

Lewiston Auburn Community Forest Board Minutes
February 26, 2015
Auburn City Hall Conference Room



Members present: Rick Shea, Jay Braunscheidel, Dave Griswold, John Butler, Suzanne Boucher, Zam Zam Mohamud, Paul Madore, Denis D’Auteuil

Members Absent: Dan Bilodeau

Guests: Kurt Webber, Tizz Crowley

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

Minutes of January were modified and approved.

City of Auburn’s Ordinances and the Conservation Commission (CC)

Denis D’Auteuil filled the board in on his presentation to the Auburn City Council. The ordinance creating the Conservation Commission, Shade Tree Ordinance, and Tree Maintenance Ordinance were all approved. The Community Forest Board is now a standing committee of the CC. The CC will appoint two members to the Forest Board. Council woman Crowley believes that stronger wording may be needed for the “parks and open spaces” portion and implementation may be an issue. Denis thanked the board for all their input and help with proper wording of the ordinances. Dennis indicated he liked the “Public Woodlot Ordinance” wording that we had sent over. This ordinance will most likely be the first work of the CC.

Arbor Week Activities

•**Tree City USA**-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.

•**Tree Nursery**- Dan has students from Edward Little HS working at the nursery for the Community Work project in late May. Steve has received the Project Canopy Grant. He has indicated 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.

•**School Program**-Deb Charest is visiting 5th and 6th grades as part of water district’s educational program. Steve has looked into getting a couple of spruce seeding flats and some tree posters that Deb could distribute during here visits during the month of May. He hasn’t found one yet. Expenses could be covered by the accounts we have in both cities.

•**Banner**-Rick looked into getting a waiver of the \$200 fee to hang the Arbor Week Banner over Main Street. That doesn’t look good. John will look into a placement in Lewiston for free.

- May Meeting**-It was suggested that the May meeting be held at the Lake Auburn Community Center. A celebration of trees with snacks and news coverage could take place.
- TD Bank Tree Giveaway**-Denis will get a contact person's name from the bank who might be willing to plan a seeding giveaway at the bank.
- Tree Book Purchase**-Dave will look into buying copies of American Canopy for the city libraries. This is a great history about trees and forests in the United States.

Meeting adjourned 8:15 PM by unanimous vote.

Next meeting is March 19th (3rd Thursday of the month) at 7:00 pm. The location is to be determined.