

City of Auburn, Maine

"Maine's City of Opportunity"

Conservation Commission



AUBURN CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Tuesday, June 20, 2017 – Auburn Hall 6:00pm

Roll Call: Conservation Commission members present- Jordan Tate (Chair), Tizz Crowley, Maurice Keene, and Chuck Lafean. Auburn Staff present- Tony,

Absent: N/A

The Chair will ask Sue Clements-D'Allaire, Auburn City Clerk, for an update on term limits for all current members. Confirm with her the number of open positions.

Minutes:

The Conservation Commission unanimously voted to approve March and April minutes as presented. There was one minor change noted in the vote:-the Conservation Commission seeks to work with, rather than get involved/share interest with. More selective with language.

The Conservation Chair will reach out to chair of the new high school building committee/school chair to re-affirm we are available to assistance. The Chair will also share this information with the Lewiston Auburn Community Forest Board (LACFB).

Subcommittee Updates:

- **Parks:** Celebrating Parks and Recreation month in July. There will be a contest to promote visits to Auburn parks. The prize is a gift certificate to Fuel Restaurant. Parks will publicize the contest. National Parks and Recreation Association should have a press packet draft proclamation. **The Conservation Commission unanimously voted to send the draft proclamation to the Mayor and ask him to make July Parks and Recreation Month in Auburn.** Parks meeting is next Wednesday (last Wednesday of the month). Parks reported on the Lisbon Street (Lewiston), wooden containers with edible plantings for community picking. The committee promotes edible planting at private residences.
- **The Lake Auburn Watershed Protection Commission (LAWPC)** met last Wednesday. They have prepared a short article for Parks and Recreation month. It should be published in the next Turner Publishing Co. Auburn Highlights.
- **LACFB:** The Board asked the Commission to mark its calendar about the 15th year tree city. LACFB should plan a 15 year celebration. **The Conservation Commission unanimously voted to Appoint Ryhanna Larose to the Lewiston-Auburn Community Forest Board (LACFB).**

Public Comment- no comments.

Work in Progress

- **Barker Mill:** Information will be linked on Conservation Commission webpage. To find the relicense information to our website page and find the link to FERC website. Subcommittees information are on our website. We will also post other work group documents. The Chair will send Tony the link to FERC site.
- **Project Canopy:** Ask Tony about the timeline. Have David Griswold meet with Rosemary Mosher (Auburn IT) to get equipment and tutorial needed for the tree inventory survey. **The Conservation Commission unanimously voted encourages the City to maintain street tree inventory in real time as trees are planted/removed as part of the work order.** The Chair writes to the City Manager and copy Tony. Portion of grant received by Auburn is to plant trees. LACFB will pick trees and location along with staff recommendations (\$8-9k). The Chair is to ask LACFB if they are willing to do that task. They were also asked to collaborate with Parks Subcommittee about their needs for trees. Money based on match for David's work (he won't start until March).
- **Recruitment:** no ask except to follow up with the City Clerk.
- **Annual Report:** Wait for edits. Send to City Clerk with copies to tony and City Manager and entire City Council. Final vote on report is expected at next meeting- June 2017.
- **Agriculture/Natural Resource Zoning:** Council authorized Planning Board funding for outside consultant to perform study. Conservation Commission is to be kept in loop. As our new Chair, Jordan will follow up with the Planning Board and the City Council. A question remained has the Council authorized funding?

Work Completed:

- **The Commission unanimously voted to get mailbox at City Hall. The Conservation Commission will set up a single email address for consistent municipal work. Chair have access, and use for MEACC. Consistent municipal contact, especially with the City Manager.**

New Business:

- Urge Conservation Commissioners to visit Auburn Parks next month- July.
- Merger question- agenda item for next meeting what would be the impact of a merger on the Conservation Commission. Forest Board is already joint board.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Tate, Chair