



# City of Auburn, Maine

Recreation Department

Sabrina Best, Director

48 Pettengill Park Road | Auburn, Maine 04210  
[www.auburnmaine.gov](http://www.auburnmaine.gov) | 207.333.6601

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

Wednesday, November 15, 2018 at 6:30pm

City Hall Room 204

Members Present: Dana Staples, Misty Edgecomb, Sabrina Best, Tim Cogle, Suzanne Roy, Rick Martel, and Belinda Gerry.

City Staff Present: Peter Crichton, Phil Crowell, and Marc Gosselin

Public Present: Paula Everett and Joe Gray

### **1. Recreation Directors Report**

a. Peter Crichton talked about the press release that announced the new dept. which combined Rec/Ingersoll/Norway and Marc as the Director. Sabrina will assume the role of Deputy Director, Rory Mushlin Operations Manager at the NSBA, and Jeremy Gatcomb as Recreation Superintendent. Rory has a similar resume of Marc with his experience in the Pro's and community level. The combination allows for an increase in efficiencies and revenue streams. The Delta for the Staff Salary is increased \$30,000 for FY19. With Marcs track record and past experiences with increase in events and sponsorships this delta is not concerning. Phil will be the point of contact from the City Managers office to work with this dept. and Marc. Marc will start Nov 29 in the office but will have access to email next week, Rory will start Nov 27.

Phil is putting together the proforma numbers from the original projects of NSBA to help showcase where we currently are standing vs. what was projected. This report will hopefully be put together and given to the council soon.

Marc talked about growing up in the LA community and his past experiences with the Lewiston Maniacs, Portland Pirates, Maine Red Claws, NSBA GM, then Ohio Blue Jackets NHL. Marc is excited to come back to be with family and friends and back in the LA Community. Marc talked about how this new dept. and effort will help launch our effort for the sports tourism. Along with enhancing our current offerings and connecting with business partnerships to leverage our mission of Live, Play, and Visit. Marc talked about his experience Columbus OH and how they focus on recreation and complex's because their priority is providing recreational opportunities to their residents and visitors.

Dana asked about reporting to council, how can the board check to see if we are doing what we should be; Peter mentioned the quarterly reports and how they have become useful for the council to be caught up on boards and city departments efforts. Peter talked about the need for this board to be the sounding board for ideas and give recommendations and advice on what events, programs, facilities moving forward. Marc talked about partnerships and how this relationship needs to be beneficial for all parties involved.

There was a period for discussions on a variety of topics which included; NSBA deficit, collaborating with YMCA and other local groups, how the creation for the department and position came about etc.



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### 2. Work in Progress

a. 150<sup>th</sup> Update – NYE permit was passed, Map has been completed, already sold 65 VIP and 50 Sponsor VIP so we will have a big turnout. The promo should start this week with the NYE launch. We will be using the Ticketing system at the rink to issue out the free tickets to help with crowd control and prep on number attending. Another report will be put together towards the end of the month. Art show committee has met and initial plans have started, the big item is the date which should hopefully be decided by the end of this week. There was some interest from the group on being involved with the Art Show, Sabrina will include them on the meeting dates for this committee.

### 3. Sub Committee reports

a. Parks Subcommittee - Misty Edgecomb is finishing up the Park Tour findings and will put it together in a report.

b. Ordinance – Sabrina gave a brief overview of the ordinance and how it could have impacted monies allocated towards parks and equipment. Councilor Walker said the planning board met and will be reaching out, need to be careful to not drive them out completely, and we haven't been upholding this clause so how do we do this right? Consensus from the group is to learn more info and want to explore options. Sabrina will forward the PowerPoint to the group and invite Audrey to the next meeting.

c. Municipal Beach Workgroup – Will meet after Christmas.

### 5. New Business

a. Belinda talked about the Age Friendly Community Committee's Thanksgiving Day meal for those who are looking to enjoy the holiday with others. The meal will be from 12-2pm at ASCC and getting donations and looking at 50 people attending. Dinner with all the fixing will be available and is open to anyone (non-residents and family members).

b. Tim talked about trying to put together future CIP projects and plans like a wish list. Sabrina will include 5 year CIP on next agenda. Dog Park discussion and could be a great project this board takes on.

### 6. Adjourn

**\*\*Motion:** to Adjourn by Misty Edgecomb/Second by Tim Cogle, unanimous