Friends of Arlington's Great Meadows Steering Committee June 8, 2010

Approved 7/20/10

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

Minutes: The minutes of May 4, 2010 were approved.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 6 was set as the next meeting. [Subsequently, it was changed to Tuesday, July 20 at 7:30pm at Sandra's. .

AGM Sign Near Nursing Home Trail Head. The sign is leaning badly. Mike agreed to find someone to fix it.

Nominating Committee Report: The Committee recommended that Laurel cycle off due to her busy life and inability to attend most meetings. Laurel will continue to receive SC emails. All other members and officers will continue their current roles. This was approved by the Steering Committee. David will check to see if Corinna is interested in helping with fundraising activities.

Meadow Restoration Project: It was agreed that Sandy would be asked to draft the proposal to the Arlington Board of Selectmen seeking approval for FoAGM to carry out the restoration project on a mostly volunteer basis, with contracted help and equipment only where necessary. The proposal should describe the overall project and request permission to do the first year's work – a mostly-volunteer effort to clear the Entry Meadow of most woody plants starting at the kiosk and extending east through as much of the Entry Meadow as possible. **Don** was given permission to pull out buckthorn and multi-flora rose in the Entry Meadow before the October 23 work day to the extent that he wishes.

Nature Walks:

Chris Floyd's Bird Walk on June 6 was a success, with about a dozen participants. **Don** will ask Chris to lead another walk.

Ponding Event: Don participated in a ponding event which Sandra led with her Waldorf High School class at Lily Pond. Don would prefer not to attempt to lead a ponding event for FoAGM in the near future.

Third Saturday Walks: The May walk was successful with a group of reasonable size. The June walk will be on June 19th. **Don** will attempt to get an announcement into the Advocate.

Naomi Wharton's Girl Scout Project: David will ask Sandra about progress on this project in which Naomi intends to create some material about AGM akin to "Junior Ranger" materials in national parks. Is a mini-grant needed?

Knotweed Project: The recent spraying of herbicide on some of the JKW by person(s) unknown does not appear to have had any lasting effect on the plants. In the future, if we are going to use black plastic again, it should be kept in place

for more than two years. Where Sandra and her class planted grass and other seeds, grass and weeds are growing.

Permanent Protection of AGM: There was a wide-ranging discussion of strategies for the permanent conservation protection of AGM, and FoAGM's role in seeking it. No firm conclusions were reached.

Trail Markers: Don was reminded of his offer to make a proposal of locations needing trail markers to guide walkers from the north kiosk to the south kiosk (across the bikeway from Waldorf School) and back.

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Don Miller