

**Permanent Board Meeting
Held Over Zoom Video Conference
July 11, 2020**

20-53: Opening Worship

Friends opened with a period of worship.

20-54: Role Call

The recording clerk called the role:

Present: Leslie Manning, Clerk; Hannah Zwirner Forsythe, Recording Clerk; Travis Belcher, Peter Bishop, Martin Zwirner Forsythe, Chris Gant, Ben Guaraldi, Ian Harrington, Rebecca Leuchak, Ed Mair, Christopher McCandless, Jean McCandless, Gina Nortonsmith, Anna Raddochia, Carole Rein, John Reuthe, Martha Schwope, Sara Smith, Will Taber, Bill Walkauskas, Tom Vargo, Mary Zwirner

Ex Officio: Noah Merrill (Secretary); Bob Murray (Finance Clerk); Bruce Neumann (Presiding Clerk); Elizabeth Reuthe (Secretary's Supervisor); Shearman Taber (Treasurer)

Visitors: Clarence Burley, Marian Dalton, Sophie Forsythe, Sarah Gant, Lisa Graustein, Beth Hansen, Janet Hough, LouAnne MacDonald, Frederick Martin, Phebe McCosker, Jane Griswold Radocchia, Jackie Stillwell, Nia Thomas, Morgan Wilson, Honor Woodrow, Kathleen Wooten, Rod Zwirner

Regrets: Fritz Weiss (Former Presiding Clerk); Deana Chase, Darcy Drayton, Kim Harvey Garcia, Elizabeth Szatkowski

20-55: Minutes

Minutes from the Permanent Board's June 6th meeting were circulated in the advanced documents for Friends' comments and questions.

Friends approved the June 6th minutes.

20-56: Nominating Committee Report

Jackie Stillwell, clerk of Yearly Meeting Nominating Committee (NC), shared a brief update from that committee. Her written report is appended. When the COVID-19 pandemic began NC chose to focus their attention on a smaller number of essential roles and committees in light of the short supply of energy. Members of NC checked in with committees about what they were

specifically in need of and responded to those requests. The full slate of nominations to Yearly Meeting committees is appended.

Friends approved the slate of nominations.

Leslie Manning, clerk of the Permanent Board, acknowledged that Honor Woodrow's service as clerk of Ministry and Counsel will end at the close of Sessions 2020. Leslie thanked Honor for her service to the Yearly Meeting in this role and requested that the Recording Clerk write a minute of appreciation for her contributions.

20-57: Minute of Appreciation

Members of the Permanent Board recognize the deeply faithful work that Honor Woodrow has contributed as clerk and recording clerk of Ministry and Counsel (M&C). During her term as clerk the Yearly Meeting has wrestled with the form and function of M&C and struggled with maintaining the vitality and vibrancy of spiritual life that our members so deeply desire. Throughout this Honor has been a steadfast listener and an authentic communicator of the truth. We are grateful for the integrity and dedication that Honor has shown and in awe of the unwavering love that Honor has for our community.

20-58: Nomination of New Treasurer

Jackie Stillwell, clerk of the Yearly Meeting Nominating Committee, brought the nomination of Robert Murray for the role of Yearly Meeting Treasurer, to begin at the close of Sessions 2020.

Friends approved this nomination.

Leslie Manning, Clerk, thanked Shearman Taber for his service as Treasurer and requested the writing of a minute in appreciation of Shearman's contributions to the Yearly Meeting.

20-59: Minute of Appreciation

Friends of the Permanent Board note with great appreciation the service of Shearman Taber. Shearman has given careful attention to the financial concerns of the Yearly Meeting, serving for many years as treasurer. To this work he has brought a well ordered balance between spiritual visioning and practical concerns, and helped us to find our way faithfully. We give thanks to God for Shearman's willingness to serve Friends in New England.

20-60: Internal Nominating Report

Will Taber, clerk of Internal Nominating, shared the slate from that committee.

Dawn Tripp for Yearly Meeting Nominating at Large, Class of 2023

Elizabeth Reuthe renominated as Supervisor to the YM Secretary, Class of 2023

Friends approved these nominations.

Will also noted that Betsy Kantt has resigned from the Permanent Board.

Will reflected that with the completion of his term on Internal Nominating, Allan Kohrman has decided to step back from service on Yearly Meeting committees. Will and Leslie Manning, Clerk, thanked Allan for his years of dedicated service and asked for a minute of appreciation to be written.

20-61: Minute of Appreciation

We celebrate our long friendship with Allan Kohrman, who has devoted 42 years of service to our Yearly Meeting and is now moving on to new chapters in his retirement. Allan has been a prayerful companion, often deepening worship by sharing Quaker and Biblical wisdoms. He is a font of knowledge about Quakers both historical and contemporary, and also the author of several pamphlets, including "Quakers and Jews." Many friends have benefited from heartfelt, sometimes passionate discussions with him and appreciate his faithfulness to his leadings. He was a fixture of the Permanent Board for many years, both as a member and as a visitor. As an active member of our Nominating Committees for years, Allan recruited so many Friends into service that one friend called his talent an "incredible, God-given gift." We are also blessed that Allan has been accompanied at many of our gatherings by his wife, Carolyn, and son, Adam, who have brought their own gifts to the wider community of New England Yearly Meeting.

20-62: Clerks Table Nominating

Ed Mair, member of Clerks Table Nominating, brought the nomination of Gordon Peters for the role of reading clerk, class of 2023.

Friends approved.

20-63: Budget Process

Robert Murray, clerk of the Finance Committee (FC), informed the board about a change to the process for approving the FY2021 budget. Typically the budget is approved at Sessions but in order to reserve our limited time at Sessions for programming, the budget will come to the September meeting of the Permanent Board. The FC will hold a number of listening sessions between Sessions and the September meeting so that the wider body has an opportunity to ask questions, and express comments and concerns.

20-64: Treasurer's Report

Shearman Taber, Treasurer, spoke to his written report, which is appended. In his report Shearman expressed significant concerns about the current financial situation and the wider economy in general. Friends had the opportunity to share questions and concerns.

20-65: Bank Letters and Resolutions

Bob Murray, clerk of the Finance Committee, brought forward bank letters and resolutions for Friends approval. These are typically approved by the body at Sessions but the Permanent Board is approving them this year to avoid extra items on the agenda during our virtual Sessions.

The following resolutions are brought by the Finance Committee:

1. That Robert Murray be appointed New England Yearly Meeting treasurer for the ensuing year or until a successor is appointed and qualified.
2. That Robert M. Spivey be appointed Friends Camp treasurer for the ensuing year or until a successor is appointed and qualified.
3. That Robert Murray, Yearly Meeting treasurer; and Noah Merrill, Yearly Meeting secretary; be individually authorized to open and close bank accounts in the name of New England Yearly Meeting as needed.
4. That Robert M. Spivey, Friends Camp treasurer; and Anna Hopkins, Friends Camp director, be individually authorized to open and close bank accounts in the name of Friends Camp as needed.
5. That Noah Merrill, Yearly Meeting secretary; Robert Murray, New England Yearly Meeting treasurer; and Bruce Neumann, presiding clerk, be designated as alternate signers, individually, of all bank accounts of New England Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, except those checks for greater than \$10,000, which shall require the signatures of two signers from the list above.
6. That Anna Hopkins, Friends Camp director; Robert M. Spivey, Friends Camp treasurer; and John Reuthe, Friends Camp Committee clerk, be authorized, individually, as signers of the Friends Camp bank accounts, except those checks for greater than \$10,000, which shall require the signatures of two signers from the list above.

Friends approved the bank letters and resolutions.

20-66: Comment from the Secretary on Finances

Noah Merrill, Yearly Meeting Secretary, shared his take on the current Yearly Meeting (YM) financial situation. We are slightly behind on individual giving, but Noah does not feel that we are facing an unprecedented deficit. The decision was made this spring to not send out a spring appeal letter for donations in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and its financial repercussions for

individuals and families. We will have more information about the YM financial situation after the appeal letter goes out and after we know about Sessions registration.

The Finance Committee is prepared to revise the FY2021 budget, as necessary, before the September meeting. Care and caution is good, but we haven't seen dramatic changes in giving that causes significant concern, and our current deficit is not substantially larger than other years.

20-67: Sessions Update

Bruce Neumann, Presiding Clerk, shared a brief update on the planning for Sessions. His report is appended. Bruce has spent a lot of time in discernment about how we can best use our time together at Sessions. As the uprisings in support of racial justice have swelled across the country this summer it became clear to Bruce that our limited Sessions time should be focused on the anti-racism work being done in our meetings and communities. The specifics of the week are still being determined but Friends affirmed this direction for the week.

20-68: Apology Letter to Native Americans

At our June meeting a proposed letter of apology to Native Americans was discussed. Friends had numerous comments and concerns about the letter and requested that a new draft be brought to this meeting. That draft is appended.

Friends expressed concern that the revised draft of this letter did not reflect the recommendations made at June's meeting. This current draft centers us and not the pain that we have caused.

Facing a lack of unity with the current letter, it was proposed that the Reparations Working Group work with Sara Smith, Peter Bishop, Martha Schwope, and other interested individuals, on a further revision of the letter of apology with the goal of finalizing a letter at a separate meeting prior to Sessions. They will meet by July 25th.

Friends approved of this path forward.

20-69: Secretary's Report

Noah Merrill, Yearly Meeting Secretary, reflected on the ways the Yearly Meeting has been working to connect and support Friends.

How can the heart of our tradition be lived out today? We will be new people after this pandemic; we are being changed both as individuals and as a society of Friends. We don't have to wait until we've arrived in the new place to live as if the truth is true. We have the opportunity to live into the current changes even if where we are isn't where we will eventually be.

20-70: Land Swap

Noah Merrill, Yearly Meeting Secretary, shared a proposal from the Lincoln School in Providence, RI, to swap a small piece of unusable land with the city of Providence for an equivalent amount of land that the city owns. This proposal comes to the Permanent Board because New England Yearly Meeting owns the land on which the Lincoln School sits. The details of the land swap are in the appended proposal.

Friends had the opportunity to ask questions and comment on the proposal.

Friends approved the proposed land swap.

20-71: Friends Camp Budget

Anna Hopkins, Friends Camp Director, brought the first quarter budget for Friends Camp to the Permanent Board for approval. The proposed budget is appended. Because of the pandemic Anna and the camp committee have proposed a slightly different budget proposal timeline for FY2021. We anticipate receiving a proposed budget for the remainder of FY2021 at a later meeting.

Friends approved the proposed budget for the first quarter of FY2021.

20-72: Report from Ministry and Spiritual Life Work Group

Sarah Gant, clerk of the Ministry and Spiritual Life Working Group, spoke to the written report from that group. That report is appended. This working group anticipates reporting to the Permanent Board this fall.

20-73: Resources Supporting Volunteer Leadership

Nia Thomas, Quaker Practice and Leadership Facilitator, presented a draft charge for a working group to examine resources to support volunteer leadership. The request for this working group comes out of the approved recommendations from Sessions 2019 to address inclusive leadership development.

This working group is asked to explore how NEYM might responsibly and consistently reduce financial barriers to our most essential volunteer leadership roles, specifically Presiding Clerk, Clerk of the Permanent Board, Clerk of Ministry & Counsel, and Treasurer. They will report to the Permanent Board at the end of October.

Friends were asked to approve the creation of this group, giving Leslie the authority to name its members.

Friends approved.

We are reminded that barriers to leadership don't just arise when someone is being asked to take on a leadership role. There are barriers to participation in the Yearly Meeting which make certain people less likely to be noticed as potential leaders. Who would benefit from changes to barriers to leadership? Let's focus this work on specific people.

20-74: Travel Minute

Sarah Gant, a member of Lisa Graustein's support committee, read a travel minute for Lisa's work with Niyonu Spann to "co-facilitate a two-year collaboration with US and Canadian Friends to develop a racial-justice consultation/training program for Friends".

Friends approved Lisa's travel minute. We look forward to hearing from Lisa and her organizational partners about this important work.

20-75: Israel/Palestine Working Group

Leslie Manning, Clerk, reminded Friends that we, the Permanent Board (PB), are charged with doing the work of Sessions. At Sessions 2017 the body approved a minute naming our concern with the ongoing conflict in Israel and Palestine. Carl Williams, clerk of Northwest Quarter brought a concern and request from that quarter that Sessions, and the PB as its representatives, reaffirm the 2017 minute and appoint a working group to discern future actions for the Yearly Meeting (YM). The recommended proposal is appended.

Friends expressed concerns about whether this is work that we are actually engaged with corporately. There are additional concerns about how this group interacts with and is related to the current self-appointed working group whose relationship with the YM has been complicated.

Friends approved this working group to be carefully overseen by Coordinating and Advisory.

20-74: Memorial Minutes

Throughout the meeting we heard excerpts from the memorial for Mary Manglesdorf, Paul Manglesdorf, Greg Williams.

Friends approved forwarding the memorial minutes to Sessions.

20-75: Closing Worship

Friends closed with a period of worship. We will meet again on September 19th.

Leslie Manning
Leslie Manning (Sep 21, 2020 12:02 EDT)

Leslie Manning, clerk of Permanent Board

2020 NEYM Nominating Slate

Permanent Board (50)

2021

Allen, Kimberly (Durh)
Leuchak, Rebecca (Prov)
McCandless, Christopher (Burl)
Zwirner, Mary (Bhill)
Walkauskas, Bill (Nhav)

2022

Belcher, Travis (Mon)
Drayton, Darcy (Wear)
Forsythe, Hannah (Bhill)
Nortonsmith, Gina (Nham)
Smith, Sara (Con)
Szatkowski, Elizabeth (Port)

2023

Bishop, Peter (Mtob)
Forsythe, Martin (Bhill)
Mair, Edward (Ames)
McCandless, Jean (Burl)
Taber, Will (Fpon)
Vargo, Thomas (Nham)

2024

Chase, Deana (West)
Gant, Christopher (Bhill)
Harrington, Ian (Cam)
Manning, Leslie (Durh)*
Reuthe, John (Vass)
Schwope, Martha (Well)

2025

Hanson, Beth (Wrly)
Wilson, Morgan (Fram)
Weinholtz, Donn (Hart)
Weinholtz, Diane (Hart)
Rein, Carole (Ndhor)

Archives & Historical Records (6)

2021

Schmidt, Macci (Nham)

2022

Cazden, Elizabeth (Prov)
Doyle, Thomas (Mtob)

2023

Quirk, Brian (Law)
Forsythe, Carol (Put)*
Crosby, Eileen (Mt Toby)

Board of Managers of Investments & Permanent Funds (10)

2021

Chicos, Roberta (Cam)
Spivey, Robb (Bruns)

2022

Hackman, Matthew (Prov)
Malin, Kathy (Smith)*
Tierney, Joseph (Cam)

2023

Harrington, Ian (Cam)
Mair, Edward (Ames)

Board of Managers of Investments & Permanent Funds (cont'd)

2024

Philbrook, Erik (Well)

2025

McKnight, Jeanne (Well)

Taber, Shearman (Nham)

Development (currently under review)

2021

Chase, Deana (West)

Moyer, Patricia (Fpon)

Quoos, Thayer (Nhav)

Reuthe, John (Vass)

2022

2023

Earthcare Ministry (15)

2021

Gates, Stephen (Wfal)*

Stoner, Kimberly (NHav)

Lightsom, Frances (WFalP)

2022

Marshall, Margaret (Nar)

Melix, Gail (ESan)*

2023

Wallis, Timmon (Nham)

MacKenzie, Reb (QCUn)

Finance (15)

2021

Savery-Frederick, Carol (Hart)

2022

2023

Forsythe, Hannah (Bhill)

Stern, Roland (Well)

2024

Maurer, Philip (Nham)

Sprogell, Sarah (Durh)

2025

Drysdale, Robert Scott (Han)*

Olsen, Kathryn (ESan)

Treasurer: Robert Murray (Bhill)

Friends General Conference (15)

2021

Yes, Eppchez (Nham)

2022

2023

Friends United Meeting (12 Tri Reps, 9 appointed)

2022 (Triennial Reps)

Blood, Peter (Mtob)	Olsen, Kathryn (Sand)*	_____
Collea, Beth (Dov)	Sheldon, Martha (Durh)	_____
Fogarty, Maggie (Dov)	Weiss, Fritz (Han)	_____

FUM General Board Representatives (3)

_____	<i>Martin, Frederick (BHill)</i>	<i>Tripp, Dawn (Alnk)</i>
-------	----------------------------------	---------------------------

Friends World Committee (12)

2021

Hopkins, Mary (FPon), co-opt
Jorgenson, Chris (Cam)
Rodriguez, Yanire (Cam)
Woods, Greg (Cam)

2022

Hal Weaver (Well)

2023

Representatives: Judith Goldberger (BH)

Legacy Gift Committee (9)

2021

Link, Mary (Mtob)*
Mair, Edward (Ames)

2022

Craig Jensen (Mon)
Kristna Evans (Durh)

2023

Gant, Sarah (Bhill)
Rockwood, Susan (Mid)*

Ministry and Counsel At-Large (currently under review)

2021

Brokaw, Fran (Han)
Hough, Janet (Cobs)
MacArthur, Hugh (Han)

2022

Keefe-Perry, Callid (Fpon)
Olsen, Kathryn (Sand)
Anna Dulin (Vass)

2023

Puente de Amigos (9)

2021

Fogarty, Maggie (Dov)
Provencal-Fogarty, Mary (Dov)*
Smith, Jennifer (Con)
McManamy, Em (Prov)*

2022

Kay, Bruce (Stor)
Lindo, Richard (Fram)
Smith, Theresa (Mon)
Spicer, Honora (Bhill)

2023

Lopez, Felice (Fram)

Racial, Social, and Economic Justice (12)

2021

Carey-Harper, Rachel (Matt)
Varner, James (Oron)

2022

Blanchard, Neil (Fram)
Dicranian, Diane (Midc)
Shoop, Nur (Dov)

2023

*Morrill, Beth (Hart)**

Sessions Committee (currently under review)

2021

Haines, Christopher (Fpon)

2022

Leuchak, Rebecca (Prov)*

2023

Youth Ministries (9)

2021

Heath, Harriet (Acad)
Woodrow, Honor (Fram)

2022

Dawson, Janet (Fram)*
Weiss, Fritz (Han)

2023

West, Kim (Camb)
Matchette, Abigail (Bur)
Sanchez-Eppler, Karen (Nham)

Representatives to Other Friends Organizations (5)

American Friends Service Committee Corp. (4)

2021

Bennett, Dulany (Han)
Woodrow, Peter (Port)*

2022

2023

Rhodewalt, Scott (NEK)

Friends Committee on National Legislation (6)

2021

Gorham, Charlotte (Nhav)
Harrington, Ian (Cam)

2022

Weinholtz, Donn (Hart)

2023

Friends Peace Teams Project (3)

Shippen, Nancy (Fpon)

Quaker Earthcare Witness (1)

Haines, Christopher (Fpon)

William Penn House (1)

Internal Nominating Committee Report to Permanent Board July 11, 2020

Clerk: Leslie Manning 2019-2022 Recording Clerk: Hannah Zwirner Forsythe Aug. 2018- 2021

Permanent Board – Reference Only

2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
# Ben Guaraldi Anna Radocchia Carole Rein	Kimberly Allen Rebecca Leuchak Christopher McCandless Mary Zwirner	Gina Nortonsmith Darcy Drayton #Hannah Zwirner-Forsythe Sara Smith Elizabeth Szatkowski Travis Belcher Elizabeth Kantt	Will Taber Martin Zwirner-Forsythe Jean McCandless Ed Mair Peter Bishop Thomas Vargo	@Leslie Manning John Reuthe #Ian Harrington #Christopher Gant #William Walkauskas

in second term (can't be reappointed)
@ clerk

* filling out term – can be reappointed 2 entire terms

Sub Committee	2021	2022	2023
Permanent Board Clerk		Leslie Manning	
Clerks Table Nominating	Travis Belcher *+Fritz Weiss *+Judy Goldberger	Katherine Fisher Anna Radocchia	+#Edward Mair +Karen Sanchez-Eppler
Personnel	+# Neil Blanchard +Eleta Jones #Maureen Lopes	+Nat Shed	
Internal Nominating	+ LVM Shelton @Will Taber +Penny Wright	+Sarah Gant +Janet Hough	
YM Nominating at Large		+Kristna Evans	+#LouAnne Mcdonald +#Karen Sargent +Cat Chapin-Bishop +Dawn Tripp
YM Nominating Clerk	+Jackie Stillwell		
Friends Camp Nominating (2 yr terms)	+Amy Lee Viera +%Joann Austin		
NEYM Secretary Supervisor			+Elizabeth Reuthe

Faith and Practice Revision (Open ended terms)	+RachelWalker Cogbill +Carolyn Hilles-Pilant	@+Phebe McCosker	+Maggie Edmondson +Susan Reilly	+Douglas Armstrong +Eric Edwards +Marion Athearn +Eleanor Godway
---	---	---------------------	---------------------------------------	--

Bold = Submitted for Permanent Board Approval † = not on Permanent Board # = in second term
@ clerk % = appointed by Friends Camp clerk * = filling out term can be reappointed 2 full terms

Bank Resolutions Minute

The following resolutions are brought by the Finance Committee:

1. That Robert Murray be appointed New England Yearly Meeting treasurer for the ensuing year or until a successor is appointed and qualified.
2. That Robert M. Spivey be appointed Friends Camp treasurer for the ensuing year or until a successor is appointed and qualified.
3. That Robert Murray, Yearly Meeting treasurer; and Noah Merrill, Yearly Meeting secretary; be individually authorized to open and close bank accounts in the name of New England Yearly Meeting as needed.
4. That Robert M. Spivey, Friends Camp treasurer; and Anna Hopkins, Friends Camp director, be individually authorized to open and close bank accounts in the name of Friends Camp as needed.
5. That Noah Merrill, Yearly Meeting secretary; Robert Murray, New England Yearly Meeting treasurer; and Bruce Neumann, presiding clerk, be designated as alternate signers, individually, of all bank accounts of New England Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, except those checks for greater than \$10,000, which shall require the signatures of two signers from the list above.
6. That Anna Hopkins, Friends Camp director; Robert M. Spivey, Friends Camp treasurer; and John Reuthe, Friends Camp Committee clerk, be authorized, individually, as signers of the Friends Camp bank accounts, except those checks for greater than \$10,000, which shall require the signatures of two signers from the list above.

**Report to Permanent Board
From the Presiding Clerk
July 11, 2020**

I've long been intrigued by the idea that time is a mental construct we use to make sense of our experience. Certainly we've all experienced time seeming to go faster or slower. And during this pandemic time seems to make no sense at all. Much has happened since we met on June 6 (less than a month as I write).

Plans for on-line Sessions are proceeding. The basic schedule is set, with a few things to be inserted here and there; the plenary speaker and the Bible half hour speaker are meeting with their elders to prepare; the home group team, led by Lisa Graustein is soliciting group facilitators and Lisa is planning trainings for those facilitators; a tech team, led by David Collea, is forming to support the many events that will happen by Zoom; we have a number of ideas for the opening and closing celebrations, but details are not set. We are aware of the loss of those countless moments together – in the dining hall, in the dorm, walking from one building to another. But given the recent spikes in the virus, there is no question that we are doing the right thing in not meeting in-person.

The biggest thing I have to report is that I am in the midst of planning a significant shift in our business sessions. During a meeting with the Noticing Patterns working group, which had been scheduled to consider how that work would interface with business this year, the Holy Spirit showed up and advised us that we should abandon our regular agenda and tend, instead, to considering how Friends are led to respond to heightened awareness of Racial Injustice. As so often happens when the Lord gives us a task we are not comfortable with, I had some initial resistance. I continued to pray on this idea, and consulted with Coordinating and Advisory, the clerk's table, and a few trusted (f)Friends, and came to accept that yes, this is our work this year. One could say that we have been preparing for this moment, with our increasing attention to racism and white supremacy over recent years.

I have called a meeting with members of Racial, social and Economic Justice, Challenging White Supremacy, and Noticing Patterns of Oppressions and Faithfulness, as well as a couple from Earthcare Ministry - to consider how we can best use our available time. My current thinking is that we will take up the reparations letter of apology and recommendations, as it may be a useful example of how Quakers have come to see how some previous behaviors were flawed.

Other than Nominating and some usual Unity Agenda things (bank resolutions) which I had already intended for PB to take up, the one other significant piece of work is the budget. Current thinking is that Finance will advertise and hold a couple of listening sessions in August, then PB can approve the budget at its September Meeting.

NEYM Letter Apology to Native Americans

July 4, 2020

To the Algonquian peoples of the North East who continue among us: the Wampanoag, Massachusetts, Nipmuck, Pennacook, Penobscot, Passamaquoddy, Mi'kmaq, Maliseet, Quinnipiac, Mohegan, Pequot, Pocumtuc, Tunzis, Abenaki, Mahican, and Narragansett.

An Apology

As participants in European colonization and its continuing beneficiaries, Quakers stand in the shadow of a great and continuing injustice. For too long and in too many ways, we have failed to honor that of God in you, and also betrayed that of God in ourselves. Our hearts are broken by the suffering we caused. Today we acknowledge that injustice.

Coming originally as European settlers, Quakers participated in and benefitted from the colonization effort which displaced your ancestors and subjected them to ethnocide and genocide. Shamefully, the injustice of displacement and disrespect continues. We feel the weight of how we still benefit from broken treaties and genocidal policies.

We also feel the weight of our support for the “Indian Industrial Boarding Schools” which starkly confronts us with our spiritual and cultural arrogance. Quakers were among the strongest promoters of this policy and managed over 30 schools for Indian children, most of them boarding schools, during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Many of these policies came to an end only in the 1970s when an American Indian Movement rose up in opposition and helped pass the 1978 Indian Child Welfare Act. We know that the suffering caused by this system is vast and intergenerational in its effects.

We ask forgiveness, knowing that the burden of making amends is ours. We seek to learn, knowing that it is our job to listen, not yours to teach. We stand in awe of your resilience and faithfulness as a people. In humility, we hold ourselves open to suggestions and to dialogue, demanding nothing and holding no expectations.

A Call for Us to Act

The New England Yearly Meeting of Friends acknowledges that we must regain a right relationship with Native Peoples as well as with nature. To that end, we commit as a body to undertake the following:

- We will do the work to learn about Indigenous People on whose ancestral land our homes and our meetinghouses sit and will acknowledge those people with a plaque and educational material.
- We will infuse our religious educational programs and the work of our social justice committees with an awareness of the history of settler colonialism and our debt to Native Americans.

- We will follow the lead of Native Americans and support their efforts to obtain social and environmental justice, including preserving the integrity of their lands in the face of on-going resource extraction, recognizing that theft of Native American land is not just a matter of history; it is happening today.
- We will support state and federal recognition of the status of tribes as acknowledged sovereign nations entitled to self-government and reparations.
- We will vigorously support efforts by Native Americans in New England and elsewhere to reclaim control of their sacred and culturally significant lands, including the restitution of lands unlawfully taken from them in violation of treaties.
- We will set aside a portion of our Legacy Funds to further the above objectives.
- Further, we pledge to be vigilant in our relations with other indigenous peoples, remembering the lessons we have learned about our history here as we move forward around the world.

Overview of Proposed Land Swap For Lincoln School **New England Yearly Meeting (NEYM) and City of Providence**

As of June 19, 2020

Overview/Objective: Gain agreement for the NEYM to swap approximately 0.17 acres of unusable land it owns behind Lincoln School for an equivalent amount of land owned by the City of Providence which is adjacent to our existing Lower School Parking lot. This city land (which is unusable to the City) will help to expand our existing parking area and improve parking and traffic congestion on East Orchard Avenue, an area which has been a source of complaints by both neighbors and Lincoln parents. There is also concern that the existing tension will be further exacerbated by the construction of Lincoln's new Little School (for ages 18 mos-3 years) which is due to be completed in early August 2020 in the same general area along East Orchard and Brookside Avenue (in front of Lincoln's Lower School).

As discussed below, the land swap would allow Lincoln to keep seven parking spaces currently on City land and, importantly, give us more space for a turnaround area for student drop-off and pickup to help improve the traffic flow in the neighborhood – a win-win for all.

NEYM Background: NEYM owns the land upon which Lincoln School sits under a 99 year lease which was renewed in 1976. This includes land that extends down behind the back of the school deep into a ravine that abuts the Blackstone Park Conservancy owned by the city of Providence.

Lincoln Background: As seen in the attached map, Lincoln had previously been using city land for 7 parking spots at the end of Brookside Ave for which we had paid a long-term lease payment approximately 15 years ago (see a portion of the blue shaded area in the attached diagram).

- Our amortization of the lease expense recently ended (although neither the city nor Lincoln can find evidence of the original lease and duration of the arrangement in our respective records). As such and with our construction of the new Little School on East Orchard, the City is requiring that we resolve our use of their land as part of the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy for our new building. This creates some urgency around this proposal as the city originally suggested that we remove the seven parking spaces
- The combination of additional traffic from a new building with the potential loss of the existing seven spots would adversely affect the current traffic situation.
- Given that, Lincoln came up with the idea of a potential land swap. This would allow us to keep the seven parking spaces as well as give us more space for a turn-around allowing for easier student drop-off and pickup which will help resolve the congestion that impacts the neighbors and parents.

- We had held off on reaching out to the NEYM until we had an idea if this was something the city of Providence would entertain. It appears the city is willing to consider this option which has the potential to generate a beneficial outcome for all parties.

Land to be Swapped: Lincoln hired land surveyors, Alpha Associates, to develop a plot plan identifying all of the elements. The City's land with the parking spots comprises exactly 7,460 square feet (~100ft north to south x 75ft east to west or ~0.17 acres). NEYM would exchange an equivalent amount of land as shown in the Northeast corner of Plat 41 lot 196 – this land is at the base of the ravine in a spot that Lincoln would not need for any purpose, nor could we build on due to slope and setbacks required from wetlands.

Next Steps/Expected Timing:

- 1) Review proposed areas to be swapped with the city (meeting set for Tuesday 6/23) – Lincoln Administrative Staff, Jon Anderson (Attorney), City Planner Bob Azar and Representative from Blackstone Park Conservancy
- 2) Gain approval from city that they are willing to pursue (Timing TBD)
- 3) Gain approval from NEYM that they are willing to proceed (7/11 Permanent Board meeting)
- 4) Lincoln's attorney (Jon Anderson from Brennan Recupero) to draw up revisions to deeds.
- 5) Final approvals from both City and NEYM (need clarification from city for approvals required)
- 6) File revised deeds with City.
- 7) Lincoln will cover all reasonable attorney's fees.

CERTIFICATION:

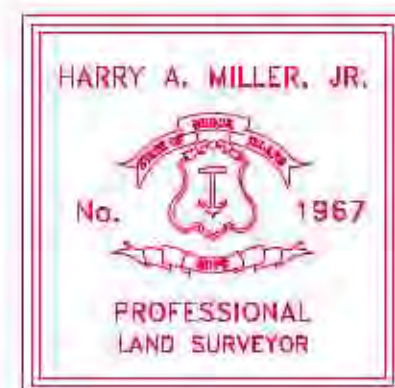
THIS PLAN, AND UNDERLYING SURVEY PRODUCT, WAS PREPARED FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF THE PERSON, PERSONS, OR ENTITY NAMES IN THIS CERTIFICATION. SAID CERTIFICATION DOES NOT EXTEND TO ANY UN-NAMED PERSON, PERSONS, OR ENTITY WITHOUT AN EXPRESS RE-CERTIFICATION BY THE SURVEYOR OF RECORD NAMING SAID PERSON, PERSONS, OR ENTITY.

TO LINCOLN SCHOOL, IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED THAT THIS SURVEY AND BEEN CONDUCTED AND THIS PLAN HAS BEEN PREPARED PURSUANT TO SECTION 9 OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE RHODE ISLAND STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS ON NOVEMBER 25, 2015, AS FOLLOWS:

LIMITED CONTENT BOUNDARY SURVEY CLASS "1"
CULTURE CLASS "III"

FURTHER, THE INFORMATION DEPICTED ON HEREON WAS OBTAINED FROM FIELD OBSERVATIONS MADE ON THE SITE IN NOVEMBER, 2019 FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE CONDUCT OF A SURVEY FOR THE PREPARATION OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE SUBDIVISION.

HARRY A. MILLER JR., No. 1967
COA: LS-A101



REFERENCES:

- RECORDED PLAT 286: "MOSES BROWN PLAT..."
- RECORDED PLAT 672: "MOSES BROWN PLAT..."
- RECORDED PLAT 63: "MAP OF STREETS IN BLACKSTONE PARK..."
- BOUNDARY SURVEY: "THE LINCOLN SCHOOL..." BY WATERMAN ENGINEERING, MARCH 23, 2001
- BOUNDARY SURVEY: "THE LINCOLN SCHOOL..." BY INSITE ENGINEERING
- BOUNDARY SURVEY: "THE LINCOLN SCHOOL..." BY WATERMAN ENGINEERING, MAY 13, 2019
- L.E. 1159, Pg. 208; LOT 47
- L.E. 11450, Pg. 196; LOT 144
- L.E. 2733, Pg. 191; ACCESS EASEMENT TO LOT 144
- L.E. 803, Pg. 506; SEWER EASEMENT

PROJECT SURVEYOR:

HARRY A. MILLER, JR.
ALPHA ASSOCIATES, LTD.
35 ROCKY HOLLOW ROAD
EAST GREENWICH, RI 02818

FLOOD NOTE:

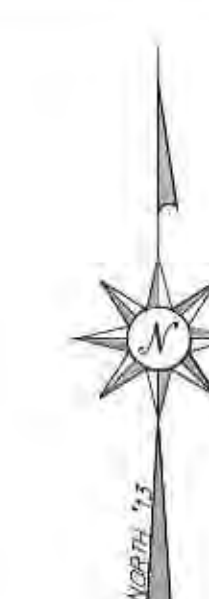
PARCEL FALLS WITHIN FLOOD X PER FEMA FIRM MAP 4400700309K, REVISED: 10/2/15

PARCEL OWNERS:

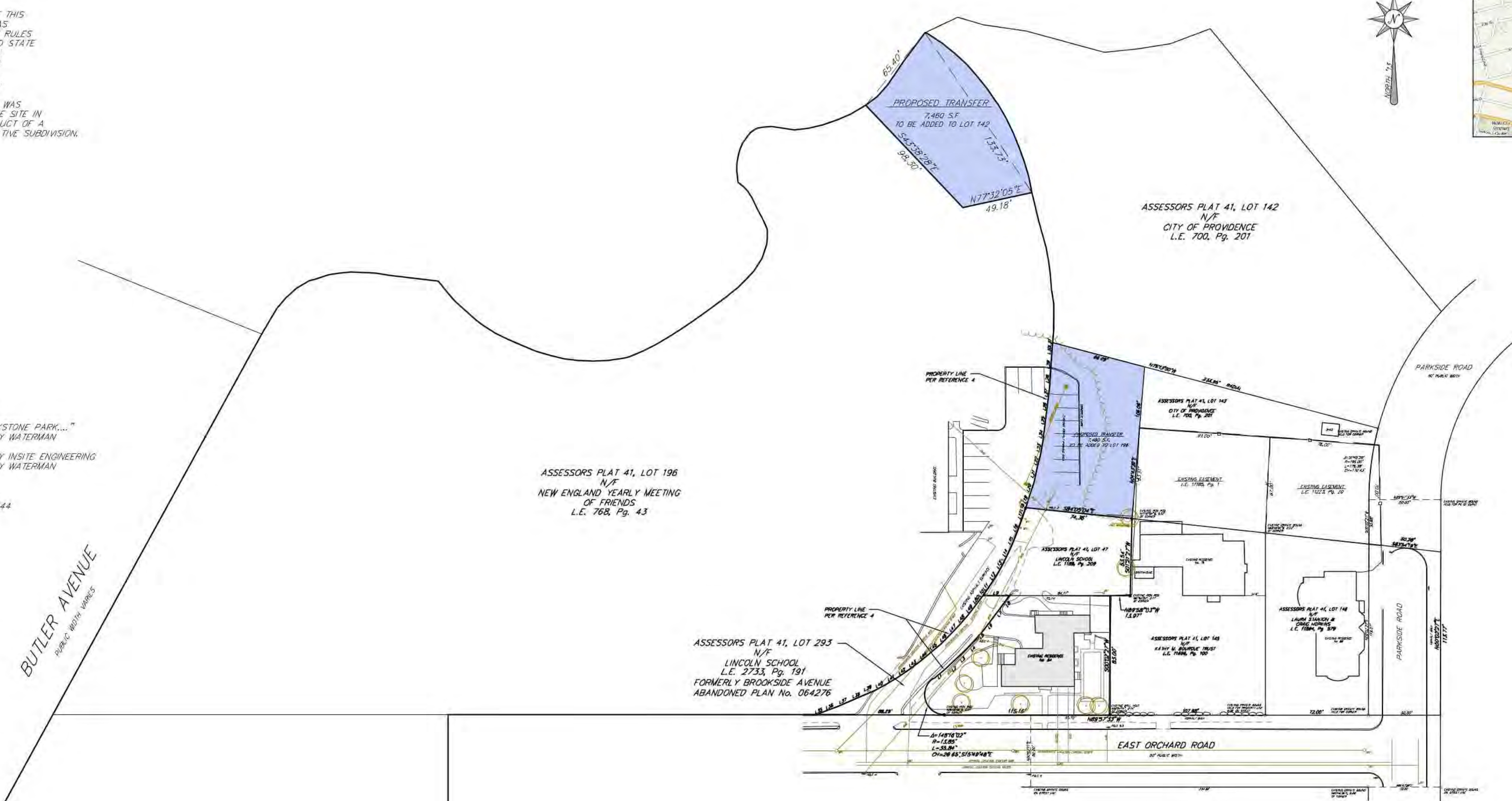
LOTS 47 & 144
LINCOLN SCHOOL
310 BUTLER AVENUE
PROVIDENCE, RI 02906

LEGEND:

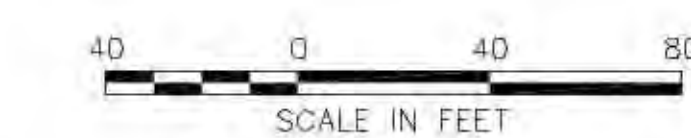
- EXISTING GRANITE BOUND
- EXISTING DRILL HOLE IN WALL CAP
- EXISTING IRON ROD
- EXISTING UTILITY POLE
- SET "MAG" NAIL
- EDGE OF PAVEMENT
- EXISTING BOARD FENCE
- EXISTING CHAINLINK FENCE
- EXISTING WROUGHT IRON FENCE
- EXISTING STONE WALL



LOCUS NO SCALE



LINE TABLE					
LINE	LENGTH	BEARING	LINE	LENGTH	BEARING
L1	9.14	N60°30'24\"/>	L29	9.79	N07°34'09\"/>
L2	10.04	N48°56'22\"/>	L30	9.77	N06°55'42\"/>
L3	10.10	N45°55'11\"/>	L31	9.69	N03°54'25\"/>
L4	10.18	N42°56'28\"/>	L32	9.78	N04°11'28\"/>
L5	9.94	N41°30'54\"/>	L33	10.04	N04°01'11\"/>
L6	10.14	N38°30'58\"/>	L34	9.95	N04°12'46\"/>
L7	10.11	N36°35'51\"/>	L35	0.49	N03°53'47\"/>
L8	9.30	N34°35'40\"/>	L36	5.64	N62°14'55\"/>
L9	18.41	N89°58'03\"/>	L37	10.32	N67°25'26\"/>
L10	14.71	N36°35'11\"/>	L38	10.18	N67°00'28\"/>
L11	9.29	N34°35'40\"/>	L39	9.82	N65°30'12\"/>
L12	9.09	N30°56'19\"/>	L40	9.27	N63°57'39\"/>
L13	9.21	N28°10'15\"/>	L41	9.30	N61°39'02\"/>
L14	9.34	N24°55'44\"/>	L42	9.27	N59°50'47\"/>
L15	9.93	N22°49'29\"/>	L43	9.21	N55°52'47\"/>
L16	9.62	N20°25'21\"/>	L44	9.33	N53°44'23\"/>
L17	9.70	N19°13'18\"/>	L45	9.36	N50°51'04\"/>
L18	1.10	N17°40'02\"/>	L46	9.39	N48°46'22\"/>
L19	9.79	N17°40'02\"/>	L47	9.33	N45°16'54\"/>
L20	10.41	N17°01'23\"/>	L48	9.64	N42°55'28\"/>
L21	9.51	N14°47'09\"/>	L49	9.30	N41°30'54\"/>
L22	9.81	N12°42'28\"/>	L50	9.53	N39°10'58\"/>
L23	9.44	N10°38'40\"/>	L51	9.29	N36°53'51\"/>
L24	9.67	N08°16'30\"/>			



ADMINISTRATIVE SUBDIVISION SCHEME
ASSESSORS PLAT 41, LOT 142, 143, & 146
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND
PREPARED FOR: LINCOLN SCHOOL
PREPARED BY: ALPHA ASSOCIATES, LTD.
35 ROCKY HOLLOW ROAD
EAST GREENWICH, RI 02818
T.401.884.8506
F.401.884.7747
SCALE: 1"=40' NOVEMBER, 2019 SHEET 1 OF 1

Friends Camp / New England Yearly Meeting -- FY2021 Oct-Dec (Q1) Operating Budget

	<u>FY2020 Q1</u>	<u>FY2021 Q1</u>	
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	
INCOME			
4100 Summer Program Fees	\$ 50,163	\$ -	Do not open registration until 2021
4200 Contributions Received			
4201 Contributions from Individuals	\$ 6,853	\$ 7,000	
4202 Contributions from Quaker Meetings	1,000	1,000	
4211 Contributions from NEYM	2,355	2,355	
4221 Camp Renewal & Replace. Contrib. Rec'd.	73	-	
Total 4200 Contributions Received	\$ 10,281	\$ 10,355	
4300 Other Operating Income	525	0	
7110 General Campership Fund	1,850	1,800	
7140 One Child at a Time Fund	1,075	0	
7210 Capital Fund	8,319	0	
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 72,213	\$ 12,155	
EXPENSE			
5100 Staff Expense			
5110 Director			
5111 Director Salary	\$ 13,940	\$ 14,246	Includes 2.2% COLA
5112 Pension Plan - Employer (10 %)	929	1,436	
5113 Health & Disability Insurance - Employer	1,433	2,100	
Total 5110 Director	\$ 16,303	\$ 17,782	
5120 Support Staff			
5121 Maintenance	\$ 2,771	\$ 3,000	
5126 Winter Assistant Director/ Office Work	431	-	
Total 5120 Support Staff	\$ 3,202	\$ 3,000	
5140 Staff Development	369	500	
5150 Travel, Meals and Lodging	142	300	
5160 Other Staffing Expense	7,469	7,600	
Total 5100 Staff Expense	\$ 27,485	\$ 29,182	
5200 Summer Program	-566	0	
5300 Property Expense			
5310 Depreciation			
5311 Depreciation- Buildings	\$ -	\$ 8,000	Non-cash expense
5312 Depreciation- FFE	-	3,000	Non-cash expense
Total 5310 Depreciation		\$ 11,000	
5321 Buildings & Grounds Supplies & Services	\$ 418	\$ 2,000	

5330 Utilities	993	1,200
5341 Winter Office Rent	\$ 700	\$ 700
Total 5300 Property Expense	\$ 2,111	\$ 14,900
5400 Administrative Expenses		
5411 Property and General Liability Insurance	\$ 4,757	\$ 4,800
5421 CampMinder Online	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,260
5430 Accounting	1,329	1,000
5441 Memberships and Subscriptions	\$ 2,355	\$ 3,400
5450 Marketing	1,317	2,000
5461 Office Supplies and Services	\$ 410	\$ 500
5471 Fundraising Mailings	\$ 634	\$ 800
5481 Postage	\$ 286	\$ 300
Total 5400 Administrative Expenses	\$ 12,288	\$ 14,060
5600 Off-Season Programs	1,080	0
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 42,398	\$ 58,142
NET OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	\$ 29,815	\$ (45,987)
Other Income (Expense)		-
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	\$ 29,815	\$ (45,987)

Ministry and Spiritual Life Working Group
Of Permanent Board
Report for Sessions 2020

The Clerk of Permanent Board, in consultation with the Presiding Clerk and Coordinating and Advisory Committee, named the four members of Permanent Board's Ministry and Spiritual Life Working Group on 21 December 2019. Together with Noah Merrill, Yearly Meeting Secretary, and Nia Thomas, Quaker Practice and Leadership Facilitator, we began to meet every two weeks, starting on 9 January 2020.

Our charge, arising from Minute 2019-7.9, is "to explore where and how support for ministry and spiritual life currently happens among New England Friends and offer recommendations for structures, practices and leadership roles that would best serve the current needs of Friends." The working group was asked to submit its final report to Permanent Board's 16 May meeting, prior to Sessions 2020.

Through our meetings in January, February and early March we read and considered decades of NEYM M&C minutes and reports, and weighed conversations with past clerks and members of M&C, seeking the advice of the current clerk of M&C and its membership. In early March we completed a draft analysis of the state of ministry among us and recommendations toward nurturing, uplifting and supporting ministry going forward.

The critical next step before submitting our work to Permanent Board was to offer the draft document to ministers and elders among us, inviting them into conversations to discern the good order (or not) of our recommendations. Our 19 March meeting was scheduled to finalize this next step of work. However, given the emergent pandemic, it was clear to us when we gathered that to ask ministers and elders for their time on this matter was not at all in good order; the energies of these Friends needed to be focused on the work that they do—caring for our spiritual health and communion. We could not ask either for their time to focus on our document or to sit for conversations. We were in unity to "pause" our work until the upheaval of the pandemic had settled.

The working group also saw that in this unprecedented time the very structures of our ministry and connection were cracking open and finding new and fruitful avenues of expression. We needed to pause to fully observe what lessons might be learned. What, learned in crisis, might serve us well in less taxing times?

Now, with the upheaval of the pandemic still impacting our lives and ministry, is added social upheaval demanding long overdue racial justice and the extirpation of our nation's foundational systems of white supremacy. How shall we proceed when our longstanding ways of discernment are not fully available to us? How can we not proceed when the need for progress is so important?

And so, when the working group met in May, we were in unity that our work needed to move forward; that we would begin to schedule calls with our ministers and elders to further the

discernment of the working group; and that, God willing, we would bring our report to Permanent Board in the fall of 2020.

Sarah Gant (Beacon Hill), Clerk

Phil Fitz (Northampton)

Hugh MacArthur (Hanover)

Noah Merrill, Yearly Meeting Secretary (Putney)

Nancy Middleton (Putney)

Nia Thomas, Quaker Practice and Leadership Facilitator (Northampton)

22 June 2020

DRAFT

Permanent Board Working Group on Resources Supporting Volunteer Leaders

Submitted to PB for approval July 2020

Context:

At Sessions in 2019, NEYM approved many recommendations related to inclusive leadership development, including some related to financial and other enabling resources for Friends serving in key leadership roles. While some of those recommendations have already been addressed, it was noted during this November's funding priorities process that further development and discernment is needed in order for NEYM to more fully live into two of the approved recommendations:

1. *"Actively and proactively offer all financial support available. This may include providing financial assistance in obtaining transportation, reliable internet, or laptop computer access". [Note: This is currently done by nominators on a case by case basis but we do not have a guiding policy, formal criteria, or budget for accommodating requests].*
2. *"Examine the possibility of providing a stipend to Friends serving as Clerk of Permanent Board, Presiding Clerk, Treasurer, and Clerk of Ministry and Counsel. While we recognize that this recommendation is a large potential commitment of resources, it has the possibility to make service possible for a broader population of individuals than are currently able to bring their gifts to leadership positions for our Yearly Meeting."*

For approval by Permanent Board July 11 2020

The charge and membership of a working group to fulfill the commitments of minute 2019-46.

Guiding Vision

(from the charge of the Clerking Structures and Practices Working Group)

We envision a healthy Society with strong, faithful leadership, well-equipped and well-supported to share gifts. We cannot be a healthy Society when there are barriers to service, when gifts lay fallow, unrecognized and un-nurtured. We long for a Society where the broad exchange of the diverse ideas, perspectives, experiences and values that exist in our Society inform our leadership. Specifically, how do we hear and respond to diverse perspectives arising from our different experiences across age, race, gender, sexuality, economics, and education?

Working Group Charge

We ask this working group to explore how NEYM might responsibly and consistently reduce financial barriers to our most essential volunteer leadership roles, specifically Presiding Clerk, Clerk of the Permanent Board, Clerk of Ministry & Counsel, and Treasurer.

DRAFT

Permanent Board Working Group on Resources Supporting Volunteer Leaders

Submitted to PB for approval July 2020

On behalf of Permanent Board, this working group shall research how NEYM might responsibly offer financial support for key leadership roles and make specific recommendations to the Permanent Board to inform NEYM's funding priorities.

In their exploration, this working group shall investigate other organizations' models for financial assistance for volunteer leaders. This working group shall also consult actively with Friends most closely aware of NEYM's current finances and financial policies, such as the Treasurer, the Clerk of Finance Committee, Accounts Manager, and Yearly Meeting Secretary, to ensure that their proposals are actionable in the short term if approved.

Report

This working group shall write a report and present it to the Permanent Board October 31, 2020.

This report shall propose specific recommendations regarding NEYM's practices and use of funds. This report shall include recommendations in response to the following questions:

1. In the short term, what concrete changes might NEYM make in order to reduce the economic barriers to service currently faced by our potential leaders?
2. In the short term, are stipends the most effective way for NEYM to address the existing financial barriers to service for our key leadership roles? In the next three years should NEYM move towards providing stipends for Friends serving as Treasurer, Presiding Clerk, Clerk of Permanent Board, and Clerk of Ministry & Counsel? If so, what approximate size of stipend is advised? Either way, what implications do you anticipate for this decision?
3. In reviewing NEYM's existing policies and practices related to reimbursement and available funding for enabling financial support (such as for reimbursements for travel, meal compensation, child and elder care, funds for essential services and equipment such as laptops and internet), are there policy changes that you recommend?

Suggested processes and questions to consider

1. Carefully review the Clerking Practices and Structures Working Group's report (linked [here](#)).
2. In reviewing other organizations approaches to economic inclusion for volunteer leaders, what positive and negative impacts do you see? How do various approaches align with NEYM's vision and priorities? Do not be limited by what other organizations have tried.

DRAFT

Permanent Board Working Group on Resources Supporting Volunteer Leaders

Submitted to PB for approval July 2020

3. Given that economic inequality & injustice is a massive problem in our country, what bold yet achievable steps can NEYM take in the next three years towards reducing financial barriers to service? While all economic injustice is antithetical to God's vision for us, are there specific financial barriers that NEYM should prioritize eliminating in the next three years?
4. What additional work might any of the recommended changes require? Who will do that work and what trade offs or re-prioritizing will be necessary to fulfill these commitments?
5. Throughout the fall, maintain regular contact with the Yearly Meeting Secretary to increase coordination between unfolding recommendations and the funding priorities proposal coming forward to the Permanent Board on October 31.

Membership

Given the short time frame in which we would like to see this work completed, we ask that Permanent Board authorize the Clerk of Permanent Board to constitute this working group, consulting with Coordinating & Advisory and the Quaker Practice and Leadership Facilitator/former Clerking Structures and Practices Working Group Clerk.

Beacon Hill Friends Meeting
6 Chestnut St.
Boston, MA 02108
April 15, 2020

Dear Friends,

We send loving greetings from Beacon Hill Friends Meeting in Boston, Massachusetts. We are united in recommending to your care Lisa Graustein, a member of our Meeting since 2002.

Lisa's ministry flows from her conviction that seeking that of God in each person requires of us the complicated, messy, and healing work of striving for justice. The project Lisa is undertaking with Friend Niyonu Spann – to co-facilitate a two-year collaboration between US and Canadian Friends to develop a racial-justice consultation/training program for Friends – is a rightly ordered development and a natural outgrowth of Lisa's ministry to help Quaker and other organizations address their history in order to transform their current practices. This is a next step along Lisa's years-long journey to effect her deeply held vision of what the Beloved Community looks like, one that many in our meeting share.

Lisa has been active at Beacon Hill and in New England Yearly Meeting (NEYM) for many years. At Beacon Hill she has taught First Day School, organized retreats, and contributed other committee service. In the Yearly Meeting, Lisa has served as NEYM Young Friends Coordinator, developing a racial-justice curriculum for First Day Schools and leading high school retreats. She clerked NEYM's Ad Hoc Structural Review Committee, which examined Meeting structures, and coordinated four of NEYM's Living Faith Gatherings. Broadly, her work is focused on helping Quakers become more aware of systems of oppression as a first step in dismantling those systems. She has partnered with NEYM's Ministry and Counsel committee to further this work and was one of two plenary speakers at NEYM's annual 2019 Sessions.

Lisa, an educator, also works with school leaders and with students in settings where most students are young people of color, many from immigrant and/or economically disadvantaged backgrounds. She has led staff workshops on subjects related to oppression, grief, trauma, and gender and sexuality diversity and inclusion. She regularly leads workshops on racial justice and healing in both Quaker and non-Quaker settings, and she is a long-standing co-facilitator of Beyond Diversity 101.

Lisa's work rises from her Quaker faith and from her conviction that new ways of being, even around deeply entrenched dynamics, are possible. We look forward to hearing back from Lisa's organizational partners—currently expected to be American Friends Service Committee, Friends General Conference, Pendle Hill, and Friends Council on Education, though perhaps including others as the project evolves—about this important work. Thank you in advance for opening your arms and your hearts to Lisa as she travels among you.

Approved and minuted at April Meeting for Business on April 5, 2020.

In the Light,

Michelle Ciurea and Steven Horne ^{me}
Michelle Ciurea and Steven Horne
Co-clerks, Beacon Hill Friends Meeting

Joyfully received by Salem Quarter 5/23/20
Kristina Keefe-Perry Kristina Keefe-Perry

Proposed Israel/Palestine Working Group

2019-36 Requests from Northwest Quarter Concerning Gaza and the West Bank

Carl Williams (Plainfield), clerk of Northwest Quarter, read us minute 2017-46, which Sessions approved two years ago. Northwest Quarter is asking us to reaffirm this minute.

2017-46 Friends gathered at New England Yearly Meeting Annual Sessions at Castleton, Vermont, August 6–10, 2017, attest to the following:

The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) testimony on peace, justice, and nonviolence is based in our experience of the divine in all of creation and within all persons. Thus, we are deeply troubled by the suffering and injustice caused by the Israeli/Palestinian conflict and we are concerned that our government perpetuates that violence by continuing to send billions of dollars of military aid to the region.

We call upon our nation to:

- Cease sending United States military aid and selling weapons to the entire Middle East.
- Continue diplomatic efforts with all parties and remain in dialogue even with those who have acted violently.
- Join the international court system and accept its jurisdiction.

We call upon all nations to:

- Work with the United Nations Security Council to end military aid and arms sales from all outside countries to all parties in this conflict.
- Support the United Nations efforts to bring justice, peace, security, and reconciliation to all parties in the conflict.
- Take measures to assure that international laws are applied universally.

We call upon all individuals and communities to:

- Support and learn from the many organizations that bring Israelis and Palestinians together for justice and peacemaking.
- Examine how anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, racism, and privilege affect our understanding of the conflict.

Friends approved reaffirming this minute.

Northwest Quarter also asks us to request that monthly meetings and quarterly meetings consider whether they have lived into this minute, particularly as it applies to Gaza and the West Bank. This issue weighs heavy on the hearts of many here, but the request now is specifically for meetings to consider this, not to take it up ourselves at this time.

Friends approve making this request.

Pursuant to this Minute, we are requesting ways to carry this work forward, since part of our charge is to implement decisions made by Sessions. Right now, there is no body charged with this work, so we are proposing the formation of an "Israel/Palestine Working Group" under the care of the Permanent Board. Its members will be appointed by the PB clerk, with consultation of Coordinating and Advisory, and serve for three years. They will be expected to report both to PB regularly and annually to Sessions.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Manning, clerk






2020-7-11 Permanent Board Minutes

Final Audit Report

2020-09-21

Created:	2020-09-21
By:	Office Manager (office@neym.org)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAv5RRzjNuySxN_PERzfwgwg1Wjzzvzu_H

"2020-7-11 Permanent Board Minutes" History

-  Document created by Office Manager (office@neym.org)
2020-09-21 - 2:40:46 PM GMT- IP address: 216.195.173.162
-  Document emailed to Leslie Manning (pbclerk@neym.org) for signature
2020-09-21 - 2:41:15 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Leslie Manning (pbclerk@neym.org)
2020-09-21 - 3:59:42 PM GMT- IP address: 66.102.8.111
-  Document e-signed by Leslie Manning (pbclerk@neym.org)
Signature Date: 2020-09-21 - 4:02:40 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 73.234.252.10
-  Agreement completed.
2020-09-21 - 4:02:40 PM GMT