

Illinois Yearly Meeting Spring Continuing Committee

Third Month 4, 2023

57th Street Meeting, Chicago, Ill.

Attending in person: Trevor Brant, Wil Brant, Kevin Brubaker (Assistant Clerk), Beth Burbank, Kent Busse (Clerk), Janice Domanik, Dale Gardner, Cathy Garra, Chris Goode, Cynthia Harris, Sharon Haworth, Judy Jager, Pam Kuhn, Ted Kuhn, Brad Laird, Peter Lasersohn, Val Lester, Mark McGinnis, Marcia Nelson, Bridget Rorem, Chip Rorem, Eli Rorem, Phyllis Reynolds, David Shiner (Recording Clerk), Bobbi Trist.

Attending online: Beth Carpenter, Heather Evert, Hilary Hunt, Alex Lippitt, Noel Pavlovic, Sara Pavlovic, Colleen Reardon, Virginia Schelbert, Gwen Weaver, Frank Young, Katherine Young.

Minute 1 Spring 2023 Continuing Committee opened with expectant waiting worship.

Minute 2 Presiding Clerk Kent Busse welcomed those present. He thanked both the host meeting and Friends who have submitted reports to Continuing Committee. He asked Friends joining virtually to introduce themselves, which they did.

Minute 3 Ted Kuhn gave the Treasurer's report, which included figures for the first seven months of fiscal 2023. On the whole, the ILYM balance sheet remains healthy. Expenses for Annual Sessions are likely to be higher than the budgeted figure, but not to the extent of being of concern. Report accepted.

Minute 4 Val Lester reported on behalf of the Finance Committee. ILYM has still not needed to transfer funds from Friends Fiduciary, since the checking account has been covering our needs. That is not expected to change in the current fiscal year. The committee asks that anyone with a budget request for next year contact Ted Kuhn by April 23. Report accepted.

Minute 5 Frank Young reported for the Development Committee. Committee members are willing to meet, virtually or in person, with interested individuals or groups to provide information about ways of supporting ILYM. The committee has some concern about the fact that only about 60% of the budgeted amount for individual contributions to ILYM for the current fiscal year had been realized by the end of January, as was noted in the advance report from the Treasurers [Minute 3]. Report accepted.

Minute 6 Minutes 1-5 were approved.

Minute 7 Chris Goode gave a joint report for Maintenance, Planning and Envisioning Committee and the Stewards. A number of campus repair projects are in process and should be completed before Annual Sessions. The cost for the work on the roofs should be within the amount of the insurance settlement that was noted at Fall 2022 Continuing Committee [Minute 5]. MP&E is inclined to hire contractors rather than engaging an on-site caretaker. They will be consulting with the Personnel Committee, and they welcome comments from other ILYM Friends on this matter. Friends are cordially invited to participate in the next campus workday, which will take place on Saturday, May 13. Report accepted.

Minute 8 Dale Gardner reported for Children's Religious Education. Charlotta Koppanyi will again coordinate the program at Annual Session this year. Friends are asked to inform the committee if they are led to serve as teachers and/or if they can recommend other Friends for that service. Report accepted.

Minute 9 Colleen Reardon reported for Personnel Committee. The search for a new Field Secretary is underway. Any interested Friends should contact Janice Domanik, Clerk of Ministry and Advancement, as soon as possible. The Children's Religious Education Coordinator will be considered an independent

contractor for the current year. The committee does not regard this as an ideal arrangement, and hopes that a staff member can be engaged for that position in future years. Report accepted.

Minute 10 Kent Busse highlighted several points from the report from the committee on Youth Oversight in the Advance Documents. Rose Johnson replaced Liam Gardner as Youth Coordinator in January as planned. The Quake that Rocked the Midwest was canceled this year due to the lack of registrants. The High School Friends group is planning on attending the ILYM workday in May. Report accepted. The Meeting looks forward to the renewal of program activities under the direction of the new Youth Coordinator in the coming year.

Minute 11 Minutes 7-10 were approved.

Minute 12 Brad Laird reported in his capacity as Field Secretary. He will be laying down this role in June, and expressed both gratitude and a bit of grief on facing the end of his term. He cited the blessings of visiting various meetings other than one's own, and encouraged ILYM Friends to consider doing this themselves. He noted the lack of working-class persons in our meetings, and asked that we include that concern along with those of race/ethnicity and gender inclusion. Report accepted.

Minute 13 Each planning group reported on its Annual Sessions preparations, which are well underway. The theme will be "Creating Faithful Action in a Changing World." More workshops are needed, and interested Friends are asked to contact Virginia Schelbert by the end of March. Friends are also asked to help with site prep. Reports accepted.

Minute 14 Minutes 12-13 were approved.

Minute 15 Kent Busse asked Friends attending Continuing Committee in person to introduce themselves, which they did.

Minute 16 Janice Domanik reported for Ministry and Advancement. The committee has been hosting a number of virtual events, including a meeting for worship at 7 p.m. (Central) on the 10th of each month. Two Friends have indicated that they plan to apply for the position of Field Secretary. M&A members have been visiting monthly meetings and encourage other ILYM Friends to do likewise. Report accepted.

Minute 17 Janice Dominik, an ILYM representative to Friends General Conference, invited Friends to consider attending the FGC Gathering at Western Oregon University this summer.

Minute 18 Janice Dominik reported for the Racial Equity and Education Committee. The committee continues to offer the Anti-Racism Café on the 15th of each month, and is working on providing another virtual opportunity which will be shared with the yearly meeting once everything has been arranged. Report accepted.

Minute 19 Mark McGinnis reported for the Peace Resources Committee. The committee is meeting virtually once a month, and is active with peace, justice, and social concerns issues. They hope to meet with young Friends during Annual Sessions to educate them on conscientious objection issues. They continue to work on a revised committee description. Report accepted.

Minute 20 Sharon Haworth reported for the Nominating Committee. The committee recommends the following update to the list of members of Peace Resources Committee: remove Kent Busse and change Don Moorman to Dave Moorman. Approved. The nomination for the Financial Review Committee mentioned in the committee's advance report was withdrawn, as that position is not under the purview of the Nominating Committee. The Committee will soon be contacting Friends about appointments for

the coming year, and asks that anyone who would like to be considered for any particular office or committee contact one of its members. Report accepted.

Minute 21 Clerk Kent Busse announced that Marcia Nelson and Fariba Murray have agreed to serve on Naming Committee this spring. They are being presented for approval at Spring Continuing Committee so that they will be ready by the time of Annual Sessions to present a replacement candidate for the current clerk of the Nominating Committee, who is completing her term at the rise of those sessions. Approved.

Minute 22 Kent referred Friends to the Publications and Distribution Committee report in the Advance Documents. Publications and website are up to date. The committee has not yet received any contemporary Spanish outreach and religious education resources. Once those resources have been received, they will be posted on a Spanish resources page on the ILYM website. Report accepted.

Minute 23 Noel Pavlovic reported for the Environmental Concerns Committee. The prairie pollinator garden is still in the process of being worked on. The committee plans to host two workshops during Annual Sessions. Report accepted.

Minute 24 Kent reminded Friends that a core group of ILYM Friends is being assembled to learn and carry forward to future years the A/V system setup that occurs during site prep. To date three or four individuals have volunteered, which meets this need. More volunteers will be needed during Annual Sessions to learn to operate the A/V controls and run microphones during meetings. Friends are asked to respond to upcoming lists (in the ILYM Announcements) of these service opportunities, and to sign up on sheets that will be posted at the meetinghouse during Annual Sessions.

Minute 25 Minutes 15-24 were approved.

Minute 26 Kent again thanked 57th Street Meeting for hosting Continuing Committee, and thanked everyone in attendance for their participation.

Minute 27 Spring 2023 Continuing Committee closed with grateful waiting worship.

Kent Busse
Clerk

David Shiner
Recording Clerk

Treasurers Report
Illinois Yearly Meeting – Income Statement
FY2023 as of 1/31/2023

	1 General Operating	2 Special Gifts	5 FWCC World Mtgs	6 Maint. Reserve	8 Property Impr.	Total
Revenue						
Misc Income	\$393.06	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$393.06
Support from Meetings	\$32,660.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$32,760.00
Support from Individuals	\$25,279.30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25,279.30
Interest & Investment Income	\$4,960.23	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$712.69	\$5,672.92
Total Revenue	\$63,292.59	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$812.69	\$64,105.28
Operating Expenses						
1 Personnel & Office						
1A Employee-Contractor Direct-Indirect Expenses	\$30,588.91	\$1,987.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$32,576.41
1B Staff Travel	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
1C Office Expenses	\$386.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$386.50
Total 1 Personnel & Office	\$31,175.41	\$1,987.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$33,162.91
3 Site & Property Expenses						
Annual services-Property Taxes	\$1,353.98	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,353.98
Mowing, Tree Trimming	\$3,740.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,740.00
Repairs & Maintenance	\$2,017.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$21,530.19	\$0.00	-\$19,512.79
Utilities	\$1,447.87	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,447.87
Total 3 Site & Property Expenses	\$8,559.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$21,530.19	\$0.00	-\$12,970.94
5 Committee Expenses						
Development Committee	\$261.88	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$261.88
Publications & Distribution Com.	\$2,027.62	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,027.62
Total 5 Committee Expenses	\$2,289.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,289.50
6 Support to Others						
Support to Others	\$12,650.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,650.00
Total 6 Support to Others	\$12,650.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,650.00
Total Operating Expenses	\$54,674.16	\$1,987.50	\$0.00	-\$21,530.19	\$0.00	\$35,131.47
Other Income and Expense						
Transfers - Budgeted	-\$16,850.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$15,850.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Transfers - Other	-\$625.19	\$625.19	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Other Income and Expense	-\$17,475.19	\$625.19	\$1,000.00	\$15,850.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Comprehensive Income	-\$8,856.76	-\$1,362.31	\$1,000.00	\$37,380.19	\$812.69	\$28,973.81

Illinois Yearly Meeting - Balance Sheet
As of 30 June 2022

	30 Jun 2022	30 Jun 2021	
Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents			
Checking Account	\$68,878.18	\$137,609.55	
Friends Fiduciary-Temp. Restricted Property Impr. ILYM3	\$33,549.82	\$40,177.82	
Friends Fiduciary-Unrestricted Designated ILYM5	\$227,389.94	\$203,786.14	
PayPal	\$0.00	\$116.22	
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$329,817.94	\$381,689.73	
<hr/>			
Current Assets			
Accounts Receivable	\$180.00	\$0.00	
Total Current Assets	\$180.00	\$0.00	
<hr/>			
Total Assets	\$329,997.94	\$381,689.73	
<hr/>			
Liabilities and Net Assets			
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	\$6,935.62	\$5,788.03	
Payroll Taxes	\$698.00	\$698.00	
Total Current Liabilities	\$7,633.62	\$6,486.03	
<hr/>			
Total Liabilities	\$7,633.62	\$6,486.03	
<hr/>			
Net Assets		Net Income	
1 Unrestricted Undesignated			
1 General Operating	\$60,625.19	\$60,625.19	
Total 1 Unrestricted Undesignated	\$60,625.19	\$60,625.19	
<hr/>			
2 Unrestricted Designated			
2 Special Gifts	\$78,625.29	-\$61,804.73	\$140,430.02
3 CCH Accessible Add.	\$1,300.00		\$1,300.00
4 Payroll Reserve	\$33,750.00	-\$10,037.93	\$43,787.93
5 FWCC World Mtgs.	\$7,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$6,000.00
6 Maint. Reserve	\$103,790.03	\$23,295.00	\$80,495.03
Total 2 Unrestricted Designated	\$224,465.32		\$272,012.98
<hr/>			
3 Temporarily Restricted			
8 Property Impr.	\$37,273.81	-\$5,291.72	\$42,565.53
Total 3 Temporarily Restricted	\$37,273.81		\$42,565.53
<hr/>			
Total Net Assets	\$322,364.32	-\$52,839.38	\$375,203.70
<hr/>			
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$329,997.94		\$381,689.73
<hr/>			

Field Secretary's Report

I remain grateful for this role of Field Secretary. I am often humbled by the dedication and faithfulness of so many in our meetings. This is my penultimate report to the full body of ILYM. I will be laying down my role and seeking to support the next person to take up this position. Please look within yourselves and your meetings to see who might rightly be lovingly nudged to open themselves to the call to be our next Field Secretary. Statements of interest should be forwarded to the Clerk of the Ministry and Advancement Committee, Janice Domanik. Feel free to ask me questions about this work. Here are the nuts and bolts of what I have been doing since our last Continuing Committee and what is planned next.

The Past:

Since my last continuing committee report,

- I have attended 33 ILYM meeting worship events, twelve in person and twenty-one online.
- Attended 3 worship events at predominantly Black churches as a part of my commitment to continue to work of challenging the white supremacy that has been conditioned into me. Not as a part of job in terms of hours, but informing my work is engagement with serving on the FGC committee that plans and produces the White Friends Confronting Racism twice weekly worship and sharing. I also serve on an FGC group dealing with Racial Wounding. Finally I am participating in the CROAR workshop called "From White Supremacy Toward Liberation: Building Shared Analysis to Transform Institutions."
- I continue to have many conversations with friends online, in person, and by phone. I have had conversations about spiritual concerns, labor concerns, and requests to read and edit writings.
- I remain an active member of Duneland monthly meeting and regularly attend in person at the Elkhart River Worship Group.
- I have continued to attend irregularly online meetings in Kyiv and Mexico City.
- I attended a retreat at Pendle Hill, "Connection, Rupture, and Repair: The Trauma-Informed Beloved Community." The facilitator, Windy Cooler, is helping to bring our younger Friends and their concerns to the fore.
- I have done all my traveling without using my own car, instead using taxis, Lyft, the South Shore and Amtrak rail systems, Chicago Metro, Greyhound Busses, and others offering me rides, fellowship, and a place to lay my head. The logistical planning takes some time, but it is rewarding. The rich mix of humanity on public transportation is always interesting.
- I remain deeply grateful that Nora Vera-Godwin, a Friend and retired Spanish professor, is helping us with translating some of our literature into Spanish.
- I am grateful to those who attend with me, acting as accompanying elders. It is clear that meetings find our attendance and M&A committee members to be important to them and the lives of their meetings.
- I attended an ELCA Lutheran Church with one of my host's husband. Having been raised Lutheran, I enjoyed refreshing my memory of the liturgy and hymns of my youth. Many of us come to Friends from other traditions, and finding ways to honor all of our efforts to be faithful and weave them into a coherent whole can be beneficial.

The Present

- All but one of our meetings now have in person worship, at least three are in person only, and most include a hybrid option. Duneland's building has become unavailable, and they are meeting online until the building matter is resolved.
- I continue with self and family care including:

- A monthly Faithfulness Group
- Psychotherapy
- Regular physical workouts (I have a new gym membership)
- Twelve step meetings
- Daily devotions, often with family.
- Several days per week I spend time with horses, and I am taking riding lessons so I can spend more time with my daughter and her horse.

The Future

- I continue to travel to meetings an average twice per month.
- I am prepared to assist as much or as little as the next Field Secretary in starting in this role in July of 2023.
- I am still developing a workshop for ILYM on the idea of starting new meetings, new worship groups. Stay tuned.

Observations and gleanings

- There are many useful publications about and for Friends in the last year. For the role of the Field Secretary and those that support them, I recommend *An Invitation to Quaker Eldering: On Being Faithful to the Ministry of Spiritual Nurture among Friends* by Elaine Emily and Mary Kay Glazer with Janey Gibian Hough and Bruce Neumann. Inner Light Books: San Francisco, CA. 2022
- A number of meetings have spent money, some a lot, on technology to make the Zoom meetings work well. Some meetings are considering doing the same.
- Our meetings continue to tenderly celebrate life transitions, care for one another when needs arise, and the memorials for deceased Friends remain a dear practice.
- The world remains full of spiritual seekers. We will either find ways to meet them or we will continue to shrink. I see some of our meetings have a good mix of working and middle class individuals or families. Many of our meetings have little or no working class persons in them. We have work to do in this area along with our work on race/ethnicity and gender inclusion.

In closing, I am reminded of a biblical passage and blessing from my Lutheran days that I share with you now: Numbers 6: 24—26 in the KJV (as I learned it some fifty-five years ago and now interpret with an inner guide framing): May the Lord bless thee and keep thee; May the Lord make his face shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee; May the Lord lift up his countenance upon thee and give thee peace.

Brad Laird

Development Committee Report

- The annual appeal letter was successfully distributed early last November.
- There are still a few remaining tasks that have to be done to complete the new support section of the ILYM web site. The most important one is creating one electronic file containing the complete contents of the support webpage. This file could then be easily downloaded by readers who wish to have a copy for reference.
- A few recent requests for information about donation procedures have been quickly and easily handled.
- The committee is willing to provide information about supporting ILYM by meeting with concerned individuals or groups (virtually or in person). The committee members cannot provide

professional advice but can share their personal experiences and suggest appropriate sources for professional information.

- There is some concern regarding the individual contribution receipts for the current fiscal year. Recent information regarding individual contributions is as follows:

Fiscal 2021-22	Budget:	\$34,000	Receipts:	\$35,644
Fiscal 2022-23	Budget:	\$42,000	Receipts:	\$25,280 (as of late January)

For the Development Committee, Frank Young, Clerk

Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee received the Treasurers' report and is grateful to the Treasurers for their service and to Friends for continuing to support the work of the yearly meeting. We reviewed the estimates for Site needs and are happy to report that the funds in our checking account will cover our immediate needs (without withdrawing from reserves held at Friends Fiduciary at this time.

Our next meeting, on May 2, will be for 22/23 proposed Budget Prep. We remind Friends and Committees to share any insight into your upcoming needs with Ted Kuhn by April 23, so that the draft reflects the needs of the yearly meeting

Respectfully submitted, Valerie Lester for the Finance Committee

Maintenance, Planning and Envisioning Committee Report

The committee members are Carol Bartles, Mark Robinson, Marie White, Dennis McQueen, Casey Kashnig, Margie Haworth, Christina Schulz, Noel Pavlovic, and the Stewards: Chip Rorem, Grayce Mesner, Beth Carpenter, and Chris Goode. Our committee met via zoom on February 2nd.

Maintenance Update: Contractor Dean Tieman gave us a price of \$4,000 to replace the damaged wood rear doors of the meetinghouse (MH) at the top of the stairs with new metal panel doors and we will proceed with that project. We will also ask him to provide pricing to repair some damaged windows (matching the existing historic fabric) at the MH bay and tool room, and Clear Creek House (CCH) attic, and re-seal and look over the condition of all the windows at those two buildings to be done prior to Annual Sessions. We will do duct cleaning at CCH estimate \$500 to \$1500. We will do a quick investigation to see if restoration of a cedar shingle roof at CCH makes financial sense. We have a price from Art Hejka Construction, who did the MH Roof in the fall, of about \$23,000 to replace that roof with same quality asphalt shingles as were used at the MH and including plywood (not OSB) sheathing and removal of the unused brick chimney in disrepair to below the roof in the attic. We intend to have this work done prior to Annual Sessions. This work should be within the amount of our insurance settlement. After completion and prior to winter we will need to insulate this roof and hope to do this with closed cell spray foam type insulation at the rafters and will be obtaining pricing. We intend to investigate the existing condition of wall insulation with infrared cameras to see if that should be improved in the future.

Workday: We have scheduled a campus workday for Saturday, May 13, ~ 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. with potluck lunch. We invite everyone to participate and may have some help from High School Friends. Tasks will include grounds work, tree removal, and prep/paint the MH dining room walls, and final plumbing for a new handwash sink, vinyl base install at kitchen, and other chores.

Property Taxes: The campus is made up of four separate parcels. Currently two (2.2 ac. MH and 6 ac. CCH) parcels are tax exempt but we currently pay a small amount of tax on two (3 ac. campground and 1 ac. MH west) parcels have never been requested to be tax exempt. Total 2022 taxes for these two parcels were about \$25. We decided that is a small price to pay for the municipal services provided through the tax and that we should continue to pay it to be good neighbors.

Caretaker: We discussed the hows, whats, and ifs of having a Campus Caretaker again. We believe that it might be better to hire a person, or property management business from our local community on a part-time basis to meet our limited needs rather than have a live-in caretaker in the CCH. The concern with this is that it requires us to pay for those services instead of exchanging volunteer labor for a year-round place to live. We intend to work with Finance Committee and Personnel Committee as needed to develop a new job description and a number of hours expected and a budget to present for consideration at Annual Sessions. Friends are invited to share their thoughts with the committee clerk, a Steward, or any other member so that we have a seasoned plan to present.

Future Maintenance Plan: Val Lester's husband Geof Greer is a retired house inspector, and he and Chris Goode are planning a campus visit this spring to do a walk-around inspection that might be a start to creating a usable maintenance plan so that we can better predict upcoming maintenance and associated expenses in order to be better prepared and less surprised moving forward. Others are welcome to join us. Let me know if interested to find a date that works for all.

Maintenance Manual: We have several tasks that are regularly required monthly, seasonally or annually. Christina Schulz will work with Chris Goode to develop a manual to list and schedule these tasks with descriptions and any contractors.

Sustainable Electrical Service: Christina Schulz will research and get us on board a green electrical program for our three meters at the CCH, MH and Campground.

Insurance: Church Mutual is changing their insurance policy this spring to better reflect developing issues common to religious institutions. We are not certain how this will change our policy or the pricing as yet as they have not released the final information, but Chip Rorem is in touch and will keep us informed.

Respectfully Submitted: Christopher Goode, MP&E Clerk and Steward

Ministry and Advancement Committee Report

Ministry and Advancement Committee offered a virtual workshop for Illinois Yearly Meeting Friends and it will be completed by the time we meet at Continuing Committee. We will have had our second all ILYM virtual meeting for worship and we intend to continue offering this monthly.

In addition, members have been visiting monthly meetings. As a result of these visits we are learning about the depth of spirituality in meetings and about the concerns they carry. Participating in these visits is seen as assisting monthly meetings but it has an impact on us as visitors. We learn how another meeting handles things and we experience the Spirit as it moves though the meeting. It is a powerful experience and I encourage members of meetings to consider visiting another meeting. This can be especially moving if one has the opportunity to engage in kitchen table shared ministry, while experiencing hospitality with a member. I had the opportunity to have this sharing with members of Southern Illinois meeting as we walked in a natural area and as we shared an evening together. These are precious times and are not just for a few of us.

Imagine if Illinois Yearly Meeting members spent a year during which each made an effort to visit at least one other meeting. Meetings would have the experienced of worshipping with new individuals in their own meeting place, and we as individuals would experience how the Spirit is moving through another meeting.

Nominating Committee Report

Update to Peace Resources Committee:

- Remove Kent Busse
- Change Don Moorman to Dave Moorman

Update to Finance Review Committee:

- Change Kent Busse to Kevin Brubaker

Nominating Committee will be contacting people soon for appointments for the coming year. Please contact us if you would like to volunteer for any particular appointment. Nominating Committee is: Sharon Haworth (clerk), Amal Tamari, Meredith George, Julia Pantoga, and Lilith Swygert.

Peace Resources Committee Report

Peace Resources Committee is meeting via Zoom once a month. The committee is active with peace, justice, and social concerns issues. Our current activities include:

- Hosting a Pretrial Fairness Teach-In.
- Working on a Prison Panel Discussion
- Redefining our Handbook Description
- Holding a Junior ROTC and Recruitment Workshop geared towards Young Friends
- Investigating the Extinction Rebellion Petition

Personnel Committee Report

The Personnel Committee met on January 25 and focused on two major issues: the status of the search for a new Field Secretary and further clarification of the role of the Children's Religious Education Coordinator.

The search for a new Field Secretary is underway. As of January 25th, two Friends were discerning whether to further pursue this position. If any other Friends are interested, they are encouraged to contact Janice Domanik in the near future. Janice can be reached at jydomanik@gmail.com

We also pulled together our discussions on the role of the Religious Education Coordinator consistent with minute 35, Annual Sessions 2022. There has been ongoing discussion of whether the current coordinator is to be considered staff or an independent contractor. Based on her input and that of the Children's Religious Education Committee, the decision was made for her to be considered an independent contractor for this year.

The clerks of Finance Committee, Personnel Committee and Children's Religious Education Committee met over lunch at Fall Continuing Committee to clarify the specifics of what being an independent contract would entail. Charlotta will be paid on a project basis not an hourly basis as are the staff. The Children's Religious Education Committee has met with her and shared the projects they would like her to pursue on behalf of the CRE Committee. She will draw up a proposal prior to starting to work on a project. Once the proposal is approved by the Religious Education Committee, the coordinator as an independent contractor, can begin work on it. It is estimated that she will work on two projects, one being the Children's Program that is held during Annual Sessions and the second may be the OWL program.

There has been ongoing discussion as to whether hiring the Children's Religious Education Coordinator as an independent contractor or a staff member would be in the yearly meeting's best interest. The committee was not able to find a staff member for the position last time they searched; however, the goal of hiring a staff member in the position remains. While as an independent contractor does not need to be paid the rate of a staff member and is paid on a project basis rather than an hourly rate, there are still issues of equity to consider. Maintaining a person in an independent contractor is not ideal in the long term. In addition to potential equity issues, there is less flexibility in fulfilling some of the roles that a staff member would be able to fill in such a position.

Publications and Distribution Committee Report

- Publications and Web are all up to date.
- The ILYM Resources app and ILYM Social Network are continuing to be maintained. Input/thoughts on how useful these are would be appreciated.
- All monthly meetings who have websites on the to be dissolved FGC QuakerCloud have been contacted and informed that their websites could be hosted (without charge) on the ILYM server.
- We have not received a list of Spanish language links or resources for the proposed Spanish language outreach resource web page.
- We have not received updates on any further movement in the process of the Spanish translation of Faith and Practice. The process was shared with M&A and appeared in the 2022 Fall Continuing Committee report.

Racial Equity and Education Committee Report

When we meet for Continuing Committee at the beginning of March, the CROAR workshop will have taken place. In addition, we continue to offer the Anti-Racism Café once a month on the 15th of each month. We are working on providing another virtual opportunity which we will share with the yearly meeting once everything is arranged.

The other concern we are carrying at this time is helping yearly meeting participants become aware of the ways we can learn about First Nation's individuals. There are several opportunities in the Chicago area that are specifically devoted to American Indians. These include the Mitchell Museum of the American Indian 3001 Central St., Evanston, IL 60201, Unity Native American Tribe 3201 S Pulaski Rd., Chicago, IL 60623, and the American Indian Center 3401 W Ainslie St., Chicago, IL 60625. Friends can also go to the Field Museum where there are exhibits that provide information. We encourage friends in other areas of Illinois, and in Indiana and Missouri to share other places which we can share with the yearly meeting. Please let us know about time limited exhibits near you and we will share the information with the yearly meeting. An important part of our learning is to become familiar with the role of Quakers with Indian boarding schools. Paula Palmer (of Boulder Meeting) has done extensive research on this part of our history.

Youth Oversight Committee Report

Committee Members: Allison Boyaris, Diane Clark-Dennis, Warwick Daw, Michael Dennis (clerk), Alyrica Dew, Dale Gardner, Liam Gardner (outgoing coordinator), Choz Howard-Mckinney, Rose Johnson (incoming coordinator) Daniel Lakemacher, Fariba Murray, Zara Schobernd, Lorelei Taylor-West

Updates:

As projected in the fall report, Liam Gardner stopped being the Youth Coordinator effect of 1/31/23 and Rose Johnson started on 1/13/23.

The January 2023 Quake that Rocked the Midwest was ultimately canceled this year due to the lack of registrations. We attribute this to our late start getting everything planned and organized, and improvements will be made this coming year, including beginning the planning process early, so that we do not replicate this year's results in the future.

Future plans for the High School Friend's (HSF's) group are planning on attending work weekend for Annual Meeting in McNabb (tentatively 5/13/23). We will be inviting graduating 8th graders to join us and go through clearness before entering the HSF program at Yearly Meeting Annual Session (6/21-25/2023). We encourage all 8th graders to attend to help them learn and experience the Quaker process of clearness and prepare themselves for the transition to the HSF program.

We will also be sending out flyers to each meeting with program/Quake Announcements. We will start being more active in person and through social media to engage our youth to hopefully grow the number of the HSF's group.

For any inquiries, please contact Rose Johnson's at rose.ijohnson@yahoo.com or 309-532-2237, or Michael Dennis at mdennis@chestnut.org or via the contact form on the ILYM website at ilym.org/contact/.

Annual Session Planning Groups

Blue River Quarterly: Site

The Site Prep group is ready to dig in and get the site ready for Friends to enjoy the ILYM sessions. All of our positions have been filled:

Overall Coordinator/Advance Preparation: Margie Haworth-Davis

Site Preparation Coordinator: Steve Tamari & Fariba Murray

Food Service during Site Preparation: Heather Evert & Sharon Haworth

Purchasing Coordinator: Beth Carpenter

Housekeeping Coordinator: Anna Watson & Sharon Haworth

Clean-up Coordinator: Erin Taylor

Please come and bring others to help us June 17 – 21. Come for a day, two, or the whole week. We will have delicious food, wonderful companionship and plenty of tasks for all to do. Many hands make light work!

Chicago South: Food

As always, the best news is that Zach and Kelly have agreed to cook for us once again in 2023. The following people have volunteered to help make mealtimes run smoothly:

Overall coordinators: Sarah Pavlovic and Kate Gunnell

Breakfast Coordinator: Chris Goode

Lunch Coordinators: Val Lester & Pam Timme

Dinner Coordinator: Brad Laird

Recycling/Compost Coordinator: Monica Tetzlaff

Children's Snacks Coordinator: Brad Laird

Evening Snacks Coordinator: Noel Pavlovic

Clean-up of Kitchen on Sunday: Marcia Nelson
Selling surplus food: Pam Timme
Disposing of leftover food: Kate Gunnell
Arrange for cleaning towels and dishcloths: Kate Gunnell
“Utility infielder”: Bob Cordova

We still need someone—or a couple of people—who would be willing to oversee the clean-up and shut-down of the kitchen on Sunday. This means making sure the refrigerators are emptied and cleaned, the pots and pans bagged up to keep the mice away, and similar tasks. Many of the individual tasks are distributed to volunteers as part of the overall site clean-up, but we need someone(s) to make sure it all gets done. If you—and perhaps a few of your friends—would be willing to do this, please contact Sarah or Kate.

Chicago North: Program

The theme for this year’s program will be Creating Faithful Actions in Our Changing World. We will explore questions such as How do we remain faithful to our Quaker values and still create new actions in our rapidly changing world? and How does your faithful presence manifest in your community?

The evening activities are:

Wednesday Sharon Goens AFSC Midwest Regional Director
Thursday Sarah and Noel Pavlovic Duneland Friends Meeting
Friday Dancing on the lawn
Saturday Robin Mohr Executive Secretary FWCC Section of the Americas
Plummer Lecture - Virginia Schelbert Evanston Friends Meeting

Having only one workshop so far, we continue to seek people to lead workshops. Please either use the online form at ILYM.org or contact Virginia Shelbert if you are interested. We will keep the workshop sign-up open through March.

Naming Committee

Marcia Nelson and Fariba Murray have agreed to serve on the Naming Committee this year. They are being presented to be approved at Spring Continuing Committee so that they can present at Annual Sessions a replacement candidate for the current clerk of the Nominating Committee who is completing her term at the rise of Annual Sessions.

A/V for Annual Sessions Hybrid Format

Three individuals have signed up to learn the system during site prep, functioning this year and gaining experience for future sessions. If you are interested in helping, please let Margie Haworth-Davis (Site Overall Coordinator) know. DURING SESSIONS we will need NUMEROUS operators who can spell each other running the sound board and camera. Training can occur during the week, but primarily on Wednesday morning so we are ready for the first session. VOLUNTEERS are needed!