



# 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

### Parks and Recreation Advisory Board - Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 14, 2019 at 6:30pm

City Hall, Conference Room #204

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

1. Approval of April Meeting Minutes (Rick Martel/Tim Cogle) Unanimous.

### 2. Work Completed since last meeting

- a) Senior Bus: The board was informed that the new 15-passenger bus has arrived. In addition, Marc Gosselin and Jeremy Gatcomb provided additional information about the trip. The individuals who picked up the new bus made pre-determined stops in Rocky Mount, NC and Springfield, VA to visit two (2) different sport tourism facilities in order to gain a perspective on what other communities are doing to invest in sport tourism.
- b) Maine State Parade: Due to the success of the parade, the Maine State Parade is going to be revived to celebrate Maine's 200<sup>th</sup> birthday and it will be held in Auburn and Lewiston. The board was informed that there are committees being formed to start the planning and there participation on any of the committees is welcomed.
- c) Festival Plaza Sound System: The City of Auburn completed the install of a new and updated sound system for festival plaza.
- d) Business to Business Trade Show (Norway Savings Bank Arena): This year's B2B Tradeshow was hosted by the Norway Savings Bank Arena and received great feedback from presenters and the public who attended the show. Mayor Levesque spoke during the lunch portion of the event and The Chamber held their "Business After Hours" in the mezzanine. Normally, in Lewiston, at the Androscoggin Bank Colisee, promoter Travis Dow is considering making this annual event at the NSBA instead of alternating site locations.

### 3. Work in Progress

a. Parks and Recreation and Cultural Affairs Ordinance: Board members were asked to participate in a working meeting to review and update the Parks and Recreation and Cultural Affairs Ordinance. The following elements of the ordinance were addressed for discussion:

1. Name of the Parks and Recreation and Cultural Affairs Ordinance
  - i. Some discussion was had about the status of "Parks" in the name because the Recreation department does not maintain or oversee parks. A strong recommendation was made to keep within the name.
  - ii. New name suggested: Parks, Recreation Facilities and Special Events. The name matches more appropriately with the structure of the new department.



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2. Listing of all parks and facilities
  - i. Update the list of parks and recreational facilities but do so in an appendix format that accompanies the ordinance.
3. Revision of ordinance to match current organizational structure
  - i. Update language to describe new organizational structure within the new department and public works role in parks and recreation
  - ii. Include language about sport tourism efforts.
4. Fine structure
  - i. Maintain consistency and keep it at \$200.00
5. Park Season
  - i. Change from May 1<sup>st</sup> to April 1<sup>st</sup>.
6. Protection of park property
  - i. Include/add language about pet waste
7. Recreational Activities
  - i. Clean up language and redundancy in Sections 6 and 7 of Sec 34-53
8. Alcoholic beverages and illegal drugs
  - i. Merge tobacco ordinance language with this section
  - ii. Consider deleting Sections 1 and 2 in Sec 34-54

#### 4. Other Business

- a) Mt. Apatite: Rick Martel provided a quick update on the status of Mt. Apatite at the request of Paula-Curtis Everett. Board member Everett was impressed with the progress and considers Mt. Apatite a great asset. Board member Martel provided some information on potential kiosks, sponsor solicitation, naming of the trails and the creation of a Facebook/Instagram pages with donation links.
- b) Comedy Show: Councilor Wallker inquired about the comedy show and reasoning for the cancellation of the show. Marc Gosselin informed the group that the cancellation came from the lack of tickets purchased and too many similar events being held by the promoter in a very short period. Future consideration and discussions will be held to host later.

#### 5. Next Meeting

- a) September 11, 6:30 pm at the Tot Lot's location

#### 6. Adjourn

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