



**Town Of Medway
Open Space Committee**
155 Village Street
Medway, Massachusetts 02053

Meeting Minutes of July 19, 2016

**Adams Street Open Space
6:45 PM**

Attendance	Tina Wright	Jim Wickis	Denise Legee	Charlie Ross	Joanne Williams	Mike Francis	Bruce Hamblin
Present	X	X	X	X	X	X	

The Committee met outside, at the North Field Parking lot, for a site visit of the Adams Street Open Space.

Invasives Removal:

As discussed at the June meeting, the committee walked along the trail from the lot to the meadow, then along Adams Street to the High School emergency access road, then up the road back to the parking lot.

Member Wickis helped the committee members distinguish the invasives (primarily glossy buckthorn, oriental bittersweet, and multiflora rose) from the natives (including such species as cedars, white pines, box elders, and wild grapes).

Near the top of the hill, there are invasives adjacent to the parking lot and trailhead, which is the recently-disturbed area. There are desirable, mature, native trees behind that would be more visible if the invasives were removed.

Members Ross and Legee had been previously concerned that removing invasives from along the trail might eliminate the feeling of a shaded/sight-protected walk down the hill. Upon seeing the site together, everyone was in agreement that the removal would be acceptable.

Along Adams Street, the members looked at an area proposed for possible future gravel parking spaces. There was general agreement that the large, native trees should remain, but clearing low growth, much of it invasive, would be acceptable.



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Trail Route from North Field Lot to Right-of-Way and Summer Street

Some of the members then proceeded to look at routes from the North Field Parking lot, north of the High School, and continuing to the utility right-of-way. This is being considered as part of the Medway Through Trail and one possible route was previously flagged in yellow by the Trail Task Force chairman, Jim Wieler. The Conway School Report also recommends a trail along the same route, but continuing to Summer Street and including a loop on the western side.

Members Francis and Wickis followed the yellow flags as far as the power line easement. It mostly traced a viable path that would be relatively easy to clear, under a mature and impressive forest, with one brook crossing. At the power line, it entered a wetland. Member Francis found an alternate route that would avoid wetlands and reach Adams Street near where the projected trail northward would start. The also found the beginnings of a possible path toward Summer Street.

Approved August 2, 2016