



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

Meeting Minutes on August 2, 2016

**Medway Senior Center
Oakland Circle**

Attendance	Tina Wright	Jim Wickis	Denise Legee	Charlie Ross	Joanne Williams	Mike Francis	Bruce Hamblin
Present	X	X	X	X		X	X

Reorganization:

Chairman:

On a motion made by Jim Wickis and seconded by Charlie Ross, the Open Space Committee voted unanimously to elect Tina Wright as Chairman.

Vice Chairman:

On a motion made by Jim Wickis and seconded by Denise Legee, the Open Space Committee voted unanimously to elect Bruce Hamblin as Vice Chairman.

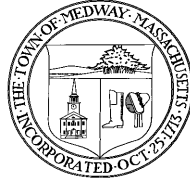
Clerk:

On a motion made by Denise Legee and seconded by Mike Francis, the Open Space Committee voted unanimously to elect Charlie Ross as Clerk.

Member Ross will update the appointment list and will forward to Rich Boucher.

Adams Street Phase One:

Member Wickis met with Fred Sibley and it was explained that that parking for five spots is achievable. The DPS could dig and bring in the material along with additional trees if needed. The trees to the south of the proposed parking area against the stone wall will remain. A quote for material was done by Lazzero for crusher run for \$12.20 a ton delivered. The Chairman indicated that she could reach out to the residents along with the Board of Selectmen and Conservation Agent.



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The committee discussed the perimeter trail around the meadow. This could initially be mowed, but the goal would be for it to later to have a surface of crusher run and to be accessible. There was discussion that since there is no formal engineering but the slopes should be looked at.

It was suggested that for delineation of the handicap spots, a material such as hard plastic honey comb can be used. There will need to be a work session to remove invasives. It was suggested that Fred Sibley might be able to help with the poison ivy. The trail into the platform will have to be discussed with the Conservation Agent due to the wetlands.

Summer to Choate Trail Extension:

The Open Space Committee discussed that this trail needs very little clearing and is wooded with mature trees. It could be an easy trail to establish. Once the Conservation Agent returns, this trail will be discussed with Bridget. Member Ross would like to GPS the trail and will arrange to walk it with either Member Wickis or Member Francis, as well as with Jim Wieler (who flagged the original route).

Land for Sale:

John Boczanowski, land owner, was present.

Parcel Map 19, Parcel 19-046:

The parcel referenced was Map 19 Parcel 19-046.

This cost of this parcel is \$18,000. It also incorporates a retention pond on Summer Street. This parcel is extremely wet. There was a question about who would be responsible for the maintenance of this retention area. It was suggested that this could be a habitat for humanity project, since there is a small buildable portion near Summer Street. The Chairman will email the Affordable Housing Committee.

Parcel Map 27, Parcel 27-049:

The cost of this parcel is \$48,000. The parcel is 13 acres. This parcel abuts the Eversource right-of-way and is landlocked. There is no clear access. The Open Space noted that the only use of this parcel would be for a potential park or if an easement was provided, this could connect the two neighborhoods Summer Hill Lane and Autumn Road. It was suggested to recommend this be brought to the parks and recreation committee.

SIGNS:

Member Legee presented a memo with recommendations for signs for the Adams Street Meadow to Choate Trail.



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1. Adams Street Meadow:

- Open Space sign (blue heron)
- Trail Map (High school to Choate Park)
- Directions sign arrows to Choate Park, North Field

2. Intersection at South Field:

- Directions: Choate Park, North Field, Meadow
- No open Space Sign

3. Area Where South Field (Lamson Field and Grass soccer field meet:

- Directional signs Choate Park, Meadow
- No Open Space Sign

4. Intersection of old & new trail (south of the baseball field)

- Directional sign: Choate Park, Baseball Field
- Directional sign: Baseball field, South field and Meadow

5. Entrance to Trail at Baseball Field:

- Do a kiosk but not an open space sign.
- Include trail map and arrows to trail head.
- Sign that dogs can be walked with leashes.

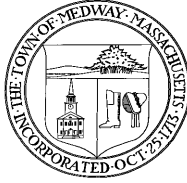
6. Between tennis court and High School parking lot:

- Do a kiosk but not an open space sign.
- Include trail map and arrow to trail head.
- Sign that dogs can be walked with leashes

The Committee would like member Francis to look into getting a quote for the trail intersection signs. (20 direction signs)

Story Walk and Meadow Governance:

Member Wickis met with Fred Sibley to discuss sign locations along the trail and meadow. At least one, and possibly more of the signs is planned for the meadow side of the trail. Committee members expressed surprise, because the recollection was that either there were going to be no signs along the meadow or that the Story Walk people would come back before the OSC with a plan.



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There needs to be a coordinated effort in regards to the interpretive signs at the meadow and the storywalk. The majority of the committee would not want a storywalk sign in the middle of the meadow. It was recommended that it be placed on the wood side of the trail. The Chairman will discuss this with Carl, the representative of the Story Walk trail.

The Committee discussed who has governance of the meadow. Member Ross observed that there has been an ongoing issue with plans being made and executed for this property that run contrary to the plans to manage it as a natural space. He recommended that the committee request the Board of Selectmen to designate that any work in the meadow must first get the approval of the OSC.

Minutes:

June 29, 2016:

The minutes from June 29, 2016 will be tabled until the next meeting.

July 19, 2016:

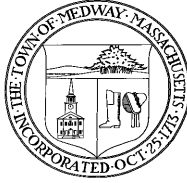
On a motion made by Denise Legee and seconded by Jim Wickis, the minutes from July 19, 2016 were approved unanimously.

Possible 2017 Conway School Project:

The Chairman said that the Conway school has reached out to us about another project. The suggested was possibly the Lee property. The Chairman asked the members for their opinion.

Member Ross expressed several concerns, among them that (a) the 2016 Conway School project's recommendations were off the mark; (b) the authors spend minimal onsite time, and it's in the winter when it's very difficult to judge what the land is really like; (c) it would be premature to do a management plan on the Adams-to-Lovering property (partially bought from the Lees) until the trail design was in place, and (d) until a Chicken Brook crossing is in place, parts of the property are very difficult to access. He also is concerned that the committee has multiple projects underway and that we should focus on finishing them before starting another one.

Several committee members felt the 2016 Conway report gave validity to thoughts and ideas for the areas along with providing necessary framework for stakeholders to take advantage of funding and grants applications.



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It was suggested that if the town works with the Conway school again, there should be better coordination. Several members felt like, after the initial meetings, the Conway team went off, worked a plan, and provided no practical time for feedback and comments.

Another recommendation would be for any future project to be in the fall semester, so that the site visits wouldn't occur in the winter.

The consensus of the Open Space Committee that there may be value in doing a future project, but that it would be premature at this time. It could be revisited in 1 – 2 years.

Adjourn:

On a motion made by Charlie Ross and seconded by Mike Francis, the Open Space Committee voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:33 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Sutherland
Approved September 6, 2016