

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

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

December 6, 2013

*Background notes for Monday, December 9th
Park and Recreation Commission Agenda*

POOL STUDY PRESENTATION

The Park and Recreation Commission has invited Weston & Sampson to present the four options that have been studied for the future of Rosemary Pool. The Commission will hold their meeting at Powers Hall in Town Hall to provide enough space for people attending the meeting, and the Needham Channel will film the meeting so more residents have the opportunity to hear the options. There is too much information to evaluate for any decisions to be made at this point. The four options are listed here, not in any order of preference:

- Eliminate Pool – with two alternate sub-options: a) retain the building for other recreation uses; b) restore the lake for swimming
- “Minor” renovations to pool, building and parking
- “Major” renovations to pool, building and parking
- Full replacement of pool outside of lake, major renovations to building and parking; alternate option for year-round use.

RAIL TRAIL

The Bay Colony Rail Trail Association (BCRTA) continues its fundraising efforts. The Town and BCRTA will now coordinate on the official plan for moving forward. The plan will be submitted to the MBTA, as part of the lease agreement. A Notice of Intent will need to be filed with the Conservation Commission, and their Order of Conditions will need to be implemented into the plan.

OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGETS

Chairman Mike Retzky, Vice Chairman Cindy Chaston and I met with the two Finance Committee liaisons last week and reviewed the operating and capital budget submissions. Some additional program and athletic field information will be provided to them as background information. The Finance Committee will review the budget after the New Year. The proposed date has a conflict with another meeting, so a new date still needs to be chosen.

FIELD SCHEDULING SUMMIT

All of the groups have been given the “save the date” for the annual Field Scheduling Summit at the Commission meeting on Monday, January 13, 2014. The Field Scheduling information is all updated on the website at this link <http://www.needhamma.gov/index.aspx?nid=718> They have also all been reminded that the Field Maintenance Fee increases to \$10/person/season as of January 1, 2014.

DPW UPDATE

Construction of 5 bay garage for DPW will begin in a few weeks, and be constructed in the DPW employee parking area. This will require DPW staff to use the DeFazio parking lot, as they did during construction of PSAB and the temporary use of PSAB for Town Hall. It doesn't impact the heavy use of the DeFazio parking lot. The project is anticipated to be completed by the end of June. The new garage bays will provide better weather protection to equipment and vehicles, helping to prolong the anticipated lifespan.

UPCOMING DATES

- **Monday, December 9** Park and Recreation meeting/pool study public meeting @ Powers Hall in Town Hall at 7 PM
 - **Tuesday, December 10** Park and Recreation registration begins for winter and spring programs
 - **Monday, December 16** PPBC meeting to discuss pool study – Time TBD
 - **Tuesday, December 17** Selectmen's meeting to discuss next steps for pool study – Time TBD (*This is not a meeting to choose an option and will not be a hearing for public input – it is a discussion. The Selectmen's meetings are televised by the Needham Channel.*)
 - ***Please note: The Park and Recreation Commission has cancelled its 2nd meeting in December, which typically would have been held on Monday, December 23rd***
 - **Monday, January 13** Park and Recreation meeting, including Field Scheduling Summit
 - **Monday, January 27** Park and Recreation meeting
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