

COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES: March 7, 2007

Attendees: Dr. Harold Nolan, Frank Baker, Ed Piotrowski, Bruce Bennett, Phil Maida, Candice Burke, Dwight Wolf, Jim Valenti, Joe Mancino.

Absent: Leonor Lesta A.J. Garito, Rich Rehm

Township Liaison Present: Tom Hennessy

Attendee: Judy Laufer, President, Senior Citizens Club

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

The Committee approved the minutes from February 7, 2007.

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

Winter Instructional Programs/Spring Events

Instructional Programs – Dr. Nolan stated programs are winding down. February 10 was the annual Teen Ski Trip to Mountain Creek, approximately 22 teens enrolled for the trip. All had a nice time and there were no problems. The Spring Brochure will be going to the printer this week. Intro/Advanced Crochet had been added to the Spring classes. Dr. Nolan mentioned that the Spring Events are some of the bigger ones for the department. from the Easter on March 31 activities to the Bicycle Race in May, to our Memorial Day parade. Ms. Burke asked if volunteers are needed for the events. Dr. Nolan stated other than volunteering to assist with the Memorial Day parade members are welcome to attend all of the events. Volunteers are always welcome.

SK8 4A KAWZ Club

Mrs. Nicoletti and Mrs. Lombardi asked to speak to the committee in gaining their support to build a skateboard park in town. Mrs. Nicoletti stated the town currently has no activities for the youths who skateboard. Many children do not participate in the traditional sporting activities offered, and having a place to skate board and develop their skills is needed in Colts Neck. Mrs. Lombardi stated over 300 signatures have been obtained in support of their fundraising efforts to build a skateboard park. Mrs. Nicoletti asked the support of this committee prior to the group continuing their fundraising efforts. Dr. Nolan stated that the committee does support their efforts, and has listed the skate board park as an item in the Capitol Budget three year plan for Recreation and Parks. However, based on the Township's Public Budget meeting on March 3, the town does not support a skateboard park at this time. Mr. Piotrowski suggested Mrs. Nicoletti and Mrs. Lombardi contact Dorbrook Park, that being a County facility, funding may be substantially more than the budget of Colts Neck. And more youths would be able to utilize the facility given it would be in a County Park. Mr. Bennett stated for the club not to give up on their goal of building a skateboard park. The discussion resulted in Dr. Nolan advising the item is no longer in the hands of this committee but with the Township Committee. Mrs. Nicoletti and Mrs. Lombardi thanked Dr. Nolan and the committee for their support and time. The meeting continued with the scheduled agenda.

Budget Updates

Dr. Nolan reported that the most of the operating budget and Capitol request items have been granted. The backstops at Laird Road and dug outs will be replaced. The bridge at the Big Brook Preserve will be repaired using Schlesinger funds. The recreation building will be renovated with siding and replacement windows. Mr. Hennessy commented on the presentation Dr. Nolan gave to the Town at Saturday's budget meeting. And through his hard work and perseverance these items were accomplished.

Park Operations

Spring Field Preparation

Dr. Nolan reported once the weather cooperates seeding and fertilizing of the fields will begin. The work remaining at Cedar Drive will be completed by the department's staff. The Sports Foundation will complete the bleacher work. The middle field at Bucks Mill will be given a final grade prior to seeding by Billy Cromer. Also noted by Dr. Nolan,

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permits for our fields have gone out and 99% of the fields are being utilized 7 day a week. Ms. Burke asked about the additional park summer staff foreman for Parks listed in the 2007 Budget document? Dr. Nolan explained he is seeking funding for a full time summer foreman. This would be a great asset for a person to supervise the summer crew and get a lot of the odd jobs done. Such as the weed whacking, pesticide management, planting etc. All are very important to the maintenance of our parks.

New Business

Mr. Baker asked if the Summer Day Camp cost would be increased this year? Mr. Piotrowski added that in Marlboro the camps are so popular they include a lottery system to attend, increasing the cost seems like a good idea.

2007 Memorial Day Parade

Mr. Baker reviewed the 2006 line of march and assignments were reviewed for each task.

Senior Citizen's Club

Ms. Laufer reported 18 new members joined the Senior Citizen's club. Many trips and events are planned for Spring.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 11, 2007 at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Byrne, Secretary