

**Friends of Arlington's Great Meadows
Steering Committee
September 23, 2008**

Approved 10/29/08

Present: David White, Mike Tabaczynski, John Bartenstein, Sandra Ruggiero, Laurel Carpenter, Don Miller; Guests: Ruth Sacks

The minutes of the meeting of July 22, 2008 were approved.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 28, 7:30pm, at the Waldorf School.

Grassland Restoration Project. Mike will follow up with Jeff Collins to obtain the executed contract. Mike will be the official contact person for Jeff, with Don as backup. Ruth Sacks expressed interest in writing a grant application for the restoration project. Her offer is much appreciated.

Nature Walks. The walk on September 20th had 16 participants plus Don as the leader. The October walk will be on Saturday the 18th at the usual time and place. Don will send the notice directly to the Yahoo listing instead of sending it to David for him to relay.

Arlington Town Day. David staffed the ConCom booth and passed out a lot of AGM info sheets and maps, and got a few signups.

Bikeway Celebration. On Sunday, October 5, there will be a celebration of the Bikeway during which FoAGM will have two presences from 1:30pm to 2:30pm (or perhaps as late as 3:00pm). One will be an information table at the AGM kiosk across from Waldorf School, including information on AGM, FoAGM, nature in AGM, and coming events, such as the nature walk on the morning of October 18th. Laurel will bring the table, and David will bring the literature and a camera to record the event. No guided nature walks are planned for the Bikeway Celebration, but self-guided walks starting at the information table are encouraged. The second FoAGM presence along the Bikeway will be at the knotweed site, in celebration of the beautiful view made possible by FoAGM's knotweed control project over the past four years. Laurel will make a poster regarding the JKW site if Others will send her photographs. David will add notice of the FoAGM Bikeway events to the web site.

David will find out the person to contact at the Advocate regarding submitting information for publication.

The Stone Building. John submitted a proposal regarding use of the Stone Building by FoAGM. **John** and **Laurel** will attend the hearing about the Stone Building in Lexington on the evening of October 2.

Educational Mini-Grants. Sandra reported that no applications have been received to date. Boy Scout and Girl Scout groups could be encouraged to participate. Perhaps Eagle Scout projects might make use of the mini-grant program to pay for supplies. There is a scouting office in Waltham. It was proposed that there be publicity about the bees project for which Joe O'Regan received a mini-grant. Such publicity should not reveal the location of the hives. Joe recently confirmed that he will write the promised report.

East Village Fair. Saturday Oct 18. The following staffing schedule was agreed upon:

10:00am to noon:	Laurel (includes set-up).
11:00am 'til John arrives:	David
Noon to 1:30-ish	John
1:30pm to end	Don (includes take-down)

Japanese Knotweed Project. John reported that JKW appears to be weakening; it is much easier to pull out now, especially when the soil is wet. Some of the rhizome masses which he has pulled out were found to be rotting. In the area formerly covered by black plastic, shoots are now growing more robustly. On Columbus Day, Monday, October 13, we will hold a **JKW Work Day** from 10:00am to noon. **David** will send out notice of it to the entire email list.

Fire Road Access. The widening of the fire roads will be done in the spring. **Mike** will follow up on the Knox locks with the Lexington Fire Department over the Winter.

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Miller