

Friends of Arlington's Great Meadows  
Steering Committee  
November 15, 2006  
(Approved 12/11/06)

Present: David White, Mike Tabaczynski, Sandra Ruggiero, Don Miller

1. The minutes of the meeting of September 27, 2006, were approved. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 11 at 7:30pm.
2. Finance Report: The final amount of the state grant for the boardwalks has been received. The total amount of the grant has been expended. Current FoAGM assets are \$7,098.95. Some expenses have been submitted but not yet processed, and thus have not yet been subtracted from this figure.
3. Educational Programs: Plans are set for two schools to be involved in the coming year. The dates are: December 14 and January 11. Sandra's students have begun preparing a grant application to FoAGM to prepare kits of information on vernal pools to be located in schools and libraries. The application is expected to be submitted in January.

It was agreed that we develop a grant program and publicize it after agreeing upon criteria and procedures. The idea is that we would pay for materials, and that labor would be on a volunteer basis. Members will bring ideas of procedures and sample grant projects to the next meeting. Mike will ask Brian Rehrig if the ALT would have concerns about the procedures.

4. The Big Hole: The letters from the Lexington Conservation Commission to the neighborhood are about to be mailed out.
5. Walden Keeping Track: The event is planned for Sunday, January 28 at 1:00pm, with a rain date of February 10 at 10:00am. The group will meet at the nursing home parking lot.
6. David showed slides he presented in a recent talk to the Lexington Garden Club about AGM. He will write an account of the event for the FoAGM web site.
7. Sandra has drafted letters to the Lexington Christian Academy and the Waldorf School seeking a faculty member or parent from each to become involved in FoAGM. Sandra will make revisions in response to our discussion and send the letters. Sandra said the fifth grade science curriculum includes botany, and there may be an opportunity for FoAGM programs to tie in with that.

8. Invasive Plants: It was agreed that a durable sign should be installed at the Japanese knot weed site to explain the project. David will write a draft of the wording. It was suggested that the sign at Meadowbrook Park might serve as a sample for the sign.

There are two areas of garlic mustard which remain a concern. One is at the JKW site itself, where the removal of JKW has provided sun for garlic mustard to grow. The other is the area at the west end of the Finger Marsh Boardwalk, where garlic mustard has become extensive. No conclusions have been reached yet concerning activities to deal with this problem.

9. Programs in 2007 to raise awareness in the community of Arlington's Great Meadows and FoAGM could include the grant program, the educational kits, and improvements in signage and trail markers.
10. Annual Report – Bring all materials to the December 11 meeting for review and assemblage !

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Don Miller