

Minutes
Heywood Meadow Stewardship Committee Meeting
141 Keyes Road, 1st Floor Conference Room
Thursday 13th June 2019

Present: Delia Kaye (Natural Resources Director), Joanne Gibson (Co-Chair), Susan Clark (Co-Chair), Cris van Dyke, Sandy Smith (Minutes).

Members absent: Lola Chaisson, Mary Clarke, Stan Lucks, Bev Miller, Murray Nicholson.

The meeting opened at 9:05 a.m.

Minutes: There not being a quorum present, the Minutes of the meeting of May 9 were tabled. Joanne reminded those present to let Delia know if they could not attend any future meetings.

Update on Stone Wall Project: Delia reported that because she has lost one of her staff, she no longer has the time to oversee the final preparation of bidding specifications, the bidding itself, or the awarding of a contract to extend the wall around the corner of the East Meadow along Heywood Street. She hopes to be able to fill the vacancy in September. If so, the wall project is at the top of her list of projects to pursue. Stan still needs to complete a survey of the wall, which he hopes to do with help from Lola.

Report of Stan's Crosswalk Inquiry: The Town's new 25 mph speed limit may provide an opportunity to reconsider a crosswalk in the middle of Heywood Street. GCG looked at this in 2014 when the speed limit was higher (30 mph) and concluded it was not feasible. Delia provided Stan with the memo referring to the ASHTO Green Book, and Stan will determine whether a crosswalk can be accommodated on Heywood Street with the "safe stopping distance" based on the new 25 mph speed limit.

Thoreau 5th Grade Assistance Preparing the Pollinator Area: The 5th graders from Thoreau worked valiantly, but there is more to be done to prepare the area for planting. Delia spoke with Marcia Schloss, who has agreed to help clear sod and weed the pollinator area weekly. Delia plans to write a thank-you note to the Thoreau School organizer.

Plans for Maintenance of the Meadow by Summer Interns: Joanne felt the Meadow is looking a little shabby and hoped that the summer interns could get after it and improve its presentation, particularly in advance of the Celebration of Life for Marian Thornton on June 22. Delia noted that the Public Works Department is responsible for maintaining the verges, and she will make every effort to have the meadow in shape as soon as possible.

John Bakewell Update: Delia received Bakewell's invoice for work done in 2018 on June 12, 2019. In an attached message, he said he regretted not being able to spend more time on the Meadow in 2018 (he spent 2 ¾ hours at a cost of \$105/hour), and suggested a budget of \$1,000 for 2019 to be split evenly between the two meadows. Delia will meet with him on June 25 to discuss plans for this season's work.

Report and Photos of Memorial Day Event on the Meadow: Sandy gave two photographs of the Battery cannon set up for firing on the Meadow as part of the Town's Memorial Day observation to Delia for her

files. He reported that the mowing provided an adequate amount of space for the Battery to operate (a line perpendicular from Lexington Road from the second large maple tree to the path, then along a line parallel to Lexington Road back toward the Amble).

Other Business: Delia reported that Dick Thornton found installing a floor under the tent for Marian's Celebration of Life reception would be prohibitively expensive. She will assess the condition of the Meadow following the event and discuss any necessary mitigation with Joanne after the event on June 22.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for July 11. This meeting will be held only if necessary and if enough Committee members indicate they will attend so as to constitute a quorum. Committee members are reminded to let Delia or Joanne know in advance if they will attend.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 am.

The Committee's planned field trip to Bryan Windmiller's Pollinator Meadow after the meeting was cancelled in part due to weather and in part to weak meeting attendance. Delia encouraged Committee members to visit the meadow along the back third of the farm field on the road to the Waste Water Treatment Plant over the next few weeks as more wildflowers come into bloom.