

**Town of Auburn
Parks and Recreation Commission
February 12, 2018**

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

Others Present: Amy Lachance, P&R Coordinator; Mike Dobmeier, Facilities Maintenance; Dave Oliveira

Budget Update- The budget report shows all accounts in the negative since the 2018 budget hasn't been approved at yet. We are waiting for the town elections for the final budget to be approved. The elections are held on March 13, 2018.

Senior Dinner- Senior Dinner was a huge success. The event ran very smoothly. There was approximately 97 people in attendance with another dozen takeout meals sent home to residents. The room was at capacity. We'll need to find a new location for the 2019 Senior Dinner.

Winter Carnival- Another successful event. The weather was nice for the event although a little warm to keep the ice frozen though the whole day. Thanks to the Auburn Fire Department for helping with the cooking and burning the trees. They even brought the fire trucks out so the kids could check them out.

Next year we plan to hold this event in the evening. At night, it would be a little colder so the ice stays frozen and more kids are able to attend since we won't be competing with their weekend activities. Mr. Dobmeier suggested that we recruit more volunteers to help at this event. Ms. Lachance then suggested we form a "Volunteer Committee" that can help at various P&R events. There may be people in town that would like to help but don't know they are needed.

Town-wide Yard Sale- As discussed at the previous meetings, the Town Wide Yard Sale will be held on May 12th. Tonight Ms. Lachance will be attending the meeting of the Board of Selectmen to get the OK to accept the funds for this program along with the summer camp, Lil' Yogis, Little/Junior Chefs and Cupcake Decorating. Once we have the OK, we'll start to advertise for these events. If the recreation revolving account gets approval at the town elections, we won't need to go through this process in the future.

Summer Adventure Camp- This program is already set to go. We again, just need the approval from the Board of Selectmen. We need to start advertising soon as many other summer camps are doing registrations so we don't want to miss out. The camp will be open to Auburn residents from March 1-April 30 as we want to be able to serve our community first. Starting

May 1, we'll open the camp to non-residents to fill any remaining openings. Mr. Kelly offered information about advertising this camp in the Union Leader in their annual summer camps section.

Needs Assessment- Ms. Lachance, Julie Glosner and Bill Herman met with Nat Trauntvein from UNH about a needs assessment for the Parks and Recreation department. The first step would be to meet with small groups in town and ask where they would like to see the Parks and Rec go in the future. More information will be presented in future meetings.

2018 Parks and Recreation Projects- Ms. Lachance handed out a checklist of all the projects that were/will be approved in our 2018 budget. Mr. Nye is starting the process to get the wall-ball installed at the Circle of Fun. We'll need the permission from Manchester Water Works since that park is on their property.

Selectmen's Goals for 2018- Mr. Kelly asked Mr. Headd about the report of the Board of Selectmen's goals for 2018, specifically about how it will affect the Parks and Rec.

Mr. Headd reported that the BOS is starting to look at the possibility of restructuring the department. Since we are growing so quickly and currently rely so much on volunteers, as well as there are overlapping obligations from other town departments, is it time for a full time P&R Director and full-time staff. This is only in the theoretical stages at the moment.

Mr. Nye suggested in the future that Parks and Rec staff could mow our properties feeling that this could save the town money. Mr. Headd responded that all options will be looked at.

European Trip- Ms. Fritz came to Ms. Lachance with the idea of running a community trip to Germany, Italy and Switzerland through the company EF Tours for the summer of 2019. There were concerns over liability. At this point, the Commission is not comfortable backing this big of a trip.

Spring Programs- Junior/Little Chefs, Cupcake Decorating and Lil' Yogis are planned to start this spring. The Commission agreed to go forward with these new programs. Ms. Lachance will meet with the BOS tonight to get permission to accept registration funds for these programs.

Facilities Update- Mr. Dobmeier reported that all is going well. Spring projects will begin shortly. The yellow slide at COF needs to be replaced and picnic tables need to be repaired. Bambini and the snow blower need a little work. Ice rinks are still doing great and have held water all season. The repair that was done last winter did the trick.

Auburn Soccer Club- Getting ready for the spring season. The ASC annual spring fundraiser will be held on Friday, June 1st at 5:30 pm at the Auburn Pitts. Invites to the fall soccer players will be going out shortly. As space allows on each team, it will be opened up to new players.

Mr. Kelly introduces Dave Oliveira. Mr. Oliveira has been volunteering for ASC and helping with work at Wayne Eddows. Thank you Mr. Oliveira.

Review of Minutes- Ms. Canavan motioned to approve the minutes from January 8, 2018. Mr. Headd seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

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