

**Tuesday, April 7, 2015
Open Space Committee
76 Oakland Circle
Medway, MA 02053**

Members	Tina Wright	Jim Wickis	Paul Marble	Pat McHallam	Mike Francis	Bruce Hamblin	Charlie Ross
Attendance	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

ALSO PRESENT:

Recording Secretary, Amy Sutherland

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

Presentation Alan Earls:

Alan Earls, former Chairman of Town of Franklin Open Space Committee is working on a grass roots effort to initiate federal, state, and local action under Metacomet land trust to enhance access to US Army Corps of Engineers flood control lands. There are contiguous land areas in Bellingham totaling 334 acres and another 52 acres in Medway. The lands of Charles River Meadowlands represent recreational, cultural and economic opportunity. All of the towns in the upper Charles area have taken steps to protect open space. The local governments would need to provide easements and in some cases purchase or deeding of the access points. The Charles River Meadowlands Organizing Committee is leading this effort. Metacomet has been charged with providing guidance.

The Open Space Committee is in support of this initiative and suggested that Alan Earls also contact Jim Wieler who is a representative for Charles River Watershed.

Timber Crest Estates:

The Committee was made aware that Timber Crest Estates has applied to the state for a 40B project in Medway. This project would be located in the northeasterly section of Medway. The site would consist of the assemblage of 9 parcels of land totaling 163.1 acres. This site has wetlands on site and is unique since the unit development has two separate neighborhoods which are bisected by wetlands and open space. The project will consist of 192 housing units, including 76 single family homes on the west portion of the site and 116 condominiums on the east portion of the site.

The Director of Planning and Economic Development is asking the various boards and committees to submit comments as part of a package which will be submitted upon the preliminary review of comment.

The Conservation Agent will be visiting the site and will be submitting comments from the Conservation Commission.

Amphitheater Engineering:

The Chairman informed the members that she spoke with Dan Hooper about coming up with a concept plan for this area. Member Wickis explained that there was already an estimate from Tetra Tech for the work in this area. The Committee was in agreement that they would like to get the access area to this project completed. The Committee is not sure if Tetra Tech has the expertise in landscape design. It was recommended to have them provide samples to the Committee, and the other items such as landscaping could be completed in a phasing plan. There was already \$10,000 allocated by CPC for this project. The Open Space Committee recommended that an email be sent to CPC to update their number for funding since the estimate from Tetra Tech was \$14,000.00. It was suggested to request \$15,000. The Chairman will follow-up about inquiring about this.

Field Update:

Member Francis provided an update. The parking lot doesn't yet have its second coat of asphalt. The fields are actively being used. There was discussion on the trail route along the back fields... it runs along the fence at the field level, not closer to the woods as some had hoped. There isn't much town property there to work with.

Town Brochure:

The Chairman provided all the draft copy of the map. It was discussed on how to get this brochure out to the public. A few suggestions were, library, town hall, senior center, provide in census, real estate bills, Facebook, social media etc. The brochure was reviewed. The Chairman also indicated that she spoke with Stephanie Mercandetti and she suggested we contact Susy to set up a time when we can meet with Fran the administrative assistant to help with the printing. Member McHallam will follow-up. The goal is to have brochure and maps available for town meeting. The recommendations from the last meeting were included on the brochure.

Conway School Project:

There was a meeting about the Conway School Project and the Conservation Agent will be active in the implementation of this project. The hope is that \$6,500 will be allocated from CPC for this project. There will need to be a plan in place on how to manage this land. This project will be for Briggs site.

Selectmen Trindade also thought another project could be improving the playgrounds throughout town. Member Hamblin volunteered to assist if needed.

Update Website:

Member Ross met with Rich Boucher, Director of Information Service. Member Ross now has access to the update the website, and has added a photo to the home page. The town is considering changing to a new content management system, replacing First-class, over the

summer, but will stay with the same website provider. The school department has already made this change. Rich will keep Member Ross in the loop about the website design.

Member Ross showed a prototype Facebook page. The URL is <https://www.facebook.com/medwayopenspace>. Rich Boucher informed him that the towns preference would be for it to be an official page for the town, and asks that Rich be added as an administrator to ensure that access is maintained if a member were to leave. The Committee had previously been concerned that the town might actually prefer that it not be official, but there is no objection with it being official. Member Ross will add Rich as an admin and will begin publicizing the page in conjunction with the upcoming Medway Clean Sweep.

Medway Clean Sweep:

Member Marble said that he and Member Wickis are confirmed for the Clean Sweep day. They will prepare on Thursday. Volunteers will meet at the tennis courts on Saturday at 8:00 am. The clean-up will run until 11:00 am. There are many tires to be removed, in addition to general trash. Coffee, water, and munchkins will be provided, and member Marble will bring several gloves. Member Ross can participate for some of the morning. He has also posted a notice on the "Friends of Medway" group on Facebook.

Minutes March 2, 2015:

On a motion made by Charlie Ross and seconded by Paul Marble, the Committee voted unanimously to accept the minutes from March 2, 2015.

Future Meeting Date:

- **May 5, 2015**

ADJOURN

On a motion made by Paul Marble, and seconded by Pat McHallam, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Sutherland
Recording Secretary