

Open Space & Recreation Plan Committee (OSRPC) Meeting Minutes

January 7, 2025, a public hybrid meeting in the Evelyn Haines Room

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* Action items and votes¹ below in bold face

At 6:30 PM, Rosa opened the meeting. Salute the flag.

Present (In person): John Bartlett, Jack Bowen, Marlies Henderson, Mike Parker, Grace Tucci

Excused: Justin Damon, Darlene Torre

Staff (In person): Kat Malgieri

- 1) Open mic: None in person, none online.
- 2) Henderson asks members present to submit their preferences for the 2025 Fieldtrip using a matrix-handout. The majority would like to visit Gilson Hill. Members scheduled the field trip for Sunday, January 26 (11 AM till noon), meeting at the (near #105) Rangeway Road parking lot.
- 3) Henderson moves to accept the 11/5 minutes, seconded by Parker, motion passes unanimously. Bartlett moves to accept the 12/3 minutes, motion passes with Rosa abstaining, and the other members voting in favor.
- 4) Malgieri reports that no Tree Warden has been hired yet. She provided a copy of Policies & Procedures, and asked OSRPC members what qualifications they seek for the 9th member Parks liaison: Billerica resident, background in sports league/athletics; arborist; volunteer; landscaping company. Bartlett explains this position is needed because the Recreation Department permits the fields, but Parks maintains the fields; implementation of OSRP is partially Parks' responsibility.
- 5) Malgieri announces that the State has approved the 2025 OSRP. She will forward the letter to the members and print some hard copies.
- 6) Parker reported a Clean Up Green Up (CUGU) / Beautify Billerica gathering (clean-up & meeting). It looks like April 26 will be the date for CUGU. Christina McLaughlin writes the grant for supplies. Malgieri provided a DCR handout listing tree species. Arbor Day is 4/25. Seedling tree giveaways through Massachusetts Tree Wardens (MTWFA)² could be on 4/27.

¹ In favor – opposed - abstain

² <https://www.masstreewardens.org/mtwfa-seedlings/>

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- 7) Malgieri reports that the Spring Semester for the students of the UEP Field Project started; names have been picked. More news next month.
- 8) Henderson will share live links on the Open Space Act and the December 2024 Article 97 webinar slides.
- 9) Next meeting date: 2/4 at 6:30 PM in the Evelyn Haines Room.
- 10) No other updates
- 11) Bartlett moves to adjourn, Bowen seconds, (5-0-0). The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Marlies Henderson