

October 5, 2010  
Furnishing Committee  
Appointed by Maintenance and Planning Committee, ILYM

Beth Schobernd (clerk), Sandy Bales, Nancy Finke

Our charge: to develop guidelines for furnishing Clear Creek House of Illinois Yearly Meeting. We will report to the Ministry and Planning Committee.

During annual sessions, Nancy and Beth met twice with various members of Clear Creek to hear their anticipated uses of the house and their ideas about what furnishings they will need for those uses. Sandy, Nancy and Beth also met once by conference call, and Beth has reported regularly to Clear Creek about the committee's activities. As clerk of the ad hoc Committee for the Mills Property, Beth has served as a liaison between that group and the Furnishings Committee, and we have considered the work of the ad hoc committee in our discussions. We also reviewed materials from the January 2010 Visioning Retreat.

Our work has produced the following guidelines for the acquisition of furnishings for the Clear Creek House:

- Simple
- Flexible
- Comfortable
- In excellent condition
- Sturdy
- Natural or recycled materials preferred
- Compressible chairs--stacking, folding, nesting
- Harmonious
- Consistent with House--period, colors, style

For the immediate future, we believe that there should be seating in the downstairs of the house for approximately 30 people. This could be accomplished with 10 chairs for the dining table and 20 compressible chairs for the meeting room. Additional seating might be considered for the porch at a later date. There should also be some seating in the library area.

There should ultimately be sleeping space for 12-16 people in the house. The configuration we would recommend is:

- 3 bunk beds in the large room in the north east corner room
- 1 double bed in the small west side room (the former fish room)
- 1 set of twin beds in the south west corner room
- 1 futon in each of the two rooms Clear Creek uses for first day school and the downstairs library room.

We identified furnishing priorities for the house, not necessarily in order within groups.

First floor:

Dining room chairs

Meeting room chairs

Sound retardants (such as rugs, wall hangings)

Bookcases and seating for the library

Window coverings for the bathroom

Second floor:

Beds

Window coverings for bedrooms and bathroom

Fire ladders and installation

First-day school rooms (tables, seating)

Miscellaneous (such as tables, chairs, lamps for bedrooms)

Future Planning Priorities:

Kitchen

Storage

Porch

It seems to us that cohesive groups should work together--one to furnish the first floor and one for the second floor. Each group should include Clear Creek and wider ILYM Friends. We have consulted with Clerk David Finke about how best to constitute these groups and think that some combination of wider Friends already involved (ad hoc committee members, furnishings members) in addition to Clear Creek representatives would be the best solution.

We also discussed the issue of funding for the needed furnishings. Clear Creek does have some memorial funds designated for the Clear Creek House, but we do not feel Clear Creek alone should be responsible for outfitting the entire house. ILYM will need to provide some funding for furnishings used primarily by the wider group, such as those for the bedrooms. Where that funding comes from is beyond the charge of our committee, but does need to be determined.

Another concern raised in our group, but again outside our purview, is the need to identify people (besides/in addition to Dick Ashdown) who can provide hospitality for groups using Clear Creek House. Dick cannot be expected to be on call 24/7 once the house is used with more regularity.