

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

Meeting Minutes on July 7, 2015

**Medway Senior Center
Oakland Circle**

Attendance	Tina Wright	Jim Wickis	Charlie Ross	Mike Francis	Bruce Hamblin
Present	X	X	X	X	X
Absent with notice					
Absent without notice					

Reorganization:

Chairman:

On a motion made by Charlie Ross and seconded by Jim Wickis, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Tina Wright as Chairman to the Open Space Committee.

Vice Chairman:

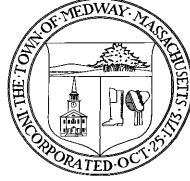
On a motion made by Jim Wickis and seconded by Charlie Ross, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Bruce Hamblin as Vice Chairman to the Open Space Committee.

Clerk:

On a motion made by Charlie Ross and seconded by Mike Francis, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Jim Wickis as Clerk to the Open Space Committee.

Storywalk Medway High School:

There were two representatives from the Medway high school present to explain their idea regarding a grant to combine literacy, physical education and community interaction. This would involve the utilizing of the existing trails around the high school. These would be lockable weather proof reading stations which would be installed along the trails, These would start and end at the pavilion. The 10 stations will be part of a theme for a month sponsored by a teacher's class. DPS Director Tom Holder is in support of this idea.



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This is something adaptable for the whole district. There are two options due to funding limitations: create the boxes ourselves out of wood and other materials; permanent composite stations similar to existing new message centers.

Member Hamblin suggested looking at the community and including something for nature, highlighting trails, and tying that into the community.

There will also be art and photography added. The members are in support of the storywalk boxes.

There is a goal to get this in place for September. This date might not be realistic since they need to secure funding. CPC member Jim Wieler noted that this is a great idea and CPC has little exposure to grammar school kids. He recommended that a plan to build these be put in place and submit it to CPC.

Member Hamblin suggested that there be a mechanism in place to evaluate.

The open space supports this venture and this is a goal for outreach and attention of different interest groups.

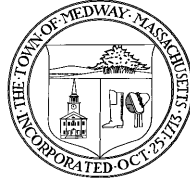
Jim Wieler showed the maps which were created by Paul Atwood. There is also a map of Idylbrook Recreation Area. The representatives of Betania do not want any signs. Jim Wieler will reach out to Bob Fifer about signage noting that you are now leaving town property and are on private property.

Member Hamblin suggested that a formalized six month review be done as part of this relationship.

Charlie Ross informed the Committee that he is trying to draw a map for the Choate complex.

Maps:

Jim Wieler was present to discuss Map 20-003 and Map 29-011. These maps were provided by the Town Assessor.



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Choate Trail Markings:

There was discussion about painting the side/sub trails on the north east side. It is difficult to find the town line.

Dogs on Trails:

Member Ross informed the members that there was a discussion group relative to dogs on the trails. Currently, there are no dogs allowed at Choate Park. There are also no dogs allowed at the high school. There are bylaws on the books regarding dogs. The members agreed that the trails are a great place for the dogs as long as they are leashed. The Committee wants to encourage the use of trails. It was suggested signage saying “Dogs on park from Dawn to Dusk with Dog on leash carry in and carry out regarding clean up. This will be table for further discussion.

AMPHITHEATRE:

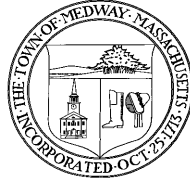
There has been maintenance on the site. This is now a path. Dan Hooper is still working on the plan. The Chairman will follow-up. There is a large tree which fell across the river. There was a message left with the Franklin DPS. The goal is to have the rest of the money be used for the engineering. This will go to the Fall Town meeting. It will be discussed at the September CPC meeting. There needs to be a budget developed for additional work.

Canoe Launch:

The Committee was made aware that a picnic table was placed at the canoe launch and has been chained to the tree. This was completed by an eagle scout. The big problem is that it is not handicap accessible. The Chairman did send an email to the Conservation Agent informing her that the eagle-scout student did not communicate with the Open Space Committee as requested. None of the plantings were done. The student did not go through the process. It needs to be handicap and must be fixed.

The boom is floating in the river. At the last meeting, Bridget said she was going to follow-up on this. Another item which needs to be followed up on is creating a budget to implement the plan for cleaning this site.

Tina communicated that she did meet with Conservation Commission and they are fine with the way things are. The noted trees are within 20 ft. of the wetlands and will not allow anything more. The dead trees cannot be removed.



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It was suggested to get a formal plan and present it formally to the Commission. It was also suggested to speak with the Board of Selectmen.

Adams St. Meadow:

There was an inventory of plans provided to the Committee. It was suggested that the upright trees and shrubs be removed. Jim did a history of land in the 90's. It was last hayed in 2005. The idea was to do an interim plan until Conway project is done. Bridget responded that this is great and wants to be mowed once or twice a year. Do not mow early due to birds nesting. . The invasive buck thorn should come out. The Committee would like to invite the Conservation Agent to the August meeting to discuss Adams Street. They would like to discuss the trees in the middle of the meadow (box elders and shrubs).

The Chairman will ask Fred Sibley if he can clear the growth on the stone walls located on the scenic road. There was a suggestion to go on the inside of Adams Street and continue the trail (on inside) and go around the meadow and go on the inside walkway from inside opposed to being on Adams Street.

Willows Salmon Health:

Members Ross will attending the Planning and Economic Development Board meeting on the Meadows on Tuesday, July 14, 2015 at 7:00 pm.

Neelon Lane:

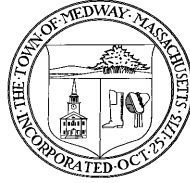
The Committee was made aware that the original decision for Neelon Lane in 2011 deleted the parking spaces. The spaces were on the plan. The abutters did not want the parking spaces to have signage. There was also a reference to affordable housing and there was a donation made into an account and the unit was not built. There was a reference to existing cart path which goes behind the property line. Currently, there is no place to park to access this open space. The Committee agrees that if there is to be a trail there, it needs to be marked to avoid encroachment by abutters. The Committee would like an email from the Chairman sent to Susy Affleck-Childs explaining that the town's interest as related to open space was not met in this application.

Minutes:

The minutes from June 2, 2015 will be tabled until August 4, 2015 meeting.

Future Meeting Date:

- August 4, 2015



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Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Sutherland