

Illinois Yearly Meeting Spring Continuing Committee

Third Month 5, 2022

Held Virtually Via Videoconferencing

In Attendance: Wil Brant, Kent Busse (Presiding Clerk), Beth Carpenter, Mary Cunningham, Helen Dickinson, Janice Domanik, Heather Evert, Dale Gardner, Cathy Garra, Chris Goode, Sharon Haworth, Judy Jager, Bruce Kanarek, Margaret Katranides, Pam Kuhn, Ted Kuhn, Brad Laird, Mark McGinnis, Marcia Nelson (Assistant Clerk), Julia Pantoga, Noel Pavlovic, Sarah Pavlovic (Assistant Recording Clerk), Colleen Reardon, Phyllis Reynolds, Bridget Rorem, Virginia Schelbert, David Shiner (Recording Clerk), Bobbi Trist, David Wixom, Frank Young

Minute 1 Spring 2022 Continuing Committee meeting opened with expectant waiting worship.

Minute 2 Presiding Clerk Kent Busse welcomed those present, expressing regret that we are not able to be together in person but also gratitude for the fact that we are able to gather online. He explained changes to the written agenda.

Minute 3 Publications and Distribution Committee reported in writing that it has printed and distributed all Fall yearly meeting publications (*Minute Book*, Plummer Lecture, and directory). Report accepted.

Minute 4 The Clerk expressed gratitude to the Publications and Distribution Committee for its work. He also reported that the Handbook Committee has completed a full update of the Handbook. He asked Friends to minute our gratitude to both committees for their good work. Approved.

Minute 5 Colleen Reardon reported for the Personnel Committee. The committee has been reviewing job descriptions to ensure they all are up to date and complete. As part of their work in continuing to discern on matters of pay equity, they have contacted other yearly meetings in order to understand their agreements and expectations of part-time employees. The issues involved are complex and require further discernment. The committee will be providing further feedback to the Children's Religious Education Committee on the job description and related issues for an RE Coordinator. They are also working with the Maintenance, Planning and Envisioning Committee to consider the legal and tax implications of our agreement with the caretaker, Judy Reese. Report accepted.

Minute 6 Dale Gardner reported for the Youth Oversight Committee. The YO Coordinator, Liam Gardner, took a leave of absence from his position last fall. He has since returned to his role, and is currently working with the committee on a program for ILYM Annual Sessions. They hope that those sessions will be held in person, but are preparing alternative programming in case that is not possible. Liam and members of the committee will be reaching out to the clerks of each meeting to identify any youth entering or already in high school and how to best reach them about participating. Those who know of such youth are asked to send contact information for them and/or their parents to Liam Gardner via the ILYM website. Report accepted.

Minute 7 Dale Gardner reported for the Children's Religious Education Committee. The committee is hoping for more-or-less normal annual sessions at McNabb this year. Children's numbers have dwindled during the pandemic years, and the committee does not believe that will improve until we return to meeting in person. If annual sessions are not held at McNabb this summer, they will consider sponsoring a gathering for youth and their families on the meetinghouse grounds. The committee is pleased with the work that Charlotta Koppanyi has done and looks forward to another summer under her tutorship. They are updating the CRE coordinator's job description to clarify some issues brought up by Personnel

Committee. Dale asked for meetings to forward contact information for any new families in meeting to any committee member. Report accepted.

Minute 8 Noel Pavlovic reported for the Environmental Concerns Committee. The committee has finalized the general layout of the wildflower pollinator garden at the ILYM campus, and has agreed on which plants will be planted there. Planting is planned for early June. Report accepted.

Minute 9 Treasurer Ted Kuhn reported that the financial state of the yearly meeting is good. He expects that we will make budget by the end of the fiscal year. As of mid-February, net assets were up approximately \$35,000 from the end of fiscal '21. He noted that the budget that was printed in the 2021 *Minute Book* was not the one that was approved. The approved budget for 21-22 is at ilym.org/minute-books. Report accepted.

Minute 10 Ted Kuhn reported on behalf of the Finance Committee. As the Treasurer's report shows, the yearly meeting is blessed with support from meetings and individuals that are covering our needs, and there are reserves that can support any initiatives the yearly meeting agrees to support. Since Fall Continuing Committee, the Finance Committee and Finance Review Committee have approved funding above the approved budget for several items. Committees are asked to send their budget requests to Ted by mid-April for possible inclusion in his draft budget. Finance Committee will season the Treasurer's draft budget at its spring meeting and forward it in time to be included in advance documents for the annual sessions in June. The committee plans to host a Budget Preview Webinar on June 5 for those who want to better understand the budget proposal in the advance documents before the annual sessions. Report accepted.

Minute 11 Frank Young reported on behalf of the Development Committee. Work on the ilym.org website that deals with support for the yearly meeting is now completed. Friends are asked to contact the Development Committee if they believe that anything on the site is amiss. The link is ilym.org/SupportingILYM. Contributions from individuals for the current fiscal year are on track to exceed the budgeted amount of \$34,000. Since the yearly meeting typically underspends its budget in certain areas, this will result in welcome additions to our reserves. However, since it is possible that we have been neglecting certain items that may need attention, the Meeting might want to consider whether appeals for specific projects (perhaps ones not yet authorized by the yearly meeting) would be appropriate. Report accepted.

Minute 12 Minutes 1-11 were approved.

Minute 13 The Stewards reported in writing that they are assisting the Maintenance, Planning and Envisioning Committee in completing their work, which includes coordinating the work of the Caretaker, Judy Reese. Report accepted.

Minute 14 Chris Goode reported for the Maintenance, Planning and Envisioning Committee. The work to repair the barn and shed roofs and replace a skylight was done in the fall at a slightly lower cost than expected. Due to unexpected water system issues at Clear Creek House, a new water conditioner was installed, the water tank and some plumbing hardware were repaired, and the tankless water heater was flushed out. The committee will schedule Tieman Builders to do repairs to the meetinghouse east and front porch and steps this spring prior to Annual Sessions, and hopefully prior to Women's Weekend. The committee is also procuring pricing to finish other ongoing projects on the campus and to paint

many of the buildings on the meetinghouse grounds. Several other projects will need attention in the next year or two. The committee will start to organize those projects and obtain pricing on them to present at Annual Sessions. Development of a Maintenance Planning Guide is planned for later this year. MP&E cordially invites everyone to participate in Spring Workday, which will be on Saturday, May 7. The committee would also like to revise and update the campus plan soon, with the help of the meeting. Friends are invited to send their views on the subject to an MP&E member or a Steward. The committee reiterated its recommendation to hold Fall Continuing Committee later in October so that Fall Workday can be held earlier, thus allowing more participation in the latter. Report accepted.

Minute 15 Minutes 12-14 were approved.

Minute 16 In response to the MP&E request, and in order to have Fall Workday take place when the weather is conducive to it, Friends agreed to recommend to the Annual Sessions that Fall Continuing Committee in 2022 take place later in October than has been the case in recent years, with the expectation of continuing this practice into the future. Approved.

Minute 17 Field Secretary Brad Laird encouraged us to listen to each other's grief, stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic, and to let the poetry of shared grief nurture us. He reminded us that we as Quakers remain committed to undertaking action toward social justice. He is working on the issue of how ILYM meetings can become more welcoming. Since Fall Continuing Committee, he has attended 47 worship events with ILYM Friends, almost all of them online. He plans to begin some in-person travel again now that some COVID restrictions are loosening. He will not be continuing as Field Secretary beyond his current three-year term, which will conclude in June of 2023, and he encourages Friends to consider whether they are led to consider taking on this role. Report accepted.

Minute 18 Phyllis Reynolds reported for the Ministry and Advancement Committee, which continues to meet monthly via Zoom. Committee members are visiting meetings other than their own and sharing experiences with each other. They appreciate working with Brad in his capacity as Field Secretary. They are holding all meetings of ILYM in prayer and want them to know that they are cared for. Report accepted.

Minute 19 A written report from Peace Resources Committee expressed the committees' desire to be more responsive to peace, justice, and social concerns issues. Current activities include reaching out to local indigenous people to offer positive support; supporting monthly meetings who have contact with prisons, incarcerated people, and those returning to society through half-way houses; and working with the ILYM Treasurer to secure the funds and gain access to the Peace Tax Fund account. The committee is planning some events, and is in the process of redefining the committee's description in the ILYM Handbook to reflect its changing role. Friends with questions about the report may contact Mark McGinnis at dark_dove_2000@yahoo.com. Report accepted.

Minute 20 Janice Domanik reported for the Ad-hoc Anti-Racism Committee, which has provided a monthly café for Friends to meet and discuss their anti-racism and racial justice work and concerns. There have been 5-15 participants at each such event. Last fall the committee continued to support Friends involved in Indigenous-led action to protest Line 3. The committee hosted a workshop on Radical Acting in Faith for White People, which was originally developed and presented by American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) in the summer of 2020. Those who missed the workshop can complete it as a self-study on AFSC's website: afsc.org/radicalAIF. Report accepted.

Minute 21 Bridget Rorem reported for the Nominating Committee. The committee requested the approval of Sarah Pavlovic to fill an open position brought about by an unfinished term on Ministry & Advancement Committee, from today until the closing of Annual Sessions in June. They are still working on finding an Assistant Clerk and an Assistant Recording Clerk, as well as members of many committees and appointees to wider Quaker bodies to begin terms of service at the rise of this summer's Annual Sessions. They ask Friends to contact a member of Nominating Committee if they are interested in serving on a committee or as an officer or representative. Report accepted. The request for Sarah Pavlovic to serve on Ministry & Advancement was approved.

Minute 22 The Clerk brought forth the following names for Naming Committee: Andrea Kintree, Ted Kuhn, and Monica Tetzlaff. Each of these Friends represents a different region of the Yearly Meeting. Approved.

Minute 23 Minutes 15-22 were approved.

Minute 24 Annual Session Planning Groups reported that they are proceeding with their work. Site (Chicago South) is still seeking volunteers for site prep, including a site prep coordinator to be on site from June 13 to 15. Anyone interested in this service should contact Noel Pavlovic. Program (Blue River Quarterly) has completed the program of evening events, and is still working on the children's program. There has been a call for workshops, and queries for Worship Sharing are being prepared. Frank Young will give the Plummer Lecture on Sunday morning. Food (Chicago North) reports that it has everything in hand. Reports accepted.

Minute 25 Pam Kuhn reported for the Ad hoc Committee to Consider How the 2022 Annual Sessions will be Held. On the assumption that the COVID-19 threat will continue to decrease, the committee is planning for the annual sessions to be held in person, including a virtual component for events held inside the meetingroom. The ad hoc committee strongly recommends that all eligible Friends follow whatever CDC and State of Illinois guidelines, such as those involving vaccinations and boosters, are current at the time of Annual Sessions. Children who are currently not eligible for vaccinations will be welcome to attend Annual Sessions. The Site Planning Group is asked to consider COVID-19 safety requirements and procedures. The Food Planning Group is asked to check with our caterer and Putnam County Health Department to be sure all food making and serving requirements are followed. The Program Planning Group is asked to plan for a program in which everyone is present in person at McNabb, including speakers, and to consider whether to include some Zoom-only worship-sharing and workshops, preferably outside of the annual sessions weekend. The ad-hoc committee's report noted that many new tasks, practices, and other considerations will need to be undertaken in order for the virtual component of yearly meeting to function effectively, and that costs beyond the ordinary, estimated at approximately \$5000, will be needed in order to facilitate the virtual component. Report accepted. The committee's plan for the 2022 Annual Sessions was approved.

Minute 26 Minutes 23-25 were approved.

Minute 27 Kent Busse presented the prototype of an online bulletin board he has developed for the purpose of facilitating communication among meetings. It provides a platform to share ideas, events, activities, etc. at various levels of specialization. Kent would be the moderator. Kent is eager to offer it as an informal experiment that could evolve organically or wither away if no one accesses it. Those present agreed that this project needs further seasoning by ILYM committees, including the Publications

and Distribution Committee and the Ministry and Advancement Committee. Friends who would be interested in testing the system and reporting back to those committees may contact Kent.

Minute 28 Minute 27 was approved.

Minute 29 Meeting concluded with worship and prayers for healing and strength.

Reports

Treasurers Report

Statement of Financial Position/Balance Sheet

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022

	2/11/2022	6/30/2021
Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Checking Account	\$87,269.19	\$137,609.55
Friends Fiduciary-Property Improvement Fund	\$41,632.89	\$40,177.82
Friends Fiduciary-Unrestricted Designated	\$282,174.46	\$203,786.14
PayPal	\$23.97	\$116.22
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$411,100.51	\$381,689.73
Accounts Receivable	\$6,366.03	
Total Assets	\$417,466.54	\$381,689.73
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$5,239.59	\$5,788.03
Payroll Taxes	\$2,057.98	\$698.00
Total Current Liabilities	\$7,297.57	\$6,486.03
Total Liabilities	\$7,297.57	\$6,486.03
Net Assets		
Unrestricted Undesignated		
1 General Operating	\$95,590.46	\$60,625.19
Total Unrestricted Undesignated	\$95,590.46	\$60,625.19
Unrestricted Designated		
2 Special Gifts	\$140,430.02	\$140,430.02
3 CCH Accessible Add.	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00
4 Payroll Reserve	\$43,787.93	\$43,787.93

5 FWCC World Mtgs.	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
6 Maint. Reserve	\$80,495.03	\$80,495.03
Total Unrestricted Designated	\$272,012.98	\$272,012.98
Temporarily Restricted		
8 Property Impr.	\$42,565.53	\$42,565.53
Total Temporarily Restricted	\$42,565.53	\$42,565.53
Total Net Assets	\$410,168.97	\$375,203.70
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$417,466.54	\$381,689.73

Income Statement

Illinois Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 as of 11 February 2022

	1 General Op- erating	2 Special Gifts	6 Maint. Re- serve	8 Property Impr.	Total
Revenue					
Contributions-Meetings Unrestricted	\$32,255.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$32,255.75
Gifts-Indiv Unrestricted	\$29,923.94	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$29,923.94
Misc Income	\$581.41	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$581.41
Bank & Investment Income					
Interest & Investment Income	\$3,610.38	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$653.29	\$4,263.67
Total Bank & Investment Income	\$3,610.38	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$653.29	\$4,263.67
Total Revenue	\$66,371.48	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$653.29	\$67,024.77
Operating Expenses					
1 Personnel & Office					
1A Employee-Contractor Direct-Indirect Ex- penses	\$29,111.74	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$29,111.74
1C Office Expenses	\$830.84	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$830.84
Total 1 Personnel & Office	\$29,942.58	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$29,942.58
3 Site & Property Expenses					
Annual services-Property Taxes	\$994.18	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$994.18
Appliances-Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,535.00	\$0.00	\$4,535.00
Building Projects	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$4,000.00)	\$0.00	(\$4,000.00)
Mowing, Tree Trimming	\$3,900.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,900.00
Repairs & Maintenance	\$1,044.34	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,044.34
Utilities	\$3,543.72	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,543.72
Total 3 Site & Property Expenses	\$9,482.24	\$0.00	\$535.00	\$0.00	\$10,017.24
5 Committee Expenses					

Development Committee	\$305.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$305.78
Publications & Distribution Committee	\$1,876.12	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,876.12
YO Committee	(\$85.77)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$85.77)
Total 5 Committee Expenses	\$2,096.13	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,096.13
Total Operating Expenses	\$41,520.95	\$0.00	\$535.00	\$0.00	\$42,055.95
Operating Income / (Loss)	\$24,850.53	\$0.00	(\$535.00)	\$653.29	\$24,968.82
Other Income and Expense					
Unrealized Gain/Loss	\$0.00	\$8,541.38	\$0.00	\$1,455.07	\$9,996.45
Total Other Income and Expense	\$0.00	\$8,541.38	\$0.00	\$1,455.07	\$9,996.45
Net Income	\$24,850.53	\$8,541.38	(\$535.00)	\$2,108.36	\$34,965.27

Stewards Report

The Stewards continue in service to the Yearly Meeting. We are happy to be assisting the Maintenance, Planning and Envisioning Committee in completing their work which includes coordinating the work of our new Caretaker. We refer you to the MP&E report for details on that topic.

We appreciate the organized way that MP&E approaches their responsibilities. We also appreciate being folded into the process.

Respectfully submitted, Beth Carpenter, Chris Goode, Grayce Mesner,
Neil Mesner, Dick Ashdown (emeritus) and Chip Rorem

Field Secretary's Report

How is your walk with the Light? What canst thou say? What is your path in expressing the Light that is part of you? To what do you hold faithfully? How is it that we seldom ask this question of each other as a normal part of social engagement? Has this become stale, needing some updating? I invite you to *play* with these greetings and find and share what works for you. One answer is to adopt newer frames of reference, perhaps like this from the Restorative Justice world: If you could have all your dreams come true in a decade from now, please outline how we got from here to there? (I heard this line on a podcast spoken by the leader of this group: <https://vimeo.com/208337678>) It is our task to refresh our language, to put a new slice on the apple. Or let a poem ripple through our minds and bodies

Meeting for Worship

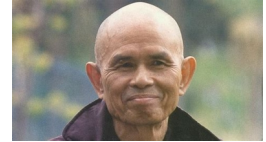
After awhile,
after the settling down,
waiting,
in the deep quiet time.
We are embraced by the silence
that was there,
expecting us,
when we entered.

Helen Morgan Brooks, *I Choose Love*, 1990, pg. 3, available from Pendle Hill

We continue to invent our future in these amazing times. We are reinventing Quakerism in the context of space and time being modified by the pandemic and by our technology. We can be nearly anywhere at any time for meeting Friends and friends and family. Anywhere. Any time.

This is exciting, frightening, inevitable. We do not know if another COVID variant will push us back yet again to our computers for Annual Sessions; uncertainty is our lot, and unity during uncertainty can be extra-challenging. Setting goals and boundaries is the task of each individual, each family, each Friend's Meeting. Change means loss, loss of what was, how we have customarily behaved, loss of what has become comfortable and known. Loss leads us to grieve what we are losing. In order to move, we must grieve and do so together.

This grieving is the emotional compost, as the recently transitioned Thich Nhat Hahn has taught us, is part of that which is necessary for creation (<http://blog.selflessbeing.com/2012/05/transforming-our-compost.html>). With theologian, Walter Brueggemann, we see that the ground of prophetic utterances, the compost from which the prophetic seed sprouts and emerges, is grief and the lamentations that arise from it (*Prophetic Imagination, Revised Edition*, 2001). Listen to each other's grief and let the poetry of shared grief nurture you. Here is a poem from Helen Morgan Brooks (1904-1989), a Friend of color whose voice, among others, we are foregrounding in FGC's White Friends Confronting Racism group:

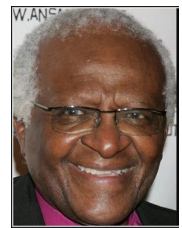


Faith

Tears I've known and pain and sorrow past all trying,
this way I've come so sharp, so cruel each turn.
My faith I've flown as some small kite a-flying,
Atop the wind and sometimes far below,
but always through the weariness of trying.
This much I feel and find it ever odd,
my faith in spite of everything
keeps straining up to God.

(Helen Morgan Brooks, *I Choose Love*, 1990, pg. 29, available from Pendle Hill: <https://pendlehill.org/?s=I+choose+love+Helen+Morgan+Brooks&x=0&y=0&all=1>)

Even as we create our new ways of being, we remain rooted in our past and present practitioners of love, love that means social action toward social justice. Cornel West has noted that "Justice is what love looks like in public" (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nGqP7S_WO6o). I love this historic meme, attributed (probably apocryphally <https://shkspr.mobi/blog/2021/06/whats-the-origin-of-the-phrase-we-shouldnt-just-be-pulling-people-out-of-the-river-we-should-be-going-upstream-to-find-out-whos-pushing-them-in/>) to the recently departed Desmond Tutu: "There comes a point where we need to stop just pulling people out of the river, We need to go upstream and find out why they're falling in." It sounds like him, even if misattributed. It is a good line.



Some Quakers have been "looking upstream" for a long time. One of our past Field Secretaries, Paul Buckley, along with Thomas Hamm and others, put together a 90-minute video about Quaker history with a focus on Midwest Friends. I recommend this offering to you: *Quakers: That of God in Everyone* (2015), available on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=47IXwL-Qnl8>). The moving away from war, from slavery, from the horrors that were heaped on the indigenous people of Turtle Island, and the trust and support of that of g-d found in each other, give allows us to "proceed as way opens" (<https://philipgulley.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/Quaker-Sayings-5.pdf>).



I offer a shout out to two other predecessor Field Secretaries. Maurine Pyle is living in Terre Haute, Indiana, and she is always good for honest feedback about ministry, and she continues to minister to those around her. And Roxie Jacobs I get to see often though she lives in Florida because she continues to attend Duneland Meeting via Zoom.

I am working on some statements and suggestions about language, about moving away from expecting us to be monolingual in our meetings, about welcoming all our communities to us. More will follow soon. We continue to work on ways to communicate with listservs and other media forms.

I invite you to contact me if you feel called to attend other meetings with me as my traveling elder. This is done virtually now. The task is often joyful.

I remain humbled to work with Illinois Yearly Meeting. I ask for your prayers as we move into the future with love and courage.

Children's Religious Education Committee Report

Children's Religious Education Committee is hoping for the end of the pandemic and making plans for summer. Our preferred option is for more-or-less normal Annual Sessions at McNabb. We dread another yearly meeting using only Zoom. Children's numbers have dwindled these last two years, and we do not believe totals will improve until we get back to McNabb. If Annual Sessions are not at McNabb this summer, we would like to consider sponsoring a family (and teen?) gathering on the ILYM campus.

The committee continues to admire the work that Charlotta Koppanyi has done and looks forward to another summer under her tutorship. CRE has also been updating the CRE coordinator's job description to clarify some details brought up from Personnel Committee. We hope Charlotta continues with us into future years.

Members: Alexandra Colin, Dale Gardner, Michael Pine, Jason Schenk, Bobbi Trist, ex-officio: Charlotta Koppanyi

Development Committee Report

Regarding the proposed section of the ilym.org web site that deals with support for the yearly meeting:

1. Several minor changes need to be implemented.
2. Two PDF files need to be made available for access from the ilym.org web site.
3. Full incorporation of the new support section in ilym.org should be completed within one month.

Regarding the contributions from individuals for the current fiscal year:

1. The total amount received to date is almost \$30,000.
2. The budgeted needs were \$34,000.
3. We expect that the amount received during this fiscal year will exceed \$34,000.

Regarding the future for individual contributions:

1. We appear to be able to meet our goals.
2. We have historically generated modest budgets.
3. We tend to underspend certain of the budgeted lines.
4. This results in welcome additions to our reserves.
5. We may be neglecting certain items that may need more attention.
6. It might be appropriate to consider whether appeals for specific projects (perhaps ones not yet authorized by the yearly meeting) would be appropriate.
7. Such appeals might very well be successful.
8. They could have a significant impact on the future of the yearly meeting.

Frank Young, Clerk of the Development Committee

Environmental Concerns Committee Report

The Environmental Concerns Committee met on January 30 to discuss the planning for the wildflower pollinator garden at the ILYM campus. Last fall the cardboard and mulch foundation was placed in a 20 by 20 foot southwest portion of the prairie planting between Clear Creek House and the Meeting House. At the meeting, we finalized the list of plants to be planted (see below) and the general layout of the 10 by 10 foot garden. We propose to have three Leopold Benches by the northeast corner that will face south westerly across the garden for contemplation and observation. Flagstones will cross the north and east edges of the 10 by 10 foot garden for accessing the benches. Along the south and west sides of the garden bunches of the native grass called prairie dropseed will be planted to define the edge of the garden and separate it from the mown lawn. The details of the plantings within the garden are still being developed, although we plan to have two curved rows of stepping stones for walking on while conducting maintenance and weeding of the garden. The plants will be placed in the ground in early June.

Plants will be purchased from a variety of vendors. We hope to get some landscaper discount through Chris Goode with Midwest Groundcovers. The question of funding is being pursued. Noel and Chris are working on ordering the plants.

Noel Pavlovic, Clerk of ECC

**Plant list for Wildflower Pollinator Garden:
colors are approximate flower color. Species are ordered by season.**

Species	Pl. Prairie	Poss Place	MWG	Num	Role	Season	Form	Height
Prairie drop seed (<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>)	\$3	x	x	20	edge	Spring	Grass	Low
Prairie willow (<i>Salix humilis</i>)		x	-	2	focal	Spring	Shrub	Medium
Bird's foot violet (<i>Viola pedata</i>)	-	x	x	25	filler	Spring	Forb	Low
Prairie phlox (<i>Phlox pilosa</i>)	-	x	-	25	filler	Spring	Forb	Low
prairie violet (<i>Viola pedatifida</i>)	-	x	-	30	filler	Spring	Forb	Low
Prairie sedge (<i>Carex bicknellii</i>)	-	x	x	50	filler	Spring	Sedge	Low
Golden alexander (<i>Zizia aurea</i>)		X	x	6	focal	Spring	Forb	Medium
Spiderwort (<i>Tradescantia ohioensis</i>)		x	x	6	focal	Spring	Forb	Medium
Shooting star (<i>Dodecatheon meadii</i>)	\$3	x	x	30	focal	Spring	Forb	Low
pale white indigo (<i>Baptisia lactea</i>)	\$3	X	x	4	focal	Spring	Forb	Medium
Blue eyed grass (<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i>)		x	x	10	focal	Spring	Forb	Low
Prairie rose (<i>Rosa blanda</i>)		x	x	2	focal	Spring	Shrub	Medium

Partridge pea (<i>Chamaecrista fasciculata</i>)		x	-	6	focal	Summer	Forb	Tall
pale prairie clover (<i>Dalea candida</i>)		x	x	4	focal	Summer	Forb	Tall
pale coneflower (<i>Echinacea pallida</i>)		x	x	10	focal	Summer	Frob	Medium
Shrubby St. John's wort (<i>Hypericum proliferum</i>)		x	-	2	focal	Summer	Shrub	Tall
Bergamot (<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>)		x	x	4	focal	Summer	Forb	Medium
purple prairie clover (<i>Dalea purpurea</i>)		x	x	6	focal	Summer	Forb	Medium
creamy indigo (<i>Baptisia leucophaea</i>)	-	x	x	4	focal	Summer	Forb	Low
June grasss (<i>Koeleria macrantha</i>)	\$3	x	x	20	filler	Summer	Grass	Low
Butterflyweed (<i>asclepias tuberosa</i>)		x	x	10	focal	Summer	Forb	Medium
Prairie milkweed (<i>A. sullivantii</i>)	\$3	x	-	6	focal	Summer	Forb	Tall
Lead plant (<i>Amorpha canescens</i>)	-	x	x	6	focal	Summer	Forb	Medium
yellow coneflower (<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>)		x	x	4	focal	Summer	Forb	Tall
Joe pye weed (<i>Eutrichium purpureum</i>)		x	x	4	focal	Summer	Forb	Tall
dwarf blazing star (<i>Liatris cylindracea</i>)		x	x	10	focal	Summer	Forb	Low
Canada wild rye (<i>Elymus canadensis</i>)			x	6	focal	Summer	Grass	Medium
Little bluestem (<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>)		x	x	6	focal	Fall	Grass	Medium
Indian grass (<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>)	\$3	x	x	3	focal	Fall	Grass	Tall
New England aster (<i>Symphiotrichum novae-angleii</i>)		x	x	4	focal	Fall	Forb	Tall
Blue-stemmed goldenrod (<i>Solidago caesia</i>),		x	x	6	focal	Fall	Forb	Tall
Showy goldenrod (<i>Solidago speciosa</i>)		x	x	4	focal	Fall	Forb	Tall

Finance Committee Report

As you see in the Treasurer's report, the yearly meeting is blessed with support from meetings and individuals that are covering our needs, and reserves to support initiatives the yearly meeting agrees to support.

Since Fall Continuing Committee, the Finance Committee and Finance Review Committee has approved funding above the approved budget for:

- proper disposal of the old refrigerators in the Meeting House
- legal advice needed by Personnel to understand the requirements around our caretaker who is compensated with housing, rather than cash.
- much needed improvements to the water filtration system in Clear Creek Houses

Please reach out to Val Lester, if your committee has a spending need that is outside what was understood when we approved the Budget. Val will convene a virtual Review Committee session to season the request and approve funds. We have not heard yet if investment is needed to support hybrid sessions.

In preparation for Annual Sessions, Ted is reaching out to understand committees' 22/23 Budget needs. Finance will season Ted's draft at our spring meeting, in advance of the advance documents timing. Finance is also planning to host a pre-sessions Budget Preview Webinar on June 5, to enable those who want to better understand the budget proposal in advance documents. We hope this will help enable all to participate and focus discussion during sessions on the issues (rather than what the document says).

Lastly, I share the following note from FGC, remembering Elizabeth Mertic's generosity and how the funds donate by Elizabeht will be used. It came to me for ILYM and this seemed an appropriate gathering to share it.

Dear Friends of ILYM,

I wanted to send a note of gratitude to your yearly meeting because FGC received a generous bequest from Elizabeth Mertic when Elizabeth passed. I heard from numerous Friends in your area about the impact she had on the spiritual life of your yearly meeting and on the greater world of Friends

We are so grateful to received her bequest and know that her generosity will live on and continue impacting the spiritual life of Friends. For example her bequest will help keep the FGC Gathering accessible as we now have the resources, thanks to her (and additional Friends) to add a virtual component to next years in-person Gathering.

Thanks for being such a supportive YM to Friends

Faith Joseph

In Peace, Valerie Lester, Clerk, ILYM Finance Committee

Maintenance, Planning and Envisioning Committee Report

The committee members are Carol Bartles, Mark Robinson, Marie White, Dennis McQueen, Casey Kashnig, Bill Howenstine, Noel Pavlovic, Judy Reese, and the Stewards: Chip Rorem, Grayce and Neil Mesner, Beth Schobernd, and Chris Goode.

Our committee met on February 3. Judy Reese, Mark Robinson, Noel Pavlovic, Grayce and Neil Mesner, Beth Schobernd and Chris Goode attending.

Maintenance Update: The work to repair the barn and shed roofs was done this fall by contractor Tieman Builders and at about \$2,900 was about \$200 less than expected. We encountered some unexpected water system issues this winter at Clear Creek House involving poor water quality and water pressure and have installed a new water conditioner, replaced some plumbing hardware, and repaired the water tank and flushed out the tank-less water heater. We consulted with our former contractor, Paul Ebener. Grassers did the initial plumbing work and the conditioner installation and Albrecht's, our well contractor did the tank repairs and some of the other work. The work done by Grassers was about \$2,600. Clear Creek Meeting may make a contribution toward some of these costs. Some of the building doors, especially the double doors leading to the basement kitchen at the Meetinghouse have been blowing open in the wind. We discussed how best to keep the doors closed while, at the same time, not locking the buildings up tight and inviting a damaging break-in.

Upcoming Maintenance: The committee will be scheduling Tieman Builders to do repairs to the meetinghouse east and front porch and steps this spring prior to Annual Sessions. Projected cost is about \$6,600. We are also obtaining pricing to finish painting the meetinghouse exterior, left incomplete by another contractor, as well as prices to paint the exteriors of the HS Bunkhouse, the Foxhole, finish the wood at the bath house, and stain the cabins at the campground. How many of these we are able to do prior to Annual Sessions will depend on the pricing. Matt Miller, son of Elizabeth Bumgarner, and from Florida, has volunteered to help cut up some of the fallen trees when next in the area and will be in touch with Dick Ashdown.

Longer Term Maintenance: We have noticed several projects that will need attention in the next year or two and will start to organize the projects and obtain pricing on these to present at Annual Sessions. These include the meetinghouse south facing roof, the Clear Creek House roof, attic insulation and siding. Also will price structural improvements/repairs to the foundation and floor of the HS Bunkhouse to determine if it is worthwhile to make them.

Workday: Spring Workday will be on Saturday, May 7 from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ECC will join MP&E in a combined effort to maintain our buildings and grounds. **All are invited to join us.** Caretaker Judy Reese will be preparing a list of projects needing attention and ECC will be continuing to plant a small pollinator garden and helping with grounds work. If someone has a not fancy, farm work grade pick-up truck they can lend for moving brush to the burn pile etc., it would be greatly appreciated. Experienced chainsaw users and their saws are also desired.

Raccoons: We have not had raccoon problems so far this winter (knock on wood) and are thankful for Joe McCall's past work to both help catch them last year, and help prevent their return.

Maintenance Planning Guide: We have a fair amount of repair and maintenance items needing our attention and mostly we have been taking care of them as they come up and as things break down. We would like to create a better way of anticipating, planning and budgeting for these items with the Finance Committee, and other committees. Chris Goode, Chip Rorem, Mark Robinson (and Ted Kuhn or someone from Finance) will try to arrange a meeting this spring to try to outline a process that can be further developed with other's help later this year.

Campus Plan Update: Our campus plan will be ten years old this year and we would like to revise and update it with the help of the meeting. We had two workshops during Annual Sessions to start off on listening for the future of the ILYM Campus, and the long proposed project for adding accessible bedrooms and additional bathrooms at the CCH garage. But so far we have not heard a lot and nothing building toward a consensus. Please talk to a member of MP&E about your vision for what would be good for our campus.

Sustainable Energy: We continue to want to use a sustainable electricity supplier for the campus. We hope to have some options to consider at Annual Sessions.

Land Purchase: Chris Goode will work with Dick Ashdown to attempt to arrange the purchase the ~3/4 acre piece of property behind the meetinghouse to even out the land and provide us with a greater buffer from Matthew Nelson.

Repeat of a Reminder of Proposal to Reschedule Future Fall Continuing Committee Meetings: Fall Continuing Committee has been traditionally scheduled for early October, but as we put together our committee report in early September, it often feels as if we have not been able to accomplish much since Annual Sessions in late June. It is often hard to gather people together for meetings in the summer with vacations, etc., and the fall has just begun when reports are due to the Administrator. Our committee is usually tasked with trying to organize a fall workday and that becomes difficult with BRQ, Duneland/South Bend Retreat in September and CC in early October filling a lot of the calendar and all using potentially warmer weather days good for working outside. The weather is much more unpredictable as we get later in October. Late October or early November (after Election Day on even years?) might allow us all more time to get committee work done prior to the meeting and free up more potentially good weather Saturdays for a workday. There is some concern from Clear Creek members that an early November date might be too late for them to host CC in the meetinghouse as it is sometimes necessary to have shut off water and winterized by then. Is it possible to task a committee to look at this issue and possibly propose a change of dates if they find it warranted?

The MP&E Committee proposes that the Fall Workday be normally scheduled for the first Saturday in October, two weeks after BRQ is held, and that Fall Continuing Committee be held regularly on the third Saturday in October, two weeks after the workday.

Respectfully Submitted: Christopher Goode, clerk

Ministry and Advancement Committee Report

Ministry and Advancement continues to meet monthly by Zoom. We visit meetings other than our own and share experiences with each other. Brad Laird, the ILYM Field Secretary, continues to be an important part of our committee.

We are holding all meetings of ILYM in prayer and want them to know that we care for them. We know some meetings are confronting strong challenges. We also want each meeting to hold itself in prayer and the Light.

With Zoom we realize we can be in touch with people outside our meeting and build stronger relationships than we could before the pandemic. We appreciate the opportunity to focus on the benefits of COVID-19 but not dismiss the challenges.

Phyllis Reynolds, Clerk of M&A

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee requests the approval of Sarah Pavlovic to fill an open position on Ministry & Advancement Committee, from this date until the closing of annual sessions in June.

We are still working at finding an assistant clerk and an assistant recording clerk, as well as members of many committees and appointees to wider Quaker bodies. Please be in touch with a member of Nominating Committee if you are interested in working on a committee or if you would like to recommend someone for a committee or as a representative.

Respectfully submitted, Bridget Rorem, Dale Gardner,
Sharon Haworth, Amal Tamari, Judith Wolicki

Peace Resources Committee Report

Peace Resources Committee is meeting via Zoom once a month...mostly. The committee feels we need to be more responsive with peace, justice, and social concerns issues. Our current activities include:

- One is to reach out to local Indigenous People to offer positive support for their continuous struggle for fairness and justice.
- Two is to support those monthly meetings who have contact with prisons, incarcerated people, and those returning to society through half-way houses.
- Three, we are working with ILYM Treasurer to secure the funds and gain access to the Peace Tax Fund account.
- Four, we are planning to host another online Gathering of Peace Friends from ILYM meetings.
- Five, we also plan to hold another workshop for young people on draft registration, conscientious objection, military recruitment, and if a renewal of conscription is likely. While it will be focused on young people, all are welcome.
- Six, we will be redefining our description in ILYM Handbook to reflect our changing role.

Personnel Committee Report

The Personnel Committee has met twice since Fall Continuing Committee. Our main focus has been reviewing job descriptions to ensure all are up to date and complete as they play a role in our continuing to discernment on matters of pay equity. As part of this work, we have contacted other yearly meeting to understand their agreements and expectations of part time employees. The issues involved are complex and require further discernment from the Personnel Committee.

We have also responded to requests from the Treasurer and Finance Committee about budgetary needs for the Personnel committee.

We are working with the Children's Religious Education Committee and will be providing further feedback to them on the job description and related issues for an RE Coordinator. We are also working with the Maintenance, Planning and Envisioning Committee to consider the legal and tax implications of our agreement with the caretaker.

Report submitted by Colleen Reardon, Clerk of Personnel Committee

Publications and Distribution Committee Report

Website: Wil assisted the Development Committee in a redesign of the ILYM Support webpage.

Print: Fall yearly meeting publications (Minute Book, Plummer Lecture, and directory) have all been printed and distributed.

Youth Oversight Committee Report

Members: Allison Boyaris, Diane Clark Dennis, Warwick Daw, Jasmine Dennis, Michael Dennis, Mars Harroun, Daniel Lakemacher, Choz Howard-McKinney, Dale Gardner, Liam Gardner, Fariba Murray

Liam took an unpaid leave of absence starting in October-December, 2021 to focus on his classwork. He returned in January and is currently working with ILYM Youth Oversight on a program for ILYM Annual Sessions. For the moment we are planning for the possibility of both an in person and zoom

based session. If in person, this will include intergenerational activity with junior high school friends. More information on this will be announced soon.

In the meantime, Liam and members of YO will be reaching out to the clerks of each meeting to identify any youth entering or already in high school and how to best reach them about possibly participating. If you know of anyone, please send contact information for the youth and/or their parents to Liam Gardner via the ILYM website (ilym.org/contact).

Annual Session Planning Groups

Site (Chicago South)

The Chicago South Planning Group will be responsible for Site Preparation from June 11 to noon on June 15, 2022 if Annual Sessions are in person. Noel Pavlovic is the overall site coordinator. We are still seeking a site preparation coordinator to be on site from June 13 to the 15. Noel can serve in that position on the weekend. Monica Tetzlaff has agreed to coordinate meals during site prep. Chris Goode and Kate Gunnell have offered to do the purchasing. Pam Timme will serve as housekeeping coordinator. Marcia Nelson and Jan Mullen will act as cleanup coordinators.

Noel will send out another appeal to Chicago South requesting volunteers for site prep as our responsibility to ILYM. Noel will prepare a general announcement about site prep for distribution once the decision is made to have in person annual sessions.

Report prepared by Noel Pavlovic

Program (BRQ)

The program for ILYM Annual Sessions 2022 is coming together steadily if somewhat more slowly than we had hoped. We have confirmed Gretchen Castle (current Dean of Earlham School of Religion and former General Secretary of FWCC) to speak either Wednesday or Thursday evening. She is remaining flexible to accommodate whoever we are able to engage for the other evening. Contacts for that time slot are on-going. Karen Tibbals will speak Saturday evening, and Frank Young will give the Plummer Lecture on Sunday morning. The call for workshops has gone out, and queries for Worship Sharing are being developed. We have secured the usual band for Friday night dancing on the lawn, their first in person appearance in two years. We have a number of volunteers ready to help with afternoon, evening and Sunday morning children's programming and are working with Children's Religious Education to determine exactly what that will look like.

Ad-hoc Anti-racism Committee Report

The Ad-hoc Committee has provided a monthly café for friends to meet and have discussions about their anti-racism and racial justice work and concerns. We have had 5-15 participants, depending on the month, including several repeat attenders.

This fall, the Ad-hoc Committee continued to support Friends involved in Indigenous-led action to protest Line 3. This included providing financial and physical resources for a caravan from Red Lake Treaty Camp to Washington D.C for a week of protest in the People vs Fossil Fuels climate action.

The Ad-hoc Committee has just finished hosting a workshop on Radical Acting in Faith for White People, which was originally developed and presented by American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) in the summer of 2020. The workshop included 4 sessions of video presentations from AFSC, alternating with weeks of small group work where participants have a chance to explore what they are

learning and how this is changing their lives. If anyone missed the workshop, you can complete it as a self-study on AFSC's website: <https://www.afsc.org/radicalAIF>

Ad hoc Committee to Consider How the 2022 Annual Sessions will be held

If there is another COVID variant or surge, the annual sessions will again be virtual. This committee's work and report are based on the assumption that the Omicron variant threat will continue to decrease and activities around the country will be opening up again. We are planning for the annual sessions to be in-person with virtual components.

Program. The program committee should be planning for an in-person program with everyone including speakers at McNabb. The program committee may want to plan some Zoom only worship-sharing and workshops. In order to help reduce Zoom fatigue, it would be helpful to schedule outside of the annual sessions weekend. Please note that any committees wanting to meet during annual sessions will be responsible for arranging any virtual links.

The ad hoc committee **strongly** recommends that all eligible Friends follow current CDC recommendations for vaccinations and booster shots. Children under five who are currently not eligible for vaccinations would still be welcome to attend annual sessions.

Site. The ad hoc committee recommends that the Site Committee add the following to its responsibilities: check the COVID safety requirements for the State of Illinois and Putnam County and be certain they are followed and publicized; make decisions concerning safety consideration including masks and physical distancing in places like the meeting room, dining hall, kitchen including signage and publicizing in advance; consider other good practices such as additional fans; be certain that these guidelines are followed during sessions. The Administrative Coordinator, Wil Brant, makes the cabin and Clear Creek house assignments. When we get closer to the time, Friends interested in these sleeping arrangements should be in touch with him.

Food. The Food Committee should check with our caterer and Putnam County health department to be sure all food making and serving requirements are followed.

Virtual components. The ad hoc committee is planning virtual components in two parts, a basic connection in 2022 and a more complete connection in 2023 and beyond. The committee recognizes that being able to hear is the most important aspect of any connection and Friends are reminded to state their names before speaking since not all will be on camera. We are planning to continue to use handheld microphones for all activities in the meeting room. These will be connected to Zoom connection as well as the speakers in the room. We will also be mounting a camera connected to Zoom on the north wall of the meeting room. This will be capturing the stage and the east side of the meeting room. Areas off camera will be available. We estimate the cost of these components to be under \$5,000. We will also be having an ILYM laptop dedicated to the system. We will not be putting in a visual component (such as TV) in 2022. We may not be offering a hearing-aid compatible system in 2022.

Operating the system. We will need to train several Friends to be able to set up and operate the sound system. During a session, one person will be operating the sound system; one of the clerks at the clerking table will be monitoring the Zoom screen and to identify those who wish to speak as well as help to know the sense of the meeting. We will also need two people to run the microphones. We will recommend the following: under Individuals with Specific Responsibilities have an adult trained in operating the system to train as many individuals as possible on the set up and running of the system, to be sure we have Friends (through the sign up or other means) to be runners. The Clerk's Committee will determine who will read the Zoom screen. We will ask Adult Young Friends, the Youth Oversight, and the Children's Religious Education Committee to identify Friends who could act as runners reminding them that this could count as service hours on school or scouting projects.