

## Committee Members

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



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# TOWN OF MEDWAY

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts

### Open Space Committee

### Tuesday, December 1, 7:00 pm

### Remote Meeting

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, and the Governor's Orders imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather inside in one place, no in person attendance of members of the public will be permitted at this meeting. Committee members will participate remotely via ZOOM. Meeting access via ZOOM is provided for the opportunity for public participation; information for participating via ZOOM is included at the end of this meeting.

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

**Also present: Susy Affleck-Childs**

Denise called the meeting to order at 7:24 pm.

### 2021 Priorities (final review after last month's discussion)

Denise stated there is a #4 and a #6 but there is not a #5. Charlie will change #6 to #5, clean up the deleted items, and send the final version to the committee members.

### MassTrails Grants

There is some money available for grant writing. There was a brief discussion regarding Susy's suggestions of grant projects, as well as other items (most notably, viewing platforms).

- Update all signs and maps
- Develop an interactive trails on-line
- Purchase of native species
- Invasive Species Management
- Trail work at the Amphitheater – in particular, Village Street access
- Rail trails feasibility study
- Trail development

Each member will rank them in order of importance and send to Tina by next Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. Tina will use the inputs to put together the committee's priorities and send them to Susy.

### Amphitheater Village Street Access (Tina)

*Not discussed, other than as a possible grant item.*

## **Land Management Plan Update (Tina)**

***Not Discussed***

## **Adams-to-Lovering Management Plan**

### **New property description text (Jim/Joanne)**

Joanne stated she walked the area with Jim and she wrote it all up and will send it to Jim for review, then will send it to Charlie. The committee also discussed the names for the footbridges/boardwalks. Joanne said she was reviewing the list with several other stakeholders before finalizing them. These names are also going into the plan.

### **Incorporating markups and map**

Charlie stated he has finished everything he thinks he can do, other than the items above. Everyone should review this by the next meeting.

### **Lovering Trail update**

Joanne stated the majority of the work is finished from Lovering to the Cart Path Bridge. They started on the northern side of the Christmas Trees. They are beginning to clear the invasives from the meadow. Charlie asked if there has been any input from the abutters. Joanne stated they are pleased at what they have done so far and they would like to have a place to sit out there.

Joanne is meeting with Dave and Bridget this week to see what they want to do with the meadow. Steve is also going to see what kind of machine he needs out there. Charlie stated there are a couple of logs on the west side of the cart path bridge that seem to be a tripping hazard. Joanne stated they were put there because a turtle got stuck out there. Those areas are going to be filled in with crushed rock.

## **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

***Charlie made a motion to approve the October 20, 2020 Meeting Minutes. Joanne seconded the motion and all members stated aye they were in favor.***

***Charlie made a motion to approve the November 3, 2020 meeting minutes as amended by Denise last week. Jim seconded the motion and all members stated aye they were in favor.***

## **Other items that may come before the committee:**

Joanne would like to discuss projects that we need to get funded.

1. If ConCom decides they want the Christmas Tree Meadow plowed that could get expensive. It would be a one-time plowing then later can re-seed it and mow it.
2. The committee has been discussing potential viewing platform at several locations along the water's edge over the past three years. The nicest location is just east of the main straight path heading north to the Hoag Boardwalk, near the bench. It looks out to the former cranberry bog). The second location of interest, suggested by the Conway School report, is on the east side of the Adams Street meadow. The committee discussed whether these could be funded by the town, or whether they are candidates for grants. Because of the proximity to the water, ConCom would have jurisdiction and would need to decide what kind of construction would be needed (for example, would helical piles be required). This would determine who could build them (professional vs. volunteer) and how much they would cost.

3. Creation of some more easily walkable, stroller-friendly trails beginning 2021:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Cost for Crusher Run</u>
a) Community Farm herb garden, ca. 400' + parking spot	\$ 750
b) Adams Street meadow, ca. 800'	\$1500
c) Amphitheater, from parking to river only, ca. 300'	\$ 650

Some labor could be done by DPW (est. one trail by end of spring), any outsourced excavation is currently contracted at \$5000/day, a small trail would be about 1 day of work.

4. Need a few more benches along the trails, many of the current ones are temporary, improvised ones.
5. Need more signs and a kiosk at the new parking lot on Lovering Street.
6. Joanne stated Tina would like to have an actual trail with crusher stone from Lovering and loop around to the Christmas Tree Farm and back. After a brief discussion, members decided to focus on the smaller projects right now.

Joanne will work with Tina and ConCom on these things and get cost estimates.

### **Action Items**

1. Everyone -Rank order of possible grant topics and send to Tina by 12.8.20.
2. Everyone- Review Charlie's maps by the next meeting.
3. Joanne- Will send the property descriptions to Jim ASAP.
4. Joanne- Will send the bridge names to Charlie.
5. Joanne- Will get cost estimates for the projects that need to be finished.

### **Adjourn**

*Charlie made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm. Jim seconded the motion and all members stated aye were in favor.*

Respectfully submitted by,

Tracy Rozak