PYM Highlights for the year ending September 30, 2017

For the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting community, fiscal year 2017 was one of organizational growth and revitalization. We completed important work to support institutional shifts relating to our strategic directions, and reorganized PYM staff time to underpin new strategic and governance needs. We maintained the sessions and event programming our community needs and loves, and planned the launch of Resource Friends.

Highlights

Accounting Software
We transitioned our accounting software to a system that is cloud-based. This enhanced security, accessibility, and reduced our dependence on costly physical servers.

Bequests
PYM received seven bequests in 2017; one of these was a major unrestricted bequest from Ann Yasuhara, who was very active in our Yearly Meeting throughout her life. Trusts created under the will of Theodore H. Nitsche—who died in 1979—distributed $2.9 million in restricted funds to PYM. This restricted income is supporting Arch Street Meeting House.

Burlington Meeting House Inc.
Over the course of the year, PYM leadership met with the trustees of Burlington Quarter and attended Burlington Quarterly Meeting to discern the best future for Burlington Meeting House (BMH Inc.). At our July 2017 Annual Sessions, PYM joyfully approved the conveyance of BMH Inc. to Burlington Quarter at a price of $10. PYM also delivered all Burlington-related funds to the Quarter, completing the transfer in September. BMH Inc. is important to the Quarter, and PYM is pleased that it is now under their care and serving their community as a conference center.

Caring for our Youth
Youth program staffing was reconfigured so we can maintain traditional weekend youth gatherings as well as provide programmatic and logistical support to monthly and quarterly meetings.

Diversity and Inclusion
Professional anti-racism and anti-bias trainings were provided to PYM officers, council members, clerks, senior staff, and staff serving on hiring committees.

Engagement & Community
A Clerks Gathering and a series of ‘Get Involved’ phone calls were held to enhance our sense of being in a compassionate, engaged, and holistic community after the divisions of the election. This work focused on Worship, Pastoral Care, and Social Justice. The PYM website added a new ‘Get Involved’ section at www.pym.org/get-involved. The site has information and resources for action, education, training, and lobbying opportunities.

Events
In addition to Annual, Continuing, and Called Sessions, PYM held weekend retreats for families, middle schools, high schoolers, and young adults. We hosted the Quaker College Fair; a weekend gathering to train First Day School Educators; plus gatherings on Social Justice, Spirituality, and Individual Calls to Ministry.

Faith and Practice
Our community approved, and formed a committee that is formatting and publishing a revised version of Faith and Practice. We expect to have it in print this summer.

Resource Friends
Staff and the Quaker Life Council worked to lay the groundwork for PYM’s new Resource Friends structure as outlined in PYM’s strategic plan. Resource Friends will identify, train and deploy Friends with gifts and skills in areas that meetings most need. We are launching the Resource Friends project in two areas in FY18; Social Justice and Worship and Care.

Technology
PYM staff increased the use of web-based organizational tools, such as Asana and Slack, and a shift to video conferencing was made. We spent much of the year preparing demographic, fundraising, communications, and committee membership data for a transition from Raiser’s Edge to our new web-based and more user-friendly Salesforce database. This work has positioned us to launch Salesforce in FY18.
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting
INCOME OVERVIEW
October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017

PYM's Income
The largest portion of our income comes from two sources, investment income (39%) and covenant gifts from our meetings (25%). These two sources make up 64% of all income received, followed by event/service income and fees (12%), then individual gifts (8%).

Our endowment was increased by the addition of sizable bequests (7% of income), plus this year’s conveyance of the Anna Jeans Cremation Fund from the fund’s trustees (5%). A further 3% of our income came in the form of grants from five foundations, plus another 1% in miscellaneous gifts.

While our annual fund rose slightly, combined covenant giving decreased by 2.5%.

More than 100 years of generosity ... from Quaker Philanthropist Anna Jeans (1822-1907) to Ann Yasuhara (1932-2014)

Friends who give to PYM through planned gifts while living, or through bequests, help build investment income that supports Friends’ beliefs and good work in the world.

This year we received legacy gifts from seven donors, listed below. Restricted bequests are handled according to the donor’s will, while unrestricted bequests are added to unrestricted endowment, with a small portion going to a membership development fund.

We thank these Friends for their love of Quakerism, their foresight, and concrete support of Quaker tenets.

Gay G. Johnson
Anne W. Merrill
Edgar and Mary Lou Muhlhausen
Theodore H. Nitsche
Mary Ellen Rugg
Elizabeth Scattergood
Ann Yasuhara

Foundation Support
Grants were received from the following foundations with much gratitude:

D’Olier Foundation
John Martin Fund
SNAVE Foundation
Thomas H. & Mary Williams Shoemaker Fund
Tyson Memorial Fund
(2nd year of a two-year grant)

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting
EXPENDITURES OVERVIEW
October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017

PYM's Expenditures
Our largest expense is programming (42%), followed by our granting programs (20%).

Grants from restricted funds are made for educational, civic, and compassionate purposes. We depend upon our volunteer-led granting groups to do this work, with important support from granting staff. Funds went to Quaker travel or witness projects, Native American initiatives, emergency funds for PYM members, grants to aging Friends, capital improvements for Quaker buildings, Quaker retirement community programming, K-12 Quaker education, college and graduate school grants, and books for African-American communities in the Southern USA, and Liberia. Grants for membership development are made from a reserve fund set aside for this important purpose.

The Arch Street Meeting House Preservation Trust has been successful at both increasing donations and writing grants that offset PYM’s costs. For example, improvements to exhibits, plus the event/rental coordinator at Arch Street Meeting House (ASMH), were paid for by the Trust; both enhance the Meetinghouse’s role as an historic site and community anchor. The time and attention of our dedicated volunteers likewise continues to be something to celebrate. ASMH serves our Quaker community as a historic site, a monthly meeting, a Sessions hot spot, home to many committee meetings, school events, Quaker events, and memorial services that impact the lives of Quakers near and far. Overall, costs for this Quaker gem totaled $578,546.

Administrative and development costs were 25% of expenses. PYM’s finance and accounting department processed $222,302 in credit card donations on behalf of 59 monthly and quarterly meetings, with PYM absorbing all the credit card transaction fees on behalf of the meetings. PYM’s monthly meetings also secure their tax-exempt status under PYM’s exemption as a 501(c)(3) religious organization. The accounting and development departments work with treasurers, finance clerks and meeting fundraising committees to support our community in managing unique challenges and opportunities as they arise. An example of this was the gift of Burlington Meeting House Inc. to the Quarterly Meeting.