

City of Auburn, Maine

Recreation Department

Marc Gosselin, Director

Sabrina Best, Deputy Director

48 Pettengill Park Road | Auburn, Maine 04210

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Parks and Recreation Advisory Board - Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 13, 2019 at 6:30pm

Auburn Hall, Room

Members Present: Misty Edgecomb, Tim Cogle, Suzanne Roy, Paula Everett, Rick Martel, Marc Gosselin, Dana Staples, Belinda Gerry. Absent: Paula Everett

1. Introduction of New Members. Paula Curtis-Everett and Michael Thurston

- a. Paula Curtis-Everett absent at meeting will do introductions at March meeting

2. Approval of February Meeting Minutes. *March's meeting will be held at Ingersoll Turf Facility for tour and meeting to be held at the Senior Center.*

3. Work in Progress

- a. *Sub Division Ordinance*: Conversation was continued on the information Audrey Knight, City Planner, provided. The consensus of the Advisory Group was that the definitions included in the document provided the specific detail and language in relation to the Code of Ordinance for Subdivisions. Further consensus was shared that the new language should be concise and clear on the expectations within the ordinance but should not discourage those who are looking to invest in the city of Auburn. Some discussion included providing specific percentage dollar amounts to be collected and the dispersal of those funds approved by the Parks and Recreation Advisory board. Approved projects could include shovel ready and/or specific projects that is of interest to those investing in the City of Auburn. **Marc Gosselin agreed to schedule time with Audrey Knight to provide an update on next steps and timeline.**

4. Work Completed since last meeting

- a. *Update – Recreation and Sport Facilities update to City Council*: Marc Gosselin provided information shared at the February 4th City Council Meeting. Council was provided updates on the following:

1. New Department Organization Structure with Staff

2. Update on Recreation

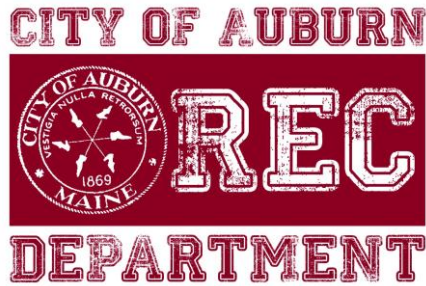
- ✓ Information was provided on the Winter and Summer Brochures
- ✓ Men's Slow Pitch Draft League (only one in the state)
- ✓ Senior Programming Collaboration (Jo Dill – Maine Senior Games)
- ✓ Highlighting the talented and committed part time staff

3. Update on Ingersoll Turf Facility

- ✓ Field Occupancy for the month of February = 86%
- ✓ Indoor Softball League – Over 150 female participants
- ✓ Indoor High School Soccer – Over 16 teams registered with a mixture of boys/girls teams
- ✓ Spring sport season kicks of March 25th

4. Update on Norway Savings Bank Arena

- ✓ Current financial situation as of the month of January. Revenues were up and expenses were down in comparison to the last fiscal year.
- ✓ Corporate Partnership update



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- ✓ Market Analysis of potential users who live 60 minutes away from the Norway Savings Bank Arena
- ✓ Event update to include the RV Show, Comic Expo and B2B tradeshow
- ✓ Information on a new event floor covering

5. Sub Committee reports

a. *Parks Subcommittee (Misty)* – Misty provided news that she was stepping down as chair of the Parks Subcommittee. Misty's husband has agreed to serve on the subcommittee. Misty stated that she will be able to continue to provide updates through information provided by her husband.

b. *Mt. Apatite Sub Committee (Rick)*: The first meeting of the Mt. Apatite subcommittee was held on Tuesday, January 22nd. Rick mentioned the first meeting was more introductory in nature and will have more details on the work of the sub-committee as more meetings occur. Rick was happy with the turnout and the quality of people sitting on the subcommittee.

6. New Business

a. *New Years Wrap up*: Marc Gosselin provided the wrap up of the New Year's Celebration. Overall response of the event was very positive. Many congratulatory notes were shared from residents and corporate partners. Overall consensus of those involved or attended is to continue to host the event annually. Internally staff had a meeting to review the overall event. Staff felt this event was great team effort across all departments, even with the weather challenges. Fireworks had to be used prior to the intended time but moving forward Fireworks will continue to be used early to accommodate families attending the event. There was minor incidents and some restructuring of the VIP areas will be considered for future events. Misty Edgcomb specifically mentioned finding something the city can "drop" at the stroke of midnight. It has been determined that the event will be placed on the schedule to occur next year.

b. *Senior Participation Fees*: A topic was brought forth by Marc Gosselin in relation to Senior Participation Fees. In November the New Auburn senior group could not meet during the January and February months. City of Auburn recreation created a two month drop in program. Because this was not a New Auburn or First Auburn program a \$1 fee was assessed for Non-Residents. Discussion amongst the board shared that fees, even \$1, should be looked at because our senior residents are on fixed incomes. A more consistent policy and or more education on the fees should be considered. **Marc Gosselin agreed to schedule time with internal staff and provide an update on policies and possible next steps for the March meeting.**

c. *Budget for new Recreation and Sport Facilities Department*: Marc Gosselin provided and shared information that the current budget was being created for the new department. The new budget not only would share information of each of the facilities, but an overall look of the entire department. Once budgets are finalized Marc Gosselin will follow up with an additional update.

6. Adjourn

****Motion:** to Adjourn by Tim Cogle/Second by Rick Martel, unanimous