

# Secretariat and Website Content Team Report to Annual Session 2019

## SUMMARY

- The Secretariat and the Website Content Team operate within Communications Committee. There is much synergy between their tasks and this reporter currently clerks both, hence the joint report.
- There is a new “PYM Minutes page” at <https://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/pym-minutes> where you can access PYM minutes from 2001 to the present and also 1947-1957. There’s also a standalone List of Minutes of Action since 2001. We encourage Friends to make use of this collection for research as well as simply to browse the “bigger picture” of PYM’s evolution over the years.
- The Secretariat will produce the Daily Miracle at Annual Session 2019 as usual but needs committed volunteers to make this possible since Secretariat is no longer a regular PYM committee.
- The PYM website has continued to evolve, though only incrementally. We are always looking for your suggestions to make the site more usable and more useful. Let us know how the website can better serve to communicate “your PYM work.”

## Minutes and Friends History

Your Clerks, Recording Clerks, Secretariat Clerk and Website Content Team all worked together in 2018 to complete the collection of PYM minutes back to 2001 and make them easily accessible on a dedicated page on the website (see above). This effort was reported at RepCom 2019 and in a [post on the website](#). When it recently came to our attention that for the first 11 years of PYM’s formal existence the PYM minutes were published in Friends Bulletin (precursor to Western Friend magazine), we added links to those issues of Friends Bulletin from the Western Friend online archive. Quite apart from the minutes, the Western Friend archive (<https://westernfriend.org/deep-archive>) is an extremely valuable and interesting resource which we commend to Friends as a way to learn about the history of Quakers on the West Coast, and indeed around the whole Pacific Rim, as reported in the pages of Friends Bulletin since 1929.

## Secretariat Staffing

Since “the Secretariat” is no longer a regular committee of PYM, Communications Committee has been in conversation with Nominating Committee to find the best way to ensure a stable, committed workforce for the jobs of the Secretariat, both at Annual Session (think “Daily Miracle” and “copy center”) and year-around (think “advance packet” and “minutes”). As it stands now, Communications Committee alone is responsible for staffing and operating the Secretariat using “volunteers” (from inside or outside of ComCom). But use of volunteers is less likely to provide the continuity and institutional memory that regular committee appointments provide. The last regularly nominated Secretariat Clerk (myself) terms out after 2019, and it is currently unclear how that role will be filled for 2020 and beyond.

The Secretariat consists formally only of myself, George Mills (Clerk), though many others have helped in various capacities, especially at Annual Session.

The Website Content Team has been Sharon Gates, Arthur Kegerreis, Alyssa Nelson and George Mills (Clerk).

Both of these groups operate under PYM Communications Committee. All the named individuals happen to be either regular or ex officio members of ComCom and attend all ComCom meetings.