

**PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
TOWN OF NEEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS**

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

September 15, 2009

*Background notes for Monday, September 21st
Park and Recreation Commission Agenda*

CONFERENCES

Most of my annual conferences will be held in the next six weeks. This week, I'm at the New England Parks Association conference on Cape Cod. Most of the sessions are related to park administration and maintenance, and I'm excited to attend a session with a representative of the UMASS Extension Service which is a vital resource to all of us in Massachusetts. In mid-October, I'll be attending the National Recreation and Park Association's annual conference in Salt Lake City, and at the end of October, Karen and I will be attending the Massachusetts Recreation and Park Association's 25th annual conference in Worcester.

SCOUT PROJECTS

Karen is working with an Eagle Scout on a project at the asphalt area behind the Pollard School. It will remain open for the school and community to use for a variety of activities, but will be cleaned and lined to use for some pee-wee tennis lesson programs. A Girl Scout Gold Service Award candidate is also considering a project from the Trails Plan, either in the Town Forest or at Ridge Hill. Karen will work with her on refining the project. It's been a great year working with scouts on their projects, and they certainly are helping to move the Trails Plan forward.

STORM DRAINAGE

I've been working with Conservation Agent Kristen Phelps and DPW Assistant Director Bob Lewis on improving storm water drainage at Rosemary Pool's parking lot. BETA is designing some work that will slow down the movement of water down the hillside into the parking lot, and help cleanse the water before it gets to the lake. The DPW already completed a project off of Lake Street that also helps with the water quality of Rosemary Lake.

NEEDHAM HIGH ATHLETICS

At the end of August, the new NHS Athletic Director Micah Hauben held a meeting with all coaches and invited others from the community to speak to the coaches. In addition to the Superintendent and Principal, there were representatives of Needham Police, Needham Fire, Needham Health, NPS School Health Services, NPS Guidance, NPS Athletic Trainer, DPW Parks and Forestry and Park and Recreation. It was a very productive meeting for everyone – and a wonderful start to the school year!

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Board of Selectmen Public Hearing on Renovation of Newman Fields – *Tuesday, September 22 at 7:10 PM @ Town Hall*

Community Preservation Committee Public Hearing on fall proposals – *Wednesday, October 14 at 7 PM @ Newman Conference Room*

Selectmen's Summit on Community Preservation – *Wednesday, October 21 at 7 PM @ Broadmeadow Performance Center*

BIKE RACKS

I'm still trying to coordinate the purchase of bike racks using state funds available to Needham. I'll need to order by the end of October in order to use the funds set aside for Needham. The biking group was going to help with an inventory, but I'm trying to get input from principals and department managers on the needs. The difficult funding piece will be the installation, so I still need to work on that component.
