

Ad Hoc Property Committee

The Ad Hoc Committee for the Mills Property met at the ILYM meetinghouse on October 10, 2009. The following Friends were present: Dick Ashdown (Steward), Carol Bartles (Steward), David Finke (ILYM clerk), Chris Goode (Environmental Concerns), Margie Haworth Davis (Finance), Pam Kuhn (Finance), Neil Mesner (Maintenance & Planning), Tim Narkiewicz (Steward), Chip Rorem (Site Envisioning and Development) and Beth Schobernd (Clear Creek). The meeting was clerked by Beth Schobernd and recorded by Chris Goode.

At annual sessions, Friends approved the recommendation by the Finance Committee that an ad hoc committee be appointed to "get to know" the Mills property. That charge seemed a bit vague to us, so we drafted our own with input from the Finance Committee members present.

The Ad Hoc Committee for the Mills Property serves as a forum among and between The Environmental Concerns Committee, the Finance Committee, the Maintenance and Planning committee, the Site Envisioning and Development Committee, the Illinois Yearly Meeting Stewards, and Clear Creek Monthly Meeting, gathering and sharing information as an aid to increasing transparency as we more fully integrate the Mills property into the yearly meeting.

With that we brainstormed all the things we could think of that our representative groups had raised as concerns, then took a tour of the new property. We heard from all the representative groups about work completed, in process and planned. We included a discussion on accessibility and acknowledged a desire to be sure that issue is considered as we move forward.

The committee agrees that we should not plan to make the property generally available for lodging, committee meetings, retreats, or other purposes for at least a year. If work progresses more quickly, then we can all be pleasantly surprised and grateful.

In short, we see ourselves as a clearinghouse - a coordinating body that ensures each committee (and the yearly meeting in general) understands what every other group is doing to avoid overlap and to ensure coverage of all concerns. The represented committees will speak to their specific work in their reports. The Ad Hoc Committee will meet again on February 20, 2010.