

1 **MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN BEDFORD SELECTMEN,**
2 **SCHOOL COMMITTEE, AND LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

3
4 **April 19, 2005**

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6 This is a Memorandum of Agreement between the Bedford Selectmen, the Bedford
7 School Committee, and the Board of Trustees of the Bedford Free Public Library
8 concerning the so-called Jenks Nature Trail.

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10 The Jenks Nature Trail is the area of Town-owned land delineated by the two stone walls
11 in the front of the present Bedford High School and extending beyond the front of the
12 Bedford Free Public Library towards the Great Road as shown in the Bedford
13 Department of Public Works Plan entitled *Jenks Nature Trail, Town of Bedford*, dated
14 April 19, 2005, a copy of which is attached to this Memorandum as Exhibit 1.

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16 It is mutually recognized that this area has arbor resources worth preserving, that it is an
17 area used as an outdoor classroom for various departments in the High School, and that it
18 is also of significant historic interest to the Town.

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20 Therefore, it is agreed:

- 21 A. The Bedford School Committee shall continue to have jurisdiction over
22 the portion of the Jenks Nature Trail that is located on property under the
23 control of the School Committee to whatever extent such jurisdiction and
24 control exists on the date of execution of this agreement. As such, the
25 aforementioned portion of the Jenks Nature Trail shall continue to be
26 considered part of Bedford High School grounds so that school officials
27 can maintain student safety and discipline.

28 However, with respect to the development and maintenance of the Jenks
29 Nature Trail, The Bedford School Committee agrees to share in the
30 decision-making in the manner described below:

31 Should future school or Town needs require extensive development that
32 will have an impact upon this area, the School Committee, Library Board
33 of Trustees and Selectmen will hold a public hearing to discuss the
34 necessity of development and the impact that the development will have
35 on the Trail. After the hearing, the Selectmen, Board of Trustees and the
36 School Committee shall each vote on the development proposal. A
37 majority vote by each of the three Boards or Committees will allow the
38 development proposal to go forward. If any one of the three does not vote
39 to accept the proposal, an Article pertaining to the development proposal
40 may be submitted to Town Meeting for a vote. If a majority accepts the
41 development proposal at Town Meeting, then the development proposal
42 may go forward.
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- B. Any changes, other than routine maintenance, to the stone walls or arbor resources which may be proposed will be discussed and mutually agreed upon by the Selectmen, School Committee, and Library Board of Trustees, with written input from the Department of Public Works and the Arbor Resources Committee, and the Historic Preservation Commission.
- C. The routine maintenance and care of the area, including existing walls, sidewalks, trees, utilities and other infrastructure, will continue to be performed by the Department of Public Works and will not be restricted by this Memorandum of Agreement.
- D. As evidence of this agreement, appropriate signage may be erected with input from the Bedford Historic Preservation Commission as soon as necessary funds are obtained.
- E. Nothing herein shall be construed as a transfer or intention to transfer jurisdiction over land from or to any municipal agency, as set forth in Mass. Gen. L. Ch. 40, Section 15A.

This agreement will take effect upon completion of the signatures of the parties.

Accepted by:

Selectmen:

Gordon Felton
Arthur A. Cole
William S. ...
Stephen W. ...

School Committee:

Norman M. O'Shea
[Signature]
[Signature]
Anna E. Bidford

Library Trustees:

Raymond M. Dyer
Doris Crowell
[Signature]
Robert N. ...

John A. ...

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