

COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES: April 5, 2006

Present: Dr. Harold J. Nolan, Frank Baker, Bruce Bennett, Richard Rehm, Leonor Lesta, Arthur Goodwin, Joe Mancino, Jim Valenti.

Absent: Edward Piotrowski, A.J. Garito

Liaison

Present: Thomas E. Hennessy Jr., Township Committee

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Frank Baker at 8:05 p.m. The Sunshine Statement was read and the minutes of the March 1, meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: In the 2006 Temporary Recreation Operating Budget, as of March 31, 2006 \$18,343.47 was expended and \$4,583.02 is encumbered, which leaves an available balance of \$26,520.31

In the 2006 Temporary Park & Playground Operating Budget, as of March 31, 2006, \$6,290.00 was expended, \$573.37 is encumbered, which leaves an available balance of \$3,666.63.

Special Award

Mr. Bob Gammer was presented with a plaque for his 30 years of Professional service. Dr. Nolan presented Mr. Gammer with the honor for managing the Men's Winter Basketball Program. His dedication and professionalism running the program was very much appreciated. The other committee members applauded and congratulated Mr. Gammer on his milestone.

Spring Programs

Instructual Programs

Dr Nolan reported the Winter programs are about to end. The Spring brochure has been mailed and registration is taking place. As with the Winter programs, fitness classes along with the traditional Spring activities such as Adult Golf are being offered.

Easter Egg Hunt 4/8

The traditional Egg Hunt with Brunch with the Easter Bunny will take place at Firehouse #1 this Saturday. The rain date is 4/15.

Easter Arts and Crafts will be held on 4/15 at the Recreation and Parks Building at 14 Heyers Mill Rd.

Many activities are upcoming, Dr. Nolan reminded the committee, May 7, Colts Neck Bicycle Race, May 20, Jr. Olympic Track Meet, and May 29 Memorial Day Parade.

Park Facilities

Baseball/Soccer fields

Five Point baseball fields are in great condition, Dr. Nolan reported. In addition to building mounds, additional clay, has been used on all fields. Seed and fertilizer have also been applied, using approximately 80% of the material while saving 20% for Fall.

Soccer goals have been moved from Bucks Mill and Cedar Dr. to the football field for the summer. These goals will be taken apart and rebuilt replacing worn materials. One new set of (3/4) goals was funded by the Sports Foundation, another goal set funded by the Recreation budget. Both are set at Five Point Park. Dr. Nolan added we are also waiting on a set owed to us by the contractor at Five Point Park.

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Lacrosse Fields

Teams are using the track field and the football field at Cedar Dr. until June 1. No seed will be added until after June 1, the same for the lower field at Cedar Drive. Both will be fenced off to enhance grass to grow, similar to what was done last year.

Pop Warner Field

Mr. Thompson, Director of Public Works and Dr Nolan met with the POP Warner folks. They presented a proposal to level off the football field. The decision to move forward with this project would need to have approval from the Township Committee.

General Park Maintenance

Big Brook – Trails have been cleared

Five Point – Signs are in place for the dedication, a maintenance stall area has been completed for stone/dirt storage.

Soccer goals and nets have been moved.

Several sheds have been moved from Laird Rd. to 5 Point and Cedar Dr.

Conover Road Park

Dr. Nolan reported there have been many inquiries regarding the Tennis Courts and he has asked Mr. Bowden to re-investigate the status of Conover Road Park. The Board of Education is taking down the Adventure playground which opens an opportunity to reengineer the area with the Board of Education. The past discussions alluded that 5 Tennis courts would be too many at Conover Rd. Mr. Baker asked if any of the swings etc. could be recycled. Dr. Nolan explained the wood has been integrated and many of the swings have become worn and faded.

New Recreation Center

The floor will be completed soon; a water to air heat pump system is being reviewed and is due to add economical value. Having the floor completed will make the building usable especially for the Fair. Mr. Barbagallo proposed to Dr. Nolan a dedication in combination with the July 4th festivities. Dr. Nolan advised the committee the need to develop policies for the use of the new building. Such policies as building access, renting out the space, and reminded the committee that the park gates are locked at dusk.

Five Point Park Dedication

The dedication ceremony will be similar to Memorial Day. Dr. Nolan explained a podium; ribbon cutting, balloon arch will be there. Mr. Maida stated Susan Shatzel will sing the National Anthem. Mr. Hennessy spoke to Mr. Sfayer and color guard will be present. Mr. Baker will perform the introductions at the ceremony.

Mr. Stuart confirmed his attendance. Tony from Precise construction was invited; Mr. Latrenta assured teams from the Sports Foundation would be present.

Dr. Nolan has been in contact with the Police Department concerning access to Five Point Park. One afternoon the park gates were locked. This has since been resolved.

Township Hall Park Grant

The 16K Grant was received for the Fitness Trail, the Township Committee has funded the agreed to fund the balance amount of 16K with work to begin this Summer. In addition, ¼ mile markers will be placed around the trail.

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Capital Projects

An additional \$25K will be used in conjunction with the Sports Foundation to renovate the Baseball fields at Conover Road and Cedar Drive. Rebuilding two backstops at Cedar Dr. will be part of the renovation and will start in August.

Memorial Day Parade

The line of march was reviewed by the committee. Dr. Nolan will follow up with Rev. Russ of the Colts Neck Baptist church. Mrs. Laufer asked if the Veterans could be seated at the top of the horseshoe behind the Township Committee not on the side.

Mr. Hennessy reported there is a new group of Antique car owners in town which will be asked to participate.

Other Business

Mr. Hennessy stated he and Mr. Baker surprised Dr. Nolan in Atlantic City at the NJRPA award ceremony. Both witnessed Dr. Nolan accepting the Michael B. Berman Administrator of the Year award for the State of New Jersey.

Mrs. Laufer stated membership is at 285 seniors. The group will be going to NJPAC to see Chicago and lunch at The Grill. Recently, representatives spoke to the group regarding the Freehold Regional School Budget. Count Basie Theater in Red Bank has provided discounted tickets to the Artie Shaw show and others.

The Blue Claws will be providing matinee baseball games early in the season, before the hot weather occurs. Mr. Baker and Mr. Goodwin commented Mrs. Laufer for doing a good job with the Senior Group.

There being no further business; the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 3, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Byrne
Secretary