

MEMORANDUM

TO: Kevin Bogle, RLA, Senior Project Manager, BPRD

FROM: Regan Andreola, RLA, Senior Project Manager, W&S
Antone Almeida, Project Manager, W&S

DATE: August 11, 2026

SUBJECT: Community Meeting #3 – 08/05/2026
Barry Playground Improvements, Charlestown
Boston Parks and Recreation Department - City of Boston

DESIGN TEAM / CITY OF BOSTON ATTENDEES:

Kevin Bogle (KB)	Boston Parks and Recreation Department (BPRD)
My'Kel McMillen	Director of Constituent Services for Boston City Councilor Kendra Lara
Regan Andreola (RA)	Weston & Sampson (W&S)
Antone Almeida (AA)	Weston & Sampson (W&S)

PUBLIC ATTENDEES:

Chris Berry	Resident
Kelli Gillen-Forbes	Precinct 6 Representative
Isabella Carr	Charlestown Liaison to Mayor Michelle Wu
Elaine Donovan (ED)	Charlestown Liaison to Councilor Coletta Zapata
Zachary Cutler (ZC)	Resident
Shamilia Lloyd	Charlestown Resident Alliance Coordinator
Victor Castro	Board Member, Mystic River Watershed Association
Dan Jaffe (DJ)	Resident

1. MEETING MINUTES:

- a. ZC: Will the existing trees remain? How many years will it take for the proposed saplings to provide shade?
 - i. RA: No. The growth of the existing trees is also damaging the seawall.
 - ii. KB: The existing trees are not providing shade over the park and are

primarily shading the wall and water.

- b. ZC: Is continuity with the Spaulding development planned? Their use of indigenous flora was done well.
 - i. KB: BPRD is not familiar with the Spaulding development.
 - ii. RA: W&S can review their planting design and compare it with the proposed design, particularly if the plantings there are thriving.
- c. DJ: Could shrubs be incorporated along the water/berm?
 - i. RA: W&S will need to confirm feasibility with USACE.
 - ii. KB: This would also need to be considered from a BPRD maintenance perspective.
- d. DJ: Could photovoltaic panels be incorporated into the shade structures?
 - i. KB: No. BPRD currently has only one electrician on staff, so long-term maintenance requirements and feasibility need to be considered.
- e. ZC: Requested that sharp or uncomfortable metal site furnishings not be used.
- f. DJ: Asked whether an area could be provided for games and activities such as hopscotch, four square, or outlines of fish and animals that children could color with chalk.
- g. DJ: Noted that the demarcation of the 'Mouth of the Mystic River' does not need to be located at the exact geographic point.
 - i. KB: BPRD is working with BHN and its subject matter expert to develop signage envisioned as a 'rich marker' containing substantial historical content.
- h. ZC: Noted a discussion on the Charlestown Facebook page regarding a local hero. A marker previously located within the park is no longer present.
 - i. ZC to confirm the name
 - ii. It was suggested that the individual may have been William J. Barry; this needs to be confirmed.
 - iii. KB: There will be 3 historic signs.
- i. ED: Love this plan. The councilor loves it.
- j. DJ: Love this.

These minutes represent our understanding of issues discussed and agreements reached. If you are not in agreement with the content of these minutes, please advise in writing, within 5 business days. After 5 days, these minutes will stand as the official record.

William J. Barry Playground - Bi-Weekly Meeting Agenda

August 11, 2026 at 1:00pm - 2:00pm

Expected Attendees

Kevin Bogle (KB)	Senior Project Manager, Boston Parks and Recreation Department (BPRD)
Regan Andreola (RA)	Senior Project Manager, Weston & Sampson W&S)
Antone Almeida (AA)	Project Manager, W&S
Emma Uzgis (EU)	Landscape Designer I, W&S

1. Permitting Schedule:

- Wetlands Protection Act Notice of Intent (NOI)
 - ConCom Site Visit **8/13**
 - AA to attend
 - ConCom Hearing **8/19**
- Chapter 91 Minor Modification
 - W&S team is addressing comments received from KB.
 - Submit to Chapter 91 Waterways Department by **8/19**.
- BWSC
 - W&S will file in **September**.
- CZM Consistency Review
 - Awaiting preliminary comments from CZM.

2. USACE

- W&S sent plans, share Kate Roosa provided some initial comments.
 - W&S to follow up with her on meeting date.

3. Community Meeting 3

- Review applicable feedback
 - Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital development coordination?
 - Shrubs along water/berm? W&S to follow up on USACE feasibility
 - Asphalt games (Hopscotch, 4 square, coloring items, fish, etc)
 - Demarcation "Mouth of the Mystic River"
 - Local Hero Marker disappeared, most likely William J Berry

4. Design Updates

- Playground concept design

- Backstop and field logistics
- Outdoor fitness products and potential of “activity corridor”
- Inclusion of 3-point turn for vehicle at café seating
- Coordinating with Irrigation Consulting on a site visit regarding review of existing system.

5. Cost Estimate

- W&S updating opinion of probable cost to reflect vibration monitoring, ground penetrating radar, etc.

6. Boston Food Forest Coalition

- WS to hold off on any Food Forest Coalition involvement for the foreseeable future.
 - Any updates?