



**Date:** 14 June 2010

**To:** Board of Selectmen

**From:** R. H. Snow

**Subject:** Parks, Other Culture & Recreation Monthly Report

### **Moore Park**

Organized sports have are making good use of the ball fields in Moore Park. The Moore School softball team finished up a successful season last week, winning a state championship. Congratulations, Ladies! CYAA has several more weeks in their schedule. Mowing of the ball fields, being done on an as-needed basis, had to be done more frequently with the recent rainy weather.

Volunteers, including the CYAA, the Candia Community Women's Club, the Moore School girl's softball team and both the Boy Scouts and the Girl Scouts, continue with cleanup and maintenance in the park. The Boy Scout Pack & Troop has picked up the brush pile in the front part of the park and have mowed the grass around the scout cabin. I'm still looking for brush to chip to use under the pine trees in the front of the park, so let me know about sources that can be arranged. I'm going to continue publicizing the "Save the Trees" campaign and putting up some signage and parking barriers to encourage people not to park their vehicles under the trees in the front of the park. That area was seeded to red clover last year, with no noticeable success. This year, we'll try white clover and see how that works.

The upgrade of the fencing around the playground area has been completed, using some old fencing from other areas of the park and adding some new fencing, to improve the security for the children using the area,. The picnic benches in the woods across from the town offices are going to be moved to the park. That site hasn't been maintained and isn't being used. Repair of other picnic benches and the bleachers is also a priority, within the budget.

I've contacted the firm that supplied the playground equipment and the repair of a piece of equipment has been delayed waiting quotes for replacement broken. Improving the surface in the playground now appears to be a significant task. The height of the protective surfaces around the equipment is more than several inches less than required.

The bathrooms have been thoroughly cleaned and continue to be worked on, with repairs scheduled and additional work that needs to be done. The Building Inspector has agreed to to draw the sample(s) for the water test.

### **Skateboard Park**

There was a meeting of the skateboard park users association this month. I've received information from the park sponsors about the replacement of the remaining wooden structures with permanent concrete structures. The ramps were designed and purportedly work started on them when the company cancelled the work, due, apparently, to liability issues. I'm still planning to move and install telephone poles as parking barriers and drainage channelization devices. The old wooden structures are scheduled to be remove shortly.

It's amazing the number and diversity of young people and families that use the skateboard park. On any given day, you're as likely to see preschool children riding their bikes while their parents watch, as you are to see teenagers doing tricks.



### **Summer Recreation Program**

The contracts with M&C and the CYAA for the summer recreation program have been signed. The CYAA contract is limited to the use of their facilities during inclement weather. Their rates were offered at a steep discount for the summer recreation program. We're starting to get serious inquiries from parents about participation. Application forms are being provided to the office for interested residents.

### **Old Home Day Celebration**

The Old Home Day Committee continues to meet and I 'm attending their meetings whenever possible. I am in the process of getting a sign for the park honoring, in some fashion, the donation of the property by Henry W. Moore. The Historical Society is helping with research. Old Home Day would be an opportune time to dedicate the sign.

### **Continuing Concerns, Issues and Questions**

The parking area between the skateboard park and the town office parking lot by the police department was further improved last year by the Road Agent, opening up the area for parking spaces, something that continues to be sorely needed during events. I'm working with the Road Agent to finish improving the area.

I've identified a possible contact for telephone poles. Getting some of them and spiking them into the ground with rebar appears to be a cost-efficient alternative. The road agent has leveled off the roadways and now we need to move some of the ones we have around to more clearly define the traveled way and to better control parking, erosion and off-road damage.

I'm investigating the use of the federally funded volunteer youth services for this summer. There is a significant amount of work necessary to clean up outside of the ball field area fences, including the area adjacent to the brook. The road agent and I are working together on this effort.

### **Town Beautification Project**

Publicity is going out about the contest and integrating it into the Old Home Day event. I'll be working with the Candia Garden Club and the Old Home Day committee, as well as the Road Agent to coordinate our efforts.