



Vision 2020 Reservoir Committee

Minutes

Date: **March 15, 2016 – Approved 4/19/16**

Time: 730 PM

Location: Town Hall Annex, first floor conf. room

Committee members present: David White, Stephan Miller, Jane Howard, Lisa Fredman, Anne LeRoy, and Cathy Garnett

The meeting was called to order at 7:40pm

The January minutes were approved without amendments.

Water Bodies Fund update. David reported that the Water Bodies Fund was approved unanimously by the Arlington Finance Committee and will go before Town Meeting later in the spring. The full amount of the \$50k request was approved. An additional category from previous years was an assessment of the pond at McClennen Park that may require more work in the future. The Conservation Commission took the lead this year with participation from the Friends of Spy Pond, the Reservoir Committee and DPW.

Eco Fest “Ready for climate change?”. Eco Fest will take place this Saturday, March 19. David asked for a volunteer to represent the Reservoir Committee at the Vision 2020 table. Lisa will represent us.

Reservoir Committee Art exhibit to be held next fall in the Town Hall Second Floor Gallery. Cathy told us that the sub group in charge of the art exhibit met a few weeks ago. They decided on and confirmed dates for the exhibit. The show will be on display from Sept 9 to October 20 with a reception on Sep 22 from 7 til 9. There will be a cash bar and food at the reception.

The period for entering art work will start in May and end on August 15. Cathy noted that submissions can be made on the Reservoir Committee web site (arlingtonvision2020.org/reservoir). Submission will be by high resolution jpeg and, in addition, a submission form must be filled out. Submissions will be solicited from all age groups, and artists need not be town residents. The successful applicants will be notified at the end of August. Physical delivery of the artwork will be September 6 or 7. The art work can be for sale. Jane suggested that the subcommittee might want to see some works in person to more accurately judge the submissions.

David showed us a mock up of a post card from Cristina promoting the art show that we hope will be printed in May. We discussed where to get the cards printed. Jane

volunteered to look into it. We briefly discussed possible names for the exhibit and tentatively decided on “Reservoir, Visions and Seasons.”

Arlington Parks Alliance. David told us that the Arlington Parks Alliance raised about \$14K last season which is now available in the form of grants to organizations maintaining parks within Arlington. This committee has submitted a list of projects for improving the Reservoir that we would like to see funded. David handed out a list of the projects which included removing graffiti, removing poison ivy, purchasing and installing benches or hiring an arborist to assess the condition of and recommend maintenance for the woods surrounding the water.

Spring work events. David devised a schedule for work days and committee meetings for the upcoming season. The first work day will be Saturday April 16. The rain dates will be the week after the designated date. Future work days will be on the third weekend of the month, alternating Saturday and Sundays. Committee meetings will be on the third Tuesday of the month from 7:30-9:00pm. David handed out a complete list of dates for the summer and fall.

Spring work events. David discussed the condition of the Reservoir Habitat Garden. He told us that there has been some damage to the fences and paths. We discussed how to prevent the inevitable winter damage and thought that perhaps a few strategically placed pieces of granite might protect the vulnerable parts of the garden. We believe that the main path through the garden needs remediation because of extensive erosion. The path is down hill and Stephan told us that it becomes a waterfall when it rains. We will need some advice on how to prevent the erosion from occurring.

Way-finding Signs. We briefly discussed putting signage on the Bikeway to point out the way to the reservoir and other attractions. Stephan told us about the efforts of the Town and Bicycle Committee to design and implement such signs.

The meeting was adjourn at 8:48pm
The minutes were taken by Stephan Miller

Next workday: Saturday, April 16, 9-noon.

Next committee meeting: Tuesday April 19, 7:30 pm.

APA Wish list for the Reservoir - Spring 2016

Priority items:

- 1- Remove graffiti from path markers.
- 2- Repair the eroded stone-dust path leading down to Hurd field through the Habitat Garden.

- 3- Provide funding to cover some of the printing costs for the Reservoir art exhibit coming to the Town Hall in September associated with the Park of the Month celebration. Request about \$200 for postcards and signage.
- 4- Benches overlooking the water. The granite slabs/blocks are a good choice as the material blends with the landscape (better than metal benches)
- 5- Have the Town hire an arborist to assess the condition and need of the woods surrounding the water. The arborist would draw a list of recommendations on the removal of invasive plants and replanting the areas with native shrubs. We are looking for professional advice to protect and preserve our woods.
- 6- Eradicate poison ivy, multi flora rose and garlic mustard from the areas along the path especially along LexFarm and the Lowell Street woods area.

Secondary Items:

Signage to show where paths are leading. This is in progress with Lexington's ACROSS group. Also understand that a project is underway for directional signage along the bikeway and should synchronize with that.

Improve the parking lot, but without paving it. Find another snow dump area.

From the Reservoir Committee meeting 3/15/16.