

**City of Ellsworth**  
1 City Hall Plaza, Ellsworth, ME 04605

**RECREATION COMMISSION**  
Special Meeting  
Monday, November 8, 2021 at 7:00 pm

**1. Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm.

**Members Present:** Courtney Bunker, Kim Fitch, Josh Frost, Daron Goldstein, Eric Marichal, Dale Hamilton (Council Liaison), Robert Miller (Council Liaison)

**Members Absent:** April Clifford

**Staff Present:** City Planner Elena Piekut (Staff Liaison), HR/Payroll Specialist Toni Dyer

**Others Present:** Gretchen Wilson, Ellsworth Chamber of Commerce Executive Director

**2. Adoption of September 15 and October 20, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Robert Miller moved to approve the September 15 and October 20 meeting minutes as written. Eric Marichal seconded. Vote: U/A

**3. Election of Officers**

No action.

**4. Commission Membership**

**a. Letter of Interest – Kathy Young**

Courtney Bunker moved to forward a recommendation to the City Council that Kathy Young be appointed as a regular member of the Commission. Robert Miller seconded. Vote: U/A.

**5. Christmas in Ellsworth**

**a. Parade – Saturday December 4<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am**

Kim Fitch provided an update on and the group discussed preparations for the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Downtown Christmas Parade. Lineup will be at 10:00 am and volunteers will be needed then. Kim and Elena will coordinate filming of the event with the IT Department.

**b. Tree Lighting – Saturday, November 27<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm**

The group discussed updates and preparations for a Christmas tree to be installed at City Hall Plaza for the tree lighting. The tree has been sourced with the help of Councilor Miller, sponsored by Witham Family Properties, and staff will coordinate delivery, installation, stringing of lights, and the creation of a Facebook event. Staff will also coordinate the Letters to Santa mailbox and free cookies and hot chocolate as in past years. The group discussed additional plans for carolers (by The Grand/Kim Fitch), Councilors dressing in Victorian costume (organized by Abigail Miller), the potential to invite any food or toy drives to accept donations at the event, and potential in-kind donations of services to install the tree. Gretchen Wilson will coordinate sound and the group discussed needing to identify a speaker to make remarks before the lighting.

**c. Christmas in Ellsworth, other events/programs**

Gretchen Wilson provided updates on other holiday events around the City, including Wreaths Across America on December 12, the Beth C. Wright Festival of Lights, and Downtown pickle ornament event. The Chamber will also coordinate seasonal flags on Main Street and share a “Christmas in Ellsworth” banner for City Hall.

**6. Other Winter Events**

**a. Knowlton Park Ice Rink**

Elena Piekut will check in with the YMCA about preparations for the rink in light of staff changes there.

**b. Winter Carnival**

The group briefly discussed past efforts to continue a Winter Carnival event, which has been hampered by poor weather for several years as well as pandemic effects.

**7. Staff Comments**

None.

**8. Adjournment**

Kim Fitch moved to adjourn at 8:05 pm. Eric Marichal seconded. Vote: U/A.