

Young Friends Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

7/30/2015

Annual Sessions 2015

Minute 1: Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business began with a period of open worship. Adult Co-clerk Robert Rosenthal presented the names of Henry Mohr, presiding clerk, Deanna Long, assistant clerk, and Kody Hersh (YF Asst), recording clerk, for service during Annual Sessions. Friends approved.

Minute 2: Clerk Henry Mohr asked if Young Friends approve Friendly Adult Presences as visitors to Young Friends meeting for worship with attention to business. Friends approved.

Minute 3: The clerk reviewed the agenda. Friends approved.

Minute 4: YF Coordinator Hannah Mayer shared announcements relevant to YFs. First, she announced that she has had difficulty identifying FPs to serve at Camp Onas. Currently, she has two confirmed, which is not enough to run the Gathering. She encourages YFs to ask their parents and other adults in their meetings if they would be interested in FPing at the Onas Gathering. Second, she announced the upcoming Continuing Sessions of PYM in West Chester, PA, and described the interaction of YFs with that event. Organizers of Continuing Sessions request that people of all ages help to announce fall Continuing Sessions to the YM as a whole this week. Hannah requested, on behalf of CS planners, volunteer Young Friends to help with that announcement. Tenaja, Dana, Christian, and Madi/Tyler, Young Friends, volunteered, along with Emma, Youth Programs Intern and young adult Friend. Finally, Hannah described the limitations on this campus of offering the traditional YF late night, and offered how a modified bedtime could work at Sessions this year.

Minute 5: The clerk introduced the process of guidelines review that the Young Friends community has been engaged in over the past year. All of the existing guidelines have been through a process of discernment and revision, except for the last one, the "Common Sense" guideline.

The Common Sense guideline is often interpreted as encouraging Young Friends to use their good judgement and stay safe. The YF Coordinator shared her concern that the guideline could inhibit creativity and a sense of Young Friends as a space where conventional wisdom can be questioned.

A Young Friend spoke to the guideline's continued sense of relevance in the community. Friends approved retaining the guideline in its existing form without consideration by committee.