Natural Environment Work Group Core
Meeting Notes of December 21, 2006, 10:00 A.M., MVC

Present - Members: Tom Wallace (Chair), Tim Boland, Judy Crawford, Dick Johnson, Brendan O’Neill, Matt Pelikan (by telephone), Leah Smith
Present – MVC Staff: Mark London, Jo-Ann Taylor

1. Subtopic – Recreation

Utilizing the Management by Objectives model: Vision Statement -> Goals -> Objectives -> Strategies:

- Vision drafts from core members were shared with the result (wording to be refined into a single draft vision statement):
  - Use and enjoyment of natural areas
  - Compatible, appropriate (types and intensity) with respect to scenic values, biodiversity, others’ enjoyment (in the present)
  - Preserve for future generations (sustainable use)
  - Use leads to appreciation, which in turn leads to stewardship
  - Integral part of Vineyard life and Island character
  - Diverse experience is desirable
  - Linked networks

- Issues raised but deferred for further discussion:
  - universal access at no cost?
  - the need to demystify the historical access or the myth/legend of historical universal access of the last century on the Island
  - Charging access fees? (social implications)
  - Define recreation in natural environment
  - Active vs. passive recreation

- Subjects were identified for which goals are needed:
  - Trails
  - Shoreline/beach
  - Hunting and gathering
  - Natural history observation
  - Scenic vistas
  - Active recreation
• Discussion of goals was initiated:
  o Trails: diversity of settings and uses; cross-Island network for pedestrians, bikes; greenways
  o Shoreline/beaches: clear access nodes to beach where appropriate, increase along-shore access where appropriate, research colonial ordinances regarding access rights, diversity of shore experiences

2. Upcoming Meeting
Core – Thursday, January 4, 2007, 12 – 1:30 P.M., at MVC (bring a bag lunch)

Notes prepared by Jo-Ann Taylor