



## City of Auburn, Maine

Recreation Department

Jeremy Gatcomb, Director

48 Pettengill Park Road | Auburn, Maine 04210

www.auburnmaine.gov | 207.333.6601

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### **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board - Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 6:30pm Zoom Meeting

**Members Present:** Jeremy Gatcomb, Scott Holland, Misty Edgecomb, Rick Martel, Haley Warden, Suzanne Roy, Paula Curtis-Everett

**Absent:** Mike Thurston and Tim Cogle

### **Meeting Minutes: February – Minute approval tabled until next meeting due to error in Lake Grove Park Workgroup update**

Paula Curtis-Everett asked if the Advisory Board was missing some community council people. Misty stated that there is one empty spot on the board after Mike Thurston vacated. Paula thinks that there should be more community people. Jeremy will check with Susan Clements-Dallaire to ask if it has been posted the vacated position has been posted.

Scott announced to the board that Jen Banker (Recreation staff) will be completing the minutes moving forward.

### **Department Update:**

**Annual Report Update** - Jeremy reported that the council meeting went extremely well. He and Dawna Daigle attended their first official workshop and gave a brief introduction on the staff, some of the facilities a few slides were an overview of a few of the programs Recreation offers. Councilor Walker supported giving funds for facilities help (cleaning etc.) Jeremy and Scott are working on that together. Councilor Milks and Councilor Gerry also supported giving funds for the Grab N Go program. Jeremy explained that there are approx. 370 individuals that are being fed on \$500.00 a month.

**Guest Speaker- John Blais** – Reviewed when the recreation area open space standards apply. He said there was confusion because there was some legislative changes and it set a precedence through public law back in 2019 under exceptions (John will send info to Jeremy and Scott via e-mail after the meeting). State statute 30A under sub-division law in review means as long as it is structure not land the planning board has the right to review that project under sight plan. The recreation standards do not apply under those rules. John stated that he will like to possibly try to attend an advisory meeting once or twice a year. He also stated that the Planning and Permitting department is going to make an effort to advocate for the green spaces.



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### Work in Progress:

- **Lake Grove Park Workgroup** – Suzanne Roy stated that she was speaking with Councilor Walker and he said that if we didn't act now to get the beach up and running soon there would be no swimming this summer. Scott stated that he had a Zoom meeting with Dan Goyette and the playground company. The playground equipment will more than likely not go in until late August due to supply and getting the product ordered. Scott confirmed that the contract is very close to being signed. Public Works will do all of the groundwork, test holes, possibly dig down the old bark mulch and add good material. Late summer is a better time for PW as they are very busy spring and summer. They will work very closely with the playground company. Suzanne stated that the aeration (ordering and purchasing of material) should be in the works now, once the water is workable (which will be soon). Misty stated that she did hear back from Brian Wood about the funds that were allocated to study the water (Brian looped Dan Goyette into the conversation but Dan has not responded). Leroy suggested that since there is a workgroup that has been working on this that a few of the members should meet with the City Manager to get his perspective and get assurance that the work is indeed going to be completed. Misty encouraged the committee to meet with Dan before going to the City Manager. Suzanne asked Scott who had the final decision the council or is it up to Dan to implement. Scott stated that as far as he understood that the money was definitely allocated for Municipal Beach but need to be sure that it is the right thing to do and that Dan is erring on the side of caution. Suzanne stated that a bubbler wouldn't do any harm if anything it would help. The water district shared a name, Ken Wagner, he was supposed to go out and check where the bubbler should be installed. Scott will discuss w/Dan and he will also be invited to attend the next meeting.

**New Business:** The first park to be toured next month is Lake View. If it is raining either Zoom or Senior Center can be utilized, Scott also said that Public Works could be used. Haley will not be present as she will be traveling.

**Meeting was adjourned, Haley/Rick; all in favor unanimous.**

Next meeting will be held Wednesday April 13, 2022 – 6:30 pm – Begin Park Tours