

## Committee Members

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

**February 1, 2022 - 7:00 PM**  
**Remote Meeting**

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

Pursuant to the Massachusetts Legislature's June 16, 2021 enactment of Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, an act extending certain Covid-19 measures adopted during the State of Emergency, under which public bodies retain the option of holding open meetings and hearings remotely until April 1, 2022, and in accordance with the Medway Select Board's remote participation policy as amended at their July 2, 2021 meeting, Open Space Committee members will participate remotely for this meeting. Access via Zoom is provided for public participation for those portions of the meeting open to the public.

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

## Brochure Update

- **Layout/verbiage (Laura)**

Laura sent the edits out via Google docs and later resent them as a PDF. People can email her their suggestions or edits. There is a lot of stuff that is not on the brochure. so at some point we should figure out what we want on the map. There is some mileage information on the town website but not for a lot of the trails. Charlie sent info on an app that easily captures walking distances to Denise and Laura and they will give it a try. Joanne has some questions about the Link Trail and will call Laura. Denise has a few edits that she will send to Laura. Charlie asked about the word count. Laura thinks it's a lot shorter, her text is in bold and the old text is not in bold.

- **Map (Charlie)**

Charlie stated he captured the new trail along the Christmas Tree Meadow. He is going to capture the trail from McGovern to Holliston Street and the nearby loop trail. Jim asked about the area between Adams and Lovering Street. What should we call it? Charlie stated he calls it the Chicken Brook Corridor.

There was a discussion of trail names. Tina likes the idea of naming each section of the trail as long as it doesn't make it too long. Tina refers to the area from Lovering to the Pine Forest and back out as the Lovering Loop. However, Charlie and Joanne pointed out that the loop includes parts of two different trails: the Link Trail (blazed in white) and the alternate by the

Christmas trees (previously discussed as to be blazed in red). Tina asked Mike about what the Trustees of Reservations does. Mike stated the main goal is to highlight the open space parcels and the trails. You can color code the trails as they cross over parcels and streets. The Trustees use white for long-distance trails. Charlie pointed out that the small scale of the map only allows it to show the major trails.

Joanne asked about using QR codes. Charlie stated it would be hard to put a lot of separate codes on the brochure. Charlie believes it's impractical to create individual QR codes, because each code needs to link to a separate web page, and page would have to be created and maintained. We already use a QR code on the maps to link to our maps page. We could create a single new page, with its own QR code, to host info for multiple locations along the trails, however.

Charlie stated Jim sent him a copy of the deed of the transferring the Williamsburg open space parcel to the town. It is not shown on the Assessors' map. Charlie contacted Susy Affleck-Childs, Planning & Economic Development Coordinator, and she will have Fran Hutton Lee, GIS Coordinator, update it in the future. In the meantime, Charlie will draw the parcel by hand for the map.

## **Quick Status Updates**

- **Denise**

- **Medway Master Plan Task Force (Monthly Update)**

The task force held a joint meeting with the Select Board and Planning & Economic Development Board. The Select Board mentioned other issues such as people are not complaining about taxes and that people want sidewalks, which are very expensive. They are concerned that the task force is not reaching all demographics. The focus groups will be meeting next to try to gather more input from the public. Joanne and Jim will be participating in some of those groups. Tina asked if it would be possible to have a table and pass out surveys at the Middle School during voting. **Action: Denise will ask if that is possible.**

- **Trail maintenance at Millstone Village (response from Bridget regarding map)**

Denise received the map from Bridget Graziano, Conservation Agent. Charlie displayed it in the Zoom meeting. Denise explained that the trail from the Millstone trail parking lot off of Winthrop Street out to the Lovering Meadow is the responsibility of Millstone. The Town is responsible for the trail that branches off to the west and south of that trail and follows along the edge of the Millstone property, to the western point where it connects to the Link Trail near the Cart Path Bridge. That area has had problems with poison ivy. Denise stated she can talk to DPW about maintaining that area. Bridget is working on a Memorandum of Understanding with Millstone. **Action: Joanne volunteered to coordinate with Bridget and DPW.**

- **Mountain Bike Trails (Susy follow-up)**

Denise stated there is no action for the Open Space Committee. We will take this off the agenda for now.

- **Jim**

- **Town-wide treatment of invasives (meetings with DPW and ConCom)**

Jim stated he has nothing to report right now but leave this on the agenda for next month.

- **Mike**

- **Open Space Sign for Ohnemus (land ownership, DPW discussion re: parking lot)**

Mike stated he has not been able to meet with DPW on-site yet but to keep this on the agenda.

- **Amphitheater Alternate Village Street Access (continue discussions with condo owners)**

Mike stated he spoke to one of the condo owners, but he has not heard back from him. With all the snow, they would not be able to walk the site anyway. Mike stated he left a message with another condo owner, Dianne Guerra, but he hasn't heard back yet. Mike has not been able to reach Mr. Boczanowski.

- **Rail Trail east of Oakland (talk with DPW about parking and water station proximity)**

Mike stated he has not been able to meet with DPW on site yet but to keep this on the agenda.

- **Tina**

- **Trail from Senior Center to Rail Bed (private parcel permissions)**

Tina stated she left a message for Debby whom she hopes is the owner or the owner's daughter. Tina wants to ask if it is ok to publish the trails that cross the back of the property.

Charlie pointed out that there is another private parcel crossed by the trail. **Action: Tina will contact the owners.**

Charlie mentioned that the trails on the Army Corps of Engineers property get really wet and are sometimes impassable.

Tina stated she spoke to Glenn about the dump area several times. Mike stated that area could be cleaned up, but the soil would need to be tested.

The committee talked about where the rail bed crosses the line into Millis. There are side trails that go into private property that were in use as of three years ago. The railbed itself appears to be on private property once crossing the town line. Joanne suggested talking to Millis about the land.

- **The Willows Trails (schedule walk with Bridget) and the Water Trail (talk with Bridget about getting river cleared)**

Tina stated she did not walk these trails due to the snow.

- **Joanne**

- **Deerfield Open Space property update**

Joanne stated about three-quarters of the trail was cleared. This is a beautiful location. The Medway Trail Club will be having a bonfire on Saturday from 9-11 and they will invite the neighbors to talk to them about getting involved. Joanne thinks the trail around the pond is about two thirds of the loop around Choate Park.

- **Form for coordination of scout and volunteer projects (talk with Michael Boynton)**

Joanne stated she finished the form and would submit it to Michael Boynton, Town Manager, that evening. She will see if he has any feedback.

She also has been discussing the location of the previously-discussed small shed for tools. One option is the Adams Meadow parking lot, but it would be better if we had a location that got plowed in the winter.

- **Trail Safety (talk with Police and Fire Chiefs)**

Joanne stated she spoke to the Police Chief. He stated she should talk to Sandy Johnston, Director of Communications, about that. Joanne stated her concerns about safety, which have nothing to do with Sandy and publicity. She is waiting to hear back from him.

**Action: Joanne will follow up with the Police Chief.**

- **Meadow south of Iarussi (follow up with DPW)**

Joanne stated Steve Carew, Parks Superintendent, will continue with the dead tree removal through the winter unless he can't because of snow.

- **Laura**

- **Continued work on trail rules**

Laura added the trail rules verbiage (from the new signs) to the brochure. Joanne stated Steve Carew would like to know where else we want these signs. Members suggested that Summer Street and the Idylbrook fields would be good places.

### **Approval of Minutes: January 4, 2022**

*Andrea made a motion to approve the January 4, 2022, meeting minutes as amended. Joanne seconded the motion and Tina, Jim, Joanne, Mike, Laura, Charlie, Andrea, and Denise all stated they were in favor and the minutes were approved.*

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

- **Conflict of Interest form:** Denise stated the Conflict of Interest form needs to be signed and submitted to Anna Rice, Administrative Assistant. Alternately, an email acknowledgement of receipt can be sent to Anna.

- **List of Open Space signs:** Susy wants a list of where all the Open Spaces signs are located. Action: Denise will start the list and will send it to the other committee members for their input.
- **March Meeting:** The committee decided that the March meeting will be held on Zoom.
- **Medway Clean Sweep:** Mike would like to add Medway Clean Sweep to the agenda for March. Joanne was hoping a group of Cub Scouts could go to the McGovern area and work on the bittersweet and buckthorn. Jim is concerned about their safety because of thorns and the need for tools. He thinks they would be better off working on the garlic mustard. Denise was informed by Liz Langley, Administrative Assistant, that she has been assigned to lead the scouts for Clean Sweep with the Trail Club. Action: Denise to clarify with Liz as Open Space normally leads a group with help from Trail Club members.

### **Adjourn**

*Charlie made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 pm. Tina seconded the motion and Tina, Jim, Joanne, Mike, Laura, Charlie, Andrea, and Denise all stated they were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.*

Respectfully submitted by,

Tracy Rozak