

**The Town of Medway
Open Space Committee
Meeting Minutes -January 7, 2020
Sanford Hall
155 Village Street
Medway, MA 02053**

Attendance	Tina Wright	Jim Wickis	Denise Legee	Charlie Ross	Joanne Williams	Mike Francis	Bruce Hamblin	Brian Cowan
Present		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
					Arrived 7:28	Arrived 7:24		

Denise Legee opened the meeting at 7:15 pm.

Oak Grove (“bottle caps”) Update

Brian stated that this was approved at Town Meeting and the task force has been disbanded. They will see what happens when things get purchased. Nothing can be done until there is a large singular or group ownership. Jim asked who coordinates this and Brian stated it was the Redevelopment Authority.

Interim Management Plans

Denise stated the title of this should be the Interim Maintenance Plan. This is the same document that Jim showed us but it is now in a table format. All the actions are the same as before. The section on mowing frequency has been highlighted - no mowing until there is a hard frost. Everyone liked the format. Denise asked if there are other properties that should be added to this so DPS and other groups know what they need to do. It was suggested that the Canoe Launch, Deerfield Pond, and the walk around the park be added. Joanne suggested Williamsburg but it is still owned by the builder. The Oakland area could be added but part of it is public and then it crosses into private property. It was suggested using prefixes instead of numbering for the bridges. Charlie stated they need to ensure they are calling the things by the correct names such as a culvert or a bridge. When the weather is better, Charlie and Jim will walk the Boardwalk Trail property and clarify some of the bridge/culvert designations, then show them on a map that will be in the maintenance plan. Jim stated the next step will be for him and Joanne to talk to DPS again.

Management Plan for Boardwalk Trail

The committee went through the plan line by line. Charlie stated he reformatted it and included additional comments. Charlie stated he added the Chicken Brook Corridor into the Introduction section. Charlie suggested just discussing the two lower properties. Joanne asked about the loop around the meadow next to Lovering Street. Charlie stated this is owned by Millstone. Millstone has to maintain that part as it was in their filing. Denise stated she thought Susie wanted us to include these properties on our list. It was decided to reference these properties in the document in some way. Charlie stated on page 4, they should reference the Millstone properties. Joanne mentioned the property on Charles View (Neelon) Lane that has a trail around the development. The open space around it is town property. Mike stated it might be good to have a listing of all of the OSRDs in town. Charlie suggested listing ARCPUDs as well such as Millstone and The Willows (Salmon).

Charlie stated the middle section 20-003 was purchased with CPA funds. Section 29-003 was purchased in 2001 (before CPA) so it probably doesn't have restrictions. Charlie stated they intend to put the northern parcel (from the Iarussi OSRD) in the plan at a later time, probably 2021.

There was a question as to whether to list major abutters to the town property. Charlie stated that the major abutters were not in the prior plans and asked if they should be included in this plan. Charlie suggested not putting them in but noted they are major stake holders. Mike suggested putting parcel numbers showing the major abutters. After a brief discussion, the committee decided that no abutters will be listed.

Charlie stated there was not much in Section 2. The TBD was his suggestion. Joanne suggested that when referring to the link trail sections that they use the format – Adams to Lovering section. Jim stated he does not see any developments or recreation areas being put in there. Charlie stated section 29-003 is mostly wetlands and when they add the northern parcel it has to be used as Open Space. Denise stated the open field before the boardwalk could possibly be used for a picnic area but you can't drive to it.

Joanne stated there are a lot of mature cedars and some small ones coming up and felt they should be added to section 3. She also suggested changing the wording to the section about beavers. It should state the beavers try to maintain a dam there sometimes resulting in flooding problems and measures are undertaken.

Section 4- Charlie stated he put in the boardwalks and when they were built. Footbridge #3 was the first one built by the pond. Jim's draft stated there are two footbridges: the original one, and the one built by scouts over the last year. Charlie stated there will be a third one, the one that Paul just got approval for. The rest are culverts feeding/draining into the pond and we need to

determine ownership of these. Accessibility and maintenance of these areas also need to be determined.

Page 7- Charlie just formatted section 4 and made some minor wording changes in section 5 and 6. Charlie will also add in some wording here about ticks.

Objective 3, A and B will get done in the spring. C -the blazing should not stop at the property lines. Denise will work with Millstone on that. Several members would also like to see parking on Adams Street in the power line right-of-way. People should not have to walk in the road to get to the trails. It would have to be coordinated with Eversource, who holds the easement. #4 will investigate observation platform. 6B provide safe access to the cart path. 6C-implement other trails, 6D, update the trail maps annually.

Objective 4, #1 remove piles of rubble. Bruce mentioned that the EPA will prepare a detailed plan about removing rubble from a certain number of parcels, however, most towns shy away from it

Objective 5 -Charlie added # 1 and 2.

Section 7, #1 Keep Boundary Integrity – the committee discussed permanent boundary markers. # 5 Joanne suggested it state clear any blockages (not just beaver blockages)

Trail Development/Maintenance Coordination

To be discussed at a later time.

Lovering Street Purchase

Passed by Town Meeting. Not discussed, will be removed from the agenda for future meetings.

Crossing Bridges Link Trail

Not discussed, will be removed from the agenda

Amphitheater Access from Village Street

Mike Francis stated he does not have an update. Mike referred to the Forest Service Trail Accessibility Guidelines. Mike needs to talk to the engineering firm and have them modify one of the three plans and that will provide us with a slightly different option that what we currently have. They will need to get consensus and present it to Michael Boynton and explain why this is a good option. Michael Boynton had suggested not putting in steps because then you need to put in a ramp. Having it as a slope might be better. Mike Francis stated that the area to the east after the narrow corridor, towards the mill kind of goes down a slope and you would not gain much but to the west but could stay up high and add another 100 feet or so of trail.

Other Business which may come in front of the committee

Medway Community Farm

Joanne stated she had a meeting with Seth Terramane and the head of their board. They talked about helping with educational objectives and trail markers. They discussed their concerns about cutting down brush near the water. They will do a site walk in March. They suggested putting two benches overlooking the flower garden area and a little walk way around it.

The Charles River Trail

Joanne will look into the property lines.

Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Denise talked to Susie and offered to do the edits but Susie thought it would take more time to do it that way. She knows it's a priority and will try to get it done. The draft is about 90 percent correct so the Open Space Committee can use it to move forward.

Open Space Committee Minutes 12/3/19

Charlie made a motion to accept the amended minutes from the 12/3/19 meeting. Joanne seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Adjourn

Charlie made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:14pm. Jim seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Next Meeting:

Feb 4, 2019 at the Medway Senior Center

Respectively submitted by,

Tracy Rozak