

**VISION 2020 ENVIRONMENT TASK GROUP**  
**SEPTEMBER 16, 2014 MEETING**  
**Approved 2/17/15**

**RESERVOIR COMMITTEE**  
**Town Hall Annex, First Floor**

**In attendance:** Lisa Fredman, Cathy Garnett, Martine Gougault, Jane Howard, Elizabeth Karpati, Stephan Miller, David White. **Facilitator:** David White **Minutes:** Elizabeth Karpati

**2014 meetings:** 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Oct. 21, Nov. 18, Dec. 16. Town Hall Annex, First Floor

1. **Minutes:** The minutes of the August meeting were accepted as presented.
2. **Water chestnuts:** (a) Twelve people including two from Lexington, with four canoes, showed up for the hand harvesting and collected at least 40 baskets. Martine suggested making this an annual event and starting to organize it in the spring to get better participation. (b) The mechanical harvest seems to have started late this year; Jane will investigate why. If the Town ran out of money in the water bodies fund, we may need to ask Town Meeting for more next year. (c) David asked the Selectmen to ask their Lexington counterparts to help with the costs of water chestnut control when replying to their request for permission to extend the ACROSS trails over Arlington-owned land.
3. **Town Day:** The sachet-making was so successful (130 made) that we ran out of bags and had to get more from Playtime, and also ran out of lemon peel and cinnamon. For next year, bags and tags could be prepared ahead of time during the winter months.
4. **New names:** Six people signed up at Town Day. They and any new names among the water chestnut participants should be added to the e-mail list.
5. **Garden maintenance:** There is still a lot left in the mulch pile at the end of the sunny bed. It should be spread out during the next work day; some can be used on the island.
6. **Plantings for the island:** Martine can donate two viburnums. She suggested some other low shrubs like fragrant sumac (*Rhus aromatica*), which spreads nicely and is our first choice. Hypericum (St. John's wort) and Aronia are other possibilities. We voted \$100 for shrubs. Also, some perennials can be transplanted from garden spots where they grow too profusely.
7. **Invasives control:** David will ask DPW to mow the former Japanese knotweed area. Spraying poison ivy on public property would have to be done by a licensed professional.
8. **Lowell Street woods:** We have an offer of \$250 from the Boudrots. Martine reported that she had an inconclusive e-mail discussion with Joey Glushko (Town), Patsy Kraemer (Garden Club) and Sally Naish about getting more help.
9. **Miscellany:**
  - The cross-country team is not available to help spread wood chips this year, but likely will be next year.
  - The water level in the Res is slowly being lowered now.
  - The Covenant School would like to do a project on the "water cycle" in Mill Brook.
  - ACROSS Lexington will put up the signs for its new trails in the fall; they will include "property of Arlington" where applicable.