

City of Auburn, Maine
"Maine's City of Opportunity"

Conservation Commission

PARKS SUBCOMMITTEE MARCH 30, 2016 – Auburn Hall

Auburn's Conservation Commission Parks Subcommittee met on Wednesday, March 30, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 6:40 pm

Roll Call

Members present were Tizz Crowley, Misty Edgecomb, Chuck Lafean, Bob Sipe, and Leroy Walker. Absent was Larry Pelletier. Also present was Sabrina Best, Recreation Director.

ACTION: Tizz Crowley seconded by Misty Edgecomb moved to make Sabrina Best the Ex Officio member of the Parks Subcommittee. The motion was unanimously approved.

Minutes

ACTION: Misty Edgecomb seconded by Chuck Lafean moved to approve the minutes of 2-24-16 as presented with two changes (Delete the "e" from Misty's last name under Universal Playground Equipment & under Dam Relicensing at Barker Mill – River Day the third sentence will read: "The understanding is that City Councilors want to look at recreational opportunities" and delete "and use their influence and the need to have relicensing to bring that forward".) The motion was unanimously approved.

ACTION: Tizz Crowley seconded by Chuck Lafean moved to postpone the minutes of 1/27/16 to the next meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

New Business

Friends of Sullivan Square – Tentative Event April 24th

April 24th is National Park Day. A web site has been developed that anyone can go on to look at all the different events that are going on that day. Sabrina Best is going to promote and highlight the River Walk, Festival Plaza and Sullivan Square and will include the GIS map link to the city website for the list of all the parks.

There was a lot of discussion regarding possibly promoting Mt. Apatite next year on National Park Day. There was also discussion regarding defining the best entrance, signs, volunteers doing community service projects, and a Friends Group. Sabrina will:

- ❖ Review and address the sign at the Small Road entrance stating the civil rights and rehabilitation acts requirements have been met and directing anyone who has been discriminated against to the Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity at the US Department of Interior.
- ❖ Reach out to Julie at the National Park Service regarding what she has for funding, materials, do and don'ts on the trails etc.
- ❖ Put together some guidelines for volunteers doing community service projects.
- ❖ Start thinking about and putting together a Friends of Mt. Apatite group and reach out to Busytown Bike Shop.

- ❖ Reach out to the Snowmobile Club to see if they would like to be a part of planning the National Parks Day if Mt. Apatite is highlighted next year. It was also suggested to see if their building can be used when they are not using it.
- ❖ Follow up with Dan Goyette regarding the trails grant.
- ❖ Get the Parks Subcommittee the date for next year's National Park Day.

The members complimented Sabrina on what a fantastic job she is doing, what great energy she has, and how thrilled they are to have her.

The Friends of Sullivan Square have a speaker for National Park Day. There was discussion regarding having it in the park with an alternate location if the weather is bad. *Leroy Walker will reach out to St. Louis Church to see if they will be the back-up location. Sabrina and Tizz Crowley will work on the logistics of that day.* The Friends will put out a donation basket with a suggested donation of \$5 to raise money to plant flowers in the park.

Arbor Week May

Arbor Week is May 15-21. The Community Forest Board's plan is to have a big public participation event at the nursery at the Lake Auburn Community Center and tables with information hopefully at both libraries and both city halls. They are putting up at least one banner and possibly a second, both donated from Pepsi. The Parks Subcommittee thanked Dan Goyette and staff for addressing the issue of getting banners that support city activities put up without the cost. The Androscoggin Land Trust is putting together a story walk they are hoping to incorporate with their activities. The Recreation Department also plans to do story walks. The Woman's Literary Union would like to host Steve Murch again, possibly May 19th.

Trails Day - June 4th

It was suggested:

- ❖ To use trails day as a way to promote collaborative relationships with the Lake Auburn Watershed Protection since the Commissioners are trying to open their properties/trails to the public.
- ❖ Open recreational opportunities for anyone who has physical space i.e. Androscoggin Land Trust, Watershed Protection Act, Y, LA Trails, Watershed Protection Agencies, Lake Auburn Community Center, Schools, and East Auburn Community Unit. Possibly reach out to those entities to supply a list of what they have for trails and contact information and create one master trail directory.
- ❖ Find one trail, highlight it, and do one or two small events.

All agreed to think about what they want to do for Trails Day and email their suggestions and thoughts to the other members including Sabrina.

Parks & Recreation Month – July

There will be a lot of events going on in the month of July. The Recreation Department is creating a calendar and will list all the events including the Liberty Festival, Art Walk etc. and may highlight a trail or park on the other days.

Cemeteries - Volunteers

There is a need to organize volunteers to put up flags the week before Memorial Day. The city manager has a budget for flags and holders/markers. It was agreed to discuss this further at the April meeting.

Other

Unfinished Business

Council Reaffirms Current Ordinance for Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

Councilor Walker, Councilor Young, and Councilor Gilbert were thanked for voting to follow the ordinance and to fill the positions for at least one year.

Update “Ordinance” Proposal to Just Be Narrative of Subcommittee for Conservation Commission: - Not addressed

Update From Misty & Leroy on Signage Project – Not addressed

Dog Park Project Update – Not addressed

Other: None

Next Meeting

Wednesday, April 27, 2016

Open Session: None

Adjourn

ACTION: Chuck Lafean seconded by Misty Edgecomb moved to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved.

Submitted by:

Tammy Thatcher