

Coordinating and Advisory Committee

The Coordinating and Advisory Committee (C&A) shepherds the work of the Yearly Meeting in alignment with the core purpose and priorities articulated by the Yearly Meeting, and advises and coordinates the various committees, quarterly meeting leadership, staff, and other initiatives within the Yearly Meeting. The members of this committee hold a particular responsibility to build a culture of inclusive and sustainable leadership development. C&A is responsible for supervising and evaluating the work of the Yearly Meeting Secretary.

C&A is accountable to Permanent Board and to Sessions and coordinates the work of Yearly Meeting committees striving to prevent duplication of effort and facilitate efficiency and effectiveness in the work of the Yearly Meeting. With a goal of ensuring alignment with Yearly Meeting priorities, C&A regularly reviews each committee's Purpose, Procedure, and Composition and works in consultation with the Committee in this task.

We are a group of Friends serving the Yearly Meeting who work collaboratively to support each individual member's role and responsibilities within the Yearly Meeting, to foster their spiritual gifts and strengths for that work, to foster creativity of approaches, and to enhance decision-making, all towards the goal of improving overall efficiency and effectiveness in the stewardship of our Yearly Meeting community. As a group we also provide the space for gathered reflection, consultation and discernment around matters of concern within each individual committee member's sphere of responsibilities.

This year, we have held monthly meetings on Zoom with seasonal in-person weekend retreats in fall, winter, and spring. Through this regular interaction and cooperation, we have built trust and strong working relationships, ensured close communication, and built a Spirit-grounded and positive work environment. We are committed to supporting and encouraging the on-going work of spiritual transformation happening in many different ways across our Yearly Meeting.

Some of the areas we have considered this year include:

- Ongoing support for the Nominating Committee, both strengthening the team, grounding, and in reducing burdens to its function.
- Implementing and shepherding recommendations for Spiritual Life, Ministry & Eldership.
- Encouraging establishment of a process to determine funding for other Quaker groups out of our Yearly Meeting's annual budget.
- Supporting the programming that nurtures local meetings and meeting leaders in Clerking, Recording Clerking, Nominating & Naming Gifts, Stewardship, Pastoral Care, and more.
- Continuing encouragement of the Faith and Practice Revision Committee as it enters new phases of its work.
- Creation and beginnings of the work of the Meeting Accompaniment Group which supports monthly and quarterly meetings.

- Supporting the new Ministry and Counsel clerk and planning for initiatives in Pastoral Care.
- Supporting the Friends Camp Revisioning process and the Legacy Gift Fund Committee's review.
- Shepherding the revision of the Purposes, Procedures, and Composition of the Youth Ministries Committee.

In our work together and in our individual roles serving the Yearly meeting, we are witness to how many Friends in New England are living into the Spirit. We are grateful for the support, feedback, guidance and prayer we have received throughout the year. We recognize that it is Divine Spirit that guides and provides the foundation upon which together we are all building our beloved community.

In all of the above, we serve with joy and love and commitment to the nurture of our Yearly Meeting.

Rebecca Leuchak
Presiding clerk

On behalf of Coordinating and Advisory Committee: Scot Drysdale (Finance Committee Clerk), Sarah Gant (Meeting Accompaniment Group Clerk), Leslie Manning (Permanent Board Clerk), Susan Davies (rising Permanent Board Clerk), Noah Merrill (Yearly Meeting Secretary), Bob Murray (Yearly Meeting Treasurer), Elizabeth Reuthe (Supervisor of the Yearly Meeting Secretary), Jackie Stillwell (Nominating Committee Clerk), Nia Thomas (Yearly Meeting Program Director), Carl Williams (Ministry and Counsel Clerk)