

UNITY WITH NATURE - JOB DESCRIPTION

Updated June 2017

To fulfill its goals and Charter, Pacific Yearly Meeting's Unity with Nature Committee [UwN] has a 1-2 day retreat usually in the Fall, preferably in Nature, to plan its year. PYM pays for travel expenses to the 1-2 day retreat. Hosts arrange hospitality. Meals are shared. UwN has 4 to 9 conference calls a year of 1-2 hours in length, usually 1.5 hours, usually on a weekday evening, paid for by PYM to further its goals and plans. Members are expected to attend these meetings and calls in order to help discern and come to unity on a variety of issues related to the goals and Charter of Unity with Nature.

Members are expected to come to at least part of PYM annual session in the summer.

Besides whatever special educational projects may be on offer, the committee has ongoing smaller tasks such as fund raising for the mini grant program, the mini grant program itself, doing the minutes, and updating the 'Liaison with Unity with Nature' program's Mailing list. At a minimum, members are expected to take on one of the small tasks for the year as well as help communicate with Monthly Meetings.

Members are very welcome to bring their leadings for new special projects which they are willing to work on and that further the goals and Charter of Unity with Nature.

Unity with Nature Committee's Charter from Pacific Yearly Meeting

Note: this proposed Charter from PYM was revised by Unity with Nature Committee on 10/25/2014. It was based on the 2005 UwN Charter from PYM.

This committee acts on behalf of Yearly Meeting on spiritual concerns related to the environment. It strives to keep alive in the consciences of Friends the spirituality of and the kinship with all creation. It has the function to educate, inform, inspire, and give Witness about earth care and the environment.

The Committee may have several subcommittees such as: (1) Sustainability, (2) Service projects and internships, (3) Nature experiences and outings, (4) Education and interest groups.

The committee has nine members, serving three-year overlapping terms, with three members appointed annually. Two Pacific Yearly Meeting [PYM] representatives to the national Quaker Earthcare Witness [QEW] (formerly named 'Friends Committee on Unity with Nature') are members ex-officio, if not already members of PYM's Unity with Nature Committee.

Tasks:

- Appoints PYM's representatives to QEW
- Supports publications such as Earthlight Magazine and QEW newsletter.
- Encourages and supports QEW and other Friends' environmental initiatives such as Friends Committee on National Legislation [FCNL], Friends Committee on Legislation in California [FCL-CA], and Quaker Institute for the Future [QIF].
- Nominates candidates for Earthlight's Board of Directors
- Provides means for communications among PYM Friends concerned about the environment and with Friends similarly concerned nationally and internationally

- Proposes and conducts interest groups and nature-oriented worship at Quarterly and Yearly Meeting sessions.
- Encourages change toward sustainable lifestyles by Meetings and their members and attenders.
- Raises funds to further its work.

Goals and Projects may include:

- Sponsoring an internship program for Young Friends
- Responding to queries such as recommendations for books and other educational materials related to care of the earth
- Proactive educational programs such as the mini-grant program
- Proactive educational and fundraising programs such as the dime a gallon carbon credit program
- Seasoning concerns arising out of Witness, we nurture the process of taking those concerns towards a minute at annual session.