

## CHAPTER 3

# *Quarterly Meeting*

### **Organization and Functions**

#### *Membership*

1. The quarterly meeting consists of the members of its monthly meetings.

#### *Officers and Committees*

2. The quarterly meeting shall appoint a presiding clerk, a recording clerk, a treasurer, and committees and other officers as needed. When it becomes necessary for the quarterly meeting to hold property, it shall appoint three or more trustees for a period of three years, with one-third of the number appointed each year, unless the laws of the state pertaining to the appointment and service of trustees provide otherwise. It shall be the responsibility of the trustees to hold title to all property in the name of the quarterly meeting. Where the financial responsibility of the quarterly meeting is involved, and in other matters, the trustees should, except in emergencies, act only in accordance with the express will of the quarterly meeting.

#### *Nominating Committee*

3. A Nominating Committee shall be appointed annually, to serve throughout the year. The function of this committee shall not abridge the right of any member of the meeting to suggest additional nominations.

#### *Functions*

4. The quarterly meeting in session has the responsibility to seek inspiration, enlightened vision, and a determined will for Christian living in today's world. Worship should possess the assembled Friends and guide their meditations. In this spirit they should seek to reach beyond their human resources as they aspire to counter the forces of evil and find ways of shaping human society in God's will. Sessions of the quarterly meeting should be used by Friends to match their minds and their faith with great issues which challenge the Christian church. This faith calls for united efforts

for the cure of war, the abolition of poverty, hunger, and ignorance, and for the conquest of racial discrimination and indifference to human suffering. The cry of the destitute, the exploited, and the hopeless should be heard by the gathered Friends. With all these should come the charge, “think on these things.”

A committee shall be appointed or specific arrangements made to plan with care the program for each session of the quarterly meeting. Each monthly meeting shall be provided necessary information regarding program and business well in advance of the date of the session of the quarterly meeting. Yearly meeting business and concerns shall be given careful consideration.

The quarterly meeting shall be alert for ways by which the local meetings may join together in efforts to make their Christian witness more effective. Due consideration shall be given to concerns from local meetings.

The quarterly meeting shall seek ways by which the Queries may have a place of influence in the life of Friends.

***Relations with*** 5. When it is considered necessary or helpful in  
***Yearly Meeting*** the life of the Society, the quarterly meeting may recommend to the Representative Body:

- a. The laying down of one of its member monthly meetings.
- b. The uniting of two or more monthly meetings into one.
- c. The joining of one monthly meeting to another quarterly meeting.
- d. The division of one quarterly meeting into two.

The quarterly meeting may recommend to the Representative Body the transfer of a monthly meeting to another yearly meeting, provided that the monthly meeting has requested the transfer. Such transfer would not become effective until approved by the Representative Body and the other yearly meeting concerned.

The quarterly meeting shall, upon the recommendation of its Nominating Committee, appoint one person to serve on the Stewardship–Finance Committee of the yearly meeting and one person to serve on the yearly meeting Nominating Committee. The quarterly meeting shall also appoint individuals to serve on each of the following yearly

meeting committees: Christian Education, Young Friends Activities, Peace and Social Issues, Missions, and Evangelism, Church Extension, and Committee on the Care of Yearly Meeting Records. These appointments shall be made annually. Only Friends who can and will give the necessary time and thought to the work involved should be named to these committees.

The quarterly meeting may make appropriate recommendations to the Representative Body and to the annual assembly of the yearly meeting.

### **Quarterly Meeting on Ministry and Counsel**

***Membership***      1. The Quarterly Meeting on Ministry and Counsel shall be composed of all the members of the Monthly Meeting on Ministry and Counsel within the Quarter.

***Meeting Time***      2. The Quarterly Meeting on Ministry and Counsel shall meet for worship and business near the time of the sessions of the quarterly meeting.

***Duties***              3. The Quarterly Meeting on Ministry and Counsel shall be concerned with pastoral work within its limits. It shall be diligent and judicious in advising measures and means for the promotion of spiritual life and godliness; it shall give special attention to new congregations, weak meetings, and those in need of ministry; and it shall make recommendations to the Yearly Meeting on Ministry and Counsel regarding the training and recording of prospective ministers. In conjunction with the quarterly meeting it shall endeavor to find means by which Friends may deepen their spiritual energies and enrich their Christian message.

The Quarterly Meeting on Ministry and Counsel shall appoint one person to serve on the Nominating Committee of the Yearly Meeting on Ministry and Counsel.