



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476
Phone: 781-316-3000

webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us

Minutes 10/07/2008

VISION 2020 ENVIRONMENT TASK GROUP
 OCTOBER 7, 2008 MEETING

SPY POND COMMITTEE
 Town Hall Annex, First Floor

In attendance: Ralph and Lyle Cadorette, Bill Eykamp, Jacob Friis, Joey Glushko, Jane and Pete Howard, Elizabeth Karpati, Steve Ricci.

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

Next meetings: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 12, 2008, Selectmen's Hearing Room;
 Tuesday, Dec. 9, Town Hall Annex, First Floor Conference Room.

- The **draft management plan** (modeled on those created by the Open Space Committee) was discussed. Possible correction: the pond area filled in for Rt. 2 may have been 4½ rather than 7 acres. Steve suggested including an estimate of the annual cost of maintenance. [Specifics? Weed treatment is less than annual. Maintenance beyond the pond, as in Spy Pond Park and the Rt. 2 path? Man-hours as well as money?]
- Jane reported that **surveying the shoreline** for the endangered sedge, which is necessary to get a permit for weed treatment next spring, will cost over \$5000. For the survey, money left over from the appropriation for ridding the Res of water chestnuts and put into the waterbodies fund will be used. For the treatment a warrant article to get an appropriation will be needed.
- We should have a **compilation of past surveys** and their findings. Some possible sources: Planning Dept. files; Vision 2020 files upstairs; Elizabeth has some old files received from Gene Benson, former chair of this committee; Bill Eykamp may have some.
- The Town Manager is supposed to report to Town Meeting annually on the **waterbodies fund**. Pete suggested sending him a reminder, since there was apparently no report this year. Jane has written to all of Arlington's representatives to thank them for their efforts to get the fund approved. She noted that tax-deductible contributions can now be made to the fund.
- The spread of **phragmites** was discussed. Does anyone have documentation such as old photos showing its previous extent? Does Gerry Smith have any data?
- **Condition of Rt. 2 path:** Pete reported that it is bumpy and cracked but looks solid. At least some improvements, such as filling cracks and removing encroaching grass, could be done by volunteers. ABAC would support such a project. This should be planned for next spring. Pete has talked to John Bean, who is willing to advise us. Mike Rademacher, Town Engineer, will look at the path. Construction companies in town could be asked for help. Approval of MassHighway, which owns the path, would be needed.