

Town of Medway
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Community Preservation Committee
February 7, 2022 - 7:30PM
Remote via Zoom

Committee Members Present: Mark Cerel, Gene Liscombe, David Travalini, Tom Emero, Dan Hooper, Matthew Hayes, Ellen Hillery (Finance Committee liaison to the CPC), and Tina Wright
Committee Members Absent: Deborah Rossi and Jackie Johnson
Community Members Present: None

1. Call to Order and Identification of Members Participating Remotely

Call to Order: At 7:35PM, Mr. Cerel called the meeting to order. He confirmed the virtual presence of the following individuals. Liscombe: present, Travalini: present, Emero: present, Hooper: present, Hayes: present, Cerel: present, Hillery: present.

At 7:35PM, Ms. Wright joined the meeting virtually.

2. Discussions

a. Status of recently CPA-funded projects: flag poles, fencing, vintage fire truck refurbishment

Mr. Cerel shared that the flagpoles have been installed, including the one at St. Joe's with an unobstructed view from Colonel Matondi's grave. Additionally, the flagpoles have been installed at Evergreen Cemetery. Additionally, fencing has been installed around the original settler's homesite at the dog park. In regard to the vintage fire truck, the negotiations with the original vendor have broken down, so the project is on hold.

Mr. Travalini asked if the cost was the reason for the breakdown in negotiations; Mr. Cerel confirmed that this was one aspect of it.

Mr. Cerel also reminded the committee that he exercised his right as a moderator at the town meeting to break the tie regarding the vintage fire truck refurbishment; he updated the committee that an individual who was not a registered voter, nor a legal citizen, voted against the refurbishment, thus rendering Mr. Cerel's breaking of the tie unnecessary.

b. Status of Cutler St. (former Legion) property redevelopment

Mr. Hayes shared that this was approved last week. The property will be redeveloped into a five unit multifamily housing with a parking lot and significant landscaping. He shared that the project will be moving forward in the spring. He noted that it required site plan information, a special permit, and consideration of disturbance issues.

c. Other projects: Affordable Housing, Historic, Open Space/Recreation

There were no updates on these matters at this time.

d. Future potential projects

i. Civil War memorial @ Oakland Cemetery

Mr. Cerel noted that there are 5 Civil War veterans buried at the Oakland Cemetery who died while actively serving. He felt it might be appropriate to place a plaque identifying these individuals, as well as providing brief background on their legacy.

Mr. Liscombe noted that these graves may be currently unmarked in any fashion; Mr. Hayes, however, recalled that the committee installed headstones a few years ago.

Mr. Cerel underscored the importance of acknowledging the sacrifice of these Medway residents; he noted, however, that this initiative would likely need to originate from the Historical Commission. Mr. Liscombe offered to reach out to Paul Russell about this matter.

Mr. Emero offered to assist with this project. Mr. Cerel suggested reaching out to a company who does this line of work, getting an estimate, and making a decision as a committee.

ii. Other projects?

Mr. Travalini shared that many community members have expressed frustration about the lack of activities or town center in Medway. He encouraged the committee to focus their efforts on the area surrounding Choate. He suggested improving the Ide House to be more functional and relocate the refurbished fire truck to that area. He suggested the committee identify ways to use their budget in a more organized, inclusive, engaging manner. Moreover, Mr. Travalini suggested that the committee essentially do with the Ide House what they did with the Thayer property. He articulated that it would be a shame for the committee to have the Ide House be a sunk cost, as they have already acquired it and now are charged with maximizing its potential.

Mr. Cerel and Mr. Travalini discussed development potential in the vicinity of Chicken Brook Stream and its neighboring properties in order to expand the existing area.

Mr. Cerel suggested coordinating with the Master Plan Committee, likely after their report has come out regarding open space preservation.

Mr. Cerel, Mr. Travalini, and Ms. Wright discussed potential concerns regarding the private owners in question and their possible feelings of distrust towards working with the town.

Ms. Wright also shared that the town transferred Village Street land which potentially provided access to the amphitheater to the abutting property owner.

Ms. Wright noted that the Open Space Committee is creating an accessible trail in the meadow at Adams Street, which will hopefully be one of a few trails that will have accessibility.

Mr. Cerel noted that there was a surplus in the state budget this year, which led to an additional \$58,000, which is close to a 60% match from the state.

Mr. Cerel encouraged Mr. Travalini and Ms. Hillery to reach out to their connections on the Master Plan Committee to encourage them to be present at the CPC's upcoming public hearing.

3. Schedule Annual CPA Public Hearing: Mon. March 7

The committee members agreed to this date and decided to do it remotely via Zoom.

4. Approve Minutes: 11/15/2021 meeting

VOTE: Ms. Wright motioned to accept the minutes as written. Mr. Hayes seconded this motion, which passed unanimously. Liscombe: aye, Travalini: aye, Hayes: aye, Wright: aye, Hooper: aye, Emero: aye, Cerel: aye. VOTE: 7-0.

5. Bills

- a. Community Preservation Coalition: Annual dues (\$3500)**
- b. Recording Secretary**
- c. Others**

Mr. Cerel offered to reach out to Allison Potter regarding how to pay the night board secretary.

VOTE: Mr. Hayes offered to approve the payment of Community Preservation Coalition annual dues. Mr. Travalini seconded this motion. Liscombe: aye, Travalini: aye, Hayes: aye, Wright: aye, Hooper: aye, Emero: aye, Cerel: aye. VOTE: 7-0.

Motion to Adjourn: At 9:00PM, Mr. Hayes offered a motion to adjourn. Mr. Travalini seconded this motion. Liscombe: aye, Travalini: aye, Hayes: aye, Wright: aye, Hooper: aye, Emero: aye, Cerel: aye. VOTE: 7-0.