

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

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

September 9, 2016

*Background notes for Monday, September 12th
Park and Recreation Commission Agenda*

UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

Thursday, September 15 ConCom site visit Rosemary @ 6:15 PM
Saturday, September 24 Take a Hike Program: Rosemary Trails @ 10 AM

WATER QUALITY

Based on drinking water issues in other states, Needham tested water sources at the schools. They don't have lead pipes from the street to the school, so if there is any source it is within specific units. Hillside had two bubblers, which are rarely used, with levels above the conservative Needham threshold (lower than federal threshold) so those units were replaced. Municipal buildings and parks will be tested later this year.

FACILITY FEASIBILITY STUDIES

The Police Department, Fire Station # 1 and Fire Station # 2 are undergoing a feasibility study for renovation or rebuilding of their facilities. Initial recommendations are being discussed with the Selectmen. The DPW facilities are also being studied, and initial recommendations are to keep the primary functions at 470 Dedham Avenue, make some adjustments at the RTS and look to place out-of-season storage at Greendale Avenue "Parcel 74." The PPBC will host a meeting at 7 PM on Monday, September 12th to preview the concepts, and the Selectmen will hold a public hearing later in September. The feasibility study for the Memorial Park building is in the process of hiring a consultant. Proposals were submitted at the end of August and the firms will be interviewed in September.

DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION

If you drive through Needham center at night since July, you've noticed all the work being done as part of the downtown streetscape project, intended to provide safer travel for pedestrians, better flow of traffic, and visual improvements. Primarily, it has all been underground, preparing for the above ground work. I will be participating in a forum on September 19th related to the cultural and economic vitality of Needham Center.
