

DRAFT
Nominating Committee Report to Baltimore Yearly Meeting
2022

The work of the Nominating Committee is to invite Friends into opportunities for service to Baltimore Yearly Meeting. Our purpose is not just to find the volunteers needed to carry out the work of the Yearly Meeting, but to recognize and nurture the gifts and leadings of individual Friends, and to strengthen ties between the Yearly Meeting and its worshipping communities. We try to reach out to all our local meetings, and to bring forward at least some names of those who have not served before and especially of those from small and isolated meetings.

This year, as last year, we began each of our meetings by reading and reflecting on the queries in BYM's declaration as an anti-racist faith organization, approved in 2019. These queries are directly relevant to our work. We continue to look for and reach out to more F/friends of Color and Young Adult F/friends, to explore with them how their gifts, experience and skills might be used in committee work, and how their perspectives contribute to that work. We would love to expand the pool from which we are able to draw, and would be glad to have the names of Friends who have not served before brought to our attention. We continue to emphasize nominations of F/friends of Color and Young Adult F/friends.

Nominating Committee is responsible for nominating members to 18 Yearly Meeting standing committees, as well as representatives to 11 outside organizations and corporations. All told, this amounts to about 220 individuals. Since most serve three-year terms, we need to find more than 70 individuals each year willing to accept appointment or re-appointment in service to BYM.

For the past year, we have held all our meetings by Zoom, and have found that frequent Zoom meetings are a good way to accomplish our work. We look forward to seeing each other in person again in the coming year, and holding an annual committee retreat once again, but we may continue to meet regularly by Zoom as well. Meeting once a month helps move our work forward, and meeting long distance makes it possible to include those who might find travel difficult. We are grateful for the strong sense of community our committee has enjoyed during these difficult years.