

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

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**September 22, 2017**

*Background notes for Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup>  
Park and Recreation Commission Agenda*

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**OCTOBER MEETING**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in October falls on Columbus Day – October 9<sup>th</sup>. Please bring your calendars so that a new date can be chosen.

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**DeFAZIO PARKING LOT**

The 5 mph signs have been installed on the DeFazio driveway. The speed monitor was up for about 2 weeks to remind people of the speed they were driving as they entered. I've put a reminder on my calendar to see if the speed monitor can come back in early April for the spring season. The fence opening was created for the mobile food vendor set-up. A bollard is in place to keep vehicles from accessing through the opening.

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**DPW FUEL STATION**

The former salt shed has been taken down, while work continues on the new fuel station. Signs have been put up by the contractor to keep vehicles from passing through the construction site. Eversource needs to place a pole in the DeFazio parking lot for the electrical connection to the new fuel station, which will also include an additional light for the parking lot.

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**RESERVOIR ALL-PERSON TRAIL**

The contractor has continued to install the sections of pathway that are stone dust, with the most of the recent week spent along the front of the Reservoir. The trail, itself, is installed in the front section, but the ramp up to the trail, and the finished edges of the trail are not done. Outside of construction hours, some people have been able to use the front section of trail for fishing.

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**MOBILE FOOD VENDORS**

This is the link on the Town's website for applying for a permit as a mobile food vendor. <http://needhamma.gov/index.aspx?NID=3630> Two companies have expressed interest in the weekend set-up at DeFazio, but as of this writing, have not formally applied.

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**WALKER POND**

Commissioner Chaston and I attended a meeting on September 12<sup>th</sup> with the consultant ESS and neighbors of Walker Pond. The consultant, a certified pond manager, provided information on the watershed that includes Walker Pond, and described the testing already done to date. The level of phosphorus tends to be the cause of poor conditions and in Walker Pond, current levels would need to be reduced by half to improve conditions. Some additional testing will be done after a rain event, and then results of testing and recommendations will be made later this fall. One of the definite recommendations will be education of all homes within the watershed.

### **OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN**

The Town Manager is convening a meeting with representatives of Park and Recreation Commission, Conservation Commission, Board of Selectmen, Planning Board and staff on October 3<sup>rd</sup> to review the goals and action plan, and try to make sure the list is achievable and meets the needs of each board and the hopes of the community. The current draft of the action plan is in the meeting packet, for additional comments. At this time, Chairman Matt Toolan, Vice Chairman Chris Gerstel and I will be attending the review meeting. An updated draft will be presented to the Commission for full input after the meeting.

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### **CANADA GEESE**

Last week, a specialized spray treatment was put down at Walker-Gordon and DeFazio, and this week at Memorial. It helps, but once it rains, the efficacy of it begins to wear down. We are also looking at bringing back the trained dogs for some visits.

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### **DRAFT POOL REGULATIONS**

The MA Department of Public Health (MA DPH) has been working on a revision of their regulations for construction and operation of public pools. I am reviewing the changes from the prior regulations and will be sending in written testimony for their upcoming public hearings. The design of Rosemary Recreation Complex was done through regular consultation with the MA DPH, so no changes are anticipated if the regulations are adopted. Some of the regulations for operations have changed, and I will review with the Commission at the meeting.

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### **CLAXTON PARKING LOT**

The DPW will have the line painting contractor paint the parking lines at the Claxton parking lot within the next few weeks. They have already refreshed the ADA spaces at DeFazio and the road crossings on the Rail Trail.

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