

Jan Hoffman and Susan Loucks  
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# CLERKING

## IT'S MORE THAN JUST MEETING FOR BUSINESS

What part do clerks play in nurturing a faith community where worship feeds the work and work feeds the worship?

How do I understand and work with distinct individual and corporate leadings?

How do the disciplines of worship apply in meetings for business?

How are the specific disciplines of meeting for business grounded in our faith?

This workshop hopes to address these questions and others you may bring in the context of clerking any group making decisions corporately — Monthly Meetings, committees, etc. These can range from general questions about Quaker practice to “How can one respond to a difficult personality?” to “What do I do when my faith in the process gets wobbly?”

Every clerk has particular gifts they bring to the task. We hope to find ways to raise up the gifts each participant might bring to clerking and to nurture them. Bring your experience and curiosity, and expect to leave having increased them both!

NOTE: This workshop will run concurrently with “Minute by Minute,” a workshop on recording. There will be opportunity for exchanges between the two groups.

*Susan Loucks is a member of Beacon Hill Meeting (Boston) where she served as clerk from 2005-08. She has worked professionally with groups on collaborative problem solving and participatory decision making, including facilitating group dialogues on issues ranging from hazardous waste to employment for people with disabilities. She is a member of the FGC Quaker Quest volunteer training team, which helps Meetings discover ways to become more welcoming and spiritually vibrant.*



*Jan Hoffman is a member of Mt. Toby (MA) Meeting where serving as clerk from 1974-76 initiated her into the brave new world of clerking in a Quaker context. The radical faith that it is possible to receive not only individual Guidance, but Guidance as a gathered corporate body continues to inspire her. She has found joy and challenge as clerk in many contexts within New England Yearly Meeting and beyond and currently finds it as clerk of the NEYM Faith and Practice Revision Committee.*



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