

March 2, 2018

To: SAYMA Monthly Meeting Clerks, YM Representatives, Clerk of YM and Admin Asst.

The Committee to Revise the Guide to our Faith and Practice appreciates the minutes we have received regarding our draft revision of the queries section of the SAYMA Guide.

The committee has agreed that there is not enough time for us to discern how best to revise the queries to reflect the information contained in the minutes received. The responses ranged from “We thank you for your hard work and endorse what you have accomplished so far.” One meeting worked up four pages of suggested changes. One meeting asked us to lay ourselves down and allow for a decade of seasoning of the queries before the next Revision Committee would take it up. Most meetings did not respond, as in most Meeting for Businesses where the Spirit selects a few to comment and the rest are witnessing.

We failed to mention in our last mailing:

Queries for Care of the Earth were minutes submitted by SAYMA’s Earthcare Committee. The Queries for a Prospective Monthly Meeting and its Sponsoring Meeting were submitted via minutes from SAYMA’s Committee on Ministry and Worship.

Queries for Young Friends have been received from SAYF and will be included.

The committee would appreciate receiving minutes on racism from any SAYMA Monthly Meeting. While there has been much discussion and even some progress on addressing racism within SAYMA and many of its Monthly Meetings, the committee has not received any minutes on this concern. If there are leadings for queries on race that can be minuted by your Monthly Meeting, this committee is happy to receive them.

We hear, loud and clear, that additional seasoning is required for this *Guide* to best reflect who we are as a faith community as of 2018. We eagerly look forward to completing the revisions to the 1st draft and then submitting our recommendations to Yearly Meeting 2019 for approval. The Guide requires that any revisions submitted be received by the Monthly Meetings at least 90 days before Yearly Meeting begins.

Please hold us in the Light and the Dark and all Shades in between,

For the SAYMA Faith and Practice Revision Committee
Free Polazzo, clerk

Thais, Carr, Nashville Friends Meeting
Missy Ivie, West Knoxville Friends Meeting
Beth Meyers, Lexington (HVYM); (Sojourning at Burea Friends Meeting)
Eddie Patrick, Asheville Friends Meeting
Free Polazzo, Clerk, Atlanta Friends Meeting