

**GREAT POND PRESERVE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of April 6, 2017**

Present: Whit Osgood, Chairman; Judy Harper, Secretary; Gerhard Schade; Tom Mocko;  
and Raymond E. Purtell, Director of Parks & Recreation

Chairman Osgood called the meeting to order at 8:30a.m.

**1. Chairman's Report:**

Since our last meeting, Whit has visited the Preserve, taken down some branches overhanging the trail and replaced a sign. The invasive plant Mile-a-Minute is present in the adjacent town bowl and is being studied by a researcher who has released a control insect to try to combat the plant. The researcher discourages mowing as that spreads cuttings and seeds. We recalled that in recent years, mowing was done in the spring to control invasive plants and the indicator species for grasslands, the woodcock, failed to re-appear. After discussion about the need to preserve grassland habitats, the Committee decided to mow in late fall. Whit Osgood moved to recommend that the bowl be mowed by Parks and Recreation every late fall to preserve grasslands. The motion, seconded by Judy Harper, passed unanimously.

**2. Schedule work day & plan project**

This year's work day is scheduled for Saturday May 13 at 9:00 a.m. The Preserve will be cleaned up, signs will be freshened, and other tasks as needed will be performed.

**3. Financial Update**

We will continue to keep all reserves flexible in case opportunities arise for the good of the Preserve and Grindle Brook. Whit Osgood moved to forward \$2,000 to Parks and Recreation for their work on behalf of the Preserve. The motion, seconded by Gerhard Schade, passed unanimously.

**4. Approval of Minutes – February 25, 2016 meeting**

Gerhard Schade moved that the minutes of February 25, 2016 be approved as presented. The motion, seconded by Whit Osgood, passed unanimously.

**5. Other Business**

Whit opened a discussion on membership. We reviewed lack of attendance by some members and decided we should find new At-Large members. Consensus was to ask Mark Packard to consider joining our committee.

There being no other business, Whit Osgood adjourned the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Harper, Secretary