

## **North Pacific Yearly Meeting Annual Session 2018**

**University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA**

**Minutes of Record, First Plenary Session**

**July 26, 2018; 8:45 am – 10:15 am**

This session was preceded by 15 minutes of singing, led by Jonathan Betz-Zall.

### **Welcome and Introductions.**

Out of the silence of worship, Presiding Clerk Lucretia Humphrey welcome all to this 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Session. She reminded us that we were meeting on land once belonging to the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, who also welcomed the Nisqually Tribe.

For the Roll Call of meetings, members and attenders of all monthly meetings, preparative meetings, and worship groups and all isolated Friends were asked to stand, each group in turn.

Several guests were introduced: Vanessa Julye and Chuck Esser, of Friends General Conference and Central Philadelphia Monthly Meeting; several Friends from Sierra-Cascade Yearly Meeting, including their official representative, Dove John; several Friends from Pacific Yearly Meeting; Juliette Prager from Britain Yearly Meeting. Friends representing AFSC, Friends Peace Teams, and FCNL were also introduced. Miguel Angel Costop, representing a scholarship program in Guatemala, was introduced by Joe Snyder.

Katherine Spinner read the story, *The Other Side*, to all, including our children, who were present for this part of the meeting. Julie Peyton thanked Katherine for her work in providing childcare during the recent Sierra-Cascade YM Annual Session.

Mim Lilly Coleman spoke about the design of the Children's Program for this year and acknowledged the program staff.

Lucretia Humphrey introduced staff members Nora Percival (NPYM Secretary) and John Gotts (webmaster). John mentioned that the Annual Session website (a first for us) had been created by Clint Weimeister, Registrar.

Members of the Annual Session Planning Committee were introduced: Dave Ek, Kathryn Willard, Leni Skarin, Clint Weimeister, John Gotts, and Angie Alexander.

We were reminded that Eugene Monthly Meeting had withdrawn their minute concerning the US relationship and the potential for peace with North Korea. Cims Gillespie of that meeting had led their effort. Steven Aldrich reported that FCNL advocacy teams have been working on issues of peace with North Korea in Congress.

Sara Michener was acknowledged as Daily Bulletin Editor, and we were reminded to turn in items for the bulletin at the session office prior to dinnertime for including in the next morning's edition.

### **Budget Presentation (Donal Sullivan, Treasurer; Janet Jump and Nancy Irving, Finance and Legal Committee Co-Clerks)**

Pertinent to this year's finances, we heard that our income this year has exceeded expenses and that we were finally successful in receiving a full refund of the \$15,000 overpayment that was made to University of Puget Sound last year.

With respect to the coming year's budget, it was noted that our primary income is and will be from assessment payments from meetings and worship groups.

Changes in expenses included: (1) reduced budget for the Committee on the Discipline because of their completing of the printing of copies of our revised Faith and Practice, (2) small increase in corporation fees paid to Washington State and Oregon, (3) increased software maintenance requested by the annual session registrar, and (4) a continuing regular increase of \$10 each for contributions to Quaker organizations.

The finances for Annual Session are in a separate budget developed by the planning committee.

### **By-Law Amendment Proposal (Nancy Irving)**

The change in Section 8-Decision-Making Process of our corporate by-laws is intended to bring the language in this by-law in line with the language in the next edition of Faith and Practice. It is deemed an integrity issue. In effect, the word "unanimity" will be removed, since we do not arrive at unanimity in our decisions but in unity. One Friend spoke about discomfort with the negative tone of the introductory phrase of the first part of the new statement. This Friends and others will meet with a member each of the Committee on the Discipline and the Finance and Legal Committee. No decision was reached at this time.

### **Nominating Committee Report (Ted Etter, Clerk)**

The grid of vacant positions and nominees is posted on the Annual Session website. Ninety-seven positions are to be filled this year; the pool is slightly more than 200 people. The committee has primarily worked on nominations for positions on the Coordinating Committee and the Annual Session Planning Committee because these seemed somewhat more important than memberships on standing committees. They will continue working on the slate of nominees during this annual session. We can see the posted grid near the Rotunda.

### **Inclusivity Reminder**

We were reminded that last year we approved a minute welcoming transgender and gender non-conforming people to our gathering. The text of this minute was read by Anna Fritz. A commentary and worship queries were presented by Kepper Petzing (attached to these minutes).

Olympia Monthly Meeting reported that they approved a similar inclusivity minutes in the spring of this year; a copy is posted in their meetinghouse in a prominent place.

### **Ministry and Oversight Report (Betsey Kenworthy, Clerk)**

Members of this committee were introduced. They will be available to meeting with any of us during and following plenary sessions as needed for spiritual support. Since last summer, they hosted three conference calls with M and O clerks of monthly meetings and worship groups. The subjects of these phone meetings were discussion of the Be Not Afraid sections of the new Faith and Practice, a proposed model for State of the Society reports, and racism (in preparation for this session). During this session, they will be holding a meeting with M and O clerks from meetings (see the schedule). They asked us to practice tenderness, truthfulness, love and courage during this annual session.

Prepared by Angie Alexander, Recording Clerk