

**CITY OF BEVERLY
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

BOARD OR COMMISSION: City of Beverly Open Space & Recreation Committee
DATE: January 7, 2026
LOCATION: Beverly City Hall, 191 Cabot Street, 3rd Floor, Council Chambers
MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair David Alden-St. Pierre; Jamie Jamieson; David Brewster; Elizabeth Dunne; Todd Callaghan; Charlie Mann; Gregory Sharp; Mario Tricomi
MEMBERS ABSENT: Grace Charles; Wayne Miller
STAFF PRESENT: Kenneth Clawson, Assistant Director of Planning & Development
RECORDER: Kristan Patenaude

1. Call to Order

Alden-St. Pierre called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Public Outreach

It was noted that there will be a conservation event for kids on January 18th.

3. Updates from Boards and Commissions

a. Planning Board

i. Discussion about approval of The Commons at Trask Lane and the condition of approval for the remainder of the land to be placed into permanent conservation. 0 Trask Lane.

Clawson stated that the Trask Lane project has been approved. 65 acres of the property will be conserved with a conservation restriction, though it is yet unclear who will steward this.

Clawson stated that the applicant has stated that the Open Space Parcel for the OSRD on Hart Street will not be held by Greenbelt. An HOA Trust was created to hold the Open Space Parcel.

b. Conservation Commission

No updates at this time.

c. Community Preservation Committee

Jamieson stated that the CPC met in November. The Mayor attended the meeting to speak about his request to keep some funding aside for Lynch Park as this may be needed to save the Carriage House and create a path for stormwater. The CPC discussed items with the Independence Park project, including an Out of Cycle application for the second phase of work.

The project has shifted to being under the City's umbrella and was greatly scaled back. The deadline for final CPC applications is January 15th.

d. Harbor Management Authority

Callaghan stated that new planks were installed in the walkway in front of the Harbor Master's house, improving public access by the waterfront. He and others have been working to improve access to the waterfront for technology development.

e. Parks & Recreation Commission

Tricomi stated that the playground equipment at Holcroft Park that was vandalized has been fixed. The playground equipment at Balch Park has been replaced. Funding is being sought to replace the equipment at the park off Jackson Street and the one off Hardy Street.

4. Open Space Conditions/Issues

a. Ward 1

There was discussion regarding parcel 27A in terms of acquiring and preserving open space.

b. Ward 2

No updates at this time.

c. Ward 3

There was discussion regarding updating the sidewalk at the walking trail along the Shoe Pond. There was agreement to send a letter to the City on this item.

Callaghan: Motion for David to write a letter to the Ward 3 Councilor, Steve Crowley, recommending that City Engineering review the sidewalk on McKay Street. Alden-St. Pierre seconds. Motion carries (8-0).

d. Ward 4

Mann stated that the trail behind Turtle Creek turned out well. Also, there is an encroachment along Emily Way which could be considered.

e. Ward 5

i. Discussion about Norwood Pond Bridge construction. Assessors Map 82-9.

There was discussion regarding the Norwood Pond Bridge. The Committee reviewed a potential model of a bridge that could be installed.

ii. Discussion about creating a kiosk(s) and maps for the Hannah School/Solar Farm Trails. Assessors Map 56 Parcel 36.

The Committee discussed posting a trail map for Hannah School online and later creating a kiosk for the area. There was agreement that one kiosk could be placed at the back of the school. Alden-St. Pierre noted that he spoke to someone about placing a kiosk at the YMCA as well. Clawson suggested that this could be something to seek Mass Trails Grant funding for. He will also seek grant funding for the potential Norwood Pond Bridge.

f. Ward 6.

i. Discussion about replacement of footbridge at Beverly Commons. Map 61 Parcel 1A.

Alden-St. Pierre stated that NEMBA is obtaining the wood for this bridge and it will then be installed.

ii. Discussion about possible trail extension in Sally Milligan to Cross Lane/Boyles Street intersection. Assessors Map 33 Parcel 7.

The Committee reviewed a potential trail extension in Sally Milligan. Permission will be sought from the Conservation Commission to move forward with this idea. After permission is obtained, the trail area will be flagged.

iii. Discussion of another set of stairs/steps leading into Sally Milligan at the Pearl St. Extension/Lake Shore Avenue location. Assessors Map 32-138.

The Committee discussed adding a set of steps at the Pearl Street Extension entrance into Sally Milligan in the spring.

iv. Discussion of the possibility of running a trail from the rear of Camp Paradise, connecting to an existing trail at the base of the hill behind Turtle Creek Housing. 44 Cole St.

Alden-St. Pierre stated that there is an esker running through this area. There was discussion regarding how to create a trail at the rear of Camp Paradise.

There was discussion regarding Endicott and the desire to be able to advertise the trails from Fox Hill toward Beverly Commons.

5. Discussion about Committee Goals for 2026 from the annual Open Space plan.

This item was tabled to a future meeting.

6. Election of 2026 Chair and Vice-Chair.

Brewster: Motion to nominate David Alden-St. Pierre as Chair of the Open Space & Recreation Committee. Callaghan seconds. Motion carries (7-0-1).

Alden-St. Pierre: Motion to nominate David Brewster as Vice Chair of the Open Space & Recreation Committee. Jamieson seconds. Motion carries (7-0-1).

7. Approval of Minutes

a. October 1, 2025

Jamieson: Motion to approve the October 1, 2025, meeting minutes, as presented. Brewster seconds. Motion carries (8-0).

b. November 5, 2025

Brewster: Motion to approve the November 5, 2025, meeting minutes, as presented. Jamieson seconds. Motion carries (8-0).

8. Adjourn

Alden-St. Pierre: Motion to adjourn. Tricomi seconds. Motion carries (8-0).

Meeting adjourns at 8:55 p.m.