



City of Auburn  
Recreation Department  
48 Pettengill Park Road | Auburn, ME 04210  
www.auburnmaine.gov | 207.333.6601

## **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board - Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday May 13, at 4:30pm (Senior Center)

**Members Present:** Julia Bergeron-Smith, Misty Edgecomb, Clare Murray, Jeremy Gatcomb, Merissa (Moe) Beaulieu, and Ryan Walker

**Visitor:** Lily Krietzber from Seeds to Smiles (<https://seedstosmiles.com>)

**Absent:** Phil Savignano

**Excuse Absences:** approved Misty/Moe; all in favor unanimous

**Meeting Minutes:** April minutes approved Ryan/Misty; all in favor unanimous

### **Department Update:**

- Recreation Director: The position has been eliminated effective April 16, 2026.
- Summer Camp: This will still be happening, and things will go forward as normal. All camps are full, all but 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> have wait list. Marc has had a few meetings with people that are interested in having some sort of a position at summer camp, including leadership positions.
- Fishing Derby: To be held Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup>. Zach will be handling this event.
- Marc said that all things would remain status quo for the foreseeable future. The committee felt it would be best to invite Marc to the July meeting (before getting Phil and Denis involved). If Marc cannot attend the consensus from the committee is to invite Phil and Denis. Misty will start a draft presentation of what the committee does and how they can work with staff and what they can offer the city staff.

### **New Business/Open Session for Public:**

- Lily ~ After working in the public school system as an AmeriCorps service member, Lily gained skills in curriculum design, classroom management, grant writing, and garden design, while expanding her knowledge of child nutrition, school budgets, student needs, and staff capacity.
  - Seeds to Smiles “Installs gardens that are designed to better serve both people and planet in the places we spend much of our time – our workplaces, schools, community centers, houses of worship, doctors’ offices. The more we treat these places as fertile ground for fostering a connection with nature and with each other, the more smiles we’ll all share.”
  - Currently building a greenhouse at Edward Little High School that should be ready by July or August
- Auburn Comprehensive Plan Goals & Actions
  - Lauren Caffe missed the last meeting so there are no updates
- Jeremy told the committee that Friday May 15<sup>th</sup> was Edward Little Community Service Day (all underclassmen).
- Lobster Festival to be held Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup>

### **Work in Progress:**

- Tree carving at Lake Grove Park (Eric Cousens)
  - Julia sent an e-mail to Eric and has not heard back yet.
- **Subcommittee updates:**
  - Skate Park (Clare and Ryan)
    - The subcommittee e-mailed Eric Cousens and Eric Santos said they should have a “clean up” day at Moulton Park and then hold a skate jam to raise funds. Possibly have smaller sessions for cleaning up as well as the larger.
    - When this is done, they will more than likely need PW to assist with large machinery.
    - Eric S mentioned reaching out to the local media, Sun Journal, TV stations, and Lydia Media. Also, local council members of ward 3 Kelly Butler and Adam Platz.
      - Cleanup, Sunday May 31<sup>st</sup> 11:00AM
      - Cleanup, Thursday June 25<sup>th</sup> 6:00PM
      - Skate Jam, Saturday June 27<sup>th</sup>
  - User Survey (Clare, Julia, Misty)
    - The committee will get this to Marc for review
    - Will also loop in Jen so she has a heads up about their ask
  - Resource Assessment (Moe, Misty, and Phil)
    - Misty said that the committee met and they will reach out to the other communities about what they are doing. Moe said that there has already been some response from other municipalities (budgets, staffing, fee structures, total number of programs that are being offered, etc.).
    - Moe also wants to get together a list of inventories (items that will need to be replaced etc.).
  - **Strategic Planning** – tabled until July meeting since we are waiting on the Comp Plan updates and because losing the Rec Director positions means needing to pivot on some of the planning.

**Meeting was adjourned, Misty/Moe; all in favor unanimous.**

Next meeting will be held Wednesday June 10, 2026 – 4:30 pm – Moulton Park, Bonney Park, & Edward Little Park (meet in parking lot at CLT)