



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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Minutes 11/10/2009

VISION 2020 ENVIRONMENT TASK GROUP

SPY POND COMMITTEE

NOVEMBER 10, 2009 MEETING

Town Hall Annex, First Floor

Minutes approved December 8, 2009

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

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

Next meetings: 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, December 8, 2009, January 19, 2010, February 16,

March 9, April 6, May 4, June 8. Town Hall Annex, First Floor Conference Room.

- The Mystic River Watershed Association has received a \$3 million grant. We need to find out whether the terms are such that Spy Pond can get any help from it. Elizabeth to check.
- It was suggested that some students be recruited to help keep the website up to date. Steve will check with Minuteman and the high school.
- Brad will try to get Frances Clark as speaker for a spring program. Possible dates mentioned were March 14 or 21 (Sundays) in the afternoon. Jane will check on the availability of the Robbins Community Room. A program on ecological gardening, like the one in spring 2009, should also be held next spring.
- Phragmites: The best way to cut the dead reeds seems to be with gas-powered hedge trimmers, which could be rented or perhaps borrowed from DPW. If DPW wants to help, timing would be a problem; they work on weekdays, but volunteers would be available on weekends. Jane will check on exactly what DPW plans to do.
- We have to check whether we need abutters' permission again if we need to step on their land to reach the dead reeds, or whether permission given for spraying covers removal too.
- As for plants to replace the reeds, Cathy Garnett could be consulted. Brad noted that information may be easier to find than the actual plants.
- Recruitment ideas: Thank-you letter to contributors to the phragmites project can invite them to meetings. Our meeting dates can be listed in the minutes of the Friends of Spy Pond Park (Elizabeth will do). Send a short version of the thank-you letter to be printed in the *Arlington Advocate*, and list the planned spring lecture in the *Arlington Shopper*.
- Planning for the next Trails Day should begin in January. It could involve planting; we need to check with MassHighway about its planting plans if any.
- The need for a brief "bullet point" about the committee's work for the January 2010 census survey was discussed and several suggestions given to Jane.

