

Open Space & Recreation Plan Committee (OSRPC) Meeting Minutes

January 6, 2026, a public hybrid meeting in the Evelyn Haines Room

* Action items and votes¹ below in bold face

Present: John Bartlett, Jack Bowen, David Brown, Justin Damon, Marlies Henderson, Mike Rosa
Zoom: Mike Parker
Excused: Chris Clark, Maria Martin
Audience: Andrew Jennings
Staff: Katherine Malgieri

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Chair Rosa calls the meeting to order at 6:01 PM with roll call, and members salute the flag.

- 1) No comments for open mic.
- 2) Damon moves to approve the 11/4 minutes as amended, seconded by Bowen, motion passes **6-0-0** (the vote taken prior to Parker virtually joining at 6:07).
- 3) The 2026 meeting schedule was unanimously approved and acknowledged. Henderson may miss Feb 3, Damon may miss March 3.
- 4) Henderson reports that the conveyance of 13 Parker finally took place. New owners currently clean out the place. It's too early for OSRPC to write letters.
- 5) Brief discussion on details around the Shared Steets & Places grant, deadline 2/9. Malgieri will investigate the MassDOT Grant Central website to see if this is a simple or complex process.
- 6) Rather than pursuing a MassTrails grant to update Billerica trail maps, Malgieri submitted a proposal with NMCOG – to work with the NMCOG GIS expert. There was some confusion on the MassTrails deadline. **Henderson²** will investigate.
- 7) Not all documents transferred in the transition from the previous Town website to the new one. Complete Streets info cannot be found. The state website is no longer available either. Chair Rosa will ask Town Manager Dillon what it would take to add the Complete Streets policy and plan to the new website.
- 8) Malgieri provided printouts of MGL c.40Cs.3 on how Historic Districts can be created. She will share the recent historic resource survey plan, which is step towards creating a (MX Canal) Historic District. Henderson adds that the reason for creating a canal historic district also has open space significance – which is why it is on the OSRPC agenda.
- 9) Malgieri provided a printout of parcels in Pinehurst and shared her screen to show town-owned parcels for the Spring Warrant for a potential transfer of town-owned parcels from care, custody and control of the Select Board to the Conservation Commission, because Open Space enjoys protection under Article 97³ when it is recorded as
 - Town-owned conservation land
 - Privately owned Conservation Restriction

Chair Rosa will contact Fred Russell to discuss parcels removed per DPW last minute request for the 2025 Fall Town Meeting Warrant (including Grampy's Land⁴). An easement may have to be drawn up to create a looped water main system, connecting 'dead-end' mains on Dudley and Nashua Rd. Henderson appreciates

¹ In favor-opposed-abstain

² MassTrails grant opened 12/15/26, deadline 2/2/26

³ Right to a clean environment including its natural, scenic, historical, and aesthetic qualities for the citizens of the Commonwealth.

⁴ (102-1-0)

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and supports Chair Rosa in his pursuit of protecting this 15-acre landlocked parcel with connectivity to extensive Bedford conservation lands.

- 10) No other updates
- 11) Next meeting dates: February 3 at 6 PM. Henderson is not sure if she can attend.
- 12) Vice Chair Bartlett moves to adjourn, Member Bowen seconds. All in favor **7-0-0**. Meeting adjourned at 6:48 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by Marlies Henderson