

Committee Members

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



TOWN OF MEDWAY

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

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May 3, 2022 - 7:00 PM
Medway Senior Center

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

Denise called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

Members with expiring terms

Denise asked the members present whose terms are ending if they wanted to continue for another two-year term. Jim, Charlie, Denise, and Andrea all stated they would like to continue for another two-year term. Denise will check with Joanne and get this info to Susy Affleck-Childs, Planning and Economic Development Coordinator.

Open Space by Williamsburg Way

Jim stated this is owned and managed by the Conservation Commission. Bridget Graziano, Conservation Agent, has both of the meadows mowed twice per year and the perimeter trails as well. The condo association pays for the cost of the mowing. Jim asked if Open Space has any input or ideas about this space. Jim stated he and his son occasionally work on the invasives species over there. Denise suggested the committee members could meet there and walk around the property.

Action: Denise will coordinate a time to meet there.

Action: Charlie to GPS-capture the mowed trails and add to the brochure map.

Quick Status Updates

- **Denise**

Announcements and upcoming meetings

Denise stated the town meeting is next Monday. There is a special town meeting at 7pm and the regular meeting is at 7:30pm. Article 16 has \$5K in CPC funds for trail improvement that we may be able to use for signs and improvements.

Medway Master Plan Task Force (monthly update)

Denise stated the Open Space Committee held a special Zoom meeting on April 18th to discuss Phase 3 strategy recommendations for the Master Plan. Denise took the minutes and sent the feedback to Susy. There will be another Master Plan Task Force meeting in the next few weeks.

Medway Pride Day

Denise stated that Medway Pride Day will be May 21st this year. The Open Space Committee will be sharing a booth with the Medway Trail Club. The town will not be providing tables or tents, so we have to bring our own. Andrea, Mike, and Jim volunteered to spend some time at the booth. Denise will check with the other members. Mike offered to bring a tent and set it up.

- **Laura**

Brochure verbiage status

Laura stated the old brochure has a lot of things named in ways that people on the committee call by different names. Examples include the spelling of “Idylbrook Park” and how to refer to the land between Lovering and Adams Streets. Laura would like to come to a consensus on the naming. In discussion, the committee distinguished between the *property* names and the *trail* names. For the property between Lovering and Adams Streets, the committee decided to go with “Chicken Brook Corridor.”

Jim pointed out that there are a couple of typos in the verbiage. Mike suggested shortening “Canine Recreation Park” to just “Dog Park.”

Laura reported that she had asked Julie Harrington, Parks and Recreation Director, about what might be replacing the Choate Park basketball courts. Julie stated this is to be determined.

- **Charlie**

Brochure map status

- Charlie added properties and trails since the last meeting. He added temporary numbers to unlabeled properties to facilitate discussion.
- Rail Bed and Army Corps lands (temporary label #50): Charlie added the trail along the rail bed (temporary label #50). The committee discussed whether to label this space and decided that, since discussions are still underway regarding access to the well site, we would leave it unlabeled for now.
- Pine Ridge OSRD (temporary label #51): The space is shown. However, full public access isn’t really available, and the committee decided not to label it.
- Charles View Lane OSRD (temporary label # 52): This is commonly referred to as the Neelon Lane property. There was a brief discussion about saying this space is “Town-owned open space, with developments forthcoming, and no parking.” The committee decided to label it on the map.
- The Willows ARCPUD (temporary label # 53): This is private property, but with public access and parking. There will eventually be an extensive trail network. One trail is partially complete. The committee decided to include a label and description in the brochure.
- Former Wilson/Redgate Farm (temporary label #54): The committee decided to show the property, but not label it.
- Williamsburg Way OSRD (temporary label #55): There are mowed trails here. The committee decided to label this and add a description.

- Space behind main fire station (temporary label #56): There used to be a trail here but it was not maintained. The committee decided not to label it.
- Millstone Village ARCPUD (temporary label #57): This is privately owned, but has publicly-accessible trails. There is parking on Cobblestone Drive and there is an Open Space sign at the trail head. The committee decided to label this and add a description.
- Medway VFW (temporary label#58): The committee decided to label it add a description.
Action: Laura will ask Julie about how the fields are used.
- Deerfield Pond (#19): Charlie stated he went to Deerfield Pond on Saturday. He is concerned that portions of the trails may be on private property. Cell phone GPS has a significant margin of error, but the readings go beyond the range that he normally sees. The 2015 brochure doesn't show the portion of the then-existing trail that Charlie is concerned about. **Action: Denise to follow up with the appropriate parties.**
- **Jim**
Town-wide treatment of invasives
Jim stated he and Bridget will be holding a couple of classes about invasives coordinated through Parks and Recreation. They will see how many people come to the classes.
- **Mike**
Ohnemus DPW discussions re: parking lot
Mike stated the town has been doing some work there mostly cutting limbs and cleaning up. He has left messages for Bridget but needs to follow up with her. They need to decide where to put the Open Space sign and parking.

Amphitheater Alternate Village Street Access (continue discussions with condo owners)
Mike had no new updates. **Action: Mike will reach out to the condo owner that emailed him.**

Rail Trail east of Oakland (parking, water station proximity) Mike had no new updates. **Action: Mike will research other municipalities and see what they have done about access to trails adjacent to public water supplies.**
- **Tina** *(Not present at the meeting)*
Trail from Senior Center to Rail Bed (private parcel permissions)
No update

The Willows Trails (schedule walk with Bridget)
No update

Water Trail (talk with Bridget about getting river cleared)
No update
- **Joanne** *(Not present at the meeting)*
Trail maintenance at Millstone Village (coordinate with Bridget and DPW on trail that's the town's responsibility)
No update
- **Deerfield Open Space property update**
No update

- **Trail Safety (follow up with Police Chief)**
Charlie stated he emailed with Sergeant Watson and he would like a map of all the trails for public safety reasons. Charlie offered to help

Approval of April 5, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Andrea made a motion to approve the April 5, 2022, meeting minutes with two minor amendments. Jim seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the minutes were approved.

Other items that may come before the committee

- **Approval of April 18, 2022, Meeting Minutes**

Charlie made a motion to accept the April 18, 2022, minutes as written. Andrea seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the minutes were approved.

Adjourn

Charlie made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 pm. Mike seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Tracy Rozak