



City of Auburn, Maine

Recreation Department

Jeremy Gatcomb, Director

48 Pettengill Park Road | Auburn, Maine 04210

www.auburnmaine.gov | 207.333.6601

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board - Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 14, 2022, at 5:30pm

Members Present: Jeremy Gatcomb, Misty Edgecomb, Scott Holland, Suzanne Roy, Rick Martel and Tim Cogle

Absent: Haley Warden and Paula Curtis-Everett,

Meeting Minutes: August minutes were approved– Tim/Suzanne; all in favor unanimous.

Department Update:

- **Summer Programming** – Summer programs have ended
- **Fall Programming** – Jeremy reported that planning winter programs now fall programs are up and running (football soccer, fall softball leagues). Fall programs are a bit more laid back, crazy time will come in about 2 months. \$8,000.00 was added Recreation’s budget to offer free basketball for all Auburn residents (1st – 6th grade, all non-residents and high school will pay). Jeremy said they are working with Park Ave and Walton schools to use their gyms. We do have the use of the High school for Sundays games (cross court so there can be two games playing). There will be a “Christmas village” in Festival Plaza will be run by Economic Development from the 1st of December until Christmas, leading into New Years. Vendors will be able to set up in Festival Plaza Edward Little Boosters will also be located there

New Business:

- **Mt. Apatite** – Rick said the parking lot has been completed. Scott said that more trail signs have been put up. There still needs to be some emergency signs posted. Rick showed the committee where the trail maps are located and explained where they were located. Jeremy said that he will have Liz created a QR code so that people can scan and use on their phone. The group discussed “You are here zone” emergency signs being created for people to use should there be an emergency. Rick did advise that there have been complaints about dogs not being on leashes and waste, Scott said adding a few more waste containers would be a good idea. Rick said that they were trying to work with the snowmobile club to tear down the current structure and build a new one, but the snowmobile club has not responded. Misty thought having a “welcome center” and water fill station would be amazing. Scott said that there would need to be a well dug for water. Misty asked if the work group is done or if it needs to continue. Rick said he has tried to continue the meetings, but that people have not showed up. Misty said that she would reach out to the other groups to see if they would like to continue the meetings. Misty asked when the National Guard will officially close the gate because of Auburn Suburban construction. Rick said work would start in the spring of 2023, Jeremy thought the gates would close closer to 2024. Misty said that signs should be posted and over communicate that information to the public the better it would be.



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- **Terms Expiring** - Rick Martel and Suzanne Roy are resigning from the board as their terms are expiring. Haley Warden's term is also up for renewal.

Work in Progress:

- **Lake Grove Beach** – Misty said she did not have too much to report. Jeremy said the testing failed 50% of the time, but there was no rhyme or reason of the failing he thought maybe after a rain it would be higher but that was not the case. Misty said she will reach back out to the campground again.
- **Tot Lot** – No updates - Misty did say she reached out to Dan to get the RFP template but had not received a response yet.
- **Playground Projects** – Equipment is in and start date to install is the end September. Scott said PW will start digging in a week or so they don't want to start digging too early due to potential weather issues. Scott asked about the equipment that is currently there, he was told it was almost impossible to put it back together and use it. They recommended NOT using it and Scott was also told that it can not be given away because the liability will then fall on the City. Scott did mention the softball field at Pettengill Park will also need benches picnic tables etc.

Meeting was adjourned, Tim/Suzanne; all in favor unanimous

Next meeting will be held Wednesday October 12, 2022 – 5:30 pm – Park tours continue Pettengill Park