

Michelle Kayserman, Chair  
Jonathan Briggs, Vice Chair  
Edith Graichen, Clerk  
Matthew Jasmin  
Bob LoPorto  
Jim McGrail  
Stephanie Radner



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## TOWN OF DEDHAM Open Space and Recreation Committee

Minutes of **March 23, 2021**

**The following OSRC members were present:**

Edith Graichen – Member At-large  
Matthew Jasmin – Engineer  
Michelle Kayserman – Chair  
Bob LoPorto – Board of Selectman Designee  
James McGrail – Planning Board  
Stephanie Radner – Member At-large

**The following OSRC members were absent:**

Jonathan Briggs – Parks & Rec Commission

**The following staff and/or members of the public were present:**

Elissa Brown – Conservation Agent

**Michelle Kayserman** called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

1. Public Comment – No public comment offered
2. Minutes from the 2/23/2021 meeting were approved unanimously
3. Recap of Massachusetts Open Spaces Virtual Conference virtual sessions
  - a. Stephanie offered one addition for the OSRC Plan and for future committees to consider- Outreach to neighborhoods classified as Environmental Justice (EJ) populations based on English language isolation should be attempted in primary language(s) of those households
    - i. Specific areas: Neighborhood from Endicott train station/Oakdale neighborhood toward Dedham Corporate station and Neighborhood running between abandoned rail line and Milton/Bussey Streets (OSRP section 3C.6, Map 2 – page 23).
  - b. Bob asked about requesting money from the Town in order to better access grants available. Elissa suggested that the OSRC could request and have the Finance Committee

discuss the option. Fall Town Meeting might be the best time to make the monetary request from the Town.

- c. Jeremy [Rosenberger \(Planning\)](#) and Joe [Flanagan \(DPW\)](#) have submitted for \$25,000 [in their budgets](#) from FC for Invasive Species Removal [and/or possible grants in the next fiscal year](#).
  - d. Discussion: How to enact the action items without any budget
    - i. Stephanie made a motion for the **OSRC to submit letters to FC** to [support the line items in the Planning and DPW budgets](#) for this [purpose](#). Bob seconded. Unanimously agreed.
4. Priority Action Items Discussion
- a. Jim suggested that the OSRC communicate to the Town Departments, (PB, PR, DPW, etc.) and influence the action of the prioritized action plans outlined.
  - b. Priority items by member
    - i. Bob – Organize Town-wide cleanups at different locations
      - 1. This is underway with Select Board and other groups in Town
      - 2. Elissa recommended that these cleanups be better organized
    - ii. Michelle – Social Media and Out Reach
      - 1. This targets many items including educational opportunities
    - iii. Edith – Creation of Interactive Map to coordinate with Social Media / Out Reach
      - 1. Clarification – [Dedham Trails website content](#) being switched over to the Town website [needs to happen first, then we add more functionality and content](#)
    - iv. Stephanie – Vernal Pools, Consolidating the list [of action items](#), Out reach and communication, [also working with Town officials to have funds for grants](#)
    - v. Matt – NR-4, R-1 priorities – Connecting Greenway System with neighboring communities. Agreed with statement to ensure Environmental Justice for all communities.
    - vi. Jim – Town wide cleanup, NR-4.1.5. Access to water, Field Maintenance, Use of Public School facilities when schools are not in session, R-2.4.1 Priority of bicycle issues throughout the community, R-2.5.1 Access to Wigwam Pond, R-2.6.3 Maintaining sidewalks, LM1.1.6 Create a system for open space and recreation
      - 1. Requested the OSRC might want to offer [letter of support to PB regarding protection of](#) open space [with](#) Lowder Street. Elissa also encouraged the OSRC to submit a letter to the CC.
    - vii. Summary provided by Michelle
      - 1. Access
      - 2. Out reach
      - 3. Cleanup
  - c. Michelle / Jim updated the committee on the Lowder Street project
  - d. Michelle Motioned for the **OSRC to draft a letter to PB regarding Lowder Street project.**
5. Next meeting scheduled for April 27, 2021, 7:00pm

Meeting adjourned at **8:30**.