

FoAGM Steering Committee Meeting – June 27, 2006
Minutes – Approved 8/9/06

Present: John Bartenstein, Laurel Carpenter, Don Miller, Mike Tabaczynski, David White.

1. David agreed to take minutes.
2. We planned to finish by 9:30.
3. Minutes from the May 24 meeting are not ready yet, but Laurel has them in process.
4. We provisionally set Tuesday Aug 15 at 7:30 for our next meeting to be confirmed later.
5. Financial Report –
 - a. Memorial Gift - We received a \$100 memorial donation from Bruce Susnock at 12 Brandon St Lexington in memory of his wife's mother, Madeleine Johnson, who "loved places like the Great Meadow".
 - b. State Trail Grant - We have received reimbursement from the state for the previous boardwalk materials. With the remaining grant money Mike has ordered materials that will be used for the Munroe Brook bridge and other projects for AGM.
6. Infrastructure
 - a. Munroe Brook bridge from Orchard Lane – The Lexington ConCom gave an affirmative decision for this project. It looks like the neighbors will make donations to pay for half or more of the material costs. The construction is set for July 15 starting at 8:30 am. The stringer pieces for the bridge are 24' long and weigh about 600 lbs each. Thus we will need to recruit a good number of strong volunteers for this effort. Use of block and tackle is one possibility for some of the work. We thought it would be very good to provide lunch for the work crew. Since Sandra did such a good job on the boardwalk work day we decided to ask if she could do this again. John has a cooler for cold drinks. David has a canopy for rain protection. The event will only be postponed if the weather is totally unsuitable.
 - b. Trail marking/signage – Mike has priced some potential trail signage at about \$1000. However we need to develop a fairly detailed plan before proceeding with this.
 - c. Trail trimming – The trails are becoming very overgrown with all the rain this Spring. Thus we encourage all SC members to modestly prune the main trails before more freelance clearing takes place.
7. Invasive Plant Control
 - a. JKW along bikeway – The clearing is lagging a bit behind the growing. John (and Laurel) will try to catch up with the work on the cut and cover section. Don and Mike will work out a plan to recruit some high school labor for cut and clear section.
 - b. Other invasive plant activities – Currently on hold because of the JKW activities.
8. Educational Activities
 - a. Hilary Hopkins plant walk – This was well attended with about ten participants. A number of new people showed up who had heard about it on the Arlington email list and seen it in the paper. The weather was great and we did a full circuit around AGM.

- b. Planning future events – Postponed until the August meeting

9. Public Outreach

- a. The big hole & trash dumping along the eastern boundary – We will work on a letter for the Lexington ConCom to send to all the abutters that will include both the hole and trash dumping. John will prepare a first draft based on a letter the Arlington ConCom is using. Mike will provide further edits. We will all work together to get a version for the ConCom to send out.
- b. Dog matters – Things have been pretty quiet recently in this regards. Perhaps word of mouth or the notice we had on the kiosk are having some effect. It may also be that with the increased use of AGM that dog walkers are keeping a better watch on their charges.

10. For future consideration

- a. Long term goals
- b. Other ?

11. Adjournment – On schedule just before 9:30.