

Permanent Board 2025 Annual Report

The members of PB have been nominated, and serve on behalf of all NEYM Friends, to implement the decisions and priorities of the Yearly Meeting as directed by Sessions, when the Yearly Meeting is not in Session. Our work of collective spiritual discernment is dependent upon both our human efforts to fully engage in that work, as well as our individual and collective commitment to Spirit-led discernment and Listening.

Permanent Board's priorities during 2024 and 2025 were:

- **Prayerful corporate discernment** - Nurturing a culture of inquiry and Friendly attentiveness towards each other and our differing perspectives, guided by Isaac Pennington's words: "*The truth will not lose ground by being tried*"
- **Quarterly Meetings** - Attending to the condition of quarterly meetings (qm) and supporting quarterly meeting leaders, with a concern to strengthen, sustain and nourish the spiritual vitality of our tradition, and our spiritual community so that Friends might continue to offer our ministry to the world;
- **Development and Endowments** - Nurturing a stable and sustainable material foundation for NEYM so that Friends might continue to offer our ministry to the world
- **Service, Gifts and Leadings** - Strengthening the nominating process and fostering clarity of purpose among working, resource, research groups and committees in order to be faithful to their charge from NEYM Sessions; staying informed, supporting and guiding those carrying out charges from NEYM Sessions; attentiveness to the faithful work of those traveling in the ministry for NEYM, hearing their reports, and holding their service in prayer
- **Sessions Visioning 2026 and beyond** – staying well-informed and supporting the work of planning and executing Sessions Visioning throughout NEYM during 2024 and 2025; being mindful of why NEYM Sessions needs to be re-envisioned, the impacts of change, and the opportunities presented.
- **Friends Camp** – attending to the work of the Friends Camp Committee and the Camp Director to support a faithful, stable and financially sustainable camp experience, approving the initiation of a 30-year limited endowment fund for Friends Camp camperships

Our work together is aided by knowing each other, so occasional informal gatherings of the Board have offered the opportunity for dialogue that is free from the discernment pressure to approve decisions for YM. These Zoom gatherings occurred in October and February. PB has also convened gatherings of quarterly meeting leaders to foster peer

to peer relationships among qm clerks and to offer opportunities to hear where the Life is moving within the quarters, their constituent monthly meetings, and throughout the YM.

By the May 2025 PB meeting, PB members also received 17 memorial minutes for approval to send to Sessions, with an additional 5 approved at the Called PB meeting in July 2025. This is tender work as we reflect on the extraordinary blessings showered on the world through the lives of these Friends who have died. May we strive to let our lives speak as faithfully and eloquently as they have.

Susan P. Davies, Clerk, Permanent Board