

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

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

February 25, 2011

*Background notes for Monday, February 28th
Park and Recreation Commission Agenda*

MARCH MEETING

Special Town Meeting will be held on Monday, March 14th. It will be at 7:30 PM at Pollard. Would you want to move your meeting to 6:30 PM that night? Karen will be down the Cape that night for the MRPA conference with Nicole, so I would handle the minutes. I will join them for the Tuesday sessions, and they will both also attend the Wednesday sessions. Your following two meetings will be March 28th and April 11th (the night before the election.)

ARTS IN THE PARKS DONATIONS

Donations have started to come in to sponsor the six summer concerts. The Exchange Club, Louise Condon Realty, Dedham Savings, North Hill (*new this year!*), and the Needham Business Association have already donated \$2,100. Needham 300 will also sponsor a military band, using a Town trust fund that can be used for that purpose for Needham's birthday.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT LEGISLATION

By the recent deadline, 25 state senators, including Senator Ross, and 89 state legislators, including Rep. Garlick, and signed on to support the Community Preservation legislation sponsored by Senator Creem and Representative Kulik on behalf of the Community Preservation Coalition. Hopefully, a committee hearing will be announced soon. The Board of Selectmen, at a recent meeting, has re-stated their support of the changes in the legislation that clarify the wording for recreation projects.

174 CHARLES RIVER STREET

The demolition permit was issued, but the work still needs to be scheduled without interference from the snow. Some items were removed last month, including the windows, but were then boarded up to avoid problems while we wait for some cooperation from the weather. The DPW hopes to start once it appears they will have four clear days of weather. They will notify the neighbors prior to starting, and I will let you know as soon as I am notified.

SUMMER STAFF

Contracts have been sent to the supervisors and program directors this week. With Nicole in her new position as Recreation Supervisor, we have eliminated the Assistant Summer Recreation Supervisor position. The work load will be appropriate for Nicole and a Summer Recreation Supervisor, and the funds were needed to cover the change in

Nicole's pay rate. No change has been made to the number of supervisory staff at the Pool.

Nicole and I have started the interviews for those applying for summer program positions. We actually are interviewing more people than we'll have positions for, so a few weeks ago we started letting new applicants know that they can still apply but will not likely have interviews. Karen and I will begin interviewing new applicants for the pool, shortly. Anyone applying for a lifeguard position will be interviewed. We've held off advertising and interviewing for pool positions until we were sure that we'd be able to proceed with draining Rosemary this spring.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

The CPC will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, March 9th at 7:30 PM in the Charles River Room at PSAB to receive comment on the three projects under review: restoration of the items in the 1902 Town Hall time capsule, master plan funds for Needham Housing Authority for their homes/property at Linden and Chambers, and support of affordable housing with window and door replacements at 3 group homes owned by the Charles River Center. The fourth project, purchase of open space, remains as a placeholder in the event a parcel comes forward. The CPC will vote in March to determine which proposals to recommend to Town Meeting in May.

DANCING WITH THE STARS

Don't miss former Park and Recreation Commissioner Bill Dermody, one of the stars in Needham 300's *Dancing with the Stars* event on Saturday, March 5th! Bill will be joined by State Representative Denise Garlick, Selectman Moe Handel, Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick, Town Moderator Michael Fee, and former gubernatorial candidate and NHS graduate Charlie Baker among others!