

Approved Description:

SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

Approved 12/1999, Revised 2/13/2020

Membership: Members and attenders of the Atlanta Friends Meeting.
Meetings are open to all who wish to attend.

Terms for Clerk: Three-year non consecutive terms.

Meetings: Meetings are held regularly, at a time chosen by the committee.

Purpose: This committee encourages and supports individual members and attenders in their social concerns leadings. It plans and organizes the meeting's social outreach. Quakers for Racial Equality, Friends of Color, and Green friends are currently active examples of the kinds of subgroups that can be periodically formed under the wing of the Social concerns Committee. Each of these groups is responsible for discerning spending a portion of the annual budget (see below).

Duties:

Financial:

- a) After discussion and input within the committee, prepares an annual budget and presents it to the Finance Committee and then to the Monthly Meeting for Business for approval. Items in the budget include support for projects or organizations which involve one or more Meeting members or attenders. Social Concerns budget also covers community organizations when the Meeting is a member and some other organizations and projects. Meeting members and regular attenders may request support from the committee for a project or group in which they are involved. Budget requests are generally at most a few hundred dollars for such a request.

b) Reviews larger requests for support for special leadings for an individual member or regular attender for increasing the Meeting's budget for special Social concerns projects involving the whole Meeting, or a number of Meeting members and attenders. These projects may be funded at amounts above \$1000. Presents recommendations for funding such projects to the Meeting for Business. (Note: for more information on how best to bring a request for financial support for a social concerns-related leading, please contact the Clerk of the Committee).

2. Education: Informs the Meeting about social concerns issues through forums, written articles and announcements.

3 Clearness: Assists Meeting members and attenders with discernment for their social concerns leadings through a Clearness Process. (See http://atlantaquakers.org/Clearness_Committees_and_their_use_in_personal_discernment:PDF).

A clearness process may result in a recommendation for a request for funding either through the Social Concerns budget (see #1). The clearness committee may also recommend setting up a support/anchoring committee for the person through the Ministry & Worship Committee (see... need link about support committee. Here is an example:
<http://www.mounttobyfriends.org/organizational/procedures-of-care-and-counsel/clearness-and-support-committees/>)