

## Committee Members

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



# TOWN OF MEDWAY

## COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

### OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

Medway Town Hall  
155 Village Street  
Medway, MA 02053  
Telephone (508) 321-4890  
Email: [openspacecommittee@townofmedway.org](mailto:openspacecommittee@townofmedway.org)  
[www.townofmedway.org](http://www.townofmedway.org)

**Tuesday, September 5, 2023 – 7:00 PM**  
**Medway Senior Center**  
**76 Oakland Street**  
**Medway MA 02053**

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

***Also present:*** *Jeremy Thompson*, Planning & Economic Development Coordinator

***Denise called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.***

#### **• Announcements and upcoming meetings (Denise)**

There were none.

#### ***Jeremy Thompson, Planning & Economic Development Coordinator***

Jeremy Thompson introduced himself to the committee and stated he has been in his position for about three months now. Jeremy stated he is from Framingham and his background is in public policy/regional planning.

Jeremy has been going to a lot of committee and board meetings and learning a lot about Medway. He is interested to know how the Open Space Committee interconnects with the other committees and the town.

Tina asked Jeremy where he sees the town going. Jeremy stated he is looking to retool the residential development bylaws as they are out of touch with current patterns. He wants to learn more about the trail network in Medway. Denise stated if all the committees and groups communicated with each other things could work better. Tina thought using the Master Plan and having a Zoom meeting with all the groups to discuss what is happening would be a good idea. Jeremy stated he met with the GIS Coordinator and hopes to work with him on future projects. Jeremy stated he looked at the demographics for Medway and saw there is a large senior population and senior housing will be needed. Jeremy has been looking at other towns and noticed some towns haven't had a new OSRD in a long time; Medway is the same way. He is wondering whether the

bylaw focus could be changed to make them easier for developers and rejuvenate interest. Tina stated that preserving the farmlands and adding affordable senior housing is really important. Charlie stated Susy Affleck- Childs, the former Planning & Economic Development Coordinator was very good about keeping the committee chairs informed on such things and he hopes that Jeremy will continue to do that. If a new proposal for a subdivision comes in it would be helpful if he could send the committee chairs a courtesy copy as they might have an interest in some of them.

### **Action Item Follow-Ups**

#### **• Bench placement on trails (Denise)**

Denise stated we decided on a standardized bench that will be secured into the ground. She submitted the project form and Bridget Graziano, the Conservation Agent, had concerns about the one we wanted near the Boots and Bonnets bridge on the Choate to High school trail. Bridget is worried about using concrete too close to wetland, she stated it needs to be 25 feet away. The other bench will go on the trail near Larussi Way overlooking Chicken Brook. A third bench, purchased by Stephen Williams, will go in between the two boardwalks in the wooded area and be dedicated to Joanne Williams. This one will be installed by the Trail Club. **Action: Denise will continue to work with Bridget and DPW to get the benches installed.**

#### **• Ohnemus DPW discussions re: parking lot – meeting with Town Manager (Mike)**

This will be discussed at the next meeting.

#### **• Brochure map (Charlie)**

No update on the brochure map. **Action: Charlie will send shape files to Jacon Frankel, GIS coordinator and discuss what the maps should look like.**

#### **• How to record donations to the town (Jim)**

Tina stated this has been completed. Jim contacted Carol Pratt and sent her a copy of the letter and gave her and Denise a copy of the letter.

#### **• Easements for access on private property (Survey updates for Oakland and Adams Streets) (Tina)**

Tina stated she got a quote for surveying the easements. The surveyor still has to walk the property, but the estimated cost is \$8,000 and we might be able to use CPC funds. This covers the two properties near Oakland and the Lees' property on Lovering.

Tina explained that on the property near Oakland, part of the trail is owned by two property owners that have agreed to give us an easement, but it must be surveyed first.

The Lee property which abuts the Boardwalk Trail needs an easement for access of mowing equipment and emergency vehicles.

#### **• Water trail (Andrea, Tina)**

Andrea stated we are waiting on a question for Bridget Graziano. Tara mentioned there are many fallen trees near Bresnahan's Landing. Tina stated that she should let her

know the location and she will notify Steve Carew. **Action: Tina will check with Bridget to see what her schedule is like this month.**

- **Fall Town Meeting**

Tina asked if there is anything that we want to bring up, anything for the warrant or any items for Free Cash. Tina stated it is unlikely that we would get anything from Free Cash as there is a waiting list. Andrea asked about maintaining the new shed. Tina stated that is maintenance and would not be under the Capital budget.

- **Project at Adams Street Meadow**

Denise stated she and Tina received a response from Bridget Graziano about why the trail turned out the way it did. This included the design plans, which the committee had not seen before.

Bridget explained that if the trail were flush to the ground that would require digging down, which in turn would require an archaeological study. Tina stated there might have been a timing issue at play as well.

Tina stated, in the future, we would like to at least be notified or have a task force set up for any projects related to Open Space properties.

Charlie commented that he was pleased that the plans did specify that the top few inches would be stone dust, so the reclaimed asphalt would be hidden. He asked if the sides of the elevated trail are going to be tapered off, as he didn't notice this in the plans. Tina stated Bridget said they would be tapered off and any fill brought in must be clean.

Tina stated we should wait and see how it turns out as there is nothing, we can do now but moving forward we need to be kept informed.

- **Betania II**

Denise explained that this property is next to Idylbrook Park and all or part of it has been sold to a developer. Our main concern is that we want to be involved so that we can assure we maintain a connection through that area to get to the Holliston Rail Trail. Charlie thinks this is one of the most beautiful properties in the town. He checked the Registry of Deeds and there have been 5 parcels sold Tina stated the Select Board is aware of it. **Action: Tina will send an email to Barbara St. Andre, Michael Boynton, and Glenn Trindade stating we know the property has been sold and we'd like to maintain access and to please notify us if there are any meetings about it.**

- **Certificate of appreciation to Susy Affleck-Childs**

Denise stated Charlie put together a Certificate of Appreciation for Susy Affleck-Childs with a picture of one of our trails in the background. Everyone will sign it and Tina will get it to Susy.

**Action: Denise will take the cert and have Jim and Mike sign it and then get it back to Tina to send to Susy.**

• Approval of Minutes: • August 1, 2023

*Tina made a motion to approve the August 1, 2023 meeting minutes as distributed. Charlie seconded the motion and all members stated aye they were in favor and the minutes were approved.*

• Other items that may come before the committee

Tina stated she received an email from Liz Langley that there is someone interested in joining the committee. This person will be invited to our next meeting.

Andrea asked how she should respond to people asking questions on Facebook. In the Medway Trail Club group on Facebook, someone asked Adams Meadow ADA trail project looked to be stalled. Charlie stated if there are other questions in the future, she should let Charlie know and he can point them in the right direction. **Action: Charlie will comment in the Facebook post that the Trail Club isn't involved and suggest that the poster contact the town.**

• Adjourn

*Charlie made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 pm. Tara seconded the motion, and all members stated aye they were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.*

Respectfully submitted by  
Tracy Rozak