

**Minutes of a meeting of the Seekonk Meadows Management Committee**  
**September 9, 2010**  
**7:00 pm**

Attendance

Members Present: Dave Cabral, Cynthia Corbett, Rob Emlen, Cheryl Faria, Larry Hindle, Bob McKenna  
Not present: Dave Pinsonneault

Minutes

The minutes of Management Committee meetings on July 18 and August 12 were distributed and approved.

Fundraising/PR Update

Cheryl reported that Shelby Tanzi has been hired to assist our fundraising consultant Maureen George. Cheryl also distributed copies of a mockup with a logo for a proposed fundraising brochure. Maureen will present a fundraising update at the October 12 meeting of the Management Committee. The committee congratulated Cheryl on a great article in the Seekonk Star about the Meadows.

Meadows Development

Cheryl distributed copies of a proposal dated September 7 from landscape architect Marc Mazzarelli for an additional 30 hours of design and oversight on the Meadows. The proposal includes provisions to coordinate project worksessions and meetings, design for the amphitheater stage, design for overflow parking, design for the pavilion, the re-issue of the granite caps to the entrance piers, and planting improvements. This followed up on Marc's presentation of designs for a pavilion at the July meeting.

Dave Cabral expressed concern that if the architect would be dealing directly with the Library administration instead of with the Meadows Committee, the committee and the architect might end up working at cross purposes. The committee asked Cheryl to seek confirmation from the Trustees that this committee would be directing the planning for the Meadows.

The committee reviewed Marc's sketches for potential designs for a seating pavilion. Dave reported that he had received an extension through the end of September for a substantial discount for an 18' diameter gazebo built with 6x6" posts, built-in seats, a railing with turned balusters and a cedar shingle roof. One advantage of purchasing this gazebo is that it comes with engineered drawings suitable to be submitted to the state DEP for approval to be erected on the cap. Rob made the observation that the function of any structure on the Meadows should support our stated mission of protecting and preserving the natural environment, and that its appearance should be as unobtrusive as possible.

We will be seeking specifications for a stage area. Dave Cabral said he will get spot grades

of the stage and square footage to Marc so Marc can begin designs. Larry said he'd provide help if Dave needed it.

Cheryl reported that Dave Pinsonneault had been in touch with Doug Knotts from Premiere Park & Play to ask him to rephrase parts of his proposal and to supply us with his bid contractor number.

Volunteers from Seekonk High School will be spraying weeds in the Meadows with a mixture of vinegar, salt, and dish detergent. Dave Cabral is exploring the possibility of offering a local farmer the hay from our seven acres in the Meadows in exchange for his cutting it twice a year.

Cheryl has arranged for ten volunteers from the Master Gardeners to come out to clean up the gardens around the Library. Also, we would like to reseed the wildflower mix in the Meadows this fall, and if we can get the Meadows mowed, if the flower seed mix arrives in time, and if we can determine the correct way to broadcast the seed, we are hopeful that the Master Gardeners can do the wildflower reseeding in their next scheduled work day on Saturday, October 16. Dave Cabral said he will get the specs for the wildflower mix to Larry, who will order the seed.

Rob said that increased use by people walking dogs, both on and off leashes, was resulting in increased dog mess in the Meadows. He suggested that we create signage about dog-walking policy and provide waste receptacles sooner rather than later.

#### Seekonk Library Trustees

Cheryl said that the process for spending Meadows funds has been clarified. The process is that the Meadows Committee makes a request to the Library Trustees, the Library Director refers the request to the Trust, and the Chair of the Library Trust refers the request to the Town Selectmen. Our request of August 2 to spend \$55,000 was referred to the Library Trust, which approved it on September 8.

Members of the Meadows Committee have been invited to attend the September 15 meeting of the Library Trustees at 6:00, to introduce themselves and discuss any issues of joint concern regarding the management of the Meadows

#### Next meeting

October 14, probably lasting for 90 minutes.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30. P.M.  
Minutes recorded by Rob Emlen