

**The Town of Medway
Open Space Committee
Meeting Minutes on December 3, 2019
Medway Senior Center
76 Oakland Circle
Medway, MA 02053**

Attendance	Tina Wright	Jim Wickis	Denise Legee	Charlie Ross	Joanne Williams	Mike Francis	Bruce Hamblin	Brian Cowan
Present	X	X	X	X	X arrived 7:53pm			X

Chairman Wright opened the meeting at 7:20 pm.

Oak Grove (“bottle caps”) Update

Brian stated this got approved at Town Meeting. The task force is now complete.

Interim Management Plans

Jim stated they met with DPS and agreed to work on a maintenance schedule. He put together a draft in Excel and passed it out to the members to review. Jim stated DPS has no objections with it but Dave D’Amico has not done a final review yet. The Conservation Commission has not reviewed it yet. Tina would like Jim to add brush cutting on both sides of the street at the stone wall. Tina will send an email to Bridget about this. Joanne stated she has updated information to add to Jim’s Excel sheet. Joanne stated there is a bridge between Lovering and Iarussi that has boards coming loose and feels this should be on the plan. Joanne will come up with a numbering system for the bridges. Charlie agreed that the numbers that were used for the original Trails Task Force filings in 2017 were temporary and can be changed.

The group discussed the importance of keeping the maintenance and management plans separate. Charlie thinks it would be a good idea to divide up creating the first drafts for various properties among members. With the Amphitheater and Choate Trail drafts complete, areas to work on include the Boardwalk Trail, the High School/Adams/Summer Street “triangle,” and Idyllbrook. Jim volunteered to work on the Boardwalk draft. In January the committee will flesh it out then try to schedule a meeting with DPS and Bridget.

Friends of Forest Conservation

Not discussed.

Trail Development/Maintenance Coordination

Jim stated he sent a report to Bridget about the wild parsnips. The numbers are going down. Bridget responded that we should start working on the management plans. Tina stated Bridget can't come to night meetings but is available to work on it during the day. DPS is also available during the day. The committee discussed ways a subgroup could meet to work on drafts, and agreed a task force (similar to what was used for the boardwalk and the Oak Grove efforts) might be the best way to go.

Parcel Purchase on Lovering Street

This was approved and Town Meeting and it came from CPA Open Space funds.

Medway Walks

Tina stated she received an email from the people who had created Sherborn Walks and she forwarded it to the group. The group agreed that the template looks good but they are not sure how valuable a book would be. Charlie stated most people don't care for printed maps and prefer to get them online. Long-time and brand-new residents may like to have a book but it will probably just sit on a shelf. Tina thinks it would be easier to have this information as a link on the town website at some point down the road. The group thinks it would be a better use of their resources to focus on online materials. It was noted that there is an app called "All Trails" that they might be able to post their trail info to.

Link Trail between New Boardwalk and Millstone

Joanne stated Paul Attwood is going for an RDA before ConCom this month. Joanne would like to attend this meeting on behalf of the Open Space Committee.

Denise asked what exactly is going to be blazed as the link trail. The link trail is supposed to be from Choate Park to Holliston. Currently you can go right onto Millstone and left to Iarussi. There are many possibilities but no one is sure where it will end up. The group will discuss this more at a later time.

Amphitheater

Denise stated they did a site walk and discussed parking to the left and coming down at an angle to the driveway area. The Town Administrator, Michael Boynton stated that he would like the area to be handicapped accessible if it is reasonable to do so. Mike Francis talked about moving the chain link fence so you could walk in between the parked cars and near the house. The group recommended that we don't do that as it is too close to the house. This is not optimal for the tenants or people walking the trail. The Amphitheater site is handicap accessible from the existing access and it's OK for the new one to be steeper. The Committee will need to get an update from Mike Boynton on this.

Review of the 10/15/19 Open Space Committee Minutes

Jim made motion to approve the 10/15/19 minutes and it was seconded by Charlie and all were in favor.

Review of the 11/12/19 Open Space Committee Minutes

Charlie made a motion to approve the 11/12/19 minutes and it was seconded by Jim and all were in favor.

Review of the March 5, 2019 Executive Meeting Minutes

Brian made a motion to approve the March 5, 2019 Executive Session minutes and it was seconded by Joanne. Members Wright, Wickis, Legee, Ross, Williams, and Cowan voted in favor. None were opposed.

Review of the August 13, 2019 Executive Meeting Minutes

Joanne made a motion to approve the August 13, 2019 minutes and it was seconded by Denise. Members Wright, Wickis, Legee, Ross, Williams, and Cowan voted in favor. None were opposed.

Other Business which may come in front of the committee

- **Follow up on OSRP status**

Denise stated she talked to Suzie and that Suzie stated she has all of our comments and is not concerned since they have conditional approval from the state. Tina stated we should try to get all the comments from Suzie and offer to incorporate them. Denise will follow up with Suzie on this.

- **Mass Trail Grants**

Charlie didn't think we were eligible until the final OSRP is approved, based on the letter from the Commonwealth. The group will look at this more closely once the maintenance plan is finished. There might be grant money available to help with getting rid of invasives.

Adjourn

Charlie made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 pm. Brian seconded the motion and it was voted to approve 6-0-0.

Next Meeting:

January 7, 2019

Respectively submitted by Tracy Rozak