

First and second “readings” or first and second “presentations”  
Spring Sessions 2019  
*Draft Concept for possible change of practice*

Sometimes, changes traditionally require first and second readings. Recently, there were proposed changes to the legal language of the trustees’ bylaws. At the time of first “reading”, we found that a reading of the legal language would have been difficult, very time consuming and tedious, and we agreed at that time to a “summary presentation” of the recommended changes in lieu of a full “reading”, for the “first reading”. The second “reading” has not yet come before gathered Friends because the trustees are in the process of ongoing language discernment. A similar concern could arise for other changes, such as for Handbook changes or extensive changes in Faith and Practice language.

Liaison proposes a change in our process:

We recommend permission for the possibility that there be first and second “presentations” where considered appropriate by the Clerk in lieu of first and second readings. In the event the Clerk so decides, the entire proposed wording will be printed in the Advance Reports, subject to reversion back to a full reading on request of anyone up to the actual anticipated presentation, similar to the current process for consent agenda items. If there are provisions in Faith and Practice for first and second readings, and this recommendation is approved, it will go to the Committee to Revise Faith and Practice for a formal change.