Friends of Arlington’s Great Meadow

Steering Committee

 January 20, 2020 DRAFT 1/27

Present: David White, Mike Tabaczynski, John Bartenstein, Gordy Jones, Sandra Ruggiero, Regrets: Jeanette Voss, Lorelle Yee

**Minutes from 3/6/18** were accepted as written

1. David and others gave an update on the proposed plan for the **Nursing Home site redevelopment.** 20 some town houses (and some flats) would be built. There would be an official easement and they are proposing 4 parking spaces. We are hoping they will add more spaces as this land is well used on a regular basis. Public parking is possible on Emerson Gardens Road. Parking on Maple St. is very limited and potentially dangerous. There is no land on Sheila Rd. to add parking there. David reported that the town of Arlington has requested public access and more parking. There will probably be no or very little affordable housing in the project. The developer will be refining plans and presenting them to the Planning Board. Wetland restrictions will have to be observed and Con Comm approval will be needed as well.
2. The **2019 Annual Report** was approved with the addition of the skeet shooting complaint. (This activity has disappeared.) We still need to find a picture for the report.

Our financial status continues to be good, although contributions are down this year.

1. **Meadow Restoration** - We approved paying Dennis Busa $175 for mowing the existing meadow last fall. We plan to expand the meadow into the woodcock area this year. David and Mike will ask Jordan for a copy of the ecological restoration notice of intent that was submitted recently for Joyce Miller’s Meadow and will work on submitting an NOI. The goal is to submit it in early spring. David had sent an email on 9/23/19 regarding the planning walk with the Lex Con Comm for this restoration.

1. We appreciate Lorelle’s offer to work on **boardwalk repair.** David has the wood and Mike will help cut it up. We approved up to $100 for the materials. Mike reported that Lex stewards are doing an inventory/evaluation of the boardwalks in Lexington and will include AGM in that work. Mostly it is the treads that need more frequent replacement, but they are evaluating the stringers and posts as well to see how long they will last. Boardwalks exposed to the sun seem to decay faster than those on the shade. It may be related to the wet/dry moisture cycle. It was also noted that the boundary marker posts seem to rot out near ground level.
2. It is our intent to put up **directional signage** to mark the circle loop and a few other points of interest. Planning walks have indicated that we need 18 stations. We want to have our own design for AGM arrow markers, distinct from the Across Lexington routes. Signs will also show the distance to specific locations such as the Waldorf School or the access road at what will be the new development of the nursing home property. Everyone is encouraged to look over the map and spread sheet that Mike generated and note any questions. We may have another site visit to finalize the plan.
3. **Spring events**: Sandra is willing to do a woodcock walk if we find woodcocks this year. David will ask Sandy Vorce to help us find them. David will ask Don if he will lead a nature walk.

1. Sandra added that we also need current **photos** for the **ACMI** “ad”. So please send them her way. Thanks.
2. We plan to **meet again** in late spring. Date to be determined.

Respectfully submitted

Sandra Ruggiero

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