



Town of Tewksbury *MINUTES*

Town Clerk
Tewksbury, MA

2/17/2026, 7:59:54 AM

Committee: Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee

Date: Thursday, January 8, 2026

Time: 6:00PM

Location: Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA -Main Conf. Room

Members present: Tom Branchaud, Paige Impink, Bruce Shick, Karyn Sliva, Susan Young, JW Buckley, Ray Bowden

Members absent: Peter Chase, JoAnn Brace

The meeting was called to order at: 6:04 PM

Meeting Motions / Actions and Summary of Discussions:

Committee Business

The minutes of the December 11, 2025 meeting were approved.

Outreach

Paige reported that the Winter Tree Walk was a success. All who expressed interest completed their installations except for Strongwater Farm who will participate next year. Tom raised the possibility of putting all installations at one property next year. Despite two displays being removed/vandalized at CWF, the committee agreed to keep the program.

Stewardship

The committee was updated on graffiti at Rogers Park. Paige had come across fresh paint and racial slurs during a walk in December. It was reported to Tom and shared with the police department. The department asked about the best way to deal with the paint and after consultation, concluded that covering the slurs was the priority and the committee would mount a volunteer effort in the spring to address the paint. The police department will install a camera at Rogers per Lt. Williams.

Development

The hospital land project is moving forward thanks to work by Bruce. He has filed a request for funds with the Community Preservation Committee and is working with the town manager's office on a warrant article for the two boardwalk crossings at East and Maple. The amount requested is \$30,190 for the survey, wetlands identification, and design. If passed at spring town meeting, it will open the door for a Notice of Intent, a construction bid, and build of the boardwalks in spring 2027.

Open Space and Recreation Plan

The committee moved into a discussion around the goals for the Open Space plan. The committee reviewed a goals spreadsheet with prioritization and status input. Focus was on action items and completed all actions and objective under Goal 1: Protecting Rivers, Brooks, Ponds, and Flood Plains. The committee will conduct a working session on January 15, 2026 at 6:00PM to continue the review. This will be a posted meeting.

Old Business

Susan reminded the committee of the trail cam bylaw proposal for the upcoming warrant. JW agreed to work on a draft.

New Business

None

Meeting was adjourned at: 7:26PM

Next meeting: Date: February 12, 2026

 Time: 6:00PM

 Place: Town Hall

Respectfully submitted, Paige Impink, Clerk

Minutes approved by Committee on: February 12, 2026

Documents: Documents shared can be viewed in the Office of Community Development.