

# Pacific Yearly Meeting Nominating Committee Report to Annual Session 2021

## SUMMARY

- 1- We request the first and second readings of the nomination of the Reading Clerk for this Annual Session to be scheduled for Plenary 1.
- 2- We have a large slate of new nominations to bring.
- 3- We have comments or suggestions regarding the overload of demands on committees.
- 4- We will remind Friends of the process for commenting on a specific nomination.
- 5- We will ask for acceptance of the service description for the rep to FCLCA and for its inclusion in the online information on representatives and in *Faith and Practice*.
- 6- We will request that the Yearly Meeting consider holding two meetings of the Representative Committee each year.
- 7- We will request that the Yearly Meeting consider revising the policy on Interim Appointments.
- 8- We will request that the Yearly Meeting clarify the allowed number of representatives to Friends Committee on National Legislation.

## REPORT

### 1. **Short notice: to be read early in Plenary I.**

The Reading Clerk approved for this session, Zae Illo (San Francisco), is not able to fulfill that function. We did not learn of this until after Representative Committee. We bring you the name of Allison Kirkegaard of Santa Monica Meeting, for your deep, but brief, consideration as the Reading Clerk for this Annual Session. We will come back to this before Plenary I ends.

### 2. **Overview:**

We have worked hard to find the right spot for each Friend of this community; that is how we approached our work – where would this Friend fit and serve, grow and find joy. We did not focus on filling slots and some did not get filled. Please look at the openings as you read the slate; we hope that these may be filled before the end of the Annual Session.

3. Some committees took on more goals than their members could accomplish or timelines that did not work, and then considered a need for members. If we had a large influx of experienced and energetic Friends, eager to find service in our Beloved Community, we might have agreed that more on a committee was a good idea. Alas, this has not been the case. Quite the contrary, many Friends are feeling themselves stretched “beyond their strength and light” with work at Monthly and Quarterly Meetings, and with their own family and personal health or other concerns. We encourage each committee to look prayerfully at their goals and align them with the energy of the Friends gathered for that work.

We also have the task of considering the composition and character of each committee. We did not feel that it was good service to the individual, the committee or the Yearly Meeting to place someone in a position where the need might exist, but the fit was not right.

In addition to the nominations of persons to serve the Yearly Meeting, we also bring you the name of the clerk or co-clerks of a committee and some other details. Approval of this slate is understood to extend to the other details presented here and highlighted in the written forms.

4. As you hear the names we bring you, please hold each in the Light, a practice much more helpful than thinking, “That name would not have occurred to me.” If you have questions or hesitations about a nomination, please contact us with any concerns at [nominatingclerk@pacificyearlymeeting.org](mailto:nominatingclerk@pacificyearlymeeting.org) or plan to attend an open committee meeting during Annual Session.

# Pacific Yearly Meeting Nominating Committee Report to Annual Session 2021

The Nominating Committee brings for your prayerful consideration the following names, to serve from the end of this Annual Session through the end of Annual Session of the year given.

[the slate is attached separately]

## 5. FCLCA Service Description:

We also bring to you an updated description of Friends Committee on Legislation of California and a description of the service expected of the Representative to FCLCA. At this time, it is referred to as “FCL” in Faith and Practice. It has in the past been neglected and overlooked. We propose the following Service Description:

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**Friends Committee on Legislation of California (FCLCA):** The Friends Committee on Legislation of California was founded by California Friends in 1952 to bring a Quaker witness to the California state political process. FCLCA maintains an office in Sacramento with lobbyists who represent the organization to the California Legislature. Staff provide information on pending legislative issues of concern to Quakers on a website, [fclca.org](http://fclca.org), and in a quarterly newsletter and distribute action alerts to monthly meetings and FCLCA supporters.

FCLCA is governed by the *Friends Committee on Legislation of California General Committee*, composed of representatives from Friends Meetings and churches around the state and at-large members, who are both Quakers and non-Quakers.

The General Committee meets annually, appointing the FCLCA Board of Directors, which meets quarterly to oversee the operations of FCLCA.

One seat on FCLCA’s General Committee is reserved for a PacYM Representative who is named by the PacYM Nominating process to a three-year term. This representative is an ex officio member of PacYM’s Peace and Social Order Committee.

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PacYM representative to Friends Committee on Legislation of California General Committee:

The Representative to the FCLCA General Committee will

- Attend meetings of the General Committee
- Convey to the board the interest and concerns of PacYM,
- Bring news to PacYM regarding the concerns and actions of FCLCA,
- Report at the Annual Session and Representative Committee as appropriate,
- Develop an Interest Group or other ways to disseminate information at Annual Session when appropriate,
- Receive notices regarding deadlines for interest groups and reports,
- Coordinate with Communications Committee to provide updates for distribution (when that function is available)
- Be an Ex-officio member of the PacYM PSO Committee

# Pacific Yearly Meeting Nominating Committee Report to Annual Session 2021

Nominating Committee will consult with FCLCA Board and PSO to nominate one representative. The nominee will be a Friend who has demonstrated an interest in the work of FCLCA. The term will be three years.

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Comments or questions on this may be sent to [nominatingclerk@pacificyearlymeeting.org](mailto:nominatingclerk@pacificyearlymeeting.org) or brought to one of the open committee meetings.

6. We ask that PacYM consider holding two one-day meetings of the Representative Committee each year, to be conducted virtually.  
Rationale:
  - a. In-person meetings held from Friday through Sunday are draining on the energies of Friends so that decisions are often postponed or made with difficulty.
  - b. Two meetings would allow for the business to be spread out more evenly over the year.
  - c. The lag time between a vacancy in an office and the approval of a new nomination would be shortened.
  - d. The connections between Monthly Meetings and the Yearly Meeting would be enhanced by seeing more quickly the results of MM deliberations on issues brought to them.
  - e. Representatives and committees would see the advantage of starting their work soon after the end of Annual Session.
  - f. Virtual meetings reduce carbon footprint, travel time, and expenses for individuals and meetings.
7. We ask that PacYM consider revising the policy on Interim Appointments, now restricted to only Representatives to outside organizations.
  - a. We recommend that Interim Appointments would be approved by the discernment of Ministry Committee, Nominating (or in some cases Naming) Committee, the concerned Committee and the Clerk. In most cases this would be better than waiting up to 8 months for approval or rushing a nomination through during the first plenary.
  - b. Approving a new committee member or officer allows work to continue unhampered by vacancies.
  - c. Approving an officer between Yearly Meeting sessions can be critical to the functioning of the Yearly Meeting.
8. We ask that PacYM clarify the number of allowed Representatives to Friends Committee on National Legislation, as AS Minute 2016.06 is unclear. "The adoption of the proposal to limit fully funded PYM representatives to AFSC, FCNL and FWCC Section of the Americas to two each means those delegations now have more appointed representatives than are fully funded, and this will remain true until the terms of certain representatives currently serving or appointed at the current session are concluded. As long as that situation lasts, each of those delegations may decide how the available funding is to be allocated, i.e., either to fully fund two representatives, or to be shared among a greater number.

The Nominating Committee consists of Liz Baker, David-James (DJ) Bloom, Trudy Friedel, Bronwen Hillman, Lisa Hubbell, Joe Magruder, Hulda Muaka, Gail Thomas, and Julie Harlow (clerk)

Contact the clerk at [nominatingclerk@pacificyearlymeeting.org](mailto:nominatingclerk@pacificyearlymeeting.org)