**Friends of Arlington's Great Meadows**

Steering Committee

November 14, 2018

**DRAFT 11/21/18**

**Present:** David White, Gordy Jones, Lorelle Yee, Jeanette Voss, Mike Tabaczynski. Regrets: Sandra Ruggiero, Don Miller.

**Minutes:** The minutes of May 29, 2018 were reviewed and approved.

Next Meeting: Sometime in March.

**Updates**

1. The **Entry Meadow** was recently mowed. A check for $200 will be sent to Dennis Busa.
2. **Vegetation Management -** Various volunteers have helped with cutting back vegetation along several of the paths and boardwalks. Others have removed invasive plants along the bikeway.
3. **Boardwalk Repairs** – Nine new boards were installed by David, Gordy, Don and Lorelle on the Finger Marsh boardwalk. Jordan McCarron arranged to have the old boards taken away when they came by to mow the Joyce Miller Meadows. Lorelle volunteered to do some additional replacement on the other boardwalk. David brought materials for this. We will continue with piecemeal replacements until such time as a major rebuild is needed.
4. **Parking Lot Clean-up** – David White, Sandra and David Markun cleaned up the trash in this area and moved away the untended trash barrels. Jordan arranged to have this trash taken away. The trash barrel next to the AGM entrance is being emptied – but not sure by whom. We will remove it if trash piles up around it and it is not emptied in the future.
5. **Nursing Home Status** – No updates. Might be a good idea to find out who the current owner of the property is. We discussed the possibility of their giving us permission to plow the area – but liability may be an issue. There are other access points that people could use. We decided not to pursue the plowing idea.

**Outreach**

1. Ask Sandra about leading a Winter Tracking Walk – snowshoes optional – depending on conditions. Other ideas are a Mushroom Walk or Bird Walk in the spring.
2. AGM materials were available at a table at Arlington Town Day.
3. No new Scout or School projects that we are aware of.

**New and Ongoing Projects**

1. **Woodcock Meadow** - We agreed meadow restoration in this area would be a good project to pursue in the future. David will share the Audubon study. The permit may have expired and will need to be renewed. Since we have funds probably the best approach is to hire someone to do the bulk of the work. Once a plan is firmed up talk to Dennis Busa or Politan to get a quote. The idea of building a “Bird Blind” was suggested.
2. **Directional Signage** – Mike will head this up based on his notes with the goal of having a plan for review at a March meeting.
3. David to post requests for volunteers for getting new **AGM boundary posts** made and installed.
4. David will ask for volunteer(s) to move the **fallen branches** that are still in the entry meadow, left from last winter. We also need additional **pruning** in some of the vista areas.