

**PROPOSED MINUTES TO ADDRESS
IMPLEMENTATION AND ASSESSMENT OF THE
STATEMENT OF LEADINGS AND PRIORITIES
(November 6, 2014 Draft)**

The Priorities Working Group offers the following sets of proposed minutes regarding implementing and assessing the Yearly Meeting's use of the approved Statement of Leadings and Priorities. The proposed minutes are presented in the form they would appear in the minutes of Yearly Meeting proceedings if approved by the Body. The proposed minutes are being offered for first reading at Fall Sessions 2014 and hopefully for action by the Body at Spring Sessions 2015.

PROPOSED MINUTES:

In approving the Statement of Leadings and Priorities at Summer Sessions 2014, we, the Body of Friends gathered through our New York Yearly Meeting, agreed that "we also bear a duty to assure that these Leadings and Priorities are faithfully implemented" and that we "recognize as a Priority for the Yearly Meeting the responsibility to hold itself accountable to the . . . priorities, ensuring their faithful fruition." (Minute 2014-7-xx) We [Friends at NYYM Sessions] now approve the following minutes to establish an ongoing process to guide and assess the implementation of our approved Leadings and Priorities.

Implementation Minutes

1. We commend all Friends' attention to the Leadings and Priorities discerned by the Body in preparing plans and undertaking actions for the Yearly Meeting. Financial Services Committee is to be guided by the Leadings and Priorities and to exercise its responsibility to make decisions regarding the allocation of resources in presenting budgets for consideration and approval by the Body. The Committee should request information and consult Friends from all parts of the Yearly Meeting to advance realization of the Yearly Meeting's commitment "to hold itself accountable to the . . . priorities."
2. To further our commitments to make the Leadings and Priorities "the Priorities of the Yearly Meeting as a whole" and to create a "yearly meeting structure which is accountable to these priorities, transparent in its finances and integrally connected to the monthly meetings it represents and supports" (Minutes 2014-7-xx & xx), the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting Trustees and the clerk of Witness Coordinating Committee's Finance Sub-committee (or such other group which or individual who oversees the Sharing Fund and the Sharing Fund Endowment) will be members *ex officio* of Financial Services Committee. The Committee also is urged to especially seek to include Regional Meeting Treasurers, who are *ex officio* members of the Committee, in its discernment.
3. Financial Services Committee is requested to develop and submit to the Body for approval any revisions to its description in the Yearly Meeting's Handbook that may be necessary to reflect these minutes.

4. Witness Coordinating Committee and all other committees, groups or persons administering funds within the Yearly Meeting and any committees, etc. that are charged with responsibility for administering monies in the future will, and Trustees are requested to, coordinate their budget development processes and spending decisions with Financial Services Committee, to the extent consistent with the directions and limits of any gifts or trust instruments, so as to jointly further the implementation of the Leadings and Priorities.

5. The Yearly Meeting Clerk and General Secretary will communicate to the Regional Meetings and their Treasurers our hope that the Regional Meeting Treasurers will receive favorably invitations from Financial Services Committee to participate in the Committee's discernment of the annual Yearly Meeting operating budgets.

Priorities Assessment Committee Minutes

A Priorities Assessment Committee will be established within the section under the care of Ministry Coordinating Committee, as follows:

1. Purposes & Objectives: To advise Friends on progress, concerns and insights in the implementation of the approved Leadings and Priorities.

2. Functions & Activities:

1. To report at least annually to Yearly Meeting sessions, and to provide its reports to all monthly and regional meeting clerks.
2. To communicate, consult and visit with regional meetings and monthly meetings regarding how the meetings are being affected by the implementation of the Leadings and Priorities and how the Spirit is at work among Friends.
3. To communicate, visit and obtain information from all parts of the Yearly Meeting in order to assist the committee in discerning our faithfulness in implementing the Leadings and Priorities, which may include (i) reviewing the budgets and spending decisions of all parts of the Yearly Meeting and Yearly Meeting staff work plans, (ii) requesting information and materials from the Yearly Meeting Clerk, General Secretary, Financial Services Committee and the coordinating committees, committees and other groups within the Yearly Meeting, and (iii) participating in Budget Saturday (or any successor activity).
4. To include consideration of the Yearly Meeting's allocation of volunteer resources and support for volunteer activities in assessing the Yearly Meeting's progress in, and the committee's concerns and insights regarding, implementing the Leadings and Priorities.

5. To recommend to the Yearly Meeting a process to revise, renew or replace the Leadings and Priorities.
3. Organization and Membership:
 1. The committee comprises not fewer than six (6) nor more than twelve (12) appointed members serving three-year terms, one-third appointed each year (to the extent possible), plus the Yearly Meeting Assistant Clerk as member *ex officio*.
 2. Appointments are made by the Yearly Meeting on the recommendation of the Nominating Committee. In making such recommendations, Nominating Committee is directed (i) to solicit proposed nominations from the Regional Meetings, and (ii) to recommend three (3) to six (6) additional members (depending on the number of nominations proposed by the Regional Meetings) who are not, and during their terms of service on the committee will not, be officers or employees of the Yearly Meeting nor members of a coordinating committee (other than the committee's representative to Ministry Coordinating Committee) or Financial Services Committee.
 3. No appointed member will serve more than two (2) consecutive terms.
 4. The committee appoints its own clerk, assistant clerk and recording clerk, and names a representative to Ministry Coordinating Committee.
 4. Finances: Expenditures incurred by the committee are provided for by an allocation in the budget of the Ministry Coordinating Committee.
 5. Laying Down: The committee will be laid down at such time as the committee discerns, and the Yearly Meeting Body affirms, that ongoing assessment of the Leadings and Priorities no longer serves a necessary or valuable role in assisting the Yearly Meeting to be accountable to these priorities, transparent in its finances and integrally connected to the monthly meetings it represents and supports.
 6. Initial Organization and Appointments: In order to establish the committee's intended cycle of appointments, the initial appointed members will be evenly divided (to the extent possible) into one-year, two-year and three-year terms by Nominating Committee. The Yearly Meeting Assistant Clerk is requested to convene the initial meeting of the committee, at which the committee will appoint a clerk, assistant clerk and recording clerk, and name a representative to Ministry Coordinating Committee.