

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

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

July 8, 2010

*Background notes for Monday, July 12th
Park and Recreation Commission Agenda*

NEW OPEN MEETING LAWS

The Town is now complying with the updated Open Meeting Laws. The Town Clerk will post each public meeting with an agenda. For Park and Recreation, the meetings will usually be posted the Thursday afternoon prior to the meeting, so that the agenda is as complete as possible. Agendas will continue to be posted on the Town's website, will be posted at the official Town Hall posting area (currently in the Public Services Administration Building), and a copy will be available in a notebook located in the lobby of the Police Department.

Updated information is provided in the Commission's meeting packets. A form acknowledging receipt of the information is included. I will collect the signed forms and submit to the Town Clerk.

ROSEMARY POOL UPDATE

The pool was closed on Tuesday, July 6th due to a slight increase in a bacteria test taken on June 29th. Because regular chlorine levels are able to control this type of bacteria, it didn't likely linger much after it appeared in the water sample. It commonly comes from humans, which is why all swimmers are asked to take cleansing showers before entering a pool. Most lab tests are available in 24 hours, but this particular test takes 3 days, so we will hear sometime on Friday about the results from the water sample sent to the lab on July 6th. The pool staff has worked hard to keep the pool and facility clean, and the maintenance staff has put in extra hours to make sure that the filter is running and that chlorine levels are above the state's minimums. It was a difficult week to be closed, and the story quickly made it to the press, but being in the paper for being preventative is preferred over anyone getting ill.

PICKERING STREET CONSTRUCTION

The DPW is in the final stages of awarding a contract to a company to replace the water mains on Pickering Street and Garden Street. The work on Pickering Street will create some short-term parking issues. Field users have been given the initial information, and once I have more specific information on the timing, that will be sent along.

FALL FIELD SCHEDULES

The organizations are starting to submit their requests for fall use of athletic fields. The High School Athletic Director has submitted his requests, and spent time working with the larger organizations to try and avoid conflicts. As of this time, only 2 special event

requests have been submitted, and no school PTC events have been requested. I sent a reminder to the principals and PTC presidents.

ON-STREET PARKING ISSUES

I have forwarded information to the Police Chief and the Traffic Advisory Committee regarding neighborhood parking issues related to use of athletic fields. I highlighted recent concerns near DeFazio, Broadmeadow, High Rock, Newman and Mills. Once I have an update, I'll report back to the Commission. Since the discussion about the DeFazio issues at the Commission's last meeting, Little League has worked with the coaches and parents to discourage the use of side streets.

BREWSTER AND CAROL ROAD PROPERTIES

The Town Manager has been working with an advisory committee and Conservation Director Patty Barry on a plan for the property, including the restoration plan. A consultant is providing some plans with a variety of options. The Conservation Commission will review to update the permit already approved for the property. A special permit will also need to be requested from the ZBA due to a zoning regulation related to flood plains.

NIKE SITE

The School Committee will be touring the Nike Site on July 9th to gain a better understanding of the property. The Superintendent has asked me to attend to help provide information from past studies.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

The majority of the members of the Community Preservation Committee will be new for this upcoming year. In addition to the Park and Recreation Commission making a new appointment, there will be new appointments made by the Moderator, the Selectmen, and the Historic Commission. The Housing Authority made a new appointment in April. There are three current members, and a fourth will hopefully be re-appointed by the Moderator shortly.

ARTS IN THE PARKS

Don't forget to stop by Memorial Park over the next six weeks on Thursday nights to see the Arts in the Parks concerts. The Tom Nutile Big Band opens the series on July 8th. Tom's father was the original founder of the band, and they have been the opening act most years since the mid 1970's when the concerts were revived. The final concert will be on August 12 and will feature The Reminisants, who were just the featured group at the Exchange Club's 4th of July festivities prior to the fireworks.
