

September 8, 2024

To: Town Council and Mayor

Re: Proposal to remove some of the cedars from the meadow

I thought it important to point out that the sequence of events leading to the Town owning the meadow property was the result of Montgomery County recognizing the value of the property as a remaining agricultural setting of the founding of the Camp Meeting. The ownership is encumbered by the agreement that Montgomery County will lead the management of the property with the intent to keep it within their criteria of managed meadow. Typical of most land in the area, it was cleared and farmed for many years. The woods around us were more the exception in the landscape. So the character as a managed meadow represents the agrarian nature that gave rise to our community and its current protected status.

In particular, the sense of the meadow as a contained space with edges defined by the tree-line, hedge row along Ridge and houses at the ends, allows it a unique identity and allow it to be perceived as part of the Town. That sense of space is the setting to be preserved.

To that end, the space should be the managed meadow as intended when it was acquired.

Bob Booher
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