

Open Space and Recreation Committee

Town of Tisbury
Department of Public Works
115 High Point Lane, Tisbury, MA

Meeting Minutes

Date: May 22, 2025

Meeting called to order: 10:32am

Place: Zoom

Attendance: Committee members - James Burrows (JB), Cheryl Doble (CD), Gerard Hokanson (GH), Maura Valley (MV), Carolyn Wallis (CW)

Minutes, May 18, 2025: JB moved that minutes be approved, GH seconded. Approved 4-0, 1 abstention

1. Kirk Metell Updates

Kirk was unable to attend. In his absence, CD provided the following updates:

- **Tennis:** Kirk feels that CourtReserve is ready to go. (See below.)
- **Lake Street:** The bid process for the fencing contract is underway and should be wrapped up soon. Heidi Rydzewski (IT) is on sick leave; hence WiFi cannot be completed. New nets are being installed.
- **Owen Park:** The concrete pad for the landing of the new bandstand stairway has been poured and stonework installed. Stairway installation awaits the completion of electric work (moving the service) by Eversource.
- **Veterans Park:** The men's softball league has donated mix for the infield.
- **Tashmoo Town Beach:** Herring Creek Road will be graded next week to prepare for opening.

2. Tennis Update

- **CourtReserve:** CD shared her screen to show the current Town interface for CourtReserve. Under memberships, the two options available are "All Access" and "Pickleball." If you select the latter, a membership form comes up and pickleball is built in as the only option. Although the Committee recommended that no approvals be required by DPW, Kirk was uncomfortable with this, so after submittal of a membership application DPW approval will be required. CD will follow up with DPW on a few touch ups to wording. CD is creating information sheets (flyers - drafts shown) that will explain the process. Committee members provided a few comments and were encouraged to review the sheets. The flyer for Pay-As-You-Play will be distributed to those locations included on MV's list of contacts. CD and GH will work on getting these onto the OSR website.
- **Pickleball:** CD expressed concern about the availability of the courts (re: fencing). If delayed into mid-June, the first pickleball clinic may need to be delayed. If WiFi is not installed, Kirk suggested using keys. The Committee felt that court access should be on the honor system; CD will recommend this to Kirk.
- **Refunds in CourtReserve:** CD reported that Kirk will not set up a refund system, due to complexities with the Town credit card reporting requirements. He suggested noting that Pay-As-You-Play reservations be made on an at-risk basis. Further follow up will need to go through Jon Snyder. JB

volunteered to call him. MV also suggested that we investigate holding charges until the time of play (re: charging when a service is delivered or a product is shipped.)

3. Outreach/Communication

- MV did not receive any feedback on her request for interfacing with the OSR website. CD and CW will distribute tennis flyers next week. These will include links to our website. JB will communicate with realtors for summer rentals. CD will contact John Custer at the school. We can also link this to Visit Vineyard Haven.

4. Lake Street Park Septic

- MV reported that the inspection determined that the septic tank is in good shape, but they couldn't locate the distribution box. It looks promising that we'll be able to use this system until the wastewater cluster system is installed. The Harbormaster will also be informed that the pump-out system at the lower park can also be tied in. PortaPotties will be used until a bathroom structure is built or the current structure is repaired.

5. Open Space and Recreation Plan

- CD suggested that the Committee proceed with an extension of the current plan, rather than a full plan update. We will need to develop an action plan for the extra 3 years; CD recommended that, before developing this, we proceed with a community input session. She also suggested that we develop a PARC program application, which will require Town Meeting approval (since the grant program is reimbursement-based). CD will provide a slide deck describing the PARC program.

6. Community Preservation Act Projects

- Amenities: CD asked CW to work with Kirk to identify funding left over from prior years and to purchase specific items the Committee recommends.
- Lake Street: CW will follow up with a public survey, and identify a consultant for the park design.
- Park Signs: GH will contact Steve Zablotny. He noted that he had talked with Steve before the Town Meeting and agreed to put him on the agenda in June to kick off the project. GH will follow up.

7. Next Meeting

- The next meeting is planned for June 12. GH will check Steve Zablotny's availability. Other agenda items include an update on tennis/pickleball and how we would handle a community input session for the Open Space Plan extension. CD would like to have a workshop session to look at Committee priorities (e.g., over 4 years) and Town open spaces to share with Joe LaCivita, the Select Board, and the Planning Board. Projects may be developed in collaboration with other Town Committees beyond DPW. JB will arrive for the summer on June 29, so July 10 was suggested for this workshop.
- ★ CW noted that she will flag locations for Water Trail signs; CW will talk with Danielle to motor her around to install the markers and take interim photos from the water. Signs will then be created and installed, and replacement photos taken.

Adjourn Meeting

MV moved, JB seconded, approved 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 11:52 p.m.

Submitted by Gerard Hokanson