

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

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**June 8, 2018**

*Background notes for Monday, June 11, 2018  
Park and Recreation Commission Agenda*

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**UPCOMING COMMISSION MEETING DATES**

Monday, June 25

Monday, July 9

Monday, July 23

Monday, August 13

Monday, August 27

*Conflict – Monday, September 10 is first day of Rosh Hashanah*

Monday, September 24

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**NEEDHAM HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT PROJECT**

As this is posted, I'm waiting for confirmation that the Commission will have a presentation on this project at the meeting. I worked with a group of students who want to encourage outdoor play for Needham's children. The presentation on May 16<sup>th</sup> was done by Will Copper, Max Johnston, Jack Malpiede, Dan McEvoy, and Amadeo Rodriguez., which I attended, along with Superintendent Gutekanst and Principal Sicotte. The students posted some information on the "Needham, MA" Facebook page and are working on getting times to present to some of the PTC groups.

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**FISHING AT ROSEMARY**

A resident asked if fishing would be allowed at Rosemary in the future. I let him know that fishing has been an option at Rosemary throughout the years, and the quality of the water will improve after the sediment removal project. He assumed that the annual draw-downs had eliminated fish and wildlife, so I shared information with him showing that it hadn't, and in some cases had improved the circumstances. He is interested in having it be an environment for bass, so I have suggested he contact the Town Engineer as the sediment removal project could create a better environment for bass.

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**PARCEL 74**

There was a complaint on Facebook regarding construction on "Parcel 74." I checked with DPW. The state contractor had gone through the property for a sewer project related to Add-A-Lane and had still not returned to clean up the site. DPW requested the Greendale Avenue contractor add the clean-up to their project list, so the work that was done was restoration. I requested to be notified prior to that type of work, so that answers can be provided to questions.

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## **COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**

Mr. Gerstel's first three year appointment expires at the end of June. He is eligible to be appointed as the Commission representative to the CPC for a second three-year term. If Mr. Gerstel is not able to continue, one of the four remaining Commission members can be appointed.

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## **CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS**

There is quite a bit of construction on-going or being started in a small area of space – Needham High School, Memorial Park, and Rosemary Recreation Complex. The High School project was projected to be completed before the start of the school year, but may extend beyond that. In the meanwhile, the Memorial Park parking lot will be impacted starting July 6 for their year-long project. The amount of parking available at Memorial Park at the start of the school year will be expanded beyond what will be available during the summer months, so it may be enough to handle student parking for a short period of time. But, the Principal has asked if any additional parking would be available at Rosemary Recreation Complex. The Commission has already given unofficial OK for Memorial Park contractors to use the Rosemary Recreation Complex parking in the fall/winter/spring.

The storage in the Memorial Park building will be removed by the end of June. Needham Baseball and Softball will be asking the Commission for permission to park a storage pod at the Dwight Field parking lot for the duration.

As Park and Recreation Department's budget covered the cleaning of the Memorial Park restrooms, some of those funds remained in the FY'19 budget to cover the cost of renting units for the year, and the order is currently being placed. The Building Maintenance Division will take-over cleaning the building restrooms on July 1 to prepare for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of July activities. At the conclusion of construction, a custodian will be scheduled for that building.

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## **PARK RESTROOMS AND TRASH**

Four Season Cleaning will take over cleaning the park restrooms on July 1<sup>st</sup> at DeFazio, Claxton, Mills and Cricket.

The RTS Division received funds for a pilot Big Belly program at DeFazio Park and Memorial Park. I will provide additional information when it is available, including a draft layout of locations of the units for Commission input at DeFazio and Trustee input at Memorial.

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## **PERRY PARK PLAYGROUND**

The resident with interest in a playground improvement project at Perry Park reached out to me last week to see if we could start working on the project. I restated that the fall would be the earliest, as a number of projects are still underway, including at other playgrounds.