

TOWN OF MEDWAY
OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
Medway Senior Center
76 Oakland Street,
Medway, MA 02053
MINUTES

Meeting on January 5, 2010

Present: Bruce Hamblin, Patrick McHallam, John Schroeder, Jim Sullivan, Jim Wickis, Tina Wright

The meeting was called to order at 7:12pm by the Chairman.

1. There were no comments from the public.
2. The minutes of the meeting of November 24, 2009 were reviewed. No changes were proposed. A motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Pat McHallam and seconded by John Schroeder. The motion was then approved unanimously.
3. Property appraisals. John Schroeder reported that approval was granted by the Community Preservation Committee for the sum of \$10,000 for appraisal of three properties. These three properties are being evaluated for their open space potential.
4. Williamsburg OSRD. The Committee had made a recommendation to the developer of this property for the use of native trees in the landscaping. The developer quickly made changes in accord with the recommendations. A letter of thanks, written by the chairman, has been sent to the developer for this commendable response.
5. Rail bed in vicinity of Broad and Winter Streets. A portion of the rail bed may be sold by the town. However, a neighbor in this area has expressed to the Committee that several neighbors would like to keep access to the rail bed available to citizens, and plans to write a letter to the Board of Selectmen. John Schroeder has drafted a letter to the BOS in support of continued access to the rail bed. This letter has been discussed and approved by the OSC.
6. Continuing map development. Pat McHallam presented maps of conservation areas at the Deerfield Street pond and the "amphitheater" by the Charles River. There was unanimous approval to place these on the OSC website.
7. OSRD regulation update. The OSC has been asked by the Planning Board to review several sections of this regulation, as they are in the process of updating it. Jim Wickis will provide a draft of an update for the next meeting.
8. Grant money to improve properties. The OSC has no budget to pursue improvement of and increase access to the larger open spaces in town. Jim Wickis will explore grant possibilities in conjunction with the completion of the OSRP.

9. Trails Committee. The need for such a committee has been stated in the Master Plan update and in the OSRP. After much discussion, it seems that such a committee could function best as a sub-committee of the OSC. Pat McHallam will contact the leader of the previous Trails Committee to explore the re-establishment of this committee. Also, Tina Wright will approach the School Committee to discuss the possibility of students working on open space/environmental improvement.

10. Newsletter. This aspect of the Committee's work was applauded by the Planning Board in its recent review of the OSC. Tina Wright will write a new edition of the newsletter.

11. Agriculture Commission. The PB is taking the lead on developing this commission on Medway. It does not appear to be a major OSC responsibility. However, Bruce Hamblin knows resources that could help develop this commission and will contact the PB with this information.

At 9:30pm, all business completed, the Chairman made a motion to adjourn, and this motion was approved unanimously. The next meeting will be on February 2, 2010, at 7:00pm at the Senior Center.

Submitted by Jim Wickis, Clerk and Vice-Chair