

Committee Members

Tina Wright, Co-Chair
Denise Legee, Co-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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**Tuesday, August 3, 2021 7:00 pm
Medway Senior Center**

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

Other Attendees: Sharon Callahan and Andrea Burke

- **Call to Order**

Tina opened the meeting at 7:15 pm.

Sharon Callahan and Andrea Burke are interested in joining the Open Space Committee. They introduced themselves to the committee and told us a little about their background and experiences. Tina thanked them for coming and explained how the Open Space Committee works.

- **Reorganization of the committee**

Co-Chairs- Tina Wright and Denise Legee will be Co-Chairs.
Clerk- Charlie Ross will continue in this role.

Joanne made a motion to appoint Denise Legee and Tina Wright as Co-chairs and Charlie Ross as the Clerk unless the town does not accept Co-Chairs. If not, Tina will remain as Chair and Denise as Vice-Chair. Mike seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Charlie will update the website and committee letterhead with the Co-Chair information.

- **Brochure Update**

Denise spoke with Sandy Johnston, Director of Communications, and they will meet in August. **Denise will set up a meeting time with Sandy in August.**

- **Maintenance of trail from Senior Center to Rail Bed (Tina for status of follow-up)**

Tina spoke with Glenn Trindade of the Select Board and she will reach out to the two property owners whose property backs up to the rail bed trail. People walk through this area already, but Tina will look into getting an official easement.

- **Medway Master Plan Task Force update**

Denise sent the summary to everyone. There were comments from the last meeting regarding the draft of existing conditions. The consultant did a great job writing the summary and it was easy to read. We are trying to do community outreach and get as many people as possible to complete the survey. So far, they have received about 250 completed surveys.

- **Lovering Street Parking Lot**

Joanne stated they used the tailings from the road construction. It is kind of like gravel and looks nice. The areas they sprayed look great. There are still patches of swallow wort that they are working on. Denise will talk to Steve Carew, DPW, about putting up an Open Space sign.

- **History of trolley crossing bridge at the Willows**

Joanne stated she was not sure where she was going to get the information from. Tina stated she was going to reach out to Mrs. Grace Hoag. Joanne showed the committee an old map. Joanne will get in touch with Mrs. Hoag.

- **Amphitheater Village Street Access**

Mike stated he looked on the Registry of Deeds and found that the Reardon Family Trust claimed that area through adverse possession and the town agreed. Tina stated there is another possibility of coming in from the Town Hall but they would need to get an easement. This area is a steep slope at that point but you can walk on it. Mike will investigate alternate avenues to gain access.

- **Land Management Plan Update**

Joanne stated Steve Carew has taken over the responsibility of the mowing from Choate to Lovering and mowed from the Lee property to the boardwalk. He mowed the alternate trail through the meadow near the old Christmas tree farm, south of Larussi Way, across to the power lines which meet up with the main trail. Steve will mow these areas regularly. Joanne stated the ticks and poison ivy have been reduced because of the mowing. Mike stated it would be a good idea to have Steve clean the mower blades in between the different areas to stop the spread of invasives. Denise will mention this to Steve.

- **Treating Invasives**

Charlie stated Jim sent an update in an email. Charlie read the email to the committee. The email stated that the herbicide treatment of bittersweet vines (at the back of the Adams Street Meadow to the stone wall) is planned for the second week of August.

- **Coordination of scout and volunteer projects**

Tina sent an email to Michael Boynton, Town Manager, and will follow up with him.

- **Dog signs**

Denise stated she spoke with Julie Harrington, Director of Parks and Recreation, about putting up signs that say dogs are allowed if on a leash. Julie told her she would bring it up at her meeting the following night but Denise has not heard back from her yet after a few follow-ups. Denise will email with a suggestion.

- **Facebook posts on open positions and Amphitheater bridges**

Charlie stated he worked with the IT department to get the link to work. He coordinated the Facebook posts about the open positions and the bridges.

- **Mowing of meadow south of Larussi Way**

Joanne stated Steve Carew has not been able to get into the area since we have had so much rain. Once the area dries out, Steve will try to find a way to get the big mowing equipment in there and not get stuck. The committee discussed different ways to get to the area. The best way to get in might be behind the houses near the fences but you might have to move the bridge over the rocks to get by.

- **Lee property access**

Denise stated Charlotte Lee was going to write a formal letter allowing access through their property for DPW to do maintenance on the trail. Joanne added that Charlotte was very helpful and accommodating and stated she would be happy to write a letter. Joanne will follow up with Charlotte about the letter.

- **Other items that may come before the committee**

Open Meeting Law: Charlie reminded the committee members to sign and send in the Open Meeting Law document.

Remote attendance: Joanne mentioned that committee members are allowed to attend meetings remotely for legitimate reasons. You have to sign a form beforehand and this has to be mentioned at the meeting. The person must have access to all the meeting materials that will be presented. Charlie stated a committee still has to have an in-person

quorum. He also mentioned that most of the town's conference rooms lack speakerphones, which would make participation difficult.

Water Trail: Joanne stated she met with Tim Rice and he talked to the home owners at Neelon Lane and some of the properties around the Charles. He is interested in helping to promote the trail with advertising, photography etc.

Bridges Festival: Joanne reminded everyone about the Bridges Festival on Sept 25 & 26th. She asked that everyone help spread the word and promote this event. It was suggested that putting up posters at the next couple summer concerts, movie nights and the Farmers Market might be a good idea.

- **Approval of June 15, 2021 Minutes:**

Denise stated that, moving forward, we should always use last names the first time someone is mentioned in the meeting minutes so that the general public will know who we are referring to.

Denise made a motion to approve the June 15, 2021 meeting minutes as amended. Joanne seconded the motion and they were unanimously approved.

- **Adjourn**

Joanne made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 PM. Denise seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Next meeting will be at 7PM.

Respectfully submitted by,
Tracy Rozak