

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

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**July 25, 2014**

*Background notes for Monday, July 28<sup>th</sup>  
Park and Recreation Commission Agenda*

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**COUNCIL ON AGING APPOINTMENT**

A member of the Council on Aging is appointed to represent Park and Recreation on the board. The current process is for the Vice Chairman of the Selectmen to interview candidates for appointed positions, and for this member, Park and Recreation appoints a member to participate in the interviews. Long-time appointee Andrea Rae is moving out of state and is no longer able to serve in the position.

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**LITTLE LIBRARY BOXES**

The Board of Selectmen has approved the locating of a Needham Library Foundation "Little Library Box" at Greene's Field playground, and it will be installed on August 11<sup>th</sup>. The intention is to have a sharing of books at this location, and two others. If it becomes an issue, it can be removed.

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**SCHOOL FEASIBILITY STUDY**

*Superintendent Dan Gutekanst has sent the following message to the community:*

**Mitchell and Hillside** Two major construction initiatives involving our oldest and most crowded elementary schools are underway. Four new Mitchell modular classrooms are under construction and will be ready for students in September. The new classrooms will provide much needed space for the school and help to relieve overcrowding and program constraints. On July 30<sup>th</sup>, the Massachusetts School Building Authority Board (MSBA) is scheduled to vote to move a Hillside Elementary School renovation/construction project forward into the next phase of planning. This is a significant accomplishment and an important next step required to design an appropriate school facility that will meet the needs of our students. Thanks to Needham's School Committee and the Permanent Public Building Committee (PPBC) for their incredible leadership around both school projects!

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**AUGUST 11<sup>th</sup> MEETING**

The Commission typically hosts a thank you party for the summer staff from the programs and the pool towards the end of each summer. This year's date will be Monday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, following the Commission's meeting.

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**NAMING POLICY**

There have been two informal discussions held regarding naming particular sites (not athletic fields!) Neither has moved into the formal stage, yet, but a discussion is on this week's agenda to re-familiarize the Commission with the policy and process.

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