

Lewiston Auburn Community Forest Board Minutes
January 15th, 2015
Auburn City Hall Conference Room



Members present: Rick Shea, Jay Braunscheidel, Steve Murch, Dave Griswold, Dan Bilodeau, John Butler. Members Absent: Paul Madore

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of December were modified and approved.

City of Auburn's Conservation Commission (CC)

Dave and Jay have been in contact with Dennis D'Auteuil. Dave's language does name the LACFB as one of the groups with whom the Conservation Commission would collaborate. He also made changes to some of the ambiguous wording. The CC places two of its members on the LACFB. Those members are named by the city council. That means that the mayor would still be responsible to name two more members to our board. We have not seen a hard copy of the final wording of the ordinance. Dan said it is available on-line as part of the council's agenda. Dan read parts of it from his phone. After hearing several sections, we reached consensus that we would support the document as drafted. Tuesday Jan. 20th at 5:30 the Auburn City Council will have a workshop on the CC ordinance and the two ordinances that are below.

Auburn's New Shade Tree and Tree Maintenance Ordinances

Dennis updated the existing "Tree Maintenance Ordinance" and "Shade Tree Ordinance" that would deal with trees within or upon any road or public property. Dave also sent over his suggestions to make these clearer. Dennis indicated he liked the "Public Woodlot Ordinance" and will meet with the board during our next monthly meeting.

Arbor Week Activities

- The third week in May is Arbor Week in Maine (May 17th - 23rd). Steve and Jay will get the "Tree City USA" numbers together and sent them to the state. This will be the twelfth year each city will receive this honor.
- The board believes that we need to highlight the work being done at the Lake Auburn Community Center property. Dan has students from Edward Little HS working at the nursery for the Community Work project. Steve has sent in a Project Canopy Grant which would greatly help with the plantings that will take place this spring. He indicates that the grant requires the cities to commit to the project. Lewiston is looking at the wording that gives the city an easement to the harvesting that would take place in the future.
- Deb Charest is visiting 5th and 6th grades as part of water district's educational program. We (Steve) will look into getting a couple of spruce seeding flats and some tree posters that Deb could distribute during her visits during the month of May. Expenses could be covered by the accounts we have in both cities.
- The board (Rick) will look into getting a waiver of the \$200 fee to hang the Arbor Week Banner over Main Street.

Meeting adjourned 8:20 PM by unanimous vote.

Next meeting is February 19th (3rd Thursday of the month) at 7:00 pm. The location is TBD