

**Friends of Arlington's Great Meadows
Steering Committee
May 30, 2012
Approved 8/29/12**

Present: David White, Mike Tabaczynski, John Bartenstein, Sandra Ruggiero, Sandy Vorce, Don Miller.

The minutes of the last meeting were not available. They will be reviewed at the next meeting.

David will circulate a poll for the scheduling of the next meeting, probably in late July.

Ten-Year Report. John will send out draft bios for the SC members to review. June 15 is the deadline for SC members submitting sections of the report. We have the AGM map in color. It was agreed that FoAGM will pay the map-maker, Heather O'Wrill \$350.

Legal Status of AGM: We agreed to wrap the legal section of the ten-year report into the goals section -- the "Where Do We Go from Here?" section of the report. **John** will write the draft. Don expressed the idea of greater protection through a conservation restriction (CR) monitored by an outside group or perhaps by the Arlington ConCom and ALT together. Mike said if we try for a CR, we might lose and end up with less secure protection than if we do nothing; Brian has said that AGM is already protected under existing laws and regulations.

Management of Entry Meadow: Sandy said we need an annual or bi-annual mowing. She said she'd be willing to organize a work party from time to time, and that if AGM has conservation status, it will be easier to get crews to work. Sandy said late summer is the best time for mowing or cutting to control woody plants (after ground-nesting birds have gone.)

It was agreed we should have a mini-land use plan for Entry Meadow. Sometime in June we'll do a field trip to Entry Meadow to assess what steps should be in the land use plan. Sandy will draft the Entry Meadow management plan.

Invasive Plants: John said it appears that someone has applied foliar spray to Japanese knot weed along the bikeway. Also, Lexington DPW has a new man who is doing a good job of mowing JKW along the bikeway.

Research Projects: We should obtain copies of the reports of research projects done in AGM.

Summer Events: Don agreed to do a botany walk, and Sandra agreed to help.

Project Ideas from John:

1. Look at erosion areas.
2. Return fireplace rocks to the stone wall at the teenage drinking area.
3. Vertical AGM post found discarded near Infinity Pond.

John will do a draft list of projects to distribute to SC members.

Cutting Brush along Boardwalks: It needs to be done. Recommended tools are a weed whacker (electric or gas) or a scythe with hand grips.

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Don Miller