

Report to Illinois Yearly Meeting from the Stewards  
Carol Bartles, Dick Ashdown, and Roy Treadway, Stewards  
June 2012

Given the welcome expanded property and opportunities for ILYM, the Stewards have had a busy year managing the property of ILYM. With Roy Treadway starting as a Steward in January (2012), the duties of Stewards have been shifting, with Dick Ashdown serving as the Steward liaison on the Site Envisioning Committee, Carol Bartles on the Maintenance and Planning Committee, and Roy Treadway on the Environmental Concerns Committee. We find this division of responsibilities to be very productive and effective in managing our role in ILYM. We are exploring the best way we can work with the Finance Committee.

This year, as Stewards, we have managed the contracts for ILYM in painting two sides of the meetinghouse, renovating the Clear Creek House kitchen, installing concrete ramps to the bathhouse, replacing the “wind damaged” electrical service to the campground, and removing a tree east of the Meetinghouse which blew down in a windstorm. These tasks have been completed. We are working closely with the Maintenance and Planning Committee in making the Clear Creek House accessible and in removing unwanted buildings and debris from the property.

We see a need to have a clear statement of the differences and similarities of a Property Improvement project and a Deferred Maintenance project. This information may be available, but we do not know where to find it.

Currently, we ask Sharon Haworth to maintain a list of the contractors and vendors with which we are working or have worked in the past. We need to establish a system to update and maintain our list of contractors and vendors so it is more universally accessible. One solution might be to put this information on the ILYM website.

Some monthly meetings, most yearly-meeting committees, and Clear Creek Friends are using Clear Creek House. While a few issues that have arisen, for the most part the facility is serving the spiritual and physical needs of ILYM and Clear Creek Friends.

While ILYM has a well-developed and thorough *Guidelines for the use of Clear Creek House of Illinois Yearly Meeting*, currently the yearly meeting does not have a clearly stated **policy** for using **all** the ILYM facilities. We see a value in assigning a committee to work with Sharon Haworth in developing a policy for the use of the property. This task could be assigned to a current ILYM committee, or ILYM could establish a new committee to oversee the use of the ILYM property during the year. This committee would work with Sharon to outline the current uses of the facilities as well as look into current and potential issues and solutions to these issues. This approach will keep open the wide range of possibilities as well as help ILYM look into and establish future policies for use of the facilities, particularly as we consider use of the property from groups outside the yearly meeting.

An annual report on the ways, dates, number of groups, and purposes the Clear Creek House is being used during the year might help members of ILYM better understand the valuable resource ILYM has in its campus and the means by which ILYM can better be an example in the world at large as well as serve the spiritual needs of Friends.