

**Colts Neck Recreation Committee
Minutes – April 1, 2009**

**COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES: April 1, 2009**

Attendees: Jim Valenti, Frank Baker, Leonor Lesta, Ed Piotrowski, Phil Maida, Rich Rehm, Candice Burke, Dwight Wolf, Judy Laufer

Absent: Joe Mancino, Paul Wild, 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 March 4, 2009

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

There was no old business, going into new business, Mr. Hennessy asked Mr. Florek to present Township items. Mr. Florek stated the water reel project at Five Point is moving forward. Monies have also been identified to proceed and close the open facets of the overhang on the Community Center building. Ms. Burke asked the status of the Township Park pond dredging project? Mr. Florek explained the costs have increased dramatically; therefore there are no plans in the immediate future to begin the pond dredging.

Status Report

Field Numbering System Mr. Hennessy showed the committee maps of all parks, displaying numbers assigned to each baseball and soccer field. The number system implemented along with an on line permit process is in place. Details on logging into the tool and viewing field assignments were sent to the Police and First Aid Departments to ensure locations in case of emergency. This process now allows for Police and First Aid to access the tool and view all permit assignments. The **Spring brochure** was revised and mailed to residents, Mr. Hennessy noted new programs. A Senior fitness program Qi Gong, will begin next week. He is. Ms. Burke commented St. Mary's Church has activities/groups for pre-school children. The Reformed Church was also mentioned as a resource. Ms. Burke asked if the Fitnastics program was successful in the past. Mr. Hennessy replied the time was not good last time, as it was too close to school dismissals and parents were unable to get their children to the program. The time has been adjusted. Mr. Hennessy stated he has been **monitoring programs** including nights and weekends. He has also implemented a **self funding policy**. Fitness Instructors are now taking more responsibility in obtaining registrants. Instructors are urging people to sign up and pay for programs prior to the start date, otherwise programs poorly attended will be cancelled.

Earth Day Clean Up Park Steward assignment sheets were distributed including Township groups assigned to clean up the specific park/preserve on the weekend of April 18 & 19. Park Stewards need not be present for the cleanup. Mr. Baker asked what times will this be going on, as he would like to attend. Others on the committee also asked how they will know the time or day. Mr. Hennessy will distribute start times and dates to the committee prior to April 18. He added there are now recyclable cans at all parks. Ms. Lesta asked if they were labeled. All cans are labeled either trash only and/or recyclables only. Mr. Maida stated Sunday, April 5 First Aid groups would be cleaning Township Hall Park. Mr. Hennessy will provide trash bags the weekend of April 18 and 19. He hopes this event will continue in the future with even more participants. Soccer fields at **Five Point Park** will be renovated along with a 90' baseball field. Donations of materials a town organization will lend to the project. The goals will be removed, sand/peat moss base, fertilizer and seed will be applied and the fields will be rested until fall. This coupled with the water reel installation will provide excellent field conditions for Fall.

He continued by showing the committee photos of the trench digging for installation of **phone lines for the community center**, and the completion of curbing around the playground equipment at **Bucks Mill Park**.

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Future Goals

- Mr. Hennessy explained he will be establishing fees or in-kind payments per a new Township ordinance for field use. Currently, there is no fee to utilize the Township's field. Ms. Laufer asked if there was an issue to why we don't charge for Parks under Green Acres? Mr. Hennessy will research any limitations.
- He is also committed to increased activities for Senior Citizens and Moms and Tots.
- Mr. Hennessy has joined the Business Association and the Colts Neck High School Principal Advisory Team. He continued by stating participating with these groups will lend to better team building and involvement between the Department of Recreation and Parks and the community.
- Paperless Environment - Barbara explained we are working with the Board of Education to eliminate paper flyers advertising our programs and special events. Approximately 2,000 flyers containing the same information as in our brochures were copied, manually bundled per number of students at each school and delivered for distribution. We are working to have a link added to the school's website for Recreation programs and special events.

He shared an article from the Asbury Park Press feature the "Keep Kids Alive 5K" road race sponsored in part by the department and the Colts Neck High School. The town's own Mark Leininger won the race.

School Bus - Mr. Hennessy found out the donated school bus would only need to be painted below the windows. He will be contacting local Vocational Schools (with paint shops) that may be willing to paint the bus. The cost estimate to paint the entire bus was \$2,000.

Miscellaneous

Ms. Burke noted on our Program Registration form we ask for email addresses, are they being input into a database? Mr. Hennessy asked Barbara to explain, she stated the email addresses collected are used primarily by the Instructors to contact registrants in case of class cancellations. Ms. Laufer stated she has several revisions for the Master Plan and would like to meet with Mr. Hennessy to review them. Mr. Valenti received from Monmouth County information on Achievements Award dinner on May 29. He asked the committee for input on recognizing someone to nominate for the award.

Ms. Burke asked for status on the Schlesinger Bridge? Mr. Hennessy said it would probably be summer when the bridge would be installed.

Memorial Day Parade

The 2009 Line of March for the Memorial Day Parade was reviewed; Ms. Laufer stated the Barbershop Quartet will be involved with the parade this year.

Memorial Day Banner - Ms. Burke advised the cost for a banner advertising the Memorial Day Parade has increased from \$350 to \$1,200. The committee agreed due to the cost not to purchase a parade banner. Mr. Hennessy will ask the High School to post the parade information on their school board along Rt. 537.

With no other matters to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Byrne, Secretary