

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

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**April 19, 2013**

*Background notes for Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Park and Recreation Commission Agenda*

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**THIS WEEK**

What do you even write during a week like this? As I write this, one suspect from Monday's bombing is dead and the search is still underway for the second one. For all that is horrible about this week, what is most evident is how most people have stepped forward to help others and show that we really do live in a good place with good people!

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**MAY MEETINGS**

The Commission is scheduled to meet May 13 and May 27. May 13<sup>th</sup> is the third night of Town Meeting, and May 27<sup>th</sup> is Memorial Day, so both meetings need to be rescheduled. Please bring your calendars so that options can be chosen.

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**ENCROACHMENT**

The Commission approved the request of an abutter to the camp property to have a private contractor remove 4 trees that could potentially fall on their home in a bad storm. The approval was given with the understanding that all work would be coordinated with the Parks and Forestry Superintendent. The work was done without that notification, and the homeowners had additional work done that may have encroached onto the camp property, and did encroach into the 200 foot zone of the Rivers Act. The homeowner and the contractor are being fined by the Conservation Commission. DPW Engineering is checking the property line, and if work was done on the Commission's property, you will be asked to require them to fully restore the property.

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**YMCA SUMMER PROGRAM**

Because Greene's Field will not be open this summer, the Charles River YMCA has been trying to find an alternate location for their summer program. Typically, they operate it out of their own building and use Greene's Field for many of the activities. They had hoped to use a school building, but the policy is that non-Town organizations are not given summer permits, as the priority needs to be on cleaning and maintenance projects to prepare to get the schools ready for the fall. Some school staff members were not aware of the policy and began negotiating about use of space at Newman with the Y, without the formal request process going through the Public Facilities Department. The policy has been re-stated and Newman will not be an option. At this time, it is possible that the Y will be able to use space at Carter Methodist Church and they are requesting use of Avery Field for outdoor space. I've asked for more details on the program.

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