

**COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES: June 6, 2007**

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

Absent: Bruce Bennett, Dwight Wolf

Township Liaison: Tom Hennessy

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

The Committee approved the minutes from May 2, 2007.

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

### **Jim Day Swing Band Presentation**

Jim Day presented an overview of the Colts Neck Swing Band. The purpose of the presentation was to thank the committee for their many years of support. The Swing Band started in 2004 and continues to grow in terms of their performances. They have eleven shows for 2007 scheduled to date, many shows include the area's Assisted Living facilities. They will be playing at the July 4th fireworks event and a separate concert on July 12 at Township Hall. Jim also explained he will be relocating out of the area and is searching for a new coordinator for the band

### **Spring Programs**

Dr. Nolan provided status of the Spring programs which are running for another couple of weeks. Softball Leagues continue for the Men with the Women's league being on Sundays June 10. The 29th Jr. Olympic Track meet was held and Mr. Hennessy shared the many photos of the event from the Colts Neck Calendar. May 6 was the date for the 13th Annual Colts Neck Bicycle Classic with world class riders. Doug Mitchell in conjunction with our Department runs the event. The 43rd Memorial Day parade was wonderful! The weather cooperated and it was a very nice ceremony all around. Mr. Valenti asked for feedback on the parade. Ms. Lesta stated there seemed to be some confusion regarding the flag distribution. Ms. Laufer suggested next year a pet contest, as there seemed to be many pets at the event. A suggestion was made to advise children when the face painter's time is completed prior to the exact time. Some children waited in line and found it was too late to have their faces painted. Ms. Laufer explained the town lost six Veteran's last year. Many would prefer not to actively participate in the parade. Mr. Valente stated perhaps next year's attendance we can improve attendance with invitations to all Veteran's in town. Mr. Valenti stated how great the parade was and it's one of the best events in Colts Neck. He continued, stating we need to advertise and improve on getting more spectators. Mr. Valenti introduced a new item, using email mailings to target groups for such events. Dr. Nolan will seek the support of R2D2, as they are retained with our department for such tasks. In addition, we do receive a lot of hits on our website which is updated and includes the latest events on the front page of the site. Another suggestion was to place banners up in town to advertise special events.

### **Summer Programs**

Summer instructional programs and day camps will be starting in the next two weeks, Dr. Nolan reported. He went on to add the cost of the camps has been increased - one child \$310.00, 2nd child \$295, third child \$280. Dr. Nolan advised the committee that currently camp counselors are not paid minimum wage. Townships are not required to pay minimum wage, however, this season parents and applicants are questioning the salary. Basically, without offering a competitive salary staffing will become difficult, therefore Dr. Nolan will be adjusting the budget according for 2008. Ms. Lesta suggested offering the counselors free instructional classes as a perk of employment. Dr. Nolan continued by stating the many Sports Camps we have advertised in our brochure. These camps are a very lucrative opportunity for our department and it works out well for all involved parties. The 29th Annual Fishing Derby will take place on July 10, flyers will be distributed at the day camps.

### **Park Maintenance and Operations**

May - June are busy months for the Parks Department, along with the Capital projects, Dr. Nolan explained. A full dedicated crew will lime fields every Friday. Permits are out for every field from 9 a.m. - dusk 7 days a week. Most

**Colts Neck Recreation Committee  
Minutes – June 6, 2007**

are used by the Sports Foundation but also include out of town soccer leagues, and lacrosse teams. During August, field use will slow down and we'll start preparing the fields for soccer.

Ms. Burke noticed trees had fallen and some needed pruning at the Freer Preserve. Dr. Nolan responded, once the summer crew is in place tree pruning and other maintenance will be done throughout the Township.

Fields are maintained weekly, the telephone pole at Five Point Park will be completed to provide lighting on the flag pole. Another nice Eagle Scout project is underway at Bucks Mill Park, a kiosk similar to the ones found at the County Parks. A pre-fab bridge will be installed at Schlesinger Preserve. The Recreation and Parks Administrative building will be receiving replacement windows and siding in late summer, and the Laird Road baseball fields will be worked on this summer as part of the Capital projects.

Mr. Maida asked about digging out the kiosk at Bucks Mill? Dr. Nolan explained he advised the area be marked and 1-900 DIG be involved prior to the project actually starting.

Ms. Laufer reported that 90 attendees attended the last Senior Citizen's meeting. Many trips and activities are planned for the summer months. Luncheons are replacing picnics due to the upcoming hot weather months.

Mr. Valenti reminded the committee as in last month's meeting the plan to implement Township stakeholders into the committee's meeting agendas. All felt this was a good idea. This will begin at the July 11th meeting with a representative from Pop Warner.

Due to the July 4th holiday, the next meeting will be held on July 11 at the Library (Township Committee has Township Hall)

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Byrne, Secretary