

ILYM Property Use Committee

Report to Continuing Committee - March 9, 2013

The Property Use Committee, with 12 members representing many of ILYM's standing committees, has met by conference call three times since Fall 2012 Continuing Committee. Carol Bartles has recently decided to step aside from the committee. We thank her for her dedication and many contributions to the committee's work thus far.

Our charge as stated in the minutes of the 2012 ILYM annual sessions is to "develop oversight processes for the use of the site for programs, retreats, and other activities." We have heard reports from committee representatives on how their committees might use the property in the future. We have had discussions about how increased use of the facilities (Clear Creek House and the ILYM grounds) can build the ILYM community and promote sharing of our individual and communal religious experiences. An example of this is the fall 2012 applesauce making workshop held by the Peace Resources Committee which included individuals who had not been to the site before. We as a committee are encouraged by experiences such as this because they do promote shared and individual religious experiences through worship and workshops held at the site, and they have the potential to draw more members of the ILYM community to McNabb.

As we have envisioned the possibility of increased use of the property, including use by people outside the ILYM community, several areas of concern have been raised: What are the financial/tax implications of increasing the number and types of uses of the property? What Health Department requirements do we need to take into consideration? Clear Creek Friends right now are shouldering much of the responsibility for hosting at the ILYM site. How can we manage the work of scheduling and hosting events in a way that doesn't overburden any individual or group?

In order to focus our efforts, we plan to move forward by considering, in turn, these scenarios: 1) use by committees and monthly meetings of ILYM, 2) use by other Quaker organizations, 3) use by other religious organizations, and 4) use by non-religious organizations. At our next face-to-face meeting scheduled for April, we will be looking at existing resources including the ILYM bylaws and existing Property Use Guidelines.