



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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10/04/2011 Minutes

VISION 2020 ENVIRONMENT TASK GROUP
 OCTOBER 4, 2011 MEETING
 Approved 11/01/2011

SPY POND COMMITTEE

Town Hall Annex, First Floor

In attendance: Brad Barber, Joey Glushko, Jane Howard, Elizabeth Karpati, Bob & Harriet Noyes, Steve Ricci, Stroker Rogovin, Dick Smith.

Facilitator: Steve Ricci **Minutes:** Elizabeth Karpati

Next meetings: 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Nov. 1, Dec. 6. Town Hall Annex, first floor.

- The **minutes** of the September meeting were accepted as presented.
- **Town Day:** Displays were more colorful and attractive than in past years when there was too much plain printed material.
 - Pictures of how the planned mural on the Boys & Girls Club would look. Putting it up needs permission (may require a warrant article) and more funds.
 - “Play money” poll on how money on Spy Pond should be spent. Results: public awareness \$40, water quality \$410, public use and access \$210, flora and fauna \$200.
 - Samples of plants for identification.
- The **rain garden** installation at Spy Pond Park was rained out on October 1, done October 2.
- **Phragmites** treatment is scheduled for this Wednesday or Thursday, depending on weather. Brad has all necessary releases for now; we must make sure to renew permits as needed for replanting next year and any other necessary work.
- Spy Pond will need **weed treatment** next year – Gerry Smith estimates \$7,500-8,500 for spot treatment for milfoil and pondweed. Brad will forward his letter to DPW.
- The Res will also need treatment: **water chestnut** harvesting, which cost \$20,000 this year. Draining the Res for removing all water chestnut seeds was suggested, but in summer the Res must be full to keep water in the swimming area, and how long would it take to dry out the mud so that it can be walked on? Joey will ask Mike Rademacher whether water chestnuts have been found in any other Arlington waterbody.
- Our letter to the Board of Health about the **swimming ban** due to microcystis algae that was never lifted has not yet been answered. Joey will follow up.

Stroker suggested that we need to “market” ourselves more effectively. We could try to get a high school liaison.

- The problem of **invasive plants** was discussed. Does the state have relevant data from preparing to ban the sale of certain plants? Is the high school SAVE group doing anything? A campaign against invasives would have to prioritize targets.
- We decided to continue **meeting** on the first Tuesday of the month in 2012.

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