

Date: 9.21.19

Presiding Clerk: Estelle Hegenbarth

Recording Clerk: Julia Carrigan

The Young Friends community gathered on the 21st of September at the Peace Fair Gathering.

The presiding clerk opened the meeting with a brief period of worship, followed by approving the agenda.

Item from Discernment

Discernment Committee nominated Silvia Shoefer for the role of Permanent Nurturer. The body approved.

Update from the program assistant about Facilitator Search

The program assistant shared with the community that the search committee for the role of Facilitator has been formed and questions previously discerned by the body are in use. One interview has taken place and more are scheduled soon.

Secret Item

The recording clerk reminded the community that this is the gathering that transitions our previous Adult Clerk, Robert Rosenthal to our new Adult Clerk, Emma Leibman. And thus to that order, they revealed that the Secret Item is A Minute of Appreciation for Robert. They read a draft of the minute of appreciation and sought feedback from the community.

A friend expressed their appreciation of Robert's quiet and steadfast support, making us feel deeply heard, and his ability to always answer our questions. A friend reaffirmed Robert's steadiness. A friend appreciates how Robert puts up with our shenanigans, is ridiculous and thus suited to our community.

An adult presence reminded the community that though Peace Fair was once cut out of the Young Friends program, Robert worked to ensure that the fair could continue through working with Quaker Youth, reminding us that we would not be here at Peace Fair without his work.

The incoming adult clerk shared that Robert has been an important emotional force for them as well, even when they were a Young Friend. They also discussed the importance of Robert's steadiness when originally nominating him to the role and the humbling nature of witnessing Robert's loving effect on all of us.

The previous Adult Clerk voiced his gratitude for being a part of our community, the clerking team throughout the years, and the staff of the programs. They expressed how much they have grown and been given by spending time with our community in moments of joy and frustration.

The recording clerk read the updated minute, and the body approved.

“The Young Friends would like to minute our appreciation for Robert Rosenthal for his continued commitment to this community as Adult Clerk for 6 years and an adult presence for over 15. He has supported, not only our clerking team, but our entire community through many important and spiritually significant changes. The community deeply appreciates all that he has done for us and looks forward to continuing to see him as an Adult Presence throughout the years. In particular, we’d like to remember our fond late nights spent with him while reading Little Quack and his continued service with Discernment Committee. We would like to express our deep gratitude for his steady and quiet support, vast knowledge of Quaker jargon and process, and joyful ability to put up with our shenanigans. We thank Robert for the time and energy he has spent with us and will hold him in the light during the next chapters of his life.”

The recording clerk asked the body for approval of the following line:

“We are so excited to welcome Emma Leibman as our incoming Adult Clerk.”

The clerking team presented Robert with a present of a chalkboard coffee mug and some coffee.

The incoming Adult Clerk expressed their hope to be able to fulfill Robert’s legacy of persistent care taking.

A friend pointed out a foolish mistake and the recording clerk amended it. The body approved these minutes.