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Conservation Commission Minutes 10/27/2011

Arlington Conservation Commission Walking Book Subcommittee Minutes October 27, 2011

The Walking Book Subcommittee meeting was called to order at 8:07 p.m. in the second floor conference room of the Town Hall Annex. Present were David White, Eileen Coleman, Ann LeRoyer and Michelle Durocher.

Discussion Topics & Decisions

At the September meeting, Subcommittee members had drawn out sections of the town onto a map to delineate possible new chapter groupings. At the October 27th meeting, members confirmed that these chapter sections look like they will work well for the book. The parcels being described are nicely distributed across the new chapters and will make sense as neighborhood groupings.

The subcommittee members reaffirmed that in their editing work so far it looks like it will be effective to describe major parcels in more detail and under-emphasize the minor parcels but include them as appropriate in each chapter. The group also reaffirmed its interest in including major entry-points to each parcel although not giving navigational directions in the text for citizens to locate the entryways; the maps will be more helpful and provide sufficient information.

Given the fall season, group members are finding it difficult to check and update the plant references because the foliage is lacking or plants have died back for the year. This aspect may need to be finalized in the spring.

The subcommittee discussed the possibility of considering the web version of the book as the primary version and the print version as the alternate. If we decide to go this route, it would open up greater possibilities for including color images, photographs and to provide links between sections for spaces that overlap between sections. The print version would also likely be able to include color images or photographs given the current range of options for small print-run desktop publishing. The group agreed that spiral bindings, although not as visually appealing as adhesive bindings, are more useful for carrying into the field.

Next meeting

The Subcommittee identified two dates in early and mid December as possible dates for our next meeting: Thursday, December 8, 2011 or Wednesday, December 14, 2011. As soon as the date is finalized, we'll post the meeting and reserve the room with the Conservation Commission administrator.

Meeting adjourned at 9:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Michelle Durocher