

**Lewiston Auburn Community Forest Board Minutes
February 15, 2018
Lewiston Public Works Conference Room**



APPROVED

Members present: Dave Griswold, John Butler,
Rhyanna Larose, Steve Murch, Gary Wadsworth

Excused: Jordan Tate, Rick Shea

Guests: None

Meeting called to order at 6:53 p.m.

1. Approval of Draft Minutes: January, 2018.

2. Public Session

No participation.

3. Update on Tree City USA Applications

- a. Lewiston – Steve will complete Lewiston application this week
- b. Auburn – Gary has submitted Auburn application

4. Update on Lewiston Harvest, East Avenue Extension

- a. Steve reports that a small 5-6 acre harvest is scheduled to start 2/19 and be completed within 1-2 weeks.

5. Update on Auburn Public Woodlots Forest Management Plan revision

- a. Dave and Rick met with Auburn City Manager and staff on 1/29 to review need and process of initiating 10 year forest management plan revision.
- b. Dave and Rick met with Katy Grondin and Adam Hanson at School Dept on 2/8 to review process for gathering management objectives for each School lot.
- c. Dave will meet with Kim Taylor, Sherwood Heights principal, on 2/20. Plans are to meet with EL and East Auburn principals as well.
- d. Dave has reached out to Androscoggin Land Trust concerning Sherwood Heights, and Auburn Rec Director concerning Pettengill Park and Mt Apatite. Meetings to follow.
- e. Plan to put revised management plan document on city system, including map details on GIS. City photography will be updated in April, if weather permits over flights.

6. Auburn Conservation Commission Report – Jordan Tate

- Summary provided by Jordan

1) The Conservation Commission is going to be holding a meeting on Wednesday February 21st to go over our normal business (due to the amount of activity in the past month). The Conservation Commission intends to request approval from City Council (pending a vote in support from the commission on the 21st) to go after a NOAA grant that would provide funding for the removal of the breached Littlefield Dam. The pre-proposal is due March 7th, so Bjorn Lake from NOAA will be attending the meeting to provide details on the grant and application process. Eric Cousens will also be joining the meeting as he will likely be a key city staff involved in the application

2) The Conservation Commission is hosting guest Dr. Owen Grumbling on Tuesday, February 27th at 6:30pm in Council Chambers at Auburn City Hall. The public is invited, as well as members of the Auburn City Council and Planning Board. Everyone is welcome, and if anyone from the Forest Board could attend that would be greatly appreciated. Event details and a survey to RSVP are accessible via this

URL: <http://www.auburnmaine.gov/Postings/Events/Detail/Conservation-Commission-Meeting-27>

3) The trails workgroup had their first meeting on February 6th, initiating the 90 day trail period before the Conservation Commission decides to terminate the group, extend the workgroup, or establish a subcommittee. Ben Low is the head of the Trails workgroup.

7. Arbor Week Activities brainstorming

- Arbor Week is 3rd week in May, May 21-25
- Try to do something each day of Arbor Week?
- Attend state event
- Banners and info tables at key location; city halls
- Nursery volunteer project with help from EL? St Dom's? etc
- Plant a tree(s)
- Publicize Auburn Forest management plan process
- Roadside clean up with volunteers
- Water management BMP workshop, coordinate with Maine SFI committee (Dave to explore interest.

Old Business

Dave was unable to attend Auburn 150th Anniversary planning session.

New Business

- Discussion of need to fill board vacancies: Auburn 1; Lewiston 2; At Large 1.

- Discussion of possible activities for Earth Day; seedlings to school(s)? Consider additional ideas at March meeting.
- Maine Project Canopy has put out notification for grant applications, due April 6. Dave provided details to Steve and Gary.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45

-Next meeting tentatively scheduled for March 15, Auburn Hall Rm 204