

**Colts Neck Recreation Committee  
Minutes – March 4, 2009**

**COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE  
MINUTES: March 4, 2009**

Attendees: Jim Valenti, Frank Baker, Leonar Lesta, Joe Mancino, Ed Piotrowski, Phil Maida,  
Paul Wild, Dwight Wolf, Judy Laufer

Absent: Candice Burke, Rich Rehm, A.J. Garito

Township Liaison Present: Ken Florek

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Jim Valenti at 7:30 p.m.

The Committee approved the minutes from February 6, 2009

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

Mr. Valenti noted the new agenda format, Mr. Hennessy stated the agenda format would be more general rather than specific details of items.

### **Budget**

Mr. Hennessy reported the budget looks good in terms of continuity of July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration and summer camp.

Mr. Mancino and Mr. Valenti were present at the Recreation and Park Budget discussions on Saturday. Park signage has been implemented at all parks. Mr. Hennessy continued by saying programs will be eliminated, if enough people are not registered. The Zumba Dance Instructor will be holding two free sessions prior to committing to the program to ensure we have enough registrants. We will not be painting the school bus due to cost, but are looking into placing a stencil to identify it is a Recreation and Parks bus if state law permits. Mrs. Laufer suggested a magnet sign for the bus to reflect Recreation and Parks.

At this time, all fields are being used 100% via permits, some timeslots may be revised but for the most part all are being used, and we are fulfilling our Green Acre Obligations. It was also discovered during the budget exercises, 15K from a grant for Five Point Park is available. Mr. Hennessy stated this money will be used to purchase a water reel for irrigation at the Park.

### **Earth Day Celebration**

Mr. Hennessy introduced an expansion for the Park Stewards for the month of April. Colts Neck has never had a town wide Earth Day clean up campaign. He asked the stewards coordinate with a specific group from Town such as boy scouts to clean up their assigned park or preserve. He has arranged with the Department of Public Works to supply trash bags for the event. The weekend of April 18 & 19 is the target being the weekend before the official Earth Day April 22. Mr. Valenti stated this is a great idea, commenting the clean up would not include too large of items but would include small items found on trails too. Mr. Wolf commented there are no trash receptacles at the Obre Preserve. Mr. Baker thought the idea was good too. Ms. Lesta will be away that weekend and asked if her students from her school where she teaches, could participate on the actual Earth Day with her. Mr. Hennessy is hoping the Township schools will be performing a clean up as well. Mr. Hennessy explained he would make the contacts to the groups throughout town and match them to the schedules of the Stewards. Mr. Wolf stated he would be on vacation that weekend, Mr. Valenti would be available the 19<sup>th</sup> not the 18<sup>th</sup>. Discussion to change the weekend continued. Mr. Hennessy will advise via email the plan, and was reminded by the committee we would have the April meeting to continue this discussion.

### **Irrigation**

Mr. Hennessy shared the results from the meeting with Kifco representatives who manufacture water reels. The approximate total cost for the unit and installation is 15K. A donation had been made to provide lime, fertilizers and top dress two soccer fields at Five Point. This process coupled with the irrigation via water reel would impact the condition of these fields. This plan also includes resting the

## **Colts Neck Recreation Committee Minutes – March 4, 2009**

fields for the turf to become established, which the Sports Foundation is in favor of, knowing in the long term, fields would improve. Mr. Valenti asked about how the irrigation equipment would be housed for security purposes. Mr. Hennessy discussed the possibility with Public Works of a small shed and/or a storage trailer for the water reel. Ms. Laufer mentioned the Senior Citizens have a small trailer available.

### **Programs**

Mr. Hennessy discussed the addition of more programs for Seniors and is implementing a Chi Gong program for the Spring. Also in the works is a Kick Boxing class and trip to Broadway. Discussion continued regarding the trip to Broadway resulting in moving the event to fall with a Sunday matinee. The committee felt more people would be interested in a weekend play.

### **Community Center**

The Department is looking to enclose the overhang of the Community Center to prevent birds from nesting. Our Township July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration will include an outside group to manage parking. The company stated they will be park more cars than in past years, by lining the lots. Ms. Lesta reminded everyone about last year's handicapped situation and proximity of bathrooms. Mr. Wolf asked if we could get a Marine Band for Memorial Day Parade. Mr. Florek will ask Captain Maynard of Earle about a Marine Band, military vehicles and being the Grand Marshal. Mr. Hennessy reviewed the Line of March for the Memorial Day Parade, all will continue to work their assignments.

### **Recreation and Park Convention**

Mr. Hennessy provided a summary of his experience at the National Recreation and Park Convention in Atlantic City. He attended seminars on Day Camps, Parks and Communities and Master Planning, in addition to Trends and Issues related to Recreation and Parks. He is also interested in bring Tourism into the community and generate overall interest in the history of the Township, based on classes attended.

### **Vision Quest – Master Plan**

Mr. Baker thought the survey comments were interesting. Mr. Valenti said the document was very beneficial. Mrs. Laufer had a few revisions to the document related to the Senior Citizen club.

### **Miscellaneous**

Mrs. Laufer has contacted and is waiting for a reply from the Barbershop Quartet about performing at the Memorial Day parade.

With no other matters to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Byrne, Secretary