

MFB Minutes — Late Summer 2019

YF Meeting for Business Late Summer gathering August 23, 2019

Presiding Clerk Julia Carrigan opened Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MFWAB)

Agenda was approved by the body.

An edit was made to the agenda and approved.

- Sunrise Involvement in Upcoming Summit:
 - A friend asked about the logistics of the summit (protesting)
- Update from Youth Religious Life Coordinator (Melinda Wenner Bradley):
 - Young Friends Program Facilitator search and Search Committee; Melinda will provide regular updates from the Committee
 - Quaker College Fair:
 - Clerk asked for feedback from the body:
 - A Friendly Presence mentioned that scholarships to these schools are often offered to Friends.
 - A Friend added that the colleges send current students, who went to local Quaker high schools, to this event.
- Committees:
 - Social Media under Outreach:
 - Committee proposed the following:
 - This is an official statement of the Young Friends:
We the Young Friends of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting believe that everyone deserves to feel safe within our community. We do not condone harassment and bullying; as it goes against our ideals as Quakers. This

Instagram page was created to spread love and positivity to the whole body throughout Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and the wider Quaker world. We look forward to sharing our experiences as Young Friends.

With love and Light,

Young Friends of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting

- The clerk opened the floor for feedback from the body:
 - A Friend suggested adding the phrase “and the wider Quaker world”;
Friends approved this change
 - Multiple Friends asked about the suspension of the Instagram account.
 - A Friend asked to have the statement reread with the new changes.
 - Our clerk suggested that we add “Light” to the closing of our statement.
 - Melinda talked about getting input from other members of PYM staff.
She also mentioned returning to the account in a safe way, including the possibility of having an admin from PYM staff on the Instagram Account.
- Friends approved the statement given by the Social Media committee.
- Friends approved Melinda speaking to a member of the PYM staff in the upcoming week. Melinda will then report to Social Media committee.
- A Friend reintroduced a request from earlier in the Gathering to have a member of Nurture Committee on the Social Media Committee.
 - Friends asked about the logistics of this proposal.
 - The body approved the idea of ensuring that there will be close relations between the committees, without a member of Nurture necessarily having to serve on Social Media.

○ Program:

- A member of program committee shared the Committee's work:
 - Shared the new year-round theme of "change."
 - Christmas gathering theme will be "not all superheroes wear capes."
 - YF will be more involved in workshops.
 - Winter Gathering will include a service project, with the theme of "societal change."
 - Theme for Swatara will be "change in the community."
 - Theme for Annual Sessions will be "chameleon" because we are unsure of the PYM-wide theme, but the year-long theme of change can be integrated into most topics.
 - Late Summer Gathering theme will be change in the wider world.
- Clerk opened the floor for feedback:
 - A Friend felt excited about YF making their own workshops
 - Emma offered help as the Adult Clerk, and also said that other adults in the community will be more than happy to help; other Friendly Presences agreed.
 - On request from a Friend, a member of Program Committee reread the themes that were proposed.
 - Melinda suggested that a YF could write a news article that goes on PYM website about the year-long theme.
 - A member of the Social Media Committee asked about the news article being posted on YF Instagram page.

- The themes proposed by Program Committee were Approved, overriding the approval of different themes for Christmas and Winter Gatherings at Annual Sessions.
 - The body approved of Melinda talking to staff about the idea of expanding Continuing Sessions in March to include an overnight for Young Friends.
 - Friends approved the idea of a news article about the themes, and of it being posted on Instagram.
- YSOP (Youth Service Opportunities Project) from Melinda:
 - Melinda shared an overview of the gathering.
 - Melinda clarified that we will have some time for our own programs on Saturday evening, in addition to the service work earlier in the day.
 - The YSOP event will be in place of the standard Winter Gathering.
 - The gathering will center service in NYC at a homeless shelter.
 - Minimum of 15 YF required to attend.
 - Price of the event will be similar to a normal gathering.
 - Clerk opened the floor for comments:
 - A Friend asked about the schedule for the gatherings in the upcoming year.
 - A Friend stressed that the gap in between the Winter Gathering and Swatara is large.
 - Melinda added that there could be an overnight added to Spring Continuing Sessions.
 - The Clerk and Melinda answered logistical questions about previous years and the upcoming year.

- A member of Program Committee asked if meeting again would be appropriate, even after the themes had been approved.
 - A Friend commented that seeking approval would not be necessary because committees can meet anytime.
- Our Clerk re-directed the topic back to YSOP and any concerns.
- A Friend mentioned that it could be hard for working parents to transport Friends, since the gathering would start early on Friday.
- A Friendly Presence expressed excitement about service, as we talk about activism a lot in our community.
- A Friend asked about YSOP being announced earlier because transportation can be hard for some.
- Melinda reminded the body that this is a one-year experiment, not a long-term commitment.
- A Friendly Presence mentioned the use of a carpool list.
 - A Friend confirmed that the carpool list is very helpful.
 - A Friend mentioned that giving rides to others is complex, as they register independently.
- The substance of the minutes thus far was approved by the body.
- Guideline Review:
 - Normally review two guidelines a year to insure Young Friend agency. The clerk proposed:
 - Only review one this year.

- In the future, we will review one guideline during Late Summer Gathering and one during Winter Gathering.
- This year, we will review the Rule of Three (pre-approved from last business meeting).
- The clerk opened the floor for feedback and approval.
 - A Friend asked about the issues with the Rule of Three.
 - A Friend mentioned that the Rule of Three happens because there are laws enforced by the state.
 - A Friend asked about the process for revising guidelines.
 - A Friend asked about the possibility of finishing early, and in the event that we did, asked if we could revise additional guidelines.
 - The Clerk stated that we certainly could if we got there.
 - A Friend asked about rephrasing the minutes for grammar and structure, even after the body has approved the broad substance of the minutes. The Clerk affirmed that the Clerks team would take care of it.
- The substance of the remainder of the minutes was approved by the body.
- The Clerk noted that she loves God.
- Friends approved of that statement being appended to the minutes.