

# **McLean Land Management Committee**

## **Goals & Objectives**

**September 04, 2003**

**Mission Statement:** To provide sound stewardship conservation, and management policies for the McLean Open Space that protects the property's natural and historic resources and which allows passive recreation and educational use.

**Preamble:** Approximately 119 acres of the McLean campus are reserved as publicly-accessible open space pursuant to the terms of a Memorandum Of Agreement (MOA) which was agreed to by the Town of Belmont and McLean Hospital. This public open space is subject to two Conservation Restrictions (B1 and B2) to the MOA. The McLean Land Management Committee was created by this MOA (Attachment E) to establish and implement a land use and management plan for the property, which will incorporate and adhere to the goals and objectives articulated herein.

### **GOALS & OBJECTIVES:**

The primary goals and objectives of the Land Management Committee are:

**Goal I. Identify, evaluate and record the important ecological, scenic, passive recreational and historic resources of the McLean Open Space.**

**Objectives:**

- A. The Committee shall coordinate the completion of various studies and reports.
  - 1. Periodically review the Ecological Management Plan by the Cecil Group.
  - 2. Identify, list and prioritize other items for future studies.
- B. Incorporate the results of these studies into future work programs and make them available to the general public.

**Goal II: Contract with a non-profit organization to serve as the Land Manager to implement the decisions and the policies of the Committee.**

**Objectives:**

- A. The Committee shall develop and define the list of responsibilities of the Land Manager and develop and define the evaluative criteria to be used to select and formally contract with the Land Manager.

B. In defining the role and responsibilities of the Land Manager, the Committee shall seek the advice and recommendations of the holder(s) of the Conservation Restrictions, the Land Manager, the general public and other interested parties. Once the Land Manager is under contract, the Committee shall continue to seek advice, recommendations and revisions to the responsibilities as well as evaluate the performance of the Land Manager.

**Goal III: Develop a comprehensive Management Plan for the land that reflects the important ecological, scenic, passive recreational and historic resources of the McLean Open Space.**

**Objectives:**

A. The Management Plan shall be consistent with the Conservation Restrictions and shall protect the property's ecological, historic and scenic resources while fostering public enjoyment of the property.

B. The Committee shall develop a comprehensive management plan

1. The plan shall include an ecological management strategy which takes into account the preservation of historic and natural landscapes, visual resources, landscape features, passive recreation and archeological sites.

2. The plan shall incorporate routine and cyclic maintenance.

3. The plan shall identify areas in need of immediate attention and mitigation options shall be identified.

4. The plan shall include a multi-year, capital improvements component that shall be updated and revised as necessary.

C. The Management Plan and the policies of the Committee shall be updated and revised as needed.

D. The Committee shall seek the advice and recommendations of the Land Manager, the holder(s) of the Conservation Restrictions, the general public and other interested parties.

**Goal IV: Develop a capital and operating budget to implement the Management Plan and to operate and maintain the McLean Open Space.**

**Objectives:**

- A. Employing the Land Management Plan, the Committee shall determine an appropriate level of funding (annual budget).
- B. The Committee shall seek the advice and recommendations of the Land Manager, the holder(s) of the Conservation Restrictions, the general public and other interested parties.
- C. The Committee shall identify potential funding sources, methods to obtain this funding and shall advocate for financial support to manage the open space.
- D. The Committee shall support the creation of an endowment for the holder(s) of the Conservation Restrictions.
- E. The Committee shall seek the advice and recommendations of the Land Manager, the holder(s) of the Conservation Restrictions, the general public and other interested parties.

**Goal V: Encourage public access to and enjoyment of the McLean Open Space.**

**Objectives:**

- A. Establish formal public access policies and appropriate rules and regulations regarding hours of operation, permitted open space uses and the like.
  - 1. These policies, rules and regulations shall be consistent with the Conservation Restrictions, Cemetery needs and requirements as well as the Management Plan.
  - 2. Within the publicly accessible open space, an environmentally sensitive trail system shall be designed incorporating the existing trails where appropriate.
  - 3. Public access shall be discouraged adjacent to surrounding properties to maintain the quiet character of these areas and the open space pursuant to Section six of the Land Use And Management Plan, Attachment E to the memorandum Of Agreement.
  - 4. The Committee shall seek the advice and recommendations of the Land Manager, the holder(s) of the Conservation Restrictions, the general public and other interested parties.
  - 5. The Committee shall investigate potential sites for improved public parking for users of the open space.

**Goal VI: Define and Maintain the Roles & Responsibilities of the Committee in pursuit of these Goals and objectives.**

**Objectives:**

- A. Initiate and maintain public outreach programs to share information and provide meaningful opportunities for all interested parties to be heard.
- B. Maintain communication and coordination with municipal boards, holder(s) of the Conservation Restrictions and interested public and private organizations.
- C. Promote the Committee's role as the focal point for all issues affecting the open space.
- D. Periodically review the two Conservation Restrictions, the Ecological Management Plan, the comprehensive Management Plan and other future studies to make recommendations for improvements as necessary.
- E. Periodically review the monitoring of the Conservation Restrictions by the Holder.