

Open Space & Recreation Plan Committee (OSRPC) Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2025, a public hybrid meeting in the Evelyn Haines Room

* Action items and votes¹ below in bold face

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

Present: John Bartlett, Justin Damon, Marlies Henderson, Mike Rosa, Grace Tucci

Virtual: No one is online.

Audience: Andrew Jennings

Excused: Jack Bowen, Mike Parker, Darlene Torre

Staff: Kat Malgieri

- 1) Open mic: Henderson congratulates Malgieri on her promotion to Director of Planning and Economic Development (no longer 'Interim').
- 2) Henderson moves to accept the 2/4 minutes, seconded by Bartlett, motion passes **4-0-1**.
- 3) Henderson reports she volunteered to update the 2013 Conservation and Recreation Brochures. A handout shows the timetable. She works with Isabel Tourkantonis to update content in anticipation of a MassTrails grant the Town Manager wrote for creating an open space trail map book. Members request that she uses the description *No Littering* and *Pick Up After Pet*. Jennings asks if bus stops can be added to the maps. Henderson asks him to review the current maps and add in bus stops. Damon suggests poison ivy warnings, which will be added in the map book – if we get the grant (announced 7/1).
- 4) Henderson shares an update about sprucing up the dilapidated Great Meadows parking lot in collaboration with USFWS and the SuAsCo RSC².
- 5) Rosa reads the final Land Bank Account Funding Directive as unanimously approved by the Select Board on 3/3/25. Rosa hands Secretary Henderson the hard copy. It states that the Select Board supports funding the Land Bank Account; how much and when. Bartletts asks about reimbursing general operating funds with CPA funds, but Henderson says it's not possible. She can't think of the proper term.³

¹ In favor-opposed-abstain

² US Fish & Wildlife Service; Sudbury, Assabet & Concord River Stewardship Council.

³ "Supplanting" is not allowed per MGL 44B s. 6

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- 6) Malgieri reports that the Town has a new Parks Director / Tree Warden⁴. This has not yet resulted in an OSRPC Parks appointee.
- 7) Malgieri ordered 400 seedlings with the Tree City required \$2 / capita. Delivery date April 24. This may coincide with a Sgt. Tayler memorial date. Malgieri asks Rosa if the Select Board has decided on a Tree City event yet. Date and location to ceremonially plant a mature redbud plus proclamation are not yet set. Clean Up Green Up will be on Saturday, April 26. Henderson asks why the sapling initiative shifted from the street community shade trees to private yard flowering shrubs. It is too late to change the order now, but we will keep it in mind for next year.
- 8) A six-person team of Tufts UEP⁵ Students put together a plan. Three are working on deed history research, and three on suitability analysis. Rosa has many comments, and Kat takes notes. Henderson misses the discrepancy of Conservation town-owned parcels, sometimes being mislabeled as Select Board land. Malgieri explains this is what the project addresses with title searches. She also related the Sandpit Land story to the students. Final presentation is on May 9. Malgieri will try to attend.
- 9) Henderson reports having replaced the Kohlrausch historical interpretive panel, thanks to Recreation Department funding. She also reports having met with Lowell OSRP Update staff to ask that the N. Billerica to Lowell Merrimack River Thoreau Towpath initiative will be added to the 2026 OSRP update.
- 10) Next meeting is April 1, and after that, April 29. Henderson has a conflict on both of those dates. Bartlett has a conflict on 4/29. Malgieri will take notes and record the meeting(s).
- 11) Bartlett moves to adjourn. Damon seconds.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Marlies Henderson

⁴ Dave Peterson

⁵ Urban & Environmental Policy Planning