

**VISION 2020 ENVIRONMENT TASK GROUP
OCTOBER 6, 2015 MEETING**

approved Oct. 27, 2015

**SPY POND COMMITTEE
Town Hall Annex, First Floor**

In attendance: Brad Barber, Bill Eykamp, Joey Glushko, Elizabeth Karpati, Eleanor McCarthy, Bob and Harriet Noyes, Agnes O'Donnell, Steve Ricci.

Facilitator: Brad Barber

Minutes: Elizabeth Karpati

2015 meetings: 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, *Oct. 27*, Dec. 1. Town Hall Annex, first floor .

- The **minutes** of the previous meeting were accepted with just a punctuation correction.
- **Town Day:** Our display included a kayak but not the Trails Day photo boards, which should be included again next year. The question of having a booth next to groups with related themes (Con Com, Friends of Spy Pond Park, etc.) rather than as part of Vision 2020 was raised again. A consensus emerged that we should stay with Vision 2020 but related groups should call attention to one another. A poster could be designed, and displayed at all such booths, listing all the groups involved and showing the location of each. This idea needs to be discussed soon with the groups that may be interested, well in advance of Town Day 2016. It would require overcoming the reluctance of the organizers to reveal the location of each group's booth until the morning of Town Day.
- **Water quality:** Brad reported that the weeds are getting so bad they are becoming a safety issue for swimmers and boaters. The problem is more than just milfoil – the south basin is full of filamentous algae -- so we need to get a permit that allows use of broad-based herbicides next spring. Dominic Meringolo of Aquatic Control Technology will update his weed survey of the pond before then.
- **Engelmann's Umbrella Sedge :** Brett Trowbridge, the biologist who did the survey, found "a lot" of it in the former phragmites marsh and a few more in other spots. Lowering the water level before treatment will protect the sedge. His report will be the property of National Heritage, but Arlington is paying for it, so DPW should be entitled to a copy.
- **Swales along Rt.2:** Bill Eykamp noted that the swales installed by MassHighway near the Pleasant Street bridge are useless for filtering runoff before it reaches Spy Pond: after the recent heavy rain they were empty, so the runoff must be bypassing them. He will notify Brett Loosian.
- **Next meeting:** Note that the next meeting will be the last Tuesday in October rather than the first one in November.