

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

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

July 11, 2014

*Background notes for Monday, July 14th
Park and Recreation Commission Agenda*

MEETING LOCATION

We have been asked to move the Commission meeting to Town Hall due to some work that will be done in the building next week. The meeting will be in the Highland Room at Town Hall – on the lower level.

ARTS IN THE PARKS

This annual program begins on Thursday, July 10th with the Tom Nutile Band and a tribute to his late father Roy Nutile, an original performer at Arts in the Parks. This program, begun in 1975, is funded by donations, and is held on Thursday nights at Memorial Park at 7 PM, with an indoor location in case of rain.

POOL SEASON

It has been a great start to the season. With the exception of a few incidents of thunder or lightning, the pool has been open daily – including July 4th during “Hurricane Arthur.” No patrons came on July 4th, but the night before, stayed as late as possible prior to the fireworks. Typically, patrons are gone by 6 PM on July 3rd, but the hot weather enticed them to stay until the end of the evening. The staff has welcomed back some familiar patrons, and was happy to meet some new patrons, including a woman who has lived in Needham for ten years but hadn't known about the pool.

SUMMER PROGRAMS

It is hard to believe that Week 3 out of 8 concludes as this is written! We have many happy participants (and parents)! We have a few families who are just moving to Needham this summer and are pleased that their children can meet new friends over the summer.

NEWMAN/EASTMAN CONSERVATION PROJECT

Weston & Sampson will be scheduling working sessions with groups this summer, including Needham Public Schools and youth sports programs, to continue to work on concept plans which will lead towards final design documents.

TRAIL PROJECTS

The bid documents are out for the design of the Reservoir Trail. Several companies expressed interest in the project at a mandatory walk-through last week. The Rail Trail project continues to move forward. The state awarded \$70,000 to the project, and there was some confusion on how it can be spent, but with Rep. Garlick's assistance, that has been rectified, so we are moving forward on plans to design and permit the path.
