



Rockport Millbrook Meadow Committee

Town Hall, Rockport, MA 01966

P.O. Box 51

www.millbrookmeadow.org

*Charmaine Blanchard
Marcia Lombardo, Treasurer
Aileen Morrissey
Frederick H. Tarr III*

*Samuel W. Coulbourn, Chair
Shannon Mason, Vice Chair
Barbara Sparks*

Minutes of Meeting Wednesday, July 9, 2014, 7:00 p.m.

Trustees' Room, Rockport Public Library

Rockport Public Library

7:02 p.m. Chairman **Sam Coulbourn** called the meeting to order. Members present: **Shannon Mason, Marcia Lombardo, Barbara Sparks, Aileen Morrissey** and **Ted Tarr**. **Charmaine Blanchard** was absent. **Gunilla Caulfield**, Trustee of the Lura Hall Philips Trust, was also present.

1. Grant Application. Marcia presented a letter from the Boston Foundation reporting that they were unable to approve our grant application this year.

2. Update Millbrook Meadow Restoration. Barbara reported that the Millbrook Project Management Team had met with Joseph Parisi and Tim Olson of the Department of Public Works, and with Jason Williams of Milone & MacBroom (MMI) (via telephone) on June 19th to discuss the status of contractor work. The Team, once headed by John Sparks, now consists of John Campbell, architectural advisor; Frank Hassler, financial advisor, Barbara, and Sam. At the request of Barbara, Frank and Jack have kindly agreed to serve as the team's expert advisors. MMI has completed the field surveys, data has been analyzed, and they will make a public presentation on July 23rd which will reveal definitive findings, and provide recommended steps to take in planned restoration, including costs and time estimates.

3. Future of the Meadow. Barbara noted that it was important for us to get a good public turnout for MMI's presentation on the Future for the Meadow on Wednesday, July 23rd. Sam produced a draft public service announcement. Aileen suggested that we look in to using the electronic bulletin board at the Transfer Station. She will check on this. Shannon suggested that we provide posters there and elsewhere. Barbara asked Sam if he would produce a flyer for the event.

4. Treasurer's Report. Marcia reported that \$78,000 had been expended to date on the first phase of the restoration contract. The first phase was priced at \$120,000.

5. Status of Fundraising, publicity, community support:

Conservancy Organization. Sam reported that the Conservancy Trustees will meet on July 16th at the Library at 7 p.m. The following people are Trustees of our new Conservancy:

Dianne Anderson
Chester Clark
Tim Corrigan
Linda Cote
Marty Coulbourn
Deborah Cowan
Karl Norwood
Maura Wadlinger
Barbara Sparks
Sam Coulbourn, *ex officio*

Our Advisors are:

John Campbell
Gunilla Caulfield
Susan J. Gray
Betsy Giannoccaro
Frank Hassler
Eric Hutchins
Laurie Ann LePine

Fund-raising Campaign. Shannon reported donations to date total \$7925. She said that she needed to communicate with Essex County Community Foundation (ECCF) to arrange more timely and more detailed reports on donations. Marcia asked if there was a list of donations. Shannon will provide her with one, and ensure that she gets routine updates.

6. Hidden Gardens, Garden Club Tour. Shannon reported on the Committee's participation, and noted that we had gained \$137 in contributions.

7. Event Planning

Wed. July 23rd, Future of the Meadow Report by MMI. Marcia and Aileen will man the table at the entrance to the Brenner Friends' Room to record attendees and provide brochures, etc. They will arrive at 6:30 p.m. to set up.

Sun., August 10th: Thirty-fifth Acoustic Festival (12 m.-6 p.m.) Event organized by David Cutler. MMC will provide a table with information and sale of Meadow tee-shirts, etc.

8. The Willows. Because of interest in the possible removal of aged willow trees, Shannon added this as an agenda item for tonight's meeting. There had been discussion of a large event to celebrate the end of the willows, but the applicant had not completed requests and it was not allowed. However, they are welcome to initiate their requests for such an event at a later date. Gunilla offered ideas for "repurposing" the wood from the old willows, by cutting into plaques, or footstools or some other mementos. Perhaps the old willows could be offered for sprigs to plant at other locations, in order to extend their heritage.

6. Committee Business: Minutes of June 11th were approved. Shannon brought up Betsy Giannoccaro's suggestion of a sign for the Meadow, indicating that restoration was in the initial stages and directing attention to the Conservancy website. Cost for an 18" x 24" sign would be about \$64. Members voted to approve purchase.

8. Set Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 13th, 2014 at Trustees' Room, Rockport Public Library.

9. Adjourn 8:12 p.m.

Approved:

Samuel W. Coulbourn

**Copy to: Town Administrator
Director of Public Works**