

Sprint on Listening and Lobbying

Charge:

This sprint will craft a spirit-centered, well-seasoned draft lobbying policy that is grounded in our faith and practice. The policy will meet the needs of PYM Friends whose ministry is grounded in advocacy, the needs of the PYM community, and our responsibility to maintain PYM's resources and nonprofit status. The draft policy will be arrived at through a two-stage process:

- a) Making space for many PYM Friends to share and listen to diverse experiences of spirit-led activism and advocacy and responsibility for maintaining the integrity of the institution of PYM.
- b) Crafting a draft policy based on the listening.

The draft policy will be brought to the body for consideration and approval.

Composition of the Sprint:

There are two groups carrying out the charge of the sprint:

- a) A **core group** is responsible for ensuring the charge is met. This group will include three members of Administrative Council, the Presiding Clerk, the CFO and the Deputy General Secretary. The General Secretary will join periodically as needed. This group was approved by Administrative Council.
- b) Three to seven additional Friends will join the core group to form a **working group** of the sprint which will craft a draft policy. The three to seven additional Friends will have attended at least one listening session of the sprint and will represent a diversity of experiences amongst them. The additional members will be nominated by the core group and approved by Administrative Council. The working group will be clerked by a member of the core group.

Accountability:

This sprint is in the care of Administrative Council (Admin). Admin is responsible for ensuring the sprint's activity and outcomes come to fruition and will receive the sprint's report. In the event there is conflict, a lack of clarity or progress, or another disruption to the charge, Administrative Council is responsible for recognizing and rectifying that.

Responsibilities:

1. The core group arranges the logistics of worshipful listening sessions, ensuring each one is:
 - a. Spiritually grounded and truly focused on active listening,
 - b. open to all PYM Friends,
 - c. accessible to a wide range of people, regardless of age, geography or digital literacy.
 - d. query-based and structured in a way that opens participants up to sharing and receiving a range of expertise and experience,
 - e. representative of key perspectives,
 - f. able to capture the sense of the worship sharing through notes (minutes).

- g. held within a two-week period at varying times to accommodate people's scheduling needs,
 - h. arrange for an elder to be present.
 2. As necessary, the core group will arrange for alternative means for gathering Friends' experiences to allow for broad participation in a timely manner.
 3. The core group will identify participants for the working group. The roster of the working group will be in alignment with the composition described above. The core group will ask for approval of the working group membership from Admin Council.
 4. The working group will meet several times, as needed, to process the Listening Sessions and to craft a draft policy.
 5. The core group will ensure that the Administrative Council members and the PYM body are kept informed.
 6. Administrative Council will bring a recommended policy to the body for discernment and decision.
 7. The Administrative Council will ensure this work is inclusive and celebrated.

Outcomes:

1. The core group will hold at least three zoom-based listening sessions by May 15.
2. The core group will develop a written report that shares the sense of the listening sessions which will be shared with Administrative Council on May 18.
3. The working group will be approved by Administrative Council on or before May 18.
4. The working group will provide a recommended policy that takes into account the sense of the listening sessions and needs of PYM Friends whose ministry is grounded in advocacy, the needs of the PYM community, and our responsibility to maintain PYM's resources and nonprofit status by June 13.
5. Administrative Council will consider the draft policy and determine whether further seasoning is needed on June 15.
6. Administrative Council will report to the body at Sessions.
7. Administrative Council will bring the draft policy to the body for discernment and decision when it's ready.

Following Steps:

1. Administrative Council will determine in June what next steps are needed to meet the charge.
2. God willing and the creek don't rise, a policy will be approved by November Continuing Sessions.
3. Administrative Council will work with other councils and the body regarding issues of authority and responsibility. Their work will include the experience of the Advocacy Policy and the authority and responsibilities of the councils and the body which were approved by the body in July 2014.