

**Town of Auburn
Parks and Recreation Commission
August 14, 2017**

Commissioners Present: David Nye; Margie McEvoy; Lisa Canavan; Pat Kelly

Others Present: Jim Headd, Selectman; Mike Dobmeier, P&R Facilities; Chris Webster, YMCA; Brian D'Amelio, Little League and AVS Athletic Director; Maureen Juliano

Budget Update-

Ice Rink still needs to be repaired. Needs curbs to keep the water in. There is \$3000 in the budget but it may cost up to \$6000 to fix. What it needs is a Cape Cod berm that is 18" wide, tapers up and 10" high. This will help so the frost won't lift the curb. Since we have \$3000 this year, maybe we can do the family rink this year so there is somewhere to skate this winter.

Summer Concert Series-

All set for concert Thursday, August 17, 6:00-8:00 pm. Signs will be posted to be courteous and limit food so there is enough for everyone. Mike and Margie will contact ARC (business on Bunker Hill Road, close to the Circle of Fun playground) to see if we can use some of their property to park cars during the concerts. The band shouldn't park in the park and needs to park in the parking lot after they unload.

Senior BBQ-

There were 68 people signed up with 65 in attendance. 2 Selectmen, Rick Eaton and Jim Headd came to the BBQ as well as a few police officers. Every year the BBQ gets bigger and bigger. Next year we will need to hold it at the Longmeadow Church to accommodate all that want to go. It was very tight at the Safety Complex. Also, the church has tables and a full kitchen. It's a better solution for next year. However a community center is still needed!

Running Program-

The program started August 1 and has been running smoothly. There are 24 participants and all are having a great time.

Playdate in the Park-

First was reading with the Miss Mary from the library and the kids loved it. The second was the fire and police departments visits. The kids were able to get in the fire truck and police cruiser and were given stickers, pencils and fire hats. It was also huge success. The next and last playdate of the year is scheduled for August 24th at 10:00 am at the Circle of Fun. The kindergarten teachers and assistants as well as the Principal and Assistant Principal will be there.

New Programs in the Fall-

Creative Movement is for children ages 3-5 learn the fundamentals of dance through movement and games while having fun and meeting friends. This program is starting in September, on Thursdays for 45 minutes starting at 9:15 am and will be held at the Safety Complex.

Babysitting course will start in November. Date TBD.

Trunk or Treat will be held on October 29th, Auburn's traditional trick or treat day (which is 12-4), and will be held after from 5-7 pm. Parks and Rec is again working with Melissa Gates from the APD. The location TBD based on how many people are interested in attending. Signup sheet will be in the next issue of the Town Crier.

2018 Budget Planning-

Everyone should start bringing in budget wish list for the 2018 budgets. A meeting will be set before the next P&R Commission meeting.

Little League Update-

The dugouts have been started. There is enough money in the budget for at least 4. Any money in the budget will be used for the dugouts. Permits and dig safe are all set. Any addition projects that are planned will be funded with extra donations to the Little League.

Mr. Nye questioned where the extra fencing is that was taken down. There were plans for that to be used for a new gate in the future. Mr. D'Amelio will find out where that went.

Mr. Nye discussed the future plans for an outer gate, by the road, at Wayne Eddows field. There will just be a pin in it so it's easy access for those who use it to open and close up the park. This will hopefully deter vandals from entering the complex after hours. Mr. D'Amelio discussed that a lot of vandalism that he has seen was foot traffic. Mr. Dobmeier told of the destruction he has seen was to the parking lot when cars come in and tear up the parking lot. Mr. D'Amelio confirmed that the cameras are in place and the DVR does record however it doesn't go all the way to the parking lot.

Mr. Nye went to a meeting with the State about a grant for matching dollars for phase 2 and 3 at Wayne Eddows.

Back to School Bonanza-

8th grade AVS student started this event last year as a way for students to meet up before school starts as well as share with the community all that is available throughout the town. Ms. Lachance will be there representing the Parks and Recreation Department

ASC and YMCA Soccer Field Use-

YMCA has never changed times. Mr. Webster and Mr. Kelly will work together to work it out and share the field time. There are other fields that can be used.

Bench for Helen Hiltz-

A memorial bench in honor of Helen Hiltz will be proposed in the 2018 budget.

Benches at the Safety Complex Field-

The benches at the Safety Complex field are the old wooden benches and are in sad shape. Mr. D'Amelio will talk with Mr. Kelly to see if ASC and AVS could pay for new benches. Mr. Nye offered to donate the machinery to install them.

Facilities Update-

The equipment at the Circle of Fun needs to be pressure washed. Repairs need to be done to a couple pieces. Primex inspected the parks and said there are a few issues that need to be addressed.

Mr. Dobmeier found a man in the park with 2 dogs. There are signs posted that dogs are not allowed in the parks however is there an RSA? Mr. Headd said that if there is an RSA in the state, it is universal. Parks and Rec is covered.

A syringe was found at Wayne Eddows this morning. Mr. Dobmeier and Ms. McEvoy check the parks every day for needles.

All storage areas are full. Many items are in Mr. Nye and Ms. McEvoy's barns and garages. There is a meeting tonight to discuss the town's needs for storage.

Auburn Soccer Club-

The league is requiring all games be played on Saturdays this year. That is where the scheduling conflict is coming up with ASC and YMCA. In the past, they both used half of field and it worked. But with this new league rule, everyone needs the fields only on Saturdays. The younger teams only need the small field and could be done in the morning, when the YMCA program is on the other half of the field. The older teams would come in the afternoon when YMCA is done. The space may be there but there are not 3 sets of small nets.

The Safety Complex is an option except the YMCA has their nets at Wayne Eddows. Options to purchase another set of nets will solve most of the problems along with creative scheduling. Thank you to Mr. Kelly, Mr. Webster and Mr. D'Amelio for being flexible and finding a solution that can work for everyone.

Review of Minutes-

Ms. Canavan motioned to approve the minutes from July 10, 2017. Ms. McEvoy seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Ms. Canavan motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ms. McEvoy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.