

Members present: L. Gaumond, R. Baker, M. Harris, J. Dunn, R. Tashjian, M. Fishbein

Guests L Jim Edmundson, Barbara Wyatt, William Scanlin

Meeting called to order at 7:04 p.m.

Motion to approve the minutes of the 12-5-06 meeting by Mr. Baker, seconded by M. Harris. L. Gaumond presented amendments to the minutes as offered by Ms. Wellington. There was discussion. Motion by Mr. Baker to accept the amendment of Ms. Wellington, seconded by J. Dunne. All in favor of the amendment. On the main motion, all in favor of approving the minutes of 12-5-06 as amended.

L. Gaumond turned the meeting over to Dr. Tashjian, Chairman of the Open Space Committee. Dr. Tashjian announced the names of the Open Space Committee and then introduced Jim Edmundson who began his presentation.

Mr. Edmundson spoke to a distinction between open space and recreation land. Questions arose as to the effect on the update of the Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Mr. Edmundson spoke to the need to protect the Malden Brook Watershed Aquifer and the concerns they have re: the recharge rate of the aquifer as well as highway runoff among other issues.

Mr. Edmundson mentioned several recommendations:

- Preserve open space for public health
- Implement vegetation of I190 drainage corridor
- Support well designed developments
- Take advantage of compact building design
- Foster attractive community with a sense of pride
- Encourage collaboration of development decisions

Dr. Tashjian talked about a joint program between Animal Medical Associates and the Town of West Boylston. He has the backing of many medical experts as well. He spoke to botulism spores in the land on or near the aquifer of Malden Brook. He mentioned the sewer line and potential for breakage and effect on the environment. He mentioned the clear cutting of vegetation off I-190 and the effect on the environment and aquifer. Also mentioned the emergency preparedness effort of the strategic plan that he is working on. Wants to focus on public safety, public health, animal health, and environmental health.

Mr. Gaumond thanked the committee for their presentation and reminded them of the need to focus on the Open Space & Recreation Plan update this year.

Mr. Gaumond introduced Bill Scanlin to speak about the Town's buildout plan. L. Gaumond read comments from Ms. Wellington re: concerns about the buildout plan. Mr.

Scanlin responded that there have also been relaxation of the Title V restrictions that can have an effect on the buildout plan. He mentioned that if the buildout increases dramatically then the housing costs and associated property taxes would likely be higher and then additional revenues would be realized to help address issues like sewer capacity. Mr. Gaumond asked if an update to the Town Buildout plan with new assumptions re: zoning changes since 1999 could be done. We need to update the land use statement with the new assumptions. This could be done by CMRPC and they could do a customized buildout study which considers sewer and/or water capacity.

CMRPC will come back to the TWPC with a proposal to do an update to the Town's buildout plan. He estimates about \$4000-\$5000. He also spoke to a housing rehab program.

Mr. Gaumond spoke to the committee about the old meeting minutes of the TWPC that had never been completed nor approved. These were produced by Nancy Lucier and he is bringing them to the TWPC for their acceptance as written. Mr. Baker moved to accept them as written and added to the committee's files. Seconded by Ms. Dunne.

Mr. Gaumond then presented the TWPC with information concerning the Chapter 40B Subsidized Housing Inventory for 2007, a report on improved access to Hartwell Street from Rte. 140, and a notification from the Department of Mental Health of the assignment of 8 new subsidized housing units.

Next meeting will be April 10, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Gaumond will invite the Transportation Committee to give an update on the things they are working on and Mr. Westerling will be invited to discuss such items as sewer capacity.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Baker, seconded by Ms. Dunne. Motion carried at 9:10 p.m.

Minutes prepared by L. Gaumond