

Nominating Committee  
Spiritual State of the Committee Annual Report  
2017

**1. What are some of the main ways you spent your time during the past (calendar) year?**

As always, we tried to address the Meeting's needs, and we made some roster appointments after contacting members and attenders to gauge their interest in joining or continuing to serve on committees. We met more frequently, even in the summer, as we considered innovative ways to move forward in 2017. We worked with Ministry and Counsel in creating welcoming cards, and we introduced a committee of the month plan but ultimately lacked the energy to follow through.

**2. How would you describe the spiritual state of your committee?**

We have enjoyed Saturday breakfast meetings at the Red Canoe. One could argue that our ability to engage in silent worship in that sometimes noisy and decidedly secular space suggests a strong spiritual state within the committee, and to some extent, that is true. However, increasing anxiety about being able to address the Meeting's needs and to motivate members and attenders to join committees demands a deep faith in the Divine. We would do well to inhabit that faith.

**3. What were the major challenges you faced? Major strengths that helped you?**

The largest challenges have been finding more people within our community to draw upon, people who would truly commit themselves to a committee. A few people decided not to serve on committees, after they had agreed to do so last year, and we also lost some members who moved away. Beyond that, there are those who expressed willingness to serve the Meeting, but on their terms and not necessarily where the Meeting needs them. We are running out of people.

These frustrations make us even more grateful to the many Friends who, week in and week out, commit themselves to doing the Meeting's committee and administrative work; their constancy and perseverance sustain us. We also recognize our luck that a few more members have retired and thus have a little more time for Homewood. Additionally, although often there are only 3 of us at committee meetings, when we are all together, it is a joyful and fruitful occasion.

**4. What are your hopes for the future?**

We will continue to encourage the young people who have been regularly attending meeting to offer their energy and presence on committees. We need to persevere in informing Meeting participants that committee work is part of the life of the Meeting. And finally, we look forward to sustaining the invaluable and warm contributions of members in the Meeting.

Respectfully submitted by

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March 3, 2018