

**2013 Spring Continuing Committee Meeting**  
**3/9/2012**  
**At 57<sup>th</sup> Street Meeting House, Chicago IL**

Attending: Wil Brant, Helen Dickinson, Janice Domanik (Presiding Clerk), Nancy Duncan, Judy Erickson, David Finke, Nancy Finke, Meredith George, Chris Goode, Kate Gunnell, Sharon Haworth, Judy Jager, Chris Jocius, Brad Laird, Valerie Lester, Mark McGinnis, Janet Means Underhill, Elizabeth Mertic, Grayce Mesner, Neil Mesner, Noel Pavlovic, Sarah Pavlovic, Bridget Rorem, Chip Rorem, David Rutchman, Beth Schobernd, David Shiner (Recording Clerk), Bobbie Trist, Jody Wolicki

Minute 1      The Spring 2013 Continuing Committee session began with opening worship.

Minute 2      Presiding Clerk Janice Domanik welcomed Friends to Continuing Committee.

Minute 3      Valarie Lester gave the Treasurers' Report on behalf of herself and Co-Treasurer Dawn Amos. Income and expenses are in line with expectations. Income was bolstered by a bequest from the estate of Royal Buscombe. The most significant new expense since Fall Continuing Committee is the Dancing Rabbit cleanup and deconstruction project. The Meeting accepted the Treasurers' report with thanks.

Minute 4      Judy Jager reported for Finance Committee. The Committee is considering bringing a proposal to the 2013 annual sessions that ILYM hire an outside bookkeeper. They are also investigating legal and other ramifications of expanding the use of our facilities. We are moving from a treasurer-centered to a committee-based approach to preparing the annual budget. Finally, the committee is planning a Yearly Meeting workshop concerning the values upon which we draw to inform our donations. The Meeting accepted the report with thanks.

Minute 5      David Finke reported for Development Committee, which currently consists of himself, Bob Bartles, and Maurine Pyle. The committee is ready to begin asking Friends for contributions and bequests and other estate planning. However, they will need more information, particularly concerning past contributions, in order to do the work effectively. The treasurers will share this information with the Development Committee. The committee believes that it is appropriate to seek funding for the General Fund, Capital Improvements identified in the Capital Assets Management Plan (CAMP), and items in the Property Improvement Fund that have been approved by the Yearly Meeting. Priorities for the committee's plans must be made clearer by the Yearly Meeting. Proposed gifts for projects that have not been approved by the Yearly Meeting will not be accepted. The committee is recommending that ILYM engage fundraising consultant Henry Freeman, whom the Yearly Meeting hired several years ago, for limited consultation as they move forward with their plans for fundraising.

Minute 6      Janice Domanik read the Stewards report prepared by Roy Treadway. Since the last Continuing Committee meeting in October 2012, the stewards have been active in many ways. They have overseen the work of Dancing Rabbit in demolishing the long shed, the milk shed, and pallets; replaced a kitchen window in Clear Creek House; regularized the billing for propane use on the campus; and conducted the regular three-year review of the yearly meeting's insurance policy.

The stewards recommended a change in the Illinois Yearly Meeting description of the Stewards in the ILYM Handbook (pages 12-13 in the online version). The recommended change is from “The three stewards will be *ex officio* members of the Maintenance and Planning Committee. The stewards will name one of their number to be a representative to the Finance Committee as an *ex officio* member and to serve as a contact person in the budget process” to “At least one of the stewards will be an *ex officio* member of the Maintenance and Planning Committee and at least one steward will be either a member of or liaison to the Finance, Environmental Concerns, and Site Envisioning Committees to serve as a contact person in the work of these committees. The stewards will decide which steward will be involved in each committee.” This recommendation will be taken up in the next report. Report accepted.

Minute 7 Elizabeth Mertic reported for the Handbook Committee. The committee made the following recommendations:

- a. an amended version of the minute proposed by the Stewards, to the following: “a steward will serve *ex officio* on the Finance, Environmental Concerns, Site Envisioning, and Maintenance and Planning committees. The stewards will decide which of their number is assigned to which of these three committees.”

This recommendation was approved.

- b. an addition to the job description for the Ministry and Advancement Committee concerning the Field Secretary, as follows: “The Ministry and Advancement Committee is responsible for appointing the Field Secretary. When a vacancy occurs, they will advertise the opening widely. The candidates will be interviewed by a sub-committee of M&A; the person who best meets the needs of the yearly meeting will be offered the position in a timely manner.”

This recommendation will be processed in conjunction with Personnel and Administrative Oversight Committees, with a recommendation to be presented at annual sessions. (See Minute 47, ILYM 2012).

- c. an addition to the Nominating Committee description concerning selection of its clerk: “The Nominating Committee clerk is chosen by the members of the committee at its first meeting (the one convened by the Naming Committee appointee).” Alternatively, the Naming Committee could appoint the Nominating Committee Clerk after consultation with the members of the new committee, prior to the initial meeting of the new committee.

Unity was not reached on either of these alternatives. This issue will be held over for further discussion and discernment, as will the matter of better definition of what it means to serve *ex officio* on a committee and as a representative from another committee.

Report accepted.

Minute 8 Chip Rorem reported for Site Envisioning Committee. The committee has been moving forward on the six projects with which it was charged at the 2012 annual sessions. They regard their top current priorities to be accessible bedroom/bathroom addition at Clear Creek House, renovations to the campground bath house, and addition of a bathroom at the meeting house, all of which are being undertaken in conjunction with the Maintenance & Planning Committee. They have also explored a request to consider relocation of the Wilson House onto

the ILYM campus. They estimate the costs of relocation and rehabilitation at approximately \$230,000, exclusive of subsequent maintenance costs. The Meeting accepted the report and expressed its deep gratitude to Chris Goode and Chip for their selfless gift of time and expertise to the Yearly Meeting.

Minute 9 Janice Domanik delivered the report on Ministry and Advancement Committee prepared by Joan Pine. Visits by committee members to meetings and worship groups have been augmented by additional visits by Field Secretary Judy Wolicki, current ILYM Clerk Janice Domanik, and past ILYM clerks David Finke, Margaret Katranides, and Maurine Pyle. The Elkhart Worship Group, under the care of South Bend Friends, continues to meet twice a month, with Brad Laird visiting regularly. About a dozen Adult Young Friends continue to meet monthly for potlucks and sharing, under the leadership of Adrian Nelson and Madelyn George. Illnesses to four M&A members or their families and the resignation of Gwen Weaver have left the committee somewhat shorthanded at present. Report accepted.

Minute 10 Judy Wolicki reported in her capacity as Field Secretary. Judy continues to feel welcomed and blessed in her work. She has been asking members and attenders of the meetings she visits to identify the strengths of their meetings, and has been gratified to hear about them. Friends have given her opportunities to present programs, to find resources, and to offer support and mentoring. Report accepted with thanks.

Minute 11 Friends discussed the timing of annual sessions, offering pros and cons for the two possible dates, which are mid-June as at present and late July as was the case until 2007. This matter will be discussed more fully at the annual sessions in June.

Minute 12 Sarah Pavlovic delivered the report on Faith and Practice Committee prepared by Peter Lasersohn. The committee has been considering revisions to the draft text on Meeting for Worship in response to comments received. They plan to propose three-year provisional approval of this section at the 2013 sessions of Illinois Yearly Meeting. They have also begun work on sections on the Light Within and related topics, including Quaker views on Jesus and the Bible; a section on death, bereavement, and memorial meetings; and a section on Friends testimonies. They hope to have one or more of these sections available for comment by the 2013 annual sessions. Report accepted.

Minute 13 Sarah Pavlovic reported for Property Use Committee, the current members of which are Diane Dennis, Janice Domanik, Sharon Haworth, Bruce Kanarek, Ashlee Miller-Berry (Clerk), Becky Morris, Sarah Pavlovic, Breeze Richardson, Bridget Rorem, Chip Rorem, Beth Schobernd, and July Wolicki. The committee has been undertaking its charge to “develop oversight processes for the use of the site for programs, retreats, and other activities.” They are exploring several areas of concern, including the financial/tax implications of increasing the number and types of uses of the property, Health Department requirements that need to be taken into consideration, and how to manage the work of scheduling and hosting events in a way that doesn’t overburden any individual or group. At their face-to-face meeting next month they will be looking at existing resources, including the ILYM Bylaws and Property Use Guidelines. Report accepted.

Minute 14 Neil Mesner reported for Maintenance & Planning Committee. Ted Kuhn has combined the various CAMP reports into a single report, which is now being used for setting

priorities. The committee encourages ILYM Friends to join them for semi-annual Work Weekend on May 18-19, which will be held in collaboration with Environmental Concerns Committee. Report accepted.

Minute 15 David Rutschman reported for Nominating Committee. The committee nominates David Shiner to the position of Assistant Clerk as of the rise of annual sessions in June 2013. If this nomination is approved, Janice Domanik will continue as Presiding Clerk for the 2013-14 year and David Shiner will serve as Assistant Clerk for that year and as Presiding Clerk for the subsequent two years. Approved.

Minute 16 Nancy Finke reported for Naming Committee on behalf of herself and Committee Clerk Margaret Katranides. The committee recommends that Beth Schobernd be appointed to Nominating Committee for a two-year term and that Contessa Miller be appointed for a three-year term, both to formally begin at the rise of annual sessions in June. Approved. They further recommend that Margie Haworth-Davis be appointed to convene the first meeting of Nominating Committee after annual sessions. Approved.

Minute 17 Judy Erickson presented the report prepared by Personnel Committee Clerk Mike Dennis. The members of this committee are Mike Dennis, Janice Domanik, Judith Erickson, Fernando Freire, Kate Gunnell, Judy Jager, Dawn Rubbert, and David Rutschman. The committee has received several bids from payroll services and is currently reviewing the recommended vendor with the treasurers and Finance Committee. They request that the treasurers and Finance Committee work with Personnel Committee to finalize selection of the payroll service and provide the payroll service with the necessary information to begin their work. The committee recommends that the Finance Committee consider a 2% raise for ILYM staff for the coming year, and that future salary levels continue to take into account increases in the cost of living. The committee has drafted a manual of personnel policies and procedures and anticipates producing a slightly revised version for consideration at 2013 annual sessions, based on comments received prior to that time. The meeting accepted the report and expressed special appreciation to the committee for its work on the personnel manual.

Minute 18 Judy Erickson announced that there is no formal report from Publications Committee, but that *Among Friends* Editor Marcia Nelson is preparing the spring 2013 issue of ILYM's semiannual publication. Report accepted.

Minute 19 Kate Gunnell reported for Youth Oversight Committee. She described the committee's activities since last year's annual sessions and its plans for the near future, additionally providing a tentative calendar of events for the upcoming year. Report accepted with abundant gratitude.

Minute 20 Noel Pavlovic reported on behalf of Environmental Concerns Committee that the cost of campus grass-cutting has risen appreciably in recent years, especially since the purchase of the Mills property. That expense appears to be leveling off, but is still quite high. Report accepted.

Minute 21 Janice Domanik recommended that Friends read the Quaker Earthcare Witness report written by Roy Treadway, which can be accessed via the ILYM website.

Minute 22 Friends updated the gathering on the state of preparations for the 2013 annual sessions. Nancy Duncan reported on Program. Speakers and panels are now set, and plans for workshops and worship groups are well underway. Beth Schobernd reported that all of the coordinator positions concerning Food are now filled, and that she and Diane Dennis will be working with the cooks to plan menus later this spring. They ask that Friends bear in mind the importance of volunteering to help with serving, cleanup, and dishes during annual sessions, as well as helping with kitchen cleanup on Sunday. Chris Goode reported on behalf of FUN Coordinator Sue Styer that most tasks have been assigned, but that there is still a need for help with babysitting, teaching the middle schoolers, and assistance with the Saturday service project. Mark McGinnis reported on Site Preparation, most of the positions of which are now filled although a Site Preparation Coordinator is still needed.

Minute 23 Friends expressed strong concern about the importance of the safety of our children during annual sessions and the need for oversight by at least two adults at all times. Janice encouraged Friends to contact Kate Gunnell with their concerns and ideas prior to annual sessions in June.

Minute 24 The meeting offered its sincere thanks to 57<sup>th</sup> Street Meeting for hosting today's gathering.

Minute 25 The Continuing Committee session concluded with closing worship.

Janice Domanik  
Presiding Clerk

David Shiner  
Recording Clerk