Harley Clarke Citizens’ Committee
Consolidated Options List
As of March 11, 2015

Note: These are options suggested by residents to members of the Committee, sent via email at harleyclarkemansion@cityofevanston.org, posted through public forums such as comment boards, or mentioned at the Meetings during the public comment period. Additional options may be identified and added in the future.

The Committee’s mission is to “identify, develop, and evaluate the viability of options in the context of the criteria developed by the Committee.” The Committee has unanimously agreed that it will not consider any option in which the beach or access to the beach does not remain publicly owned. Many of these options will require clearer funding mechanism to increase their viability. The Committee will report back to the City Council in early June 2015 and the ultimate decision regarding Harley Clarke will be made by the Evanston City Council.

1. Demolish Mansion; Convert into Green Space
   a. Restore Jen Jensen Gardens, Convert into Green Space
   b. Convert into Community Garden
   c. Convert into Permanent Farmer’s Market
   d. Convert into an amphitheater for outdoor concerts and events
   e. Convert into a public camp ground
   f. Partner with the Chicago Botanic Gardens to Create Conservancy

2. Demolish Mansion
   a. Build a smaller permanent structure with commercial kitchen for events
   b. Build a public pool / water park

3. Move the Building to Another Location (Paid for by a Private Party)

4. Renovate the Building(s); Convert Space
a. Convert into a restaurant

b. Convert into an event space

c. Convert into a “center” (e.g., Food Learning Center, Health Living Center, Community Space)

d. Convert into a Museum or Gallery (e.g., Vivian Meier)

e. Convert into Winter Indoor Market

f. Convert into a Non-Profit Incubator Space

g. Convert into a Youth Hostel

h. Convert into a Lakeside Nature Center

i. Convert into Evanston Ecology Center; Close & Deconstruct Existing Ecology Center

j. Convert into D-65 Drop Off Day Center

k. Convert into Senior Center

l. Convert into a Camp Destination (indoor and outdoor camping)

m. Convert into a Classic, Carnival like “Fun” House

n. Convert into Park District Headquarters; Consolidating Park District

5. Renovate the Coach House; Sell or Lease for Residential Occupants

   a. Create Artist in Residence Program

6. IDNR Coastal Management Office and Lake Michigan Nature Center

7. Sell the Property to a Developer, Convert into R-1 for Residential Lots

8. Sell the Building(s) and Land Underneath; Convert to a B&B/Boutique Hotel (e.g., Pritzker like solution)
Funding Suggestions for Publicly Owned Solution

- City Tax Levy / Reserves / Operating Funds
- Use ETHS, YJC, and other “apprentice” types to renovate the mansion under supervision of teachers, trades people, etc.
- Privately fundraise
- Federal, State, and Local grants
- Northwestern University grants
- Partnership with other organizations (e.g., Rotary, Chicago Botanic Garden, etc.)
- Sale of art work
- Foundations
- Women’s Club of Evanston
- Seek Funding from Metropolitan Water Reclamation District to fund parking lot expansion