

MANUAL OF PROCEDURE

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

UPDATED THROUGH AUGUST 2013

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THE SPIRITUAL BASIS FOR UNITY

(Adapted from the Report of August 1964)

The Committees appointed by the two Baltimore Yearly Meetings to study together the question of what in our religious experience would justify the union of the Yearly Meetings see that much spiritual basis for unity now exists among us. This is evident in the uniting of a number of local Meetings, so that at present almost half the membership of the two Yearly Meetings is in united Meetings; in our [adult] Young Friends movement; in the joint work of our committees; in our cooperative efforts of many kinds; and in many shared experiences of worship. All these joint activities obviously would not exist without some measure of unity of spirit.

Our Yearly Meeting has a wide, rich, and diverse heritage, chiefly from historic Christianity interpreted by Quakerism. We not only tolerate diversity, we encourage and cherish it. In every local Meeting we struggle, usually patiently, with the problems that arise from our divergent convictions; and we usually find ourselves richer for our differences. In most if not all of our Monthly Meetings will be found, successfully co-existing, persons as far apart in religious vocabulary and practice as there are anywhere in the Yearly Meeting. Yet these Friends worship together every Sunday, and share nourishment for their spiritual life. Such association is beneficial and even necessary.

Friends in our Yearly Meeting are clear on certain principles which are so basic and essential that we tend to take them for granted and forget that they are essential, and probably the only essentials. We all are clear that religion is a matter of inward, immediate experience. We all acknowledge the guidance of the Inner Light—the Christ within—God’s direct, continuing revelation. All our insights are subject to testing by the insight of the group, by history and tradition, and by the bible and the whole literature of religion. All the Meetings for Worship of our Monthly Meetings aspire to openness to God’s communication directly with every person. Worship is primarily on the basis of expectant waiting upon the Spirit, a communion with God in which mediators or symbols are not necessary. We are all clear that faith is directly expressed in our daily living. We all seek to move towards goals of human welfare, equality, and peace.

We have a profound, often-tested, durable respect for individuals’ affirmation of their own religious experience which must be judged not only by their words but also by the lives they lead. From the stimulus of dissimilarity new insights often arise. Friends must each, as always, work out their own understanding of religion; and each Monthly Meeting must, as always, fit its practice to its own situation and the needs of its members.

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I. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Manual is to provide a basis for the good order of the Religious Society of Friends within Baltimore Yearly Meeting by outlining the organizational structure of the Yearly Meeting, its officers and committees, and its relations to other Friends' bodies.

Certain responsibilities have traditionally been vested in Yearly and Quarterly Meetings by the members of the constituent Monthly Meetings. Establishment, laying down, consolidation, or division of Monthly Meetings, though initiated locally, is subject to the approval of the Yearly and Quarterly Meetings, if any, to which such local Meetings report. Friends have granted the Yearly Meeting the power to determine its budget and to make apportionments thereof to the Monthly Meetings, either directly or through the Quarterly Meetings. This Manual deals solely with the organizational structure the Yearly Meeting establisheds to handle matters which are entrusted to it by the constituent Monthly or Quarterly Meetings or by individual Friends.

II. STRUCTURE OF BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends is an organization of the members of its constituent Monthly Meetings. The privileges and responsibilities of attendance at and participation in the sessions of Yearly Meeting and of service on its committees are open to all members of the Yearly Meeting.

Intermediate between Monthly Meetings and the Yearly Meeting there have customarily been bodies such as Quarterly Meetings and Half-Yearly Meetings. Throughout this Manual of Procedure the term "Quarterly Meeting(s)" will be used to refer to all such intermediate bodies whether meeting quarterly or in some other pattern.

The Yearly Meeting provides for the appointment of necessary officers as hereinafter outlined and organizes its work through the appointment of committees necessary for the effective carrying out of its concerns. The constitution and duties of the usual committees are provided for in this Manual, but nothing stated below is to be construed as requiring the Yearly Meeting to continue any committee beyond the period of its usefulness or as forbidding the establishment of other organs.

SESSIONS

The Yearly Meeting meets at least once a year, at an appointed time and place and for a stated length of time.

FUNCTIONS

The functions of the Yearly Meeting are:

- to hear reports from Quarterly Meetings, Monthly Meetings, and the organs established by the Yearly Meeting, and to take action upon these as appropriate.
- to consider and to implement as proper the concerns of groups or of individual Friends.

- to nurture an atmosphere within the Society conducive to the strengthening of the spiritual life of Friends and of the Quarterly and Monthly Meetings, and to the wider dissemination of the principles and testimonies of the Religious Society of Friends.
- to receive and to dispatch epistles from and to other groups of Friends, to accept the minutes of visiting Friends, and to prepare or endorse minutes for its members desirous of visiting among Friends outside the Yearly Meeting.
- to make provision for participation in the work of wider Friends' organizations.
- to approve a budget and to make apportionments thereof to the Monthly Meetings.
- to maintain a central file of information concerning the affairs of the Society within the area of the Yearly Meeting for the use of committees or of individuals in the furtherance of the activities of the Yearly Meeting.
- to perform such other functions as from time to time shall appear proper to the carrying out of the activities of the Yearly Meeting.

OFFICERS

The Presiding Clerk of Yearly Meeting, Recording Clerk of Yearly Meeting, Clerk of Interim Meeting, and Recording Clerk of Interim Meeting are selected from members of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. They are appointed by the Yearly Meeting after nomination by the Interim Meeting and take office at the end of the Yearly Meeting Annual Session at which they are appointed, to serve for terms of two years, or until their successors are appointed. No officer should serve more than six consecutive years in a particular office.

Presiding Clerk of Yearly Meeting

The Presiding Clerk serves as Clerk of all business Meetings of the Yearly Meeting and acts as Convener should special sessions be required. The Clerk attends Interim Meeting, and serves as an alternate to the Clerk of Interim Meeting. The Clerk also serves as a member of the Supervisory Committee, the Program Committee, the Trustees, and, in accordance with the provisions of Friends General Conference, is a member of the Central Committee of that body. Annually, the Clerk nominates and the Annual Session approves an ad hoc Epistle Committee to draft a general epistle to other Friends groups for the Yearly Meeting's review and approval. The Clerk reports to each regular session of the Interim Meeting on activities as Clerk during the intervening period.

A retiring Clerk continues to attend Interim Meeting for one year.

The Presiding Clerk and all former Presiding Clerks may be invited by a Quarterly or Monthly Meeting to serve as Listeners to help the Meeting find clearness on a particular concern, use Quaker process more effectively, and make better use of the resources of the Yearly Meeting. Any one or more of the Clerks may be asked to initiate this process.

Clerk of Interim Meeting

The Clerk of Interim Meeting convenes and guides the sessions of that Meeting, serves as an alternate to the Presiding Clerk of Yearly Meeting, serves on the Supervisory Committee, and may clerk that Committee. The Clerk of Interim Meeting receives and expends the funds of the Yearly Meeting as directed whenever neither the Treasurer nor the Assistant Treasurer is able to do so.

Recording Clerks

The Recording Clerk of Yearly Meeting provides for the orderly recording of the proceedings of the sessions of the Yearly Meeting and serves as an alternate to the Recording Clerk of Interim Meeting.

The Recording Clerk of Interim Meeting provides for the orderly recording of the proceedings of that Meeting and shares the work of recording the proceedings of Yearly Meeting sessions. Reading Clerks are appointed by the Presiding Clerk as needed at Yearly Meeting sessions.

Assistants to these officers may be appointed when deemed necessary.

Treasurers

The Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer are selected from among the members of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. They are nominated to the Yearly Meeting by the Interim Meeting and, when appointed by the Yearly Meeting in session, serve beginning January 1 (the beginning of the Yearly Meeting's fiscal year) following the close of the Annual Session at which appointed, for terms of two years, or until their successors are appointed and qualified. As with other officers, the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer should serve no more than six consecutive years in a particular office. The Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer serve ex-officio as members of the Stewardship and Finance Committee.

The Treasurer monitors and expends the funds of the Yearly Meeting as directed, and maintains financial records and books as directed by the Stewardship and Finance Committee, setting forth the financial conditions and resources of the Yearly Meeting. The Treasurer attends Interim Meeting, and serves as a member of the Trustees, the Supervisory Committee, and the Educational Grants Committee.

The Assistant Treasurer should become familiar with the procedures of the Treasurer, assist the Treasurer and, whenever the Treasurer is unable to serve, serve as Treasurer. The Assistant Treasurer attends Interim Meeting.

TRUSTEES

The Trustees, like other committees of the Meeting, are selected by the Meeting and are expected to act for the whole Meeting in carrying out their responsibilities under the law. Thus, while Trustees must be conscious of their fiduciary obligation to preserve the assets of the Meeting, they must also be continuously sensitive to the spirit of the Meeting and its wish to fulfill the social testimonies of the Society of Friends. The Meeting, in turn, should be sensitive to the legal responsibilities of trustees which can, in certain circumstances, make them personally liable for actions taken in the name of the Meeting.

Faith and Practice, 1988, III B, 4b

Trustees and other financial officers should seek to be as responsive as possible, within the limits of legally imposed restrictions, to the considered judgment of the whole Meeting on matters of policy.

Faith and Practice, 1988, Appendix I, 2b

The Yearly Meeting appoints generally nine (but no fewer than four) Trustees in accordance with its corporate charter. Each Trustee shall be a member of a constituent Monthly Meeting. These are at present nine in number: the current Presiding Clerk and Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting plus seven persons nominated by the Nominating Committee and appointed by the Yearly Meeting to serve for terms of three years, with the possibility of re-appointment for a second three-year term. A Trustee's term begins at the close of the Yearly Meeting or Interim Meeting Session at which they are appointed and ends at the close of the Annual Session during which their term ends. Normally one of these seven is from each Quarterly Meeting within the Yearly Meeting. The Trustees may not co-opt additional members.

The Trustees are the body authorized to act as the governing body of the Yearly Meeting with respect to legal matters. Either the Clerk of Trustees or Treasurer signs for the Yearly Meeting on forms, such as tax returns, to be filed with governmental entities. Trustees are responsible for obtaining and holding the title to real property owned by the Yearly Meeting, such as burying grounds and camps. Trustees arrange for investing the funds of the Yearly Meeting and, following the policy outlined in *Faith and Practice*, 1988, Appendix I, 3, Trustees ensure restricted funds are managed in accordance with intentions of the original donors. The Trustees arrange for a certified public accountant to audit the Yearly Meeting's book and records in accordance with Yearly Meeting policy and receive and review the auditor's report (currently, an audit is done every three years and more often when the person in the position of Treasurer or General Secretary changes). To accomplish this, the Trustees meet at least annually and report annually to the Yearly Meeting.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting has adopted policies that govern the Trustees. These policies include the Whistle Blower (Appendix B), Conflict of Interest (Appendix C), and Youth Safety Policies (Appendix D to this Manual). Trustee review reinforces the Yearly Meeting's intention that all committee members and corporate practices uphold these policies.

It is the policy of Baltimore Yearly Meeting that the Trustees will keep contemporaneous minutes of all meetings. These minutes should be sent to the Yearly Meeting Office in a timely fashion for retention.

The Clerk, or another designated Trustee, serves as a member of the Camp Property Management Committee. The Clerk, or another designated Trustee, serves as a member of the Development Committee.

III. INTERIM MEETING

All members of Baltimore Yearly Meeting are members of Interim Meeting and are welcome to attend its meetings. Interim Meeting acts for the Yearly Meeting in the intervals between its sessions. It meets at least three times a year and on call as necessary.

In order to assure wide participation in Interim Meeting, each Monthly Meeting in the Yearly Meeting is requested to appoint one person to attend Interim Meetings. Ordinarily, no person should serve consecutively as Monthly Meeting appointee for more than six years.

Others expected to participate in Interim Meeting are:

- the officers of the Yearly Meeting: the Presiding Clerk, the retiring Presiding Clerk (for one year following retirement), the Recording Clerk, the Treasurer and the Assistant Treasurer. The Presiding Clerk of Yearly Meeting serves as an alternate to the Clerk of Interim Meeting and the Recording Clerk of Yearly Meeting serves as an alternate to the Recording Clerk of Interim Meeting.
- the Clerk and the Recording Clerk of Interim Meeting.
- the clerks selected by each of the standing administrative and functional committees of the Yearly Meeting and the Clerks of Baltimore Yearly Meeting Young Friends Executive Committee and Young Adult Friends.
- Friends selected to serve on the Search Committee of Interim Meeting and on the Supervisory Committee.

The functions of Interim Meeting are:

- to act for the Yearly Meeting when necessary in the intervals between sessions.
- to define staffing needs, set staff compensation policies, and be the employer of record. Interim Meeting selects, employs, and defines the responsibilities of the General Secretary.
- to nominate for approval of Yearly Meeting in session persons to serve as Presiding Clerk, Recording Clerk, Clerk of Interim Meeting, Recording Clerk of Interim Meeting, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, members of the Supervisory Committee, and members of the Nominating Committee.
- On Spring Yearly Meeting Day, Interim Meeting appoints from the floor a Naming Committee of two Friends to nominate Friends for appointment to fill the vacancies on the Search Committee. This Committee serves for one year or until a new Committee is appointed. The Naming Committee usually presents its recommendations to Interim Meeting on Summer Yearly Meeting Day. At any time the Naming Committee may present to Interim Meeting nominations to fill vacancies on the Search Committee that occur during the year.
- to fill vacancies among Yearly Meeting or Interim Meeting officers, or on the Supervisory Committee or the Nominating Committee, when such occur between sessions of the Yearly Meeting.
- to conduct necessary correspondence in the name of the Yearly Meeting between sessions.
- to make sure that adjustments are made in the number of trustees of any corporation to comply with legal requirements.
- to re-examine the function and structure of any Yearly Meeting committee when necessary and make appropriate recommendations to the Yearly Meeting to enable the committee to carry out the concerns placed upon it.
- to consider proposed changes in the Manual of Procedure, report on its actions to those who initiated the proposal, and forward changes to the Yearly Meeting as approved.
- to carry out such other responsibilities as the Yearly Meeting may refer to it.

COMMITTEES OF INTERIM MEETING

SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Search Committee is composed of six persons nominated by an ad hoc Naming Committee and appointed by Interim Meeting, two appointed each year to serve a term of three years. These persons attend Interim Meeting. No person may serve for more than six consecutive years. The Committee may not co-opt additional members.

The Search Committee nominates persons to serve as Presiding Clerk, Recording Clerk, Clerk of Interim Meeting, Recording Clerk of Interim Meeting, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, members of the Supervisory Committee, and members of the Nominating Committee. These nominations are proposed to Interim Meeting and, if approved, are forwarded to the Yearly Meeting. The Search Committee usually presents these nominations on behalf of Interim Meeting at the Yearly Meeting sessions.

The Search Committee usually reports to Interim Meeting on Summer Yearly Meeting Day. If the Search Committee is able to fill any remaining vacancies after Summer Yearly Meeting Day, it may bring these nominations directly to the Yearly Meeting sessions. At any time the Committee may present to Interim Meeting nominations to fill vacancies which occur during the year.

On Spring Yearly Meeting Day, Interim Meeting appoints from the floor a Naming Committee of two Friends to nominate Friends for appointment to fill the vacancies on the Search Committee. This Committee serves for one year or until a new Committee is appointed. The Committee usually presents its recommendations to Interim Meeting on Summer Yearly Meeting Day. At any time the Committee may present to Interim Meeting nominations to fill vacancies on the Search Committee which occur during the year.

As with other nominating bodies, the Search Committee normally does not nominate any of its own members for other responsibility.

SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

The Supervisory Committee is composed of the Clerk of Interim Meeting, the Presiding Clerk, the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting, and four additional members of the Yearly Meeting nominated by the Interim Meeting for appointment by the Yearly Meeting. The Committee may not co-opt additional members. The Supervisory Committee is clerked by the Clerk of Interim Meeting or one of the four appointed members.

The four persons appointed by the Yearly Meeting also attend Interim Meeting. Two of these members are appointed annually for terms of two years. Generally, none of the members may serve on the Supervisory Committee for more than six consecutive years. An individual may again be appointed after a one-year break in service. Terms begin at the end of the Yearly Meeting sessions at which the appointment is made.

The General Secretary is responsible to this committee, specifically to its Clerk. The Committee as a whole guides and supports the work of the General Secretary. The Supervisory

Committee writes a position description for the General Secretary to be approved by the Interim Meeting. The Supervisory Committee also ensures the support and nourishment of the staff.

The Supervisory Committee creates, reviews and updates written personnel policies. Supervisory Committee approves written position descriptions of all office staff. The Committee may delegate writing position descriptions to the General Secretary who will consult with appropriate committees and Supervisory Committee. Position descriptions changes that would affect the Yearly Meeting Budget need the approval of the Interim Meeting.

The Supervisory Committee recommends staff compensation policies to Interim Meeting, annually sets specific compensation levels for individual staff, annually reports compensation totals in aggregate form to Interim Meeting, and provides guidance to the General Secretary in the employment of staff.

The Committee will review and remain familiar with the content of the Youth Safety Policy (Appendix D) in order to ensure that the practices of the Committee reflect the guidelines adopted to promote the safety of our youth and youth workers. The Committee will provide any necessary staff and volunteer training and will ensure that programs and events are carried out in compliance with policy guidelines.

The Supervisory Committee also oversees the maintenance of the office-residence property and grounds and the acquisition and maintenance of office equipment and any other fixed assets. Authority for the expenditure of funds for normal maintenance up to a stated dollar amount may be delegated to the General Secretary.

The Supervisory Committee annually provides budget recommendations to the Stewardship and Finance Committee for office staff salaries and benefits and for the maintenance of building, equipment and grounds. As appropriate, the Supervisory Committee will inform the Stewardship and Finance Committee of needed adjustments to the budget.

In addition, this Committee carries out such duties as the Interim Meeting specifically assigns to it, and, between meetings of the Interim Meeting, may act upon urgent matters not involving policy nor of such importance as to justify a special session of the Interim Meeting. All such actions should be reported to the Interim Meeting at its next session.

IV. STAFF

Interim Meeting selects, employs, and defines the responsibilities of the General Secretary. The General Secretary, with the guidance of the Supervisory Committee, may employ such staff as allowed in the budget approved by the Yearly Meeting in session. The Camp Directors, with the guidance of the Camping Program Committee, employ such staff as the budgets for the various camping programs allow.

Other Committees of the Yearly Meeting desiring staff should develop a proposal and present it to Interim Meeting for approval. The proposal should include at least the fol-

lowing: 1) job description; 2) the Committee to which the staff is to report; 3) budget and compensation.

After approval of the proposal, the Committee interviews candidates and makes a recommendation to the General Secretary, who employs and directs the staff in accord with the proposal and general Yearly Meeting Personnel Policy. Interim Meeting may require Committees employing or directing staff to coordinate personnel policies.

V. COMMITTEES OF THE YEARLY MEETING

The Yearly Meeting establishes committees for the carrying out of its purposes. All committees should report annually. Each committee reports both on its activities and on matters which are seen as needing attention, with some analysis of the health of the committee. If a committee sees no way in which it can carry out the concerns placed upon it, its members should request the Interim Meeting to re-examine the function and structure of the committee and make appropriate recommendations to the Yearly Meeting. Failure of a committee to report is also an indication that a review process should be initiated.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting has adopted policies that govern all committees. These policies include Whistle Blower (Appendix B), Conflict of Interest (Appendix C), and Youth Safety Policies (Appendix D to this Manual). Committee review reinforces the Yearly Meeting's intention that all committee members and corporate practices uphold these policies.

It is the policy of Baltimore Yearly Meeting that all committees acting on its behalf, including standing and ad hoc committees, will keep contemporaneous minutes of all committee meetings. These minutes should be sent to the Yearly Meeting Office in a timely fashion for retention.

Concerned individuals desiring to establish a new committee or ad hoc committee take their idea to Interim Meeting, either themselves directly, through their Monthly Meeting(s), or through an appropriate committee if one already exists. If, after due consideration, there is approval, Interim Meeting recommends to the Yearly Meeting that such a committee or ad hoc committee be established. If the Yearly Meeting approves, the committee or ad hoc committee is established.

Any report, action, or statement of a committee should be approved in the manner of Friends at a meeting of the committee of which all the members of the committee were given reasonable notice.

Unless otherwise provided, nominations of persons to serve on the committees of the Yearly Meeting are made by the Nominating Committee. Nominations of persons to serve on the Nominating Committee, however, are made by the Interim Meeting. In general, Friends should attempt to serve the Yearly Meeting on no more than one standing Committee at a time. However, these principles should not prevent the nomination of a particularly well qualified Friend as a representative to an outside body or as a member of an ad hoc Committee, after the Nominating Committee has given due consideration to other qualified

Friends. Nothing in this Manual should be interpreted as barring any Friend from serving in a specific capacity when special circumstances warrant.

All appointments to committees are made by the Yearly Meeting in session, except that Interim Meeting may make appointments to fill vacancies or to meet other requirements arising between Yearly Meeting sessions.

The Yearly Meeting has a responsibility to reject unsuitable names as well as to approve those found acceptable.

Unless other terms are set, approximately one-third of the membership of each committee is appointed annually for terms of three years, such terms to begin at the end of the Yearly Meeting sessions at which the appointments are made. Generally, no one may serve on the same committee for more than six consecutive years, nor should Friends serve the Yearly Meeting on more than one standing committee at a time. An individual may again be appointed after a one-year break in service.

Any committee, except the Nominating Committee, may co-opt a limited number of Friends for membership for a period not extending beyond the following sessions of Yearly Meeting. Committees may invite other persons, Friends or non-Friends, to serve in a consultative capacity without becoming members of the committee.

Unless otherwise provided, each committee selects its own clerk. Committee clerks are selected from the members of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. Committees are encouraged to make careful provision for their ongoing work by selecting clerks in good time. Committee clerks usually take office at the close of Yearly Meeting's Annual Session, to serve for the coming year. Since it is usually desirable that a clerk have some experience with the particular committee before becoming its clerk, committees may, prior to Yearly Meeting sessions, provide for selecting a prospective clerk from among their continuing members. Committees report the names of their clerks while the Yearly Meeting is still in session. Committee clerks attend Interim Meeting.

Meetings of all Yearly Meeting committees, except the Nominating Committee, are open to all Friends. However, any committee reviewing sensitive matters may hold an executive session.

Yearly Meeting committees are empowered to raise or accept monies only with the prior approval of the Interim Meeting or the Yearly Meeting in session.

All administrative Committees report their recommendations to the Yearly Meeting or to the Interim Meeting for approval, unless authority has previously been given such committees to act on their own proposals.

Functional Committees may act and issue statements on behalf of the Yearly Meeting:

- when such actions or statements have the prior approval of the Yearly Meeting or the Interim Meeting.

- when such actions or statements are clearly in accord with the policy of the Yearly Meeting as enunciated in its minutes or adopted statements.

Other actions or statements not meeting these qualifications should be clearly identified as being the actions or statements of the committee issuing them and not of the Yearly Meeting.

It is the duty of the functional committees from time to time, as the occasion demands, to prepare position papers on matters of current interest and concern within their fields of interest and to present these position papers before the Yearly Meeting or the Interim Meeting for approval. Such position papers should have the approval of the interested functional committee at a called meeting of the committee and, if possible, should be distributed to members of the Yearly Meeting along with Yearly Meeting committee reports prior to Yearly Meeting sessions at which they will be considered. These papers, as adopted by the Yearly Meeting, will then form the main part of the background of policy on the basis of which the functional committee may act on behalf of the Yearly Meeting.

The scope of authority possessed by an ad hoc committee should be included in the charge to the committee; if not included, the committee is governed by the above provisions depending upon whether it is primarily of an administrative or functional character.

As a general practice, the Nominating Committee does not nominate members of an ad hoc committee; the members select themselves. The names of members and the dates of establishment of ad hoc committees are listed in the Yearbook.

When an ad hoc committee is established, a time limit is set for its duration. At the end of that time, a decision is made by the Yearly Meeting as to whether the ad hoc committee is to be continued for another specified period of time, made a standing committee, or laid down. If no decision is made by the Yearly Meeting, the ad hoc committee automatically is laid down when the time limit expires.

Any other groups recognized by the Yearly Meeting which are not standing committees or ad hoc committees are either special groups or working groups. As provided in Section VI below, the former groups report to the Yearly Meeting, the latter to a sponsoring committee of the Yearly Meeting.

The Committees of Baltimore Yearly Meeting are:

Administrative Committees:

Camp Property Management Committee
Faith and Practice Revision Committee
Manual of Procedure Committee
Nominating Committee
Program Committee
Stewardship and Finance Committee

Functional Committees:

Advancement and Outreach Committee
Camping Program Committee
Development Committee
Educational Grants Committee
Indian Affairs Committee
Ministry and Pastoral Care
Peace and Social Concerns Committee
Religious Education Committee
Sue Thomas Turner Quaker Education Fund Committee
Unity with Nature Committee
Youth Programs Committee

ADVANCEMENT AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The Advancement and Outreach Committee consists of approximately nine members nominated by the Nominating Committee and appointed by the Yearly Meeting with care to name Friends who are familiar with Monthly Meetings throughout the Yearly Meeting.

This Committee provides tools and resources to local Meetings looking for outreach ideas, for help starting new meetings and for ways to help those new to Friends learn about the Religious Society of Friends. The Committee works with the Publications Committee to assure that useful information about Baltimore Yearly Meeting, its local Meetings, and the Religious Society of Friends is available from the Yearly Meeting web site and other Yearly Meeting publications.

The Committee names one of its members to serve on the Sue Thomas Turner Quaker Education Fund Committee for a two-year term.

CAMP PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Camp Property Management Committee consists of six members nominated by the Nominating Committee and appointed by the Yearly Meeting. In addition, either the clerk or another member of the Trustees, Camping Program Committee, Stewardship and Finance Committee, and the Camp Property Manager are ex officio members. The Committee may appoint subcommittees as needed, which may include members from outside the Committee. The Committee will normally meet at least twice a year.

The Committee is a governing committee that oversees the management of the present and any future properties the Yearly Meeting uses for Camping Programs, Retreats, and other similar activities. The Committee's purpose is threefold: to plan ahead for the long term needs of the camp properties; to oversee the content and direction of the Camp Property Manager's work; and to support the Camp Property Manager with specific projects as needed. While the committee has full authority to carry out its tasks, the fiduciary responsibility for the Yearly Meeting Properties rests with the Trustees.

The Committee will manage the camp properties as one financial entity and will prepare operating and capital budgets which will be listed separately within the Yearly Meeting

budget. For this purpose, appropriate accounts will be established, including a capital reserve account. The committee will be responsible for setting the fees for the use of the properties. All income generated by the camp properties, including timber sales, will be available for the operation and development of the camp properties. Gifts and bequests may be received into the committee's accounts. Financial statements will be prepared annually at the same time as the Yearly Meeting accounts, of which they will form a part.

The Committee will review and remain familiar with the content of the Youth Safety Policy (Appendix D) in order to ensure that the practices of the Committee reflect the guidelines adopted to promote the safety of our youth and youth workers. The Committee will provide any necessary staff and volunteer training and will insure that programs and events are carried off in compliance with policy guidelines.

CAMPING PROGRAM COMMITTEE

The Camping Program Committee consists of approximately 18 persons nominated by the Nominating Committee and appointed by the Yearly Meeting, plus the directors of the camping programs, and the Camp Program Manager, *ex officio*.

The Camping Program Committee oversees and coordinates the philosophy, policy, financing, and program emphasis of all Yearly Meeting endeavors in the field of outdoor religious education—seeking to provide for all the various ages and interests of our Yearly Meeting through a variety of camping styles. The Camp Program Manager is responsible for implementing goals, direction, and policy as set by the Camping Program Committee.

The Committee will review and remain familiar with the content of the Youth Safety Policy (Appendix D) in order to ensure that the practices of the Committee reflect the guidelines adopted to promote the safety of our youth and youth workers. The Committee will provide any necessary staff and volunteer training and will insure that programs and events are carried off in compliance with policy guidelines.

The Camping Program Committee advises the General Secretary on employment of camp directors and the Camp Program Manager. The Committee nurtures and supports the directors and staff in the implementation of the outdoor religious education programs and works to promote awareness of the programs within the wider Quaker community.

The Clerk or another member of the Camping Program Committee serves as a member of the Camp Property Management Committee.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Development Committee consists of five or more members nominated by the Nominating Committee and appointed by the Yearly Meeting. In addition, either the Clerk or another member of the Trustees and one member of Stewardship and Finance Committee are *ex-officio* members. Development Committee prepares, guides, and assists in the implementation of fundraising plans. It is charged with the creation and subsequent oversight of a comprehensive development plan for Baltimore Yearly Meeting that clarifies the role of Monthly Meeting apportionment; an annual giving program; development policies that

address the acceptance and handling of both restricted and unrestricted contributions; and the appropriate uses of Yearly Meeting and Monthly Meeting communication avenues.

The Committee also reviews requests for exceptional, one-time release of the Yearly Meeting mailing list for purposes of financial solicitation and, if it approves, forwards such requests to the next Interim Meeting or Annual Session for final consideration. (Excepted from the Yearly Meeting's policy restricting such use of the mailing list, and thus from Development Committee review, are the affiliated Quaker organizations Friends General Conference, Friends United Meeting, and Friends World Committee for Consultation).

The Committee guides, supports, and assists the Development Director in the following ways: researching for the Yearly Meeting potential sources of financial support, including individuals and Monthly Meetings; cultivating and requesting support from major donors, including individuals, foundations, and other organizations; establishing regular contact with individuals and Monthly Meetings to promote increased giving to Yearly Meeting; creating curricula for supporting Monthly Meetings in their own fundraising efforts; and promoting efforts to secure bequests and other deferred gifts. The Committee maintains appropriate consultation with the General Secretary and Supervisory Committee about shared supervision and personnel matters. Should there be no Development Director, the Committee undertakes these duties, and others ascribed to that position, as needed.

The Development Committee has oversight of fundraising efforts that other Yearly Meeting committees may initiate. It assists in the planning and implementation of such efforts and ensures that any fundraising effort is consistent with the overall development plan. The Committee consults with Stewardship and Finance, Camping Program, Camp Property Management, and Youth Programs Committees on a regular basis to discuss the budgetary process and to promote giving. The Development Committee consults with Trustees for guidance on legal and Yearly Meeting policy issues.

EDUCATIONAL GRANTS COMMITTEE

The Educational Grants Committee is composed of at least six members nominated by the Nominating Committee and appointed by the Yearly Meeting, plus the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting, *ex officio*. The purpose of this Committee is to help Friends secure post-secondary education by providing grants. Preference is given to requests for loans for undergraduate level study. Monies and income from the Educational Fund, the Fair Hill portions of the Consolidated Endowment Fund, and such other education funds as the Yearly Meeting deems appropriate are used to provide post-secondary grants.

Grants are awarded on the basis of financial need and the Committee's assessment of an applicant's statement of purpose, including consistency with Friends testimonies. The application process should include comments on the applicant's involvement in the Monthly Meeting and any information that would be helpful in making a decision.

The Committee performs its work according to a policy statement approved by the Yearly Meeting.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting does not make loans to students.

The Committee meets in April to evaluate applications and award grants, and on other mutually convenient dates to discuss other business. The Educational Grants Committee reports to the Yearly Meeting at least once a year on the state of the funds, grants made, and any other business conducted.

FAITH AND PRACTICE REVISION COMMITTEE

The Faith and Practice Revision Committee consists of at least three persons nominated by the Nominating Committee and appointed by the Yearly Meeting. These persons are appointed only when proposed revisions have been presented in writing to the Yearly Meeting. The same provisions regarding rotation of members and term limits apply as for other standing committees. When no revisions are before the Committee and the Committee has completed all its responsibilities, the Yearly Meeting releases these persons from their appointment to this Committee.

The Committee receives proposed changes and circulates proposed revisions to all the Monthly and Quarterly Meetings in Baltimore Yearly Meeting with sufficient time that Monthly Meetings may prepare comments for a Quarterly Meeting session before Yearly Meeting. The Committee may help prepare proposed changes to ensure clarity and consistency with other sections of *Faith and Practice*. It is responsible for ensuring that changes approved by the Yearly Meeting are incorporated into *Faith and Practice*. Printing and distribution of *Faith and Practice* or of its revised sections should be coordinated with the Supervisory Committee.

INDIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The Indian Affairs Committee consists of approximately 12 members nominated by the Nominating Committee and appointed by the Yearly Meeting.

This Committee stimulates interest in and activity concerning American Indians. It cooperates with other Yearly Meetings and other Friends organizations in projects for the benefit of American Indians. It concerns itself with legislation on local, regional, and national levels involving Native American issues.

The ongoing work of the Indian Affairs Committee is inspired by its history. In 1795, Quakers in the northern Shenandoah Valley, following the model established by William Penn in Pennsylvania, set up a fund under the care of Baltimore Yearly Meeting to pay American Indians for lands Quakers had settled. Unable to locate survivors of the natives, the Indian Affairs Committee distributes the interest income from this endowment to organizations which assist and advocate for American Indians.

MANUAL OF PROCEDURE COMMITTEE

The Manual of Procedure Committee, composed of not fewer than three persons nominated by the Nominating Committee and appointed by the Yearly Meeting, is responsible for continually updating the Manual by incorporating all changes in procedure adopted by the Yearly Meeting. The Committee may recommend changes in procedure deemed useful to the Yearly Meeting. Such changes are to be recommended in writing to the Interim Meeting for

consideration and forwarded to the Yearly Meeting if approved. In the interest of accuracy and clarity, the Manual of Procedure Committee may copy edit the *Manual of Procedure*.

MINISTRY AND PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE

The Committee is concerned with deepening the spiritual life of Baltimore Yearly Meeting and of its constituent Monthly Meetings. The Committee carries an active concern for calling forth and nurturing the gifts of the Spirit in the Yearly Meeting. The Committee encourages and supports Monthly Meetings as they recognize, publicly affirm, and practically support those individuals who exercise their gifts in faithful ministry and service.

The Committee assists the Yearly Meeting with programs, retreats, workshops at Annual Session, and during the year as needed. The Clerk of the Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee serves as a member of the Program Committee.

The Committee advises Monthly Meetings on the preparation of the Annual Report of the Spiritual State of the Monthly Meeting in accordance with the guidelines in our *Faith and Practice*. The Committee receives the approved reports and incorporates them, with concerns and information about events in the Yearly Meeting, into a Spiritual State of the Yearly Meeting Report to be presented for consideration and acceptance at Annual Session.

The Committee considers requests for Yearly Meeting endorsements of minutes of support for members traveling in the ministry outside our Yearly Meeting. Such minutes usually are prepared by the Monthly Meeting in which the Friends holds membership and then endorsed by the Yearly Meeting (See *Faith and Practice*, Part III, Section B, Sub-section 5,b Minutes for Spiritual Service and, c Endorsements). If there is clearness to proceed, the Committee brings a recommendation to the Yearly Meeting or Interim Meeting for this minute. Minutes endorsed by the Yearly Meeting should be returned to the Yearly Meeting. Ordinarily, the endorsement is for one year.

The Committee maintains the Guidelines for Embracing the Ministry of Friends and supports Monthly Meeting Committee of Oversight for these Friends. The Committee maintains a current list of all recorded ministers within the Yearly Meeting.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee is composed of 12 persons, with at least one from each Quarterly Meeting. One-third of the Committee is nominated each year by the Interim Meeting for appointment by the Yearly Meeting. Quarterly Meetings may suggest the names of suitable persons from their membership to serve on the Nominating Committee.

The Committee recommends to the Yearly Meeting in session the names of persons to serve on committees and in other offices for which no other means of nomination has been herein provided. Unless otherwise specified, a three-year term is suggested for all committee members, one-third of the membership of a committee being appointed each year to serve from the close of the Yearly Meeting session at which they were appointed. Persons may be appointed to an office or committee for no more than six consecutive years, unless longer terms are specified.

Nominations may arise in the Nominating Committee, or may be suggested to the Committee by Quarterly or Monthly Meetings, by clerks or members of established committees, or by any member of the Yearly Meeting. Normally, persons eligible for nomination are members of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. However, the Nominating Committee may nominate Friends from other Yearly Meetings who are sojourning among us. On the recommendation of a Monthly Meeting, the Committee may nominate an active attender, except that appointments to other Friends organizations must be limited to members of the Society of Friends if the applicable bylaws so specify.

In general, committees charged with a nominating function do not nominate any of their own members; in general, Friends should attempt to serve the Yearly Meeting on no more than one standing committee at a time. However, these principles should not prevent the nomination of a particularly well qualified Friend as a representative to an outside body or as a member of an ad hoc committee, after the Nominating Committee has given due consideration to other qualified Friends. Nothing in this Manual should be interpreted as barring any Friend from serving in a specific capacity when special circumstances warrant.

Friends appointed to the Nominating Committee may complete a term already being served on another Committee; and a Nominating Committee member may be nominated for service on another committee immediately on rotation off the Nominating Committee.

In order for the business and concerns of the Yearly Meeting to be effectively carried forward, it is desirable for committees to be representative of various age groups and interests and for Friends to become acquainted with various aspects of Yearly Meeting affairs. It is the duty of the Nominating Committee to evaluate the qualifications of Friends for committee service and to endeavor to be informed about the functioning of Yearly Meeting Committees, in order to ascertain at what point a committee assignment or a change of assignment might benefit a Friend, the Yearly Meeting, or both.

PEACE AND SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee consists of approximately 12 members nominated by the Nominating Committee and appointed by the Yearly Meeting.

The Committee recognizes that an enduring peace requires social justice, and that the two are inextricably bound together. Friends' concerns for nonviolence in international affairs and in the alleviation of situations of tension in society are translated into education and action programs of the Yearly Meeting. The Committee stimulates and coordinates activities of Monthly Meeting Peace and Social Concerns Committees regarding those issues that affect the fabric of society and on which Quaker testimonies can be brought to bear. It serves as a resource to Baltimore Yearly Meeting and its constituent Meetings, gathering and disseminating information.

The Committee also works with Monthly Meetings to address these concerns. It may also bring to the attention of the Yearly Meeting other international and domestic concerns that affect relationships between the economically developed and less-developed countries or the relationship between people with greatly different economic means wherever they may live.

The Right Sharing of World Resources Working Group (RSWRWG) is under the care of the Committee and works to keep alive throughout the Yearly Meeting the challenge to simplify our lives and to work in partnership with our sisters and brothers in the United States and throughout the world for a more equitable distribution of global resources. The RSWRWG works with Monthly Meetings and with the independent Quaker organization Right Sharing of World Resources, Inc. The RSWRWG facilitates the coordination and exchange of information, provides support for community development and self-help programs, and raises funds for these programs. It may also bring to the attention of the Yearly Meeting other international and domestic concerns that affect the relationship between people of greatly different economic means wherever they may live. RSWRWG's activities come to the Yearly Meeting as part of this Committee's report.

Friends are encouraged to record their personal statements of pacifism by sending signed and dated statements to their Monthly Meetings and to the Yearly Meeting. The names of all persons filing such statements are to be listed in the Yearbook published following receipt of the documents.

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee acts as the conscience of the Yearly Meeting in issues relating to prison concerns and the death penalty. As appropriate, the Committee recommends to the Nominating one person for a three-year, once renewable appointment by the Yearly Meeting to serve on the Board of Directors of Prisoner Visitation and Support, which meets in Philadelphia two or three times a year.

As appropriate, Peace and Social Concerns recommends to Nominating one person for a three-year, once renewable appointment by the Yearly Meeting, to serve on the Board of Directors of Quaker House, which meets five times a year in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

As appropriate, Peace and Social Concerns recommends to Nominating one person for a three-year, once renewable, appointment by the Yearly Meeting, to serve as a representative to the Participating Members Council of the National Religious Campaign Against Torture.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

The Program Committee consists of nine persons nominated by the Nominating Committee and appointed by the Yearly Meeting, plus the following, *ex officio*: the Presiding Clerk of the Yearly Meeting, the Clerk of Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee, the General Secretary and Youth Programs Manger of the Yearly Meeting, the Young Friends Annual Session Planners, the clerk of Junior Yearly Meeting staff, and a registrar appointed by the Committee.

The Program Committee has oversight of all program plans for Yearly Meeting sessions. This oversight includes negotiating each year a suitable site for the following year's Annual Session, Junior Yearly Meeting, the planning of the time schedule in detail, assigning places for all meetings, selecting guest speakers and special program events or delegating the selection to appropriate groups, and caring for the book room.

The Committee will review and remain familiar with the content of the Youth Safety Policy (Appendix D) in order to ensure that the practices of the Committee reflect the guidelines adopted to promote the safety of our youth and youth workers. The Committee will provide any necessary staff and volunteer training and will ensure that programs and events are carried off in compliance with policy guidelines.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Religious Education Committee consists of approximately 12 persons nominated by the Nominating Committee and appointed by the Yearly Meeting, and the Clerks of the Religious Education Committees of all Monthly Meetings. The Committee is an avenue through which the Yearly Meeting exercises its responsibility for the spiritual nurture of its young people and adults.

The Committee supports Monthly Meeting Religious Education Committees and First Day School teachers in their work with all age groups. This is done through curriculum planning, resource information, and consultation with committee members, as well as through workshops, teacher preparation programs, and retreats.

The Committee names one of its members to serve on the Sue Thomas Turner Quaker Education Fund Committee for a two-year term.

STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Stewardship and Finance Committee consists of 14 members nominated by the Nominating Committee and appointed by the Yearly Meeting, with careful attention to the special need of this Committee to be knowledgeable about the situation of all Monthly Meetings. Each Quarterly Meeting should be represented. In addition, the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer are ex officio members of this Committee, and either the Treasurer or the Clerk of the Stewardship and Finance Committee from each local Meeting is a corresponding member.

The Committee each year prepares for Yearly Meeting consideration a budget and a plan of apportionment of the budget to the Monthly Meetings. It has oversight of the accounting methods used and the adequacy of the financial reports given by the Treasurer, and it should make adequate provision for preservation of all assets of the Yearly Meeting not specifically managed by the Trustees.

This Committee also should keep all Monthly Meetings informed of the financial needs of the Yearly Meeting and aware of their responsibility to support adequately the activities of the Religious Society of Friends, including any special appeals from Friends General Conference and Friends United Meeting.

The Clerk or another member of the Stewardship and Finance Committee serves as a member of the Camp Property Management Committee. The Clerk or another member of the Stewardship and Finance Committee serves as a member of the Development Committee.

SUE THOMAS TURNER QUAKER EDUCATION FUND COMMITTEE

The Sue Thomas Turner Quaker Education Fund Committee consists of one member appointed by the Advancement and Outreach Committee and one appointed by the Religious Education Committee. Such appointments are for two-year terms. Members may not serve for more than six consecutive years. Other members may be co-opted as appropriate. In addition, Rosalind Turner Zuses will serve as convener without a term limit until such time as she is unable or unwilling to continue.

The Fund was established in Baltimore Yearly Meeting in 1996 by Howard and Rosalind Turner Zuses in recognition of Sue Thomas Turner's long support of Quaker education and Quaker values in public education. Its purpose is to support the understanding and practice of Quaker faith in schools and to support the growth of a life lived in the Spirit by members of the school communities. School community members include students, faculty, staff, administration, trustees, and parents. The Fund is targeted for, but not limited to, Friends schools under the care of a Friends Meeting.

The Fund is intended to be used for materials, lectures and consultants, workshops and retreats, and programs and activities which help to explain Quaker faith and practice to members of the school communities, to be brought into the schools for individuals or groups from the school communities to attend workshops, classes or retreats on Quaker faith and practice and spiritual development, and for the creation and distribution of materials related to these issues by members of the school communities. The Fund would be limited to uses which are in addition to those already funded by a school or committee budget, or to augment funds to enable a use which exceeds ordinary funding.

Applications from schools, meetings, committees, Friends agencies, or individuals for a specific project must be received by March 1. In general, the Committee meets once a year, usually at Spring Interim Meeting Day. The amount of money distributed is a percentage, adjusted as the Committee determines is appropriate, of the value of the Fund at the time of distribution.

UNITY WITH NATURE COMMITTEE

The Unity with Nature Committee consists of approximately 12 persons nominated by the Nominating Committee and appointed by the Yearly Meeting. Monthly Meetings not represented on the Committee are invited to select representatives to the Committee.

Recognizing that the entire world is an interconnected manifestation of God, the Unity with Nature Committee seeks to work into the beliefs and practices of the Yearly Meeting the twin principles that God's Creation is to be respected, protected, and held in reverence, and that human aspirations for peace and justice depend upon restoring the Earth's ecological integrity. The Committee promotes these principles by example, by communication, and by providing spiritual and material support to those engaged in transforming our relationship with the Earth. It serves as a resource for Unity with Nature concerns and activities of individuals and of Monthly Meetings.

As appropriate, the Unity with Nature Committee recommends one person as a representative and one person as an alternative representative to the Nominating Committee for a three-year, once renewable appointment by the Yearly Meeting to the Steering Committee of Quaker Earthcare Witness. Unity with Nature recommends to Nominating one person for a three-year, once renewable appointment by the Yearly Meeting, to serve on the Board of Directors of the Friends Wilderness Center.

YOUTH PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

The Youth Program Committee consists of 16 adults nominated by the Nominating Committee and appointed by the Yearly Meeting, as well as the Youth Programs Manager, the Young Friends Clerks, and Young Friends appointed by the Young Friends Business Meeting.

The Committee will review and remain familiar with the content of the Youth Safety Policy (Appendix D) in order to ensure that the practices of the Committee reflect the guidelines adopted to promote the safety of our youth and youth workers. The Committee will provide any necessary staff and volunteer training and will ensure that programs and events are carried off in compliance with policy guidelines.

The Youth Programs Committee oversees and coordinates all Yearly Meeting youth programs—for junior high/middle school and high school youth, with the exception of the Camping Program and Junior Yearly Meeting. It provides advice and support for the Youth Programs Manager. To this end the Committee does the following: provides a Designated Friendly Adult Presence (FAP) for every Young Friends and Junior Young Friends conference; recruits, trains, evaluates, and mentors adults in the Yearly Meeting who have a leading to work with our programs; supports the Youth Programs Manager in coordinating and communicating with Junior Yearly Meeting and other Yearly Meeting committees involved in youth programs; provides the Yearly Meeting with access to the approved Junior Young Friends Handbook and Young Friends Handbook and ensures that Yearly Meeting is notified of major revisions.

The Young Friends Yearly Meeting Planners serve on the Program Committee. The Young Friends Executive Committee is nominated and appointed by the Young Friends Business Meeting. To encourage youth to take an active part in the affairs of the Yearly Meeting, the Young Friends Executive Committee Clerk is expected to participate in Interim Meeting. Details of the procedures of the Young Friends Executive Committee and Young Friends Conferences can be found in the Young Friends Handbook, available from Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

VI. SPECIAL GROUPS AND WORKING GROUPS

Special Groups

Concerned individuals desiring to establish a new Special Group bring their idea to Interim Meeting, either themselves directly, or through a Monthly Meeting, or through a standing committee of the Yearly Meeting. If, after due consideration, there is general support and approval, Interim Meeting recommends to the Yearly Meeting that such a Special Group be established. If the Yearly Meeting approves, the group is established.

Some groups organize themselves while some others consist of ex officio members. The description of each group explains its concerns, organization, and membership. Unless otherwise provided, each group selects its own clerk.

Each group is expected to report annually to the Yearly Meeting. Any report, action, or statement of a special group should be approved in the manner of Friends at a meeting of the group of which all the members of the group were given reasonable notice. Special groups are empowered to raise or accept monies only with the prior approval of the Interim Meeting or the Yearly Meeting in session.

Working Groups

Any standing committee, with the concurrence of Interim Meeting, may establish a Working Group. The Working Group need not have members of the sponsoring committee among its members, but reports to and through that committee. Unless otherwise provided, each Working Group selects its own clerk. Each Working Group is expected to report in writing annually to the Yearly Meeting. Any report, action, or statement of a Working Group should be approved in the manner of Friends at a meeting of the Group of which all members of the Group were given reasonable notice. Working Groups are empowered to raise or accept monies only with the prior approval of the Interim Meeting and in coordination with the Development Committee. The minute establishing the Working Group specifies whether a member of the Working Group or the clerk of the sponsoring committee will authorize disbursements. When the Working Group's activities are complete or it is no longer active, the sponsoring committee or Interim Meeting lays it down.

One Special Group is currently active within Baltimore Yearly Meeting:

YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS

Baltimore Yearly Meeting Young Adult Friends, constituted in 1986, is a group of women and men aged approximately 18 to 40 years. It is open to other adults who may be interested in the group's activities. It chooses its own officers, term lengths, meeting times, and goals. Its Clerk attends Interim Meeting.

The general purpose of the group is to let young adult Quakers and attenders share their spiritual journeys with others. It provides fellowship for people from widely scattered Meetings and includes those who may feel isolated because there are few of their age in their Meetings.

The group meets at Yearly Meeting and reports to Yearly Meeting. The group holds several retreats a year. These include worship, meetings for business, workshops, service projects, cooking and cleaning together, and social time. Young Adult Friends suggests names each year to the Nominating Committee for appointment by the Yearly Meeting of a young adult representative to Young Friends of North America's regional meetings and annual conference. Travel support for this representative is included in the Yearly Meeting budget.

VII. AFFILIATION WITH FRIENDS GENERAL CONFERENCE, FRIENDS UNITED MEETING, AND

FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE FOR CONSULTATION

Baltimore Yearly Meeting is affiliated with three larger bodies of Friends: Friends General Conference, Friends United Meeting and Friends World Committee for Consultation. Any member of Baltimore Yearly Meeting may be considered for appointment to the various agencies of each of these organizations. Appointments of the appropriate number of persons are made annually to serve three-year terms as members of the Central Committee of Friends General Conference and as representatives to Friends World Committee for Consultation, Section of the Americas. Appointments of the appropriate number of representatives and alternates to Friends United Meeting are made every three years at the Yearly Meeting sessions immediately preceding the Friends United Meeting Triennial sessions. Appointments to such responsibilities are made by the Yearly Meeting, upon nomination by the Nominating Committee, in accordance with the procedures and requests of the respective bodies.

FRIENDS GENERAL CONFERENCE

Friends General Conference, established in 1900, is an association of some 14 Yearly Meetings and other regional Friends entities and eight Monthly Meetings as of 2002. Its coordinating body is its Central Committee, to which member groups make appointments in proportion to the number of persons in their fellowship.

Central Committee members are expected to participate in one long weekend annually, and to serve on one of the program or administrative committees. This may involve several other meetings annually. In addition they are expected to communicate to Friends General Conference the needs and hopes of their parent bodies, and to interpret to their own groups the needs and programs of Friends General Conference.

All Friends are encouraged to attend the annual week-long Friends General Conference Gathering of Friends each summer. Information about FGC resources may be found on their web site, www.FGCQuaker.org. Details of the procedures of Friends General Conference can be found in the Friends General Conference Organizational Blue Book available from Friends General Conference, 1216 Arch Street, 2B, Philadelphia Pennsylvania 19107.

FRIENDS UNITED MEETING

Friends United Meeting, formed in 1902 as the Five Years Meeting of Friends, is composed of Yearly Meetings, 20 as of 1999, and smaller Quaker groups. It meets triennially and publishes a complete record of its proceedings. It has jurisdiction over matters delegated to it by the constituent Yearly Meetings. Friends United Meeting may provide Yearly Meetings with advice and counsel.

Each Yearly Meeting in Friends United Meeting is entitled to appoint five representatives to the Triennial Sessions, plus one additional representative for each 1,000 members or

major fraction thereof. (According to FUM procedures, if an appointed representative does not attend the Triennial, those representatives present may select a replacement representative from those members of Baltimore Yearly Meeting attending the Triennial. This should be reported to the Yearly Meeting in session.) Representatives form the Representative Body. Major matters and proposals are considered by the Representative Body and the plenary sessions. Routine procedural matters may be acted upon by the Representative Body and reported to the Plenary Session which reserves the right to approve, disapprove, or reconsider.

At the time representatives are nominated, each Yearly Meeting names one of its representatives to serve on the Triennial Nominating Committee and another to serve on the Triennial New Business Committee. Baltimore Yearly Meeting's representatives, including those persons named to the General Board, serve also for the three years following the Triennial sessions to which they were appointed as a support group for the relationship between Baltimore Yearly Meeting and Friends United Meeting.

Between Triennial Sessions, the General Board is the responsible body and legal representative of Friends United Meeting. Each Yearly Meeting makes appointments to the General Board during the year preceding the Triennial Sessions. The formula for determining the number of appointments is: membership of 3,000 or less, maximum of 2 appointees; 3,001 to 10,000, maximum of 3 appointees; 10,001 and over, maximum of 4 appointees. One of the General Board members is designated to serve on the General Board Nominating Committee.

The General Board has four regular administrative Committees: Executive Committee, Finance Committee, Nominating Committee, and Program Coordinating and Priorities Committee. The Nominating Committee of the General Board includes one appointee from each Yearly Meeting, designated by the Yearly Meeting, from among those who are its General Board representatives. The General Board also appoints from its members such program committees as are necessary to give continuity and support to the work of Friends United Meeting. Every member of the General Board serves on at least one of its committees.

Practice has been for each Yearly Meeting to name one representative to the Triennial Planning Committee for the upcoming Triennial.

Yearly Meetings contribute to a travel pool, administered by the General Board, to cover expenses of the designated number of representatives traveling to and from the Triennial sessions.

All Friends are encouraged to attend the Friends United Meeting Triennial sessions. Information about Friends United Meeting resources may be found on their web site, www.fum.org.

Details of the procedures of Friends United Meeting can be found in the pamphlet, Friends United Meeting Organization and Procedure, 1996, available from Friends United Meeting, 101 Quaker Hill Drive, Richmond Indiana 47374.

FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE FOR CONSULTATION

Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC), formed in 1937, is a worldwide association of Yearly Meetings and affiliated groups. It is a consultative body whose purpose is to provide links between Friends who may be separated by geography, culture, or practices that emphasize different aspects of Quakerism. It aims to facilitate loving understanding of diversity among Friends; to discover together, with God's help, our common spiritual ground; and to facilitate full expression of Friends' testimonies in the world.

All Yearly Meetings and groups affiliated with FWCC worldwide meet together once every three years. In an effort to keep these gatherings to a workable size, attendance is restricted to Yearly Meeting representatives and other appointed delegates and observers. Representation of Yearly Meetings at the triennial sessions is based on a formula of two persons for any Yearly Meeting or group, three persons for Yearly Meetings with between 1001 and 3000 members, four representatives for Yearly Meetings with between 3001 and 5000 members, and one additional representative for each additional 5000 members or fraction thereof. The Yearly Meeting's representatives are selected by the Interim Meeting from among the representatives to the Section of the Americas. Those attending the FWCC triennial sessions are encouraged to report to as many groups within the Yearly Meeting as possible.

Friends World Committee for Consultation is organized into four geographical sections. Baltimore Yearly Meeting is in the Section of the Americas, which covers the entire western hemisphere. The Section, in turn, is divided into smaller geographical regions, of which Baltimore Yearly Meeting is in the Southeastern region. Some activities of the Section of the Americas are the Quaker Youth Pilgrimage (in collaboration with the Europe and Middle East Section), Wider Quaker Fellowship, and Comité de los Amigos Latin-americanos (Committee of Latin American Friends). The principal function of the regions within the Section is to provide opportunities for as many Friends as possible within a particular geographical region to come to know Friends outside of their own Yearly Meeting.

Each Yearly Meeting in the Section appoints representatives to the Section based on a formula of four persons for the first 1000 members of the Yearly Meeting and one for each additional 2500 members or fraction thereof. Baltimore Yearly Meeting representatives are nominated by the Nominating Committee and appointed by the Yearly Meeting for terms of three years, not all representatives being appointed in the same year. As with other Yearly Meeting appointments, service as a representative will generally not exceed six consecutive years. The representatives should be committed to openness and learning from Friends representing other traditions of worship, theology, and culture.

These representatives attend Sectional and regional meetings (usually an annual meeting for each) and are eligible to serve on the various committees of the Section. All Friends are welcome at Sectional and regional meetings. The representatives help keep the Yearly Meeting informed about the activities of the organization.

VIII. CORPORATIONS AFFILIATED WITH BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING FRIENDS HOUSE, INC.

The Board of Trustees of Friends House, Inc. consists of 12 members nominated by the Nominating Committee and appointed by the Yearly Meeting, four each year for three-year terms, plus seven members nominated by the Board of Trustees of Friends House, Inc. and also appointed by the Yearly Meeting for three-year terms, two each year in two years and three the following year. An appointment begins with the next meeting of the Board of Trustees after the Yearly Meeting Session that made the appointment. A person may serve no more than two consecutive terms. All trustees are selected from the members of the Religious Society of Friends.

Trustees attend meetings, conduct business, and help keep the Yearly Meeting informed of the work of the Board in operating a retirement home near Sandy Spring, Maryland.

FRIENDS NURSING HOME, INC.

The Trustees of Friends Nursing Home, Inc. are the same 19 persons with the same conditions of appointment and of service as the members of the Board of Trustees of Friends House, Inc.

The Trustees operate Friends Nursing Home and keep the Yearly Meeting informed of its progress.

MILES WHITE BENEFICIAL SOCIETY

The Miles White Beneficial Society of Baltimore City was founded and incorporated in 1874 to administer a trust established under the will of Miles White, a member of the Eutaw Street Meeting, the predecessor of Baltimore Monthly Meeting, Homewood. Upon the consolidation of Baltimore Yearly Meeting in 1968, oversight of this trust passed to the Yearly Meeting. The Articles of Incorporation state: "The objects of this Corporation shall be to promote piety and Christianity (especially by the dissemination of books and tracts); to extend aid to the young in their religious, moral, and intellectual training and education; and to relieve the deserving poor."

The trust is administered by the trustees of the Society who "shall annually make a written statement of its operations, and of the disposition and condition of its finances for the preceding year, and submit the same to the Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends." There are eight to ten trustees, nominated by the Nominating Committee and appointed by the Yearly Meeting during its Annual Session to serve a three-year term which commences after the Miles White Beneficial Society's annual meeting in October. Appointees serve no more than two consecutive terms. Trustees meet monthly, as needed.

SANDY SPRING FRIENDS SCHOOL, INC.

Sandy Spring Friends School, Inc., established in 1959, is governed by a Board of Trustees consisting of between 20 and 30 persons, normally 24: four appointed by the Yearly Meeting, eight by Sandy Spring Monthly Meeting, and the remainder by the Board itself.

Ordinarily each year the Yearly Meeting appoints one trustee to serve a four-year term commencing with the September meeting of the Board following appointment. Appointees serve no more than two consecutive terms.

The appointees attend meetings of the Board of Trustees, participate in the directions of the programs of the corporation, and keep the Yearly Meeting informed of such programs. Sandy Spring Friends School reports annually to the Yearly Meeting.

IX. REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Representatives to organizations not part of the Yearly Meeting but to which the Yearly Meeting regularly nominates, appoints, or sends representatives, are nominated by the Nominating Committee and appointed by the Yearly Meeting in accordance with the procedures of the organizations to which they are named.

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE

The American Friends Service Committee carries out service, development, social justice, and peace programs throughout the world. Founded by Quakers in 1917 to provide conscientious objectors with an opportunity to aid civilian war victims. Attracting the support and partnership of people of many races, religions, and cultures, AFSC's work is based on the Quaker belief in the worth of every person and faith in the power of love to overcome violence and injustice.

AFSC is directed by the American Friends Service Committee Corporation, through a Board of Directors elected by the Corporation from among its members. Corporation members all must be members of the Religious Society of Friends.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting may appoint five persons to the Corporation. These persons, nominated by the Nominating Committee and appointed by the Yearly Meeting, in staggered three-year terms are expected to participate in the annual meeting of the Corporation, usually held in Philadelphia.

These representatives are selected from those interested in projects of the American Friends Service Committee. They attempt to interest other persons in contributing to, working for, and being concerned about the American Friends Service Committee.

FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION

The Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) is a public interest lobby founded in 1943 by members of the Religious Society of Friends. FCNL seeks to bring the concerns, experiences, and testimonies of Friends to bear on policy decisions in the nation's capital. People of many religious backgrounds participate in this work. FCNL's staff and volunteers work with a nationwide network of thousands to advocate social and economic justice, peace, and good government.

FCNL is governed by a General Committee of 240 Friends, two-thirds of whom are appointed by 26 of the U.S. Yearly Meetings and seven national Friends organizations; the other third is appointed by the General Committee itself. All members of the General Committee must be members of the Religious Society of Friends and U. S. citizens. The General Committee meets each November to conduct business that includes establishing legislative policy and priorities. Between these Annual Meetings an Executive Committee and several other Committees guide the program and administration of FCNL. Further information is available at the FCNL web site.

The six Baltimore Yearly Meeting representatives to the FCNL are nominated by the Nominating Committee and appointed by the Yearly Meeting, two each year for three-year terms.

These representatives are selected from those interested in the work of the Friends Committee on National Legislation and are expected to participate in its meetings. They attempt to educate other persons concerning the purposes of the Friends Committee on National Legislation in the area of civic action in matters of concern to Friends, and to interest others in contributing to, and working for, this organization.

FRIENDS WILDERNESS CENTER

The Friends Wilderness Center provides a place for meditation and spiritual nourishment in a rustic environment within Rolling Ridge Foundation property in Jefferson County, West Virginia. Its mission includes preserving this natural sanctuary and hosting a variety of events. The Board of Directors consists of six to fifteen members, a majority of whom must be members of the Society of Friends. Unity with Nature recommends to Nominating one person for a three-year, once renewable, appointment by the Yearly Meeting, to serve on the Board of Directors.

NATIONAL RELIGIOUS CAMPAIGN AGAINST TORTURE (NRCAT)

The National Religious Campaign Against Torture (NRCAT) was launched during the conference "Theology, International Law and Torture: A Conference on Human Rights and Religious Commitment," which was held January 13-16, 2006 at Princeton Theological Seminary. Brought together by staff people of various national faith groups and those in the religious community who were already working on the issue, participants discussed the possibility of developing an ongoing national religious anti-torture campaign.

In 2009, the Board of Directors of NRCAT voted to continue its efforts to end U.S.-sponsored torture forever and to expand into two new areas of work: ending torture in U.S. prisons and advocating for U.S. policies and practices that help end torture by other governments. Baltimore Yearly Meeting and several of its constituent Monthly Meetings are Participating and Endorsing Members of NRCAT. As appropriate, Peace and Social Concerns Committee recommends one person to Nominating for a three-year, once renewable, appointment by the Yearly Meeting, to serve as a representative to the Participating Members Council of NRCAT.

PRISONER VISITATION AND SUPPORT

Prisoner Visitation and Support is an incorporated organization sponsored by more than 30 national religious bodies and socially-concerned agencies. It seeks to meet the needs of prisoners in the United States federal and military prison systems through an alternative ministry that is separate from official prison structures.

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee recommends to the Nominating Committee, as appropriate, one person for a three-year, once renewable, appointment by the Yearly Meeting to serve on the Board of Directors of Prisoner Visitation and Support, which meets in Philadelphia two or three times a year.

QUAKER EARTHCARE WITNESS

The Quaker Earthcare Witness is an organization of North American Quakers seeking ways to integrate their concern for environment with Friends long-standing testimonies for simplicity, peace and equality. It has a policy-making General Committee to which Yearly Meetings name representatives. A smaller Steering Committee, drawn from the General Committee, oversees ongoing activities.

The Unity with Nature Committee suggests names, as appropriate, to the Nominating Committee for appointment by the Yearly Meeting of a representative and an alternate representative for a three-year, once renewable appointment to the Steering Committee of Quaker Earthcare Witness.

QUAKER HOUSE, FAYETTEVILLE, N.C.

Established in 1969, Quaker House is an incorporated organization with representatives appointed by three yearly meetings and other socially-concerned agencies. It provides assistance to military personnel, their families, and those contemplating military service. Quaker House offers counseling in the areas of conscientious objection, delayed enlistment claims, and Absent Without Leave and Unauthorized Absence issues. As appropriate, Peace and Social Concerns Committee recommends to Nominating one person for a three-year, once renewable, appointment by the Yearly Meeting, to serve on the Board of Directors of Quaker House, which meets five times a year in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

WILLIAM PENN HOUSE

William Penn House is a Quaker seminar and hospitality center in Washington, District of Columbia. Established in 1966 as a project of Friends Meeting of Washington, it was incorporated as an independent, nonprofit entity in November 1993. Its structure includes a National Consultative Committee of representatives from 20 Friends organizations and Yearly Meetings.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting may appoint one person as representative and one alternate to the National Consultative Committee for a term of three years. Nominations are made by the Nominating Committee and approved by the Yearly Meeting in session.

YOUNG FRIENDS OF NORTH AMERICA

Young Friends of North America, formed in 1953, is an open religious fellowship of Friends from across North America and from a variety of Quaker backgrounds. Although

most of the group is between the ages of 18 and 35, there is no upper age limit. Young Friends of North America gathers regionally in the spring and fall and meets as a whole for a week-long summer conference. Baltimore Yearly Meeting Young Adult Friends suggests names each year to the Nominating Committee to appoint by the Yearly Meeting of a young adult representative to Young Friends of North America's regional meetings and annual conference.

X. CHANGES IN *FAITH AND PRACTICE*

Revisions to Faith and Practice are initiated by one or more Monthly or Quarterly Meetings or committees of the Yearly Meeting and are presented in writing to the Yearly Meeting. The Yearly Meeting then appoints at least three persons, nominated by the Nominating Committee, to serve on the Faith and Practice Revision Committee.

The Committee may help prepare proposed changes to ensure clarity and consistency with other sections of *Faith and Practice*. It circulates proposed revisions to all the Monthly and Quarterly Meetings in Baltimore Yearly Meeting with sufficient time that Monthly Meetings may prepare comments for a Quarterly Meeting session before Yearly Meeting. It is responsible for ensuring that changes approved by the Yearly Meeting are incorporated into *Faith and Practice*.

XI. CHANGES IN THE MANUAL OF PROCEDURE

Changes in the Manual of Procedure may be initiated by Interim Meeting or by any member or any committee of the Yearly Meeting. The proposal first should be presented in writing to the Interim Meeting. The Interim Meeting will consider the proposal at its next meeting. If considered appropriate as presented or revised, the proposal will be forwarded to the Yearly Meeting at its next session, except that changes presented by the Manual of Procedure Committee implementing a policy adopted at the last Annual Session do not have to be forwarded. Where substantive changes have been made (see section 2.55, Chicago Manual of Style, 15th edition), the changes are forwarded. The Yearly Meeting in session receives proposed changes and may approve, reject, postpone, or return the proposed change to the Interim Meeting for further consideration. In any case, a written report of the action of the Interim Meeting should be sent to those initiating the item, who may then, if so led, take the matter directly to a Yearly Meeting session.

The Manual of Procedure Committee incorporates into the Manual changes in procedure adopted by the Yearly Meeting and recommends changes in procedure deemed useful to the Yearly Meeting. When proposing changes, Yearly Meeting members or committees may find it helpful to work with the Manual of Procedure Committee. In the interest of accuracy and clarity, the Manual of Procedure Committee may copy-edit the *Manual of Procedure*.

XII. APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

ARTICLES OF CONSOLIDATION

Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run

Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends (Orthodox)

First: Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run, and Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends (Orthodox) agree that such corporations shall consolidate and thereby form a new corporation. The terms and conditions of the consolidation and the mode of carrying the same into effect are hereby set forth in these Articles of Consolidation.

Second: The new corporation shall be formed under the laws of the State of Maryland.

Third: The consolidating corporations are Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run, and Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends (Orthodox) both of which are corporations organized and existing under the laws of the State of Maryland.

Fourth: The matters and facts required to be stated in Articles of Incorporation other than provisions with respect to incorporators are:

1. The name of the corporation is: Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends.

2. Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends is composed of the members of Monthly Meetings formerly affiliated with Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run, and Baltimore Yearly Meeting (Orthodox) (sometimes through intermediate bodies such as Quarterly Meetings) together with all those persons who may hereafter become members thereof, located in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, the District of Columbia and other adjacent areas.

3. The purposes for which the corporation is formed are:

(A) To continue without interruption the work of Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run, and Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends (Orthodox) and to have all their powers, duties, and obligations.

(B) To promote the religious interests and welfare of its members and its constituent Monthly Meetings, together with the boards, committees, institutions and instrumentalities affiliated with the Religious Society of Friends, as well as to maintain relations with other religious fellowships to the end that mutual understanding and cooperation may be advanced.

(C) To acquire by purchase, gift, devise, bequest, or otherwise, and to own, invest, reinvest, or dispose of property, both real and personal, for such religious, educational, philanthropic and other related work as the Yearly Meeting may undertake; to purchase, own, receive, sell, assign, care for, rent, lease, mortgage, or otherwise encumber, sell, assign, transfer and convey such property for the general purposes of the Yearly Meeting; to receive and hold in trust both real and personal property for Monthly or Quarterly Meetings, boards, institutions and instrumentalities of the Religious Society of Friends, or agencies affiliated with the Religious Society of Friends and to invest and reinvest the same; and to make any contracts for promoting the objects and purposes of the Yearly Meeting.

(D) In general to exercise any, all and every power which has heretofore been exercised by Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run, and by Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends (Orthodox) and which any non-profit religious and charitable corporation can be authorized to exercise, but no other power.

4. The post office address of the principal office of the corporation in Maryland is 5116 North Charles Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21210. The name of the Resident Agent of the corporation in Maryland is Theodore H. Mattheiss and the post office address of the Resident Agent is 5116 North Charles Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21210. Said Resident Agent is a citizen of the State of Maryland and actually resides therein.

5. The membership of the corporation entitled to participate in its activities and meetings shall consist of the members of the Monthly Meeting congregations affiliated with the Yearly Meeting.

6. The number of the Trustees of the corporation shall be nine (9), which number may be increased or decreased pursuant to a "Manual of Procedure for Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends," but shall never be less than four (4). The names of the Trustees who shall act initially until their successors are chosen and qualify are: James D. Peacock, William J. Evans, F. Hooper Bond.

7. The Yearly Meeting shall not be authorized to issue capital stock.

8. The duration of the corporation shall be perpetual.

Fifth: (A) The principal offices of Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run, and Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends (Orthodox) are both located in the City of Baltimore, State of Maryland.

(B) Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run, owns real property in Frederick County and Cecil County in the State of Maryland, the title to which could be affected by the recording of an instrument among the land record.

(C) Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends (Orthodox) owns no real property in the State of Maryland, title to which could be affected by the recording of an instrument among the land records.

Sixth: These Articles of Consolidation were advised by the Executive Committee of Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run, and by the Executive Council of Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends (Orthodox) on April 1, 1967 by the adoption of a Minute declaring that the proposed consolidation provided herein was advisable substantially upon the terms and provisions set forth in these Articles of Consolidation and directing that the proposed Articles of Consolidation be submitted for action thereon at the regular annual sessions of the respective Yearly Meetings. Thereafter these Articles of Consolidation were approved by the respective regular annual sessions of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run, and Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends (Orthodox) according to the manner of Friends, without dissent, at said sessions both of which were held on Saturday, August 5th, at 2:00 P.M. as provided by the Laws of Maryland and the Charters of the respective corporations.

Seventh: Both Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run, and Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends (Orthodox) agree to execute, deliver and file any and all instruments or documents necessary or appropriate to accomplish the objective above stated.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run, and Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends (Orthodox) have caused these Articles of Consolidation to be signed

in their respective corporate names and on their behalf by their respective officers and their respective corporate seals to be hereunto affixed and attested as of this fifth day of August, 1967.
Attest: BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS, STONY RUN

Mary S. Farquhar
Recording Clerk

Harry S. Scott, Jr.
Presiding Clerk

Attest: BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS (ORTHODOX)

Lucy G. Wellons
Recording Clerk

Alfred H. Mikesell
Acting Alternate Presiding Clerk

REVISIONS TO THE ARTICLES OF CONSOLIDATION

Approved by Baltimore Yearly Meeting Representative Meeting, October 28, 1995 (R95-57)

Recorded: Department of Assessments and Taxation of the State of Maryland, December 4, 1995

Fourth:

2. “Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends is composed of the members of Monthly Meetings located in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, the District of Columbia and other adjacent areas formerly affiliated with Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run, and Baltimore Yearly Meeting (Orthodox), together with all those persons who may hereafter become members of existing or newly created Monthly Meetings.”

3. (B) First sentence. “The corporation is organized exclusively to promote the religious, charitable, and educational interests of its members and its constituent Monthly Meetings, together with the boards, committees, institutions and instrumentalities affiliated with the Religious Society of Friends.”

Sentence added: “For the above purposes the corporation may make distributions to organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or the corresponding section of any future Federal tax code).”

(C) First sentence. “To acquire by purchase, gift, devise, bequest, or otherwise, and to own, invest, reinvest, or dispose of property, both real and personal, for religious, charitable and educational purposes and other related work as the Yearly Meeting may undertake:...”

(D) Second sentence added. “Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on any activity not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or corresponding section of any future Federal tax code) or by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code (or corresponding section of any future Federal tax code).”

4. First and second sentences. “The post office address of the principal office of the corporation in Maryland is 17100 Quaker Lane, Sandy Spring, Maryland 20860. The name of the Resident Agent of the corporation in Maryland is Frank Massey and the post office address of the Resident Agent is 17100 Quaker Lane, Sandy Spring, Maryland 20860.” [NOTE: The present Resident Agent is Karen A. Treber and the post office address of the Resident Agent is 240 Armstrong Avenue, Frostburg, Maryland 21532.]

6. Third and fourth sentences added. “Each Trustee shall be a member of a Monthly Meeting which is constituent of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting. The trustee shall be appointed at the annual meeting of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting, usually held in August of each year, for a term as designated in the Manual of Procedure of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting.”

8. Second sentence added. “However, should the corporation be dissolved the assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future tax code, or shall be

distributed to the Federal government, or to a state or local government for a public purpose.”

9. New paragraph added. “9. No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, directors, officers or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of Section 501(c)(3) purposes. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing and issuing of statements) any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office.”

REVISION TO THE ARTICLES OF CONSOLIDATION

Recorded with the State of Maryland: September 5, 1996

Fourth: 1. "The name of the Corporation is: Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, Inc."

APPENDIX B

WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION POLICY

Baltimore Yearly Meeting is committed to the highest ethical and legal standards. In line with this commitment and BYM’s commitment to open communication, this policy provides an avenue for members of BYM to raise concerns with reassurance that they will be protected from reprisals or victimization for reporting improper conduct such as incorrect financial reporting, unlawful activity, activities that violate BYM’s policies, or other serious improper conduct.

Any BYM member (or attender of a BYM monthly meeting) who learns of unethical or wrongful conduct within Baltimore Yearly Meeting is encouraged to report this to any of the following people for further action: the General Secretary, the Clerk of Interim Meeting, the Clerk of the Yearly Meeting, or the Clerk of Trustees.

No person will be penalized, formally or informally, or retaliated against for any such report. Harassment or victimization for reporting concerns under this policy will not be tolerated.

Every effort will be made to treat the complainant’s identity with appropriate regard for confidentiality. We encourage Friends to put their names to allegations because appropriate follow-up questions and investigation may not be possible unless the complainant is identified. Concerns expressed anonymously will be explored appropriately, but consideration will be given to the seriousness of the issue raised, the credibility of the concern, and the likelihood of confirming the allegation from attributable sources.

APPENDIX C

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

All Baltimore Yearly Meeting members, or attenders of BYM monthly meetings (“Friends”) are expected to avoid actual or potential conflicts of interest in dealings with BYM. Further, all Friends are expected to act in the best interest of Baltimore Yearly Meeting when fulfilling their duties as staff members or as volunteers.

An actual or potential conflict of interest occurs when a Friend is in a position to influence a decision that may result in a personal gain for that Friend, an entity associated with that Friend, or for a relative as a result of BYM’s business dealings. For the purposes of this policy, a relative

is any person who is related by blood, adoption, marriage or committed partnership, or whose relationship with the employee is similar to that of persons who are related by blood, adoption, marriage or committed partnership.

Any Friend who has any influence on transactions involving purchases, contracts, or leases that might result in personal gain for the Friend, associated entity, or a relative must disclose, as soon as possible, to the General Secretary or the Clerk of Trustees the existence of any actual or potential conflict of interest so that safeguards can be established to protect all parties.

Any Friend serving on a BYM Committee that contracts for goods or services on behalf of BYM must not take part in any committee decision involving a contract with a business in which the Friend or a relative of the Friend holds any significant beneficial interest. The nature and extent of such a beneficial interest must be disclosed to the members of the committee making the decision.

Personal gain may result not only in cases in which a Friend, associated entity, or relative has a significant ownership in a firm with which BYM does business, but also when a Friend, associated business, or relative receives any kickback, bribe, substantial gift, or special consideration as a result of any transaction or business dealings involving BYM.

The intent of this policy is to uphold the high standards of transparency and integrity that BYM always has expected of Friends. Nevertheless, the policy should be interpreted with a standard of reasonableness. Thus, failure to disclose conflicts involving very small amounts of money or failure to make formal disclosure of relationships that are well known to all parties involved will not be deemed to be violations of this policy.

APPENDIX D

YOUTH SAFETY POLICY

Originally Approved October 17, 2009

Updated June 15, 2013

Purpose Statement

Baltimore Yearly Meeting (BYM) seeks to provide a safe and secure environment for the children and youth who participate in our programs and activities. We strive to provide an atmosphere of openness and trust among children, among adults, and between children and adults. We seek Divine guidance in all aspects of our programming, operations and staffing. We affirm that the adults in our programs have the responsibility for the safety and care of all, but especially the children in our programs. Beyond written policies, we recognize that careful attention and vigilance needs to be maintained to nurture this atmosphere and provide individuals the opportunity to experience safety in our community.

All of our youth programs honor that of God in every person. After research, thought, discussion, and prayer, we have created this policy and procedures to promote the safety of all within the Yearly Meeting community while respecting the Light within each of us. The policy set forth in this document acknowledges that each of our youth programs is unique and has different operating norms. Therefore, this document strives to provide overarching policies and guidelines which allow each program the flexibility needed to operate. These procedures focus on preventing harm, responding in a timely and appropriate way to suspicions or incidents of

child abuse, and offering support, clarity and allowing room for healing. By implementing the following practices, our goal is to maintain high-quality care and protection of the children and youth of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. The Yearly Meeting also seeks to protect from false accusations all who work with and support any of the Yearly Meeting's programs.

Definitions

For purposes of this policy, the terms “child,” “children,” “youth,” or “minors” include all persons under the age of eighteen (18) years. “Youth Worker” refers to someone who is working within Yearly Meeting programs for youth, including paid staff, work-grant recipients and volunteers. “Applicant” refers to anyone who is applying to be a youth worker. “Participant” is any individual, regardless of age, who is not working, but participating in a Youth Program.

Support workers are those who assist in various youth programs by doing jobs necessary to such programs, but who are not involved in directly ministering to youth. By way of example, these workers include, but are not limited to, kitchen staff, grounds keepers and bus drivers. For purposes of this policy, these staff and volunteers shall be referred to as “Support Workers.”

Within BYM programs – which include, but are not limited to, the Junior Yearly Meeting program, the BYM Youth Programs, and the BYM Camping programs – some “youths” may indeed be “Youth Workers,” while some people over the age of 18 may be “participants.” Youth Workers who are under the age of 18 shall be referred to in this Policy as “Minor Youth Workers.”

Those in charge of those programs shall be referred to in this Policy as “Program Managers.”

Preventive Measures

BYM seeks to prevent the occurrence of child abuse within its programs. Prevention occurs in various ways that include: carefully screening applicants, checking references, conducting criminal background checks, and regularly re-checking criminal records. It also includes training on the signs and symptoms of possible child abuse, regular monitoring of staff during youth activities, ensuring this Policy is disseminated to all who work with youth, training on this Youth Safety Policy, and creating procedures appropriate for each youth program, and monitoring compliance with those procedures, especially those designed to limit situations of one youth meeting with one adult in a closed room that might give rise to the opportunity of child abuse.

Selection of Workers for Positions Supervising Youth

Year-round staff members involved with youth are hired by the General Secretary of BYM using a process that involves but is not limited to a written application, interview, reference checks and criminal background check. These year-round staff members oversee the various BYM programs for youth.

People who oversee the BYM programs serving youth are charged with the responsibility of discerning the suitability of staff and volunteers to work with our youth. All BYM employees and any persons who desire to work directly with the children participating in our programs and activities will be screened using the procedures below:

a. Written application:

All applicants for any Youth Worker position must complete an application. The applications for various BYM youth programs may differ slightly depending upon individual program needs. However, each application will request basic information from the applicant, and will inquire into such matters as previous experience with children and religious affiliation. It will require at least two references, employment information and disclosure of any criminal convictions. (See **Youth Safety Appendix A** for a copy of the application for use with all youth staff and camp staff, BYM staff, and JYM volunteers) Applicants with experience in one or more Quaker programs are encouraged to obtain one of their references from someone associated with that program, or from their Monthly Meeting. This shall not be a requirement.

Access to the completed application forms will be available to those reviewing the application, and to relevant BYM staff and committee clerks.

b. Applicant Interview:

Upon review of the applications, a personal interview will be conducted with all selected applicants to consider their suitability. The Camp Directors conduct interviews for the camp staff; the Junior Yearly Meeting committee clerks interview possible volunteer staff for JYM; and the Friendly Adult Presence (FAP) subcommittee interviews possible staff for BYM Young Friends and Junior Young Friends programs. Procedures for conducting and documenting the interview or training process will be determined by the particular youth program. Any concerns raised during the interview process should be noted in writing on or with the application, and signed and dated by the noting interviewer.

c. Reference Checks:

Before an applicant is permitted to work with children and youth in any BYM program, at least two of the applicant's personal references will be checked. Individuals familiar with the applicant but not identified by that applicant as a reference also may be contacted for input.

d. Six-Month Association Rule:

In an effort to ensure that we know the individuals who will help our youth develop and be asked to serve as role models, no unpaid worker will be considered for any positions involving supervisory contact with minors until she or he has been known to a Quaker community for a minimum of the previous six (6) months before applying for a position in a BYM youth program. Quaker communities may include Friends schools, Friends camps, Monthly Meetings or other Quaker organizations.

e. Exceptions to the selection process:

We recognize that there are some categories of workers which are not vetted using the above detailed application process, such as occasional workshop leaders and non-program-affiliated bus drivers. Notwithstanding, all such workers are still required to undergo a criminal background check unless program staff will be present at all times during the occasional person's direct contact with youth.

f. Criminal Background Check:

A state/district and national criminal background check covering the jurisdiction in which the worker resides is required for all Youth Workers and Support Workers within BYM youth programs, excepting Minor Youth Workers. Until the background check is complete, no adult

applicant will be allowed to volunteer or be employed in any of the youth programs. Periodic re-checks will occur, based on the specific youth program's need, but rechecks will occur no less frequently than every three years.

Before a background check is run, a prospective worker will be asked to complete and sign an authorization and release form as well as an information form allowing BYM to access this information and share it with appropriate personnel. (See **Youth Safety Appendix A** for Authorization & Release and Information forms.) A failure to disclose a criminal conviction on the background authorization form and/or declining to sign the authorization form will be a basis for prohibiting the individual from working with children or acting in a support capacity in our youth programs. An applicant will be provided with the opportunity to explain any extenuating circumstances regarding criminal convictions on the application.

Conviction of a crime does not mean that someone could not work with children nor does it mean that he or she does not have gifts to offer the BYM community. But in order to protect the safety of our youth, individuals convicted of any of the following types of crimes will not be employed nor serve as volunteers in our youth programs:

Any crimes involving children such as, but not limited to, child abuse, sexual abuse, child neglect, child pornography, and human trafficking.

Additionally, applicants convicted of "barrier crimes", as defined by Virginia law, will not be placed in positions working with youth in any BYM programs located in Virginia. All other convictions will be assessed based on the type of crime, numbers of convictions and date(s) of convictions to ascertain whether the individual is suited to working with youth at all, or at the time of the application.

The background check authorization form and results will be maintained in confidence in a locked file at the BYM office. Should the criminal background check indicate any convictions that would ban or limit the involvement of an applicant, the Yearly Meeting staff will communicate with the applicant and notify him or her of the reason s/he is not eligible to work with youth in BYM programs. The applicant has the right to review the report. If the applicant believes that the criminal background report is incorrect, s/he may go through the appropriate legal channels to correct it and then reapply. BYM staff will notify the person responsible for the appropriate program that the applicant is not currently eligible to work with youth. In these instances, the General Secretary, Program Manager and the appropriate program committee clerk will be consulted. The Yearly Meeting Presiding Clerk may substitute for the General Secretary, as needed.

Minor Youth Workers:

Because of the difference in legal status between youths and those over 18, the selection process for Minor Youth Workers is somewhat different. We recognize that there may be times when it is necessary or desirable for workers (paid or volunteer) who are under age 18 to assist in caring for children during programs or activities. The following guidelines apply to such workers:

- Minor Youth Workers must be at least age 14; Note, the minimum age may be higher for some BYM youth programs based on the program, job description, location of where the program is conducted and the regulations in that jurisdiction.

- There should be an age gap of at least two years or two grade levels between Minor Youth Workers and the children under their care. Some programs may require a wider age gap.
- Minor Youth Workers must provide at least two references, with one preferably from their Monthly Meeting or another BYM program, or from a person in a position of responsibility concerning such experience at another Quaker or religious institution or other group. It should include information about the applicant's prior experience working with children.
- All Minor Youth Workers must have the express permission of a parent or guardian to engage in this ministry.
- Minor Youth Workers must be under the supervision of an adult at all times.
- Note: Criminal background checks are not available for minors.

Worker-to-Youth Ratios:

Given that our Yearly Meeting youth programs serve children from infancy through early adulthood, each youth program will develop guidelines for its programs and events that identify the maximum number of participants that one worker may be responsible for supervising, in accordance with applicable laws. Programs employing workers under the age of eighteen (18) years will include in their guidelines the discernment as to the ages of children a Minor Youth Worker may care for, and the number of participants a Minor Youth Worker may reasonably be expected to work with.

Two-Adult Guideline

For the protection of all, where possible, there should be at least two adult workers in attendance at all times when minors are being supervised during our programs and activities. One-on-one (adult-child) interactions behind closed doors or in a secluded area are prohibited, except as may be required for medical or similar purposes. Transportation of youth or support workers should conform to this guideline where possible.

We encourage any private conversations to be held in public view.

Workers must ensure that they are not alone with only one unrelated youth. Classroom doors should remain open if there is no uncovered window that provides a clear view into the room. Workers are never to be alone with a child in a private bathroom/ or bathroom stall with the door closed.

During times when there are not two adults present with a group of youth, another appropriate adult should be assigned to make periodic unannounced site checks to such group.

Note: The BYM Camping program adheres to state-specific regulations regarding youth-to-staff ratios, which may differ at times with this guideline.

Open Door Guideline

When a program involving youth uses a classroom or other meeting room, the door to the room should always remain open unless there is an uncovered window in the door or a side window beside it that provides a clear view into the room. Doors are never to be locked while youth are inside the room.

Check-in/Check-out Procedure

All programs which serve youth within BYM will have clear check-in and check-out procedures which ensure that the staff/volunteers can account for the number, identity and whereabouts of the youth under their care from arrival to departure. Each program will provide the particular procedures for these safeguards. Each such procedure should be submitted for approval to the Program Manager, or the person in charge.

Discipline Policy

BYM strives to create a safe and nurturing environment where youth of all ages can experience the community of Friends. Our program leaders and staff work hard to use conflict resolution familiar to Friends when the need arises. Physical discipline such as spanking, grabbing, or hitting children is unacceptable under any circumstance. Workers should consult with the program director or committee clerk if assistance is needed with disciplinary issues.

Responding to Allegations of Child Abuse

BYM operates in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia, and the terms “child abuse,” “child neglect” and “child sexual abuse” have different definitions in each such jurisdiction, as well as different reporting requirements. (See **Youth Safety Appendix B** for pertinent laws regarding child abuse for each of these jurisdictions.) Notwithstanding these various definitions, child abuse, neglect or sexual abuse generally include, but are not limited to the following:

- Any treatment, action or behavior or lack thereof to a child by any adult or other child that is not accidental, and that causes physical, sexual or emotional harm or injury to that child. This includes actions or behaviors that are direct as well as indirect though writing, phone calls, texting, instant messaging, via any form of social media or other form of communication or interaction.
- Any act that involves sexual molestation or exploitation of a child by a parent or other person who has permanent or temporary care or responsibility for supervision of a child, or by any household or family member. These acts include incest, rape, sodomy, sexual offense, and unnatural or perverted sexual practices. [These acts by other adults would be defined as sexual crimes and be described in another part of the law.] This includes actions or behaviors that are direct as well as indirect though writing, phone calls, texting, instant messaging, via any form of social media or any other form of communication or interaction.
- Any action or failure to act that deprives a child of essential needs, such as adequate food, water, shelter, or medical care, by a caregiver who bears responsibility for providing such.

If an individual suspects abuse or neglect of a child participating in any BYM program, whether the abuse is suspected to have occurred in the youth program or elsewhere, s/he will immediately notify 1) the Yearly Meeting Program Manager or 2) the appropriate committee clerk for further action, AND make an oral report to the civil authorities, and follow that by a written report to the civil authorities within 24-48 hours, as mandated by state law. (See **Youth Safety Appendix C** for Important Contact Information.) The Program Manager or committee clerk who receives the initial report shall notify the General Secretary as soon as possible.

Any sexual activity between any Youth Worker (including Minor Youth Workers) and a youth participant of a BYM program in which the Youth Worker is involved, is contrary to BYM policy.

Steps in Handling Suspected or Actual Abuse

While our youth programs strive to foster communities of caring and respect for all, we recognize that the possibility exists for abuse or neglect of children during participation in a youth program, as well as the possibility of discovering, during a youth event, evidence of abuse of a child participant that has occurred elsewhere.

In the event that a suspicion of child abuse or neglect is raised at a BYM program event or activity, regardless of where the abuse is alleged to have occurred, the following procedure shall be followed:

1. All youth workers shall comply with state requirements regarding reporting of any suspected child abuse, whether or not the statute includes the youth worker as a mandatory reporter. In Maryland, the duty to report is triggered as follows: “An individual shall immediately report suspected child abuse or neglect to the local department of social services, or report the suspected incident to a local law enforcement agency.”
 - a. Report the suspicion or incident to the Program Manager or committee clerk as soon as possible, AND
 - b. Make an oral report of the suspicion or incident to the local Department of Social Services or Police. (See **Appendix C** for Important Contact Information).
 - c. The youth worker shall follow up by making a written report to the civil authority within 24-48 hours of the oral report. (See **Youth Safety Appendix B** for required forms or list of information to provide if no form required).
2. Immediate steps will be taken by the Program Director or person in charge (PIC) to ensure that all other children and youth in the youth program are safe, as applicable.
3. If applicable, the employee or volunteer alleged to be the perpetrator of the abuse or misconduct will immediately be placed on leave from working with children and will not be permitted to participate in any activities involving children or youth, pending an investigation.
4. The parent or guardian of the youth will be notified by the person in charge as soon as possible, excepting circumstances in which such parent or guardian is the alleged abuser. (If there are multiple people in charge, those people should meet to be informed about the incident as soon as possible and to designate a point person to contact the parent or guardian and report to the authorities.) Information on the suspicion or incident will be provided to the parent or guardian including the requirement that youth workers must report such suspicions or incidents to the Program Manager, parents, and to the authorities.
5. In situations where the parent or guardian is available and not the alleged abuser, the Program Manager will assist as requested by the parent or guardian to care for the needs of the child. If the parent or guardian is not immediately available or is the alleged abuser, the Program Manager will ensure that the child, the alleged victim, receives immediate medical attention, if and as appropriate.

6. Investigation of the suspicion or incident is the responsibility of the civil authorities who are trained for this purpose. BYM officials and all involved are expected to cooperate fully with any investigation. During the course of any investigation, all involved are reminded that confidentiality is important to the alleged victim as well as the alleged perpetrator. Any person ultimately found guilty of abuse by the authorities will be permanently removed from his or her position with children or youth, and will not be permitted to participate in any activities involving children and youth in Yearly Meeting.
7. The General Secretary of the Yearly Meeting or his or her designee will ensure that all required reports to the civil authorities are made and that internal written records are kept regarding the suspicion or incident. The internal records should include, in detail, all steps taken by BYM in compliance with this policy and state law, as well as all actions to foster the healing of everyone involved. These will be kept in a locked file.
8. The Presiding Clerk of the Yearly Meeting and the Yearly Meeting's insurance carrier will be notified by BYM's General Secretary or his or her designee. If the insurer of the local venue is not the same as BYM's carrier, staff will advise the contact person for that venue that an incident has occurred, and that while BYM carries insurance, it is also appropriate for a representative of that venue to contact its insurer.
9. After consultation with BYM's legal counsel, the Presiding Clerk of the Yearly Meeting or his or her designee will determine whether, to what extent and by whom internal announcements or reports will be made within BYM to Friends.
10. After consultation with BYM's legal counsel, the Presiding Clerk of Yearly Meeting or his or her designee will be our spokesperson to the media, if that is deemed necessary, concerning incidents of abuse or neglect. However, if that person is alleged to be involved, the Interim Meeting Clerk or his or her designee will be the spokesperson. All others should refrain from speaking to the media.
11. The Clerk of the Committee charged with supervision of the Program (or Supervisory Committee for staff), the General Secretary, the Presiding Clerk of Yearly Meeting, the appropriate program manager, the Camp Director (where appropriate) and BYM's legal counsel will together determine what information might need to be communicated to help the program community recover. This group will make decisions about communicating information and facilitating healing, and will assist in carrying these out.
12. The point person among those in charge will contact the parent or guardian and the victim to inform them of steps that were taken so as to close the feedback loop.
13. At the conclusion of the investigation, if it is determined by the civil authorities that they do not have enough information to move forward, or if the suspicion is unsubstantiated, the Program Manager of person in charge will meet with the appropriate persons to determine whether any further internal steps need to be taken.
14. Throughout the process, the confidentiality of both the youth and the accused is very important, as is the healing of the community. All are asked to keep this in mind as decisions are made and related actions occur.

Non-Reportable Behavior that Raises Concern

Behavior that raises concern is recognized as something that is very difficult to define, and will vary from program to program depending on the developmental stage of the participants. For example, while it may be appropriate for an adult worker to hold a baby or one-year-old in his/her lap and cuddle it, it is not appropriate for an adult worker to hold a sixteen-year-old in his/her lap and cuddle. That said, appropriate behavior is generally related to interpersonal boundaries and feelings of safety on an individual and community level.

A. Behaviors Occurring Internally

We recognize that some situations, actions or behaviors of Youth Workers that are not reportable as suspicious of child abuse may still concern us. Situations involving disconcerting behaviors are to be handled in the following manner:

1) The disconcerting behavior will be brought to the attention of the person in charge (PIC), i.e. Camp Director, Youth Secretary, Designated Friendly Adult Presence (DFAP), or Program Manager by the individual(s) observing or receiving a report about the behavior. The PIC will work with all the individuals involved to attempt to bring clarity to the situation.

2) If the disconcerting behavior appears to be of a serious, but still non-reportable, nature, the PIC will note the concern in writing and notify the program staff person or the program committee clerk of the concern as soon as possible. The General Secretary or designee must be consulted as soon as possible and is to be kept informed throughout the entire process.

3) If, after this, the behavior is deemed serious by the PIC or the General Secretary, the individual in question will be notified in writing that he/she is being put on inactive status and cannot participate in any Baltimore Yearly Meeting youth program until the matter is cleared up. At this point, an inquiry will be initiated by the program staff person, in concurrence with the General Secretary, to determine the following:

1. The complaint has a basis for further investigation. If so, conduct an internal inquiry and,
 - i. If deemed reportable, take reporting steps as indicated previously.
 - ii. If non-reportable but the behavior indicates
 - a. a lack of good judgment, or
 - b. an insufficient level of maturity for the position of Youth Worker, or
 - c. an inappropriate sense of boundaries, then
2. The PIC and/or the General Secretary shall determine a course of action appropriate to the circumstances. Actions may include, but are not limited to the following:
 - i. provide additional training,
 - ii. provide closer supervision,
 - iii. offer a clearness committee,
 - iv. temporarily restrict participation in Youth Programs pending additional maturity, and/or
 - v. bar permanently from youth work.

If the internal inquiry indicates that the individual should be barred from the youth program, the program staff person may contact the clerk of individual's Monthly Meeting to convey the general outline of the situation and to request that the Monthly Meeting attend to the spiritual and emotional needs of the individual.

Information about the situation will be shared only on an as-needed basis, and, only to the limited extent necessary. Any written documents will be kept locked in a confidential file in the Baltimore Yearly Meeting office.

B. Behavior Outside of BYM that Raises Concerns

An individual may question the appropriateness of a Youth Worker's involvement with youth based upon that worker's behavior outside Yearly Meeting activities. When such a concern is brought to the attention of a BYM youth program leader, care needs to be taken to discern the appropriate response. The response shall be determined by the Program Manager, program committee clerk and the General Secretary and may include any of the steps listed above. At all times respect and concern needs to be held for all involved, and information about the situation will be shared only on a limited, need-to-know basis.

Training

BYM youth programs will require and provide training on this Policy for all Youth Workers. (See **Youth Safety Appendix D** for Acknowledgement form for Youth Workers to sign and submit upon receipt and/or training on this Policy.) Additionally, BYM will strive to provide opportunities for additional training classes or events on a regular basis. All persons working with youth are expected to attend training regarding youth safety.

Policy Revisions

The Youth Safety Policy Working Group will meet at least once per year to review this Youth Safety Policy and will bring proposed revisions of this Policy to Interim Meeting or Annual Session as needed.

YOUTH SAFETY APPENDIX A
Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
CRIMINAL RECORDS & REFERENCE CHECKS
Authorization & Release

Baltimore Yearly Meeting (BYM) requires a criminal records check as well as employer and personal reference checks for those who wish to work with youth or in a support capacity with youth pursuant to BYM's Youth Safety Policy and State law.

- I authorize BYM and its affiliates to perform a criminal background check on me.
- I authorize the release information from my current and former employers as needed in response to reference checks by BYM.
- I understand and authorize BYM to release the results of my criminal background check and employment and personal reference checks to appropriate leadership on an as-needed basis. Note that this may include an applicant's Monthly Meeting Clerk, though the position applied for is not conducted by the applicant's Monthly Meeting.
- I understand and authorize BYM to conduct subsequent periodic criminal background checks so long as I continue to be involved with youth as a volunteer or employee, in any capacity.
- I understand that, by law, I have the right to review the results of the criminal records check and I have the right to contest those results with the appropriate civil authorities.
- I understand that the results of the criminal background check will be utilized for determining my eligibility for working with youth or in a support capacity with youth.
- I understand that it is BYM's policy to disallow anyone with convictions for child abuse or sexual crimes to work with or near youth.
- I hereby affirm that I have never been convicted of child abuse or sexual offenses.
- I hereby affirm that I have never been accused of being sexually, physically or emotionally abusive of a child.

By my signature below, I for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, do forever release and discharge and agree to indemnify Baltimore Yearly Meeting and its officers, employees and agents to be harmless from and against any and all causes of actions, suits, liabilities, costs, demands and claims and related expenses including attorneys' fees and court costs and any other expenses resulting from the investigation into my background in connection with my application to take or continue in a position as an employee, friendly adult presence or volunteer of Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

Sign Name: _____

Signed in the presence of: _____ (Witness signature)

CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECK – Applicant Information
Baltimore Yearly Meeting of The Religious Society of Friends

The information below is needed to conduct this records check. Responses to the demographic questions are for background check purposes only and will have no bearing on hiring decisions.

Full Name: _____

Last	First	Middle	Maiden

Gender: Male _____ Female _____

Race: White ____ Black ____ American Indian ____ Asian/Pac.Islander ____
Hispanic ____ Bi-racial/Other ____

Date of Birth: / /
 Year Month Day

Social Security Number: _____

Current Address: _____

Previous Addresses: _____

List Other Names Previously Used By You:

Have you ever been convicted of a crime? Yes _____ No _____

Do you have any legal charges pending against you? Yes _____ No _____

If yes in either case, offer explanations regarding convictions or charges pending:

I affirm that the information I have provided above is true and complete.

Signature of Applicant: _____

Date: _____

YOUTH SAFETY APPENDIX B

Pertinent Laws Regarding Child Abuse

for

Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and the District of Columbia

Maryland Child Abuse and Related Laws

Child Abuse: In Maryland Code, child abuse laws can be found both in the Family Law Article at Sections 5-701ff as well as in many places throughout the Criminal Law Article such as at Sections 3-601-602, 3-301ff and 11-207ff. You will find that when child abuse is discussed it is generally in reference to the laws found in the Family Law Article. In this section, child abuse is generally defined as injury to a child in which the child's health or welfare is harmed or put at substantial risk of being harmed, physically, emotionally, sexually or via neglect by the actions or failures to act of a parent or person with temporary or permanent responsibility for the child. Individuals who cause similar harms to a child with no legal responsibility for the child would be charged under the criminal statutes.

Reporters: Maryland law identifies those who are legally required to report suspected child abuse and neglect. These mandatory reporters are: health practitioner, police officer, educator, human services worker. Recently Maryland passed a new law which states that "a report is required when a person has reason to believe that a child has been subjected to abuse or neglect." There is an exception for ministers of an established church of any denomination who are not required to report if the disclosure was made under circumstances in which the minister is bound to maintain confidentiality. While this new law broadens the arena of who shall report suspected child abuse and neglect, the mandatory reporter sections in this law were maintained. Only time will tell how and to what extent Maryland will enforce this new provision.

When & Where to Report: A report must be made when a mandatory reporter or other individual has reason to believe that a child has been subjected to abuse or neglect. A report shall be made orally as soon as possible, and followed up with a written report within 48 hours thereafter. Reports should be made to the local department of social services in the location in which the abuse alleged occurred or to the local police. Maryland State provides a form to use for the written report as attached.

Past Abuse: The mandatory reporting requirements do not change if the abuse was alleged to have taken place some time ago, even years ago, and without regard for whether the alleged victim is now an adult or the alleged abuser is no longer living.

Immunity: Under Maryland law, reporters are immune to prosecution for making the report so long as the report was made in good faith.

West Virginia Child Abuse and Related Laws

Child Abuse: West Virginia defines child abuse and neglect as non-accidental harms or threats of harm to a child's physical, mental or emotional wellbeing by a parent, guardian or anyone responsible for the child's well-being. Additionally, West Virginia specifically includes the following within the definition of child abuse: attempted sale of a child, battered child syndrome, harms or threats of harm via domestic violence, and physical injury as a result of

excessive corporal punishment. West Virginia's child abuse laws can be found in West Virginia Code §49-6A-2 and the pertinent domestic violence laws at §49-1-3(a)(4), (c).

Reporters: Mandated reporters, as they are termed in West Virginia, include mental, dental or medical professionals; Christian Science practitioners and healers; teachers or other school personnel; social service, child care or foster care workers; emergency medical services personnel; peace officers, law enforcement officials or humane officers; clergy; circuit court judges, family court judges, employees of the Division of Juvenile Services or magistrates; youth camp administrators, counselors, employees, coaches or volunteers of entities that provide organized activities for children; and commercial firm or photographic print processors. Note the specific inclusion of clergy, youth camps and organized activities for children.

The law also states that any person who has reasonable cause to suspect a child is abused or neglected *may* report. However, any person over the age of 18 who receives a disclosure from a credible witness or who observes any sexual abuse or sexual assault of a child *shall immediately* report, no more than 48 hours after receiving the disclosure or making the observation to the Department of Health and Human Services or the State Police or any other law enforcement agency with jurisdiction.

With the exception of the attorney-client privilege, the legal privileges that can be asserted to prevent forced testimony for some professionals such as by physician regarding his or her patients are suspended regarding suspected or known child abuse. Additionally, the husband-wife privilege cannot be invoked in situations involving suspected or known child abuse.

When & Where to Report: A report must be made by a mandatory reporter upon reasonable cause to suspect a child is being neglected or abused. The reporting process is to first make a verbal report to the State Police or any law enforcement agency. If requested, a reporter must make a follow-up written report within 48 hours.

Immunity: Persons, officials and any institution participating in good faith in any act required by the reporting laws shall be immune from any civil or criminal liability as a result.

Virginia Child Abuse and Related Laws

Child Abuse: In the Commonwealth of Virginia, laws regarding child abuse are found in that state's Code at §63.2-100. Child abuse is defined as the actions or failures to act of a parent, guardian or another responsible for the child who creates, inflicts, or threatens to inflict or allows another to inflict physical, mental injury or sexual abuse or exploitation on a person under the age of 18. This specifically includes having a child in the presence of the manufacture of certain controlled substances, during the sale of such substances, as well as knowingly leaving a child alone in the same dwelling with another unrelated individual who has been convicted of an offense against a minor for which registration as a sexual offender is required.

Reporters: Mandatory reporters in Virginia are as follows: all persons licensed to practice medicine or any of the healing arts; hospital residents, interns and all nurses; social workers and probation officers; teachers & other employees at public or private schools, kindergartens and nursery schools; persons providing child care for pay on a regular basis;

mental health professionals; law enforcement officers, animal control officers and mediators; professional staff of private or state-run hospitals, institutions or facilities to which children have been placed for treatment or care; adults associated with or employed by any public or private organization responsible for the care, custody or control of children; court-appointed special advocates; adults trained by Social Services to recognize and report child abuse and neglect; persons employed by local departments who determine eligibility for public assistance; emergency medical services personnel; persons employed by public or private institutions of higher learning; athletic coaches, directors or adults employed by or volunteering with private sports organizations or teams; and administrators or adult employees of public or private day camps, youth centers and youth recreation programs. Take special note of these last few mentioned mandatory reporters – youth recreation programs and camps.

Any person who suspects that a child is abused or neglected may report.

In Virginia, clergy are exempted as mandatory reporters if the following conditions are met: The clergy is a regular minister, priest, rabbi, imam or duly accredited practitioner of any religious organization or denomination usually referred to as a church as it relates to (i) information required by the doctrine of the religious organization or denomination to be kept in a confidential manner, or (ii) information that would be subject to a privilege in the context of testimony in court. Exemptions to reporting are not allowed due to husband-wife privilege or doctor-patient privilege.

When & Where to Report: Reporting is required when a mandatory reporter acting in his or her professional capacity believes there is reason to suspect a child is being abused or neglected. This includes finding controlled substances in a newborn or the finding of a newborn with an illness, disease or condition that to a reasonable degree of medical certainty is attributable to the *in utero* exposure of a controlled substance not legally prescribed.

Exceptions include children who in good faith are under treatment solely by spiritual means through prayer, in accordance with the tenets and practices of that religion.

The reporting process is to immediately report to the local department of social services in the geographic area in which the abuse is alleged to have occurred or to use the state hotline. If the alleged abuser is an employee of that department of social services, the report shall be made to the court for that area. The local department is responsible for the report to be reduced to writing on the prescribed form.

Immunity: Not directly addressed.

Pennsylvania Child Abuse and Related Laws

Child Abuse: Pennsylvania State laws on child abuse are located in the state statutes at Cons. Tit. 23, §630 3. This state's child abuse definition is inclusive of the acts of not only a child's legally responsible care-givers but also abuse by all others. Child abuse is non-accidental actions or inactions that cause serious physical or mental injury to a child or creates an imminent risk of serious physical or mental harm to a child. Serious physical harm includes bodily injury that causes severe pain or significantly impairs a child's physical functioning, either temporarily or permanently. Serious mental injury is defined as something that renders the child chronically and severely anxious, agitated, depressed, socially withdrawn,

psychotic or in reasonable fear that his or her life or safety is threatened. Sexual abuse and child neglect are also covered under these laws.

Reporters: Mandatory reporters include: licensed physicians, osteopaths, medical examiners, coroners, funeral directors, dentists, optometrists, chiropractors, podiatrists, interns, nurses or hospital personnel; Christian Scientist practitioners and members of the clergy; school administrators, teachers, school nurses, social services workers, day care workers, foster care workers; mental health professionals; and peace officers or law enforcement officials.

Any person who has reason to suspect that a child is abused or neglected may report.

A report is required when a person who in the course of employment, occupation or practice of a profession, comes into contact with children, has reasonable cause to suspect, on the basis of medical, professional, or other training and experience, that a child is a victim of child abuse.

Exceptions to the reporting requirement are made for attorney-client privilege and members of the clergy that are specially protected under Pennsylvania law regarding confidential communications. Other privileges such as doctor-patient are suspended as regards suspected child abuse.

When & Where to Report: The reporting process includes an initial immediate oral report followed by a written report within 48 hours. Reports are to be made to the Department of Public Welfare. Pennsylvania provides a form that is to be used for the follow-up written report, as attached.

Immunity: A person, institution or agency that participates in good faith in making a report whether required to or not shall have immunity from civil and criminal liability.

District of Columbia Child Abuse and Related Laws

Child Abuse: Child abuse laws for the District of Columbia are found in D C's Code at §16-2301. DC's definition of child abuse includes infliction of mental or physical injury, sexual abuse and exploitation as well as negligent treatment or maltreatment by a person responsible for the child's wellbeing.

Reporters: A report is required by a mandatory reporter when a person knows or has reasonable cause to suspect that a child has been or is in immediate danger or being mentally or physically abused or neglected.

Mandatory reporters in DC include: Child and Family Services Agency employees, agents and contractors; physicians, psychologists, medical examiners, dentists, chiropractors, registered nurses, licensed practical nurses or persons involved in the care and treatment of patients; law enforcement officers, humane officers; school officials, teachers or athletic coaches; Department of Parks and Recreation employees, public housing resident managers, social service workers or daycare workers; human trafficking counselors; domestic violence counselors or mental health professionals.

Exceptions include attorneys exercising the attorney-client privilege due to active representation of a client and in which the basis for the suspicion arises solely in the course of that representation. However, neither the doctor-patient nor the husband-wife privilege is permitted as regards suspected child abuse.

Any other person who knows or has reason to suspect that a child is being abused or neglected may report.

When & Where to Report: A report should be made when the reporter knows or has reasonable cause to suspect that a child known to him or her in his or her professional official capacity has been or is in immediate danger of being a mentally or physically abused or neglected child. The reporting procedures include making an immediate oral report to the police department or Child and Family Services Agency. A follow-up written report is to be made only upon request by the agency or police or if the abuse involves drug-related activity.

Immunity: Those making reports of suspected child abuse in good faith shall have immunity from civil and criminal liability.

YOUTH SAFETY APPENDIX C

Important Contact Information

BYM

Office of General Secretary
301-774-7663

Hotlines to Report Child Abuse: Maryland 800-332-6347
Virginia 800-552-7096
West Virginia 800-352-65143
Pennsylvania 800-932-0313
District of Columbia 202-671-7233

**Contact the state in which the abuse occurred.*

**All of these hotlines are available 24/7.*

Law Enforcement: You may also contact the local law enforcement agency for the jurisdiction in which the abuse took place.

BYM Attorney: Erika E. Cole, Esq.,
The Law Offices of Erika E. Cole, LLC,
9433 Common Brook Road, Suite 208
Owings Mills, MD 21117
(phone) 410-654-4300
(fax) 410-654-4301

BYM Insurance Company:

YOUTH SAFETY APPENDIX D
Acknowledgement Form

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

- I have received a copy of Baltimore Yearly Meeting’s Youth Safety Policy.
- I have read and understand the contents of this Policy.
- I have participated or will participate in training regarding this policy.
- I understand that it is Baltimore Yearly Meeting’s policy that if I have a suspicion of
- child abuse, I should immediately do the following:
 - Inform the Program Manager for the program which I am involved in at the time my suspicion arises; AND
 - Report the suspected abuse verbally to the department of social services or the police for the geographic location in which the suspected abuse occurred; AND
 - Follow up with a written report to the civil authorities within 24 – 48 hours of the verbal report.
- I agree to comply with the policies set forth in this Youth Safety Policy.

Signature

Date

Printed Name

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