

Some visions for the site of Illinois Yearly Meeting

from Upper Fox Valley Quaker Meeting – February 6, 2011

A small group (about 6) gathered for a meeting for business on February 6, 2011, and considered the queries submitted to it by the ILYM Site Envisioning Committee (SEC). While no formal minutes of the “sense of the meeting” were adopted, there was strong support for the following “visions”.

- Protection of the historic timber-frame barn, for wildlife, education and other programs. One Friend suggested seeking “historic site” designation for it.
- Removal of the long, metal fox-poultry building, except for the west “machine shop” end.
- Renovation of the campground wash house, with immediate attention (before this coming Yearly Meeting) to the entrances. (The entrance platforms are dangerous, especially when wet.)
- A “mobile kitchen” to be contracted for the June Yearly Meeting, until an above-ground kitchen and dining hall are constructed.
- Organic vegetable gardens, to be incorporated somewhere on the grounds.
- A caretaker (at least from April through October), living on site, if possible.

Separately, it was suggested that in the SEC call for vision responses, when the traditional Quaker testimonies are referenced, the term “stewardship” would be more appropriate than “service”.

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