



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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03/26/2013 Minutes

VISION 2020 ENVIRONMENT TASK GROUP

March 26, 2013 MEETING (approved 4/23)

RESERVOIR COMMITTEE

Town Hall Annex, First Floor

In attendance: Lisa Fredman, Cathy Garnett, Jane Howard, Elizabeth Karpati, Ann LeRoy, Stephan Miller, Michael Ratner, David White.

Facilitator: David White **Minutes:** Elizabeth Karpati

2013 meetings: 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, April 23, May 28, June 25, July 23, August 27, September 24, October 22, November 26, Town Hall Annex, First Floor.

- The **minutes** of the previous meeting were accepted as presented.
- The **EcoFest** on March 23 went well, and 14 people signed up for the Res work days.
- **Work days:** The first one will be April 20. Work to be done: clean up, fix the fence, divide some of the grasses, possibly some invasives control.
- **Request from DPW:** Wayne Chouinard, Town Engineer, sent a memo asking for information for a report to the state on dates of cleanups at the Res and number of volunteers. David will check his calendar and send Wayne this information.
- **Dumping** at Res parking lot: DPW dumped snow there after the last big storm, letting untreated snowmelt (salt, pollutants) drain into the Res. Other sensitive areas like Reed's Brook may also have been used, since Arlington has no good place for dumping. If using the parking lot cannot be avoided, regrading it may help by avoiding direct runoff so that water enters the Res only after being filtered through the soil. David will write to DPW asking where snow gets dumped. (Last year the parking lot was also used as a temporary dump for trees felled by the microburst.)
- **Signage:** Cathy brought a sample which looked suitable, could survive winters outdoors, and would cost in the \$25-40 range. Rachel has proposed three signs, one in each part of the garden, and should have designs for the next meeting. Signs pointing to the habitat garden could also be placed in the parking lot and on the bikeway.
- **Invasive plant control:** We could start at the "island" near the parking lot, or the edge of the woods near the shady part of the garden. There are broken branches in the latter area; David will ask DPW to remove them.
- The **kiosk** needs repair. The list of birds seen at the Res could be posted at the kiosk; it is already posted on the Res website.
- **Wood chips:** We need to find out whether DPW can supply any, and when the cross-country team could help, then set a date.
- **Video?** Cathy suggested finding out whether someone like Glenn Koenig or Chuck Kraemer could make a video about the Res and how much it would cost.
- The **Garden Club** would be interested in a presentation about the habitat garden in the fall. Cathy would be willing to do it.

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