

City of Ellsworth
1 City Hall Plaza, Ellsworth, ME 04605
RECREATION COMMISSION
Site Visit Meeting
Tuesday, September 26th at 8:00 a.m.

Members Present: Chair Eric Marichal, Vice-Chair Kathy Young, Kim Fitch, and Jon Stein.

Staff Present: Matthew Williams, City Planner; Elizabeth Ouellette, Assistant City Planner

1. Assessment and catalogue of recreational assets in the City of Ellsworth
 - a. Demeyer Field Complex
 - i. There was a comment that there needs to be safety padding on all of the fences, as of right now there is only safety padding on one field.
 - ii. Wilson field has many needs: more seating, better signage, better parking, and the nets/goals are very worn and could use updating.
 - iii. There was a comment that there needs to be better signage on all of the fields to differentiate between them.
 - iv. There was some discussion on adding a playground or adding a toilet facility on D1 since the portable toilet is not always there.
 - v. There was some discussion on adding a mural to make the area better looking.
 - vi. There was a comment that the sign from the street needed to be more prominent since it is not able to be seen when driving into Ellsworth from Bangor.
 - b. Branch Lake Public Forest
 - i. There was discussion regarding the access road and the current issue with it washing out due to the beavers building a dam across the culvert.
 - ii. There was a comment that there needs to be signage which says what people are allowed to do on the trails.
 - iii. There was a comment that there needs to be more parking areas to accommodate more cars.
 - iv. There was discussion on the need for more PR and branding in the Public Forest. Multiple members commented that they did not know about any of the areas in the Public Forest.
 - c. Mill Pond
 - i. There was a lot of discussion regarding making this place more well-known.
 - ii. There as a comment that there should be some tables and signage.
 - iii. There was a comment that there is better parking needed, currently there is no parking lot.
 - d. Downtown State Street Recreation (Knowlton Park, Donald Little Park, Riverwalk)
 - i. Knowlton Park
 1. There was discussion regarding the reservation system. There is no place that shows the tables are reserved and people just tend to show up and set up instead of reserving a time.
 2. There needs to be a long-term maintenance plan for the park and especially the playground equipment – need to ensure that we are getting the most out of the equipment before it needs to be replaced.

3. There needs to be signage for the splash pad with hours and some rules and regulations.
- ii. Donald Little Park
 1. There was a comment that there should be a sign saying who Donald Little was and why he has a park named after him.
 2. There are no trash cans at this park and some trash was seen on the ground.
- iii. Riverwalk – **Skipped due to time constraints.**
- e. Woodlawn Museum.
 - i. The group received a tour of the new facility by Vice-Chair Kathy Young.
 - ii. There was discussion regarding using the location for more events given the amount of space.
 - iii. There was discussion regarding advertising so more people are aware of all that Woodlawn has to offer.