

**Town of Auburn
Parks and Recreation Commission
June 9, 2014**

In attendance were: Mr. Tim Therrien, Chairman; Mrs. Lisa Canavan, Commissioner; Mr. Alex Eisman, Commissioner; Mr. Dave Nye, Alternate Commissioner and Ms. Margie McEvoy, Alternate Commissioner; Mr. Jim Headd, Selectman and Mr. Mike Dobmier, Facilities Representative; Mrs. Stacey Shula, AMC representative; Ms. Dee Cleary from the Historical Society and Ms. Maureen Juliano were also present. Mrs. Helen Hiltz was recording the minutes.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Tim Therrien.

Mr. Therrien asked Mrs. Hiltz to request the final 2013 expenditure report. It was also noted that there are four porta potties left at Wayne Eddows field after the May 25th event. Mrs. Hiltz will have the extra two removed and insure that the town is not charged for them.

Summer Concert Series

The concert dates and bands have been secured per below list.

Thursday, June 19, 2014 - 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Brickyard Blues

Thursday, August 21, 2014 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The Mirage Band.

Saturday, November 8, 2014 - 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Auburn Coffeehouse with **Wild Card** and various local musical guests.

Mrs. Hiltz stated that the payment for the band would be available on the date of performance. The electricity will be available for the concert. The Committee thanked the Longmeadow Church for offering to provide free popcorn for the event and for offering to be a “rain” venue for the event in case inclement weather. There was a request to provide a couple of extra trash cans for the events. Ms. Juliano stated that she has secured a couple of gift certificates for the raffles. She has also asked if anyone knew of others who may be willing to donate for the event. She noted that she is keeping receipts for what she is spending on the events and asked the committee to consider reimbursement if there is money left in the budget.

Memorial Day Bazaar Review

Mr. Therrien noted that the bazaar appeared to be a success. More than 1000 people attended the event. The decision to have three face painters at the event worked out well. The lines were shorter and more people were served. The Shiners Clowns absence was not detrimental to the event. Mr. Eisman stated that the shuttle service and the extra parking in the adjacent lot were well received. Mr. Dave Nye suggested that a light tower be placed in the pottie area in the future because it was difficult to maneuver in that area in the darkness.

Garden Club

Ms. Dee Cleary stated that the Garden club now has seven members. The club is concentrating efforts in three basic areas, the historical garden, the Audubon wedding garden and the church project. The club is spending most of their time transplanting donated plants to

the beds at the Audubon beds for future use in projects throughout town. Mrs. Hiltz asked for some help with the Circle of Fun Playground gardens. They have become overgrown and need some dividing of plants, etc. There is also a memorial tree at the park that is dead and needs to be removed. Mr. Nye stated that he would take care of removing the tree. The board can determine what tree will be used as a replacement. Ms. Cleary will get together with Mrs. Hiltz at the concert on June 19th to review the garden spaces.

Historical Society – Duck Race

Ms. Dee Cleary updated the Parks and Recreation Committee on the plans for the duck race. Their main objective is to grow the participation and attendance in the annual Duck Race fundraiser. Ms. Cleary stated that she is looking to have all Auburn organizations and businesses participate in the event. She presented a summary of the event details and asked for help from the Parks and Recreation Committee for the September 13th event. The Committee stressed that it would review the schedule in future meetings but stated that we had several events that we were getting ready for and volunteer resources were extremely limited. Mrs. Hiltz stated that she would contact the Auburn Moms Club to see if they had resources available for that day or were interested in any fund raising opportunities. Mrs. Hiltz did note that the Auburn Moms Club had an extremely small number of actual members. Their efforts are strongly supported by the Parks and Recreation Department and the Auburn Lion's Club members, some of whom are already committed to the duck race events. It was noted that since the Parks and Recreation events and projects have already been planned for this year, we may have to discuss opportunities and plan for participation in next year's duck race event.

Expanded parking at the Circle of Fun Playground

It was noted that the Circle of Fun Playground has had increased activity this year. Vehicles have overflowed the current parking area and are often found lining the road. This situation could cause some potentially dangerous issues. Mr. Dave Nye stated that the approximate cost of stripping the proposed expansion and laying the groundwork would be ~\$1,600 because of donated materials. He stated that the fencing and finish material could be considered for the 2015 budget. The \$1,600, and this project, were not proposed as part of the 2014 budget. Stacey Shula, from the Auburn Moms Club, offered to donate \$1,300 to the project. Final cost for phase one of this project would be ~\$300.00

Taking into consideration the donated materials, offer to supply reduced labor rates and the generous offer from the AMC.

Mr. Alex Eisman made a motion to move forward with the parking expansion project at the Circle of Fun Playground. Mrs. Lisa Canavan 2nd the motion. All in favor.

Mr. Therrien asked Mrs. Hiltz to contact Mr. John O'neil, Manchester Water Works department, to determine the status of the request to expand the parking lot at Circle of Fun playground.

Signs

Mr. Alex Eisman noted that the 'No pets' sign at the Circle of Fun playground had been defaced. Mr. Mike Dobmier asked to have four new signs made up for Circle of Fun and Bi-Centennial Park. Mrs. Hiltz will order the signs.

Mrs. Lisa Canavan made a motion to accept the May minutes as written. Mr. Alex Eisman 2nd the motion. All in favor.

Mrs. Lisa Canavan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:55. Mr. Alex Eisman 2nd the motion. All in favor.