

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

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

January 22, 2010

*Background notes for Monday, January 25th
Park and Recreation Commission Agenda*

MONDAY'S MEETING

This will be the Park and Recreation Commission's final meeting in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall. Since the Commission came into existence in the 1930's, the majority of its meetings have been held in that room. For the month of February, the Commission meetings will be in the conference room at the Newman School, and in March will begin to be held in the Charles River Room at the new Public Services Administration Building. The Charles River Room can hold about 50 people, so will be the appropriate size for the majority of Commission meetings. It is located on the first floor, right next door to the Park and Recreation Office.

Reminder...at 5 PM, just prior to the Commission meeting, former Commissioner Bill Dermody will be awarded the *Patrick C. Forde Good Person Award*. The ceremony is at the Needham Public Library.

PUBLIC SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BUILDING (PSAB)

The first boxes of temporary storage have gone to Ridge Hill last weekend, and the Technology Department began their move last night. There are some packing boxes in the building, but the bulk will arrive next week. A "yard sale/auction" has been scheduled for Thursday, February 11 from 1 PM to 5 PM, and if necessary will continue the next day, Friday, February 12 from 9 AM to 11 AM. Everything must be taken by the purchasers by Noon on Friday, to provide clear space for the movers to come in Saturday and move everything to PSAB. I'll be there on Saturday to make sure everything gets delivered to our office, and then Nicole, Karen and I will get as much unpacked on Tuesday, February 16 as possible so we can open and be ready for business on Wednesday, February 17. Our registration program will be set up for us on a lap top for any work we need to handle related to February vacation programs.

OPEN SPACE

Brian Nadler and Phil Robey attended a meeting recently with representatives from the Board of Selectmen, Conservation Commission and Finance Committee. The Finance Committee has requested that the boards think of ways to develop a "wish list" of properties they would want to acquire, so that FinCom and CPC have a more specific priority list to work from when considering funding requests to purchase open space or easements. Brian would like the Commission to discuss a process for moving forward with developing such a list. I've included copies of sections from the 2007 Open Space and Recreation Plan. The Plan was accepted by the state, with some suggestions for

changes, so it isn't in final form. Three of the sections I have sent have previously been accepted by the appropriate boards (Sections 6, 8 and 9) but one section is still in draft form and not ready for approval (Section 5).

The Commission has a funding request before the Community Preservation Committee for the purchase of land. This will likely need to be an annual request, in the event something comes forward. The one parcel that there has been some discussion about has not been moved forward by the family, so it's likely it will not move forward to May's Town Meeting.

ROSEMARY DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

The Conservation Commission and staff has been working on a plan to improve drainage in the Rosemary Pool parking lot, that would also correct an erosion problem at the beginning of the trail that leads to the camp property. An engineer has already provided a plan that he worked out with Town staff, and the Conservation Commission put it through the permitting process and after some changes, approved the permit. The DEP has not accepted the Conservation Commission's approval, so additional conversations will need to be held with the DEP.

FIELD SCHEDULING

Groups are slowing starting to submit their field requests. I am still reviewing special event requests, but will have some ready for approval on Monday night. Brian Nadler, Memorial Park Trustees Chairman Dave DiCicco and I will meet with the Athletic Director next week to clarify his requests for the spring, and to answer some questions regarding possible summer requests.