

Young Friends Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
December 29, 2015
Newtown Meeting
Clerking: Sara Sheffer

1. YF meeting for worship with attention to business began with a period of open worship. Co-clerk Sara Sheffer asked for approval for Elanna Reber to serve as **acting recording clerk**. Friends Approved.
2. The co-clerk invited **visitors** and FAPs to introduce themselves. Visitors and FAPs were Robert Rosenthal, who serves as adult clerk.
3. The co-clerk reviewed the **agenda** and asked for approval. Friends approved.
4. A member of the **Young Friends Discernment Committee** presented new members, including: Elanna Reber, Raven Strozzi, Tenaja and Madi. Friends approved.
5. Hannah talked about the proposal to lay down the **Program and Mission Evaluation Committee** due to low involvement of committee members. There were 3 conference calls and not enough people to represent the community well to do the work. Going forward, Hannah proposes to do the work independently, a problem with which is that it is more prone to her blind spots, but at the same time she can plan with more information about what the yearly meeting is going towards. Some Friends expressed willingness to volunteer for the work and many seem to want to continue YF involvement in the work. Friends noted that it seems harder to make time in their lives and to give the necessary commitment to the committee's work. A friend suggested one way forward: the group not be a formal committee, but rather give Hannah feedback on her ideas. The body agreed that this middle ground could be created within the committee. Friends approved. Friends volunteered to serve on the committee / feedback group, including: Ellie, Rachel, Raven, Dana. Friends approve the adults who have been involved to continue if they are willing: Tory, Shani.
6. Hannah Mayer gave a report from her **work evaluation for the year and her priorities for the next year**. Hannah sat down with her supervisor to set goals for the coming year. She said it went well. Priorities:
 1. Working more on outreach
 - Working with Friends school
 - Stay in continuing contact with parents
 2. Easier ways to get the body's input on the decisions Hannah is making
 3. Thinking about ways to experiment with the structure of program such as:
 - a. taking trip with Baltimore Yearly Meeting to Palestine in 2017
 - b. doing the White Privilege Conference with New England YM this year.
 - c. Hannah and Kody will be traveling and observing other yearly meeting's high school programs to see how their process work and bring some of those ideas back to PYM.Hannah welcomes the body's feedback. There was an interest in the trip to Palestine and the outreach program. It was clarified non-Quakers are welcome in the PYM YF program.
7. **Adult co-clerk** Robert Rosenthal presented on his priorities of the year. Robert is to serve as support for the co-clerk as well as the different committees such as Discernment. He also serves to connect the

Young friends program to the wider meetings with the liaison. Robert was selected into Adult clerk in 2014.

Priorities:

1. Attending trainings to get more perspective on the Quaker business process
2. Supporting liaisons at continuing sessions and communication with the Quaker Life Council
3. Continuing to support committees
4. Work more closely with outreach

8. Hannah presented on the need for **clarification on the sexuality guidelines on hickeys.**

Hannah and Kody have observed that Young Friends are getting hickeys at gatherings and not sure where that falls in the sexuality guideline. They want feedback from the body. Two central questions include determining whether or not we think hickeys are inherently sexual and trying to find ways to enforce the YF Guidelines well and consistently.

Some Young Friends feel that hickeys aren't inherently sexual, but given in a platonic way in the community. Young Friends are concerned about the accountability with adults at Young Friends and parents. The hickeys may be perceived as sexual in other environments. This idea could fall under the common sense guideline and Young Friends could make individual decisions.

A questions was raised if the hickeys should be an individual guideline or fall under another guideline and the consequences for this action.

Some think that this behavior falls along the lines of other actions in the community that are perceived as sexual elsewhere but not here, such as wink and cuddling. Kody brings up that cuddling and wink is done in a public setting and that hickey process is done in a private environment. This action should be respected by not giving hickeys under the care of the Young Friends Program because of the discomfort of others and FAPs.

It has been agreed that this actions falls under the common sense. The body has agreed that the guidelines do not need to be revised. The body approves.

9. Hannah presented on that Young Friends might have a **scholarship to go to the White privilege Conference with New England Yearly Meeting Young Friends**

The White Privilege Conference is welcome by all people and it's located in Philadelphia. There is a program for Young Friends of all ethnicities.

New England Yearly Meeting is coming down and is interested in connecting with Young Friends Program.

Hannah asked friends to raise their hands to show, what the body's interest in the conference.