

**Present:** Lane Taylor, Gray Goodman, Tom Hughes, Jim Herr, Amy Brooks, Bryn Hammarstrom, Jr., Cate Marion, Shani Taylor

**Present Electronic:** Kri Burkander, Pamela Draper

**Ex Officio:** Penny Colgan-Davis, Zachary Dutton, Christie Duncan-Tessmer

**Regrets:** Charles J. Randall, Connie Webster, George Rubin, Deborah Saunders, Kate Bergman

Friends began the meeting with a period of worship. Friends introduced themselves and commented on the autumn and their lives.

Members examined the minutes from the previous meeting, approved them, and deeply thanked Kri Burkander for her thorough and thoughtful recording.

**Online Application:** Members examined the on-line application for Collaboratives or Sprints to use. They provided suggestions to Zachary Dutton who adjusted the on-line form. Suggestions included:

- Make the title consistent with the reference in the instructions.
- Work to work, witness, or activity
- Rephrase "Further Information" or eliminate
- Move the contact information to the bottom.
- Contact information needs to include members from two different meetings.
- Add to the question boxes: "What efforts were made to include people from more than one monthly meeting?"
- Is all of the information that is required based on the manual in the present document?
- Information with \*asterix's need to have the phrase "required information".
- Zachary will rephrase the application to encourage people to be specific yet concise. The limit per box will be 1000 characters.
- Offer a hardcopy form sent to interested Friends who do not have digital access. Zachary will make a pdf.
- Offer to call a telephone number for those who need help with an on-line application.
- Print up a flyer explaining process and passed out for Saturday, November 7th continuing sessions.

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-The annual appeal will also have an insert explaining the new PYM structure including the application process.

-Will the document be possible to go back to finish if it is not completed in one session?

**Friends approved the changes and thanked Tom, Bryn, and Zachary for their efforts at structuring this on-line form.**

**Friends minuted deep appreciation for Zachary Dutton's ability to make changes in the electronic application form as the suggestions were made.**

**Rubric Development:** The purpose of a rubric is to help the Quaker Life Council judge applications along a consistent standard. The Ad hoc Rubric sub-committee will present a proposal at the next meeting, Saturday, November 21, 2015. Members wished in general to have the rubric eventually be public to Friends.

**PYM Finances:** Zachary will email the relevant documents to Friends.

**Continuing Sessions:** The clerk requested that Council members spread themselves about various threads at the continuing sessions on Saturday, November 7, 2015 at Westtown School. During their presentations at Continuing Sessions, Lane or Penny will ask Council members to stand and receive thanks for their efforts.

**Outreach:** Pamela Draper

**Financial Stewardship:** Amy Brooks

**Peace and Social Justice (3):** Bryn Hammarstrom, Lane Taylor

**Pastoral Care (2):** Cate Marion, Jim Herr

**Worship and Ministry (3):** Tom Hughes, Kate Bregstrom

**Religious Education:** Kri Burkander

Council members should be at Continuing Session events whenever possible. Speaking and listening to other Friends at Sessions will help alleviate any fear or concerns members of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting have about the changes in the Yearly Meeting. Being publicly approachable is important.

Christy noted that Continuing Sessions is the first time that the new structure begins its work publicly. There will be much excitement as well as a bit of confusion about the changes. The calmness and centeredness of Council members at Continuing Sessions will help everyone to adjust to the changes. Friends have been faithful in setting up the event but all should be open to the guidance of Spirit however it leads the community on Saturday.

Lane encouraged Friends to be positive about questions they can't answer. It is OK to refer the questions to Lane. At the next meeting, Quaker Council members will read the survey responses about the upcoming Continuing Sessions.

Members will contact with absent members and update them about the meeting:

Deborra: Shani Taylor will contact  
Connie: Cate Marion will contact  
Kate: Jim Herr will contact  
George: Lane Taylor will contact  
Charlie: Gray will contact

Bryn contacted a member to provide him with an update on the previous meeting. George expressed a concern about the difficulties of rotating the geographic location of the meetings. 4th and Arch works for him because it has easy access to public transportation. Lane will speak to him.

Lane asked members to consider how to honor work Friends have done in the past under the past structure. Christy noted that letters and cards of thanks have gone out to members who served on committees and working groups under the old structure. Penny reassured Friends that the past year has been a time of quiet transition.

Amy was led to speak that the new structure arises out of new discernment of how Friends understand God's leadings.

Next Quaker Council Meeting: God willing, Saturday, November 21, 2015 at Richland Monthly Meeting in Quakertown, Pa. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gray Goodman, Recording Clerk