

FFA Governance Committee Report, October, 2025

The Governance Committee met on September 30. All members attended: Joan Malin and Lisa Ogletree, Co-Clerks, Nikki Mosgrove, Beth Hudson Keller and Susan Hoskins. Notes from the meeting are posted on the board website under “Governance.”

The most important topic was a review and revision of the By-Laws. Those changes in the By-Laws document are included in the October board meeting agenda. **It is essential for all board members to review the changes and ask questions before the board meeting.** This meeting is a granting meeting, and we don’t want to spend much time on the By-Laws. Revisions are straightforward. Most changes address simple updates like the use of email and video and change of address for New York Yearly Meeting. We no longer run a home for the elderly. The Governance Committee appoints members to committees. **Two changes are important to note.** In section 4.2, we recommend that 2/3 of the Board be Quaker, rather than the current 80%. For a 12 member board, that would mean that 4 members could be non-Quaker. Right now, for a 12 member board, we are limited to 2 non-Quakers. More non-Quaker members would not be required under the revised by-law, but it would allow flexibility to attract people with relevant experience. In section 7.1, we require that a quorum be present and all members present concur in a change to the by-laws. The previous requirement that 10 members be present was a problem when we recently had only 9 board members. (Currently we have 11 members.) For section 7.2, we did not make any changes to Article VIII that are related to dissolution of the foundation. All money and property would revert back to New York Yearly Meeting. **Please contact Lisa, Joan or Susan with any questions or concerns prior to the board meeting.**

Lisa, Joan, Susan and Beth reported on their shared orientation for the three new board members. This resulted in a new orientation guide that Beth created which will be posted on the board website for future use.

The Board Composition Grid was reviewed and slightly revised. New board members will be contacted after the October Board meeting to complete the grid and address any questions they may have.

The committee made tentative plans for the February and June board meetings which will focus on a strategic vision action plan for the next three years of transitions. Joan will interview a potential consultant who might be able to help us.

The committee will meet again on November 20 at 4 PM. All are welcome to attend.