

COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES: February, 6, 2008

Attendees: Frank Baker, A.J. Garito, Rich Rehm, Dwight Wolf, Jim Valenti, Leonor Lesta, Candice Burke, Dr. Nolan, Ed Piotrowski, Joe Mancino

Absent: Phil Maida,

Township Liaison Present: Tom Hennessy

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Jim Valenti at 8:00 p.m.

The Committee approved the minutes from January 10, 2008.

The Treasurer's Report was read, and attached to the agenda for each committee member per their request.

Presentation of Award to Bruce Bennett

Dr. Nolan presented a plaque to Mr. Bennett for his 20 years of service on the Recreation and Parks Committee. He noted Mr. Bennett's involvement with fundraising for the video which led to a National Park Award for the Township.

Frank McMahon came to speak to the committee about the Colts Neck Sports Foundation's Traveling basketball program. He has also been to the foundation's meetings several times and spoke to Mr. Florek. He contacted Dr. Nolan as the Sports Foundation is affiliated with Recreation and Parks. Basically, the concerns of young children learning fundamentals and play time during games were his concerns. He also would like to see documented guidelines for all parties in the Travel Basketball program. Many parents have expectations that their children would play during games sometimes that is not the case. Parents become distraught as to why their children are not playing in games. Mr. Valenti suggested his concerns may be a miscommunication between parents and coaches. And he appreciated the feedback Mr. McMahon provided to the committee. He also, stated he would speak to Mr. Corsi, President of the Colts Neck Sports Foundation about the items Mr. McMahon shared with the committee.

Instructional Programs

Our fitness programs are under way, Ballroom Dance has been very successful with approximately 22 registrants. Our co-ed Volleyball League began last week with 4 teams participating. Dr. Nolan stated 18 Teens signed up for the annual Teen Ski Trip which took place Saturday. Everyone enjoyed the trip to Mountain Creek. Leonor will be supervising a trip to Broadway on April 23. She obtained tickets to "In the Heights", details will be in our Spring brochure.

Park Operations Update

Five Point Electricity is on, the light is now shining on the flag pole. Laird Rd. backstops and bleachers are completed. The only thing remaining are the benches, which will be completed in the next few weeks. Recreation Administration Building project will be underway in the coming weeks, pending the weather.

2008 Memorial Day Parade

Mr. Baker led the review of the 2007 Line of March. Revisions will be necessary and mailed to the committee with the meeting notes. It was discussed with Ms. Laufer that all Veteran's in town should be invited to participate. In the past she obtained a listing of (Senior) Veteran's from Township Hall and mailed out invitations for the Memorial Day parade. Mr. Valenti suggested a special invitation be done again this year and mailed to all Veterans' in Town; all agreed this would be a great idea. It was also suggested in April an article with last year's parade photos be sent to the local newspapers. In addition, an open invitation or all Veteran's are especially welcome to participate. The office of Recreation and Parks should also list their telephone number in these articles to assist with parking locations. Ms.

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Burke is investigating the cost for a banner advertising the parade that would hang along Rt. 537, similar to the banner for the Colts Neck Fair.

Discussion continued regarding the distribution of the small flags before the start of the parade, A suggestion was made the recreation committee give out the flags before the parade begins, this would create a parade route lined with flags. A suggestion was made for the face painter to determine a cut off time for face painting. In an effort to increase the awareness of the parade, it was suggested the school board sign along the roadway could reflect the parade details. In addition to an email “blast” be sent out. Mr. Valenti asked if there should be a Grand Marshall? Dr. Nolan mentioned that it’s up to the Mayor to decide if he or someone else would make a speech at the end of the parade. Mr. Valenti recalled last year’s comments to have the schools participate in the parade by way of contest? Mr. Pitrowski will mention this to the high school drama club. Ms. Burke will speak to the Cedar Drive and Conover Rd. Elementary School Principals for their involvement. Another suggestion that the parade route be published in local papers with parking instructions.

Senior Citizen Update

Ms. Laufer reported 60 members will be traveling to the Hunterdon Playhouse at the end of February; followed by a trip to Atlantic City in March. Membership has reached 250! A trip to the Dude Ranch will include 37 members.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 5, 2008 at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Byrne, Secretary