

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

Meeting Minutes on October 7, 2014

**Medway Senior Center
76 Oakland Circle**

Attendance	Tina Wright	Jim Wickis	Paul Marble	Pat McHallam	Mike Francis	Laura Bockoven	Bruce Hamblin
Present	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Absent with notice							
Absent without notice							

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

Minutes:

On a motion made by Jim Wickis and seconded by Paul Marble, the Committee voted unanimously to accept the minutes from September 2, 2014.

Conservation Agent:

The Conservation Agent Bridget Graziano was present at the meeting.

There were several items discussed regarding the open space and conservation land.

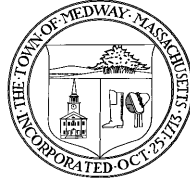
The Conservation Agent communicated some of her goals.

Goals:

Open Space/Conservation Management Plan:

The town should have an open space management plan for the open space parcels in town along with any of the land owned by the Board of Selectmen. Currently, the Conservation Commission has a conservation land trust and it has over \$100,000.00. The purpose of this money could be for land acquisition. If the land was purchased with CPC funds, there should be a stewardship.

The maintenance of the open space parcels could be done by the DPW but if this is not their intention, then Bridget noted that she could put maintenance in her budget. The management plan needs to be done along with providing baseline documentation. For example, if there are nesting bird on a particular parcel, or if a resident is encroaching onto this land it needs to be



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

documented and at times enforcement needs to occur. The timing and maintenance of this land is important to the wildlife habitat.

Regional Connections:

The regional connections is important to look at the continuous habitat among surrounding communities.

Conservation Restrictions:

There needs to be an inventory done throughout town of the conservation restrictions placed on specific property. The Chairman indicated that any land purchased by CPC funds needs a conservation restriction and full management plan. The State requires that when CPC uses its funds for land, the town needs to show how the land is being used.

The Conservation Agent indicated that a Conservation Restriction this was just done for Millstone Village.

If this has not been done with the various parcels, then a priority list should be created and those conservation restrictions need to be completed. Bridget indicated that there is a basic template for these restrictions, but this cannot be the focus of her job, but she is willing to assist.

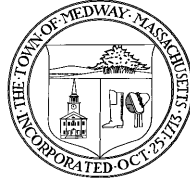
It was recommended to put together a land management team to address these issues.

The Chairman indicated that a representative will be coming to the next CPC meeting to discuss conservation restrictions and land management.

The goal is to look at the sites and identify what needs to do in terms of enhancements which might be made over a period of time. There should be something strategic for each parcel. This needs to be a step by step process. There are graduate students which could do an ecological plan review. There would do this on each parcel and provide a final document to the town. When the town goes to apply for grants, there needs to be progress shown.

Member Francis recommended that the Gale Report be used as a reference guide, since there was a matrix was already created for field maintenance.

The Committee discussed if this is realistic to think that the Conservation Agent can lead this, or should we hire a consultant to move this forward.



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

Action Items:

- Create an AD Hoc Committee with DPS, Open Space, Conservation, Parks and Recreation, Planning Board and member of Board of Selectmen
- Identify all parcels in town which are open space and determine if owned by town or conservation commission. Also determine the funding source of the land.
- Determine CPC land requirements under Conservation Restriction.
- The Chairman will speak with the Town Administrator about creating a town wide committee to start the process for the land management steps for conservation restrictions.

Canoe Launch Dedication:

The dedication of the canoe launch will take place in the spring 2015.

The Committee was made aware that the ramp was washed out. The Conservation Agent suggested that the rain garden and plantings should stop this from happening. There is no grass there and it needs to be reseeded. The budget is at the maximum and if there is seed at facility, they will seed it. It was also discussed having a geoweb. The funding for this is the issue.

The Conservation Agent suggested that there may be a grant available for stormwater.

Actions Items:

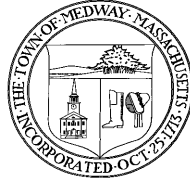
- Member Hamblin will make a telephone call about the Spring 2015 Canoe Launch Dedication and will inform local representatives about the issue with the ramp.
- Conservation Agent will send an email about what needs to be done on site.
- Idea to look at cost for phase two.

There was discussion about cutting up the dead tree in the Charles River which is a safety risk to canoers. The tree will be cut into smaller pieces since the limb is dead.

Member Marble wanted to thank Sean Lanagin, from Long Distance Tire, for taking the old tires which were in the river and disposing of them. Open Space Committee appreciates his help

The Conservation Agent indicated that if it is a public safety issue, it can be cut up and put to side, but put a tarp under it.

Amphitheater:



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

Member Wickis informed the Committee that there has been increased beaver activity. The grass will be mowed by member Wickis by the end of the week.

The drainage at this site is a continued concern. This was brought up with Tom Holder and nothing to date has been done.

It was recommended that a rain garden be put in.

It was suggested that someone from open space attend the Conservation Commission meeting on Thursday, October 23, 2014.

Action Items:

- There will be a work session on Saturday October 11, 2014.
- Attend Conservation Commission meeting on October 23, 2014.
- Planning for a Fall Clean-Up for October or November 2014.

The legal ownership of the Village Street is the towns, but there is a question about the property lines, but it is a small piece and it does not impact anything.

Briggs Trail Update:

The Briggs property was walked and flagged. It appears that the trail was being moved due to drainage. There is a discrepancy with the property lines and the location of the trail. There is another meeting about construction update on Thursday October 9, 2014. There will be a trail walk to lay things out. There was a problem with stormwater and sediment during construction which is currently being addressed.

Kiosks:

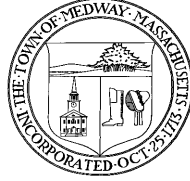
Member Francis informed all that the Kiosks have arrived. The next step is marking the various sites and installation.

Action Items:

- Member Francis will mark the various locations for installation this fall.

Brochure:

Member Hamblin provided the members with various trail maps. Two of the maps were from the Town of Brookline. Brochures:



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

Member McHallam is working with the designer. Member Wickis will assist with the write up information on each site.

Town Warrant:

There will be a warrant article about money for engineering in the amount of \$15,000 for Village Street. The concern is if the access from Village Street has to be handicap accessible. This question went to the town attorney and this should be resolved tomorrow. Another question asked is if the main entrance is handicap accessible, does the whole trail have to be handicap accessible or just a section.

Other Business:

Member Hamblin expressed his concern about benches in town which are deteriorating and suggested that if the town is to purchase any more benches go with a product which is recycled or metal

Adjourn:

On a motion made by Paul Marble and seconded by Jim Wickis, the board voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Sutherland