

**Friends of Arlington's Great Meadows
Steering Committee
May 19, 2009
Approved 6/15/09**

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

Minutes: The minutes of April 14, 2009 were edited and approved. The minutes of March 18, 2009 were approved with corrections.

Next Meeting: Tentatively set for Tuesday, June 16, with June 23 as the fall-back date. David will confirm with others.

Grassland Restoration Project: Reviewed the "Notes and Observations" document written by Mike. Mike has sent the Jeff Collins report to the Lexington Conservation Commission and offered them a guided site visit. No response yet. **David** will send the report to the Arlington Conservation Commission first and later to the Arlington Board of Selectmen. As comments on this project are received, **Mike** will collect them and keep them systematically. We won't start publicity until we have given the Arlington Board of Selectmen an opportunity to review the report. There should be two public meetings. The first will be a "roll-out" meeting (possibly in July) in which the project is described and comments are received. The second will be a description of what will be carried out. This might be as much as a year after the first meeting. **Don** will contact the WHIP staff for information on the next grant cycle and the likelihood of funds being available. It would be good to get photos from Harvey Cote to show what the area looked like in the past. **John** will see if Lexington has old aerial photos of AGM. **Mike** will make the agreed changes in the project schedule and email them to the SC promptly.

Bylaws Changes. **John** will revise the proposed language and send to everyone.

Nominating Committee. **Sandra** and **Don** will be the nominating committee and report before the next SC meeting.

Sheila Road Resident's Concerns. A resident has complained that people entering AGM early in the morning are loud and that their dogs "wander" on the lawn. **David** will draft language for a sign to be posted at that entrance.

Fire Aftermath and Trail Clearing for Fire Truck Access. **Mike** will try to schedule a volunteer day for trail work.

Japanese Knot Weed. Recently John has worked on the plastic cover and pulled out some of the JKW on the east side. **Don** will continue working on the west side to remove JKW and garlic mustard.

Honey Bee Project of Waldorf School: Joe O'Regan will prepare some information on the project to put near the hives and possibly elsewhere such as the kiosk and website. A sign near the hives could say something like "Student Project / Please Don't Disturb."

Sculpture Proposal. The SC will send the students a letter saying it doesn't oppose the placement of the sculpture on AGM land *for a limited period of time**, but that the SC thinks it may be in their best interest to seek placement in another location where there would be less danger of vandalism. **Sandra** will draft the letter and send it to SC members for review before the next meeting. A letter to the students will be drafted by **Sandra**, who will send it to SC members for review before it is sent to them. The letter will indicate that it will be up to the students to meet with the Board of Selectmen to obtain approval for the project.

Nature Programs. The most recent Third Saturday walk was a success, with 13 adults people participating. **Don** is planning a walk for children working with one or more other people leading. He will handle publicity and related matters and inform the SC of the date.

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Miller
DEWhite edits 6/11/09.

Draft 6-10-09

**At the previous SC meeting there seemed to be agreement that if the sculpture were to be placed at AGM, it should be there for a limited time – a week or weeks rather than months. I don't recall that we spoke of a specific amount of time at the 5-19-09 meeting, but I believe it was taken for granted that the amount of time would not be unlimited. This matter might be clarified at the next meeting.
DBM*