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Minutes 12/09/2008

VISION 2020 ENVIRONMENT TASK GROUP DECEMBER 9, 2008 MEETING

SPY POND COMMITTEE Town Hall Annex, First Floor

In attendance: Francis Callahan, Jane Howard, Elizabeth Karpati, Bob & Harriet Noyes, Steve Ricci, Stroker Rogovin, Dick Terry.
Facilitator: Steve Ricci **Minutes:** Elizabeth Karpati

Next meetings: 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, January 6, February 3, March 3, March 31, April 28, Town Hall Annex, First Floor Conference Room.

Warrant article for funds for waterbodies:

- Jane will draft it and will check it with the Town Counsel. The Standing Committee supports it. We'll have to bring it to the Finance Committee again.
- We'll need to coordinate with other groups like the Reservoir Committee and Friends of Menotomy Rocks Park about what should be done for each water body.
- The endangered sedge was found in two places along Spy Pond. Teresa deBenedictis has seen the draft report and has submitted comments on it; no final report yet.

Rt. 2 path:

- A walk-through was held recently with the Town Engineer and several committee members. Ralph Cadorette has prepared a map showing the cracks, gaps, and bumps in the pavement.
- Pete Howard suggests repairing at least the three worst spots with cement. This would be a big job for volunteers, maybe only one could be done in one work day. A generator and a floor saw would be required.
- If the state agrees to remove the sandbar, maybe it could also be asked to do something about the path. The Bicycle Committee is interested in seeing the path improved and may also be able to help.
- Some plantings along the path, or just by the stone bench, could be considered. Some way to water any new plantings needs to be devised. Plantings should not be done when pond water cannot be used because of weed treatment.
- The work day date is Saturday, May 9. We'll probably need to devote a whole meeting to planning it.

Fertilizer flyer:

- We have no way of telling how useful it has been, i.e., whether it should be continued. To some people it is old hat, but new residents may be seeing the information for the first time.
- Other ways of disseminating the information would be by an article in the *Advocate* and/or through the schools.
- Could lawn care companies that do the right thing be identified and publicized? (Are there any?)
- A workshop on sustainable practices in gardening is planned for March 28, 2009. If we can get the flyer done in time, we can advertise the workshop in it and also distribute it at the workshop.
- Dick Terry will talk to Peter Lindstrom about student help with distributing the flyer. Someone in Belmont, e.g. Scouts, could be asked to distribute it in the Belmont part of the watershed.

Other items:

- **Sandbar:** Jacob Friis and Steve will meet December 11 with Clarissa Rowe, Joey Glushko, and someone from DPW from the Town and representatives from MassHighway.
- **Management plan for Spy Pond:** We need to list what was already done, what more is desirable, and who can implement it. Doing a year-by-year action plan with an estimated budget was suggested.

Items noted for future agendas:

- Warrant article for waterbodies funding – January
- Planning for Rt. 2 path – January or February
- Management plan -- February