

American Friends Service Committee Corporation Representative Report to PYM Annual Session 2019

SUMMARY None

American Friends Service Committee Corporation Meeting, April 12 and 13, 2019

AFSC felt welcoming, accessible, and affirming of the corporation members presence. The timeline of the new strategic plan was introduced and outlined. The breadth of collaborative outreach, not just to monthly meetings, but to Quaker organizations was impressive. An extra year was allotted for the strategic plan to accommodate the extensive collaborative process.

AFSC's internal examination has brought up challenges, but also has shown the strength of the organization and its fiscal wellbeing. Many stories were shared about how AFSC has touched the lives and been involved in the formation of many people's social justice awareness and commitment.

Several hours were spent on examining and critiquing the vision and goals of the Friends Relations Committee. Diversity and power are underlying issues facing AFSC and as it restructures and reprioritizes as part of the strategic plan.

Another interactive session integrating the feedback of all the corporation members in live time on the issue of how AFSC might proceed in addressing climate change was an outcome of the responses from monthly meetings.

Workshops were offered on the following topics: Healing Justice, The Great March of Return, Decolonizing the Future, Advocacy Arising from Community Needs, and Migrant Justice.

The intersectionality of climate justice, racial justice, economic justice was raised up. It was noted that AFSC's work in framing narrative change is deeply needed and is being used by other organizations with AFSC's permission. (Such as the We Are Not At Risk posters)

Clearly AFSC is working to collaborate more while focusing on how to be sustainable.

The Committee consists of two representatives, Shannon Frediani and Nancy Mellor, convener.