

**Friends of Arlington's Great Meadows**  
**Steering Committee**  
**July 25, 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.

**Next Meeting:** Tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, August 22.

**Entry Meadow Project:** The "tall lettuce" (blue or yellow?) is growing tall there. Ragweed, too. Sandy: It is okay to pull both out, but it is good to sow seeds of desirable plants where one has pulled out other plants. From a biodiversity point of view, we want some transitions happening all the time. But we need to be taking out woody plants so it does not revert to forest. Sandy said to wait until Fall to cut gray birch growth.

**Invasive Plants:** It may be good to cut rather than pulling out by the roots, which disturbs the soil and may encourage further growth of invasives. John said the Japanese knot weed is re-growing after he attacked it with a machete, but now it is easier to pull out. The town has gone along the bikeway with a machine that cuts vegetation on the other side of the guard rails.

Sandy said she is awaiting instructions for a work crew. She said it is good to let herbaceous plants go through their life cycle so that reseeding occurs. A good management practice is the selective pulling of woody plants and simultaneously re-seeding something else in the disturbed soil.

**Trail Maintenance:** Some work is needed to re-widen the trails and the fire access roads.

**Legal Status:** Brian has promised to meet with state officials regarding whether AGM is protected already by existing laws (Article 97.) We would like Brian to come to our meeting in August or September. Agreed: We need to have the ten-year report complete before Brian attends our meeting. John and David will contact Brian and ask if he can come then.

**Ten-Year Plan:** Sandy will write a draft vision statement. At this point, the ten-year plan's section on legal status is more questions than answers. Financial section: David requests that that it include figures for all revenue to date and all expenditures to date. Mike agreed to do it if the project is reasonable. The draft ten-year plan is on the web site -- David sent out a link to it this past Sunday.

**Election of SC Members and Officers.** Don nominated all current SC members and officers to serve for another one-year term. All agreed. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Don Miller

**DRAFT**