October 2017 Youth Committee Report

Since the close of Annual Session 2017, the youth committee has almost had a complete turn over in its members. We have been mainly focusing on supporting out new Children’s Program Coordinator Mim Lily Coleman and evaluating her performance so far. Gathering feedback and comments from lead children’s program teachers, Annual Session evaluations, and members of Mim’s support committee, we are confident that Mim is working hard to fulfill her role and we thank her for what she has accomplished so far. Outside of Annual Session Children’s program, Mim has traveled to quarterly meetings talking with parents, children, and individuals led to be part of the Children’s Program staff at Annual Session. As our committee moves forward we have decided to include Mim as a member of our committee to better serve the children and families of our yearly meeting.

The current members of our committee have tasked ourselves with exploring the past work of this committee and seeing where we can move forward. This includes: reviewing the current safety policy and drafting proposals for change if we find them; assessing the current structure of our children’s program and seeing if there are things we can change to make it a balanced program of safety, fun, enrichment, and child led play; promoting the youth opportunity fund and raising awareness on things youth can do with those funds; and creating an interest group for the 2018 Annual Session focused on raising Quaker youth and enlisting feedback from parents on how our committee can best support them.

We ask that monthly meetings hold our committee in the Light and support our ideas for change. We welcome discussion on the following queries or feedback on topics proposed in this report.

~Parents, what role do you see the Annual Session’s Children’s Program playing in the spiritual life of your child? And how can the Youth Committee help support this vision?

~How can our children’s program coordinator support your meeting’s 1st day activities, lessons, and or experience?

~If you have volunteered for Annual Session children’s program as your volunteer assignment, would you have found a volunteer orientation helpful to explain safety procedures and assignment details? Would you be willing to attend such an orientation during a meal time on the first day of AS?

~If Annual Session children’s program was structured in a child led play type of set up with different stations during each session, would you have any activities, lessons, or projects that you’d feel led to share?

Please direct all feedback and answers to queries to mdw.wolvert@gmail.com

With Light and gratitude,
Meghann Wolvert
Youth Committee Clerk