

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, September 11, 2019 at 6:30pm

City Hall, Conference Room #204

Members Present: Marc Gosselin, Dana Staples, Belinda Gerry, Tim Cougle, Rick Martel, Misty

Edgecomb, Leroy Walker and Joe Gray **Absent:** Mike Thurston, Tim Cougle and Paula-Curtis Everett

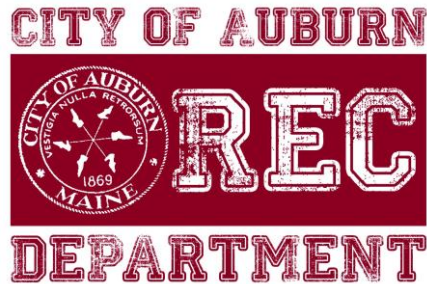
1. Approval of April Meeting Minutes (Rick Martel/Misty Edgecomb) Unanimous.

2. Work Completed since last meeting

- a) *New Parks, Recreation Facilities and Special Events Ordinance*: Marc Gosselin provided a recap from the August board meeting and the new changes applied to the ordinance. Board re-confirmed the changes made and ordinance was submitted to the Assistant City Manager for review. Next steps are to have a final proof prepared and submitted to City Council for enactment.
- b) *Balloon Festival*: An update was provided to the board on this past year's Balloon Festival. City officials and staff met with the Balloon Festival team in order to discuss the overall event. Logistical issues were discussed and shared in order to improve the communication and involvement of Auburn for the 2020 Balloon Festival.

3. Work in Progress

- a. *Fitness Court Grant Presentation*: Topic was tabled to October meeting.
- b. *Alumni Weekend*: Information was shared about the upcoming Alumni Weekend. Last Battle of the Bridge game will be held on Friday, November 1. Saturday will incorporate a number of Alumni games, the St. Louis Bell Tower unveiling and a reunion at Lost Valley. Wrapping up the weekend, on Sunday, is a Family Fun Day at Edward Little HS and tours to say goodbye and welcome the new high school project.
- c. *New Years Eve Event Meeting*: Board was informed that the planning for this year's New Year's Eve celebration has started. The board provided the following feedback to share with the New Year's Eve planning committee:
 1. Additional warming stations and heaters
 2. Bathrooms for Handicap
 3. No need for VIP tent or area. Repurpose space for other activities
 4. Food truck location was great
 5. S'More stations
 6. Explore opportunities to "drop" something at the stroke of mid-night



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4. Updates

- a) Mount Apatite: Rick Martel provided a quick update on the status of Mt. Apatite. Fundraising initiatives are still on-going and have made positive progress. NEMBA providing skills training on September 12-14. Improvements made to the area include new kiosks, trash receptacles and porta potty's. Future projects include expanding the parking area, possibly across the street and working with the local snow mobile club.

5. Other Business

- a) Senior Center Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting: Councilor Leroy Walker provided a reminder that the grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Senior Center will be held on November 2 at 1 pm.
- b) Microgrant (\$10,000): Councilor Belinda Gerry shared information about a new microgrant that was approved to assist those in need of food or other resources around the city of Auburn.
- c) Scuba Diving: Joe Gray inquired and was curious about the space for Scuba Diving. What resources/locations we had in place to help for training and education about the recreational activity.

5. Next Meeting

- a) October 9, 2019 6:30 pm at City Hall, Room 204

6. Adjourn

****Motion:** to Adjourn by Misty Edgecomb / Suzanne Roy, unanimous