

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

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

June 5, 2015

*Background notes for Monday, June 8th
Park and Recreation Commission Agenda*

COMMISSION GOALS, POLICIES, REGULATIONS

This is a reminder to the Commission members to bring your copies of the goals, policies and regulations for a discussion on each document.

CONGRATULATIONS

Commissioner Cynthia Chaston has been named Exchangeite of the Year by the Needham Exchange Club. The Needham Exchange Club does so much for the Needham community – well beyond what people know. They are all gearing up for the events of July 3rd and July 4th – a project they have been working on since July 5, 2014!

SUMMER

Pre-season work is well underway. The rain fall in the past week certainly helped make up for some of the spring drought, and help the filling of the pool...but we need some more rain!!! Pool supervisors, maintenance staff, and some guards have been busy prepping the grounds and the building. Supervisor training has begun, and they are all preparing for the training sessions with other staff. Not unlike our colleagues across the state, it has been extra challenging hiring lifeguard and swim instructor staff, but we are slowly getting closer to having enough staff.

COMMUNITY CENTER OF NEEDHAM

The CCN proposed donating some items to Rosemary Pool for this upcoming summer. I provided a “wish list” of items that could be used for the final years at the current pool, but also still be available for use at the new pool. Their board has approved the purchase of many of the items, and I will provide a list once they are finalized.

DeFAZIO PARKING LOT

Over the years, staff at DPW and I have talked about possible solutions to the traffic flow in the DeFazio parking lot, but not coming up with workable solutions. Without a solid surface, it is challenging to create a flow that can't easily be altered by drivers. After a discussion with a parent at recent Traffic Management Committee meeting, Town Engineer Tony DelGaizo has developed a temporary solution that might provide orderly parking with the use of temporary plastic barriers. These would be filled with water so that they cannot easily be moved by people using the lot, but will be able to be moved by DPW in the off-season. It won't stop people from trying to create their own parking spaces, though, which is one of the current challenges. I'll present his concept plan to the Commission at the meeting.

CONCUSSION STUDY

The Health Department applied for a grant from the Metrowest Health Foundation to assist with the creation of a database that would make it easier for the youth sports organizations to report who has taken the concussion training class and test, as well as to view who does not need to take it, again, for their own organization. The Health Department will receive \$20,000 as of July 1, 2015.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT LEGISLATION

I'll be attending a hearing on June 9th at the State House on proposed legislation to increase state funding to the CPA Fund. The Community Preservation Coalition has been collecting letters of support, but has reached out to individuals to represent the four funding categories to speak to the panel about successful projects across the state.

CHAMBER'S COVE

The hockey alumni had a successful event last Friday night. The proponents of the Chamber's Cove project will come back to the Commission over the summer with an update on their project.
