

# 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