

# Pacific Yearly Meeting Nominating Committee Report to Annual Session 2020

## **SUMMARY**

In addition to bringing a slate of nominations for action during the 2020 session, the Nominating Committee requests approval of a charge for the Unity with Nature Committee, and, if approved, brings nominations for the initial membership of that committee.

## **REPORT**

Mother Teresa advised, "We are not called to be successful; we are called to be Faithful." Your Nominating Committee understands this to mean that we must let go any investment in the outcome. We have a vision of how a particular person might fit in a specific position, and so we make a call. And we let go. Now it is a mutual discernment process and the only outcome to work toward is clarity. We have faith in the process, faith that Spirit guides us all toward our best service, and faith that the work essential to the necessary functions of the yearly meeting will be done.

### **Unity with Nature Committee**

Friends continue to address environmental concerns, to bring us into better alignment and deeper spiritual connection with the living world around us. We do not see success overnight, but we listen with faith that we will be guided to the next right step.

Nominating Committee asked Eric Sableman to shepherd a discernment process engaging current and former members of the Unity with Nature Committee and the rest of the yearly meeting. This two-year process leads us to the following proposal:

### **Nominating Committee asks for approval of the following charge for the Unity with Nature Committee.**

- 1. Underlying principles of the work of the Unity with Nature Committee are reflected in two quotes:**

**"It would go a great way to caution and direct People in their Use of the World, that they were better studied and known in the Creation of it. For how could Man find the Confidence to abuse it, while they should see the Great Creator stare them in the Face, in all and every part thereof?" ~ William Penn, 1644-1718**

**"We are not called to be successful; we are called to be faithful." Mother Teresa**

- 2. The Unity with Nature Committee:**
  - a. Helps Friends better understand and experience our spiritual call to honor, celebrate, connect with, learn from and protect the natural world;**
  - b. Encourages Friends to take action in defense of the world we share with all living things;**
  - c. Advances the efforts of monthly meetings, quarterly meetings and individuals to share their questions, endeavors, failures and achievements; and**
  - d. Engages in continued spiritual discernment, seeking input from the wide diversity within the yearly meeting so their work extends beyond any particular project, allowing for growth and adaptation to new opportunities and challenges.**

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We ask for your approval of this charge at this Annual Session. Those named to the committee will refine the Description of Service, adding the necessary details and the traditional elements – number of members, length of term, etc. We are asking you to let them begin.

## **Clarification of Committee and Representative Responsibilities**

Our work this year has included recognizing the need to better support our committee clerks and movement toward a Description of Service that will bring clarity to what they are and what they are not responsible for. Likewise, we find the description of service expected from our representatives to various organizations lacking in any suggestions for how they might share their increased knowledge of the organizations, what mechanisms might be employed and what Monthly Meetings might expect from them. This, too, is a work in progress.

## **Slate of Nominations**

Similarly, we bring another work in progress, a slate of nominations for positions within the Yearly Meeting structure. (See the list attached separately)

The Committee consists of: Trudy Freidel, Cody Lawry, Joe Magruder, Hulda Muaka, Winnie Sunshine, Gail Thomas, Julie Harlow (Co-clerk), Sue Torrey (Co-clerk)