

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

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

May 3, 2013

*Background notes for Monday, May 6th
Park and Recreation Commission Agenda*

MAY MEETINGS

Due to the meeting schedule conflicts with Town Meeting and Memorial Day, the Park and Recreation Commission will meet at the following times in May:

Monday, May 6 at 6 PM – in Powers Hall at Town Hall, prior to Town Meeting

Tuesday, May 21 at 7 PM – in Highland Room at Town Hall

APRIL 22nd MINUTES

The minutes from the April 22nd meeting are still being finalized so will be ready for review at the 5/21 meeting.

SUMMER PREPARATION

Most of the staff has been hired. As with most area towns, we are still looking to fill some lifeguard positions. Registration for summer programs will begin on Tuesday, May 7th. Pool passes and tennis badges have been on sale for awhile. We are also preparing as much as possible prior to Cassandra's maternity leave, which if all goes well will start in late May. The start-up of summer and the end of the fiscal year on June 30th is always a challenge, but we'll make it work!

The draining of the pool and lake has gone well and clean-up of the pool has started. It is hoped that painting will begin towards the end of the second week of May. Public Facilities is doing some small repair jobs at the building and will do some of the replacement deck work. I'm getting an estimate, from some capital funds, to install some bathroom sinks to use instead of the original trough sinks. I am also getting estimates to replace the diving boards – one of which broke last summer.

With some additional capital funding from a past project, I am also looking at repair work to the Cricket deck that will help extend the life until final decisions on a renovated or new building is made.

**FISHING DERBY – SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2013 at 9 AM – NEEDHAM
RESERVOIR**

Last year, an angry resident approached Nicole and Cassandra at the Fishing Derby, complaining that the Reservoir should not be stocked with trout as it wasn't an appropriate environment. He continued this discussion on a local Facebook page. The MA Division of Fisheries and Wildlife stock the Reservoir with 300 trout. This is a program in existence for about 100 years. The mission is to preserve, protect and enhance – and stocking water bodies for fishing meets their mission. The trout are not stocked to reproduce, but to provide a fishing experience. There aren't enough trout to

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take resources away from other inhabitants of the Reservoir, and the water temperature does not reach a point that can kill the trout.

**TOUCH THE TRUCKS – SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2013 at 10 AM – DeFAZIO
PARKING LOT**

This event is sponsored by Park and Recreation to honor all the hard work provided by the DPW to the whole community. It is scheduled during National Public Works Week.

CLEANING COMPANY

With representatives from Public Facilities, Needham High and Pollard, I am interviewing 12 firms who are seeking the contract for cleaning the two schools, and park restrooms at Claxton, DeFazio, Memorial and Cricket. It is expected that a new contract will be in place for a July 1st start.

BUBBLERS

The Town has a new plumber, and he is working his way around to each of the bubblers making repairs as needed. We hope to have them all up and working by the end of May. This is the first year that the Public Facilities Department has taken on this task, as it normally had to go to an outside contractor. He had to make a lot of repairs to the restrooms in order to restore them. The early cold weather last fall wasn't kind to all of our plumbing!
