached spreadsheet to add these numbers once they are available. While these costs cannot be transferred to the Yearly Meeting to offset the costs of affiliation, monthly meetings may choose to reduce their voluntary contributions to FGC to offset the increase in assessment that would accompany a decision to affiliate.
## Financial Implications of Affiliating with Friends General Conference

Revised 13 July 2018

Number of Pacific Yearly Meeting Members in May 2018= 1,233

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Annual Travel Cost</th>
<th>Travel Cost/PacYM Member</th>
<th>PacYM Annual Contribution to FGC</th>
<th>Contribution to FGC/PacYM Member</th>
<th>Total Cost of Affiliation to PacYM</th>
<th>Total Cost of Affiliation/PacYM Member</th>
<th>Added Cost/PacYM Member over Current Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Option 1.</strong> Two (2) PYM Representatives to FGC</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Representative #1:</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Trip to East Coast for Central Committee Meeting</td>
<td>$819</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Trips to East Coast/South for Executive Committee Meeting</td>
<td>$1,552</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Representative #2:</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Trip to East Coast for Central Committee Meeting</td>
<td>$819</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Trip to East Coast/South for Program/Admin Committee Meeting</td>
<td>$517</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Option 1. Total</strong></td>
<td>$3,707</td>
<td>$3.01</td>
<td>$1,850</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
<td>$5,556</td>
<td>$4.51</td>
<td>$3.29</td>
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<td><strong>Option 2.</strong> Three (3) PYM Representatives to FGC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Representative #1:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Trip to East Coast for Central Committee Meeting</td>
<td>$819</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Trips to East Coast/South for Executive Committee Meeting</td>
<td>$1,560</td>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>Representative #2:</strong></td>
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<td>1 Trip to East Coast for Central Committee Meeting</td>
<td>$819</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Trip to East Coast/South for Program/Admin Committee Meeting</td>
<td>$517</td>
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<td><strong>Representative #3:</strong></td>
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<td>1 Trip to East Coast for Central Committee Meeting</td>
<td>$819</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Trips to East Coast/South for Program/Admin Committee Meeting</td>
<td>$517</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Option 2. Total</strong></td>
<td>$5,051</td>
<td>$4.10</td>
<td>$1,850</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
<td>$6,900</td>
<td>$5.60</td>
<td>$4.38</td>
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</table>
## Financial Implications of Affiliating with Friends General Conference

Revised 13 July 2018

### Current Pacific Yearly Meeting and Affiliated Monthly Meeting expenses related to FGC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Annual Travel Cost</th>
<th>Travel Cost/ PacYM Member</th>
<th>Contribution to FGC</th>
<th>Contribution to FGC/ PacYM Member</th>
<th>Total Costs related to FGC</th>
<th>Total Costs related to FGC/ PacYM Member</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Pacific Yearly Meeting Expenses Related to FGC Observer</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>In FY16, FY17 and FY18 $1,000 was budgeted.</td>
<td>$1,000 $0.79 $500 $0.39 $1,500 $1.22</td>
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<tr>
<td>The latest reported actual expense in FY16 was $867.</td>
<td>$867 $0.68 $500 $0.39 $1,367 $1.11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

### Affiliated Monthly Meeting Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Affiliated Monthly Meeting Expenses (For Information Only)</th>
<th>Number of Members in Monthly Meeting</th>
<th>Contributtoin to Delegate Travel to</th>
<th>Contribution to FGC</th>
<th>Contribution to FGC/ MM Member</th>
<th>Total Costs related to FGC</th>
<th>Total Costs related to FGC/ MM Member</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Davis</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>$ - $180</td>
<td>$6.21</td>
<td>$180</td>
<td>$6.21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grass Valley</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>$0 $100</td>
<td>$2.78</td>
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<td>Sacramento</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>$0 $200</td>
<td>$4.44</td>
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<td>$4.45</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total from Affiliated Monthly Meetings</strong></td>
<td>110</td>
<td>$0 $480</td>
<td>$4.36</td>
<td>$480</td>
<td>$4.36</td>
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</table>
## Sample costs of roundtrip air travel

For travel booked 7 weeks in advance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From</th>
<th>To</th>
<th>Airfare</th>
<th>Transfer to Airport</th>
<th>Transfer from Airport</th>
<th>Total Travel</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fresno</td>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>$460</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honolulu</td>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>$800</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>$305</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sacramento</td>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>$360</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Diego</td>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>$330</td>
<td>$40</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco</td>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Jose</td>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>$360</td>
<td>$40</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average to</strong></td>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td><strong>$416</strong></td>
<td><strong>$28</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td><strong>$444</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Fresno        | Atlanta       | $590    | $20                 | -                     | $610         |
| Honolulu      | Atlanta       | $800    | $20                 | -                     | $820         |
| Los Angeles   | Atlanta       | $375    | $30                 | -                     | $405         |
| Sacramento    | Atlanta       | $390    | $25                 | -                     | $415         |
| San Diego     | Atlanta       | $375    | $40                 | -                     | $415         |
| San Francisco | Atlanta       | $350    | $20                 | -                     | $370         |
| San Jose      | Atlanta       | $405    | $40                 | -                     | $445         |
| **Average**   | **Atlanta**   | **$469**| **$28**             | -                     | **$497**     |

| Fresno        | Houston       | $510    | $20                 | -                     | $530         |
| Honolulu      | Houston       | $725    | $20                 | -                     | $745         |
| Los Angeles   | Houston       | $275    | $30                 | -                     | $305         |
| Sacramento    | Houston       | $380    | $25                 | -                     | $405         |
| San Diego     | Houston       | $350    | $40                 | -                     | $390         |
| San Francisco | Houston       | $340    | $20                 | -                     | $360         |
| San Jose      | Houston       | $380    | $40                 | -                     | $420         |
| **Average**   | **Houston**   | **$423**| **$28**             | -                     | **$451**     |

| Fresno        | Chicago       | $560    | $20                 | -                     | $580         |
| Honolulu      | Chicago       | $700    | $20                 | -                     | $720         |
| Los Angeles   | Chicago       | $300    | $30                 | -                     | $330         |
| Sacramento    | Chicago       | $305    | $25                 | -                     | $330         |
| San Diego     | Chicago       | $315    | $40                 | -                     | $355         |
| San Francisco | Chicago       | $275    | $20                 | -                     | $295         |
| San Jose      | Chicago       | $400    | $40                 | -                     | $440         |
| **Average**   | **Chicago**   | **$408**| **$28**             | -                     | **$436**     |

<p>| Fresno        | Ottawa        | $610    | $20                 | -                     | $630         |
| Honolulu      | Ottawa        | $625    | $20                 | -                     | $645         |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Travel</th>
<th>Food</th>
<th>Lodging</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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**Food and Lodging for Executive Committee**

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**Food and Lodging for Central Committee**

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A-10: Evaluation of the PYM Children’s Program Coordinator Position and Proposal for an Ad Hoc Committee

SUMMARY
July 2018, revision 2

This proposal is brought jointly by Nominating, Ministry and Oversight, and Children’s Program Committees of the Yearly Meeting.

Background
The work of the Children’s Program Coordinator has changed over recent years due largely to the increasing ability of the Youth Programs Coordinator to contribute to the children’s program. The Youth Programs Coordinator now provides a great deal of logistical support and institutional knowledge that saves Children's Program Committee time and effort, such as disseminating the Teacher application materials, helping update the contact list of potential Teachers, running the criminal background checks, helping keep CPC in communication with other parts of the Yearly Meeting, and contributing information for the orientation meeting for Teachers and for parents/sponsors. Some of this work is what the Children’s Program Coordinator used to do, and some is additional help that the committee has not received before and is very useful.

The Children’s Program Coordinator is now the only position in the Yearly Meeting that receives any financial remuneration from the Yearly Meeting other than our paid staff member, the Youth Programs Coordinator. This is significant given that all other service is given freely, including by Friends who work greater numbers of hours for the Yearly Meeting throughout the year and leading up to Annual Session than the Children’s Program Coordinator. There is a question to be held by the Yearly Meeting as to whether the Children’s Program Coordinator position needs financial remuneration on top of their free registration and board at Annual Session. We note that the position of Children’s Program Coordinator has generally been held by a Young Adult Friend so the question about financial remuneration could be considered from that perspective also. Free registration and board is something only Children’s Program teachers and Friendly Responsible Adult Presences receive; even the Presiding Clerk pays for their own attendance. This is a complex issue and it is important for the Yearly Meeting to consider what requires professional paid involvement and what does not.

There have also been some legal questions regarding the method of contracting or employing the Children’s Program Coordinator that need to be addressed to keep the Yearly Meeting in good legal and ethical order.

It is challenging for the Children’s Program Committee to undertake the revision of the Children’s Program Coordinator role while also working directly with the people in the role of Coordinator. We feel that this is a matter that needs to be considered by the Yearly Meeting more broadly. As it is also part of a philosophical question of who should get paid for what in PYM, it also requires a broader perspective than one committee’s experience and standpoint.

Proposal
We recommend that the Yearly Meeting form an ad hoc committee to consider the following questions:

- Does the Children’s Program Committee need a Coordinator? If yes:
  - For what roles?
  - How should they be supervised and supported?
  - Should they receive payment beyond the free registration and board? If yes:
A-10: Evaluation of the PYM Children’s Program Coordinator Position and Proposal for an Ad Hoc Committee

- Are we following the law in the way we currently pay them?
- How much should they receive?

The uncertainty of waiting for findings from the Ad Hoc Committee would be too difficult for the Children’s Program for preparations towards Annual Session 2019. We have agreed that the Children’s Program will continue with a Coordinator for at least one more year. As such, we request that the Ad Hoc Committee investigate, as a matter of priority, how much and by what method, the Coordinator should be paid for Annual Session 2019.

Consideration would necessarily include consultation with the following officers and committees:
- Children’s Program Committee
- Former Children’s Program Coordinators
- Youth Programs Committee
- Youth Programs Coordinator
- Finance Committee
- Nominating Committee
- Ministry and Oversight Committee
- Treasurer

Membership of the Ad Hoc Committee
We recommend that the ad hoc committee be made up of approximately three Friends, at least two of whom should have significant experience with the Children’s Program. The following Friends are suggested to serve:
- Julie Harlow (Nominating)
- Chamba Cooke (Immediate past Children’s Program Committee Co-Clerk)
- Sally Kingsland (Immediate past Ministry and Oversight Co-Clerk and Children’s Program Committee liaison)
- Roy Allen (Treasurer)
SUMMARY

This year Friends Peace Teams have been evolving from three loosely associated working groups into a unified Quaker organization working for peace in three parts of the world. In the African Great Lakes work includes Healing and Rebuilding Our Communities, a woman's clinic, Alternatives to Violence, children's peace libraries, and transformative mediation. African Great Lakes works in Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Asia West Pacific supports volunteers called to do work for peace and nonviolence, Alternative to Violence, trauma healing, conflict transformation, and social justice advocacy with communities recovering from war or religious violence. Asia West Pacific works in Indonesia, Philippines, Korea, Nepal, Ukraine, and Chechnya. Peace building en Las America (PLA) works in Central and South America for peace-building, trauma healing, and Alternatives to Violence. PLA works with people in: communities, hospitals, schools, churches, prisons, in gang dominated communities, and with indigenous people, war survivors, and people with disabilities.

INFORMATION ABOUT FRIENDS PEACE TEAMS

Quakers from several North American Yearly Meetings established Friends Peace Teams in 1993. After witnessing the suffering in Bosnia and Herzegovina, they wanted to make every Friends Meeting and Church a center of peace, and reach out to people suffering from war and violence everywhere.

Quaker Yearly Meetings from across the United States, Australia, and Aotearoa/NZ nominate Representatives to serve on the Friends Peace Teams' Council. They seek mutual discernment and collaboration on Quaker faith and practice for peace and support of the relationships, activities and programs developed through the peace ministries.

Friends Peace Teams' budget is raised from donations by individuals and groups, plus occasional, small grants. Dedicated volunteers on the Council and Working Groups and minimal staff allow peace workers and funds to focus on peace ministries.

Pacific Yearly Meeting’s representative to Friends Peace Teams is Gay Howard, Central Coast MM
SUMMARY
Ministry and Oversight Committee (M&O) has wrestled with some deep issues and been blessed with centered and productive meetings this year.

Liaisons for Hawai’i and Mexico City Meetings
The Hawai’ian meetings and Mexico City Monthly Meeting are under the care of Ministry & Oversight Committee. In the spirit of continued connection and outreach, we are formalizing liaison relationships with these meetings so that concerns or needs can be more easily brought to the committee. These liaisons, Shayne Lightner (M&O liaison for Mexico City) and Shan CretIn (M&O liaison for Hawai’i), serve as point people for Friends both within the meeting and those who might be traveling to the meeting. Please reach out to them as needed.

Laying down of Guatemala Monthly Meeting
We have been in ongoing dialogue with Friends from Guatemala Monthly Meeting. In recent years, it has become clear that the Meeting does not function as a Monthly Meeting and the M&O co-clerks were approached in 2017 about formally laying down the Meeting. As per Faith and Practice, a Visiting Committee was established to support this process, which is ongoing. While of course painful, Friends who have attended or been members of the Meeting are finding support through membership transfers and ongoing connection to the large Society of Friends. PROGRESA is now officially supervised by a Board of Directors and is also under the care of Redwood Forest. It should not be greatly affected by the laying down of the Meeting.

Friends General Conference (FGC) Affiliation
So far we have summarized information from 18 monthly meetings and 12 were largely in favor of affiliating with remainder neutral or not reporting any sense of the meeting. Young Adult Friends are also in favor. We are following up to ensure that we include reports from all meetings. A full report will be posted at the M&O Annual Session reports page at least a week before annual session begins.

M&O SubCommittees - Racial Justice
We have been working more closely with the Racial Justice SubCommittee on some sensitive issues this year. They have provided a separate report.

M&O SubCommittees - Eldering
After a successful second year of experimenting with Spiritual Accompaniment and spiritual grounding practices at Annual Session 2017, M&O created an Eldering SubCommittee to continue the work. After Annual Session 2018 the Sub Committee will focus more on identifying and developing gifts of accompaniment and eldering within the Yearly Meeting, and providing education opportunities.

M&O SubCommittees - Religious Education
Following the restructure that was adopted at AS 2017, M&O created a Religious Education SubCommittee that aims to serve both children and adult religious education needs. We are still seeking
participation and input from passionate Friends for this work which we see as critical for the rejuvenation of our Yearly Meeting. So far, a webpage with resources has been created and an interest group, that will be a critical formation point for the work, planned for Annual Session 2018.

**M&O SubCommittees - Respectful Relationships**
The Respectful Relationships Subcommittee will work on making Annual Session more inclusive and welcoming as well as being a resource and support for Monthly Meetings experiencing conflicts relating to interpersonal relationships. We will also hold Junior Yearly Meeting's Respectful Relationships activities under our care, organize facilitator trainings and, when requested, work on bringing this kind of education to interested groups within the Yearly Meeting.

**M&O SubCommittees - Worship Sharing Logistics**
We are experimenting with a SubCommittee to support the much loved Worship Sharing at Annual Session in order to reduce some of the load on M&O members. We have struggled to address M&O burn out at Annual Session and we are grateful to the Friends who have agreed to help with this important work.

**Liaison structure**
The role of M&O liaisons to PYM committees encourages communication within the Yearly Meeting and helps the committee to stay attuned to the pulse of the Yearly Meeting. We particularly work to notice areas that are alive and, ‘on fire’, with Spirit, and areas where there are problems. This year we experimented with reducing the number of liaison positions because the Coordinating Calls established by the Presiding Clerk were so effective and improving communication across the Yearly Meeting. We maintain permanent liaisons only to Children’s Program, JYM, Youth Programs, YAFs, Nominating, Arrangements, Faith and Practice, and Communications, and established others where they were needed.

**Quiet Room**
At this time, our committee is considering laying down the Quiet Room for 2019’s annual session. The purpose of the Quiet Room is to provide a space for contemplation and reflection, with books and other resources. In recent years, we have seen a decline in the room’s use and are unclear if this space is still serving the community. We will be experimenting at this Annual Session with having the Quiet Room in Maple to see if that is more useful to the community. If you use the Quiet Room at this year’s Annual Session, please leave a note in the visitor’s log. We will use this document as part of our evaluation regarding a course of action for next year.

**Monthly Meeting Representatives**
We continue to work with the challenges of our existing representative structure. The Representative Support SubCommittee continues to lay fallow while the Oversight Sub Group of our committee continues the core work of the fallow Sub Committee.
Name of Our Committee
The committee has been in ongoing discernment and reflection regarding its name for several years now. Following a lack of unity within the Yearly Meeting at Annual Session 2017 regarding a change we reflected further with a focus on what we do. Please read our reflection on the committee’s name.

Pastoral Care at Annual Session
As always, M&O members will be available to support Friends during Annual Session and we encourage you to find us should you need to.

Our committee consists of Shan Cretin, Gail Eastwood, Janet Gastil, Shayne Lightner, Valerie Nuttman, Jim Summers, Thistle West, Diego Navarro (Presiding Clerk, ex officio), Sally Kingsland (Co-Clerk), and Kylin Navarro Burger (Co-Clerk).

Faithfully submitted,
Sally Kingsland and Kylin Navarro Burger, Co-Clerks
Revised 15 July 2018
Summary
June 2018

Introduction
Our committee brought a request for a name change to Annual Session 2017. We specifically wanted to remove the word ‘oversight’ and to replace it with ‘care’ which, we felt, reflected well what we do for the Yearly Meeting. Following some discernment on the plenary floor, the Yearly Meeting was found not to be in unity. During Open Committee time, and at other times, we listened to various reactions and responses regarding our proposed name change. A lot of the responses were in support to change the name, including from Friends of color. We also received suggestions for some alternatives, most of which we had previously considered. We heard a few concerns about removing ‘oversight’ from our name. Interestingly, the concerns about dropping the word ‘oversight’ related to a perception that perhaps we would lose some discipline and accountability in the Yearly Meeting - something we have not necessarily focussed on and have felt many Friends have actively resisted.

In early 2018 we came back to consider the question of the name of our committee. The consideration started with an exercise to explore what we are as a committee today. What is it that we really do? Not just what our job description but who we are and what do we spend time on. Following that was a period of deep facilitated worship sharing.

Our Findings
We are now a different group than when we first considered this question but at the end of our deliberations, the same, quiet sense of unity that we had experienced the year before persisted - we still feel the need for a new name. For some the reason of the connection of the word ‘oversight’ to slavery, and the result that we are called ‘overseers’ is the strongest reason. For others, the lack of congruence between what we do and the name we have is just as important. Given that our suggestion was not accepted by the Yearly Meeting, what our new name could be we do not know. Perhaps Friends needed more time to sit with the proposed change, perhaps it is not a good fit.

We found that we struggled with the word ‘ministry’ as well as ‘oversight’. ‘Ministry’ can refer to everything, and consequently, nothing! Although ‘ministry’ could be used to refer accurately to everything we do, we found that something was missing if we were to be called the “Ministry Committee”. We believe that all of what everyone in the Yearly Meeting is doing is various types of ministry. We felt that something was needed to go with it, or to find a different name.

One thing we were clear on was that at the heart of the things we do is listening.

We found that core areas of work that we do are:

- Large amount of tasks and logistics for the Annual Session (care of worship, worship sharing, Meeting for Memorials, Community Expectations, Quiet Room, Attendance Assistance, State of the Society Report, Community (Family) Night, facilitating spiritual accompaniment, support the Presiding Clerk, coordinating with First Nations representatives, create the Epistle Committee, organising microphones, door keepers, addressing conflict, providing pastoral care, and more)
- Pastoral care of various sorts, including at Annual Session
- Supporting Monthly and Quarterly Meetings particularly when there is conflict
- Addressing conflict in various forms throughout the Yearly Meeting
- Supporting Yearly Meeting committees
A-13: Ministry & Oversight Name Change Reflections

- Connecting and coordinating among various parts of the Yearly Meeting
- Keeping our fingers on the pulse of the Yearly Meeting
- Holding a ‘big picture’ for the Yearly Meeting (not exclusive to our committee, others also do this in their own ways)
- Supporting the Presiding Clerk
- Praying for, and loving, the Yearly Meeting
- Caring for the Monthly Meetings directly under our care

Some of the words we found to describe us included:
- Community builders (which is how ‘oversight’ is understood in some places)
- Nurturers
- Midwives
- Clan mothers

Things we long to do more of, and more deeply are:
- Supporting spiritual growth, assisting the Yearly Meeting to ‘live on the leading edge of Spirit’
- Lovingly holding the Yearly Meeting to account (providing accountability)
- Putting down a deep spiritual tap root from which the Yearly Meeting can better grow
- Supporting education needs identification and fulfillment, including about who we are as Quakers, how to do spiritual development etc
- Providing guidance, facilitating where requested
- Caring for the Quarterly Meetings

We found that there was work we deeply believe is the work of this committee but we do not have the capacity for it. It seems like we have two or three committees worth of work.

We present this report to the Yearly Meeting with no request at this time. We encourage Friends to pray with what we’ve written and the committee will continue to sit with this question into the future. We are clear and aware that it is our job to serve, and be named by, the Yearly Meeting and trust in Spirit to lead us all.
SUMMARY
PYM has two Representatives to Quaker Earthcare Witness: Andrea Beane and Catya de Neergaard. They have submitted separate reports.

Report from Andrea Beane

As one of the Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW) Representatives to Pacific Yearly Meeting (PYM), I attend two meetings annually. These meetings occur in the Fall and the Spring and are comprised of yearly meeting representatives and at large members from N. American Quaker meetings. We gather to support and nurture the work of the leadings of the members and to address the numerous concerns relating to the care of our Earth and all living Beings.

To quickly summarize the meetings as a collection of activities does not capture the loving conviction of the members that have attended these meetings. QEW, formerly known as Friends Committee on Unity with Nature, turned 30 years in 2018. Many in attendance remember that very first meeting as Quakers gathered in concernment for Mother Earth. At the Fall meeting we shared those beginning memories through stories and video. We visioned into the future 5, 10, 20 and 30 years, holding in the Light many heartfelt concerns, a mixture of hope and despair.

The Spring meeting brought together a smaller assembly with many of the usual attendees not in attendance. Spiritual Nurturance provided cards so that we could send our greetings to those that could not make the journey. For me, I found a certain gathered presence in our smaller number, or maybe it was just my own settling in that held me tight to the group.

Over the past year, we have had the opportunity to connect through the sharing of our individual stories. We reflect on the ways that we create and find the inter-connectivity that binds us to one another and to the greater kindred communities that share our Earthcare vision. We assist each other in our causes by listening, supporting and nurturing those journeys. We hold space for ourselves and for others as we grow. We take action when action is needed, firmly grounded in Quaker practice.

While there are formal representatives and members at large who attend annual meetings, QEW Outreach is organizing an extended network of individuals that we are calling Liaisons. These individuals can be from any monthly meeting. They are Friends that are willing to share information about their personal or monthly meetings Earthcare concerns, activities or events to QEW and also share QEW’s work back to their monthly meetings.

QEW produces brochures that can be downloaded or printed and mailed to you on a variety of Earthcare concerns. QEW also produces “Befriending Creation”, a quarterly newsletter. Friends are encouraged to submit an article for publication to “Befriending Creation”. Or apply for a QEW Mini grant. More information can be found on the website at https://www.quakerearthcare.org/

I am also a member of PYM’s Unity with Nature Committee. So please see me if you are interested in becoming a liaison for PYM and/or QEW or if you have any questions or concerns about Earthcare in general.

Thank you for letting me be of service.
Many Blessings, Andrea Beane, Santa Monica Monthly Meeting, June 19, 2018
SUMMARY
An overview of the workings of QEW after four years of service in multiple committees of QEW. Why abandoning patriarchal behavior in ourselves and our institutions is vital to restoring equality and justice. Linkages between destruction of the Earth, patriarchy, racism, and all forms of inequality and injustice.

REPORT
Friends of Pacific Yearly Meeting,
Thank you for the privilege of serving you as one of your Representatives to Quaker Earthcare Witness [QEW] for two two-year terms.

How QEW Works
QEW is a relatively small Quaker organization, just 30 years old, with a long term involved core of roughly 20 people. QEW’s basic mission is to lift up and give Witness, in a spiritual context, Friends’ concerns for Earthcare. The size of its ‘steering committee’ is greatly enlarged by the Yearly Meeting Representatives who usually rotate in every six months to two years. QEW asks that one, preferably two representatives from each yearly meeting come for its twice a year ‘steering committee’, held mostly in the Eastern USA. QEW has one almost full time and one part time employee.

Although the QEW ‘In Practice’ states that Quaker process and decision making will be used, the two employees and the presiding clerk make most of the decisions with a small group of oldtimers strongly influencing those decisions behind closed doors. This core of oldtimers have been coming to the steering committee and running QEW for many years. The few requests for decision coming to ‘steering committee’ meetings, mostly ‘rubber stamp’ decisions already made. The atmosphere is very warm and friendly. People spend most of the time in sharing stories, worship and intellectual exploration of earthcare ideas. There are often bird walks, excursions, and exciting invited guest speakers on a variety of earthcare related topics. The culture and practice is white and upper 20% economically, mostly liberal unprogrammed, and secular humanist or nature mystics.

I've suggested to QEW that they might want to formalize the reality of their power structure by converted to a governing board format. I've tried to address the downside of the Patriarchal power structure in this organization. I spoke to several key people about their Patriarchal behaviors where women's agency was taken away by men for example, by simply changing the outcome of a committee if they didn't like the decision or, for another example, by taking women's ideas and giving it to men to execute and control. This ministry wasn’t well received. Tellingly, at an opening evening sharing circle in the Spring of 2016 with roughly 23 males and 20 females present, the first 18 people who felt comfortable to talk were male.

After my ministry about patriarchal behavior, there was a shift toward more support for women’s leadings, presence and voice. However, what didn't shift is the ‘old boys’ secretive network of decision making and control through gossip/slander. Patriarchy can be and is carried out by female bodies as well as male. I heard from one women that, "Well it didn't happen to me, so therefore there is no sexism."

Last year in this report, I told you about QEW's Sustainability Faith and Action Working Group in April 2017 coming to unity to affirm acceptance of a diversity of spiritual language, basically to include some Christ centered language in QEW productions. It was an effort to learn to understand and welcome Yearly Meetings from other branches of the Quaker Family Tree. Both the minute and the rewritten minute failed
A-14: Quaker Earthcare Witness Representatives
Reports to PYM Annual Session 2018

in the larger 'Steering Committee' by being blocked by several core oldtimers who didn't want biblical/Christocentric language in their QEW and, in my view, a Working Group made up of mostly relative newcomers telling them what to do.

As you can hear from the above, QEW is not affirming diversity or admitted newness in a number of ways - which is a feature of patriarchy. Patriarchy prevents creativity and real growth individually and corporately. The conquest, exploitation and destruction of Nature is another expression of patriarchy. Patriarchy is about power over others, top down decisions, inequality, and dominance. As we heard from Carin Anderson, one of the keynote speakers at Annual Session 2018, we participate in and benefit from a global system of inequality and dominance. Besides addressing this individually with experiments in simpler lives, it needs to be addressed on the institutional and systemic levels, as does racism, also an expression of patriarchy.

The Corporate Witness of Yearly Meetings
One way Yearly Meetings such as PYM could make a difference is to affirm structures of relationship/partnership which is the opposite of Patriarchy. Our Testimonies points to collective decision making structures. PYM could, for example, make a minute affirming acceptance of the spiritually diverse languages of Quakers and other ways we find to welcome diversity of all kinds. In my experience, the minutes and letters of concern of Yearly Meetings make can have a powerful effect.

Concrete Next Steps Friends Can Take
I continued to serve as clerk of QEW’s Sustainability Faith and Action Working Group this year. I wrote the draft of The QEW 2018 “Concrete Next Steps Friends Can Take to Address Climate Disruption” which was refined and produced by the working group. We will be having an interest group at Annual Session 2018 to explore together the next steps we can take individually and corporately to reverse climate warming. These and other steps incrementally and cumulatively make a difference. A condensed one page summary, the “List of Concrete Next Steps…”, is available on PYM’s Unity with Nature Committee’s webpage. Many Green Quakers are encouraging each other to vow to take two new concrete steps (no matter how small) each year to reverse climate destruction and make an earth restored.

New Online “Earthcare Action Worship Group”
An online worship and discussion group is forming for Friends to continue the dialogue and support one another toward action. There will be Zoom meetings and soon a FB group to lift concerns into leadings and into actions. Contact me, cadeneergaard@gmail.com if you are interested.

The Products of QEW
The main products of QEW are the many pamphlets, and the 'Becoming Creation' newsletter which are all free. You can download them or have them mailed to you from the QEW website. Plus QEW has a free lively and very informative discussion listserv open to all Friends on all things environmental. QEW produces earthcare programming for Yearly Meetings and others, runs a Mini-grant program, and provides support for a few earthcare ministers.

Conclusions
Despite problems with patriarchy and white privilege, QEW is the container for worthwhile things to further Friends' Earthcare testimony and save the Earth from climate destruction.

But to really ground the change, we need to affirm non-Patriarchal structures and relationships. Radical vulnerability means to be able - for those of us who dominant as whites in the upper 20% economically, to
admit, just for starters, how we hold onto our power and white privilege and how our identity is wrapped up in the same. We need to do this corporately as well as individually and hopefully with great kindness to ourselves and others.

You might ask what all this has to do with Earthcare Witness. The problems of earthcare, warming, climate devastation, war, and economic, eco, and social injustice are interwoven. Climate devastation is increasing war and injustice. Nature teaches us the interdependence and unity of all life. How we humans treat the Earth and how we treat each other are the same.
Dear Friends

Our group has been meeting for two years (Fall 2016-Spring 2018) as part of the Coordination Teams established by the Pacific Yearly Meeting Presiding Clerk. As often happens with a leading, our purpose and inspiration for meeting together is evolving. What began as a proposed method for increasing connection between the Quarterly and Yearly Meeting and troubleshooting mutual concerns has become a deeply moving experience for all involved. We have struggled with a way to bring forward what we have experienced to the wider body of Friends. As a group we have shared about the functioning of our Meetings, but, perhaps more importantly, we have been personally transformed by the experience of meeting together. The members of our group have regularly commented on the special feel of our meetings and this document attempts to reflect some of that facet of our time together. This report does not attempt to convey the results of our deliberations about the challenges and hopes for our Meetings - those are still in development. Instead we would like to share about the feel of the experience which, for many of us, meets a longing and need that unfortunately goes unmet in much of the rest of our lives and work in Quaker community. We yearn for this to be commonplace.

Our meeting times have been gathered. That is to say that our worship has been deep and we could feel Spirit moving through and with us. We often achieved no specific outcome but felt we were faithful. Friends in our group have experienced deep personal support, comfort and encouragement through being able to participate in our meetings. Many of us have felt our faith in the Quaker way rejuvenated or sparked in a new way. We were clear that our time was fruitful and benefiting our Meetings even though we rarely came out with specific actions. We shared ideas and resources - if we had had time we would have gladly set up a reading list and a weekend retreat or three to meet! There was a persistent longing from us all to be able to spend more time together. Despite logistical challenges, we managed to meet for a half day ‘retreat’ after RepCom 2018. Some others have joined us at points but largely the core group has stayed the same for nearly two years.

It is worth noting the context in which our meetings have taken place. They have been part of what we might characterize as a shift from siloed work towards more collaboration. This has been happening across the Yearly Meeting. In this case it is a connection between the Quarterly Meetings’ and the Yearly Meeting’s servant leadership. In other areas, it has included the teen and children’s programs working more collaboratively. In both cases the Youth Programs Coordinator has played a key role.

Another important aspect to note is that the members of our group are not part of some clique or particular historical group in the Yearly Meeting. We have different histories, different personal relationships and different theologies. This is a group brought together in service, not from a shared history or as a special friendship group. Importantly, although we are not all historically personal buddies, very few in the group were completely new to each other. Some of the friendships and personal interactions in the group go back decades. We do not vary much in ethnicity but we do vary in age and gender. What our group does have in common, though we don’t talk about it much, is that each of us holds our service to Friends as an important part of our lives and invests a significant amount of personal resources into our Quaker work.

In addition, it appears that we all have a strong sense of connection to the Divine, however we name the Unnameable. We are clearly united in believing we can, and will be, led by God. The importance of this is hard to underestimate. We also share a history of being experienced in the ways of Friends, another
likely critical factor in the depth of our worship. Despite being a group of fallible human beings, because each of us is working our own personal journey, we were not having to manage damaging personal behaviors that rip the fabric of community. Our mutually respected spoken, and unspoken, Quaker norms assisted us in being together in a sacred space.

Because of the depth of worship, facilitated to a significant degree by the skillful clerking of our Presiding Clerk, Friends were able to be honest and vulnerable with one another. This made space for authentic community where we moved beyond individualism to being gathered under our Guide. We believe that it is from this place of having true worship in Spirit, with committed Friends and no agenda, beyond being faithful, that prophetic witness can arise. We all long for prophetic witness in the world and we are clear that it is from this place of being spiritually grounded that such transformative action can come. Without it, and the personal transformation that comes out of it, we are reduced to political action.

We share our experience of our time together in the hope that it provokes consideration among Friends as to what some of the ingredients for soul-nourishing, deeply inspiring worship and community might look like. We are glad to share the joy we have found in our service to our Meetings and hope to inspire Friends to similar experiences.

Joyfully and humbly submitted,

Sarah Rose House-Lightner, Clerk, Southern California QM
Gail Thomas, M&O Clerk, Southern California QM
Jim Anderson, M&O Clerk, College Park QM
Sandy Kewman, Clerk, College Park QM
Kylin Navarro Burger, M&O Co-Clerk, PYM
Sally Kingsland, M&O Co-Clerk, PYM
Diego Navarro, Presiding Clerk, PYM
Alyssa Nelson, Youth Programs Coordinator, PYM
Sharon Gates, Assistant to the Presiding Clerk, PYM
Elaine Emily, Elder to the Presiding Clerk, PYM
# PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING BUDGET - FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019

October 1, 2018, through September 30, 2019

## REVENUE

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* Per-member expected contribution:
  - US mainland **$122**
  - Hawaii **$52**
  - México **$30**

## EXPENSES

### GENERAL EXPENSES

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<td><strong>SUBTOTAL - GENERAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
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### COMMITTEE EXPENSES

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### SUPPORT OF FRIENDS ORGANIZATIONS

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<td>5266</td>
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**SUBTOTAL - SUPPORT OF FRIENDS ORGANIZATIONS** 4,750

### CONFERENCE TRAVEL / PYM DELEGATES

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<td>Friends Peace Team Project</td>
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**SUBTOTAL - CONFERENCE TRAVEL / PYM DELEGATES** 13,500

### YOUTH PROGRAM

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<td>6190</td>
<td>Administration &amp; Travel</td>
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**SUBTOTAL - YOUTH PROGRAM** 83,713

**TOTAL EXPENSES** 158,483
SUMMARY
None

SPIRIT MOVES IN THE REUNIÓN GENERAL
When I learned that the theme of the Reunión General was “Are our youth called to serve God?” I was inspired to reach out to Nico Wright, RGAM Secretary, and to the Youth Programs Coordinating Committee to see whether Pacific Yearly Meeting might facilitate a youth exchange in order to share with and learn from our Friends in Mexico. As a result, the Youth Programs Coordinating committee funded three Young Adult Friends (Bertha Peña, Rebekah Percy, Austin Stanion) to accompany me to the May 5-6, 2018, Reunión General de los Amigos en México, which includes programmed and unprogrammed Friends (Mexico City MM and two evangelical churches). Thanks to the Vogel Fund, several evangelical young Friends from Ciudad Victoria were also able to attend, contributing to a larger than usual turnout.

We were warmly welcomed by Friends and participated in a full range of activities, including joyful hymn singing, prayers, plenary sessions, delicious meals, and several sessions of worship-sharing with queries that focused on addressing diminishing youth attendance and participation. Our group also led two sessions, one which invited partners to share on a series of prompts asking them to remember when they became aware of the presence of Spirit, what brought them to worship and what keeps them there, and the other which involved a youth panel speaking of their own experiences. Two of our YAFs served on the epistle committee and the third served as a resource to an emergent Young Friends committee. As young people connected across borders, across ages, and across Quaker schisms, Spirit began to move among us. Participation and worship were deep and heartfelt. In the closing plenary, a committee for Young Friends in Mexico, probably the first of its kind, was approved with joyful support. Hoping to continue and deepen the exchange between young adults from diverse backgrounds, the YPC committee decided to invite Yulieed Ávila, a young adult and FWCC Traveling Minister from Iglesia de los Amigos de Ciudad Victoria, to attend PYM’s Annual Session this year; the YP Fund is paying for her registration and FWCC is paying her travel. At AS, Yulieed will be sharing her ministry in one of the plenary sessions as well as in the YPCC interest group.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as Observer, to help make connections, and to experience Spirit moving among us.

Barbara Babin, Observer to Reunión General de los Amigos en México
A-18: Faith and Practice Revision Committee
Report to PYM Annual Session 2018

SUMMARY

Following the “go-ahead” from Representative Committee in March, the Faith and Practice Revision Committee has been preparing drafts of several sections of the book for posting on the PYM website. This new process is based on the Quaker understanding of continuing revelation, as well as on new technologies that make it possible for us to revise the document incrementally. We are living into this “experimentally” as our forebears might have said. You should be able to find three drafts for your consideration: Leadings, Advices and Queries on Reaching Out, and a description of the Youth Program Coordinator position, which was not in the old version of the Faith and Practice because it is a new position.

We are asking Meetings, as well as committees or other entities of the Yearly Meeting (for instance JYM, or YAF), interested in any of these topics, to discern together about the proposed new language and send your feedback to the committee at PYM.FPRevision@gmail.com by October 15, 2018. If you reach unity on suggestions on the materials, let us know. If you struggled with a section and can give us input on the issues that came up, that is also welcome. We are asking that individual Friends NOT send comments because it will be difficult for the committee to know whether significant numbers of Friends had similar responses.

At the same time we will again be sponsoring interests groups at Yearly Meeting Gathering to generate discussions on various issues before us. One such interest group will be on Testimonies: What are the they? How can we grow beyond SPICES, which may not be serving us as well as had been hoped. What new testimonies might be arising? Also we will have an interest group related to the Personal Relationships Queries and Advices, with special attention to the Me Too Movement and to the growing understandings of Restorative Justice. What do respectful relationships look like? What could healing look like when boundaries are crossed? For several years important the committee has sponsored important conversations on key issues and we are able to take the energy and wisdom from these sessions into our revision work.

We want you to know that other Yearly Meetings are asking to use the materials they have found in the current F&P edition, as they craft their own Disciplines. We have been consulting, for example, with a newly forming Northwest yearly meeting (unsure of their official name), as they attempt to express their own faith and practices. Because the published edition is explicitly not copyrighted, so that it can be useful to others, we are free to share it widely and gratified that Friends are finding it helpful.

Laura Magnani and Carl Magruder, co-clerks
Dear Friends,

Greetings from the hills of Northern California, the ancestral land of the Coast Miwok People, cool and cloudy by morning, warm and sunny by afternoon, quiet by night.

Our session’s theme, “Faithfulness: A Call to Practice Radical Vulnerability and Love,” infused the year’s keynote addresses. The first address told a story of taking care of those in need, even when the storyteller, Elena Anderson-Williams, felt unqualified for the task. She invited us to “be faithful to the dictates of love, even when it seems ridiculous.” In the second keynote, Carin Anderson placed the meeting in the role of the unqualified caretaker: we have inherited socioeconomic systems that facilitate evil behaviors. “We have made acceptable the reliance on the suffering of others to support our comfort and convenience,” she said. Spirit now calls each of us to find ways to transform our roles in these systems.

The context of our gathering is that of a world on fire: a global refugee crisis, ecological crisis, increasing economic disparity, militarization of police, and an ongoing opioid crisis. How do we embody our Quaker witness during these troubled times? We are increasingly aware of our obligation to do what we can to end poverty and the war system. We seek to work together, allowing our hearts to be broken open by the Spirit, to respond to these social injustices in our deeply wounded nation.

During a plenary session, five Friends shared different perspectives on how our Yearly Meeting could publicly express our social justice concerns effectively and with integrity, guided by Spirit and grounded in love. Interest groups challenged people to go deeper into these issues, preparing for actions. Friends shared what their meetings are doing to address this growing crisis. Two Claremont Friends described how their Meeting is housing otherwise unsheltered guests in their meetinghouse every night of the year and providing them with supportive services. This kind of work transforms those who make themselves available to do it, enlivening our spiritual core.

Many Meetings have expressed concern for our undocumented neighbors and for families separated at the border, through minutes of concern and actions. The Clerk of Latin American Concerns Committee offered recommendations on what Friends can do:

1. Visit detention centers.
2. Be a witness in immigration hearings.
3. Accompany an asylum seeker through the court process.
4. Become a sanctuary or support sanctuaries in your area.
5. Sponsor an immigrant or support sponsors in your area.

We have more to do and more to learn. What can love do? What can we do? Are we open to the leadings of the Spirit? Each action we take is an experiment in an experimental religion, building upon lessons learned through practice. We wait expectantly on what Spirit will do next, listening to hear ways that, even now, it is already moving.

Diego Navarro, Clerk
On behalf of Pacific Yearly Meeting, July 13-18, 2018
Epistle from the Junior Yearly Meeting (Teen Group)

JYM Epistle
Service Project Blues

Verse 1:
Our dreams of pulling weeds were crushed like grapes
When the gardener turned out to be a flake
So we sat down on a bench to collect ourselves
Noticed that the paint, too, was in flakes,
Just like our aspirations to be good Quakes.
“Dude, I’m fine with that,” a JYMer said
“But I still wanna make a rhyme with that.”
So we came together and sang

Chorus:
Let us do some service—please, please, please—
Our schedule’s now in pieces, can’t you see, can’t you see?
Let us paint your benches, harvest lettuce, pick your peas—
This is unrelated, but we need more sleep, we need more sleep.

Bridge:
Sitting in the Buckeye room,
Using our brains instead of our hands—
This can’t really be God’s plan.

Verse 2:
If AVP taught us anything, it’s that we should acknowledge how we’re feeling
And there’s no good way to feel bitter
But there is this one way to feel like a winner—
Is it to worship until dinner? Please, no, please, no—
Is it to walk in the light? No, but that’s pretty close...
I know, let’s take a hike!

(Disclaimer: the song “Service Project Blues” only captures a single moment of frustration in JYM. And while it leaves out most of the activities that allowed for us to build a strong community such as AVP, Respectful Relationships, and worship-sharing, we hope that our creative spirit shines through, even if only slightly in tune.)
Epistle from the Middle School Group

July 18, 2018
To Friends everywhere:

This is a report about the Middle School program (not our personal experience). We met in the Museum, and we liked looking at the bones and other exhibits.

We had fun going on a hike to the pond, swimming and playing with the little kids. We went on boats and found cattails to make pretend spears. Some of us went fishing; we caught 2 fish, and let them go. It was funny when Kori got bit by a fish.

It was great playing gaga ball and soccer. Everyone could play (it got a little rough for some of us; little kids who wanted to play couldn’t play at the same time as our group).

We made Beady Animals. Some were easy and some were hard. Every day began with singing with the little kids. Aurora’s hangman game was popular.

We went to the keynote by Elena and Carin, the campfire (where we sang the banana slug song), the barn dance and community night.

We went to meeting for worship and meeting for memorials.

Some of us like to talk, and some would rather listen. And some like to do both.

We took turns being “clerk of the day.” Sometimes it was hard, but we learned from it.

There were not many things we didn’t like.

Aurora says: “I don’t want to go home!” Most of us agreed (and some are ready to go because we miss our families).

Approved in unity!
Epistle from the Elementary Group

July 18, 2018
Dear Yearly Meeting Friends:

We had fun at Yearly Meeting because ...

- We went to the pond every day where we swam and went boating.
- We played soccer and GaGa ball.
- We had a pet snake in our classroom and frozen mice for her to eat (but we weren’t the ones to feed her).
- We did art involving tape and paint.
- We played with bubbles and made a bubble mountain.
- We went to the dance.
- We learned a song for community night.
- Every morning we sang songs.
- We had snacks every day.
- We planted peppers in the garden.
- And, of course, we wrote this epistle for you!

Goodbye until next year,
PYM Elementary Program

Epistle from the Preschool Group

July 18, 2018
Dear Friends all over the world,

We played. We read books. We walked with no shoes on. We played with toys. We played with Play-Doh. We like blocks. We are all friends.

-Preschool
Date to the left of officeholder’s name is the year the current appointment expires (at the end of that year’s annual session unless otherwise indicated). Each name is followed by the individual’s monthly meeting or worship group, and, in parentheses, the year of appointment. Committee clerk and delegation convener appointments are for one year. Names in red indicate persons whose appointments are ending. Vacant positions are indicated by an underscore ________ next to the term-expiration year. Names in italics indicate nominations being brought for approval.

**PYM OFFICERS**

**Presiding Clerk**
2018 Diego Navarro, Santa Cruz (2015)

**Assistant to the Clerk**
2018 Sharon Gates, Orange Grove (2017)
2019 Sharon Gates, Orange Grove (2017)

**Historian-Archivist**
2019 Jan Tappan, Orange Grove (2013)

**Reading Clerk**
2018 Judith Searle, Santa Monica (2017)

**Recording Clerks**
2018 Jim Anderson, Chico (2016)
2020 Jim Anderson, Chico (2016)

**Registrars**
2018 Lawrence Alderson, Orange County (2017)
2019 Joe Magruder, Berkeley (2017)
2020 Lawrence Alderson, Orange County (2017)
Statistical Clerk
2019  Sherri Sisson, Orange County (2017)
2020  David (DJ) Bloom, Appleseed (2018)

Treasurer (term through 9/30 of year shown)
2019  Roy Allen, Berkeley (2013)

PYM COMMITTEES

Arrangements Committee*
(6 members, 3-year terms)
*This new standing committee was created at 2017 annual session and remains to be fully staffed
2018  Sarah Tyrrell, Berkeley (2016, Arrangements Clerk appointment)
2018  Karen Morgan, Redwood Forest (2018)
2019  Bronwen Hillman, Mexico City (2017, Arrangements Clerk appointment) Clerk
2019  Don Sands, Sacramento (2018)
2020  Jan Turner (food), Humbolt (2018)
2020  Kate Connell, Santa Barbara (2018)
2021  Ann Fuller, Santa Monica (2018)
2021  Emily Walden, Central Coast (2018)
      Ex Officio: Registrars

Children’s Program Committee
2018  Chamba Cooke, Grass Vly. (2015), co-clerk
2018  Carol Cruickshank, San Francisco (2015)
2018  Peggy Craik, ConejoVlyWG (2016), co-clerk
2019  Marcus Melander, Santa Cruz (2017)
2019  Stanley Chagala, Redwood Forest, 2018
2020  Mary Lee, Visalia (2017)
2020  Vivian Carlson, Honolulu (2017)
2021  Maia Ostrom, Central Coast (2018)
2021  Sasha Horowitz, Santa Monica (2018)
      Ex Officio:
2018  Nate Secrest, Lake County WG (2016)
(immediate past program coordinator)

2018 Lee Sisson, (current program coordinator)
Ex Officio: Youth Programs Coordinator

Communications Committee*
(5 members, 3-year terms) *This new standing committee was created at 2017 annual session and remains to be fully staffed

2018 Eric Moon, Berkeley (2017)
2019 George Mills, Palo Alto (2016 (Secretariat Committee appointment))
2019 Mary Klein, Palo Alto (2018)
2020 Hannah Lewbell, San Jose (2018) Co-clerk to 2019
2021 Lawrence Alderson, Orange County (2018) Co-clerk to 2019

Ex Officio: Web Coordinator, Assistant to the Clerk, Youth Programs Coordinator
Web Coordinator (appointed by Communications Committee)

Faith and Practice Revision Committee
2018 Chuck Orr, La Jolla (2014)
2018 Laura Magnani, Berkeley (2016), co-clerk
2019 Patricia Portillo, Sacramento (2016)
2020 Carl Magruder, Str. Ck. (2014),
co-clerk to 2019
2019 Sarah Tyrrell, Berkeley (2018)
2020 Laura Magnani, Berkeley (2016),,
c-o-clerk to 2019
2021 Sue Scott, Inland Valley (2018)
2021 Stan Searle, Santa Monica (2018)
*IT position created at 2017 annual session
Ex Officio: Historian-Archivist

Finance Committee
2018 Sandy Farley, Palo Alto (2015)
2018 Carolyn Stephenson, Honolulu (2017)
2019 Sherri Sisson, Orange County (2018)
2019 Sandy Farley, Palo Alto (2015), Clerk
2020  Emma Castanedo, La Jolla (2017)
2021  Robert Levering, Santa Cruz (2018)
2021  ________________________________
Ex Officio: Treasurer, Statistical Clerk

Holding Corporation
2018  Peter Neumann, Santa Barbara (2015)
2018  Beth McCleary, Reno (2012)
2019  Jeff Kroeber, San Jose (2013)
2019  Stratton Jaquette, Palo Alto (2016)
2020  Jennifer Carr, Las Vegas (2014)
2020  Sharlene Roberts-Caudle, Visalia (2014)
2021  Paul Harris, Redwood Forest (2018)
2021  Margaret Mossman, Berkeley (2018)
Ex Officio: Treasurer, Presiding Clerk
(Holding Corp. appoints its own officers)

Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM) Committee
   (adult committee)
2018  Erika Tarabini, Redding (2013)
2018  Muriel Strand, Sacramento (2015), clerk
2019  Dan Strickland, Orange Grove (2013)
2019  Suzanne Doss, Orange Grove (2013)
2019  Muriel Strand, Sacramento (2015), Co-clerk
2020  Sarah Armstrong Jones, Big Island (2017) Co-clerk
2021  Don McCormick, Grass Valley (2017)
2021  ________________________________
2022  David Ledderman, Orange County (2018)
2021  Austin Stanion, Orange Grove (2018)
2021  ________________________________
Ex Officio: Youth Programs Coordinator
Latin American Concerns Committee

Reduce to 3-6 members

2018  Linda Rowell, Chico (2015)
2019  Betty Guthrie, Orange County (2016)
2019  Nate Secrest, Lake County (2016)
2020  Margaret Bean, Guatemala (2013)
2020  Burton Housman, La Jolla (2015)
2020  Patricia Portillo, Sacramento (2017)

• Appointed by Casa de los Amigos:
  Patricia Constantino (Mexico City) (2016)
• Appointed by El Salvador Project:
  Hulda Muaka, Palo Alto
• Appointed by Guatemala Scholarship Program
  Donna Smith (Redwood For.) (2014), Co-clerk

Ministry and Oversight Committee

2018  Janet Gastil, San Diego (2014)
2018  Sally Kingsland, Straw.Ck.(2015), co-clerk
2018  Kylin Navarro, Berkeley (2015), co-clerk
2019  Shayne Lightner, Santa Monica (2013)
2019  Valerie Nuttman, Santa Cruz (2016)
2019  Jim Summers, La Jolla (2016) Co-clerk
2020  Shan Cretin, Santa Monica (2017) Co-clerk
2020  Thistle West, Strawberry Creek (2017)
2020  Gail Eastwood, Humboldt (2018)
2022  Elena Anderson, Redwood Forest (2018)
2021 __________________________

Peace and Social Order Committee

(reducing to 6)
2018  Anthony Manousos, Orange Grove (2014)
2018  Graciela Martinez, Visalia (2017)
2019  Ann Baier, San Jose (2018)
2019  Shannon Frediani, Santa Cruz (2016), clerk
2020  Stephen McNeil, Strawberry Creek (2014)
2019  David Breitzmann, San Francisco (2017)
2020  Linnea Hanson, Chico (2017)
2021  Graciela Martinez, Visalia (2017)
2021  Brian Johnson, Santa Monica (2018)

Ex Officio:
SCQM Peace and Social Order Committee clerk,
one PYM AFSC representative,
one PYM FCLCA representative,
one PYM FCNL representative

Unity with Nature Committee
(Engaged in a discernment process )
2018  Catya de Neergaard, Str. Creek (2013)
2018  Klara East, Visalia (2017)
2018  Lora Powell, Berkeley (2017)
2019  Shelley Tanenbaum, Strawberry Ck. (2013)
2019  Sharon Shen, Berkeley (2016)
2020  Andrea Beane, Santa Monica (2017)
2021  Lora Powell, Berkeley (2017)
2021  __________________________

Youth Programs Coordinating Committee
2018  Barbara Babin, Redwood Forest (2016)
2018  Gail Eastwood, So. Humboldt WG (2017)
2019  Bertha Peña, Mexico City (2016), clerk
2020  Jennifer Carr, Las Vegas (2013)
2020  Stephen Myers, Sacramento (2014)
2021  Rebekah Percy, La Jolla (2015)
2021  Barbara Babin, Redwood Forest (2016)

Youth members (nominated by YPCC):
PYM DELEGATES (REPRESENTATIVES AND OBSERVERS) TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

REPRESENTATIVES:

American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) Corporation
2018 Nancy Mellor, Sacramento (2012), convene
2019 Shannon Frediani, Santa Cruz (2016)
2020 Nancy Mellor, Sacramento (2012), convener

Friends Bulletin Corp. (Western Friend) Board of Directors
2018 Jim Anderson, Chico (2015), convener
2020 Claire Gorfinkel, Orange Grove (2016)
2021 Jim Anderson, Chico (2015), convener

Friends Committee on Legislation of California (FCLCA)
(appointed by Peace & Social Order Committee) 2018 Stephen Myers, Sacramento (2016)

Friends’ Committee on National Legislation (FCNL)
2018 Anthony Manousos, Orange Grove (2016)
2019 Carolyn Levering, Santa Cruz (2016)
2019 Robert Levering, Santa Cruz (2016)
2020 Klara East, Visalia (2017)
2020 Julia Thompson, Palo Alto (2017)
2021 Miriam Myers, San Francisco (2018)

Friends Peace Team Coordinating Council
2018 Gay Howard, Central Coast (2009)
2021 Gay Howard, Central Coast (2009)
Friends World Cmte. for Consultation (FWCC)
Section of the Americas
2018 Lee Sisson, Orange County (2015)
2019 Jan Turner, Humboldt (2013)
2019 Emlyn Buskirk, Live Oak (2016), convener

Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW)
(appointed by Unity with Nature Committee)
2018 Catya de Neergaard, Berkeley (2014)

Wm. Penn House Natl. Consultative Cmte.
(appointed from among FCNL delegation)
2018 ____________________

OBERVERS:

Evangelical Friends Church Southwest
2019 Sandy Kewman, Grass Valley (2016)

Friends General Conference (FGC) Central Committee
2019 Heather Levien, Berkeley (2016)

Friends United Meeting (FUM)
The next Trienniel is in 2020
2021 ____________________

Reunión General de los Amigos en México
2020 ____________________
SUMMARY

None.

What’s New for 2018?
As we reported at RepCom, Sarah and Bronwen got busy early on your behalf! We started in December preparing for the first Logistics Team call, and continued in early January with a brainstorming session about the experience of Annual Session from the attender’s viewpoint — from to arrival and settling in until it’s time to say good-bye. What is the role of Arrangements in each of these? How can we help?

We have been having fun thinking creatively about how to make the experience of Annual Session and the site and welcoming.

And in that spirit, we are designating the Carson Room as a comfy Lounge Area for all to visit and socialize, play a game, work a jigsaw puzzle, read... Enjoy, and let us know what you think!

Some other notes for Annual Session this year:
- A golf cart will be available. We encourage everyone who would like to save a few steps walking across the Walker Creek campus to ask for a ride.
- There will be few extra headsets this year for people needing augmented sound during Worship and plenary sessions. There will also be support for Bluetooth devices.
- Sign-up on site to book unassigned meeting spaces for affinity groups, committee meetings, etc.
- The bookstore and Guatemala craft sales will be in Maple -- look for signs on site.

Annual Session is a community event that relies on volunteers and everyone pitching in where they can. Wondering what you can do to help? Stop by the Information Tent on the patio outside the dining hall each morning to see where you can lend Arrangements a hand that day.

We have enjoyed exploring the logistical details for Annual Session and this work has also been heart-felt and heart-led for us. Arrangements looks forward to having a full committee and to sharing our enjoyment of working together. And, we have been taking copious notes along the way, and will continue to work on readying this “institutional memory” for use by the new committee.

The Committee consists of Bronwen Hillman and Sarah Tyrrell.
A-22: Children’s Program Committee
Report to PYM Annual Session 2018

SUMMARY

The Children’s Program seeks the help of volunteers to ensure the enjoyment and safety of the children attending the Annual Session. A clipboard will be available in the plenary tent during registration for volunteers to sign up for supervising and providing amusement for the children in collaboration with teachers and coordinators.

Report:
The Children’s Program Committee began to meet as a whole in January, 2018. Members were moved to create a solid and reliable committee. Rather than relying almost solely on hired staff as has occurred in the past, we wanted to provide information and assistance based on having fully educated ourselves. We also aimed at providing resources on how the program works to everyone potentially involved in it. Finally, we wanted to work harmoniously amongst ourselves, in order to give the best possible model of how Quakers interact tenderly with one another to our students and our yearly meeting. We encountered challenges in each of these areas.

The Children’s Program consists of many moving parts, requiring both an overview and attention to detail on the part of committee members. We did not want to leave all tasks to our outgoing and incoming co-coordinators, appointed as part of an endeavor to retain skills and knowledge holistically. Friends who had served before needed to recall that new people were in our group, people who, like the experienced members once had, might find it difficult to ask questions because they did not know where to start. For example, we wanted to plan curriculum for teachers and to distinguish broad guidelines from daily classroom planning through a subcommittee. This goal proved to be difficult to reach when some members were not able to participate in scheduled planning sessions. In the future, if the committee continues to pursue a firmer grip on educational activities for the students, continuing members may want to look at starting much earlier with more articulated goals. We also plan to maintain a library of curriculum materials online. We can continue to add items to those that members and coordinators have gathered this year.

As our communications would center on conference calls and emailing, we used systems already in place and did our best to give everyone a chance to participate. Our new co-clerk had very little experience with Google Docs, in which our records are kept. Other members patiently helped her to follow through with using this program effectively. Although glitches occurred on a regular basis, she gained in confidence because she learned that her teammates would be there to help. Honesty and admitting mistakes helped the group bond as Friends, as well as forwarding our common mission. We did meet frequently by phone, especially as we went into the process of teacher selection. Emails flew back and forth among individuals and the entire committee.

As of today, the committee still has information to impart to teachers, parents and students. We will shortly be sending letters and making phone calls to get everyone informed. We have appointed a full staff based on a thorough application submitted by each candidate and reviewed by as many members as possible. As the session rapidly approaches, we want each instructor to feel supported by the CPC. We continue to talk about logistics in hopes of not missing important factors in delivering education in keeping with 2018’s theme, faithfulness and radical vulnerability.
Perhaps the area of greatest “health” in this committee has been our treatment of one another. We did experience marked differences of opinion, differences that threatened to weaken our endeavors. At one point helpers emerged from the PYM youth program to help us heal from potential strife or even collapse. Calls and emails in a Non-Violent Communication style, a mode which we hope to bring into the classes, helped bring the quarreling parties toward peace and a greater appreciation of our teammates’ perspectives.

We have changed the coordinator’s job description in light of all the work done in the last three years by the PYM Youth Programs Coordinator. She has provided much logistical support and institutional knowledge that saves Children's Program Committee time and effort, and sometimes saves us from assumptions or obsolete information. She maintains our web page (https://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/youth/children/), disseminates the Teacher application materials, helps update the contact list of potential Teachers, runs the criminal background checks, helps keep CPC in communication with other parts of the Yearly Meeting, and contributes information for the orientation meeting for Teachers and for parents/sponsors. With her contribution a lot of our coordinator’s job has been reduced and assisted. We have also had the committee participate a lot more in the creation of the program for PYM overseeing and partnering with the coordinators.

We can hardly envision creating a worthy program without the stalwart assistance of our M&O Liaison Sally Kingsland, especially stepping in when we needed a calm view from outside our differences referred to above.

We have had a full committee this year, and will need at least two new members for next year. Please contact the Nominating Committee if you are led to join us.

Carol Cruikshank (San Francisco)
Marcus Melander (Santa Cruz)
Mary Lee (Visalia)
Vivian Carlson (Honolulu)
Nate Secrest, CP Co-coordinator (Redwood Forest / Lake County WG)
Lee Sisson, CP Co-coordinator (Palo Alto)
Alyssa Nelson, Youth Programs Coordinator ex officio (Davis)
Sally Kingsland, M&O Liaison (Palo Alto)
Chamba Cooke (Grass Valley), co-clerk
Peggy Craik (Orange Grove) co-clerk
SUMMARY

The Communications Committee has worked throughout the year since last Annual Session to complete the following goals and projects in support of Pacific Yearly Meeting:

- Developed a proposal to support an accessible, easy to use and widely available video conference capability (action item)
- Revised the website policy to incorporate important considerations and address issues not envisioned with the existing policy, which is 11 years old (action item)
- Began work on new privacy policy (action item)
- Developed a proposal for a comprehensive online directory to support the Yearly Meeting and our constituent Quarterly and Monthly meetings
- Website enhancements, enriched content, improved support processes and technical updates and improvements
- Drafted a new comprehensive job description for the committee as well as the IT Administrator and Web Content Team roles, shared with Nominating
- Provided technical and process support to the 2018 RepCom Registration and the 2018 Annual Session Registration efforts
- Developed a draft policy on technology selection criteria to guide our work in selecting solutions in support of the Yearly Meeting
- Established a Social Media Working Group to guide, coordinate, enrich and support our Facebook and other social media presence

Video conferencing proposal

- **Action Item:** The committee has developed a video conference proposal, which will make this capability widely and readily available to PYM committees, clerks and staff. This proposal requires a budget increase of $1350, which will be at least partially offset by reduced travel costs. We plan to seek approval of this proposal by PYM at Annual Session.
- The draft proposal will be available for review and comment in advance of Annual Session.

Website Policy Revision

- **Action Item:** The committee has approved a new draft website policy, which is being submitted to Annual Session 2018 for plenary consideration for approval.
- The draft policy will be available for comment in advance of Annual Session.

Privacy Policy

- The committee is undertaking the development of a new and expanded Privacy Policy. There are numerous concerns and issues that need to be addressed, including the handling of event photographs, public availability of sensitive reports (e.g., Nominating Report), public availability of member contact information in archived minutes, etc.
- We need a policy that guides compliance with all applicable privacy and data security regulations, such as the European Union General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). We seek to reasonably protect the privacy of members of the PYM community while retaining the ability to share enough information to conduct and communicate the work of PYM.
- **Action Item:** The committee needs assistance in this effort, especially with the legal expertise on privacy laws and regulations. The committee will be seeking additional working group members from the PYM body to assist in this effort.
Online directory and email proposal

- The committee has developed a proposed set of requirements to guide the development of a comprehensive online directory with supporting role-based email capabilities. Fully realized, this capability would serve in addition to the YM, the Quarterly and Monthly meetings as well, replacing the myriad of solutions in place today.
- The draft requirements will be circulated in advance for review and comments and be available in advance of Annual Session.

Innovations and Contributions to PYM Website

- More coordination is occurring with officers, committees, and representatives (especially with the Assistant to the Clerk) for disseminating information and keeping the site content up to date.
- Updates and design improvements are continuing to be made to the site on an ongoing basis.
- Technical concerns are being addressed to make the site more resilient and modern.
- User studies have been conducted to take into consideration that diverse people ‘see’ and use the site in different ways, including concerns for accessibility and technical skill levels.

Faith and Practice Revision Committee – The committee has established a liaison to support and work with the Faith and Practice Revision Committee.

Secretariat – The Minutes and Archives for the Yearly Meeting are being brought up to date on the website for files going back to 2013.

Registrars

- The 2018 Annual Session Registration was developed based on the 2017 application, with a number of enhancements.
- The Annual Session Attendance Assistance form was integrated into the registration application.

Job Descriptions – The committee developed a comprehensive job description, incorporating past materials and integrating additional roles and ex-officio positions, including Secretariat, IT Administrator and Web Content Team. This was shared with Nominating for development of the official summarized version.

Policy on Technology Recommendation and Selection – A draft policy developed to document, express, share, and obtain feedback on the guidelines which will guide the selection of technology solutions and recommendations for the YM. Note that once the pending IRS determination letter for non-profit incorporation is received, several low-to-no cost options that are being considered by the committee for different technology needs will become available.

Upcoming Website Projects

- Contact forms and a unified approach to role-based PYM email addresses.
- Investigate improved calendar tools and calendar management processes for the website.

Additional details and links to the reference documents can be found at: Addendum to Communications Committee Report to PYM Annual Session 2018
Committee Membership
The Committee consists of Eric Moon, Berkeley; George Mills, Palo Alto; John McCarthy, Strawberry Creek; Lawrence Alderson (Clerk), Orange County; Mary Klein, Palo Alto, Western Friend

Our ex-officio members are: Alyssa Nelson (Youth Programs Coordinator), Davis; Roger Price (IT Administrator), Davis; Sharon Gates (Assistant to the Clerk), Orange Grove

Additional working group members include: Arthur Kegerreis, Orange Grove; Kerwin Flowers, La Jolla; Brylie Oxley, Tampere W.G. / Grass Valley Meeting; Rachel Kempf, Santa Monica; Bitsy Carr, Sacramento
SUMMARY

We had hoped for one in-person adult committee meeting in the fall, but were unable to find a suitable date. Instead we met via Western Friend's online meeting space. The full committee began to meet in January, and JYM leadership met at Representative Committee to handily plan JYM activities at Walker Creek. Two resignations left us with 6 adult committee members. Anticipating that next year the committee will meet in person only at Representative Committee led us to reduce our committee budget request.

Reflections

We were blessed with the logistical support and institutional knowledge of the PYM Youth Programs Coordinator (YPC), without whom this Clerk would have been sorely beset. I trust that the Youth Programs Coordinating Committee Report will enumerate all the YPC's assistance to JYM as well as to PYM as a whole, and I want to particularly mention the annual JYM committee workplan which has this year been fleshed out and recorded, offering an invaluable piece of institutional memory for future JYM Committees.

Much of the YPC's assistance was related to information technology (IT), including some catering to the Clerk's IT backwardness. One major contributor to whatever generation gap now exists is communication technology. The proliferation of modes makes it easier for messages to get lost, but snail mail and paper letters are a great backup simply because personal letters have become so unusual. Meanwhile, Western Friend's online meeting space was made available to us, and substantially enhanced the fellowship in our committee meetings.

The Clerk's idea of trying three 8-hour shifts for FRAPs rather than just the two 12-hour shifts was poorly advertised but one Friend commented that a less exigent time frame would be more conducive. Though none of the 2018 FRAPs indicated interest in that option (which would offer only a partial discount) it might attract others if they had time to think about it in advance.

Teens nowadays have many demands on their time, and are I think rather busier than teens were a generation or 2 ago. The Clerk's goal of empowering teens to take on leadership and decision-making was mildly challenged by this contemporary reality. Of course, this phase of life usually includes a dynamic tension between the waning of childhood and followership, and practicing autonomy and leadership. And just as naturally, adult committee members and FRAPs can also practice and grow our own leadership abilities.

We find service on this committee to be intriguing and rewarding, and we encourage Friends to consider joining this inter-generational committee, or applying to be a Friendly Responsible Adult Presence (FRAP). We are looking forward to fun and fellowship in a few weeks.

Submitted by Muriel Strand
JYM Adult Clerk
SUMMARY

In 1997, PYM Annual Session established a standing Latin America Concerns Committee to gather and disseminate information to Pacific and other Yearly Meetings regarding Friends groups and service projects in Latin America with special attention to Casa de los Amigos in Mexico City, El Salvador Project and Guatemala Friends Scholarship Program. The intention is to support rather than replace spirit-led projects already supported by Monthly Meetings, Worship Groups and individual Friends. In 2017, the Undocumented Student Program of Sacramento Meeting became the fourth project in LACC.

LACC met three times during the year to discuss support of programs. Two Interest Groups for Annual Session were planned. Miguel Costop, director of Guatemala Friends Scholarship, will be our guest at Annual Session. He will be presenting an Interest Group on how this program is contributing to preservation of Mayan culture and language. Patricia Portillo of Sacramento is coordinating an Interest Group, which will include Dreamers in her program.

CASA DE LOS AMIGOS
www.casadelosamigos.org

In 2017 the Casa de los Amigos was able to support 171 refugees and 53 migrants, we hosted 1,100 guests who enjoyed solidarity hospitality, we had more than 10,000 visitors who learned about la Casa and Quakerism. We had 45 volunteers working in different programs. We organized learning tours about fair trade-economy and migration with the Universities of Haverford, Redlands, the Universidad Iberoamericana and the Mexican Institute of Psycho-oncology, Universities of Mexico and the United States. Indigenous and community cooperatives are very important to the objectives of the Casa de los Amigos. We supported the training of environmental and community activists in environmental issues. The Quaker Meeting continued with their activities and we also celebrated World Quakerism Day, among many other actions.

EL SALVADOR PROJECTS
www.pafmelsalvadorprojects.org

After 29 years from its founding by Carmen Broz, the Palo Alto Friends Meeting “El Salvador Projects” continues to work with vulnerable communities in rural El Salvador. In 2018 we provide financial support to 20 university students in fields of study that vary from Medicine and Law to Computer science and Sociology. Besides our university student loan program, we also co-finance a student house in San Salvador where 22 students from 5 different programs including our own live. Our work started in the community of El Bario in 1989 and today we continue to support the K-12 school there providing funds for a vocational baking program, one teacher’s salary and an academic tutoring program for high school students in Math, Science, Social studies and language on Saturdays. This year a mural to remember Carmen Broz who founded our work is being painted by one of our past scholarship students in El Bario. As a new element our university students as of 2017 are required to complete 40 hours of social work hours each academic year. This new aspect provides multiple benefits throughout rural Suchitoto where our students are from. Some tutor elementary students, some are planting and maintaining green belts, some teach junior high and high school students about sexually transmitted diseases, one teaches English at the high school he graduated from and another tutors math at another high school, the list goes on and on. Those interested in seeing our projects at work are invited to visit El
Salvador where our director Robert Broz can introduce them to our students and communities. All are
invited to follow our work on Facebook @Palo Alto Friends Meeting El Salvador Projects or visit our
webpage.

GUATEMALA FRIENDS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM (PROGRESA)
www.guatemalafriends.org

2017 was a very positive year for PROGRESA. We supported 74 students in 2017 and have 75 for 2018.
Students continue to perform community service projects each year with the help of Progresa. An
important development was the addition of training workshops for our students to complement their
formal education. Topics have included gender equity and an analysis of Guatmalan politics. We have
established an alumni advisory committee to help us maintain contact with our graduates and to advise
us in our operations and future planning. Two Books For Peace libraries for the preservation of Mayan
culture and language were established. Our Teaching English Experience in January 2018 was the largest
ever with 22 volunteers being paired with 22 of our students. A tour of the Highlands with 11
participants followed. The next Teaching English and tour are being planned for January 2019.

SACRAMENTO FRIENDS MEETING UNDOCUMENTED STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
www.quakerundocumentedstudentscholarship.org

We are currently in the process of renewing the scholarship for last year’s recipients. We will continue
to support 8 students in the coming 2018-19 academic year. Our current budget is $10,967.10, which
includes a donation from the Sierra Club to select a student in the natural sciences and/or
environmental studies. We extended the application deadline because we did not have anyone qualified
apply by the initial deadline. We hope to be able to use the money, although even among the current
scholarship recipients, none are in the natural sciences or environmental studies field.

Submitted by Donna Smith, Clerk
SUMMARY
The Pacific Yearly Meeting Peace and Social Order committee has met faithfully once per month via telephone conference call in addition to our ‘in person’ gathering in Visalia.

This has been year of re-visioning the Peace and Social Order committee. We have reviewed the committee’s description, guidelines and responsibilities and have created preliminary drafts of revisions. Some feel this is necessary work for clarity of responsibilities and committee formation, others feel it is a waste of time and takes away from needed work of witnessing in the world.

The committee has unity regarding networking more effectively with Monthly Meetings (MM’s) of PYM. Some members of PSO reached out on an ongoing basis to PYM MM’s compiling a list of social concerns actions (24 MM are involved in AVP, 18 with the unsheltered, 4 with ecumenical groups, 3 with international ministries and 2 setting up their own non-profits). We, as a committee, review all state of the meeting reports, and continually look forward to learning about the leadings of the Spirit regarding peace and social concerns throughout PYM whether through various reports, emails, telephone calls or in person visits. We appreciate Monthly Meetings’ letting the PSO committee know about their work and approved Minutes of Concern. We also look forward to MM’s sharing their work with other MM’s, such as Sacramento Meeting’s “Prison Packages” as well as our committee members sharing what they’ve learned about MM needs and social concerns during our Interest group, “Friends Helping Friends.” The committee also prioritized having interest groups on income inequality and safe water.

This has been a year of great transition for the Peace and Social Order Committee holding a tension around the unresolved issue of processing Minutes of Concern during PYM and their follow up. Some committee members feel connecting with Monthly Meetings addressing aging, more effective networking, and ongoing challenges is a higher priority. This tension of how best to function between goal driven witnessing and relationship networking oriented work, is an ongoing balancing act as Peace and Social Order committee heads into the future. The quest remains of how to be most faithful to both simultaneously in supporting Monthly Meetings and PYM to be a more effective voice of conscious and witness in the world from a place of spiritual depth that is accountable, while also addressing the needs of our larger PYM community members. Current challenges include how do we measure this accountability? What does our continued reflection, honoring leadings and discernment require of us? What attention is needed as some MM’s are diminishing?

We live in disruptive times collectively as a nation. The urgency of social justice work calls to us from every possible angle, but how we as Quakers, dedicated to Spirit led action regarding social justice issues and concerns, remain centered in our following leadings while witnessing remains central. Multiple opinions exist as how to best proceed, but as of yet, the articulation of unity in how Spirit is asking us to collectively proceed remains a mystery. We honor the tension and ongoing conflict, the yearnings of collective striving, and give gratitude for the enormous work that many MM’s are doing.

Acknowledging the Work of Spirit in Approved Monthly Meeting Minutes of Concern
Although there is no formal process at this time for bringing Minutes of Concern to PYM as a corporate body for approval, since we as a committee are committed to networking and giving voice to how Spirit is moving within various Monthly Meetings, we are sharing the following Monthly Meeting Minutes of Concern. We acknowledge one of these minutes came out of community pain and loss, one was inspired by the work of FCNL and their advocacy team work, another by the leadings of an individual
studying income inequality and economic disparity and the last being witness to the suffering of children due to immigration injustice. PSO recognizes that spiritual formation occurs while Minutes of concern are crafted and Friends’ witness is an important form of public theology in our quest for just peace.

Approved Minutes of Concern:
1 Central Coast Friends Meeting 2/25/18
2 Orange Grove Friends Meeting 4/8/18
3 Santa Monica Friends Meeting
4 La Jolla Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends 6/17/18

1 Central Coast Friends Meeting (San Luis Obispo) 2/25/18
“The Central Coast Friends Meeting approves endorsement of the Religious Declaration for a New Drug Policy calling for an end to the War on Drugs.”

RELIGIOUS DECLARATION FOR NEW DRUG POLICY:
“As voices of faith, we call for an end to the War on Drugs which the United States has waged, at home and abroad, for over 47 years. This War has failed to achieve its stated objectives; deepened divisions between rich and poor, black, white, and brown; squandered over one trillion dollars; and turned our country into a “prisoner” nation.”
http://newdrugpolicy.org/religious-declaration/

The New Drug Policy and its alignment with Quaker testimonies:
“Friends for over 300 years have sought to live ‘in the virtue of that life and power that takes away the occasion of all wars.’ Today our country is engaged in a ‘war on drugs’ which bears all the hallmarks of war: displaced populations, disrupted economies, terrorism, abandonment of hope by those the war is supposedly being fought to help, the use of military force, the curtailment of civil liberties, and the demonizing of the ‘enemies.’ While we are all affected by the war on drugs, we are painfully aware that particularly victimized are people of color, the poor, and other less powerful persons.”
http://newdrugpolicy.org/quaker-perspective-drug-policy-reform/

2 Orange Grove Friends Meeting April 8, 2018
Orange Grove Meeting approved a minute supporting FCNL’s work around averting war with Korea, which was also approved by So Cal Quarterly Meeting:

“Led by spirit and faithful to our Quaker peace testimony, Orange Grove meeting of the religious society of Friends supports the FCNL advocacy team effort to avert war with North Korea by urging Congress to pass S 2047 and HR 4837, bills that would prevent the president from launching a preemptive attack on North Korea without the authorization of Congress. Given that our President and the leaders of North and South Korea have agreed to meet, we urge them to do so without preconditions since preconditions have been a stumbling block to past negotiations. We also support and encourage all those who were working to build bridges of understanding and trust between North and South Korea. We are call to love those who may seem to be enemies, and to find ways to turn them into our allies and friends.

3 Santa Monica Meeting April 2018
“Santa Monica meeting approves the following minute on income inequality, economic inequality and social justice noting our desire to share it widely, and acknowledging the discernment involved in preparing it.
Friends (Quakers) believe that there is a divine spark in everyone, and on that basis, we believe in the equality of all people. That belief leads us to create community among ourselves, foster community in the broader society, and promote equal justice and equal opportunity.

We find that the laws, tax structure, and regulations of our society now disproportionately favor and reward the few, while disproportionately impoverishing the many. Wealthy special interests have used their resources and access to influence politics, the courts and regulatory agencies to redistribute wealth to enrich themselves at the expense of the middle class and the poor, who now experience declining wealth, declining earning power and Declining levels of education. Our society now experiences rising poverty, homelessness, mental illness, drug addiction and environmental degradation. These factors in combination result in the weakening of our democratic institutions and our social fabric. We also find that this inequality is reversible, with corrections of the tax codes, regulations, laws, and political reform.

We call on Friends to teach themselves and others about the truth of economic inequality. We call on Friends, people of other faiths, and people of goodwill to recognize the need to change our tax code, our regulations and our electoral processes to restore our social safety net and our educational systems to create a more just, healthier and more sustainable society based on principles of equality and respect for our fellow human beings. We call on Friends, people of other faiths, the people of goodwill to work to reduce income inequality in our society by supporting actions that redistribute the fruits of our economy more broadly and equitably in order to build a stronger, more just, more rewarding and more stable society.

Economic inequality is at the root of many social ills we now see. We seek to reduce income and wealth disparity, while recognizing that success in doing so will not cure all social ills. Our goal is to reduce economic stress in our society to the point that people of modest means may lead happy, productive lives and realize their God-given potential. We seek to restore the social fabric and respect for the inherent dignity of all.

Our goal reflects our Quaker testimonies on simplicity, equality, peace, community, and integrity.”

4 La Jolla Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
4270 Eads Avenue, La Jolla, California, 92037
17th June 2018

“La Jolla Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends strongly opposes the separation of children from their parents during immigration enforcement operations as contrary to the will of the Divine and the historic testimonies of Friends. We call for an immediate end to this practice.”

We are grateful that Friends continue to witness against war, military intervention, criminalization of people (whether drug users or immigrants), and economic exploitation of people.

We are also grateful for the good work of Western Friend in compiling the leadings of Spirit within various Monthly Meetings, (https://westernfriend.org/media/quaker-meetings-re-politics-2017) as well the “Right Relationship” work generated by Paula Palmer in various meetings.

Members of the Committee:
David Breitzmann, Linnea Hanson, Stephen McNeil, Graciela Martinez, Anthony Manousus, Linda Dunn (recently resigned, but a wonderful contributor earlier in the year), Sandra Gey, Eric Straatma and Shannon Frediani (Clerk).
A-27: Pacific Yearly Meeting Holding Corporation
Report to PYM Annual Session 2018

SUMMARY
(none)

Report
PYMHC, a 501(c)(2) non-profit corporation incorporated in 1966, was created to hold title (bare legal title) to assets of meetings, worship groups, and other compatible Quaker entities within the area of Pacific Yearly Meeting. PYM’s incorporation is a different category – 501(c) – and not appropriate for the purpose of the Holding Corporation. PYMHC’s primary focus is to support unincorporated Quaker entities, as incorporated meetings’ assets and members are protected by the incorporation. We also hold title to assets from former meetings. In all cases, PYMHC invests and disburses the assets and/or their earnings in accordance with the instructions given PYMHC by the actual owner (or former owner) of the property or asset.

PYMHC has 3 financial accounts in addition to the mortgage on the former meeting house of San Fernando Valley Friends Meeting. The former Everbank accounts are now TIAA Bank accounts. One of the TIAA accounts holds mortgage receipts; the other TIAA account holds PYMHC’s own moneys, which are available for any extraordinary expenses — legal or otherwise; the third account, with Friends Fiduciary Corporation, holds the residue of Marin Friends Meeting’s money entrusted to PYMHC.

As of March 31, 2018, the latest date of statements, the Friends Fiduciary Corporation account value was $10,669.81; the PYMHC account held $1,097.73; the former San Fernando Valley Friends Meeting meeting house mortgage account held $25,969.47. The last of these accounts is available for PYMHC to make grants to meetings which need to improve their facilities.

As noted earlier, the Church of God which owns the former San Fernando Valley Friends meeting house falls behind in payments from time to time; however, they always manage to get up to date. As of the end of June, they were one month behind in payment. If all goes well with them, they should have the mortgage paid off in ninth month 2021. (Lanny Jay holds the original mortgage documents.)

Every year we are expected to elect officers for the coming year. We will soon be in the process of holding a board meeting to elect officers. This year we must renew our registration with California. Most officers agreed to serve another year and no one else put their hands up. The 2017-18 officers are:

- President Stratton Jaquette
- Treasurer Beth McCleary
- Secretary Jeff Kroeber
- with Lanny Jay appointed Agent for Service

Submitted by:

Stratton C. Jaquette
President, PYMHC
4.vii.2018
For space considerations, photos have been removed from this attachment. The full report with photos can be found on the PYM website www.pacificyearlymeeting.org.

Our 5th Spring Service Learning Camp for youth at Quaker Oaks Farm was held from March 26-30, 2018. This camp is a partnership of QOF, the Wukchumni Tribe, and the PYM Youth Programs Coordinating Committee (YPCC). Nineteen youth (9 Wukchumni, 6 Quaker and 4 other Native from Fresno American Indian Health Project) gathered with 9 adults (5 Native and 4 Quaker) and many additional part time facilitators for projects.

Most of the youth were returning campers familiar with the Gathering of Native Americans (GONA) curriculum, so this year, while staying within the GONA framework exploring themes of Belonging, Mastery, Interdependence and Generosity we utilized interactive experiences from the Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) as well. We recognize similarities and differences within the framework of these tools and embrace the experiential learning they engender.

We continued our focus on Amash Pa’ahn, the Basket World of the San Joaquin Valley, and the native plants and uses for them. Steven and Mary Lee shared a big picture perspective using satellite images to highlight changes to this landscape from agriculture and development. This helped us understand the importance and potential of this specific piece of land and why habitat restoration is critical. We learned from last year’s Pollinator Habitat service project which plants survived and why. With that understanding we worked to enhance the Pollinator Habitat and develop a “Mother Garden” where we can showcase Native plants and use them to propagate others for further restoration work on the land. Working together we are investing energy in caring for the land as it has cared for us. The service project was the most frequently mentioned thing the youth liked about camp on their evaluation forms.

This year we enjoyed more time outside and more hands on cultural activities. Making elderberry clap sticks, Pine nut necklaces, gourd rattles, weaving cradle boards, and processing acorns to eat provided lots of opportunity to learn new skills and enjoy time together. As we learn more about how plants of this land were used in the past we can see how we are all connected. We started each day with a lesson in the Wukchumni language and from the language learn more about how the people and land inform each other and our world view.

That sense of sacred ancestral space was deepened by our field trip. Our destination was close to home, a sacred site with pictographs in caves used by the Yokuts people for praying, healing and ceremony. We learned how to respectfully visit a sacred site and the importance of these sites to the living culture and spirituality of indigenous people today, not just something for archaeologists to study. Learning about the old ways, singing prayers and imagining the Eagle Dance Ceremony as we looked at the ancient paintings transcended Time.
A-28: QUAKER OAKS FARM Spring Camp 2018 Report

On our way home we stopped at Foodlink Tulare County, a food distribution center, toured the food warehouse and garden and watched a film about food waste. Then we enjoyed dessert made from chia seed, a plant used widely by California indigenous people.

Throughout the week Genna Kules shared her knowledge and video equipment with the campers. Campers have been developing skills to video tape and edit to tell a story over the past several years working with Genna at camp. We are excited this work will continue in July when Genna will lead a Peace Garden project at Quaker Oaks Farm.

Camp provides opportunities for youth and adults to develop leadership skills, build lasting relationships across societal divides and practice care for the earth.
The members of the Committee share a deep concern for the work still to be accomplished in raising the consciousness of Friends to the reality of racial (intersecting with economic, gender and ability) privilege and inequity within the Society of Friends of the Truth. This year the subcommittee has worked on the use of Spanish and English at Annual Session in a way to be accessible to speakers of both languages. We are expecting to have Friends who can translate English into Spanish and Spanish into English for all wishing for that as much as possible this summer. We also have an Interest Group on the same subject utilizing the following queries:

- How can we welcome Spanish speakers to Annual Session?
- How do you feel when people use a language you don’t understand?
- Where does your mind go when a person uses a language you don’t understand?

We plan to explain the Affinity Group for Persons of Color and the Affinity Group for White Allies in each Daily Miracle. At the Affinity Group for White Allies we plan to use an exercise examining 'white fragility'.

In the past year two meetings (that we know of) have begun racial justice working groups. Strawberry Creek FM has a 'Power, Privilege and Race Working Group'. Redwood Forest FM has a 'Quaker Working Group on Racism' that has done some work on white fragility.

A list of resources has been compiled and will be posted on the Racial Justice Subcommittee page of the PYM website for use by meetings and individuals. It will be publicized in the Daily Miracle as well as in an email sent to each PYM Rep and clerk of each Meeting.

This year, no Interest Groups were sponsored by this subcommittee at CPQM as we had in the past 3 years. We hope to add members from SCQM this next year and resume offering an Interest Group at QM.

This year's committee has consisted of Alvaro Alvarado (Sacramento), Laura Magnani (Strawberry Creek), Deborah Marks (Strawberry Creek), Maryanne Michaels (Redwood Forest and Friends House WG), Bertha Pena (Mexico City), and Kiernan Colby, Steve Smith (Claremont), Shayne Lightner (Orange Grove) as M&O liaison, and Sandy Kewman (Co-Clerk)
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* Guatemala Meeting has no Members in Guatemala. Two transferred their membership, and one is living in Santa Barbara and one is living in New York far from any meeting.

No Youth became Members in PYM this year.

Note: Adjustments include gains and losses that occurred in prior years and were not reported at that time.

Strawberry Creek is the largest meeting in PYM and is still working on a list of members.
A-31: Unity with Nature Committee  
Report to PYM Annual Session 2018

SUMMARY

The Committee conducted telecon conference calls during the year, and met in Nov. 2017 for a face to face meeting. Andrea Beane was selected as delegate to the Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW), and she attended the face to face meetings held at Pendle Hill in the Fall, and the QEW Spring meeting held in Chicago. The other QEW delegate, Catya de Neegaard, attended the Spring meeting in Chicago. Together with Shelly Tannenbaum, the Executive Director of QEW, the two QEW delegates amply represented the interests of QEW in the Unity with Nature Committee.

Catya de Neegaard led the early morning worship sessions at the PYM 2018. Catya de Neegaard and Lora Powell led an Interest Group on Poetry, Nature, and Worship. Andrea Beane, Catya de Neegaard, and Sharon Shen presented an Interest Group on Climate Change, and the QEW’s 18 ASKs. Catya de Neegaard showed great initiative in going direct to PYM parties to achieve her objectives. Andrea Beane travelled from her meeting in Santa Monica to the Orange Grove Meeting to talk about QEW’s achievements.

REQUEST FOR QEW INCREASED TRAVEL FUNDS

The QEW delegates requested an increase of $350 in their travel budget for 2018-2019 to remove the financial restrictions on their traveling to QEW meetings

UNITY WITH NATURE TRAVELING MINISTRIES GRANTS

The traveling grant program selects recipients to further the interests of the UwN and QEW by granting funds for travel to Quaker meetings and worship groups. The funding comes from the PYM Carbon Offset Fund, reserved for UwN Project Fund. Application for the grant program is open to all: however, the UwN Committee members felt that the members of the UwN Committee had the best understanding of living and worshiping in unity with nature.

EARTHCARE LIAISON

Andrea Beane is seeking individuals to serve as UwN and QEW liaisons with the various monthly meetings. The liaisons would be contacted with information, events, and news pertaining to care of the earth and all living beings.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

Andrea Beane, Patricia Constantino, Klara East, Catya de Neegaard, Lora Powel. Shelly Tannenbaum, Sharon Shen, Clerk
A-32: Youth Programs Coordinating Committee (YPCC) 
And Coordinator (YPC) 
Report to PYM Annual Session 2018

SUMMARY: None (no action items)

REPORT NARRATIVE: This year continued to deepen our understanding of the importance of youth work. We have seen and experienced Spirit expanding how we help young people and adult allies step up both in the Quaker world and the wider world of social/environmental justice. Having a Youth Programs Coordinator and Committee enthusiastically working together allows us to reach far, sometimes further than we can realistically accomplish, and we have had some realizations about the need to keep improving in how we support these ministries, both paid and unpaid.

We must be honest about the challenges that come with volunteer work. We are also sensitive to the ways in which the Spirit has moved on a personal level throughout the lives of the YPC Committee members. All of us have gone through some big shifts and changes this year: moving, new jobs, injury, illness, deaths of family and friends. Despite the busyness of our lives, we each have been able to deepen our own spirituality through participation in various Quaker circles, trainings, and discussions.

We yearn to engage a more diverse population—enough to the point that we consider it a leading—both within the PYM youth community and beyond. While we have a primary focus on the youth of PYM, we also question how we might extend our reach, and how we might extend younger Friends’ reach more broadly. We keep asking: How do we help Quaker youth connect across boundaries? How do we make our community open to those who might seem or feel “different,” and in doing so, how may we more fully answer that of God in everyone? What can we learn from others? This does not supplant our primary objective of fostering connections within PYM, rather it expands our perspective to include and involve Quaker youth on a more worldly scale.

Interest from the Bob Vogel Endowment continues to fill our “Youth Programs Fund” with approximately $8,000 twice a year, giving us financial resources to support a variety of ministries and leadings. This year we have provided funds for travel and/or registration to a variety of workshops, conferences, meetings, and camps (such as the White Privilege Conference, BLQC workshops, and the examples below), along with some funds for project implementation. The next application deadline is September 20th: https://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/youth/resources-funding/.

We continued our co-sponsorship with Quaker Oaks Farm and the Wukchumni Tribe of the Spring Youth Service-Learning Camp in Visalia, CA. The theme of this 5th year of camp was “Earth,” and the service project included planting and mulching native plants. A field trip to a sacred site was an honor, and campers and staff learned respectful protocol for visiting such sites. The camp used experiential exercises to practice culture, communication, conflict-resolution, and humor as tools for reconciliation. We’re excited that we are also able to provide a piece of the total funding for a spin-off of Spring Camp to happen in late July 2018: camp staff member Genna Kules has organized a week-long camp on Documentary Filmmaking and Peace Garden Design at Quaker Oaks Farm for Native, Non-Native, and Quaker youth. Genna earned multiple other grants that cover costs of video equipment and materials; the YP Fund will provide stipends for elders and FRAPs.

We continue to seek ways to grow our ability to collaborate with, support, learn from, and develop relationships with Native communities, including Native / First Nations Friends. In 2015, the YP Fund had helped bring Paula Palmer (Boulder MM’s Indigenous Peoples Concerns Committee) to PYM to share her ministry on “Roots of Injustice, Seeds of Change: Toward Right Relationship with America’s Native
Peoples.” Paula returned to California for a few weeks this spring; her first stop was a visit to our Spring Camp followed by a workshop at Visalia Meetinghouse, and two from YPCC attended Paula’s workshop at Ben Lomond Quaker Center. In April, three PYM Friends (Mica Estrada, Carl Magruder, Alyssa Nelson) attended the California Indian Conference at Humboldt State University. In May, we sent seven people attended the Pendle Hill Conference, “Truth and Healing: Quakers Seeking Right Relationship with Indigenous Peoples,” where Native American / First Nations People and non-native people shared stories and ideas, learned, and made connections. Our contingent there presented about the Quaker Oaks Farm Spring Camp; three were teens who had been campers (2 Wukchumni and 1 non-native Quaker: Andrew Hernandez, Joseph Oliveira, Alby Penney), and the adults included one Wukchumni and three Quaker members of the camp planning committee and staff (Yaynicut Franco, Melissa Lovett-Adair, Alyssa Nelson, Jim Summers). As an offshoot of this, Alyssa helped Paula Palmer create a “Friends for Right Relationships” listserv to carry the work forward; those interested may apply to join it by following the instructions at https://groups.google.com/group/FriendsRR

We funded three PYM Young Adult Friends (Bertha Peña, Rebekah Percy, Austin Stanion) to accompany PYM’s representative (Barbara Babin) to the May 2018 Reunion General de los Amigos en México, which includes programmed and unprogrammed Friends in Mexico (Mexico City MM and two evangelical churches). Thanks to the YP Fund, several evangelical young Friends from Ciudad Victoria were also able to attend, contributing to a larger-than-usual turnout. The theme was “Are our youth called to serve god?” with a focus on addressing diminishing youth attendance. By the close of the gathering, a committee for Young Friends in Mexico, probably the first of its kind, was formed and approved with lots of support. Out of that, we decide to invite Yulieed Ávila, a young adult and FWCC Traveling Minister from Iglesia de los Amigos de Ciudad Victoria, to attend PYM’s Annual Session this year; the YP Fund is paying for her registration and FWCC is paying her travel.

The YPC Committee discussed at length and came to unity on how to go about giving the Youth Programs Coordinator a raise, as she has never gotten a salary raise (other than the automatic Cost of Living Adjustments) in 7 years of employment with PYM. In addition to discerning that a raise was warranted for merit and longevity, we would like to publicly acknowledge how much the Coordinator has continued to expand the reach of our work toward a vision of a truly integrated, vibrant, multi-generational PYM community. Many of the YPC’s routine tasks are relatively invisible or highly localized (e.g., background checks on youth workers; website updates; and consulting and resource support for JYM, Children’s Program, and other officers, committees, and Quarterly and local Meetings), while some are more high-profile such as the examples in this report. We realize that for the sustainability of this ministry we must work over the next year to improve our HR and employment practices and structures.

The Committee consists of: Barbara Babin, Supervisor (Redwood Forest), Gail Eastwood, M&O Liaison (S. Humboldt WG), Melissa Lovett-Adair (Central Coast), Jennifer Carr (Reno/ Sacramento), Stephen Myers (Sacramento), Julian Garrett (Redwood Forest), Kiernan Colby (Santa Cruz), Rachel Kempf (Santa Monica), Rebekah Percy (La Jolla/ Sacramento), Bertha Peña, Clerk (Mexico)

Volunteer Children’s Program Member: Elizabeth “Bitsy” Carr (Sacramento)
Youth Programs Coordinator: Alyssa Nelson, Davis (2011-present)

Submitted by Bertha Peña, Clerk, and Alyssa Nelson, Youth Programs Coordinator, July 2, 2018
SUMMARY

As the representative from Pacific YM to the Evangelical Friends Church Southwest, I attended their Annual Meeting in Loma Linda in January, 2018. The theme for this year is “Fueling a Spirit-Led Movement Where Jesus Changes People Who Change the World”. The goals of EFCSW include five areas:

1. Pastoral Development - identify, develop and deploy new potential lead pastors
2. New Churches/Campuses - ‘Planting’ new churches and building campuses where EFCSW churches already exist
3. Pastoral Care - define and create a profile of a healthy pastor, provide training and conferences in English and Spanish, and create pastoral clusters, personal followup and assessment (including the a counseling therapist on staff to prevent and address burn out).
4. Local and Global Initiatives - work to create events that change our world
5. Governance - analyze and assess their system- what keeps them healthy and on mission and what is cumbersome and ineffective for this time?

Several pastors from northern CA reached out to my husband (my guest) and me during our time with them. We enjoyed the worship and singing with them.

Reflections:

This experience was refreshing in that it was energizing to experience another model of Christ’s work in the world. These Friends are on fire and are also being financially supported in their work, so that it is not just middle class, predominantly white Friends doing the work, but includes people with more ethnic and class diversity. While we are often unclear about what we believe, these Evangelical Friends are very clear that Jesus saves and therefore there are huge populations in the world needing the outreach of these Friends. On the other hand, the leadership roles outside of the Latino Friends were held by predominantly white males.

My visit raised several questions: Do we invite Evangelical Friends to join us for our Annual Session? Do we send a representative to EFCSW as a way of creating a relationship with these Friends or in hopes of developing such a relationship? Do we provide sufficient support to leadership in our monthly meetings? What more can we do to develop leaders?

Sandy Kewman
June 22, 2018
SUMMARY

(\textit{none provided})

All six representatives to the Friends Committee on National Legislation were able to participate in the Annual Meeting (governing body) last November 2017. The Annual Meeting was preceded by the Quaker Public Policy Institute which had over 400 people lobbying. These gatherings in Washington, DC are Spirit-led sessions that exhibit great Quaker practices.

There are many opportunities for Friends locally to become involved in being citizen activists with FCNL: letter writing, weekly actions, participation in a local Advocacy Team of Friends and non-Friends (this year focusing on US/North Korea relations), and generally holding our elected federal officials accountable, working on long-term issues, and entering into pastoral relationships with members of Congress and their staff members.

There are eight Advocacy Teams functioning in the Yearly Meeting: Berkeley CA, Pasadena CA, Irvine CA, Los Angeles CA, Morgan Hill CA, San Jose CA, Santa Cruz, CA, and Reno NV. Representative Carolyn Levering will conduct an interest group at this annual session on Sunday evening.

FCNL was founded 75 years ago this year! FCNL’s Christine Ashley, Quaker Field Secretary, will be with us through Monday.

The Representatives are:
Anthony Manousos, Orange Grove MM (Pasadena CA), Carolyn Levering, Santa Cruz MM (CA), Robert Levering, Santa Cruz MM (CA), Klara East, Visalia MM (CA), Julia Thompson, Palo Alto MM (CA), and Stephen McNeil, Strawberry Creek MM (Berkeley CA), Convener.