

**Town of Auburn
Parks and Recreation Commission
July 9, 2018**

Commissioners Present: Dave Nye, Co- Chairman; Lisa Canavan, Co-Chairman; Pat Kelly; Margie McEvoy; Jim Headd, Selectman

Others Present: Amy Lachance, P&R Coordinator; Mike Dobmeier, Facilities Manager; Maureen Juliano

Budget Update- Halfway through the year and halfway through the budget so far. The P&R Projects checklist was updated. Remaining projects to do are pressure wash equipment, replace yellow slide, shed doors at Wayne Eddows, sprinkler head repair and winterizing, apron at skating rink parking lot, replace softball field fence, yellow toppers on softball and tball fences, tball dugout and walls for wallball at WE and CoF.

There was discussion on the apron at the skating rink. With the skating rink again not holding water, it was discussed whether it was worth it to even do the apron or use that money for an apron at the Circle of Fun. Mr. Nye will be getting a quote on repairing the skating rink for the 2019 budget. This project is on hold for now.

Mr. Nye met with John O'Neil from the Manchester Waterworks for the OK to install the wall for wallball at the Circle of Fun. He gave the OK and just needs to get final approval from his supervisor.

There was also discussion with Mr. O'Neil about a walking path throughout the 15 acres behind the Circle of Fun playground. It was suggested years ago but budget committee said no. It might be the time to revisit the idea. When suggested at the community meeting with Primex last week, the seniors loved the idea as a safe place to walk.

The AED at Wayne Eddows may need some annual maintenance. The pads and the batteries need to be updated every so often. The Little League brings it in during the winter. If they have not done any work on it, Jim Sauliner from the Fire Department said he could come down and check it. When the AED cabinet is opened, the Derry Fire Department is automatically alerted. Capt. Sauliner can warn Derry FD that we are opening it. Ms. Lachance will check with Mr. Eaton and if no maintenance is done, she will follow up with Capt. Sauliner.

Mr. Nye met with Tom Skeffington from USA Utilities and they will be donating the poles for wallball. Mr. Nye will need to pick them up and cut them to make 4 for Wayne Eddows and 4 for Circle of Fun. This project will be completed in the fall. The original plan was for hardpacked gravel but paving would be better. The gravel will be installed this year with paving added to the 2019 budget.

Ms. Lachance also suggested for the future to add a “Gaga Ball Pit” to Circle of Fun. This is another activity older kids may enjoy. The gaga pit is a hexagon made of wood and the kids play a dodgeball type game in it. Mr. O’Neil said he’s ok with that project when/if we are ready to go forward with it.

Memorial Bench for Helen Hiltz- Ms. Lachance talked with Don Sowa. Mr. Sowa made the park benches that are at the Circle of Fun and Bicentennial Park. The 6-foot bench (which is the size we currently have in the parks) is \$350 each. He also can make a 12-foot bench for \$600. The suggested location is between the playground structure and walk way. If the bench had no back, people could sit facing the playground or swing around to face the concerts. However, if there is no back, where would the plaque be placed. Ms. Lachance will talk to Mr. Sowa to find out options for the 12-foot bench.

Summer Concerts- First concert was a huge success. The Auburn Volunteer Fire Association sponsored this concert. There were over 288 people in attendance based on the number of raffle tickets handed out. Ms. Juliano asked about a backup plan for rain location for concerts. Ms. McEvoy said the Longmeadow Church as always been our plan B. She will confirm that we are on the schedule in the event the church is needed.

With a handful of people at concerts that took too seconds and thirds in the food line, it was decided to place a sign out reminding guests to only take one hamburger or hot dog per person. That has worked in the past. If people continue to take to more than their share, we’ll have to move on to a ticket system. Mr. Nye and Ms. McEvoy both donated food to the event. Thank you!

Senior BBQ- The article was in the Village Crier and will also be in the next one. This event will be held at the Longmeadow Church. It’s a little bigger than the Safety Complex meeting room and is air conditioned.

Playdate in the Park- These are held every Thursday at the CoF at 10:00 am. All are set and ready to go. Last year we had 4 events and this year there are 8. It’s a great opportunity for families to meet.

2019 Budget Planning- Tonight the P&R Commission will be meeting to work on the 2019 budget. All budgets are due this year by August 1st. There will be a second planning meeting on Monday, July 23rd at 6:30 pm at the Safety Complex.

Shed Doors- Mr. Kelly gave an update on the overhead doors for the shed at Wayne Eddows. The company that gave the original quote has not been returning phone calls. Mr. Kelly will follow up.

Mowing- Mr. Kelly reported that the mowers aren’t moving the goals when they are at Wayne Eddows. Mr. Nye reported that they don’t trim around the new benches at the Safety Complex

field. Ms. McEvoy noted that they haven't be regularly mowing at the Circle of Fun, Wayne Eddows and Bicentennial Park and the grass has been getting very long.

AVS Field Use Needs- Assistant Principal, Michel O'Rourke will be the Athletic Director for the next couple years during the school renovations. The school fields are out of commission during that renovation and they will need to use the Town fields. Most of the school needs will be right afterschool and done by 5:00 pm. That won't interfere with the ASC schedule. YMCA soccer, that is on the field Mondays and Wednesdays, usually start at 4:30 pm.

Facilities Updates- Mr. Dobmeier is pleased with the to-do list to work from all week. All is going well this summer.

With the new trailer that was purchased, a controller will need to be added to Mr. Dobmeier's truck. The cost of that will be \$210. *Ms. McEvoy motioned to pay up to \$210 for the controller. Ms. Canavan seconded the motion.* The motion was passed unanimously.

Metal garbage cans were purchased for Bicentennial park. Squirrels have been eating the old trash cans.

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