



Friends of the Meadow  
April 2, 2024 at 6:00 pm  
Town Hall with Zoom  
Minutes

Attending: Molly Ackerly, Lisa Atkin (Zoom), Martyn Banks, Libby Borden, George Cronin,  
Doreen Kelly, Michael Selleck  
Guests: Steve Melville, Matt Riiska

Libby called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

The committee agreed to set a regular meeting date at 6:00 pm on the first Tuesday of each month. The next meeting will be on May 7 at 6:00 at Town Hall.

Libby and George agreed to be co-chairs.

Libby suggested that Paul Madore be a member of the committee. All agreed. Matt will appoint Paul at the next Selectmen meeting.

The next item on the agenda was "Purpose of the Meadow for the Town". The participants at the meeting voiced their opinions.

- Doreen: part of the sculpture trail and a nature sanctuary
- Martyn: education and flora and fauna
- George: center for native flora and fauna, birds, bees and beauty
- Molly: use it as a storm water scrubbing device; arts and culture, music; everything already said.
- Michael: agreed with everything and emphasis on beauty.
- Lisa (in text later) agreed with everything and emphasis on information about the meadow and buildings surrounding it.
- Steve (guest): the Meadow should draw people to Norfolk, stores should open onto the Meadow, the Meadow should be a trail center
- Libby: everything that has been said fits together.

The committee then discussed its relationship to the NVFD and the construction of the new firehouse. Several items were raised: power to the deck, plantings around the meadow, parking spots for meadow visitors, a walkway by the firehouse, lighting, bike rack. Martyn suggested using the brick wall for signage. Martyn agreed to set up a meeting between the NVFD building committee and Friends of the Meadow. The committee also requested blueprints of the building plan and plantings.

The committee asked Matt to tell it about immediate plans for the Meadow.

- Matt attended the Wetlands meeting on Monday and got a five-year extension for the Meadow permit.

- Within two weeks the invasive vegetation will be cut down and either left to rot or removed.
- In early June Native Habitat Restoration—Jess Toro and Sari Hoy—will apply herbicide to the new invasive growth. But expect a multi-year plan to rid the Meadow of invasives.
- Matt has contacted KDF Tree Services—Adam, arborist rep and sales—to cut trees and Matt, Adam, and Mike Nadeau will meet about next steps. (no date set)
- Woody invasives should be cut and herbicide applied. (no date set)
- Libby asked about cutting and keeping neat the hillsides. (no plan set)

The committee insisted that they needed an overall plan from Mike going forward as the committee must be certain that his plan fits with their aspirations as to what the Meadow should be. The committee would like a sketch plan from Mike by mid-summer with a walk through the meadow to better visualize Mike's ideas. The committee also asked Matt to obtain pictures of previous, similar projects Nadeau has completed to enable us to gain more insight into his idea of what the finished Meadow would look like.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05.

Libby Borden and George Cronin