Minutes of the Milton Frye Nature Area Committee for March 12, 2015

Present: Douglas Brown, George Clark, Kevin Perron, Nathaniel Perron, Lindsay Putnam

On Thursday April 2 at 3:30 PM, the committee is to hold a public walk in the nature area to visit prospective sites for the proposed educational structure.

An article on controlling invasive plants in the nature area has been prepared by Phyllis Katz and submitted for publication.

A walk with two additional specialists on invasive plant control is planned for the nature area, possibly in May.

Several potential sources of funding for support of assistance in the control of invasive plants were suggested.

Analysis with software, more detailed illustrations, and other specifications about the proposed structure are scheduled be completed by early April. A list of materials and costs will be needed by later in April. Some of the details were tentatively discussed. Plans include consultation with an architect and a builder to obtain professional evaluation of building plans before seeking approvals from the Selectboard and Upper Valley Land Trust (UVLT).

Potential sources of funding for materials in the proposed structure were discussed.

The MFNAC has approved use of the nature area for stewardship training by the UVLT on Saturday April 18.

The committee plans placement of signs about etiquette with dogs at three major entrances to the nature area. There have been continuing problems with unruly dogs and with the failure of dog walkers to clean up after their dogs. Because children regularly use not only the trails but also the area off the trails, it is important that dog owners be vigilant in cleaning up.

The committee favors use of signs like those approved by the Selectboard for use in Huntley Meadow so that town signage about dogs will have a consistent appearance throughout Norwich.

Respectfully submitted, George Clark