

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

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

August 19, 2010

*Background notes for Monday, August 23rd
Park and Recreation Commission Agenda*

PARKS AND FORESTRY SUPERINTENDENT

The newly appointed Superintendent of Parks and Forestry Edward Olsen will be briefly attending the Park and Recreation Commission meeting this week to give the members a chance to welcome him to his position.

SENIOR CENTER EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING

There will be a public meeting on Tuesday, September 7th to allow for public input on the possibility of locating the new Senior Center at either the Emery Grover building or within the parking lot at the Needham Heights commuter rail station.

FALL MEETINGS

The Board of Selectmen has called for a Special Town Meeting to be held on Monday, November 8, 2010. Any requests for warrant articles must be submitted to the Town Manager's Office by September 16, 2010. As this is a regularly scheduled meeting night for the Park and Recreation Commission, an alternate time or date will need to be chosen for your meeting.

Monday, October 11 is Columbus Day so that meeting will need to be rescheduled. I will be at the National Recreation and Park Association conference on Monday, October 25th so will not be able to attend that meeting.

SUMMER PROGRAMS

The 2010 summer program season ended last week after a successful summer. Their greatest challenge this summer was the heat, but each program utilized back-up activities that were fun to take the place of games that required too much exertion in the heat.

PROJECTS WITH DPW

Demolition of the Greene's Field playground structure began on August 18th. The swing area will remain, as will some picnic tables in that area. Next week, they will work on loaming and seeding. As this is written, the construction portion of the work at McLeod diamond at DeFazio is just about complete. It will now need major renovation of the turf, so it's not likely to open for any fall baseball use. Little League's fall program for teams that use 90' will primarily use Warner diamond. Work has begun at the Asa Small diamond at DeFazio, with the removal of the fence and backstop. This will take several weeks to complete, and as this is written, it's not known when the steel for the dugouts will arrive. Little League has taken some additional field space to accommodate their fall

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baseball needs during construction. At Claxton, final details for the High School's batting cage are being put together. A request to approve the project concept is on the agenda. At Memorial, the bid is being put together for the new bleachers.

OFFICE UPDATE

Assistant Director Karen Peirce is on vacation from August 18th -September 6th.
Administrative Specialist Cassandra Halloran will start work on Monday, August 30th.

GREENDALE AVENUE TRAILS

Some of the neighbors have begun contacting the Police Department to report motorized vehicles using the trails along Greendale Avenue. I need to discuss this with the Police Department and will have additional information at an upcoming meeting.
