

FoAGM Steering Committee Meeting  
Approved 9/27/06  
August 9, 2006

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

1. Sandra agreed to take minutes.
2. Finishing time was set at 9:15.
3. Minutes for the June 27<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved. May minutes are coming.
4. Our next meeting is provisionally set for Wed., Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:30.
5. Financial Report- For the Orchard Lane Bridge project we received contributions that amounted to approximately half the cost of the project which was our targeted goal.
6. Education and Outreach-
  - a. Fall events – David plans to attend Arlington Town Day which is Sat. Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> from 10-3. He will be able to have a section of the Arl. Land Trust table for FoAGM information. **Anyone who is able to help cover the table for any part of that time would be welcome.** East Lexington Fair is October 14 and we'd like to have a presence.
  - b. A "Great Meadow's Ramble" is scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 15 (changed date) led by Andrea Golden (**Andrea we need to set a time for this and we should have a second person for this walk**)
  - c. School programs- Sandra intends to continue the vernal pool program with Brackett second grades. The question was raised about how to make this a more sustainable program that could continue without all the effort originating with us. Providing kits for the schools and libraries seemed like the best route to take. Sandra will try to inspire her students to write a proposal for this to FoAGM.
  - d. Big Hole and trash dumping on eastern boundary – John distributed a letter he drafted which Karen Mullins will send to the abutters (perhaps those west of Fotler Ave.). **Anyone who has edits to the letter needs to email John.** Neighbors will be informed of our plans which will be a fall work project. Date TBA. John also circulated the regulations regarding dumping and rules for conservation land for our information.
7. Infrastructure

Orchard Lane Bridge Project was a great success with about 20 people helping out.

There are still 2 short boardwalks to construct over some wet land, probably a morning project. Mike will let us know when he plans to work on this.

One project is to work out a plan for a modest but adequate level of signage. Mike, Don and David will work on this.

Some trail trimming is also needed. Members of the steering group are invited to work on this now, otherwise we will recruit some students after school begins.

There was a suggestion to hold another clean up next spring.

#### 8. Invasive plant control

Japanese Knotweed.- We intend to plant ½ the area covered by black plastic in October with the native seed mixture discussed last year. **The western edge of this area needs further digging up of rhizomes and covering with new plastic** which is in Sandra's garage. John and Don have been continuing to work with the cut, cut ,cut area. There is some question regarding how effective this method is going to prove to be. There is also concern over adjacent JKW plants getting into the area we seed once the black plastic is taken off.

Andrea announce the good new that the beetles which have been released near Diamond School have made their way to AGM and are successfully eating the purple loosestrife to the benefit of other wetland plants particularly the swamp milkweed which Andrea had planted two years ago.

9. Reappointments – The current members of the steering committee John Bartenstein, Andrea Golden, Don Miller, Sandra Ruggiero, Mike Tabaczynski and David White (except for Laurel whose term has not yet expired) were reappointed for another three year term (effective June 1, 2006-May 31, 2009). The current officers (David as Chair and Mike as Financial) were also reappointed for another year from June 1, 2006 through May 31, 2007.

#### 10 Long term goals

A need was expressed to get a few more people actively involved in FoAGM. Two suggestions were to recruit via the ALT newsletter and to write a letter to the two schools abutting AGM to request liaisons.

There was a discussion about creating a poster or note cards with images of AGM, either photos or graphics, to sell for both educational and PR purposes.

#### 11. Adjournment – on schedule at 9:15