

PB 23-36: Recommendation from July 15, 2023 Listening Session for Salem Quarter, for Three Rivers Worship Group

*Note about process: Because Leslie Manning, PB clerk had served on the discernment committee for Three Rivers worship group, Susan Davies, PB Recording clerk, clerked this minute. No back up Recording Clerk was appointed to record this minute, **PB 23-36**.*

PB took up the recommendation of the July 15, 2023 Salem Quarter Listening Session, (hosted by the Permanent Board, for the Salem Quarter), to approve Fresh Pond's recommendation that Three Rivers Worship Group become a monthly meeting.

*For a record of previous discernment and background pertinent to this minute, see PB minutes **PB 22-47**; **PB 22-47.1** ; and **PB 22-47.2** Decisions recorded in the aforementioned PB minutes were further approved by Sessions, 2022. The report from Salem Quarter is available in the Advanced Documents for the June 4, 2022, PB meeting, at p. 34.*

Following discussion that included both enthusiastic support and firm opposition, unity was lacking to approve the recommendation. Consistent with the 1985 Faith and Practice, and the draft NEYM Faith and Practice appendix on Establishing a Monthly Meeting (<https://neym.org/faith-and-practice/appendices/establishing-monthly-meeting-3>), a visiting committee was proposed, to be formed of members from the Salem Quarter. Leslie Manning, PB clerk suggested three names of Salem Quarter Friends to serve on a Visiting Committee, to visit and worship with Three Rivers, and the Salem Quarter, and to report back to the Permanent Board:

Regina McCarthy (Wellesley Friends Meeting)

Ellen Neelands (Acton Friends Meeting)

Mary Zwirner (Beacon Hill Friends Meeting, and Permanent Board member)

No objections were raised to these Salem Quarter Friends serving on the visiting committee, but due to pressures to vacate the meeting room, the Clerk and Recording clerk could not record clear approval of these Friends' service on the Visiting Committee.