

**259th Session of College Park Quarterly Meeting - Winter, 2026**  
**January 17, 2026**

**Minutes**

The meeting opened with unprogrammed worship.

Welcome and roll call

Representatives from the following meetings and worship groups were in attendance:

Monthly Meetings: Berkeley, Chico, Davis, Humboldt, Lake County Worship Group, Live Oak, Palo Alto, Redwood Forest, Reno, Sacramento, San Jose, Santa Cruz, and Strawberry Creek

Worship Groups: Central Sierra and Friends House

We also had one attender who is unaffiliated with a monthly meeting.

Friends spoke names to be held in the light.

State of the Quarter report for Pacific Yearly Meeting

The presiding clerk shared a draft of the state of the Quarter, to be submitted to Pacific Yearly Meeting. See attached.

Friends are encouraged to send feedback to Eric Sabelman (CPQMclerk@gmail.com) for incorporation into the final draft.

Nominating Committee

After seasoning between fall and winter quarter, the meeting approved the nomination of Theresa Cox (Berkeley) as co-registrar for a term of three years. Theresa has been serving as acting assistant clerk. The nominating committee noted that a third person from Berkeley Meeting would be helpful to complete the registration committee.

Naming Committee

After seasoning between fall and winter quarter, the meeting approved the nomination of Katie Polley (Reno) for a three year term to the nominating committee.

A Friend noted that Katie is soon moving out of the state, and the clerk of the nominating committee affirmed that Katie is still able to serve on the committee.

### Treasurer's and Finance Committee report

The treasurer presented her report. See attached.

She reminded Friends that at the fall session, the meeting approved an increase of the annual assessment (contributions from monthly meetings per member to the Quarter) from \$2 to \$5 per member to respond to losses from recent quarterly sessions.

The treasurer noted that the K-12 scholarship fund has not been used in some years. Comments about other potential uses of this fund should be sent to the finance committee. Bob Runyan, clerk of finance, is available to answer questions.

The clerk said he will make a proposal to the finance committee to discuss the reinstating of a line item for scholarship to attend quarterly sessions, allowing donations to be made to aid remote attendance.

### Registrar's report

The registrar reported that there were 40 responses on the registration form with 5 “sharing a window” by appearing on zoom together. There were approximately 45 Friends registered, with about 35 on Zoom at any one time.

### Ministry & Spiritual Care report

The clerk of Ministry and Spiritual Care reported that they are planning to start a Quakerism 101 class via Zoom. He requested that Friends tell the committee of any meetings that need the assistance of M&SC.

We discussed the possibility of reinstating “well meeting clinics.” John Holding (now of Lopez Island Friends Meeting in Washington and formerly of San Francisco Friends Meeting) and Thom McCue spoke about their experiences conducting and participating in such clinics within CPQM. Friend John described the clinic as a counseling session for meetings that want to identify areas of need and explore how to grow as a meeting. Friends may direct questions to the clerk of the Quarter and the clerk of the ministry & spiritual care committee.

### Revised job descriptions for representatives of monthly meetings

The clerk invited questions and comments on the job description of the representatives from monthly meetings, which is currently being revised. Friends had a lively discussion about the dynamic between the Quarter and its monthly meetings in creating a job description for quarterly reps, and the role that our nominating committee should play given the reality that it is the monthly meetings that approve their representative to the quarterly meeting.

Friends expressed that the job description from the quarter should set minimum expectations for reps, and that the monthly meetings should feel encouraged to expand on those expectations in order to meet the specific needs of the monthly meeting. Both the quarterly nominating committee and the ad-hoc implementation committee have worked on draft job description language. Some Friends expressed an interest in seeing the multiple versions of the description in order to provide appropriate feedback.

The nominating committee welcomes feedback from Friends on the job description they are developing. The clerk will ensure that Friends have those descriptions in order to provide feedback. See descriptions attached.

#### Reports from monthly meetings

A Friend from Sacramento gave a report on their meeting's assistance of a refugee family from Afghanistan. A Friend from Berkeley reported on their meeting's assistance of refugee families and their decision not to commit to declaring the meeting as a public sanctuary for those facing deportation because of the dire legal consequences of opposing the federal government.

A Friend from Strawberry Creek reported on their new location in Emeryville and that they have seen an increase in attendance.

A Friend from Humboldt reported on their support of a Friend in Africa that they met at the Friends World Committee for Consultation. The meeting agreed to purchase a cow to support their Friend's family.

The meeting had a lively discussion on whether and how to revive the practice of sharing news from the monthly meeting with other meetings. The clerk invited interested Friends to assist him in further thinking about this idea. You may reach him at CPQMclerk@gmail.com.

#### Friends House report

A resident of Friends House gave the annual report to the Quarter. She reported that 40% of residents are members of a Friends Meeting or closely familiar with Quaker ways. She noted that the Friends House worship group operates under the care of Redwood Forest Friends Meeting and is about the same size as its parent group, with about 30 attenders every Sunday. She encouraged Friends who are considering a retirement community to seriously consider Friends House. See attached report.

#### Ad-hoc implementation committee

Friends approved the following minute to lay down the ad-hoc implementation committee:

Having accomplished its purpose, the Quarterly ad hoc Implementation Committee is laid down. The three Committee members, Kathy Runyan, Jim Anderson, and Keenan Lorenzato are thanked for their work, in particular, the long-term dedication to in-person gatherings at which Friends can come to know each other better is appreciated.

#### Upcoming gatherings

The following dates are scheduled for regional gatherings:

- February 7 via zoom (register at <https://collegeparkquarterlymeeting.org/>)
- March 14 at by Berkeley Friends Meeting
- March 14 at Davis Friends Meeting, organized by Sacramento Friends Meeting
- March 14 at Redwood Forest Meeting (updated after this gathering)
- April 4 at Hidden Villa, organized by Palo Alto Friends Meeting

In addition, the teens held a gathering during this weekend in Reno.

The clerk announced a Zoom-only "gathering" for those who cannot travel to a regional gathering site. The proposed date is Saturday, February 7, in the morning.

#### Reading and approval of minutes

The recording clerk read the minutes, which were approved after making a few corrections.

The meeting ended with closing worship.