

20201018-M&C Minute on Quakers and Unions

Friends,

The New York Quarterly Meeting Ministry and Counsel Committee (NYQM M&C) recognizes issues of Quaker faith and practice in the situation and discussion regarding the Employees Union at Brooklyn Friends School. We direct all to the following from “NYYM Faith and Practice, The Book of Discipline of the New York Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)”:

“All of the business relationships of Friends should be carried on in a spirit of love and service. If we keep before us the faith that there is an indwelling Spirit in every person we encounter, then personal dealings and relations of management and labor become integral to our religious lives and allow us to witness to our testimonies.”

Faith and Practice, 2018 Edition, Fruits of the Spirit (Work), p. 35.

Our Quaker faith and testimonies honors work and encourage us to approach it with integrity, diligence, and concern. Managing a Quaker institution while engaging with a union representing its workforce is consistent with our values.

NYQM Ministry and Counsel Committee
Tenth Month, Eighteen, 2020