

Town of Auburn
Parks and Recreation Commission
September 6, 2022
6:00 pm
Auburn Town Hall

Commissioners Present: Zach Eaton, Chairman; Margie McEvoy, Vice Chairman; Jennifer Strabone; Dave Oliveira; Mary Royer; Tom Carroll, Board of Selectmen Representative

Others Present: Amy Lachance, P&R Coordinator

2022 Budget Update- All projects in the 2022 budget are moving along.

The Recreation Improvement line only has \$448 left for the installation of the frog at the Circle of Fun. The balance of the expenses for the softball field lights will come out of the Town Property Rehabilitation Fund. We saved some money on used poles (\$1500 vs. \$400) from Tom Skeffington.

The chemical toilet line will be over. The portapotties will be removed November 1st. Fall ball will go in to the second week of November so we may need to keep them a little longer.

Wayne Eddows' Parking Lot- Amy attending the BOS meeting on August 22, 2022. She discussed the option to use the recycled asphalt to pave the parking lot at Wayne Eddows. It was requested we use up to \$5,000 in the unused Severance line to pay for the labor (material was donated). BOS was OK with that. She also mentioned that \$25,000 was requested in the 2023 budget to increase the size of the parking lot by cutting into the outfield of the 90' field. Selectman Keith Leclair suggested the possibility of doing that this year with funds from the Town Property Rehabilitation Fund. Amy will bring a fencing quote to the BOS. Zach already met with Fences Unlimited last week (waiting on quote) but is not interested in doing it this year due to a busy schedule. Zach also hasn't discussed this with the Little League Board yet to get their input on this idea.

As we get back to the topic of the current parking lot, Zach discussed that he would also like to see that the area to the right of the parking lot (where the dirt pile currently is and where the poles used to be located) get cleaned out and also paved along with the rest of the parking lot. The poles that are in the parking lot will remain there so people know where to park. It will not be possible to line the parking lot because it will not last more than a year on the recycled asphalt.

Ms. Royer motioned to pave the existing Wayne Eddows parking lot with the donated recycled asphalt that Road Agent, Mike Dross has on hand, as well as clean up the right side of the parking lot to also pave that area, for up to \$5,000 from the Severance line in the 2022 budget. Mr. Eaton seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously

PTA Spooky Walk- The PTA again is using Wayne Eddows for their Spooky Walk on Saturday, October 22nd. They will start setting up the walk through the woods in the morning. That won't interfere with any games

that day. They will start setting up everything else (in the parking lot, along the walkway and on the soccer field) at 3:00 pm. There will be a baseball game on the 90' at 3:00 pm but it will be out of their way.

Softball Field Lights- It was discussed under the 2022 budget updates. The poles are up. The brackets and lights are on site. Now are waiting for the electrician and Tom Skeffington's crew to finish up.

Wayne Eddows Parking Lot Lights- The timer for the parking lot and walkway was changed to go on at 6:00 pm and off at 9:00 pm.

Soccer Bench Dedication- The cement pad is in place for the memorial bench. The group will return around Thanksgiving when the kids are home from college to help install the bench for their former coach.

Severance School Update- The renovations have begun. Amy met with Alan Villeneuve with Pidcor, to discuss the details of the renovation. They are currently ripping out the ramp on the side, taking out a wall to make a larger meeting room and working on the bathrooms. Amy will be meeting again with Alan as well as Carrie Cote, the Building Inspector and John O'Neil from Manchester Water Works on Thursday. The expected date to open is some time in November with new program scheduling to starting in January.

2023 Budget Presentations- The Parks and Recreation budgets will be presented on Monday, November 7th with the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee on Thursday, November 17th. Both will be held at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall. Please attend if available.

Completed Programs- The Senior BBQ was a hit. More people showed up than expected but there was plenty of food. Thanks to Margie and Mary for all their hard work on this event. And thanks to the Fire Department for their help. Also, the concerts were a hit this summer but also challenging with weather. Maureen already has all bands booked for the 2023 summer.

Upcoming Programs - Attached in the agenda packet is a list of the special events for 2023. The tentative dates are...

Senior Dinner- January 28

Leprechaun Hunt- March 11

Bunny Brunch- April 1

Town-Wide Yard Sale- May 13

Concert #1- June 15

Concert #2- July 20

Concert #3- August 17

Senior BBQ- August 19

Auburn Night with Fireworks- September 8

Auburn Day/Duck Race- September 9

Trunk or Treat- October 31

Tree Lighting- November 26

Auburn Night- This Friday night is our second annual Auburn Night. There will be 4 food trucks, a band (Whiskey Business) and fireworks. The event will take place at AVS with the fireworks being shot off from the baseball field. Zach offered to bring the trash cans from Wayne Eddows to make trash removal easier. The event set up will start around 4:30 pm and clean up around 9:30 pm.

Trunk or Treat- Margie, Melissa from PD and Amy met last month to discuss the plans for Trunk or Treat last year. There were thoughts of changing the event to a Halloween movie night instead due to low car turn out last year. It was decided to try it again this year. Trunk or Treat is on for 2022 on Monday, October 31.

2022 Hiltz Community Service Award- Amy suggested that this year we open it up to the community to nominate residents for the Hiltz Community Service Award. Since there may be residents doing a lot for recreation in town that we do not see, asking the community for help could give us names of those who are unrecognized. Amy will draft up a nomination form and present it at the next Commission meeting.

Lining the Soccer Field at Wayne Eddows- Pat recently asked if Mike could line the soccer field weekly. They don't have a volunteer that is available to do it during the day (which is needed because the kids are usually on the field in the evening). Mike will only have 5 weeks remaining in the season to line the field for a total of 15 hours. We have enough in the line to pay Mike this year and it does fall in his job description. If Mike is away, ASC will find someone to take care of it.

If he will be needed in the future, we may need to consider adjusting the hours to accommodate this extra work. This may be in the direction we are going with less volunteers available and more staff hours are needed for field prep and care. Dave commented that this will be his last year with ASC as his kids will not be in the program next year. This may be true for Pat (however Pat was not at the meeting to comment). If that's the case and Pat is not able to find someone else to take over running the program, soccer may become part of Parks and Rec. This is a discussion for the winter, if needed.

Facilities Update- Thanks to everyone who helped fold the liner for the rink. It was all spread out in front of the fire doors and quickly folded with 3 or 4 people.

Auburn Little League Update- Fall ball is starting up for baseball and softball. The program is run through Lamprey River but registration is through Auburn.

Auburn Soccer Club Update- Heading into week 3 of the fall season.

Review of Minutes- *Mr. Eaton motioned to accept the minutes of August 2, 2022, Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting. Mr. Oliveira seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

Next Meeting- The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 4, 2022. Location TBD.

Mr. Oliveira motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Royer seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.