



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, November 11, 2020 at 6:30pm

Auburn Senior Community Center

Members Present: Sabrina Best, Rick Martel, Misty Edgecomb, Paula Curtis-Everett, Mike Thurston, Haley Warden and Suzanne Roy

Absent: Tim Cogle

Meeting Minutes: October - Rick/Mike; all in favor, September Rick/Misty; all in favor.

Department Update - Sabrina provided an update on the Department's most recent events Frighfest, Drive In Movie, Auburn Adventures Childcare and Voting. The Winter/Spring brochure should be completed and out to the public Mid-December.

Work in Progress:

- **Tot Lot and Municipal Beach** – Presentation went well, chairs for workgroups: Suzanne will chair the municipal beach. Misty has done some work with finding residents and experts to serve on the workgroup. The Charge for the workgroup is “Prepare and present the council with recommendations, cost analysis, and estimates of solutions to opening the Municipal Beach and improving water quality.” The Timeline proposed was to have a recommendation to council in time for budget presentations (March/April). Haley will lead the Tot Lot workgroup, Misty has connected with a few residents and experts in the area to serve on the workgroup. The Charge for the workgroup is “Prepare and present to the council with recommendations, cost analysis, and estimates to creating Tot Lot into an event center.” There is interest in making Tot Lot unique as a destination or sports tourism location. There was no set timeline for this workgroup, however if they would like to have funding in FY22 they would need to be ready to present something come budget presentations (March/April). Sabrina will connect with both Suzanne and Haley to talk about next steps and meeting dates/times.
- **Festival Plaza workgroup** – The Board will be included in any proposed changes/updates to the space. A formal workgroup under PR Advisory is not needed.
- **Mt. Apatite** – Rick provided an update, the highlights was the dedication to a new trail for Carry-On. Central Maine NEMBA is working on some grants to help with trail maintenance and parking lot improvements. Rick is working with Carl for some signage 9



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small signs and 1 big with the trail map, these would be donated. Signage is a major topic in general – safety being a focus for lost or injured.

- **Auburn Suburban** – Clear cutting occurred over this fall. Darcey Gardiner, Recreation Specialist, was appointed a board member this Fall.
- **PAL** – Council supported a shift in bringing PAL center and operations under the Rec. Sabrina will include those impacts in the FY22 budget for council to approve/deny.
- **Committees on Committees** – Sabrina will send the board the proposed changes to committees. There was a question on the reasoning behind changing Parks and Rec from an advisory to committee.

New Business:

- **Butler Hill Development Project** – Connect with ALT to find more information. Why didn't council ask for PR Board input?
- Paula made a motion: **“Move all future meetings will be Zoom until there COVID-19 pandemic is in a contained place or April 1st pending outdoor gathering weather.”** Misty second; all in favor.

Meeting was adjourned, Suzanne proposed, Mike seconded, and it was unanimous.