



April 14, 2021

Town Manager Hayes and the Sudbury Select Board,

Now that all of the snow has melted and the weather is getting warmer by the day, we are finding more and more residents utilizing the property to walk with friends or neighbors, meet up for a picnic, or try their hands at fishing.

We've been thrilled to be the site of two 'Pinewood Derby' events this year. The Boy Scouts hosted a successful event this past weekend at Liberty Lodge, and Sudbury Girl Scouts are looking forward to theirs this coming weekend. The Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of America have prohibited indoor gathering all year, but our 4000 square foot pavilion, Liberty Lodge, has allowed groups to continue to safely gather outdoors. Many of these traditions would have fallen by the wayside if not for this space.

SMILE Mass is resuming its in person programming next week, with a story-teller and musician over April break, and weekly gatherings thereafter. We also have a number of classes taking place on property this month and next that have been offered by non-profit Lincoln Sudbury Adult and Community Education.

We are working on the design and permitting for two map kiosks with LS student and Eagle Scout candidate Colton Simon. If approved, these kiosks (designed to mimic those at local parks and trails) will be situated at the front and back entrances to the property. We hope that having a map on site will be useful for residents unfamiliar with the property. Applications have been submitted to the Design Review Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals, and we hope to have the kiosks in place before the full property opens back up to residents September 1.

Spring cleanup on the grounds has begun and spring lawn care will begin next week. Certain areas will need special attention and will be flagged off to allow new grass to come in. Work on the split rail public access fence will hopefully begin in May and be completed by June. The upper and lower parking lot conditions have improved significantly with the frost going out, so the work to improve them has become less of a priority and will likely be revisited in the fall.

In camp programming news, the state Department of Public Health recently released its guidelines for summer camps, (we expect at least one more revised edition prior to June), and here is what we do know at this point:

SEWATARO



SUMMER AS IT SHOULD BE...

- The camp community will again need to be masked, and distanced, but the hope is that state guidelines will soon be revised to reflect 3' of distance between participants, as is the case in public schools.
- Swim lessons will not be held in the summer of 2021, as they do require the mixing of cohorts that isn't possible at this time, per the BOH. Instead, we are building upon the already popular free swim experience, by adding water aerobics and Zumba.
- We are working to find solutions that will allow us to run our Adventure Challenge program, including rock climbing, ziplining, and high ropes, which had to be put on the shelf in 2020, due to Covid. We've hired a High 5 Adventure Level 2 certified ropes course instructor to run this popular program, and we are confident that with her help and expertise, we will find a safe path forward for this camp season.
- Our senior camp program for 7th and 8th graders has doubled! In response to an overwhelming number of applications, we've added additional groups to accommodate as many campers as possible this summer. We've enhanced program offerings for this age group, and are very pleased to have found a way for this group to take an off-site field trip this year, a hike up Mount Wachusett. A service curriculum is part of the senior camp program, as well.

Hiring for the summer season is in full swing, and we have once again contracted many Lincoln-Sudbury H.S. students to work with us. Additionally, we've partnered with Lincoln-Sudbury Metco director, Shelly Hinds, in hopes of recruiting L-S students who live in Greater Boston.

We have 29 Sudbury Resident Scholarship Recipients enrolled to attend Sewataro this summer. Most are attending for the full 8 weeks. We also have six 4-week and seven 2-week campers, for a combined total of 166 weeks of Scholarships awarded. We continue to communicate with Bethany Hadvab regarding any other potential candidates.

As always, please reach out if you have questions that we can answer.

Kind Regards,
The Sewataro Team