

Committee Members

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



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

TOWN OF MEDWAY COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, August 6, 2024 - 7:00 PM
Medway Senior Center
75 Oakland Street
Medway MA 02053

| Attendance | Tina Wright | Denise Legee | Charlie Ross | Andrea Burke | Mike Francis | Tara Rice | Andrea Guenther | Jim Wickis |
|------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|-----------------|------------|
| Present | X | X | X | X | | X | X | X |

Denise called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm.

- **Welcome to new member, Andrea Guenther**

Denise welcomed the new committee member, Andrea Guenther.

- **Bench installation and trail maintenance updates (Denise)**

Denise stated she spoke to Steve Carew and asked if he could get the two benches in before school starts. She sent him an email with the map showing the bench out by the observation area and the one as you come in from Millstone. The third bench will go in at Idylbrook in the back overlooking the pond.

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

No update as Mike was not present for the meeting.

- **Access on private property (Survey on Adams Street, agreements on Oakland Street) (Tina)**

Oakland Street properties- Tina stated she sent an email to Jeremy Thompson, Planning & Economic Development Coordinator to see if he has a draft letter they can use but he did not get back to her yet. Tina asked Charlie for help to identify where the current bike trail is so they can very specifically identify the area in the letter. The Adams Street property (Lee property) - Denise stated she went over a couple of times to see Charlotte Lee but she was not home. We need to know if she is willing to give us an easement

before the town uses funds to have the property survey. **Action Item: Denise will follow up with Charlotte.**

- **Water trail (Andrea, Tina)**

Tina stated Jim sent her an email today stating he will have some time to help with the grant. Tina will add her information and have Jim review it and then Andrea B. can do the final review.

- **Long-term solution for hornets under Hoag Boardwalk (Jim)**

Jim stated that a few months ago Steve told him he would take a look at it and might be able to put up screens under the boardwalk. Denise stated she spoke to Steve Carew last week and now he stated. the screens would not lay flat so the entire Boardwalk would probably have to be taken apart and put back together so much too expensive to do. For now, Denise put up temporary signs warning people of the hornets. **Action Item: Denise will look in to getting permanent signs.**

- **Reorganization of the Committee**

Co-Chair - Denise

Co-Chair - Tina

Clerk - Charlie

Andrea B. made a motion to nominate Tina and Denise as Co-Chairs and Charlie as Clerk. Andrea G. seconded the motion and all members agreed and the motion passed.

- **Walker/bicyclist conflict on town trails**

Jim stated that a few weeks ago he was at the tool shed and a woman came over to him and told him that a bicyclist came up behind her son on the trail and yelled at him to get out of the way. The woman said her son is autistic and he got excited and scared and didn't know where to go. She asked Jim if he had any thoughts on what to do about this. The woman stated she spoke to the Police Chief about this and he suggested she speak to Maryjane White, liaison to the Open Space Committee. Jim told the woman that he would bring this issue up at our next Open Space meeting.

Andrea G. stated there is a bike safety group that handles bike safety issues and maybe they could bring this up in their training. Tara stated her family uses bells on their bikes to notify walkers that they are coming. Tara also stated there are small signs on the rail trail in Holliston that say what to do when approaching a walker to say things like "on your left". Denise thinks we could do more about educating people. Charlie suggested we could post something to the Open Space Facebook page and/or the Trail Club Facebook page. Jim suggested putting up small signs that the trails are for everyone, bikes, walkers, wheelchairs and people must share it. **Action: Tara will look for existing signs she has seen on trails and will also check the national safety page and bring this information to the next meeting.**

- **Letter about Sanford Mill Dam**

Andrea G. stated the dam did pass inspection but the condo committee said they are not meeting in August so there is no update.

- **Approval of Minutes: • June 4, 2024**

Tina made a motion to approve the June 4, 2024 meeting minutes as amended and submitted last week. 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**

Denise stated she made a mistake with the account numbers when she ordered the bench, tools and signs for the Open Space Committee. She stated she intended all of the money to come out of the budget fund, but she thinks she gave them the account number for some other fund. The bench money came out of the budget fund and the other items came out of an older Trail Identification fund that needed to be closed out.

Andrea G. asked if the town designates an area as open space can this be changed later. Charlie stated it depends if it was privately owned or how it was designated.

Andrea B. stated she followed up with Bridget Graziano, Conservation Agent, about the opening of the ADA trail. Bridget stated the seedlings were not sprouting like they should so she wants to wait until they bloom and look nice so the opening may be delayed until the fall. Jim will look at the area to see if we need to make a plan.

- **Adjourn**

Jim made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 pm. Andrea seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be September 3, 2024.

Respectfully submitted by,
Tracy Rozak