

Open Space and Recreation Committee

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

Meeting Minutes

Date: June 26, 2025

Meeting called to order: 10:36am

Place: Zoom

Attendance: Committee members - Cheryl Doble (CD), Gerard Hokanson (GH), Maura Valley (MV), Carolyn Wallis (CW)
Others: Stephen Zablotny (in part)

Minutes, May 22, 2025: CW moved, MV seconded. Minutes were approved 4-0.

1. Kirk Metell Updates

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

- **Lake Street:** Kirk has indicated that the contract for the new fencing is still being processed; no set date. CD will follow up.

2. Tennis/Pickleball Update

- **CourtReserve:** Tennis memberships are up; we have more than 100 memberships; no information is available on the distribution (tennis/pickleball, pay-to-play/seasonal). CD mentioned potential issues with skills using CourtReserve. She is considering a future face-to-face workshop session for sign-ups to help folks with technical issues.
- **Clinics:** Clinic participation has been low, perhaps impacted by the heat; attendance is picking up. The distribution between skill levels for tennis clinics needs to be looked at. More interest has been shown in “advanced” clinics, less in “beginner.” Christina Colarusso has mentioned the clinics in her Instagram posts; CD noted that these posts are well-done and positive.
- **Court Reserve Memberships:** John Custer sent a note out to parents. The Library also mentioned the clinics in their regular messages. CD will ask Christina to post a link to the website.
- **Church Street Court Maintenance:** Some algae and weed build-up on the courts has been observed. Kirk will contact Cape and Island Tennis to address this.

3. Committee Membership

- **Appointments:** GH and CW have contacted Pam Bennett indicating a willingness to continue. CD is not sure if Pam Bennett is going to advertise committee openings at this time. Two people have contacted CD about committee membership; she will follow up. It was suggested that we “advertise” via our website; GH will look into this. We’ll also ask Christina to “advertise” on her post. After the workshop the Committee will address skills/needs/gaps.

4. Lake Street Septic

- Drew is still waiting for Kirk to dig to locate the distribution box. MV suggested sending a letter to the BOH regarding the intended use of the septic system; MV will draft a letter to the Board and CW will review.

5. Committee Projects

- GH has prepared a comprehensive project summary for Veteran's Park, following CD's template. CD will share with CW for use with Lake Street, recognizing that the latter project is at an earlier stage. These write-ups for all active projects will be used for communicating with the Select Board and other applicable partner committees and boards. CD asked that we complete reports on applicable projects to help prepare for the workshop. We should come away from the workshop with realistic expectations for next steps, suitable for discussion with Joe LaCivita.

6. Park Signs

- Steve Zablotny joined the meeting to discuss his draft contract for this project, culminating in bid documents. He proposing a three-phase approach - 1) fact-finding, which he has largely delegated to the Committee to cut costs, 2) development and presentation of potential solutions and designs, and 3) development of design templates and a kit of parts that could be applied across multiple parks. An August timeline to complete the contract and initiate work was suggested. CD will share notes and comments on the contract with Committee members. GH suggested asking Kirk to review the contract draft. GH and CD suggested focusing efforts initially on signs denoting identity as Town Parks. Steve's suggestion is to add signs noting rules and regulations and park history. Steve clarified that the preliminary design phase would include designs specific to Tisbury parks, but may also include examples from other towns. CD advised that the Committee needs to nail down expectations in the contract so that designs/specifications can be delivered, e.g., how many meetings and who should attend, what are the specific deliverables from the project.

7. Next Meeting

- The next meeting is the workshop planned for July 10. We should have completed project templates to guide the discussion. It was suggested that we extend the meeting to 2 hours to ensure we get through key projects.

Adjourn Meeting

GH moved, MV seconded, approved 3-0. The meeting adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

Submitted by Gerard Hokanson