

**Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Administrative Council**  
**Saturday, April 16, 2022 (by Zoom)**  
**Approved Minutes**

Present: Frank Barch (PYM Co-Clerk), Chuck Devers, Christie Duncan-Tessmer (General Secretary), Jeanne Elberfeld, Kruskal Hewitt, Linell McCurry (Associate Secretary for Business & Finance), Nikki Mosgrove, Carter Nash, tonya thames taylor, Cathy Toner (Recorder), Jim Waddington (Clerk, Administrative Council), Roy Zatcoff, Tom Zemaitis

Regrets: Andrew Anderson

Meeting began at 11:02 am with a period of silent worship.

1. Cathy Toner agreed to serve as recording clerk for this meeting.
2. Clerk Jim Waddington opened the meeting with worship and offered queries. Are we tender to the needs of isolated Friends and Meetings and near-by Meetings seeking support?
3. Welcome to two new Admin Council Friends  
Carter Nash and Kruskal Hewitt are new members. Both Friends introduced themselves. Carter is from Harrisburg Monthly Meeting and Kruskal is from Media Monthly Meeting.
4. Minutes of March 19, 2022  
**The March Admin Council meeting minutes were approved** with gratitude to John Marquette for recording.
5. Governance Committee report – Roy Zatcoff  
Roy recently convened the Committee under its new charge. Governance now serves the entire PYM governing structure of all three councils instead of just Admin Council. The Committee shared its minutes. They spent time reacquainting those who served in past with new members, logistics, etc. They discussed upcoming work to consider and evaluate the current governance structure, as well as the effectiveness of current council self-assessments. **Admin Council approved Roy as the clerk for the Governance Committee.** Governance is cyclical and will be part of our ongoing process.
6. Personnel Committee – Tom Zemaitis  
The Committee recently gathered to discuss the equity and inclusion capacity building for Council Members.

7. Appointment of May Weldon to Granting Committee – Jim Waddington  
**Admin Council approved the appointment of May Weldon** of Haddonfield Monthly Meeting to Granting Committee. We continue to look for additional Granting members.
  
8. Development Committee Report – Jim Waddington and Roy Zatcoff  
PYM laid down the position of Associate Secretary for Advancement & Relationship and is currently looking to fill a redesigned development position. Development is looking for a few additional Friends to join the Committee as it discerns the best approach and continues to assist with the development work of PYM.
  
9. Status update on Climate Witness Stewards and Deep Listeners – Frank Barch.
  - Climate Witness Stewards: We now have five volunteers to be Climate Witness Stewards.
  
  - We have two interested Deep Listeners and are waiting to hear from others. If you know someone who would be interested, please send their names to Frank. We need a minimum of 3-4 Deep Listeners. As a reminder, here are the following goals, extracted from the DEI Sprint report:
    - a) To surface specific harms and the various harmful dynamics in our yearly meeting that perpetuate racism with the intention of embracing anti-racism and racial justice for our community.
    - b) To culminate in the renewal of our commitment as a yearly meeting to the 2015 minute on addressing racism through the development of a vision and mission for racial justice.
    - c) To facilitate deep listening and greater capacity to honor multiple experiences and narratives about the same things at the same time. The process does not seek for us to reach agreement on particular things as a yearly meeting.

The recommended names for witnesses and stewards will be approved by Admin Council and QLC with input from Nominating Council. Admin Council recommended adding the approvals to the agenda of a joint council meeting.

10. Update on Clerk's conversation with Young Adult Friends – Jim Waddington  
The Program Committee in November 2021 had forwarded a need expressed by Young Adult Friends (YAF) around PYM staffing support. As agreed in November, Clerk Jim Waddington communicated back to Young Adult Friends and met with two YAF leaders within the past month. Jim invited those YAFs to join an Admin Council meeting. We recognize and appreciate the importance of YAF involvement in PYM and welcome opportunities to listen and continue the dialogue.

11. Update from General Secretary – Christie Duncan-Tessmer

Christie reported that Nominating Council and Quaker Life Council met jointly this morning to dialogue about partnering. Nominating wishes to better understand QLC needs for additional members and leadership.

12. Reaction to Westtown School minute at March 26 Continuing Sessions – Jim Waddington

We approved a minute at our March Admin Council meeting, recommending that Continuing Sessions approve proposed changes to Westtown School's bylaws. Westtown had agreed to modify its request on eliminating Prior Consent Provisions and had kept Prior Consent in place for the Dissolution Provision, which currently names PYM as the successor nonprofit entity in the event of dissolution. Given the concerns raised at Continuing Sessions and the lack of unity to approve the bylaw changes, Admin should well season the Westtown request before Annual Sessions this summer. Linell McCurry confirmed that PYM does not own the Westtown school property and has not had governance over the school going back decades.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cathy J. Toner