

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

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

November 7, 2014

*Background notes for Monday, November 10th
Park and Recreation Commission Agenda*

RAIL TRAIL

The Board of Selectmen held a public hearing on the proposed rail trail pedestrian path on October 28th. They reviewed the plans that have been developed by DPW Engineering, in collaboration with other Town departments and with Bay Colony Rail Trail Association. After the public hearing and a discussion, the Selectmen unanimously voted to support the concept of the trail. The plans will be submitted to the Conservation Commission with a Request for Determination form, which will start the permitting process. It is anticipated that the initial public hearing at the Conservation Commission will be held on Thursday, November 20th. BCRTA continues to work with some abutters on mitigation.

AQUEDUCT TRAIL

The Board of Selectmen hope to hold a public hearing on the proposed pedestrian path along the two sections of the Sudbury Aqueduct located in Needham. The possible date is Tuesday, November 25th. This would be a license with MWRA and not require major construction to build, as opposed to the rail trail that is a lease with MBTA and requires construction.

FACILITIES STUDY

The PPBC will be hosting a public meeting on Monday, November 24th. Commissioner Matt Toolan will attend the meeting on behalf of the Commission.

PROGRAM SPACE

While projects are prioritized through the Facilities Master Plan, I am working with Public Facilities, DPW and the Assistant Town Manager on projects at the Cricket building and the Ridge Hill garage/bathrooms to keep them in usable shape for the next several years for our Cricketeer Adventure and Outdoor Living Adventure programs.

GREENE'S FIELD

Stop by the park to see the new plantings that were installed as part of the project. The plantings are within the playground area, and adjacent to the entrance. Some additional finishing projects are in the planning stages.
