

Auburn, Maine Conservation Commission 60 Court Street | Auburn, Maine 04210 www.auburnmaine.gov | 207.333.6601

Conservation Commission Annual Report July 2019 - June 2020

- I. Members and officers serving during the period covered in the Annual Report included:
 - A. Chair: Jordan Tate
 - B. Vice Chair: Rhyanna Larose
 - C. Commissioners: Tizz Crowley, Maurice Keene, Sam Boss, Jane Costlow, Michelle Melaragno
 - D. Staff Support: Anthony Beaulieu, Auburn City Engineer
- II. Conservation Commission Review
 - A. Hosted our third annual guest speaker event on February 26th 2020: Jennifer Marchigiani from MisFits Rehab Wildlife Rescue Service at Side by Each Brewing
 - B. Submitted a letter of testimony to the Maine Legislative State and Local Government Committee to support a bill amending the laws pertaining to Conservation Commissions in January 2020
 - C. Created a five-year strategic planning document to guide the Conservation Commission's work and ensure it aligns with the ordinance
 - D. Meetings were held in the Auburn City Hall Community Room, and information about the meetings is available on the Commission's web page: https://www.auburnmaine.gov/pages/government/conservation-commission-auburn-maine
 - *E.* COVID-19: Meetings from February through June 2020 were cancelled in compliance with direction from Auburn City Manager.
 - F. The Conservation Commission met with staff from the Economic and Community Development department via Zoom on March 30, 2020 to advise proposed changes to permit solar installations in the Auburn Agriculture and Resource Protection (AGRP) zone.

III. Subcommittee Reviews

- A. Parks Subcommittee
 - 1. Parks subcommittee reactivated in the beginning of 2020 after the Commission was approached by two members from the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board.
 - 2. Cemeteries Workgroup collected sufficient funds to have the large planter at Oak Hill Cemetery filled with plants and such. The City will arrange for the work once COVID-19 guidelines permit. The Cemetery Workgroup also arranged for the City to have grave markers available at Central Fire Station for residents to pick up and place at Veterans' graves that are missing markers. Local Veterans placed the flags for Memorial Day. The speaker program scheduled for the 2nd quarter was canceled due to COVID-19.
- B. Lewiston Auburn Community Forest Board
 - 1. Received a Project Canopy Grant for \$8000 for community education on the Emerald Ash Borer

Respectfully submitted,

Sam Boss, Chair December 15, 2020