

Minutes of the Illinois Yearly Meeting
147th Annual Sessions
Virtual Gathering via Video Conference
Adult and High School Sessions, Sixth Month 16-20, 2021
Children's Sessions, Sixth Month 25-26, 2021
Culminating Session (all ages), Sixth Month 27, 2021

MINUTES OF THE FIRST SESSION, Fourth Day, Sixth Month, 16 2021 (Wednesday, June 16, 2021)

Minute 1 The 147th Annual Sessions of Illinois Yearly Meeting (ILYM) opened with centering worship.

Minute 2 Presiding Clerk Marcia Nelson welcomed everyone present to the 147th Annual Sessions of Illinois Yearly Meeting, being held for the second year as a video conference because of continuing uncertainty around the COVID-19 pandemic.

Minute 3 Marcia Nelson introduced herself as Presiding Clerk, Kent Busse as Assistant Clerk, Sarah Pavlovic as Recording Clerk, and David Shiner as a nominee for Assistant Recording Clerk. She welcomed visitors and newcomers to ILYM, including Sally Weaver Sommer, Friends General Conference (FGC) visitor (Broadmead MM in Ohio) and Susan Nahvi, visitor from Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL).

Minute 4 Presiding Clerk Marcia Nelson introduced the theme of the Annual Sessions: "Equality in Action: Roots and Reality." She read a passage about ILYM's Annual Sessions from ILYM's new book of Faith and Practice.

Minute 5 Marcia Nelson reminded those present where Zoom (videoconferencing) information is available on the ILYM website and briefly reviewed procedures and adaptations to our practices as we meet virtually.

Since the time allotted to business sessions is shorter than when we are in person, reports will not be read from the floor. Everyone is urged to read the advance documents in order to be prepared to ask questions or discuss concerns. This year we will again use what is called a "unity agenda" to consider as a group committee and representative reports which require no action other than acceptance.

Marcia reminded those present to speak once to a subject and to consider using a virtual or in-person "thumbs up" reaction to indicate when another has spoken one's mind. Assistant Clerk Kent Busse will recognize those who signal their wish to speak.

Minute 6 Marcia Nelson acknowledged and deeply thanked Assistant Clerk Kent Busse and the Clerk's Committee of Cathy Garra, David Shiner, and Gwen Weaver for their assistance, support, and advice over the past year and continuing through these annual sessions.

Minute 7 Marcia Nelson reminded those present that the Epistle Committee, described in the advance documents, will be asked to write not a report of what activities we engage in at our annual meeting, but rather, Illinois Yearly Meeting's message to Quakers around the world about what we discern God is calling us to do. The meeting will look to the Nominating Committee later in the sessions for nominees to the Epistle Committee.

Minute 8 The Exercises Committee, described in the advance documents, is charged with reporting the spirit of the Meeting during annual sessions, including the activities that enlivened our virtual time together. Marcia Nelson called for volunteers to serve on the Exercises Committee and will do a second call tomorrow in the absence of volunteers today.

Minute 9 For the Ministry and Advancement (M&A) Committee, Phyllis Reynolds reminded those present of the Committee of Care whose members are available to respond to needs for care during annual sessions. Members of the committee are Janice Domanik, Heather Evert, Bruce Kanarek, Brad Laird, Mark McGinnis, Phyllis Reynolds, David Wixom, and Judy Wolicki. Phone numbers and emails for these committee members were included in the “Program Schedule with Links” sent to those who registered for annual sessions. Judy’s corrected contact information is available from the Committee.

Minute 10 Phyllis Reynolds also called attention to ILYM’s Harassment and Abuse Policy, found on page 52 of ILYM’s Handbook, which is available online. Harassment Review Committee members include the presiding clerk, Marcia Nelson; the M&A clerk Phyllis Reynolds; the Field Secretary Brad Laird; Heather Evert; and Allison Boyaris.

Minute 11 Marcia Nelson called our attention to the report of the Nominating Committee in the advance documents. The committee brought forward the following names for consideration:

David Shiner, for Assistant Recording Clerk. He will hold this position through the 2021 sessions, will be Recording Clerk in 2022 and 2023, and will again be Assistant Recording Clerk in 2024.

Stewards: Beth Carpenter and Chip Rorem as Stewards for terms through 2027

Children’s Religious Education Committee: Dale Gardner, for Clerk of Children’s Religious Education Committee, for a three-year term (2024)

Development Committee: Frank Young as Clerk, and Marcy Harman, for three year terms on Development Committee (2024)

Environmental Concerns Committee: Noel Pavlovic as Clerk, Sarah Pavlovic, Chris Goode, and Fariba Murray, for three-year terms on Environmental Concerns Committee (2024)

Finance Committee: Margaret Wanner for a one year term on Finance Committee (2022), and Judy Jager and Ashlee Miller-Berry for three year terms on Finance Committee (2024)

Handbook Committee: Pam Kuhn and Sue Styer for three year terms on Handbook Committee (2024)

Maintenance, Planning, and Envisioning Committee: Chris Goode as Clerk, and Dennis McQueen, for three year terms on Maintenance, Planning, and Envisioning Committee (2024)

Ministry and Advancement Committee: David Wixom for a three year term on Ministry and Advancement Committee (2024)

Youth Oversight Committee: Mike Dennis as Clerk, Daniel Lakemacher, and Allie Boyaris, for three year terms on Youth Oversight Committee (2024)

Kevin Brubaker for a three year term as representative to Friends Committee on National Legislation (2024)

David Wixom for a three year term as representative to Quaker Earthcare Witness (2024)

The committee is still looking for a Reading Clerk, a Co-Treasurer, several members for the Ministry and Advancement Committee, and representatives to the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) Corporation, Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC), and FGC Central Committee. Friends are urged to consider whether their gifts and their availability of time match any of these positions.

The nominees brought forward by the committee were approved.
Report accepted.

Minute 12 Brad Laird reported on his first year as ILYM's Field Secretary, a year greatly impacted by the restrictions on travel and in-person gatherings due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He looks forward to this changing as restrictions loosen. Brad will also be watching for how, during this time of transition, different meetings are balancing how to be both safe and welcoming.

His first in-person visit will be to an Evangelical Friends Meeting in Chicago. This visit dovetails with Brad's interest in exploring how many people speak a different language in our meetings and how we handle those language differences.

Brad also expressed a desire to find ways to nurture representatives from monthly meetings to ILYM and to help build bridges with the yearly meeting.

In his written report, Brad highlighted several foci of his work during the past year, including encouraging and nurturing accompanying ministry, introducing a clerk's meeting for ILYM monthly meeting clerks, exploring the many opportunities for worship, study, and learning across the Quaker world, being invited to speak at Leinster Quarterly Meeting in Ireland and participating in Ireland Yearly Meeting's annual sessions over Zoom, attending Blue River Quarterly Meeting, participating in a monthly meeting group dealing with some difficult interpersonal issues, meeting with Superintendents and Secretaries from across North America and Britain, holding one-on-one conversations, and practicing accountability and self-care.

Brad shared his joy in serving in the Field Secretary position. He would love to have more one-on-one conversations with Friends to share spiritual journeys.

Report accepted.

Minute 13 Minutes from the first session were read back to the meeting and approved.

Minute 14 Requests were shared that we hold in the Light a number of dear Friends who are absent with health concerns. The first session closed with centering worship.

MINUTES OF THE SECOND SESSION, Fifth Day, Sixth Month 17, 2021 (Thursday, June 17, 2021)

Minute 15 The second session of Illinois Yearly Meeting's (ILYM's) 147th Annual Sessions opened with centering worship.

Minute 16 Presiding Clerk Marcia Nelson welcomed those in attendance and specifically welcomed visitors and newcomers, including Shelley Tanenbaum, visitor from Quaker Earthcare Witness.

Minute 17 Marcia Nelson brought to our attention that today is the 150th birthday of James Weldon Johnson, who wrote the words to the song “Lift Every Voice and Sing.” She invited everyone to explore more information about the song, its author, and the composer of the melody, who was J. Rosamond Johnson, brother of James Weldon Johnson. We were also reminded that Congress just passed a bill making Juneteenth a national holiday, cause for celebration.

Minute 18 Marcia Nelson reiterated information about the Committee of Care and ILYM’s Harassment and Abuse Policy (see Minutes 9 and 10). She reminded everyone that minutes and other documents that have come in recently can be found on the annual sessions page on the ILYM website under a tab titled “Virtual Front Table.”

Minute 19 Marcia Nelson announced that this year’s Epistle Committee will be Monica Tetzlaff and Samantha Crockett.

Minute 20 Friends were asked to volunteer for the Exercises Committee. As no volunteers were forthcoming, Marcia Nelson asked that we each, as led, contribute to the Exercises by offering one sentence about what struck or moved us during this year’s annual sessions. Marcia offered a sentence to prompt us to participate: “We were really tired, but we carried on.” Colleen Reardon offered to edit the contributions, and asked that she receive them by email by 5 p.m. (Central) on Saturday so that the Exercises could be considered for acceptance on Sunday morning.

Minute 21 Co-treasurers Valerie Lester and Dawn Crimson gave the treasurer’s report. They reminded those in attendance that ILYM’s fiscal year closes at the end of the Sixth month, and much of the income and expenses come in at the end of the fiscal year, so the reports given today will change. Final reports for 2020-21 will be available at the Fall 2021 Continuing Committee.

Valerie reported that our finances have not been typical in the past year. The good news is that as of June 13th, Total Net Income was a positive \$38,540.01. Revenue through June 13th was about \$6,000 below budget and below the same time frame last year, due to lower amounts in Gifts from Individuals and in income related to annual sessions; both of these amounts, however, are likely to change before the end of the fiscal year. Valerie observed that it seems too early to discern if our move to “pay as led” sessions contributions will cover our in-person sessions expenses, but they more than cover virtual sessions. Monthly meeting donations are comparable to prior year and already exceed our conservative budget projections. Expenses through June 13th are significantly lower than both budget and prior year.

The treasurers ask that donations and expense/reimbursement receipts be sent to Dawn Crimson before she closes the books at the end of this month. Friends were advised to use the new address as published in the registration documents when sending items to Dawn.

The treasurers emphasized that we made it through this year comfortably in spite of fears that this might not be possible. They conveyed the gratitude of Illinois Yearly Meeting for the generosity of Friends individually and through our monthly meetings. They thanked the Development Committee for its work. The yearly meeting has been able to grow our reserves through the support of individuals and monthly meetings, along with investment returns and sound fiscal stewardship.

The yearly meeting thanks Valerie Lester, in her last year as co-treasurer, for her faithful service in this capacity.

Report accepted.

Minute 22 Ted Kuhn, Clerk of Finance Committee, reported for the Finance Committee. The committee asked for approval to move a specific amount from the checking account into Friends Fiduciary Fund. It was suggested that rather than asking for approval to move specific dollar amounts, the yearly meeting approve that Finance Committee work with the treasurers to keep the checking account at a reasonable level, and to move additional funds into the Friends Fiduciary Fund where they will earn more income.

The meeting approved authorizing the Finance Committee to work with the treasurers on an ongoing basis to make sure we have sufficient funds in the checking account to meet anticipated expenses, and to invest the remainder of our funds in the Friends Fiduciary Fund.

Ted observed that many meetings are considering what technology might be needed to make possible meetings that are simultaneously in-person and virtual.

Report accepted.

Minute 23 Ted Kuhn presented the proposed budget for 2021-22 for its first reading. The budget was prepared with the assumption that yearly meeting activities would resume a pattern more similar to that before the COVID-19 pandemic. Personnel costs in the proposed budget reflect a 1.7% salary increase and the assumption that we hire a Children's Religious Education Coordinator for the full year. Travel support will be needed again in the coming year. Committee expenses and support for outside organizations remain similar to prior years. The committee has made a few minor adjustments, but the proposed budget remains a balanced budget.

It was suggested that the Finance Committee take under consideration the contributions we make to outside organizations, for which the amounts have remained the same for a long time.

A question was raised about the income we assume will come from both the Gifts from Individuals and from gatherings and retreats. The treasurers commented that some larger individual contributions (especially bequests or memorial gifts) have been put directly into the Special Gifts fund and do not show up as operating income. In spite of income being unpredictable, we have been able to cover our expenses over the years.

Ted Kuhn will schedule a meeting of the Finance Committee in the next few days to allow Friends to provide input to the proposed budget.

The first presentation of the budget was accepted.

Minute 24 Phyllis Reynolds, clerk of the Ministry and Advancement (M&A) Committee, asked for approval of the revised job description of the Field Secretary, as appended to their written report. Approved.

Minute 25 Bruce Kanarek of the Ministry and Advancement (M&A) Committee brought to the meeting's attention that monthly meetings have been offering a wide variety of opportunities to gather virtually—including book groups, children's activities, knitting groups, and more. The committee asked how M&A might become a clearing house for activities offered by, and to, all monthly meetings and

worship groups. How can meetings share what they have learned? The committee received feedback that there is interest in having M&A coordinate a way for meetings and individuals to share their experiences and to announce gatherings in a timely fashion.

Bruce also asked whether Friends would be interested in attending an M&A sponsored event. The committee received ideas for topics that would be of interest and will proceed to find ways to “bring Friends closer to the fire” of Illinois Yearly Meeting.

Report accepted.

Minute 26 Pam Kuhn reported for the Handbook Committee, which includes herself and Sue Styer. The committee brought forward changes to the Handbook for consideration. The wording for each of these is included in the written report of the Handbook Committee to this Annual Sessions.

Naming Committee description: A change to the description of the Naming Committee to clarify when and how it is formed, its term of service, and its duties, including the appointment of the Nominating Committee clerk, was approved.

The Handbook Committee proposed removing from the Handbook the section on “Formation and Recognition of a Monthly Meeting” because that is covered more completely in *Faith and Practice: Illinois Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends*. Approved.

The committee proposed revisions to the Handbook’s “Section One: Organization of Illinois Yearly Meeting” as presented in the committee’s report.

Handbook Section 1.1 concerns Illinois Yearly Meeting.

- The section on the establishment of Illinois Yearly Meeting was approved.
- The description of ILYM’s affiliations was approved.
- The section of the Handbook on “Incorporation” of the yearly meeting was approved.
- The section about the meetinghouse near McNabb, and a listing of the constituent quarterly meeting, monthly meetings, and worship groups was approved.

Handbook Section 1.2 concerns the “Mutual Caring of the Yearly, Monthly, and Quarterly Meetings to each other.” Approved.

Handbook Section 1.3 “The Faith and Practice of Illinois Yearly Meeting” offers an introduction to *Faith and Practice: Illinois Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends*” published in 2020. Approved, with an amended section title as recorded in this minute.

The Handbook Committee Report was accepted.

Minute 27 Minutes from the second session were read back and approved.

Minute 28 Marcia Nelson reminded those present of afternoon worship sharing and workshops, and the evening address by Shelley Tanenbaum. The Finance Committee will meet at 8 a.m.

tomorrow (Friday) morning. The meeting will be open to everyone for feedback on the proposed 2021-22 budget.

Minute 29 The second session of ILYM's 2021 Annual Sessions closed with worship.

MINUTES OF THE THIRD SESSION, Sixth Day, Sixth Month 18, 2021 (Friday, June 18, 2021)

Minute 30 The third session of Illinois Yearly Meeting's 2021 annual sessions opened with worship.

Minute 31 Marcia Nelson welcomed everyone to the third session and introduced herself as Presiding Clerk, Kent Busse as Assistant Clerk, Sarah Pavlovic as Recording Clerk, and David Shiner as Assistant Recording Clerk. Marcia reminded those present of Zoom procedures and reviewed the availability of various resources of the yearly meeting. She apologized for omitting on Wednesday the name of Wil Brant, ILYM Administrative Coordinator, as a very important member of the Clerk's Committee.

Minute 32 Jason Shenk and Charlotta Koppanyi were available to respond to questions about the report of the Children's Religious Education Committee.

The written report explained that Monica Tetzlaff has stepped down as clerk of the committee for health reasons. Jason Shenk and Bobbi Trist have served as acting Co-clerks through these Annual Sessions. Charlotta Koppanyi, continuing as a part-time temporary Children's Religious Education Coordinator, is coordinating the Children's Annual Sessions 2021, to be held Friday, June 25 and Saturday, June 26. The Children's Sessions will conclude with an epistle presentation and musical performance on Sunday, June 27 to which all are invited. The committee hopes to offer programs for young people later this year. More information about their plans for Annual Sessions and beyond can be found in the committee's written report.

Report accepted, with thanks to those who are supporting the young people of the yearly meeting.

Minute 33 Janice Domanik reported for the Ad Hoc Committee on Anti-Racism. Over the past year the committee has promoted queries for worship sharing, shared information about what ILYM meetings are doing about racism, provided resources, and organized a six-session online workshop on anti-racism. Janice commented on the difficulty of getting responses from monthly meetings, an issue which has been raised by other committees as well.

The committee asked that ILYM approve continuing it for an additional year as they feel very strongly that they have more work to do. Approved.

The report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Anti-Racism was accepted.

Minute 34 Clerk Marcia Nelson introduced the "Unity Agenda" for this year's annual sessions. The reports on the unity agenda are informational only and require no corporate action beyond acceptance. This session's unity agenda included reports from the Peace Resources Committee and the Publications and Distribution Committee. Also included were reports from ILYM representatives to Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL), Friends General Conference (FGC), Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC), and secondary schools

reports. Those present were invited to make a joyful noise to recognize and give thanks for the work each of these reports signifies.

The reports on the unity agenda were accepted.

Minute 35 Clerk Marcia Nelson called our attention to the report of the Youth Oversight Committee. The report noted that Committee Clerk Mike Dennis and Youth Coordinator Liam Gardner helped to organize a nation-wide virtual Quake in February 2021, sponsored by FGC and other affiliated yearly meetings. Three high-school-aged and one middle-school-aged youth from ILYM attended. High School Friends are holding virtual annual sessions this week, with meetings for business, workshops, and fellowship planned. One item on their agenda is to consider a plan to paint a mural somewhere on the ILYM campus near McNabb, Illinois next year.

Members of the Youth Oversight Committee confirmed that Liam Gardner will be continuing as Youth Coordinator.

Report accepted.

Minute 36 Colleen Reardon, Clerk of the Personnel Committee, was available to answer questions about the Personnel Committee report. Their written report communicated that since Spring Continuing Committee, all part-time employees have been evaluated with the exception of our caretaker, whose employment had been less than a year. The caretaker's evaluation will take place this summer. The committee expressed appreciation for the service the employees provide to the yearly meeting.

Report accepted.

Minute 37 Marcia Nelson referred those present to the report of the Stewards. Steward Chris Goode gave an update on the recent successful renovation of the septic system at Clear Creek House. The written report related that the Stewards continue to work with the Maintenance, Planning, and Envisioning Committee and with our new Caretaker. They will be seeking to hire help to remove and replace the refrigerators in the meetinghouse basement. They participated in a work day on May 1, the details of which are in the written report. Ongoing projects include sorting and organizing the contents of the east storage room at the meetinghouse, and making plans for stabilizing the foundation of the Junior Yearly Meetinghouse (also known as the High School Bunkhouse).

Report accepted.

Minute 38 Chris Goode, Clerk of the Maintenance, Planning, and Envisioning (MP&E) Committee, gave highlights of the committee's report.

Chris expressed gratitude for the work of our new caretaker Judy Reese. She has been learning from Steward Emeritus Dick Ashdown and keeping an eye on what needs attention on the campus. She is hopeful that the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions will allow her to do more with outreach and entry into the local community.

The Caretaker job description is not yet ready for consideration. The MP&E Committee asked that the yearly meeting allow them to bring a revised job description to Continuing Committee for consideration of approval. Approved.

Among the many projects under the care of MP&E are repairs and reinforcements related to raccoon problems at the meetinghouse. They plan to secure someone to complete painting the meetinghouse. They have been asking for quotes for painting the bathhouse, High School Bunkhouse, Penn House, and Fox Hole, and for staining the cabins. Other areas that need attention include the roof of the wooden barn; the meetinghouse porch steps, decking, and posts; the foundation of the Bunkhouse; various items at Clear Creek House; and the roofing on the south side of the meetinghouse.

The committee plans to hold a work day in the fall.

The committee is holding workshops during Annual Sessions this week to gather input to update the Campus Plan from 2012 and to provide direction for future projects. Many ideas have been brought up over the years—accessible living space in the Clear Creek House garage, various uses for the wooden barn, a gazebo or pavilion near the old shed and many others—but what are our priorities? They ask that Friends familiarize themselves with the existing campus plan documents that are posted on the website and come to one of their workshop sessions. Otherwise, everyone is invited to contact any member of the committee with their ideas about how we use our campus.

Report accepted.

Minute 39 Scheduling a fall work day at the ILYM campus has been complicated by considerations of the weather and by the scheduling of Fall Continuing Committee, Blue River Quarterly and other events. Those present agreed to consider these issues in planning the date and location for Fall Continuing Committee for 2022 and beyond.

Minute 40 Minutes from the third session were read and approved.

Minute 41 The third session closed with centering worship.

MINUTES OF THE FOURTH SESSION, Seventh Day, Sixth Month 19, 2021 (Saturday, June 19, 2021)

Minute 42 The fourth session of ILYM's 147th Annual Sessions opened with gathering worship.

Minute 43 Presiding Clerk Marcia Nelson welcomed those present to the fourth session of ILYM's Annual Sessions on Juneteenth. She introduced the clerks. She extended a special welcome to our ILYM Caretaker Judy Reese. Susan Nahvi from FCNL gave an introduction to her co-worker Bobby Trice, who will be presenting a workshop this afternoon.

Minute 44 Clerk Marcia Nelson reminded those in attendance of yearly meeting resources and of Zoom (videoconferencing) procedures. She reminded everyone that this year's Exercises will be group written. Each person is invited to send one to three sentences responding to the prompt "We were really tired, but we carried on" to Colleen Reardon by 5 p.m. (Central) today.

Minute 45 On behalf of Reading Clerk Chris Jocius, Gwen Weaver gave a moving presentation related to this year's theme of "Equality in Action: Roots and Reality." Her readings and reflections informed

us of the origins of Juneteenth celebrations, celebrated today for the first time as a national holiday, and urged us to consider how the holiday can inspire us to act upon our Quaker testimony of equality.

Minute 46 Finance Committee Clerk Ted Kuhn reported for the Finance Committee. Finance Committee recommends that the guidance for Monthly Meeting contributions per resident adult member be increased from \$255 to \$260. This is consistent with general inflation and the increase in payroll. Approved.

Minute 47 Finance Committee Clerk Ted Kuhn presented a revised 2021-22 budget for consideration (First budget presentation Minute 23). The revised budget reflected increased contributions from monthly meetings based on the increase in per-member contributions approved in Minute 46 and included an increase of \$1,000 in “Support to Others” spread over a number of organizations that the yearly meeting supports. The overall budget remained balanced. Approved.

Minute 48 For the Nominating Committee, Sharon Haworth reported the following additional nominees for consideration.

Brent Eckert will continue as Records Librarian

Co-treasurer: Ted Kuhn for a three year term (2024)

Finance Committee: Val Lester as Clerk for a three year term (2024)

AFSC: Frank Young as representative to AFSC for a three year term (2024)

Those present approved these nominees, additions to the slate of nominees approved earlier (Minute 11).

Minute 49 Illinois Yearly Meeting authorizes Elizabeth M. Carpenter, Steward; Dawn Crimson, Co-Treasurer; Edward Kuhn, Co-Treasurer; and Grayce Mesner, Steward, to have access to our safe deposit box at First State Bank in McNabb, Illinois, effective June 19, 2021. Approved.

Minute 50 Illinois Yearly Meeting authorizes Elizabeth M. Carpenter, Steward; Dawn Crimson, Co-Treasurer; Edward Kuhn, Co-Treasurer; and Grayce Mesner, Steward to exercise all powers listed in the resolution with First State Bank in McNabb, Illinois, including signing checks on behalf of Illinois Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, effective Wednesday, June 19, 2021. Approved.

Minute 51 Frank Young reported for the Development Committee. They continue to work on ongoing projects. They are working with the Finance Committee to find ways to clearly report amounts raised. They continue to encourage and receive financial gifts to the yearly meeting from individuals. Report accepted.

Minute 52 Noel Pavlovic, Clerk of the Environmental Concerns Committee, was available to answer questions about the committee’s report. Members of the committee joined with Maintenance, Planning and Envisioning and the Stewards at the May 1 work day at the ILYM campus. The committee intends to further develop plans for a wildflower/ pollinator garden at the proposed location at the southwest corner of the prairie planting. Report accepted.

Minute 53 Peter Lasersohn reported for the Ad hoc Committee on ILYM Archives Agreement with the University of Illinois Library. The ad hoc committee was appointed in 2020 to work with representatives of the University of Illinois Library to develop a new agreement for the deposit of ILYM records. Peter explained the features of a new agreement, which the committee feels are appropriate for the yearly meeting to agree to. The Library has now provided a draft agreement. The committee still expects to

receive an appendix with a list of documents covered under the agreement. The committee asked that the yearly meeting allow them to bring the document for final approval to the Continuing Committee.

Those present approved allowing Continuing Committee to take final action on an archive agreement document.

Since monthly and quarterly meetings will not be covered under the new agreement, a suggestion was made that some guidance be developed for monthly and quarterly meetings on how to discover the status of materials already deposited and to proceed with their own agreements. For now, concerns about archived documents can be referred to the clerk of the ad hoc committee, Peter Lasersohn.

Report accepted.

Minute 54 Clerk Marcia Nelson asked that those present consider the question of how we will gather next year in 2022—virtual, in person, hybrid—and what framework or structure would serve us to make necessary decisions.

There was a sense among many present that we aspire to meet in person at McNabb for annual sessions next year, with serious consideration of how to bring in those who are not able to join us in person, also taking into consideration the time and finances it would take to develop the technology to effectively offer a hybrid format.

The yearly meeting approved the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee to consider how 2022 Annual Sessions will be held, to allow us to gather as a spiritual community. The committee will

- solicit input from monthly meetings,
- explore the spiritual implications of our format for our meeting community,
- develop a timeline for when specific decisions need to be made,
- and report to Continuing Committee.

Continuing Committee is authorized to take action on the format for Annual Sessions 2022.

Approved.

Minute 55 The Ad Hoc Committee to consider how 2022 Annual Sessions will be held will consist of Pam Kuhn, Julia Pantoga, Bobbi Trist, Frank Young, Wil Brant, Katherine Young, Colleen Reardon, and (soon-to-be) Assistant Clerk Marcia Nelson. Finance Committee Clerk Valerie Lester and Field Secretary Brad Laird asked to receive minutes from the committee's meetings. Pam Kuhn and Administrative Coordinator Wil Brant will be the points of contact for the committee.

Minute 56 Marcia Nelson announced that the Fall Continuing Committee of ILYM will be held on October 2, 2021 at the ILYM Meetinghouse at McNabb, hosted by Clear Creek Meeting. The dates for Annual Sessions for 2022 will be June 15–19, 2022. These dates will not conflict with the schedule of the Chicago Public Schools or with the FGC gathering.

Minute 57 The minutes were read back and approved by those present.

Minute 58 The fourth session of ILYM's 2021 annual sessions closed with worship.

MINUTES OF THE FIFTH SESSION, First Day, Sixth Month 20, 2021 (Sunday, June 20, 2021)

Minute 59 The fifth session of ILYM's 147th Annual Sessions opened with worship.

Minute 60 Presiding Clerk Marcia Nelson welcomed everyone to the fifth session.

Minute 61 Dale Gardner brought forward from ILYM's Nominating Committee additional nominees for consideration.

Handbook Committee: Julia Pantoga for a three year term (2024)

Representative to FWCC: Julia Pantoga for a three year term (2024)

Representative to AFSC: Coco Colin for a three year term (2024)

Approved.

Minute 62 On behalf of the Epistle Committee, Monica Tetzlaff read the 2021 Epistle, Illinois Yearly Meeting's message to yearly meetings around the world. Approved, with gratitude to the Epistle Committee of Monica Tetzlaff and Samantha Crockett.

Minute 63 Colleen Reardon read the 2021 Exercises, composed this year as a compilation of responses from attenders to various aspects of our virtual time together. Accepted.

Minute 64 Youth Coordinator Liam Gardner read the Epistle of the High School Friends. Accepted.

Those present were interested to learn of the High School group's intentions to hold three in-person events in the upcoming months, including a Labor Day retreat at McNabb to create a mural on the west side of the metal shed, a Veterans Day Quake in St. Louis, and the "Quake that Rocked the Midwest" on the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day weekend 2022 at the Evanston Meetinghouse.

Minute 65 Illinois Yearly Meeting thanks all those who helped to plan and carry out the virtual 2021 Annual Sessions for their willingness to propose and implement new ideas for fostering a sense of community in our virtual format and for their diligence in bringing together diverse opportunities to engage with the theme of equality. The meeting is grateful for the gifts of time, energy, and expertise of our planning groups, coordinators, and Planning Coordinators Committee, as well as those of our staff. Approved.

Minute 66 Illinois Yearly Meeting gives heartfelt thanks to our outgoing committee members for their devoted service to the yearly meeting. We give special thanks to outgoing committee clerks, and extra special thanks to our outgoing Recording Clerk, Sarah Pavlovic, and our outgoing longtime Reading Clerk, Chris Jocius. We are aware that the tasks of all of these Friends have been complicated by the pandemic. They have been stalwart in fulfilling their duties, and we offer them our deep thanks for that.

Minute 67 Illinois Yearly Meeting thanks outgoing Presiding Clerk Marcia Nelson for her years of diligent service. Her insightful and creative leadership superlatively met the challenges of these uncertain times, for which we are very grateful. Approved.

Minute 68 Marcia Nelson reminded those present that the Children's Sessions will be happening June 25 and 26, with a culminating presentation of epistles and musical program at 2 p.m. (Central) on June

27 to which all are invited. Fall 2021 Continuing Committee of ILYM will be held on October 2 at the ILYM Meetinghouse at McNabb, hosted by Clear Creek Meeting. The dates for the 2022 Annual Sessions will be June 15–19, 2022.

She reminded Friends of events proceeding after the close of the business session, including planning for next year's annual sessions. The 2021 Plummer Lecture will given by Phyllis Reynolds at 1 p.m. (Central) this afternoon.

Minute 69 The minutes of the fifth session were read and approved.

MINUTES OF THE SIXTH SESSION, First Day, Sixth Month 27, 2021 (Sunday, June 27, 2021)

Minute 70 Presiding Clerk Marcia Nelson welcomed everyone—children, adults, and guests—to the sixth and final session of ILYM's 147th Annual Sessions. She explained the order of proceedings for the session which is the culmination of both the adult and children's sessions for 2021.

Minute 71 Those present were invited to join Rachel Barton Pine on her YouTube channel as she introduced and performed on violin pieces specially selected to reflect on our Annual Sessions theme of Equality. Her moving and instructive selection of pieces by Black composers included the following.

Deep River arr. Maud Powell --- Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912)

Louisiana Blues Strut (A Cakewalk) --- Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson (1932-2004)

Levee Dance --- Clarence Cameron White (1880-1960)

Dance I and Prayer III from Six Hip-Hop Dances and Prayers --- Daniel Bernard Roumain (b. 1970)

Rachel is the daughter-in-law of Joan and Michael Pine and mother of Sylvia Pine. Michael, Joan, and Sylvia attend Evanston Monthly Meeting.

Minute 72 Children's Religious Education Coordinator Charlotta Koppanyi introduced the groups that participated in the Children's Sessions, held Sixth Month 25-26 (June 25 and 26).

Bobbi Trist read the Epistle from the preschool group. Sylvia Pine offered an improvisation on violin in response to the preschool epistle.

Camille Roberts presented the Epistle from the primary age group. Sylvia shared her musical response through violin and voice, inspired by the primary epistle. She shared that her unfinished ending reflected the fact that some of the problems of inequality explored in the Children's Sessions are ongoing.

The intermediate group was represented by three young people. They presented their Epistle as impromptu comments about equality. They also shared a reading from the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights, in which they suggested a wording change from "brotherhood" to "humanhood" to make the statement more inclusive. Their teachers Michael Pine and Charlotta Koppanyi shared some of the insights on equality that rose during their time together. Sylvia offered a musical response on violin.

Rex Nyquist and Charlotta Koppanyi were the teachers for two middle school students, along with Marcia Nelson. A middle school participant shared that they explored the theme of equality. The group shared a cartoon illustrating the important differences among Inequality, Equality, Equity, and Justice. Sylvia gave a musical interpretation from reflections shared by the middle school group.

Charlotta Koppanyi explained that the Children's Sessions this year also included a "Hangout Session." Dale Gardner related that there was good sharing in the sessions and that participants enjoyed talking and sharing the animals important to them. Sylvia shared a "Hangout" improvisation with voice and violin.

The Epistles from the Children's Session were accepted with gratitude and heartfelt appreciation to the participants and their teachers.

Minute 73 The minutes of the sixth and final session were read and approved.

Minute 74 Illinois Yearly Meeting's 147th Annual Sessions closed with worship.