

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

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OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 6, 2024 - 7:00 PM
Medway Senior Center
76 Oakland Street

Attendance	Tina Wright	Denise Legee	Charlie Ross	Andrea Burke	Mike Francis	Tara Rice	Jim Wickis
Present	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓

Denise called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

• **Annual Conflict of Interest Training**

Denise reminded members to respond to the actions in the emailed training reminder. For some members, it will be just the annual acknowledgement. For others, the full training may be due.

• **Action Item Follow-Ups:**

○ **Bench installation on trails (Denise)**

No changes since last month. It's too cold right now – need to wait for warmer weather.

○ **Ohnemus DPW discussions re: parking lot**

Mike was unable to attend, so he texted the following information to Denise: Mike spoke with Glenn Trindade, Chair, Select Board. He is supportive, will add it to the Select Board agenda, and Liz Langley will let us know the date.

○ **Brochure map (Charlie):**

No update.

○ **Access on private property (Tina)**

Tina is working on getting the quote for surveying the Lee property. She will distribute it before the next meeting.

○ **Betania II (Tina)**

No update.

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

Jim, Andrea, and Tina met with Jacob Frankel, GIS Coordinator, and Bridget Graziano, Conservation Agent. Jacob provided a map that shows all the town properties along the river. The next step will be to see if Millis and Franklin would be interested in adding their properties as well. Having a multi-town approach would make a future grant application look more attractive when seeking funding.

Jacob will measure the river distances between stops.

Tina will call Beals and Thomas to see if they have ideas about an approach and a guess as to costs.

Tina will schedule a follow-up meeting in late February or early March.

- **Map for Hopping Brook Conservation Area (Jim)**

Jim got a new map that's bigger than the one it replaces. He had it laminated and attached it to the Open Space sign. Denise discussed the possibility of having a permanent, professionally-made map made in the future.

- **Review of Kiosk Contents**

The committee members who were present had a preliminary discussion, including the history of the kiosks and their contents. The committee will discuss the topic again when more members are present. Charlie will keep it on the agenda.

There's general agreement that each kiosk should contain a property map for the site, as member/volunteer time permits. Also, we should post a QR code that links to our online trail maps.

Charlie mentioned the committee might want to explore whether a QR code to a specific trail in AllTrails might be possible, once we have time to get the descriptions there updated and corrected.

- **Outdoor Classroom at Burke/Memorial School**

Tara was ill and unable to attend. She sent an email. Charlie read the email for the people who hadn't seen it. Tina thinks it's a follow-up to the committee's recent review of the OSRD action items, and more specifically, the action to engage kids.

Charlie will put this on the agenda for next month so we can discuss with Tara present.

- **Approval of Minutes**

Tina moved that the committee accept the January 2, 2024 minutes as distributed. Denise seconded. All members present voted in favor of the motion and the minutes were approved.

- **Other Items That May Come Before the Committee**

- **Town Meeting Agenda**

Tina had sent an email asking whether there were any articles the committee wanted to request be added to the Annual Town Meeting agenda. This was discussed in the committee and members weren't aware of any right now. Tina thinks we have enough money for the surveyors, but will ask.

- **Maintenance in the "Christmas Tree" Area**

Tina asked if anyone maintained the area between the evergreens on the Christmas Tree trail to remove invasives and excessive growth. Denise said that Steve Carew, Parks Superintendent, does this once per year.

- **Additional Trail Benches**

Denise said that, in addition to the two benches that we have being installed once the weather gets better, we have funds remaining in the budget. We could buy more benches if locations were identified. The committee has not yet spent anything on benches in fiscal 2024. **Denise will check the amount remaining.**

- **Trails East of the Volunteer Bridge**

The committee had a general discussion of possible future trails in the area east of the Volunteer Bridge (the smaller boardwalk).

Jim mentioned that a loop trail in Choate Park is being planned by the Trail Club, and has tentative approval from the Conservation Agent.

- **Winter Fire**

The Medway Trail Club's annual Winter Fire event will be Sunday, February 25th, from 2-4 PM. The rain date is March 3rd.

- **Adjourn**

Tina moved that the meeting be adjourned. Charlie seconded. All members present voted in favor of the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 8:01 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlie Ross, Clerk