



Plenary Roundtable: MySpace, YourSpace, OurSpace: How to Add "Muddy River Park Protector" to your Profile, and Why You Should!

Speakers

- **Kelly Brilliant**, Fenway Alliance Executive Director
- **Frances Allou Gershwin**, Chair of the Muddy River Restoration Project Maintenance and Management Oversight Committee (MMOC)
- **Betsy Shure Gross**, Executive Director, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs' Office of Public Private Partnerships

Kelly J. Brilliant, MA, Fenway Alliance Executive Director

Kelly Brilliant is executive director of The Fenway Alliance, Inc., an arts and cultural membership organization that strives to improve the physical, social, economic, and cultural environment of Boston's Fenway area – “The Fenway Cultural District.” The Fenway Alliance's 22 members represent major arts, cultural, academic, and religious institutions in the area. Prior to leading The Fenway Alliance, Ms. Brilliant directed Healthy Malden 2000, a nonprofit organization established to serve the health of the city and the state through a variety of public health initiatives. Ms. Brilliant was Managing Director and co-author of *FLASHPOINT: Life Skills through the Lens of Media Literacy* and *FLASHPOINT II: Close-Up on Civil Rights* curricula, initiated by the Eastern District Attorney's Office of Massachusetts, and Director of Curriculum for Harvard University's Program for Young Negotiators. She has extensive experience researching, writing, and developing youth curricula that address substance abuse, violence prevention, prejudice, and hate crime reduction. Ms. Brilliant received a B.A. from Vassar College and an M.A. from Boston University.

Frances Allou Gershwin, Chair of the Muddy River Restoration Project Maintenance and Management Oversight Committee (MMOC)

Frances Allou Gershwin serves as Chair of the Muddy River Restoration Project Maintenance and Management Oversight Committee (MMOC), created by the Massachusetts Secretary of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs in 2002 for the Emerald Necklace/Muddy River Restoration Project. The MMOC was created to provide to provide a formal vehicle for public participation in, and long term independent public oversight of this multi-jurisdictional project of the City of Boston Parks and Recreation Department and the Town of Brookline Division of Parks and Open Space, which also involves property owned by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation. Ms Gershwin has been involved with the Muddy River Restoration Project since 1999, when she was appointed by the Secretary to serve on the Citizens Advisory Committee established as a part of the MEPA Special Review Process in connection with the Project.

Ms Gershwin is a real estate lawyer in the Boston office of Burns & Levinson LLP, where she is a partner and co-chair of the firm's Real Estate Department. She has represented public entities and independent authorities for many years in connection with design and construction, land use planning, and environmental permitting, and governmental relations issues. She also advises businesses and individuals with respect to commercial, residential and institutional real estate projects.

Ms. Gershwin received her J.D. degree from Boston College Law School in 1979, an M.A. degree from Columbia University Teachers College in 1967, and a B.A. degree in mathematics from Barnard College in 1966. She is a past president of New England Women in Real Estate (NEWIRE).

**Betsy Shure Gross, Executive Director, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs'
Office of Public Private Partnerships**

Betsy Shure Gross is the Executive Director of the Office of Public Private Partnerships at the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Office of Public Private Partnerships (OPPP) was established in 2003 as a catalyst for partnerships, working to ensure long term preservation of the Commonwealth's Open Space legacy - our natural, cultural and scenic resources - through the creation of public private partnerships. The OPPP's goals are to rebuild trust in the public realm, establish New Models of Stewardship, inspire a culture of shared responsibility in the stewardship of our parks and open spaces, engage Friends groups, institutions and the corporate sector as long term partners and pursue new sources of revenue for our public assets.

Prior to creating the OPPP, Ms. Shure Gross served as the Special Assistant for Community Preservation in the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs working on the Emerald Necklace Muddy River Environmental Improvement Project, Co-Chaired the Historic Parkways Initiative, Chaired the Steering Committee for The New Charles River Basin Parks, served as the Secretary's designee for the Central Artery Parks Master Plan Task Force and the DEM statewide Historic Landscape Program Advisory Committee.

Ms. Shure Gross is a public private partnership development expert with over thirty years experience creating partnerships for environmental protection, historic landscape preservation and community projects at the local, state and national level. She has worked inside and outside of government, as a member of Boards and Commissions, and as a founder of new private not-for profit organizations in the pursuit of involving stakeholders in a truly effective, collaborative manner to address the restoration of neglected, overlooked, undervalued or endangered historic, cultural and natural resources. She is a Founding member of The National Association for Olmsted Parks, The Massachusetts Association for Olmsted Parks, Historic Massachusetts, Inc. (now PreservatiON MASS) the Emerald Necklace Conservancy, the statewide Community Preservation Coalition, and the Friends of Leverett Pond. She currently Chairs the Boston Harbor Islands Partnership, and serves on the Board of Directors of The Brookline GreenSpace Alliance, the Friends of Fairsted (The Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site), The National Association for Olmsted Parks National Leadership Council and the National Board of The City Park Alliance.

She is the recipient of numerous Awards and Honors including Historic Massachusetts, The Garden Club of America, The Jewish Women's Archives "Women Who Dared", Simmons College Continuing Education Award, Brookline Conservation Commission, Massachusetts Conservation Council, Massachusetts Historical Commission, Brookline GreenSpace Alliance, and others.

Ms. Shure Gross began her college career at Sweet Briar College and completed her BA in English Literature at Simmons College as a Continuing Education

Check MMOC website for upcoming details about the restoration project.

<http://www.muddyrivermmoc.org>