

General Plenary Session

“Traditional Friends Group” formerly Authority Group

April 8, 2017 at Centre Friends

10 am to 1 pm

Morning refreshments and fellowship 10 – 10:30

Each monthly meeting is to appoint two representatives to this Plenary Session. This meeting will be very similar to a regular Representative Body Meeting.

If you have an item of business you wish to bring forward, please send it to

Hugh Spaulding at hughspaulding@hotmail.com

Please make plans to attend this informative, organizational meeting as we move forward with the work of the Kingdom

Minutes from the Authority Group
February 11, 2017
NCYM Annex

The first organizational meeting for the "Authority Group" of the North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Friends was convened by Hugh Spaulding on the 11th day of the Second Month, 2017 at the Yearly Meeting Office Annex at 10 am. The following persons were present: Hugh Spaulding [Southern Quarter Clerk of M&C], Judy C. Ritter [Yadkin Valley Quarter], Etta Florence Winslow [Eastern Quarter], Brenda McKinney [Surry Quarter], Danne Smith [Norwest Quarter], George Strickland [Contentnea Quarter], and Roger Greene [Southern Quarter].

These members present were either the clerk of their current Quarterly Meeting, or in the case of George Strickland was the representative of the clerk.

Hugh Spaulding opened the meeting with a selection from the Journal of George Fox and a prayer.

Hugh Spaulding noted that the "Authority Group" consisted of approximately 75% of the current Yearly Meeting and seven current Quarters. Of those seven Quarters, six were represented at this meeting, having received regrets from Western Quarter which was engaged in their regularly scheduled Quarterly Meeting on this morning.

The meeting received a suggestion from Contentnea Quarterly Meeting that the Group consider using the name Traditional Friends of North Carolina. The members felt that this committee was not in a position to adopt a permanent name for this Group at this time, but felt that it would be proper to adopt and urge that this Group be known as the "Traditional Group" in lieu of the "Authority Group" from this point until a permanent name was adopted by the general body. There was unity among the members present that this adoption be made.

Hugh Spaulding suggested that the members of this group serve as a transitional executive committee and organize and schedule a plenary general meeting of the Monthly Meetings either assigned to this Group by the Quarter Reorganization Committee or Meetings having requested placement in this Group. A concern was raised that the members of this meeting might not have authority to name an Executive Committee, but that it would be proper to style ourselves as an ad hoc Transitional Steering Committee (TSC) to facilitate the body of this Group's organization. There was unity among the members present to take that step.

The members present requested that Hugh Spaulding serve as the Coordinator of the TSC for the purpose of clerking the process. Hugh Spaulding agreed to serve. Roger Greene offered to act as Recording Member, and the members present approved.

Etta Florence Winslow was named to serve as Clerk of the Faith and Practice Revision Committee. Hugh Spaulding is still in the process of collecting appointments of members for this committee from each of the current Quarters.

It was approved that as Coordinator Hugh Spaulding would be an ex officio member of all committees to facilitate communication and preparation for a General Meeting.

It was approved for the Coordinator to continue collecting the names of representatives from each current Quarter for a Nominating Committee and to convene that committee as soon as possible.

It was approved that the current Quarterly Meeting Clerks of Ministry and Counsel serve as this Group's Ministry and Counsel Committee.

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It was approved that the Coordinator is to collect appointments from each current Quarter for members of a Committee on Clerks and to convene that committee.

A lengthy discussion was held on the scheduling and organization of a General Meeting of the Traditional Group of NCYM. The members agreed that it should be after Representative Body Meeting and in a central location. It was also felt that there should be sufficient time between Representative Body Meeting and the General Meeting for the TSC to hold another meeting if necessary to address any new matters arising before the General Meeting and for the provisional committees named today to be convened.

There was unity that the First General Meeting of the Traditional Group of NCYM be held at Centre Friends Meeting on the 8th day of the Fourth Month (Saturday, April 8, 2017). The General Meeting is to convene at 10:00 am for refreshments and fellowship, with a business meeting to follow at 10:30 am and a planned conclusion by approximately 1:00 pm. The Coordinator is to develop an agenda with input from the provisional committees named by the members this date. It was further approved that the Coordinator seek appointments of two representatives from each of the Group's constituting Monthly Meetings and suggestions from those Monthly Meetings for items to be placed on the agenda. There followed a general discussion offering guidance from several of the members for the agenda.

It was approved by the members that the minutes of the TSC meeting be published to the general membership of NCYM. The members approved using the Yearly Meeting to assist in that publication. The Coordinator was also instructed to publish a letter to each Monthly Meeting clerk announcing the General Meeting and asking for two representatives from each.

The time was set for a second TSC meeting to be held at 10 am at the Yearly Meeting Annex on the 18th day of the Third Month, 2017, if in the judgment of the Coordinator such meeting was necessary.

The members being at ease with the actions taken today, the meeting was closed with a prayer by George Strickland.

Respectively submitted this 11th day of the Second Month, 2017.

Roger L. Greene, Recording Member

Hugh Spaulding, Coordinator