

Committee Members

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



TOWN OF MEDWAY

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

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Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, no in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted at this meeting.

Joint Meeting – Open Space Committee with OSRP Task Force Tuesday, October 20, 2020 7:30 pm REMOTE MEETING

Attendance	Tina Wright	Jim Wickis	Denise Legee	Charlie Ross	Joanne Williams	Mike Francis	Bruce Hamblin
Present	X	X	X	X	Arrived at 8:00pm		

OSRP Members present: Susy Affleck- Childs, Bridget Graziano, Paul Atwood, Debi Rossi, David Blackwell, Matt Hayes, Julie Harrington, and Dave D'Amico

Tina Wright called the Open Space meeting to order at 7:37 pm.

Matt Hayes called the OSRP Task Force Meeting to order at 7:37 pm.

Continue to share information on what the respective boards, committees and departments are doing to implement the recently approved Open Space and Recreation Plan.

The group reviewed action items #17 though #52 of Table 9-1 of the OSRP Seven Year Action Plan.

#17 Tina stated this is ongoing; Joanne and Denise are working with DPW on this it is being addressed as needed. Lovering Street -Adams Street- Glenn was going to give an update. Jim Wickis thinks the Nelon Lane area and the area by the police station should be added to this because there is a. no access or parking. There is parking on the side of the road. Jim mentioned that the rail bed all the way to Millis is used by various residents and access to this should be looked at again. Matt thinks we should have a meeting to discuss major issues with open spaces.

#18 Tina stated the Economic Development Commission is doing this and Susy will update us as needed.

#19 Tina stated we have talked about this in #1-16 but we are not perfect and have some communication issues but we have made progress and it is ongoing. We need to look at the funding for baselines in the future to set priorities.

#20 Tina asked if we should have a sub division for this. Identify 3-4 priorities and decide how to approach the land owners and present a plan at the next quarterly meeting. Debi asked if the town has a grant writer. Bridget said she and Stephanie Carlisle have written several grants but they can't write them all. If there is something Open Space needs she is willing to do a few. Tina stated it would be nice to have a list of upcoming grants that we could review at the quarterly meeting. Susy stated she and Bridget get info about grants from the state and try to funnel that information to them. Dave D'Amico suggested looking into capital funding for a grant writer. Tina suggested trying to get funding for Ms. Espinoza to write some grants as she writes grant part time in the winter.

#21- #24 and #22 We know there are priority lands- Cassidy, Briggs etc. We should make a list of the top 3-4 we want to tackle and make sub groups to work with the owners. Open Space will make a list and bring it up at the next quarterly meeting. Paul, Susy and Bridget will be invited to the next meeting to discuss the various land parcels.

#25 Open Space will continue to look into this. Joanne stated the trail is very uneven from dirt bikes riding over it but if you can get volunteers with shovels they can fix it pretty easily. Susy stated they might be able to do a mini master plan for the rail trail which will be a multi- year plan due to the legal ownership.

#26 Susy stated we have the Land Management Plan but this piece of land is under the jurisdiction of the Board of Selectmen. Need to discuss and commit to the use of it. Bridget stated the Adams Street field was purchased with CPC money and it was a pet project for Jim and Bridget. Bridget stated it is under the Conservation Commissions jurisdiction not for ownership but for wetlands. The parcel incorporates the field, part of the walking trail and part of the wetland.

#27 Charlie and Joanne are working on this with Fran Hutton.

#28 - #33 Tina stated Susy and the board are actively working on this and Susy will continue to update the Open Space Committee. # 31 is for the Planning Board. # 33 Pocket Parks – Planning of these should be discussed with AdCom and the board continues to work on this with the developers. Joanne asked about the status of the little park on Deerfield. Tina stated it has been cleared twice and it is difficult to maintain. Joanne stated we might be able to get a group of volunteers to invest in it. Matt thinks it would be great to get the neighborhood involved. Joanne volunteered to canvass the neighborhood and see if there is any interest. She will update us at the next meeting. Dave Blackwell asked about the pocket park on Mechanic Street. Dave D'Amico stated the DPW will be involved in managing it.

#34 Tina stated they are working with Bellingham and Franklin on the Charles River area. Nothing has been done with Holliston yet but it is on their radar when the opportunities arise. Joanne spoke with the Holliston Trail Committee about the cross use of trails.

#35 Tina stated there is some reluctance from the utility companies to work with us on this. Joanne stated they are clear cutting under the power lines and leaving clumps of certain bushes. She spoke to the foreman and he was very receptive to leaving natives there when possible. She asked about the winterberry, he said if they are covered with bittersweet then they will take them out. She stated he was receptive if we work with them and they flag the ones they would remove and we could remove the invasives. Joanne needs to know who to speak to about this. Tina stated we should develop a process that we implement. Who should have the initial discussion with the utility companies? Dave D'Amico stated he will check with Steve Caruso as he might have a contact person.

#36 and #37 Susy and Paul will work on this and update everyone at the next meeting.

#38 Tina stated she, Jim and Joanne walked the property and it was very wet. We might want to defer this to a later date rather than 2021. Debi Rossi stated they are looking at the property for multiple uses as well.

#39 Develop a coordinated marketing campaign. Tina stated we might want to have a separate meeting with various people from different groups to see what everyone is doing and coordinate it better than we already are. This might be a project for Sandy Johnson and to get the School Committee involved. Tina could help coordinate a zoom meeting on this.

#40 Charlie, Joanne and Julie are working on this. Charlie stated the Medway Trail Club group is made up of private individuals. The Medway Open Space page consists of him and Richard and he posts things there.

#41 Tina thinks everything is pretty well marked. Denise is working on Millstone and will finish that area soon.

#42 Tina stated this falls under developing a coordinated marketing program. Jim is doing some of this now and will continue to do that. Charlie stated you would want to generate the content and put it into a marketing form and distribute it.

#43 ties in with #42. We should get the teachers involved. Tina will reach out to Tim Fagerson on the School Committee.

#44 Tina stated this is happening and ongoing.

#45 This is a topic for CPC. Matt will bring this up at one their meetings.

#46 This is ongoing. Julie, Jim and the Trail Club have been doing a lot.

#47 Joanne stated she spoke with the Cultural Council about the Beaver Project. She is working with Jim Wickes on signage and applying for a grant.

#48 This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

#49 Joanne has been doing a lot of this out on the trails.

#50 We are currently doing this. Tina asked if we should present something to the Board of Selectmen. Dave D'Amico stated February might be a good time. Joanne stated November might be a good time to tell them what we've done in the spring and fall and wrap that into a budget discussion.

#51 They will have discussions with the School Committee.

#52 This was addressed earlier in the meeting.

Review and approval of minutes of the October 6, 2020 OSRP Task Force Meeting

Debi Rossi made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as amended from the October 6, 2020 Open Space Committee/OSRP Task Force meeting. David Blackwell seconded the motion and all members stated aye they were in favor.

Decide on Next Meeting:

It was decided the next meeting will be in mid March.

Adjourn

Charlie Ross made a motion to adjourn the Open Space meeting at 9:14 pm. Joanne seconded the motion and all members stated aye they were in favor.

Paul Atwood made a motion to adjourn the Open Space Task force meeting at 9:14 pm. Julie Harrington seconded the motion and all members stated aye they were in favor.

Respectfully submitted by,
Tracy Rozak