



# TOWN OF PALMER

Palmer Town Building  
4417 Main Street  
Palmer, Massachusetts 01069

Contact: Angela C Panaccione

Telephone: (413) 283-2611  
FAX (413) 283-2637

## OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday July 8, 2014 – 2:00 PM**

**Members Present:** Angela Panaccione, Conservation Agent  
Donald Blais Jr, Town Council  
Alice Davey, Community Development Director  
Dave Cotter, Trail Committee  
Linda Leduc, Town Planner  
Jim Ostrout, Recreation Director  
Bonnie Weeks, Building Inspector/ADA Coordinator  
Tharyn Nein-Large, Conservation Commission

**Members Absent:** Michael Marciniec, Chair of Planning Board

**Meeting Opens:** 2:20 PM – Angela Panaccione

### Minute Approval

Motion by Donald Blais Jr. to approve the minutes from June 17, 2014 as written  
Motion Seconded by Linda Leduc  
No further discussion – Vote Taken: 7-0-1 (Bonnie Weeks abstains)

### Public Survey Discussion

Very low survey responses compared to previous plans. There were a little over 200 respondents, with 2/3 being women. Making the assumption the women complete one survey for an entire family/per household.

The main areas highlighted by the survey, which mirrored the Community Visioning Session, were more access to the rivers and more for families and teens. Also maintain existing parks and conservation lands was a top priority. Many residents felt the town should fix what we have before we try to get more. Renovating Burleigh Park was also another major area residents felt needed improvement. Residents did wish to see a dog park in town and felt there was little offered for ADA.

*Question 1: What types of recreational activities do you and/or your family participates in here in Palmer?* 1. Walk      2. Bike      3. Fish & Hike      4. Swim      5. Dog Stuff

*Question 2: What additional recreational activities would you like to see the Town of Palmer offer?*      1. Picnic Areas      2. Swimming Access      3. More Families      4. Bike Trail

*Question 4: What improvements, additions, or changes would you like to see in Palmer's recreational facilities?*      1. Dog Park      2. Renovate Burleigh Park      3. ADA Accessibility  
4. Bike Trail      5. Trash/Recycle/Fix what got      6. Disk Golf

*Question 7: Please list the landscapes, views, locations, and other outdoor experiences that you think most symbolize Palmer's unique character and the parts of Palmer that you would "show off" to visitors and guests?*      1. Rivers (esp. Swift)      2. Train Station/Steaming Tender

Swift River is most used because it is most accessible. People mainly use swift for trails (80%), launch point/boating (77%), walking, fishing and swimming

### **Draft OSRP Discuss**

Angela Panaccione will email template for letter of support. Letters of support are needed from: Planning, Con Com, Town Council, PVPC, Trails, Rec, BOH, PRA, ZBA

Angela will email draft templates of letters of support to the boards.

### **Discuss Ch.9: Action Plan & Action Plan Map**

The Committee reviewed the draft Action Plan Map supplied by PVPC and made revisions. Angela Panaccione will email the revisions to PVPC.

Angela Panaccione will email template for chapter 9 to the Committee members.

### **Meeting Schedule**

- July 22, 2014 @ 2pm: Review Draft OSRP
- August 11, 2014 @ 6:30pm: Attend Town Council Meeting
- August 12, 2014 @ 2pm: Review Final Draft OSRP & Preparation for Public Hearing
- September 2014: Public Forum on the Plan
- November 2014: Submit Draft Plan to State

### **Next Meeting Date: July 22, 2014 @ 2pm**

- Review Draft Plan – Members will review printed Chapters 1-5
  - Section 1: Plan Summary – Angela Panaccione
  - Section 2: Introduction– Angela Panaccione
  - Section 3: Community Setting – Alice Davey & Linda Leduc
  - Section 4: Environmental Inventory – Angela Panaccione
  - Section 5: Inventory of Lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest – Jaimye Bartak, PVPC
  - Section 8: Goal & Objectives – PVPC and Committee
- Review Draft Plan – Angela will forward rest upon Completion

- Section 6: Community Goals – Jaimye Bartak, PVPC
- Section 7: Needs Analysis – Jaimye Bartak, PVPC
- Committee will independently work on Section 9: Seven Year Action Plan
- Committee will continue review of draft maps

**Meeting Adjourns:** 3:40 PM

Motion by Alice Davey to adjourn at 3:40 pm

Motion Seconded by Bonnie Weeks

No further discussion – Vote Taken: 7-0-0