

Friends' of Arlington's Great Meadows
Steering Committee Meeting – Approved 6/27/06
March 27, 2006

Present: David White, Mike Tabaczynski, Laurel Carpenter, Don Miller, Andrea Golden, Sandra Ruggiero, John Bartenstein

1. Next meeting will be Tuesday, April 18th at 7:30
2. Notes from Nov. 9th meeting were found and will be written up. Minutes from January 30th meeting were approved
3. No significant financial activity at this time.
4. Upcoming educational activities:
 - April 14 – Woodcock Walk

 - April 29 – Earth Day in Lexington from 10 to 2
 - Logo was approved and is ready for the banner
 - It would be great to have it for this event– **Andrea?**
 - Mike is checking into getting a table
 - (He did and we need to bring our own, does anyone have one?- **Everyone**)
 - Everyone** – check calendar and sign up for shifts

 - June 2nd – Evening walk and gathering of the clan
 - This is mainly a party along with observation of moths, fireflies, and stargazing. Picnic dinner?

 - June 17th – Plant walk with Hilary Hopkins
5. Review of Guide to AGM – **Everyone** please review the current one and we will revise and review for the next meeting so that we can do a reprint. It was also suggested to name boardwalks, hills, and other prominent locations at our next meeting
6. MyRWA Find & Fix for Sickle Brook
 - There was interest helping with this and sharing the work so that no one is committed all summer long. **Laurel** is going to get more information.
7. Invasive Plant Control
 - Japanese Knotweed – Everyone needs to do a site visit before the next meeting. Mike will purchase new thick plastic to replace what is now there. There was some interest in perhaps uncovering a section of the covered area this year to see what will happen. A plan will be made at the next meeting.

Garlic mustard- May is a good time to start pulling. There is a patch to the right of the Finger Marsh Boardwalk. A small contingent of people need to follow up with the work that has been done on the interior of the meadow near the ridge.

Black Swallowwort – This will be reviewed at a future meeting

8. Orchard Lane Bridge-

John, Roger, and some of the neighbors in that area are planning to fundraise starting in late May. Mike is going to file the RDA with the ConCom in April.

Date set for construction is July 15.

9. Trail marking and signage –

Although this is deferred to the next meeting, Mike will purchase the appropriate lumber for posts. A decision on names for prominent locations will be helpful.

10. Public Outreach

a. Dogs – Emerson Gardens incident ended amicably. There was a suggestion to post dog-related hearing on our website (and at the kiosks?) The suggestion was also made to alert dog officer regarding the chronic problem dogs. (Was someone going to do this?)

b. Big Hole & Encroachment on the meadow

Don will turn his document on this topic into a letter

We will ask the Lexington ConCom to schedule a hearing and give notice to the neighbors near Fotler Ave. The aim is to engage the neighbors, not to start a “dog fight”. Ultimately we want to host a work day and get some help to remediate the hole.

We also decided that Arlington officials should be kept in the loop on this matter starting with the Arlington ConCom and proceeding to the Arlington Town Counsel and perhaps Town Manager and Selectmen as well. David will start this process in motion.

c. Arlington Selectmen – After their town meeting we should request a meeting with them

Draft 2 - 4/9/05 by Sandra & David.