



**TOWN OF MEDWAY**  
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE**

**March 3, 2020 Meeting - 7:15pm**  
**Medway Senior Center**

Medway Town Hall  
155 Village Street  
Medway, MA 02053  
Telephone (508) 321-4890  
Email: [openspacecommittee@townofmedway.org](mailto:openspacecommittee@townofmedway.org)  
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*Committee Members*

Tina Wright, Chair  
Denise Legee, Vice Chair  
Charlie Ross, Clerk  
Brian Cowan, Member  
Mike Francis, Member  
Bruce Hamblin, Member  
Jim Wickis, Member  
Joanne Williams,  
Member

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

***Tina called the meeting to order at 7:25 pm.***

Brian stated he is resigning from the committee as he will be serving on the Finance Committee and he is not allowed to serve on any other boards. The committee thanked him for his service and wished him well.

**Committee Business:**

Joanne noted that the path around the Community Farm has a nice view down to the water. It would be nice to add a loop path with crushed stone and a bench. Joanne wants to do a site walk of the area.

**Interim Management Plan**

Tina stated that AFRAC does have to have agendas and minutes so we will have to form a committee and create agendas/minutes. The committee will consist of Susy, Bridget, Peter Pelletier, Steve Carew, Denise, Jim, and Julie Harrington. They will need to have a conversation with the Town Administrator to inform the Board of Selectmen. Susy and Julie will help to drive that forward. Tina stated she will let Michael Boynton know what we are doing. The meeting is scheduled for March 12<sup>th</sup> at Sanford Hall at 10:00 am. The whole purpose of meeting is to talk about what we have done so far and figure out what town resources are needed. Tina mentioned that they should ask about grants at this meeting.

**Management Plans for Boardwalk Trail**

Jim and Joanne met with Steve Carew and he was very enthusiastic. There is a meeting scheduled for March 13<sup>th</sup> at 9am. They are getting a new tractor with many attachments for multiple uses. It may be too big to work on the trails and they still need a small push mower to get across bridges and brush and in between trees. Jim stated a brush hog is good but you only need it one time to open up the trail. The committee discussed getting a small ride on mower and what would work best for all the areas that need to be mowed.

The committee discussed the Neelon Lane property. It would be good to cut down the invasives, woody stumps, and brambles in that area. Joanne stated she has a meeting coming up with Eamon McCarthy to discuss some ideas. They have very little access to their land in Franklin and parking is an issue. They would be happy to get access from Medway even if it was by canoe. Brian stated bridging the communities like this would be ideal but it would be a huge undertaking. Brian mentioned there may be grant money available for this type of thing especially since it is a joint effort with another community. Bruce mentioned that Marion and Mattapoisett are doing similar joint projects. Joanne, Eamon, and Bruce will get together to look at the maps to see where their properties intersect.

## **Amphitheater**

Tina stated she will speak with Glenn on Monday. Mike Francis stated that the property owner just wants to ensure that he has parking. Mike Francis stated that DPW may not be able to support the project or they may need additional engineered drawings. The slope might be just too steep.

## **Approval of January 7, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

***Mike Francis made a motion to approve the January 7, 2020 minutes as submitted. Bruce seconded the motion and it passed 6-0-0. Joanne was absent from the vote.***

## **Other Business which may come in front of the committee**

The committee discussed the Norfolk County Prison Work Program and what tasks they could have the inmates do. Some possibilities were working on the invasives at Choate Trail or they might be able to work on Neelon Lane, but they cannot work with poison ivy. Jim will be talking with Bridget about this soon.

The committee discussed the parking problem on Adams Street where the power lines cross. Jim stated he went out there to do some work but could not get by as there were two cars parked in the way. It's good that the trails are getting used but there is not enough parking which could become a problem for the power companies if they can't get their vehicles through. Jim stated he took some measurements and passed around a diagram he made that shows there is 138 feet by the kiosk up to the gate and 32 feet from street to the fence the power company put in. Should we consider putting in some parking? It might be possible to put in 3 angled space right before the kiosk. Mike Francis stated cars have been parking at the farm near the S curve and police started giving out tickets. Mike Francis proposed closing half the gate with a sign stating don't block the gate. He also suggested moving the boulders to fit cars in to parallel park. Brian asked about the terms of the easement and asked if we can even legally allow parking? Tina stated it would be better to have designated spots so people don't park illegally on the side of the road. Mike Francis stated the Town owns the right of way. Jim will send an email to Susy

and she can point him in the right direction. They should also check with Susy and Michael Boynton.

Jim will get the schedule for invasives and send it to the group. Jim stated Bridget is very excited about this and offered to help. He will be meeting with her soon. They are basically 8 sessions every other week at different locations on the trails. The point of the sessions is to educate them about the different invasives and safety. In back of the trail is a lot of bittersweet that always comes back. How do we prevent this? Jim stated you can keep cutting them down and after awhile the plant will be depleted and die.

Joanne mentioned Winter Fire and stated the publicity is better this time. It was mentioned in the Gazette and on Facebook. She asked the members to go on Facebook and like and share it to help get the word out. Joanne will look into putting something about it into the school newsletter.

**Agenda item for next meeting: Update from Jim on the Invasive Project**

**Adjourn**

***Brian made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 pm. Joanne seconded the motion and all were in favor.***

Respectfully submitted by,

Tracy Rozak