

**Town Of Medway
Open Space Committee**
155 Village Street
Medway, Massachusetts 02053

Tina Wright, Chairman
Jim Wickis, Vice-Chairman
Paul Marble - Clerk
Bruce Hamblin
Patrick McHallam
Glenn Murphy
Mike Francis

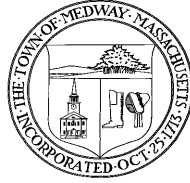
Meeting on April 3, 2012, held at the Senior Center

Attendance	Tina	Jim	Paul	Pat	Glenn	Bruce	Mike
Present	x	x		x	x	x	x
Absent with notice			x				
Absent without notice							

Members of the public: six members of the Sanford Mill Condominium Association

The meeting was called to order at 7:15pm by the Chairperson, Tina Wright. Comments from the public: The members of the Sanford Mill Association preferred to discuss issues related to the Amphitheater project when that item was reached on the agenda.

1. The minutes of the February, 2012 meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes as written was made by Pat McHallam, and seconded by Tina Wright. All committee members voted to accept the motion.
2. Amphitheater project. This item was discussed at length by all members of the committee and all attendees from the Sanford Mill Condominium Association (SMCA). Jim Wickis was asked to provide an initial statement on the progress and further goals on this project. Discussion by all attending then ensued. Tina Wright began by stating that a maintenance plan is needed, with a schedule, and with DPS. SMCA member, a kayaker, questioned the feasibility of a canoe launch, believing the river is too low. Pat McHallam, a kayaker, believes the river level is sufficient. SCMA member stated that there is no parking for any visitors to the Amphitheater on SCMA grounds, that signage to this effect is needed. Tina Wright said that parking is planned within the Amphitheater, probably two handicapped and one for canoe dropoff/pickup. Tina Wright said there is a need to differentiate the Amphitheater area from the SMCA and apartment areas. SMCA members stated that outside visitors are using their dumpsters, fishing, and parking on SMCA land. Tina Wright said that the SMCA needs to enforce their restrictions. Jim Wickis suggested that an announcement of restrictions be made on the OSC website. SMCA member stated that the OSC should have known there would be problems with visitors. Tina Wright asked SMCA how to make conditions better, that the OSC is working on how to drive to the right place. SMCA member said there had been a sign that was knocked down, and there is a



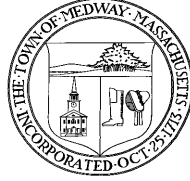
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need to pay for more signs. Tina Wright said the OSC will work on signs and on parking. SMCA member said that the visitor problem is getting worse, and some visitors are stating they are visiting the open space area. Bruce Hamblin said that handicapped access is necessary, especially since no town parks has such access. Mike Francis explained that the OSC is just trying to develop access for all residents. Bruce Hamblin said that the SMCA should push the Board of Selectmen to develop access. There was then a discussion of the newly outlined boundaries, and the corner post on the hillside, which no one present could explain. Tina Wright explained that, if possible, the preferred walking route into the Amphitheater is down that hillside, if an easement can be obtained. SMCA member said that litter is a problem, that trespassers arrive on both weekdays and weekends. Mike Francis thought that there are several possibilities for signs and offered to meet with SMCA to discuss sign possibilities. SMCA members voiced approval of this idea. Tina Wright described several possible canoe launch sites in Medway, but SMCA members asked for no canoe launch at the Amphitheater. SMCA member stated that walking through the driveway easement is not a good and pleasant access, that it is invasive, and doesn't think the OSC is listening and understanding or showing any compassion, that their concerns are not being heard. Pat McHallam disagreed, saying the OSC is listening, but the easement is there. SMCA member asked about working on using a trail from above and Tina Wright said she had described a possible trail from above, and also that SMCA members haven't been coming to OSC meetings. The OSC is not comfortable walking through the condominium areas, that the driveway easement is the least favorable access. SMCA member asked when an announcement to the public will be made of the opening of the Amphitheater, and Tina Wright said it has not yet been decided. SMCA member said that maintenance is very important. Tina Wright said an OSC goal is to minimize traffic in the condominium area. SMCA member asked where the money came from for DPS clearing work, and Tina Wright explained that DPS help was available because of lack of snow expenses, and Mike Francis added that it was part of the DPS commitment to all town parks. Glenn Murphy stated that repeat users will become sensitive to the needs of the condominium residents, and Tina Wright added that plantings can help with boundary definitions. SMCA member stated that the paper road down from the town hall and church parking lots is not good for use and there is a question of ownership, and that SMCA residents have been frightened by newspaper accounts of the Amphitheater development. Tina Wright again stated that SMCA privacy is important, that with the area now more open, it is harder for problem people to hide. SMCA member asked if OSC would develop a schedule for clean-ups and Mike Francis explained that there will be a cooperative effort between town government and town residents. SMCA member asked if an environmental expert had been consulted about water run-off into the Charles River, and Mike Francis and Glenn Murphy

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explained that, along with the Conservation Commission, there is enough local collective experience. Glenn Murphy stated that any plantings would be of native species and Tina Wright said that there is a need to maintain the trail by the river in a way to keep it stable. SMCA member asked if the OSC had reached out to the SMCA in the past year and Tina Wright described the use of email to the SMCA. SMCA member asked if a regular communication can be set up and Tina Wright said that Mike Francis is willing to work on that with SMCA. SMCA member asked if Village Street residents had been notified. Tina Wright said they had not, and SMCA member said that was inconsiderate.

3. Canoe launch on Village Street. Bruce Hamblin reported that the Norfolk Engineers have been contacted and will be surveying the site for development as a canoe launch for the public. The site is relatively large for this kind of development. He does not know if the state will clear the area needed for parking, and help may be needed for this. Pat McHallam asked if the abutters have been notified, and Mike Francis gave details of this process, but final decision not made. This led to a discussion of the need for signage to protect privacy of abutters here and at the Amphitheater. Examples of signs that might say “No Parking” and other possibilities were discussed and it was decided that town counsel would need to be consulted.

4. Wickett land proposal. Jim Wickis reported that the appraiser has reviewed the property and, when received, the appraisal can be reviewed at an upcoming meeting. Access to the property is problematic.

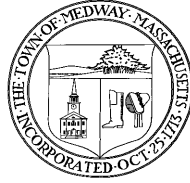
5. The Briggs family parcel is reported to be in Board of Selectmen discussions and the OSC does not have any direct actions to take at this point.

6. DPS has installed open space signs at three sites, Idylbrook, Amphitheater, and the start of the High School trail.

7. The Idylbrook trail has been improved by Glenn Murphy.

8. The effort to encourage reduced lawn fertilizer and pesticide use is now in the hands of DPS.

9. More Amphitheater discussion: Mike Francis will send out a draft of goals for this parcel via email, and members can make modifications. Tina Wright brought up concern about the steep



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slope where the property meets Village Street and the possible need for a fence. Final decision was not made on this issue.

10. Perimeter trail at 50 Winthrop. Mike Francis reports that the community farm management recommends this. The OSC supports this and recommends that it next go to the Conservation Commission for review, on a motion made by Bruce Hamblin and seconded by Pat McHallam. All members voted in favor of the motion.

At 9:45pm, Glenn Murphy made a motion that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Pat McHallam. All voted in favor of this motion.

The next meeting of the Medway Open Space Committee will take place on Tuesday, May 1, 2012, at 7:00pm at the Senior Center.

Submitted by Jim Wickis, Vice-Chairman, meeting minutes approved June 5th 2012