



**CITY OF GLOUCESTER
OPEN SPACE & RECREATION COMMITTEE
10 August 2022
5:30 p.m.
Remote, via Zoom
Heidi Wakeman, Chair**

CITY CLERK
GLOUCESTER, MA
2023 FEB 16 AM 9:00

MINUTES

Present Members: Heidi Wakeman (HW), Dave Sargent (DS), Daniel Morris (DM), Liam Anastasia-Murphy (LAM), Mark Poulin (MP), and Richard Quateman (RQ).

Absent Members: · Noel Mann

Staff: Gemma Wilkins (GW) and Gregg Cadematori (GC), Planning Division

I. BUSINESS

OSRC Chair Heidi Wakeman read the standard remote participation/open meeting statement. Roll call to begin meeting.

a. The draft Open Space and Recreation Plan has been submitted to the Commonwealth and has received conditional approval. Staff provided the OSRC with an electronic copy of the letter from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. The most significant deficiency noted by EEA is the lack of an ADA self-assessment. The self-assessment was completed last month and the compiled results will be added to the Plan and should satisfy EEA on this point. GC noted that he and GW are collecting letters of support for the Plan from key members of the Administration, Council, and staff.

MAPC rep Courtney Lewis is working on incorporating responses to the comments received from EEA, and should complete the update by the end of the summer. Once the revised draft is received from MAPC, the OSRC will have to have a meeting to formally adopt the document, then it will be submitted to the City Council for adoption. GC has been paving the way, as he briefed the Council about the OSRC's progress and the approval process at a July meeting of the City Council. GC has also been talking up the Plan with the Verga administration in hope of getting action items considered for ARPA funding.

HW noted that it may be good practice for an OSRC representative to make semi-annual presentations to the City Council, just to keep our issues on their radar. HW also expressed appreciation to everyone who participated in the ADA self-assessment.

b. MP provided an update on the work of the Community Preservation Committee. Four proposals related to open space and recreation issues were submitted for consideration under the latest round of funding. Three look promising.

c. GC announced the selection of two new staff who are important to the OSRC's function – the new Conservation Agent and the new Community Development Director.

II. PUBLIC (HEARING OR MEETING)

One member of the public attended the meeting by Zoom and was invited to address the committee. Mary Ann Boucher, 93 Mount Pleasant Avenue, asked whether and when the City would begin the process of seeking public input regarding what's to become of the East Gloucester Elementary property and playground, when the building is razed next year. GC acknowledged that it would be important for the City to start such a process soon and that the OSRC should have some role in the process.

III. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the Chair welcomed a motion from RQ to adjourn, which MP seconded. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote. Meeting closed.

V. NEXT MEETING

The OSRC set its next meeting for 31 August at 5:30 pm. GW has confirmed that date with Courtney Lewis of MAPC. Members were asked to pencil in the 4th Wednesday of each month for future meetings.