



City of Auburn
Recreation Department
48 Pettengill Park Road | Auburn, ME 04210
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Parks and Recreation Advisory Board - Meeting Minutes

Wednesday June 10, at 4:30pm (Raymond Park)

Members Present: Julia Bergeron-Smith, Misty Edgecomb, Clare Murray, Jeremy Gatcomb, Phil Savignano Joseph Grochmal, and Ryan Walker

Auburn resident: Lily Krietzber from Seeds to Smiles (<https://seedstosmiles.com>)

Absent: Merissa (Moe) Beaulieu

Excuse Absences: approved Misty/Joe; all in favor unanimous

Meeting Minutes: May minutes approved Misty/Phil; all in favor unanimous

Welcome New Member:

Joseph (Joe) Grochmal

- Works for the city of Lewiston as Director of Strategic Initiatives and Economic Policy
- Grew up in Western Massachusetts
- Loves the outdoors, running, hiking, cross country skiing

Department Update:

- No updates to the Rec Department
- Jeremy notified the committee that CIP and budget are all approved at the June 8th council meeting
 - New playground at Raymond Park (\$300,000.00)
 - Both Pettengill Park fields will be revamped (\$230,000.00)
 - Upper field will get more attention than lower
 - Ingersoll Turf will get the turf replaced (\$200,000.00) also new rubber flooring will be installed
- Jeremy said that at some point Bonney Park will be updated but that since it is currently being utilized by members of Auburn's unhoused community, youth are not using the playground, and that dynamic needs to be reviewed before new equipment can be brought in.

New Business/Open Session for Public:

- Vacancies/resignations
 - Julia informed the committee that there is no need for any new members since the committee is full.
- The decision was made by all that Denis and Phil should also be invited to the July meeting and if Marc is able to attend, he will also be there.
 - Joe will start a PowerPoint template that Julia and Misty will add to that we will review with them

Work in Progress:

- Tree carving at Lake Grove Park (Eric Cousens)
No update or schedule on that, Julia will follow up with Eric Cousens
- Danville Corner Road Park/Conservation proposal
Has not been scheduled
Moe, Misty, and Phil will attend if they are available
- Comprehensive plan

Julia will reach out to Lauren Caffee regarding policy and action items

Subcommittee updates:

• **Skate Park (Clare, Ryan, Joe)**

- Joe will be joining this sub committee
- The Moulton Park clean-up day was held Sunday May 31st 11:00AM
- Approx. 30 people were in attendance
- Tons of trash was removed
- Flower bed was planted
- There was going to be another cleanup, Thursday June 25th 6:00PM. The thought is that perhaps just the subcommittee could go there instead of the whole community
- The next steps are to potentially have a DIY volunteer led to build out new features
- Skate Jam, Saturday June 27th
 - Is there a need for event insurance?
 - Do people need to sign waivers? The question was raised could this be a park/city event
 - Jeremy will reach out to Liz and Jenn Communications & Community Engagement Department. Ryan said that if the timeline was too tight, they may be able to push the date back
 - Clare said that she spoke to Kelly Butler, who is a current member of Auburn's Comprehensive Planning Committee and she is also in favor of a skate park and suggested that there could be surveys showing that the youth in the community want more places to go.

• **User Survey (Clare, Julia, Misty)**

The committee hasn't heard from Marc regarding his review yet. Pausing for now.

• **Resource Assessment (Moe, Misty, and Phil)**

Misty has done a bit of work but also said that there is a Google Doc once work is completed hard copies will be sent

Strategic Planning: Tabled until July meeting since we are waiting on the Comp Plan updates

Initial Playground Ideas for Raymond Park:

- Accessible swing(s)
- New, accessible picnic tables
- Keep the trees!
- Move grind bar to Moulton
- Design spaces for big and little kids
- Utilize the retaining wall in slide design, if able

Meeting was adjourned, Phil/Ryan; all in favor unanimous.

Next meeting will be held Wednesday July 8, 2026 – 4:30 pm -
Auburn Community Senior Center