

## Parks and Recreation Meeting 9/14/2015

In attendance were Mr. Dave Nye, chairman, Mr. Alex Eisman, co-chairman Mrs. Lisa Canavan, commissioner, Ms. Margie McEvoy, commissioner, Mr. Jim Headd, Selectman, Mr. Zach Eaton, alternate commissioner, Mr. Pat Kelly, alternate commissioner, Mr. Armand Miclete, facilities, Ms. Maureen Juliano concert coordinator, Mr. Tony Kariban, FC Soccer Stars, Mrs. Ruth Eisman, resident. Helen Hiltz was recording minutes.

Old Business:

### ***Summer concert series:***

The summer concert series went extremely well this year. The weather co-operated for both concerts. Attendees enjoyed the BBQ'd hamburgers, hot dogs and popcorn. It was determined that the BBQ's would be planned for next year's concerts as well. The 2016 concerts would be planned for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays in June and August.

### ***Movie night/hosted by the Fire and Police Departments:***

The movie night was finally held after several rain delays. Diane Coyle, face painter, was a big hit. The P&R provided hamburgers and hot dogs and glow necklaces. The Longmeadow Church manned the popcorn and cotton candy machines. Although attendance was low, the event was considered a success and it was thought that attendance would increase next year. Next year, an alternate rain venue will be secured.

### ***Senior barbecue:***

The senior BBQ was held 8/29 at 1:00. The Red Hat ladies served the seniors. DJ Mike Ferarini provided fun and music for the event. Cost was a factor as this was not a scheduled event. The Auburn Moms Club made a donation to the event to assist with the purchase of goods, etc. There were many volunteers who helped with the cooking, serving, etc. Thank-you to all.

### ***Update on Wayne Eddows Auxillary Field:***

Mr. Nye reported that progress is continuing on the efforts to put in the line extension for power at WE auxiliary field. ~ \$7,000 has been spent on engineering costs already. Clean up of the area continues. Half of the parking lot has been graveled and silt protectors have been put into place.

### ***Auburn Day:***

It appears as though the Auburn Day event was a huge success. The P&R committee should be receiving the breakdown of the expenses for the Auburn Day that were covered with the \$5,000 donation soon. The P&R committee needs to insure that the funds that were given to the Steering Committee in good faith would not be utilized for any services or activities where a fee was charged to participate. These are tax payer dollars and should be utilized to provide free services, entertainment, etc. to residents.

***FCC Stars request to move two light poles to Wayne Eddows:***

Mr. Pat Kelly, ASC, and Mr. Tony Kariban, FC Soccer Stars, asked the committee if two portable light towers could be brought in to Wayne Eddows field to allow for later play on the field. The FC Stars are not asking for field time that would conflict with any of the present reservations but would ask to utilize the fields later in the evening. The FC Stars is an organization that works with the ASC but is more of a travel organization and has a higher skill level that they can bring to the ASC. They would be renting the light towers. In lieu of field fees for the month that they are proposing having the towers in place, they would have no problems with other organizations utilizing the towers if there was a need. The members of the P&R committee expressed concern over possible vandalism on the units and who would be held responsible. There was also a concern over potential spillage or vandalism to the tanks that might result in a hazmat type of situation. Fire Chief, Bruce Philips, happened to be in the building at the time and we asked for his opinion. He expressed the same concerns and noted that there have been problems reported in the vicinity by other businesses. The suggestion was made to limit the amount of fuel to 10 gallons that was in the tanks at any particular time. Mr. Zack Eaton offered to monitor the situation and be in charge of refueling each night. The P&R committee asked selectman, Jim Headd, for his opinion on the matter. Mr. Headd stated that there would need to be more investigation into the possible liability issues. He stated that he would bring the matter to the BOS meeting that evening and would communicate the opinion of the Board of Selectmen on the issue.

Mr. Alex Eisman made a motion to accept the light tower proposal being made by FC Stars with the 10 gallon limitation, dependent upon approval from the Board of Selectmen and review of the rental insurance naming the town as a second insured. Mrs. Lisa Canavan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor.

***New Business:***

Mrs. Hiltz noted that she has received a letter of resignation from Mrs. Stacey Shula. She regrets that personal family matters will not allow her to also serve on the committee at this time. A notice of the vacancy will be put in the Village Crier and the Auburn Community Facebook page.

***2016 Budget:***

The dugout issue on the junior and farm fields needs to be addressed as there is no protection in case of storms. Plastic PVC fence toppers need to be added to the top of the fence. There can be no All- star games if the fence toppers are not in place. Mr. Eaton will put together a list of needs and pricing and will submit to Mr. Nye.

Mr. Nye stated that he would be requesting more funds for the rest of phase 1 and phase II of the WE Auxiliary project. He also stated that the fence at Circle of Fun needs work and he would like to see a new deck off the gazebo. Graveling of parking lots and other maintenance projects will be included in the budget. A fireworks budget will also be requested. Many residents requested that we go back to having an event with fireworks.

Total budget request at this time will be \$138,145.

***Hippy Dippy Coffee House:***

Ms. Juliano has found a replacement for Peter Pappas who could not join us this year because of an injury. The Coffee House will be held at the AVS on November 7<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 PM. Ms. Juliano found several art pieces that will be a great background for the event.

***Winter Carnival:***

The P&R Committee had discussions about moving the winter carnival out a couple of weeks to insure that the weather was cold enough for the event. Mrs. Hiltz asked about how this may affect the burning of the trees. The Committee asked Mrs. Hiltz to check with Fire Chief Bruce Philips to see if having the trees on the property for that length of time would be a problem. Mrs. Margie McEvoy also suggested that several little fire pits in the area be considered to keep people warm on the day of the event and to make smores. The Committee decided that expansion of the event may not be the best option at this time. It was felt that having a skating party, a sliding hill, having hamburgers and hot dogs, etc. would be sufficient for this event. A February 4<sup>th</sup> date was decided upon for the event.

***Summer Parks and Recreation event:***

After much discussion and requests from Auburn residents, the committee determined that a summer event, similar to the Memorial Day bazaar, would be held in 2016.

Mr. Alex Eisman made a motion to have the summer event on June 4<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Lisa Canavan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor.

A sub- committee will be formed to discuss the event further. All of the past vendors would be considered with the exception of the bounce houses. There have been too many incidences with bounce houses and the possible liabilities need to be considered. The committee asked Mrs. Hiltz to work with Ms. Juliano to secure "The Crush" for the event.

***Senior trips:***

Mr. Armand Miclete stated that the last few senior trips have been full and it appears as though the fall trip will have a full bus as well. The fall trip is to the HOBO railroad.

***Little League:***

Mr. Zach Eaton still needs to get some quotes for 2016 needs to Mr. Nye.

***Auburn Soccer Club:***

Mr. Pat Kelly stated that there were 8 teams, 100+ kids signed up for fall soccer this year. Mr. Zack Eaton noted that the Jr. Field could be utilized for the younger soccer team practices if needed. Mr. Kelly asked that a more aggressive fertilizer and ant treatment be put in the budget for next year. Mr. Nye stated that the fertilizing and ant treatment were generally part of the mowing contract and not part of the P&R budget. Mr. Kelly noted that the week prior there appeared to be some sort of ant hatching and kids were so covered with the ants that they were almost at the point of not being able to play. Mr. Eaton noted that the same phenomenon was going on in the surrounding town's fields. Mr. Kelly stated that they will require some replacement nets. Mr. Nye asked them to submit the bills to Mrs. Hiltz so that she can submit for reimbursement.

Mrs. Lisa Canavan made a motion to accept the August 10<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes. Alex Eisman 2nd the motion. All in favor.

Mr. Alex Eisman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Lisa Canavan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor.