INDEX TO IMYM SUBSTANTIVE MINUTES 2017-18

A.

Affiliations

MINUTE 20180615(a): Friends recommend a 3-year exploration of affiliation with Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW), providing financial support for two observers to help answer our questions and concerns. We charge these observers (Dick Grossman and John Gallagher were mentioned) to report back annually to the yearly meeting on their experiences. Some have expressed particular concern over QEW’s insistence on non-nuclear solutions to climate and energy problems, and the alignment of their decision-making process with Quaker process.

Archives

MINUTE 20170616(1): We agree to Representatives Committee’s recommendation to store our archives as PDF-A files on the cloud and on DVD (as backup) and to write a deed of gift for the material currently stored at Haverford College. We recommend leaving the exact storage plans for the cloud up to the discretion of the archivist.

B.

Border Convergence

MINUTE 06172017(4): IMYM endorses the 2017 Border Convergence sponsored by the School of the Americas Watch as a nonviolent means of opposing the militarization of the border and the mistreatment of those who cross it. (This event will be Nov. 10-12, 2017 in Nogales, Mexico.)

Border Issues

MINUTE 20180616(b): IMYM of Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) declares to our country, our government, and the world that we, as a Yearly Meeting and as Friends, stand on the side of equality, community, humanity and peace through justice. We condemn our government’s abuse of human rights on the border and in our communities. We call for an end to the policy of zero tolerance which denies migrants the right to apply for asylum at the border, as is required by U.S. and international law, which forcibly separates children and infants from their parents, which detains immigrants and asylum seekers in prisons or internment camps, and which forces more and more migrants to choose dangerous routes into our country, causing many deaths and much suffering.

C.

Children’s Yearly Meeting

MINUTE 06172017(1): CYM will be staffed by a rotation of monthly meetings. Each meeting or group of meetings would have a 2-year responsibility to run the CYM program. One person from each group would have a 3-year responsibility. That person apprentices or shadows with the outgoing meeting in preparation for working with their own meeting for the following 2 years.

The rotation would be:

• Mountain View (Denver) and Colorado Springs: Shadow 2019. To serve 2020 and 2021.
• New Mexico Region (including Durango and volunteers from Utah): Shadow 2021. To serve 2022 and 2023.
• Pima and nearby worship groups: Shadow 2023. To serve 2024 and 2025.
• Tempe, Phoenix, and Flagstaff: Shadow 2025. To serve 2026 and 2027.

D.

Diplomacy

MINUTE 20180615(d): War with North Korea would impose disastrous costs in lives and treasure on the people of the Korean Peninsula, the United States and the world. We urge the Trump administration and our members of Congress to fully support a path of diplomacy with North Korea based on negotiation and dialogue. This process will require patience, give and take, and a commitment to preventing war.

E.

Environment

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F.

Friends General Conference

MINUTE 06172017(3): IMYM supports a FGC institutional assessment of systemic racism in FGC and its constituent meetings. We will consider participating in any self-examination exercises that may be part of this assessment.

G.

Gun Violence

MINUTE 20180616(a) - As Quakers, we believe that every person has worth and dignity. It is essential to respond to the results of gun violence in our society with voices and action.

We call on our legislators to stand with the Florida teens and youth throughout the country who are speaking out against certain policies of the National Rifle Association, specifically the NRA’s refusal to support a ban on the purchase and ownership by civilians of assault rifles.
Begin by reinstating the ban on assault-style weapons. Continue with thorough background checks and close the gun-sales loopholes. Promote conversations, forums and discussions to bring about change in every community to combat the sources of violence we see today.

Stand with our courageous high-school students who are urgently leading the way toward a safer more peaceful society. Congress must act immediately to protect each sacred life. We will support lawmakers who will make the changes to the laws that we need. Too many lives have been destroyed by these terrible mass shootings.

Join the many voices speaking out. The tide is turning. It’s time to come together and support life-giving change in our communities.

I.

Immigration

MINUTE 20180616(b): IMYM of Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) declares to our country, our government, and the world that we, as a Yearly Meeting and as Friends, stand on the side of equality, community, humanity and peace through justice. We condemn our government’s abuse of human rights on the border and in our communities. We call for an end to the policy of zero tolerance which denies migrants the right to apply for asylum at the border, as is required by U.S. and international law, which forcibly separates children and infants from their parents, which detains immigrants and asylum seekers in prisons or internment camps, and which forces more and more migrants to choose dangerous routes into our country, causing many deaths and much suffering.

Incorporation

MINUTE 20170616(1): We agree to pursue incorporation in the state of Colorado. An ad-hoc group will work on bylaws that fit with our beliefs. The group will report to Representatives Committee at its winter 2018 meeting.

MINUTE 06172017(2): IMYM approved pursuing incorporation, pending the redrafting of articles of incorporation and bylaws. IMYM appoints an ad hoc working group to redraft bylaws and articles of incorporation for a Colorado nonprofit corporation. The clerk is Nick Moceri of the Flagstaff Meeting. These documents will reflect our Quaker values and processes. This group will have the assistance of other Quaker organizations.

Articles and bylaws will be reviewed by a licensed Colorado attorney with appropriate expertise. The new articles and bylaws will be shared with each meeting well in advance of Representatives Committee winter 2018 meeting. If in their discernment the new articles and bylaws meet the concerns raised here at the annual sessions, Representatives Committee has the authority to approve them.

M.

Meeting Location

MINUTE 20180615(b): Representatives Committee recommends to IMYM that we move our site from Ghost Ranch to Fort Lewis College with combined care and enthusiasm. We further recommend the creation and funding of a transition working group to facilitate the move.
MINUTE 20170616(3): IMYM will stay at Ghost Ranch through the 2018 annual gathering. We will stay open to the possibility of moving our location, readying ourselves for a move, when and if it becomes clear that we are ready. We will revisit this issue in a year.

MINUTE 20170616(4): In the event that Yearly Meeting decides to move from Ghost Ranch, Ft. Lewis College would be our recommended first choice, based on current information.

Meeting Location Logistics

MINUTE 20180615(c): Representatives Committee recommends the formation of a transition working group consisting of a clerk (Charlene Weir), facilities liaison (Janie Cravens), operations person (Leslie Stephens), youth working group clerks (Eric Swanson and Cindy Yurth), and Arrangements Clerk (Laura Peterson) in order to begin the process of researching, planning, and organizing a move to Fort Lewis College, including making a decision about when to make the move. This committee will report back to representatives committee at their telephone meeting on August 29th. This work will lead to the formation of a clear plan of next steps for moving, to be presented in October.

N.

North Korea

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P.

Pay as Led

MINUTE 20180614(a): Representatives Committee recommends continuing our pay as led experiment through 2019.

MINUTE 20170616(2): IMYM will experiment with pay as led in 2018 because we want to change our relationship to money, we want to challenge our status quo, we want to be led by the Spirit, and we want to invite diversity and inclusiveness. We want to ensure that money is not a barrier to attending yearly meeting. We would like to spend 2017 preparing with education, seeking, seasoning, and planning.

Peace and Social Concerns

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**Quaker Earthcare Witness**

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