

Pacific Yearly Meeting

Indigenous Concerns Subcommittee, Ministry Committee

Report to Representative Committee 2024

The Indigenous Concerns Subcommittee under the care of the Ministry Committee has continued to meet monthly over the past year since our last report in February 2023. In the spring and early summer we focused on producing an interest group for Annual Session. Our guest presenter was Kanyon Sayers-Roods of the Costanoan Ohlone-Mutsun and Chumash. She provided a lively and engaging interest group and also met with a group of young people concerning future activities. Kanyon spoke on Ohlone history, language, and culture, and offered a conversation about acknowledging our colonial past and the land we share, and strategizing for a sustainable, healthy future.

After Annual Session the subcommittee discussed various ways that we might help monthly meetings learn more about the indigenous communities in their areas. Then in the fall an opportunity came to assist in the thinking about the future of Woolman School. That effort led to the webinar on February 12th, “Ethical Land Transitions.” We were very fortunate to have the talented and thoughtful pair leading the webinar, Cassandra Ferrera of The Center for Ethical Land Transitions and Frank Lawrence, attorney for California Heritage: Indigenous Research Project (CHIRP).

Please note that we would welcome others interested in serving on this committee, especially those from Nevada, Mexico, Hawaii, Guatemala, and Southern California.

Submitted by Leslie Zondervan-Droz, Clerk

On Behalf of Subcommittee members Genna Kule, Barbara Babin, Lisa Hubbell, Tom Rothschild and Ministry Committee liaison, Gail Eastwood.