

BYM Working Group on Right Relationship with Animals

Annual Report June 2018

Our official Working Group members are Dayna Bailey, Jodi Beatty, Alex Bell, Mary Campbell, Margaret Fisher (Clerk), and Samantha Magrath. In addition, 19 other people have participated in occasional email discussions.

We continued our work to stimulate thought and discussion among Friends about the effect that our food choices and other personal decisions have on the lives of animals and the rest of the living world. In the past year, we gave a workshop at Annual Session, a talent show presentation at the Women's Retreat, and provided a "Vegan Tasting Feast" at the P&SC Networking Day. We sent invitations to Friends to participate via the BYM Interchange, and we added another video and other materials to our web page on the BYM website. Four of us have travelled singly and in groups of two or three to as many local meetings as scheduling would allow. We led discussions and worship sharing at 10 local Meetings, to bring the total to 24 local Meetings visited so far. We have submitted our concern to Unity with Nature, Peace and Social Concerns, Young Friends, and Young Adult Friends for seasoning. Our Working Group members bring a diversity of Quaker perspectives about the spiritual implications of our food choices and are united in a leading to bring the concerns forward despite the considerable time and emotional commitment that are involved.

We have found Friends willing to engage on the concern for animals. We are hopeful that they are ready to express that willingness in the form of a minute which we plan to propose at Annual Session.