



Conservation Commission Agenda

Meeting Date: July 19, 2016, 6:00 PM

- I.** Roll Call
- II.** Approve Minutes of June 21, 2016 meeting
- III.** Sub Committee Reports
 - a. Parks Committee
 - b. LACFB Update
 - c. Transportation & Environment Committee
- IV.** Open for Public Comments
- V.** Election of Officers for 2016-2017
 - a. Chair
 - b. Vice chair
 - c. Secretary/Treasurer
- VI.** Old Business Items
 - a. Project Canopy Update
 - b. Reappointment of commission members- Update
 - c. Policies and Procedures – Adoption
 - d. Annual Report – Adoption
 - e. Priority Projects
- VII.** New Business Items
 - a. Barker Mill - Potential Project
- VIII.** Other
 - a. Miscellaneous Correspondence –
 - a. Utility boxes
 - b. Edible Green Spaces
- IX.** Adjourn

The Conservation Commission meets the third Tuesday of each Month in Auburn City Hall at 6:00 PM.
The Lewiston Auburn Community Forest Board meets the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM.
The Parks Subcommittee meets on the last Wednesday of the month in Auburn City Hall at 6:30 PM.

**City of Auburn
Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
June 21, 2016 - 6:00 pm**

Chairman Pete Preble brought the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

1. Roll call

Members present: Tizz Crowley, Maurice Keene, Chuck Lafean, Pete Preble, Bob Sipe

Absent was: Jordan Tate, Leroy Walker, and Nichole White-Matson

Others present: Dave Griswold of Forest Board and Tony Beaulieu, City Engineer

2. Approve Minutes of 5/17/16 Meeting

ACTION: Tizz Crowley seconded by Maurice Keene moved to accept the minutes of 5/17/16 as presented. The motion was approved 5-0.

It was requested that paper versions of the agenda be available if someone requests it like all other boards and committees.

3. Subcommittee Reports

Parks Subcommittee

❖ There was no quorum at the meeting.

❖ The Build Maine Conference is being held at Mill 1 on Wednesday and Thursday. The Parks Subcommittee is going to participate and will make a little park with a fountain and grass.

LACFB Update

❖ Arbor Week was successful. They had displays at the two city halls and the Lewiston Library (Auburn Library was booked).

❖ Chuck is working on an application for a contest for solicitation of photographs of special trees in Lewiston Auburn through the summer and fall.

❖ Last week Steve Murch, Dan Bilodeau, and Rick Shea put in the second year planting with volunteers from Proctor and Gamble at the Lake Auburn Community Center.

❖ There was some discussion regarding where trees are needed and/or will be planted. The results of the tree inventory will determine what is going to happen.

Transportation & Environment Committee

❖ It was requested that agendas be posted on a timely basis and an e-alert be sent.

❖ The Woodlot ordinance was approved by the Transportation and Environment Committee in March/April and is waiting for approval from the Council. Follow up is needed on the status of it. Dave Griswold asked the Commission to let the Forest Board know when it is scheduled for a Council meeting.

4. Public Comments:

The City Council tabled appointments for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board in April and has not been made them yet. The Parks Subcommittee will reach out to Sabrina Best at their

next meeting and will offer to lend support and see if there is anything they can do to help with parks and recreation activities.

5. Election of Officers for 2016-2017

- a. Chair**
- b. Vice Chair**
- c. Secretary/Treasurer**

ACTION: Tizz Crowley seconded by Maurice Keene moved to keep the current slate of officers until the City Council appointments or reappointments the Commissioners whose terms expired in June.

Pete Preble is willing to stay on the Commission until his position is filled but would like someone to take over as chairman. He will reach out to Nichole White-Matson to delegate preparation of the July agenda as Vice Chairman if she is willing to fill that role. It was suggested that in the meantime the Commissioners offer assistance to Pete to help lighten his load.

Pete was asked to act as liaison for the Watershed Group when he is no longer a formal member of the Commission because his experience, depth of knowledge, and personal contact would be an asset. Pete said it is a possibility.

The vote was approved 5-0.

6. Old Business

a. Project Canopy Update

The tree inventory is 75% complete of the 2500 trees they will be inventorying. The Forest Board has not seen any of the details and that concerns them. Tony Beaulieu will send what information he has to Dave Griswold. The inventory should be wrapped up by July 1. The City will receive a deliverable from Davey Resource Group which will be tied into the City's GIS. Tony will send the data to Dave when he receives it.

b. Policies and Procedures Update

Bob Sipe and Tizz Crowley made suggested changes that were included in the agenda packet. The changes are color coded. BLACK: The changes everyone agreed on. GREEN: What Tizz Crowley added last minute that Pete Preble and Bob Sipe had not seen prior to this printing. LIGHT BLUE: Cut and paste of frequently used references in the Charter. RED: Something missing one of the members couldn't find. It was suggested that all the references in light blue be taken out and put as an addendum in the back so it's a solid document onto itself that can be referenced from within the text by a footnote or endnote. It was also suggested to include the ordinance for the Commission as an addendum.

Other changes include: adding “as” before the definition under Quorum & Voting, remove the reference to the “Planning Board” under the first bullet, and clarify the reference to “final action” in the last paragraph to be “final action on this specific item at this time”. Under Postponement Due to Time the time needs to be changed to 8:00 pm to match the time under No New Business. Add “(Bylaws)” to end of Policies and Procedures

Tizz Crowley will get the changes to Pete Preble and/or Tony Beaulieu by Monday to forward to the Commission for review. Any suggested changes need to be sent to Pete by Monday July 11 so that a final draft can be done and it can be voted on at the July meeting.

c. Annual Report Update

It was requested to have the draft of the final version sent to the Commission for review and for any suggested changes to be sent to Pete Preble by Monday July 11 so it can be voted on at the July meeting. Pete will contact Nicole White-Matson and ask her to send the updated copy.

7. New Business

a. Calendar

Bob Sipe created a draft calendar. He is working on making it a perpetual calendar. If anyone has any additions they can contact Bob. It was requested to add Arbor Week.

b. KEI Report

The KEI Report was included in the agenda packet. Since Jordan White-Matson is leading the charge on it they will wait until she is here next month for questions.

8. Other

a. Miscellaneous Correspondence – Utility Boxes

Bob Sipe sent information on painting utility boxes to everyone. He sent it to an artist in Lewiston who said he will take it up with the BMCU. It was agreed to gather more information, have everyone send comments and questions to Bob, and to discuss it in further detail at the July meeting. They will also get input from Sabrina Best at the meeting. Anyone with an interest is invited to attend.

Concern was expressed about not knowing in advance about the money given/budgeted to rehab one of the Basketball Courts, although they are glad it is being done.

b. Next Meeting:

The next meeting is July 19 at 6:00 p.m.

9. Adjourn

ACTION: Tizz Crowley seconded by Maurice Keene moved to adjourn at 7:34 pm. The motion was unanimously approved.

Submitted by:
Tammy Thatcher

From: Jonathan LaBonte
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2016 1:09 PM
To: Eric Cousens
Cc: Howard Kroll; Denis D'Auteuil; Doug Greene
Subject: FW: Lower Barker Hydroelectric Project - 2015 Study Report

Hello Eric,

The next date I had marked was end of this month when KEI said they planned to have a draft license application. Do we know anything further on the timed recreation releases for coordinating on the community side?

Thanks for any update. Not sure if the Conservation Commission or one of its many subgroups is focused on this council priority or not.

Jonathan P. LaBonte

Mayor - City of Auburn

60 Court Street

Auburn, Maine 04210

[207-333-6600](tel:207-333-6600) Ext. 1216

From: Jesse Wechsler [Jesse.Wechsler@KleinschmidtGroup.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2016 3:32 PM
To: achp@achp.gov; david.saunders@bia.gov; johnna.blackhair@bia.gov; harold.peterson@bia.gov; jeff.murphy@noaa.gov; jim.vogel@maine.gov; sean.mcdermott@noaa.gov; kevin_mendik@nps.gov; Andrew_Raddant@ios.doi.gov; jay.l.clement@usace.army.mil; abele.ralph@epa.gov; gstewart@usgs.gov; kathy.howatt@maine.gov; gail.wippelhauser@maine.gov; robin.k.reed@maine.gov; arthur.spiess@maine.gov; todd.burrowes@maine.gov; nbennett@nrcm.org; bgraber@americanrivers.org; john@asf.comcastbiz.net; landis@mainerivers.org; trumpf@tnc.org; jpictou@micmac-nsn.gov; kirk.francis@penobscotnation.org; chris.sockalexis@penobscotnation.org; envplanner@maliseets.com; soctomah@gmail.com; governorsocobasin@gmail.com; francis.brautigam@maine.gov; john.perry@maine.gov; jim.vogel@maine.gov; don.s.cameron@maine.gov; antonio_bentivoglio@fws.gov; william.mcdavitt@noaa.gov; jmaloney@avcog.org; bfortier@avcog.org; james.pellerin@maine.gov; bbell@androskoggincountymaine.gov; Dan Goyette; Eric Cousens; acmelamprey@roadrunner.com; mauger@androskogginlandtrust.org; nward@fairpoint.net; heinz@maine.rr.com; jim.johnson@me.usda.gov; rwhiting@auburnhousing.org; rcgalwa@hotmail.com; jstorer@awsd.org; Gary Johnson; shazelton@awsd.org; Jonathan LaBonte; bob@americanwhitewater.org; Shepard, Steven; OConnor, Michael; william.mcdavitt@noaa.gov

Cc: Loon, Sherri; Loon, Lewis; Andy Qua; Rachel Russo; Brandon Kulik
Subject: Lower Barker Hydroelectric Project - 2015 Study Report

Folks,

On behalf of KEI (Maine), we are providing you with the 2015 study report for the Lower Barker Project (FERC No. 2808) in Auburn, Maine. This report describes the studies performed in 2015 as part of the relicensing of the Lower Barker Project. As described in the attached report, studies are planned for 2016. This information will be integrated into the draft license application, which KEI (Maine) plans to provide by July 31, 2016. The attached report includes an updated relicensing schedule and summary of the relicensing process to date. Chuck and Sherri have offered to host a meeting this spring or summer to discuss the study results, if desired.

Best regards,

Jesse Wechsler

Jesse Wechsler

Senior Fisheries Scientist

[207.487.3328, Ext. 278](tel:207.487.3328)

www.KleinschmidtGroup.com

Griswold, David Jul 15 (2 days ago)

to me

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Griswold, David" <dave.griswold@versoco.com>

Date: July 15, 2016 at 1:18:52 PM EDT

To: "rstone@auburnmaine.gov" <rstone@auburnmaine.gov>, "gburns@auburnmaine.gov" <gburns@auburnmaine.gov>, "dyoung@auburnmaine.gov" <dyoung@auburnmaine.gov>, "atitus@auburnmaine.gov" <atitus@auburnmaine.gov>, "jpross@auburnmaine.gov" <jpross@auburnmaine.gov>, "lwalker@auburnmaine.gov" <lwalker@auburnmaine.gov>, "egilbert@auburnmaine.gov" <egilbert@auburnmaine.gov>

Cc: Rick And Marine <leftyrick@aol.com>, "jeff.preble@wright-pierce.com" <jeff.preble@wright-pierce.com>, "ddauteuil@auburnmaine.gov" <ddauteuil@auburnmaine.gov>

<ddauteuil@auburnmaine.gov>, "dgoyette@auburnmaine.gov" <dgoyette@auburnmaine.gov>

Subject: Auburn Public Woodlot Ordinance

Councilors:

I reside at 199 Gamage Avenue and have been a member of the Lewiston-Auburn Community Forest Board for several terms, including past service as chair. I am a licensed forester.

I initially suggested development of a Public Woodlot Ordinance at a Council meeting in December, 2014, and with encouragement from staff, made a significant contribution to the document you are now considering.

Due to a mix-up, I did not attend your meeting on July 11, but intend to be present on July 18th.

Let me shed some light on the proposal to split the revenues, which emerged during lengthy discussions at the LACFB, Auburn Conservation Commission, and the Council's Environment & Transportation subcommittee.

1. Past City Councils have been committed to "Community Cords", so it made sense to have a portion of the revenue flow to that program.
2. Since inception of the Lewiston-Auburn Community Forest Board, there has been no direct city funding to support the Community Forest. LACFB has depended on Project Canopy Grants, with the City providing some match with in kind service, such as using the city crew to plant trees purchased through grants. Given that history, it seemed unrealistic to depend on tax dollars to fund support of the Community Forest. Therefore, it seemed reasonable that some

revenue produced from the community forest be dedicated to support it. Since harvest revenue is periodic, it will be necessary to have a detailed plan to spread spending over the 10-15 year interval between harvests. These revenues would be applied to such projects as

- a. Updating the forest management plan (due in 2018)
 - b. Analysis of the recent street tree inventory, including planning to deal with the impact of Emerald Ash Borer, which is established in New Hampshire, and expected to arrive in Maine shortly. High mortality of ash street trees can be expected. Some trees may need to be treated to keep them alive.
 - c. Miscellaneous expenses to support the Tree Nursery at the Lake Auburn Community Center. Approximately 200 trees have been planted with a Project Canopy Grant. In 6-8 years, these trees will be available for use in Auburn and Lewiston, at a significant savings versus outright purchase.
 - d. Match for future grants, if needed
 - e. Outreach and education materials.
 - f. Implementation of projects contained in the LACFB Strategic Plan
3. A portion of the revenue was designated for the organization responsible for the woodlot being harvested. The thought was that Public Services or the School Department would have time invested in managing the harvest, and should have some incentive to justify the effort.
 4. A portion should be available for the general fund.

I hope this background information is useful to your deliberations. Thank you.

Dave

David D. Griswold

Forest Certification Coordinator

Verso Corporation

Androscoggin Mill

P.O. Box 90

Jay, Maine 04239

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2017-897-1938 fax

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City of Auburn: Conservation Commission
Annual Report
June 2015- June 2016

“Serving as a research, advisory and advocacy group on environmental and conservation issues related to the city.”

fst. 2015



Letter from the Vice Chairperson:

The commission was established in June of 2015. The past year has been an active one for our commission.

- Organizing our commission members.
- Thoroughly examining the stated purpose of the commission.
- Review and updating the relevant provisions of the City of Auburn’s Ordinance.
- Formation of the Parks Committee, a sub- committee of the Conservation Commission. Recommended and approved changes to the City's website that improves the Parks webpage.
- Development of the Public Woodlot Ordinance with a big Thank you to Dave Griswold and LACFB.
- Attended presentation by Bates College students on the relicensing of the Barker Mill Dam.
- We look forward to working with the city and the community in the upcoming year.



Commission Members and term expirations

Jeffrey “Pete” Preble, Chairperson	- June 2016
Nichole White-Matson, Vice-Chairperson	- June 2018
Tizz Crowley, Treasurer/Secretary	- June 2018
Maurice Keene, member	- June 2017
Jordan Tate, member	- June 2016
Bob Sipe, member	- June 2016
Chuck Lafean, member	- June 2017

Respectfully Submitted, Nichole White-Matson

<http://www.lakesofmaine.org/lake-photos.html?m=374>