

Oversight & Membership Committee

The Oversight and Membership committee (O&M) oversees care of the membership and the corporate life of the Meeting. Its concern is primarily with the well being of the Meeting's individual members and their connection with the Meeting.

Membership: six members of Meeting, each serving for three years with two rotating off each year. The Nominating Committee provides the nominations to Business Meeting for approval.

DUTIES:

1. Become acquainted with all members of Meeting, maintain contact with members and attenders in a spirit of affectionate interest and loving care. Be aware of who has not been in Meeting for a while.
2. Receive, consider and recommend Meeting action on requests for membership, transfers, and withdrawals. On request for membership, appoint a clearness committee of members, subject to the approval of the Meeting for Business. After meeting with the applicant, the clearness committee then reports back to the O&M committee, which considers their recommendation and then refers it to the Meeting for Business. Periodically host a gathering for new members.
3. Keep records of membership actions throughout the year, in consultation with the Archivist who manages the long-term membership record. File all related correspondence in membership file in Meeting office. This includes membership, transfer, and withdrawal requests, acknowledgements to and from other meetings, and membership approvals from Business Meeting.
4. Correspond with distant or inactive members who cannot or do not attend Meeting for Worship to see if we can be of help to them. Every three years see if they wish to continue membership, transfer or withdraw.
5. Encourage long term attenders who are in unity with Friends' ways to apply for membership.
6. Contact associate members who have reached age 23 to ask if they want to seek full membership in the Meeting. (Policy states age 24 is when associate membership expires.)
7. Assure that newcomers and attenders are welcomed and provided information about Friends.
8. For a marriage under the care of the Meeting, form a clearness committee that meets with the couple to explore their commitment to each other. The clearness committee then reports to O&M, which in turn makes a recommendation to the Business Meeting. After the marriage is approved, an arrangements committee is formed to assist with the marriage ceremony and reception. The clearness committee continues to meet with, counsel, and support the couple yearly or as needed.
9. Coordinate with other committees to attend to the health and welfare of individuals in the Meeting. This includes such things as sending notes at times of illness, death and birth,

and helping to provide practical support for families and individuals in time of stress. The Convener, in consultation with the Clerk, disburses financial assistance to individuals from the emergency fund, if requested.

10. Encourage the foundation of extended families and other groups who would gather regularly to socialize.
11. Offer emotional support when needed and arrange clearness committees for members and attenders who ask for them. Help settle conflicts and disagreements between members if asked to do so.

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