

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

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Tuesday, October 3, 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	x		

Also present: Kevin Feldman, a potential new committee member

Denise called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

• Announcements and upcoming meetings (Denise)

There were none.

Potential new member(s) for the committee

Kevin introduced himself to the committee and stated he is originally from Somerset, Massachusetts, lived in Texas for 12 years, and moved to Medway about a year ago. He loves to be outside and this committee seemed interesting to him. The committee members introduced themselves and spoke a little bit about their backgrounds.

• Bench installation on trails (Denise)

Denise stated they have the two benches to be installed. The bench for Joanne was purchased by Stephen Williams and the Trail Club and installed by Trail Club volunteers. The dedication ceremony had thirty people in attendance. **Action: Denise to follow up with Steve Carew, DPW on the timing for the installation.**

• Certificate of appreciation to Susy Affleck-Childs – signatures and mailing (Denise, Tina)

Denise stated she had all the committee members sign the certificate and she gave it to Tina to send to Susan Affleck- Childs.

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

Mike stated he ran into Select Board Member, Mary Jane White at the Ohnemus parking lot and she stated she parked in the grassy area and is aware of the situation. Mike will set up a meeting to discuss this at a Select Board meeting. **Action : Mike will schedule a time to meet with the Select Board.**

- **Brochure map (Charlie)**

Charlie stated he doesn't have an update at this time but hopes to have more time when he goes part time. **Action: Charlie to get the shape files to the GIS coordinator.**

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

Denise stated Tina told her she has some information but still needs to get more about how they will do the survey and what we will be paying for. **Action : Tina will continue to gather information.**

- **Letter expressing the committee's interest in planning at Betania II (Tina)**

Denise stated Tina sent an email to Barbara St. Andre, Director of Community & Economic Development, letting her know we heard about the property being purchased and that the Open Space Committee would like to stay involved. Barbara stated she will take that into consideration but they have not received any plans yet but she will keep the Open Space Committee in the loop. Denise asked if anyone would like to volunteer to get more involved in this by attending any PEDB meetings on this topic. Mike stated he might be able to attend some meetings. Charlie stated when he goes to part-time work he could volunteer for something like that but not yet.

Mike stated he spoke to Bridget, Conservation Agent about the Betania property. The owner/developer showed Bridget some preliminary plans and it sounds like he is not interested in keeping the main building there so they might ask the town if they want it. Part of the property has a dormitory that the owner wants to keep but reduce it by half and make the larger units into apartments. There are three to four building lots near the street that could be single family homes. There is frontage past the dormitory near Idyllbrook at the end of that road. The owner is reportedly open to an OSRD to incorporate more units and provide more protected open space.

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

Denise reported that Tina reached out to Bridget. They plan to kayak the river together in the future to look for places that kayaks could stop along the river.

The topic of kiosks came up as they are at a couple of the landing spots we are looking at. Action : Charlie will get a listing of all the kiosk locations.

- **Project at Adams Street Meadow**

Denise stated she noticed that there was a big pile of trail material that now looks like it has been spread out. Charlie stated he addressed the Facebook commenter and directed them to the DPW. Jim mentioned he was concerned about the fill that was brought in and he noticed some plants growing in it but nothing seemed to be a problem. Denise stated the plan stated any loam brought in had to be clean so it appears they are adhering to the guideline. •

Possible future discussion about priority Open Space priority parcels

This will be discussed by Tina at a future meeting.

- **Approval of Minutes: • September 5, 2023**

Charlie made a motion to approve the September 5, 2023 meeting minutes as distributed. Tara seconded the motion and all members stated they were in favor and the minutes were approved.

- **Other items that may come before the committee**

Tara stated the area where the volleyball court used to be at Choate Park is starting to grow in. She would love to see a natural play area for children with logs put in there. Denise stated this area is under the Parks & Recreation oversight and she could make a suggestion to Julie Harrington, Parks & Recreation Director. Andrea stated Stony Brook has a natural playground and the kids seem to really enjoy it.

Andrea stated that the Mass Open Space network is having a zoom meeting on Oct 11th from 12-1 pm about neighborhood projects. Andrea stated there is a lot of money available for these projects. Charlie stated if anyone has any mailing lists they are on and would like to share with the committee, please send them to him. **Action Andrea will send the zoom email information to Denise. She will try to attend.**

Jim stated he was given a box of binders from the Atwood family that belonged to David Hoag. The binders have a lot of data from 2001 and earlier about all the properties in town and who owns them etc. Jim wondered if anyone would like to look through it. There are a lot of maps with earlier stages of developments through the town. Mike wondered if the Planning Department would want to have any of the information digitized if there are any valuable plans in there. Andrea suggested there might be a town archivist who might want to keep these records. Mike suggested giving these binders to the Planning Board to determine if they are valuable. **Action Item- Jim will check with the Planning Board to see if they want to keep any of it.**

- **Adjourn**

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

Respectfully submitted by
Tracy Rozak