



**Date:** 3 December 2012

**To:** Board of Selectmen

**From:** R. H. Snow

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

**Moore Park / Playground / Skateboard Park / Basketball Court**

We've replanted the Moore Park Grove Area West of the access road with young trees and marked them. Look for them and see how fast they grow. Another example of the use of volunteer help that makes Candia a better place to live. The bathrooms have been closed for the season. The merry-go-round has been removed from its anchor post and is on its way to being resurfaced, a portion of the encumbered funds from last year. Two other small pieces of playground equipment that came loose from their anchor plates are being refurbished by a volunteer and will be reinstalled next Spring. Some old CYAA equipment and an unused backstop are being moved over to the CYAA fields. The park benches from an earlier Eagle Scout project that were in a swampy area next to the Pond Park and weren't being used have been brought to Moore Park and are being refurbished, with volunteer assistance. I noticed a family using one of them soon after, stopped to chat and learned that they had been visiting CharmingFare Farm and had stopped to enjoy our Pine Grove and have their picnic lunch before heading home. Economic development 101. One of the pieces of equipment in the playground has a broken part and will be fixed from the current operating budget. Most of the encumbered funds for the planned repair of the playground slide will not be expended this year because of an inability to reasonably obtain the parts from a supplier and the money will be returned to the fund balance. We can use that money to help fund the normal playground maintenance fund warrant article appropriation.

**Fall Recreation Program(s)**

Formal athletic programs have wrapped up for the season.

**Pond Park and Gazebo Area**

I'm still looking for the formal site plan that is referenced in the agreement between the library and the town to more clearly define the areas of authority and responsibility. I've received a signed copy of the agreement between the school district and the town regarding the parking lot area adjacent to the school. The school district recently cleared out the area between the school fields and the parking lot. I'm working with the maintenance contractor to be able to regularly mow the area immediately adjacent to the North side of the parking lot. We need to work with the school district.

**Fitts Museum and Soldiers Monument**

A review of the department electric bills highlighted an issue of two separate PSNH meters feeding the Fitts Museum property. I'm working with PSNH and the Museum Trustees to see how we can go to a single feed point next year, eliminating the duplicate monthly meter charge for the second meter.



**Old Home Day Celebration**

We continue to have discussions, particularly at MBC meetings about Old Home Day and its relationship with the town and the park facilities. While it's true that the Old Home Day Committee is a separate, private effort of interested individuals, they are using town facilities and the requirement for users of the facilities to provide liability insurance is normally waived by the selectmen. Additionally, the receipts and expenditures for and from the event are run thru the town accounting system, creating a fiduciary requirement on the town to monitor and audit the activity. It is my position that the event is a joint effort for the benefit of the public and that there is a minimal level of effort and funding required by the Parks & Rec Department to help make the event successful and safe. I've attached an recent article from the Forum News that relates to Parks & Rec funding options.

**Riverside Park Picnic Area**

Concept under development. See me for details...