

Committee Members

Tina Wright, Co-Chair
Denise Legee, Co-Chair
Charlie Ross, Clerk
Andrea Burke, Member
Laura Connolly, Member
Mike Francis, Member
Jim Wickis, Member
Joanne Williams, Member



TOWN OF MEDWAY COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

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**October 5, 2021- 7:00 PM
Medway Senior Center**

Attendance	Tina Wright	Jim Wickis	Denise Legee	Charlie Ross	Joanne Williams	Mike Francis	Andrea Burke	Laura Connolly
Present		x	x	X zoom	x	x	x	x

Also present: Susan Affleck-Childs (Zoom) & Rich Di Iulio, PEDB Liaison

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting will be conducted in person and, as a courtesy, via remote means in accordance with applicable law. Please note that while an option for remote attendance and/or participation is being provided as a courtesy to the public and board members, the meeting/hearings will not be suspended or terminated if technological problems interrupt the virtual broadcast, unless required by law. Information for participating in the meeting via Zoom is included at the end of this Agenda.

Denise called the meeting to order 7:16 pm. Susan, Rich, Jim, Laura, Andrea, Joanne, Mike, Charlie and Denise all stated they were present.

Update on Potential New Members (Tina and Denise)

Denise stated we now have the two new members-. Andrea Burke and Laura Connelly. Denise stated Bruce has resigned so we have one more opening for a member. Susan offered to post something on FB to recruit a new member.

Medway Master Plan Task Force update (Denise)

Denise stated we had a community forum on Sunday and had a lower turnout than hoped, maybe around 65 people attended. The people that attended were very thoughtful and gave their comments. Susy stated their Consultant Jen Goldstein did a presentation and it is posted on the town website. There will also be an interactive version of the forum on the website soon and people can look at it and provide comments. Susy stated we are in the 6th month of an 18 month process and there will be a working secession in November.

Quick Status Updates:

Trail from Senior Center to Rail Bed (Tina)

Not discussed

History of trolley crossing bridge at the Willows (Joanne)

Joanne stated she wasn't able to get to this but will have an update at the next meeting.

Amphitheater Village Street Access - Alternate Approach (Mike)

Mike stated he made a phone call to Mr. Boczanowski but got a voice recording that instructed you to send a fax or to call back. He called a few times but wasn't able to reach him. Mike did some quick research and found that the parcel down next to the amphitheater parking has 6 separate owners listed for the condo parcel. Mr. Boczanowski was listed as the owner of three of them. There were three other owners listed. Boczanowski Realty Trust sold the 3 condos to the other owners.

Action: Mike will keep trying to reach Mr. Boczanowski by telephone.

Requesting DPW to clean mower blades to avoid spreading invasives (Jim)

Jim stated he talked to Steve Carew and he will bring a blower to clean up after the mower.

Bittersweet treatment at Adams Street meadow (Jim)

Jim stated 3 weeks ago, the contractor for the herbicide for the bittersweet came in and met with Steve Carew. He had flagged the areas around the meadow. They spent about three hours hand spraying the bittersweet. They could not reach the bittersweet on the far east side, as it was too high to reach. The spraying worked well, but they missed some spots. Jim thinks they would need to bring the contractor back next year or tackle it by hand in the spring.

Action: Jim will check with DPW on how they want to handle it.

Town-wide treatment of invasives (Jim)

Jim stated the plan is sitting with the Conservation Commission.

Action: Jim will follow up with them on that.

Form for coordination of scout and volunteer projects (Joanne)

Joanne stated she is still working on the form for volunteer projects. She has some questions and will ask Susy for guidance about who should be the contact. Joanne read out loud what she has written so far and asked for suggestions. Mike stated they could also add invasive plant removal as a suggested project. Denise asked Joanne to send the draft letter to all the committee members for comments. Mike suggested they record all the forms they receive into an excel spreadsheet or logbook for reference.

Action: Joanne will send the draft letter to the group. Joanne will run the letter by Susy or someone at the town hall to clarify some of the terms before sending it to the committee members.

Mowing of meadow south of Iarussi Way (Joanne)

Joanne stated she did not get a chance to talk to Bridget Graziano yet. Denise stated she noticed someone made a swath through the trail. Joanne stated Steve can get in there with his mower and cut down the poison ivy and he cleaned up near the fork in the path. Joanne would like to write a letter to DPW thanking Steve for all of his work.

Joanne made a motion to write a letter to the DPW thanking Steve for his work. Andrea seconded the motion and Denise, Jim, Laura, Rich, Andrea, Joanne, Mike and Charlie all stated aye they were in favor and it was unanimously approved.

Trail maintenance at Millstone Village (Joanne)

This was actually Denise's action. Denise stated Millstone has transferred management of the property over to their condo association and are not using the developer anymore. Bridget sent her a few maps and stated Millstone needs to take care of the trail around the property and the one that goes out to Lovering but the town is responsible for the easement. Charlie stated the easement is probably the space along the wetlands on the west side of the property. Denise stated Susy said we should get a memorandum of understanding so everyone knows who is responsible.

Action: Denise to clarify easement and who is responsible for which areas for next meeting.

Discussion of Open Space Committee Meetings Format – live, remote, hybrid

Denise stated most of us prefer to meet in person. Everyone agreed. The next meeting will be in person moving forward.

Approval of Minutes:

Mike made a motion to approve the September 7, 2021 Meeting Minutes as submitted.

Joanne seconded the motion and Jim, , Joanne, Mike, Charlie, and Denise all stated aye they were in favor and the minutes. Laura and Andrea abstained because they were not yet appointed at the time of the last meeting.

Other items that may come before the committee

Denise stated the town has received a \$50,000 grant from the state for the trail around the Adams Street Meadow. They need an additional \$65,000 and have asked the CPC. The Select Board will put a warrant article at the next town meeting.

Action: Joanne will check with Susy to find out who the Project Manager is for the project to make sure that there is opportunity for Open Space input.

Jim stated he took a look at the trail at the Willows and there isn't a trail sign there. What is happening with the trail?

Jim stated that across from the Amphitheater in Franklin there are a number of trails that go from the power lines to the river. They are not well developed but you can go online and get a map of the area. Joanne stated there is an easement at Adams Street.

Action: Joanne will talk to Michael Boynton about what we could possibly do at the Adams Street Easement.

Jim stated a real feature of the Franklin trail is the huge white pines. We should have a map at the Amphitheatre showing the trails on the Franklin side.

Denise stated some people she met at the Master Plan Forum commented to her that the idea of a water trail behind the Willows is great but you can't put a canoe in the river because of all the weeds growing there. This should be researched further. Andrea also mentioned that there is another possible landing point besides the ones we have identified near the old bowling alley.

Jim stated Steve Carew has started working on the black locust that fell down near the Amphitheater. Jim stated Bridget spoke to Stumpy's Tree Service and they may have to bring in a crane to take out the fallen trees and three dead ash trees that are still standing. **Action:**
Jim will reach out to the Charles River Water Shed to see what they can do to help.

Rich asked if there is anything he can do to help from the Planning Board. Joanne stated they could really use a small shed 10 by 12 for keeping small tools and equipment and a small budget for tools and maintenance equipment to maintain the trails. The location for the shed has not been determined yet. Joanne stated a small storage space inside a town building would work too.

Jim mentioned having a trail near the Senior Center to the rail bed if they could get access to it. There are two privately owned properties in between. Mike stated they could look at the map that Charlie worked on. Charlie stated they should also look at traversing the well property. This is the agenda item that Tina was responsible for. We can discuss at the next meeting..

Mike stated Bresnahan's Landing and the on Ohnemus Trail still do not have signs. Mike asked if there are any Open Space signs available. Denise stated there is one sign left and there may be some money in the budget. Joanne suggested having another sign at Idyllbrook and maybe moving the sign at Choate Park as people have said they can't see it.

Adjourn

Charlie made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m. Mike seconded the motion and Jim, Laura, Andrea, Joanne, Mike, Charlie and Denise all stated aye they were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tracy Rozak