

**HOMEWOOD FRIENDS MEETING
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
Year ending April 2026**

1. What are some of the main ways you spent your time during the time period?

The Trustees Committee meets monthly, to keep up on the overall fiscal health of the Meeting, monitor investments, and develop and monitor the budget.

In the last year, the Trustees Committee has:

- Prepared the Financial Budget. The budget includes a goal of \$81,000 (compared to \$46,000 in the previous year) for fundraising, with a focus on increasing individual giving.
- Implemented the Capital Needs Assessment. This tool is now a reference for future planning for building maintenance.
- Finalized a loan to Adelphi Friends Meeting for renovations to their Meetinghouse.
- Supported the formation of the Development Working Group. This was prompted by the Treasurer and brought to Business meeting by Trustees.
- Continued oversight of the investment portfolio of endowed funds.

2. How would you describe the spiritual state of your committee?

The members of Trustees check in with each other at each meeting and work to ensure that the work of the committee is grounded in the Spirit. We do this by:

- Trustees begin and end our meetings with a period of silence and a brief check in.
- Members strive for Meetings for Worship with a Concern for Financial and Legal Matters, that is, infused with the Spirit, and being productive
- Members are mindful that we are accountable to the whole Meeting. Trustees have a duty to clearly explain what we do.
- Trustees share or seek needed expertise given our weighty responsibilities.
- Appreciate the humor we bring to our time together even with the seriousness required by our responsibilities.
- The committee weathered some transition in membership, and welcomed Carol Beck to the committee.

3. What are some of the major challenges you have faced/major strengths that helped you?

Challenges

- Working to support the Meeting's activities and concerns around liability and the safety of the Homewood community in the face of the current political climate.
- Security is more top of mind given the policies of the current federal administration.
- Occasional need for legal counsel that may or may not be found within the Homewood community.
- Volume of work, especially given the considerations of legal and financial exposure.
- Lots of responsibility on the clerk, especially with so few committee members.
- Maintaining a spirit-led focus when Trustees deal with such seemingly secular matters as money, liability insurance, etc.

Strengths

- Rapport, cooperation, and care brought to our work by each member of the committee.
- We don't take each other for granted.
- Having the Assistant Treasurer on Trustees.
- Working with the Treasurer as we've figured out the roles of Treasurer and Trustees.
- All current members have been members for at least a year.

4. What are your hopes for the future (of the committee)?

The Trustees look forward to working with and supporting our new Operations Coordinator and building on recent progress. Work that the committee will pursue includes:

- Revise the narrative budget in conjunction with development of the 2027 operating budget. Facilitate better integration of the Narrative Budget into the practices of the Meeting - refer to it, and make sure it is accessible.
- Complete the development of the fiscal policies, and model the habit of referring to them. Continue refining policies and presenting these to Business Meeting for review and approval. These will be included in the policies section of the handbook.
- Continue to use the Capital Needs Assessment for strategic stewardship of the building and of our fiscal and human resources and to minimize surprises.
- Consider current arrangements for building use and perform an annual review of the rental agreement template and rates. Research options for insurance requirements.
- Support the Development Working Group and learn from this work.
- Monitor the investment portfolio for stewardship and health of Meeting.
- Facilitate transition to new clerk.
- Recruit more members.

The committee members are David Blalock, Polly Heninger (Clerk), Heather Ravlin (also Assistant Treasurer), and Carol Beck. Debbie Kennison, Treasurer and Trustee ex officio, attends our meetings as requested.