

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

3  
4                   **April 19, 2005**

5  
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.

9  
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.

15  
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.

19  
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.  
43

- 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  
John S. [unclear]  
Stephen W. [unclear]

School Committee:

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

Library Trustees:

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

John A. [unclear]  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44