Whereas by an Act of the Legislature of the State of New York entitled an Act to enable all religious denominations in this State to appoint for the purpose of taking care of the Temporalities of their respective Congregations, and for other purposes therein mentioned, and whereas by said Act, it is enacted that from and after the passing said Act, it shall and may be lawful to and for the male persons of full age belonging to any Church Congregation or religious Society not already established within this State, or which may at any time hereafter be within the same, to assemble and meet together at the Church Meeting-House, or other place where they usually attend for Divine Worship, and there, by plurality of voices, to elect, nominate and appoint any number of discreet and prudent persons of the Church Congregation, or Society, not less than three, or exceeding nine in number, as Trustees to take the charge of the estate and property to their respective Churches, Congregations, or religious Societies, and to transact all affairs relative to the Temporalities of their respective Churches, Congregations, or Societies.

And whereas by said act, it is enacted, that on said day of election, two of the Elders, or Church Wardens of said Church, Congregation or Society shall provide at such Election, receive the votes of the electors, be judges of the qualifications of such electors, and officers; and to return the names of the persons, who by the plurality of voices, shall be elected Trustees, as aforesaid.

And whereas by said act, it is enacted, that in case there should be no Elder, Church Warden nor Deacon, then it shall be lawful for said Electors to elect by plurality of voices, two members of said Church Congregation, or society, to hold the said election, and be the returners of the names of the persons, who shall be elected Trustees, as aforesaid.
County of Ontario, State of New York, Jerusalem, seventeenth of the 11th. Mo. in the Year of our Lord, One thousand seven hundred and ninety one

We the subscribers, being of the Church, Congregation Society or Community of Friends, settled on the west side of the Seneca Lake, and according to the notice given by Richard Smith (being a member of said Society) on the morning of the twentieth day of the month of November, forty one days after a meeting of said Society, called on the said day, for the purpose of determining on the place and time of said meeting, and on said day, being met at the Friends Meeting House, in said Jerusalem, in compliance with and in conformity to a Certain Law of the said State, passed the sixth day of the fourth month in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and eighty four entitled an Act to enable all religious denominations within this State, to appoint Trustees for the purposes therein mentioned.

And, there being no Elders, Church Wardens, or Deacons belonging to said Church Congregation Society, or Community; and we being (as aforesaid) elected returning officers thereof, are having at said time and place, duly attended the said business, whereby certify that we were then, and there, by a plurality of voices, duly elected returning officers as aforesaid, and that Richard Smith, Isaac Nicholls, Abel Botsford, Jonathan Dains, John Briggs, all being and belonging to said Church, Congregation Society, or Community, were then, and there, by plurality of voices, duly elected Trustees for the purpose aforesaid, by the male inhabitants of said Congregation or Community. And that they the said Richard Smith, Isaac Nicholls, Abel Botsford, Jonathan Dains, John Briggs, in their said Capacity as Trustees, and their successors forever hereafter have, hold, and occupy said office and trust, by the name and title of the Trustees of the Community of Universal Friends, and in said Capacity to do, act, and transact, every matter and thing, in this State, or in any other State, which hath been, or which may be appropriated to the benefit of said Community or in any wise appropriate to promote and forward the Community.
County of Ontario, State of New York.
Jerusalem, seventeenth of the 11th Mo. in the Year of our Lord, One thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine.

We, the subscribers, being of the Church, Congregation, Society or Community of Friends, settled on the west side of the Seneca Lake, and according to the notice given by Richard Smith (being a member of said Society) on the morning of the 15th day of the same month, fifteen days after the election, and on said day, being met at the Friends Meeting House, in said Jerusalem, in compliance with, and in conformity to a certain law of this State, passed the sixth Day of the fourth month in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and eighty-four entitled an Act to enable all religious denominations within this State, to appoint Trustees for the purposes therein mentioned.

And there being no Elders, Church Wardens, or Deacons belonging to said Church Congregation, Society, or Community; and we being (said law directs) elected returning officers thereof; and having at said time and place duly attended the said business, do hereby certify that we were then, and there, by plurality of voice, duly elected returning officers as aforesaid, and that Richard Smith, Isaac Nichols, Abel Botsford, Jonathan Dains, John Briggs, all being and belonging to said Church Congregation, Society, or Community were then, and there, by plurality of voice, duly elected Trustees for the purpose aforesaid, by the male inhabitants of said Congregation or Community. And that they the said Richard Smith, Isaac Nichols, Abel Botsford, Jonathan Dains, John Briggs in their said capacity as Trustees, and their successors forever hereafter have, hold, and occupy said office and trust, by the name and title of the Trustees of the Community of Universal Friends, and in said capacity to do, act, and transact every matter and thing, in this State, or in any other State, which hath been or may be appropriated to the benefit of said Community.
Jerusalem, Seventeenth of the 7th Mo. The year of our LORD, One thousand seven hundred and ninety-one.

We, the subscribers, being of the Church, Congregation Society, or Community of Friends, settled on the west side of the Jamaica Lake, and according to the notice given by Richard Smith, Smith (being a member of said Society) on two preceding Wednesday mornings, yesterday being the day of election, and on said day, being met at the Friends Meeting House, in said Jerusalem, in compliance with, and in conformity to a certain law of this State, passed the sixth day of the fourth month in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and eighty-four entitled an Act to enable all religious denominations within this State, to appoint Trustees for the purposes therein mentioned.

And there being no Elders, Church Wardens, or Deacons, belonging to said Church, Congregation Society, or Community; and we being (as said law directs) electing returning officers thereof, and having at said time and place, duly attended the said business, do hereby certify that we were then, and there, by plurality of voices, duly elected returning officers as aforesaid, and that

Richard Smith, Isaac Nichols, Abel Botsford, Jonathan Dains, John Briggs, all being and belonging to said Church, Congregation Society, or Community, were then, and there, by plurality of voices, duly elected Trustees for the purpose aforesaid, by the male inhabitants of said Congregation or Community. And that they the said Richard Smith, Isaac Nichols, Abel Botsford, Jonathan Dains, John Briggs, in their said capacity as Trustees, and their successors forever hereafter have, hold, and occupy said office and trust, by the name and title of the Trustees of the Community of Universal Friends, and in said capacity to do, act, and transact, every matter and thing, in this State, or any other State, which hath been, or which may be appropriated to the benefit of said community, or in any wise appropriated to promote and forward the Divine
Divine and Solemn Worship of God by any of said Society, or any member of said Community, and every matter and thing which by law, they in said Capacity may, or ought to do.

In Witness Whereof we, the said Returning Officers, as aforesaid, have hereunto set our hands and Seals, in said County, the Day and Date being hereon written.

Elnathan Bostford
Benjamin Brown
George Joson
Jonathan Bostford

On this day of November in the year one thousand eight hundred and one, aforesaid, do hereby declare that on the said Day of November in the year one thousand eight hundred and one, before me, Moses Colton, one of the Judges of the Court of common Pleas for said County, George Joson, who shall orally affirm he saw Benjamin Brown and a man named Bostford sign and deliver the forenamed instrument as their free Acts and Deeds pursuant to said as much

Moses Colton
Universal Friends Society
Act of Incorporation

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