



City of Auburn, Maine

Recreation Department

Sabrina Best, Director

48 Pettengill Park Road | Auburn, Maine 04210

www.auburnmaine.gov | 207.333.6601

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board - Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 12, 2019 at 6:30pm

City Hall, Conference Room #204

Members Present: Suzanne Roy, Paula-Curtis Everett, Mike Thurston, Marc Gosselin, Dana Staples, Belinda Gerry, Tim Cogle, Rick Martel and Misty Edgecomb. **Absent:** Paula- Curtis Everett

1. Approval of April Meeting Minutes (Mike Thurston/Tim Cogle) Unanimous.

2. Work in Progress

a. CIP Reading at City Council from June 3rd City Council meeting: Marc Gosselin provided an update on this year's CIP. He informed the board that the CIP plan was approved. A specific update was provided on the status of the potential purchase of the stage. It was not approved, but \$50,000 was provided to assist in renting a stage for needed events over the next fiscal year. There was an additional conversation about parks and including funding within the five year CIP plan. Marc Gosselin is going to connect with Assistant City Manager, Phil Crowell and City Manager Peter Chrichton on specific tasks for the Advisory Board pertaining to city parks.

b. Tobacco Ordinance for the Recreation and Sport Facilities Department: Board members were provided the latest draft of the Tobacco Ordinance pertaining to parks and recreation to take home and review. The board provided specific feedback and shared some confusion with one subsection of the ordinance:

(c) Tobacco use at city-owned indoor facilities and outside exterior at least 20 feet from entryways, windows, vents and doorways, and not in any location that allows smoke to circulate back into the building is prohibited by state law at all times.

After discussion, it was suggested the above language be deleted because it contradicts other language within the document. Marc Gosselin informed the group that he would determine if the mentioned section above could be omitted from the ordinance.

In order to move the process forward and have council review the new ordinance, a motion was made by Dana Staples and second by Mike Thurston that the above language be deleted and voted on through email.



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3. Work Completed since last meeting

a. Memorial Day Parade & Maine State Parade: The Memorial Day parade was a success for the City of Auburn. Over 75 units participated and it was an event that showcased great teamwork from multiple departments within the City and a great group of volunteers. In addition to the parade the Civil War Reenactment Camp and Art Festival shared the same success. All three (3) main viewing areas were packed with people as well as with the entire route. It was shared with the group that there was a post-parade meeting held to discuss ways to improve the experience.

Due to the success of the parade, the Maine State Parade is going to be revived to celebrate Maine's 200th birthday and it will be held in Auburn and Lewiston.

4. Sub Committee reports

a. Mt. Apatite Sub Committee (Rick): Trail signs have been printed and are up with maps to assist individuals visiting Mt. Apatite. Additional discussions are ongoing about trail usage guidelines and maintenance. There are plans to continue to improve signage with naming of the trails. New kiosks and "No Smoking" signage remain a priority for future discussions. A "Kick Off Event" is being planned for a later date in September.

5. New Business

a. Senior Bus: The board was informed that the Department of Recreation purchased a 15-passenger bus. The main purpose would be to assist with the transportation needs for the new Senior Center. Staff members will be picking up the bus and driving it back to Maine.

b. Festival Plaza Sound System: The City of Auburn has decided to purchase and install a new and updated sound system for festival plaza. Mainly to be used to elevate the experience and entertainment environment for all events in Festival Plaza.

c. Business to Business Trade Show (Norway Savings Bank Arena): This year's B2B Tradeshow is being hosted by the Norway Savings Bank Arena. Normally, in Lewiston, at the Androscoggin Bank Coliseum the show invites local business hours to showcase their business in a tradeshow format. During the lunch time portion of the show Mayor Jason Levesque is going to speak about the city and its efforts to grow sport tourism and economic development. At the conclusion of the event the LA Chamber of Commerce is going to host one of their "Business After Hours". This another significant event to add to the buildings resume.

d. Make-A-Wish Comedy Show (Norway Savings Bank Arena): In partnership with Uncle Andy's Digest and Maine Event Comedy the Norway Savings Bank Arena is going to host a comedy show to

benefit the Make-A-Wish foundation of Maine. Tickets will be \$25 and four (4) comedians with impressive resumes will be performing.

e. *Auburn Police and Fire – Battle of the Badges Blood Drive*: Board member, Tim Cogle, reminded the board about a friendly competition with a very worthwhile purpose between the Auburn PD and Auburn FD. To support the American Red Cross of Maine, both departments are going to host a blood drive and donors get to choose a side, Auburn PD and Auburn FD. The battle is going to happen on July 9th from 1 pm to 6 pm at the Hilton Garden Inn.

d. *Meeting Location (July and August)*: A short discussion was held to cancel July meeting and the August meeting will be held at the Tot Lot location.

7. Adjourn

****Motion:** to **Adjourn** by Dana Staples / Mike Thurston, unanimous