



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, March 10, 2021 at 6:30pm via ZOOM

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

Guest: Jonathan LaBonte and Peter Rubins

Meeting Minutes: February - Rick/Suzanne; all in favor.

River Reclassification and Dam Relicensing Overview – At the request of the board, Jonathan and Peter provided the group with an explanation and overview on the efforts being made around the Androscoggin River reclassification from class C up to class B and the Great Falls Dam relicensing which is up in 2026. There was follow up discussion on how these efforts could enhance recreational opportunities within Auburn and how the board can support these efforts.

Department Update - Sabrina provided an update on Summer Brochure will be out in April, the States updated reopening plans are helping us offer more programs than anticipated. The Auburn Senior Community Center won the Facility Merit Award from the Maine Parks and Recreation Association. The new Registration System will go live in a SOFT launch in April, will use for most summer programs and will do a full transition and HARD launch by Fall. Budget presentations to council will begin next week into April – Rec saw no major cuts.

Work in Progress:

- **Tot Lot workgroup** – Haley provided an update on the second meeting which provided great discussion with representatives from the Water District and Watershed Protection. The groups focus has shifted from competition cross country ski trails to more passive recreational opportunities. Food Forest was a major topic of interest and the group will reach out to Conservation Commission and the Forestry Board for future meetings and discussion.
- **Municipal Beach** – Suzanne will hold the workgroups first meeting on March 24th at 7pm at ASCC. There are 10 community members in total including representatives from the YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, Bates and water district.



City of Auburn, Maine

Recreation Department

Sabrina Best, Director

48 Pettengill Park Road | Auburn, Maine 04210

www.auburnmaine.gov | 207.333.6601

- **Festival Plaza workgroup** – Sabrina reported a contract has been signed between the City and Woodard & Curran for the design and cost estimates on the Festival Plaza upgrades. Looking at an 8 week timeline.
- **Mt. Apatite** – Rick provided an update highlighting the signage conversation specific to multi use trails. The master trail map has been updated and signs have been put up on trails. The electronic brochure was also updated with the map. Continued work on expanding the parking lot on Small Rd.
- **Auburn Suburban** – Nothing to report at this time.
- **PAL** – Nothing to report at this time.
- **Committees on Committees** – Nothing to report at this time.
- **Storywalk for July** – Paula will assist Sabrina is creating a July Storywalk in honor of Parks and Recreation Month.
- **Subdivision Projects** – No new projects under the Subdivision category. Sabrina will follow up on the North River Rd. project funds.

New Business:

- **Futsal Court** – Sabrina is submitting a grant and there is a need for community support letters.

MOTION: “Support the Futsal Grant with a letter of support from the Advisory Board.”

Rick/Paula; all in favor.

Other Business:

- Paula discussed connecting with Conservation Commission to make sure there is no duplication of efforts, specific to the parks subcommittee under CC.

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

Next meeting will be held Wednesday April 14 at 6:30pm via Zoom.