

Office of the Town Manager

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Athol Board of Selectmen

FR: Shaun A. Suhoski, Town Manager

RE: Town Manager's Report

DT: October 4, 2016

Dear Board: Please see the following report for your meeting tonight:

<u>Visit from Undersecretary Kornegay:</u> Chrystal Kornegay, the state undersecretary for housing and community development spent over two hours in Athol last Thursday. Representatives from the Town Planning Department, North Quabbin Community Coalition and North Quabbin Chamber and Visitors Center greeted Ms. Kornegay and provided snapshot of the community, its achievements and its needs; notably the vacant housing issue and need to renovate and restore these units to the inventory. The visit also provided an opportunity to view the neighborhoods assisted with CDBG funds over the past decade.

A copy of my email summarizing our talking points, and the Undersecretary's personal response, is included in your packets. Thank you also to Selectman Brighenti for welcoming Ms. Kornegay on behalf of the Board.

<u>Lake Ellis:</u> This project continues to move forward on all fronts. The Association has installed the granite posts for the signage and will soon erect the new sign including the Town's regulations on one side and the education material concerning invasive weeds as well as other items on the other side. Brenda Pirro is researching grants and may have found a program that would help fund actual weed treatment if we can make a strong case for the importance of the project.

Miscellaneous Items:

- Met with Athol's Housing Task Force to follow-up on large multi-unit structure review.
- Met with Planning Director and representative from MassDevelopment to review potential areas of collaboration.
- · Attended dedication of Athol Community Elementary School. Awesome!
- · Participated in MART Audit Committee review of annual audit.
- · Attended public meeting concerning "Five Points" intersection project.
- · With Selectman Raymond met with SEIU concerning regional dispatch contract implications.
- Toured Rutland's four-town regional dispatch center with Chief Kleber; met with Chief Haapakoski regarding same.