

**2012 Fall Continuing Committee Meeting
10/28/2012
At Illinois Yearly Meeting House near McNabb, IL
Hosted by Clear Creek Monthly Meeting**

Attending: Dick Ashdown, Carol Bartles, Diane Dennis, Rose Dennis, Janice Domanik (Presiding Clerk), Kay Drake, David Finke, Nancy Finke, Meredith George, Chris Goode, Sharon Haworth, Judy Jager, Roxy Jacobs, Nathan Lasersohn, Peter Lasersohn, Valerie Lester, Jeannie Marvin, Elizabeth Mertic, Grayce Mesner, Neil Mesner, Becky Morris, Noel Pavlovic, Sarah Pavlovic, Bridget Rorem, Chip Rorem, David Rutschman, Beth Schobernd, David Shiner (Recording Clerk), Angie Thinnies, Roy Treadway, Janet Means Underhill, Nancy Wallace, Judy Wolicki

Minute 1 The Fall 2012 Continuing Committee session began with opening worship.

Minute 2 Peter Lasersohn read an obituary of our beloved member Larry Stout, who died last week at age 64. A memorial service for Larry will take place next Saturday morning, November 3rd, at the Mennonite Church of Normal, at 805 South Cottage Avenue in Normal, with visitation beginning at 10 AM and the service in the manner of Friends beginning at 11 AM.

Minute 3 Presiding Clerk Janice Domanik welcomed Friends to Continuing Committee.

Minute 4 Peter Lasersohn reported for the Faith and Practice Committee. The committee expects to ask for provisional approval of a section on meeting for worship at the 2013 annual sessions of Illinois Yearly Meeting and to have at least one other section available for comment at that time. With respect to completing the ILYM Faith and Practice, the committee is concerned that ILYM's current practice of approving text for a five-year provisional period before considering it for final approval will mean that after the final section receives provisional approval, the committee will have five years of inactivity before preparing the book as a whole for publication. The committee therefore asked Continuing Committee whether Friends would consider it appropriate to submit text with a request for just three years' provisional approval beginning in 2013, with the intention of eventually shortening the provisional period to a single year. Following discussion, meeting approved the proposal that the Faith and Practice Committee begin submitting text for three years' provisional approval at the 2013 annual sessions.

Minute 5 Valerie Lester gave the Treasurers' Report on behalf of herself and Dawn Amos. The treasurers asked the meeting to accept the FY12 year-end financials that are in the minute book. ILYM outspent its income by \$1,816 in fiscal 2012. This was because Monthly Meeting contributions were less than expected, while other variances cancelled each other out. Because of a bookkeeping oversight, the treasurers asked that the minute accepting the FY12 year-end financials include the following statement:

**The Treasurers note the following update from the minute book report of
FY12 year end financials. The bottom line Total Assets of \$159,677.92**

remains correct. However, the organization of the Liabilities and Net Assets will reflect a \$7.78 reduction in Accounts Payable, and the same size increase in Unrestricted Undesignated. Therefore the FY13 starting balances will be \$6,694.56 for Accounts Payable and \$25,656.59 for Unrestricted Undesignated (General Operating). The FY12 spending deficit is revised rounded to \$8, from \$1,816 to \$1,808.

The meeting accepted the Treasurers' Report on FY12 year-end financials.

The FY13 year-to-date Balance Sheet, Fund Activity, and Budget show nothing out of the ordinary for this time of year. The meeting accepted the Treasurers' Report on FY13.

Minute 6 Judy Jager reported for the Finance Committee. Among the items addressed was the management of payroll for ILYM. The committee has discerned that the Yearly Meeting should not continue to self-manage payroll using QuickBooks software, instead recommending that the Personnel Committee identify an outside payroll service and contract with them. Meeting approved.

Minute 7 Janice Domanik announced that the Ad Hoc CAMP Report Committee will meet on November 10.

Minute 8 Diane Dennis reported for the Maintenance and Planning Committee. Approximately 30 people turned out on Saturday of the fall work weekend in September, with a few of them remaining to help on Sunday. The major project involved the cabins: four of the six cabins were re-stained and a screen door was repaired. Work on the remaining two cabins will take place during the spring work weekend. Friends were asked to participate in that work weekend and in subsequent ones. Diane also reported on other recent M&P activities and future plans.

Minute 9 Bridget Rorem gave the report for Ministry and Advancement prepared by committee clerk Joan Pine. The report included mention of two new worship groups, formation of a regular Adult Young Friends gathering in the Chicago metropolitan area, a forthcoming second printing of Janet Means Underhill's "Book of Hope and Comfort," an M&A-crafted survey that was distributed to monthly meetings and worship groups, and M&A-sponsored workshops on conflict among Friends. For each ILYM meeting and worship group, a current member of Ministry and Advancement or a Friend designated by that committee will serve as a visitor and liaison to that meeting.

Minute 10 David Rutschman reported for the Nominating Committee. The committee recommended the following Friends for three-year appointments, all to terminate at the 2015 annual sessions: for Finance Committee, Steve Tamari; for Religious Education Committee, Monica Tetzlaff; for Site Envisioning Committee, Roxy Jacobs; as representative to Friends Peace Teams, Debra Penna-Fredericks; and as representative to Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC), Nancy Duncan. The committee also recommended that Sarah Pavlovic serve on the Faith and Practice Committee and that Christina Schulz serve as Clerk of the Religious Education Committee. Meeting approved all of the Nominating Committee recommendations.

Minute 11 David Finke gave the report for the Publications Committee prepared by committee clerk Judy Erickson. *Among Friends* will henceforth be published in the Fall and Spring rather than the Summer and Winter. The 2012 Minute Book has now been published, and print versions of the most recent Plummer Lectures are in the works. The committee requested that a fourth “simple text element” be added to the three that the committee previously recommended for use in all ILYM publications (author and committee name, date of publication (month/year), and “Illinois Yearly Meeting.” The additional text element is the ILYM website address, www.ilym.org. The committee requested that inclusion of all four “text elements” in ILYM print publications become the policy of the yearly meeting. Janice Domanik proposed that all four text elements be included on all brochures, pamphlets, and similar works published in print form by and for ILYM, and that publication of such materials will occur only after approval by the appropriate ILYM committee. Meeting approved. The committee further requested that the ILYM Handbook be amended to reflect the new policy. Meeting approved.

Minute 12 Roy Treadway reported for the Stewards. The Stewards have coordinated the renovation of the accessible entrance to the Clear Creek House, which is now almost completed and ready for final inspection. The Stewards have also arranged for the Dancing Rabbit group to begin demolition of the Long Metal Shed, milk shed, and brush pile south of the Clear Creek House at the beginning of November.

Minute 13 Janice Domanik announced that Nancy Finke and Margaret Katranides have been appointed to the Naming Committee.

Minute 14 Janice reported that she sent a number of letters on the subject of reducing military spending to representatives and senators in the four states represented within ILYM, as directed at the 2012 annual sessions (Minute 54) in response to a request from the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL). She has received only one response to date, from Illinois Senator Richard Durbin.

Minute 15 Janice has learned of a Friends meeting in Starkville, Mississippi, that does not have a home in any yearly meeting. She asked that we consider inviting them to our 2013 annual sessions. Meeting approved.

Minute 16 Meeting minuted its enthusiastic gratitude to Clear Creek Meeting for hosting this gathering and providing delightful and plentiful luncheon fare.

Minute 17 Chip Rorem reported for the Site Envisioning Committee. After presenting an overview of the committee’s priorities and ongoing tasks, many of which involve working with other ILYM committees, Chip noted that the committee is in the process of discerning whether it should continue beyond the current year, or if other committees can be charged with carrying the site plan into the future.

Minute 18 Jeannie Marvin of Clear Creek Meeting presented an offer from Betty Wolf and her daughter Jan Wolf to donate a house to ILYM, to be subsequently moved to

the ILYM site. Betty would like the yearly meeting to decide whether to do this at the 2013 annual sessions, although if approved the move would not need to take place for several years. Carol Bartles reported that moving the house would cost in the neighborhood of \$20-25,000 in 2012 dollars. Janice Domanik proposed that the Site Envisioning, Maintenance and Planning, and Finance committees and the Stewards take primary responsibility for beginning the discernment process concerning this offer, and that a progress report be given at Continuing Committee in March in preparation for a decision at the 2013 annual sessions. Meeting approved. Members of Clear Creek Meeting are offering a tour of the house following today's session.

Minute 19 Carol Bartles reported for the Ad Hoc Property Use Committee. This committee was commissioned at the 2012 annual sessions (Minute 34) to develop oversight processes for the use of our site for programs, retreats, and other activities. The committee is intended to consist of representatives from the Stewards, from several permanent ILYM committees, and from Adult Young Friends, High School Friends, and Clear Creek Meeting, almost all of which groups are currently represented. The members of the committee are Ashlee Miller-Berry, co-clerk (Adult Young Friends and Finance Committee), Sarah Pavlovic, co-clerk (Environmental Concerns), Breeze Richardson (Peace Resources), Bridget Rorem (Ministry & Advancement), Carol Bartles (Stewards), Judy Wolicki (Field Secretary), Diane Dennis (Maintenance & Planning), Sharon Haworth (Administrative Coordinator), Beth Schobernd (Clear Creek), Becky Morris (Clear Creek), Chip Rorem (Site Envisioning), Bruce Kanarek (Finance) and Janice Domanik (ILYM Clerk). The committee has researched and discussed several issues, including insurance, food safety, accessibility, tax responsibilities, programmatic aspects, and potential uses of the property.

Minute 20 Janice Domanik presented highlights from the report of the Peace Resources Committee prepared by committee clerk Breeze Richardson. The committee's latest initiative is the Quaker Peacemakers Archive Project. The reflections of the first interviewees, Sandra Tamari and Dick Ashdown, on peacemaking can be accessed at peaceresources@wordpress.com. More such recordings will be made soon. The committee hosted a workshop at the Clear Creek site on October 13, with another program planned for Spring 2013 on a date to be announced in the near future.

Minute 21 Noel Pavlovic reported for the Environmental Concerns Committee. The ECC has presented a report to the ad hoc Property Use Committee about its priorities for our property. The committee has also appointed subcommittees to deal with the projects concerning the site that it considers most important.

Minute 22 Roy Treadway reported for Quaker Earthcare Witness. QEW recently met at the Cenacle in Chicago to celebrate its 25th anniversary. The theme of the meeting was "Biodiversity and Food." QEW plans to expand its outreach to yearly and monthly meetings. The group is seeking grants for specific projects, and will request that ILYM restore its previous contribution of \$250 to QEW for fiscal '14.

Minute 23 Judy Wolicki addressed the meeting in her capacity as Field Secretary. During the past four months Judy has continued to read, reflect, and to work on how she

can be an active and energizing agent for ILYM and its member meetings and worship groups. Currently, her primary focus is on helping to build and foster community and communication. Judy referred those present to her advance report for details of her recent activities.

Minute 24 Chris Goode read the report of the Youth Oversight Committee prepared by Kate Gunnell. The committee has appointed Rose Dennis as Youth Coordinator, succeeding Javaughn Fernanders, who served with distinction in that capacity and will continue to be involved with ILYM teens. Quakes and other activities, including more substantial outreach on the part of the committee, are in various stages of planning.

Minute 25 Nancy Finke reported for Naming Committee in the absence of committee clerk Margaret Katranides. The committee will bring forth two names for the Nominating Committee at Continuing Committee in March.

Minute 26 Janice Domanik reported that the Handbook Committee is working to incorporate all of the approved changes from the last two years into a comprehensive revision, and that the committee intends to bring the updated and revised Handbook to Continuing Committee in March.

Minute 27 Janice reported that several parents of ILYM youth have asked for a review of the impact of the changed time for annual sessions that was implemented several years ago. Due to the fact that the Chicago Public Schools will not conclude the school year by mid-June in 2013 and 2014, the current schedule for the annual sessions will become problematic for some. The Clerk asked Friends who are present at Continuing Committee to ask other Friends what they believe the effect of the change in the ILYM annual sessions from late July to mid-June has been. On the basis of the response to this question, Janice will try to formulate a proposal for Friends to consider at the March session of Continuing Committee. It was proposed that Janice additionally write a letter to ILYM meeting representatives, asking them to solicit feedback on this issue. Meeting approved.

Minute 28 Friends updated the meeting on the state of preparations for the 2013 annual sessions. Beth Schobernd reported on programming and food, preparations for which are being overseen by Blue River Quarterly. Evening speakers will include well-known Friends Helene Pollock and Brian Drayton, with Sarah Pavlovic of Duneland Meeting delivering the Plummer Lecture. Chris Goode reported on behalf of Chicago South, which has completed most of its advance planning on FUN. Meredith George reported on Site for Chicago North, which recommends the addition of a tent for quiet rest and reflection. Janice Domanik will research the cost of such a tent prior to the March session of Continuing Committee, at which point a decision will be made on this recommendation.

Minute 29 Janice Domanik reported on the recent meeting of the Central Committee of Friends General Conference (FGC). The 2013 Gathering of Friends will take place at the University of Colorado in Greeley from June 30 through July 6. The theme will be "At the Growing Edges of Our Faith." FGC continues to publish books of interest to

Quakers, with Janice particularly recommending the recently-published *Letters to a Fellow Seeker* by Steve Chase. FGC will soon be offering “Quaker cloud websites” that will provide Friends meetings of all sizes with a website that is flexible and easy to maintain, as well as technical support for the website, for a relatively small fee.

Minute 30 Janice asked that the date of Spring 2013 Continuing Committee be moved from March 2 to March 9. Meeting approved. That gathering will take place at 57th Street Meeting.

Minute 31 The Continuing Committee session concluded with closing worship.

Janice Domanik
Presiding Clerk

David Shiner
Recording Clerk