

**Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Executive Committee**  
**August 26, 2017**  
**Community Friends Meeting**

1. Opening worship

2. Roll Call

**Officers**

Presiding Clerk: Betsy Neale

Assistant Presiding Clerk: Martha Viehmann

Recording Clerk: Terre Holada

Assistant Recording Clerk:

Treasurer: Wilson Palmer

Assistant Treasurer: (vacant)

Statistician: Frank Huss, not present

**Committee Clerks**

Adult Young Friends: (no representative present)

Auditing: Veronica Frost

Braddock Fund: Wilson Palmer

Budget & Finance: Fred Feitler, not present

Earthcare: Marjorie Isaacs not present

Faith & Practice: Betsy Neale

Nominating: Richard Mitchell

Peace & Social Concerns: Richard Mitchell

Personnel: Paul Buckley

Religious Nurture & Education: Nikki Coffey-Tousley

Web Administrator: Lonny Burger not present

Yearly Meeting Planning: Carol Simmons

Youth Services Committee: David Funck

**Quarterly Meeting Clerks**

Miami: Veronica Frost

Whitewater: Diann Herzog sends regrets

**Monthly Meeting Representatives**

Bloomington: Charlotte Hess

Campus: (no representative present)

Clear Creek: Cathy Habschmidt

Community: Deborah Jordan

Dayton: Nikki Coffey-Tousley

Eastern Hills: Wilson Palmer

Englewood: Kay Wheeler not present

Fall Creek: Rex Sprouse sends regrets

Fort Wayne: Terre Holada

Lafayette: Michele Tomarelli sends regrets

Lexington: Richard Mitchell

Louisville: (no representative present)

Miami: David Pfaltzgraff-Carlson  
North Meadow: Dinah Duvall  
Oxford: Steve Angell and Doug Jones  
White Rose: (no representative present)  
Yellow Springs: Deb Kociszewski

**Staff**

Administrative Secretary: Deborah Jordan  
Youth Secretary: vacant

3. The clerk expressed thanks for all who are attending especially Charlotte who is in via Skype.

4. Youth Services, David Funck

We had a great Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting with more children than last year. Last year we didn't know how many would attend, the committee was unprepared. This year, Chie Togami was hired and she did a wonderful job combining different groups. She will prepare a detailed report. The canoe trip had to be cancelled because the river was too high and water from the reservoir made the river higher and colder, but alternate plans were made and everyone had a good time. Thanks were given to Lucas Blanchard-Glueckert, Dylan Cahalan and Andrew Hardy. We are still searching for a Youth Secretary. There is a candidate. At this point nothing is planned for this fall for the youth except Quarterly Meetings.

5. Personnel Committee

Betsy told us that it is the Executive Committee's responsibility to populate this committee. The committee needs "new blood". Paul Buckley is willing to remain on the committee for another year, but not as clerk. We need someone to join the committee soon. The committee is responsible to set salaries. Every year they evaluate pay rates. They also initiate annual reviews. The committee prepares updated contracts for all contractors. The committee does not meet often and much of the work is done through emails and phone calls. The clerk asked for names to be brought forward. Some friends mentioned people they could contact. If anyone has suggestions, please talk to them and let Betsy know. They are welcome to contact Paul for more information. We will revisit this at the next meeting.

6. It was suggested that as this meeting goes along, we should compile a list of things that this committee should share with Monthly Meeting clerks and representatives.

7. Nominating Committee, Richard Mitchell

In sharing the responsibility of this committee with Monthly Meetings, it is hoped that we can encourage more involvement from younger Friends.

Members:

Steve Angell, Oxford  
Rick Boyce, Eastern Hills  
Christine Carver, Bloomington  
Charlotte Hess, Bloomington  
Evalyn Kellum, North Meadows  
Richard Mitchell, Lexington  
Rachel Moore, Community  
Jan Sims, Clear Creek

Phyllis Tonne, Dayton

Richards suggests that we should again ask the rest of the Monthly Meetings for additional members. They have not met yet. He hopes to have on face-to-face meeting a year, but other meetings will use technology.

It would be nice to have a list of Young Adult Friends (18-35) but under 50 would be great. But, since we have representatives from each Monthly Meeting on the Nominating Committee, we don't need a list. It would be nice to know how many attenders fit this category.

Nominating Committee Priorities:

2 people for Budget and Finance  
Friends General Conference Central Committee Representative (there is someone in mind)

3 people for Yearly Meeting Planning, hopefully from Whitewater

Assistant Treasurer

Assistant Recording Clerk

Publications Coordinator if David would take another role

Youth Committee

2 more for AFSC

2 for FWCC

1 for FCNL

Richard updated the latest nomination list and told us about these changes:

The dates should be 2017-2018

2017 Epistolary Meeting, Lisa Cayard and Ben Griffith

2017 Summary of Epistles, Deb Kociszewski

2017 Memorial meeting, Richard Mitchell

Religious Education - remove Rod Dixon and add Kevin Angell

Yearly Meeting Planning - Martha Viehmann and Richard Mitchell are off, Kay Wheeler and Carol Simmons are co-clerks, other members are Terre Holada, Gloria Bruner, and Susan Gerke

Youth Committee, Michelle Tomarelli?, Peter Hardy and David Funck are co-clerks

Earthcare, David Duvall is clerk, Bill Cahalan will continue

Budget and Finance, Anne Pellegrino has resigned, Paul Buckley may resign

Paul Buckley is not Assistant Recording Clerk

Rhonda Pfaltzgraff-Carlson is on Nominating Committee representing Miami Meeting

8. A Friend raised a concern about inclusion of Young Adult Friends in Business Meetings.

Betsy shared that she is concerned about changing business sessions to balance people feeling that there are too many reports, and giving our respectful attention to those giving reports. The floor of business meeting is not always the time for discussions that should be held in committee meetings. Young Adult Friends raised a concern that their voices are not heard.

9. Religious Nurture and Education, Nikki Coffey-Tousley

Report is attached. A Friend suggested that we extend invitations to Yearly Meetings around us. Perhaps some of our youth could make videos to share with youth in monthly meetings. This could happen during YM. Perhaps intervisitation could be extended to youth. RNE will look into this with consultation with youth.

10. Minute Books are ready.

#### 11. Treasurer's Report, Wilson Palmer

Report is attached. The number for Yearly Meeting is inaccurate because the 2017 sessions were paid partly from last year's budget and this year's budget due to the date change of sessions. There were discrepancies in the bill, so Wilson recalculated the bill and sent the money. There has been no response from Earlham. Our investment in the Green Fund did very well. Wilson reminded us that he is willing to be a resource for Monthly Meeting treasurers. The report was accepted with gratitude.

#### 12. Yearly Meeting Planning, Carol Simmons

We are reaching out to Young Adult Friends and asking them to attend our next meeting to decide on the theme and find plenary speakers. A list of writing prompts was sent to monthly meetings asking children and adults to share their experience at yearly meeting. These will be made into posters to be distributed several times a year to monthly meetings. Looking ahead, 2020 will be our 200th anniversary. We would like to start thinking now about making that year a special year. June 13 - 17th 2018 are the dates for next summer. Report was accepted with gratitude.

13. Whitewater Quarter, Diann Herzog sent an email to Betsy regarding Hopewell. The deed for Hopewell has been turned over to Dublin Meeting which is a part of the New Association. The quarter will be responsible for laying down the meeting formally. The report was accepted with thanks to Tom Hill for keeping a database of monthly meetings in North America. Friends may search "monthly meetings in North America" and use their data base for information on Quaker properties.

14. We received a letter from FGC in regards to our work on challenging racism. Marta Rusek is making a list for the FGC website which will have links to YMs and their information on the issue. 12 other YMs have that information. FGC wants to know what we do in this regard. Betsy suggested a working group to address this issue that could work in coordination with the Peace and Social Concerns Committee. Betsy Neale, Steve Angell, Martha Viehmann and Carol Simmons volunteered. The goal would be activities for the Yearly Meeting and resources for Monthly Meetings which would then be posted on the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting website. There was a concern that we have something on the website soon.

#### 15. Handbook Maintenance

It is the responsibility of the Executive Committee to update the handbook. Deborah Jordan and Lonny Burger have been working on this. Friends are asked to look at any section of the book that they are responsible for and make any changes known to the Executive Committee. Richard said that currently the handbook (*section on Executive Committee*) asks each Monthly Meeting to send one representative to EC for every 15 members. Richard suggests changing that to ask each Monthly Meeting to appoint a representative and an alternate. A Friend suggested that perhaps Monthly Meetings should be made accountable if they do not send a representative or at least send them the information they missed and ask that they send a representative next time. Richard volunteered to write a draft as a starting point. Perhaps there could be an ad hoc committee to meet via the telephone to do that and present a draft for the next Executive Committee meeting. Deborah, Richard and Terre Holada volunteered. Google Hangouts is a possibility for Executive Committee involvement. David Pfaltzgraff-Carlson will research options and considerations for remote access to meetings. Doug volunteered to help.

It was suggested that we could possibly meet at a public library which would have Wi-Fi and equipment. Martha will do some research.

16. The minutes have been posted on the website without the attached reports. Deborah will reformat the minutes to include the reports so they don't have to be attachments and separate links on the website.

17. The meeting ended in silence.

The next meeting will be November 4th at Earlham College.

Respectfully submitted,

Terre Holada

Report to Executive Committee from Religious Nurture and Education

8/26/2017

The committee met once since Yearly Meeting sessions, and enjoyed a visit to Louisville Meeting where we saw signs of new growth and listening to one another. We plan to meet again in Ninth Month, and visit another meeting. We find it helpful to combine our committee meetings with intervisitation.

We continue to work to promote the intervisitation program approved at Yearly Meeting sessions. Monthly Meetings, OVYM Committee Clerks and Quarterly Meetings will be receiving a letter from us soon, and we will be writing something for the Quill and website. We then plan to turn to plans to foster more formal travel in the ministry. Gail Koehler and Anne Hutchinson were able to travel to Baltimore Yearly Meeting at their invitation. BYM has a strong commitment to intervisitation both within and outside their Yearly Meeting, and some good resources are provided on their website. Gail has a separate report. They use a form for Friends to use following a visit, and we would like to find a similar way to assess how intervisitation is proceeding and impacting the Yearly Meeting. We do not have staff to collect forms, but encourage Friends to reach out to a member of the committee to share your experiences. We also discussed ways in which we might better connect Friends around specific issues, such as parenting, and will further investigate online meeting software and reach out to Planning Committee to share ideas.

We would like to encourage Meetings and individual Friends to consider using the Spiritual Deepening Program from FGC, which a few meetings are using. Members of the committee have agreed to join an online version of the program which begins in September. Rachel Ernst-Stahlhut is the FGC staff person for the project, and a member of Community Meeting. We encourage Quarterly Meetings to invite her to provide one of the programs for your meetings this year.

We have been in discussion with a meeting which has been challenged by the behavior of specific individuals, and members of the committee will be developing some guidelines to help other Monthly Meetings in similar situations.

We were happy to welcome Kevin Angell of North Meadow onto our committee. He may be new to many OVYM Friends, but grew up in New York Yearly Meeting and serves on Ministry and Counsel at North Meadow. He is our only member from Whitewater Quarter, and we would welcome names of people who might serve.