

# Assistant to the Clerk Report to Representative Committee 2019

## **SUMMARY**

The Assistant to the Clerk (AttC) requests the following

- Authorization to find locations for Representative Committee (RepCom) that are in the opposite Quarter from the location of Annual Session (AS).
- M&O and Finance Committees consider the possibility of holding RepCom at a conference center in the event that a host Meeting cannot be identified in the appropriate Quarter and report on their considerations at Annual Session this summer.
- Finance Committee consider how the cost of accommodations could be equitably shared if some or all out-of-town attenders stayed in hotels.

The AttC advises that it may be necessary to move the date of RepCom from the first weekend in March in order to secure a suitable location.

## **Location of Representative Committee**

It has been PYM's practice to alternate the locations of AS and RepCom between locations in College Park (CPQM) and in Southern California (SCQM) Quarterly Meetings. In recent years, however, AS has been held consistently at Walker Creek Ranch, which is within the geographic area of CPQM.

The AttC is responsible for arranging the location for RepCom. RepCom was within SCQM last year, but RepCom is not being held within CPQM this year to avoid placing an unfair travel burden on SCQM Friends by requiring long-distance travel for both RepCom and AS. The AttC made this decision in consultation with the Presiding Clerk. Moving forward, the AttC requests authorization to continue to find locations for RepCom that are in the opposite Quarter from the location of AS.

It is becoming increasingly difficult for Meetings to host RepCom. Few Meetings have the necessary facilities for hosting and some Meetings that have the space have difficulty providing hospitality for Friends attending from out-of-town. If a Meeting would be able to host the meetings of RepCom (providing meals and space for JYM and the adult plenary sessions) but could not provide overnight hospitality for all attenders from out of town, some number of Friends could stay in hotels. The AttC requests that Finance Committee consider how the cost of accommodations could be equitably shared.

Another possibility for adjusting to the challenges of hosting would be to hold RepCom at a conference center. This would entail charging a registration fee and would change the nature of the gathering. The AttC requests that M&O and Finance Committees consider the possibility of holding RepCom at a conference center in the event that a host Meeting cannot be identified, particularly financial and inter-visitation impacts, and bring a report to Annual Session this summer. Monthly Meetings should consider including support for their Representative to attend RepCom in the Meeting budget, if resources are available.

## **Flexibility in the Date of Representative Committee**

There are a limited number of moderately-priced conference centers and many of them are booked far in advance by groups that return to the same center year after year (much as we have recently done with Walker Creek). In the event that Representative Committee is held at a conference center, it may be necessary to move the date from the first weekend in March to a date when a center is available. The AttC will make every effort to identify the location and dates of RepCom as early as possible and will notify Meetings, Committee Clerks, Representatives, and Officers so that appropriate plans can be made.

Sharon Gates, Assistant to the Clerk