

COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES: July 11, 2007

Attendees: Dr. Harold Nolan, Frank Baker, Candice Burke, Jim Valenti, Leonor Lesta, Dwight Wolf

Absent: Bruce Bennett, Richard Rehm, Philip Maida, A.J. Garito, Ed Piotrowski, Joe Mancino

Township Liaison Absent: Tom Hennessy

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

The Committee approved the minutes from June 6, 2007.

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

Dr. Nolan introduced Mike Moore who is a summer intern with the Recreation and Parks Department. Mike participated in Student Government Day 2 years ago with Dr. Nolan and is now majoring in the field at Penn State. He will be acting as a supervisor and observing the many programs throughout the Department.

Old Business

Summer Programs

Day Camps are underway with approximately 350 participants, a slight decline from last year. Dr. Nolan advised the trend in the schools is also reflected in our programs in that the older grades have more participants than the younger grades. A trip was scheduled for the Liberty Science Center, however it was postponed due to construction issues. The new date is July 16, Dr. Nolan reported because of the rescheduling the Center will waive the fee for the children and only charge for the camp staff. A significant savings for the department.

Sports Camps are very successful again this year, we have 2 football camps, Lacrosse, Baseball, Soccer, and Basketball all are conducted at the Colts Neck High School.

Instruction Programs - all well attended, Fencing was cancelled due to lack of enrollment. Youth Tennis will begin in August after the day camps are completed.

The annual Fishing Derby will be held Saturday, July 14; Tom Hennessy will be in charge of the event. The ponds are not stocked due to the dredging mandate which may take place in 2008. However, Dr. Nolan reported last year participants caught on average 25 fish each. A new Wreath Workshop was held this past Tuesday; Barbara Byrne coordinated the event which was limited to 15, with the total participants being 17. With its success, workshops each season will be scheduled in conjunction with the Mulberry Market. The July 4th fireworks did go off on the 4th despite the questionable weather. Dr. Nolan is meeting with the company next week, as the show was short by about 5 minutes. Fire Marshall Bob Zander has a count of those fireworks that were not utilized. Tomorrow night is our free Swing Band Concert at Town Hall.

Park Maintenance and Operations

Basic grass cutting and liming are being done, repairing the bridge at Big Brook, additional dirt at the Cedar Drive field have been completed. In addition to big items, such as setting up for the July 4th event and for the Swing Band Concert tomorrow night. We have received a donation for the equipment to provide air conditioning at the Community Center, Dr. Nolan stated. The only cost for us will be the labor. The department approved \$1,400 worth of materials for Mark Leininger's Eagle Scout Project. He will be building a kiosk at Bucks Mill Park. Ms. Burke asked for a delay in the project until after the fair in August. Reason being, fire safety access concerns. The committee agreed the project should go as scheduled and the trees on the side of the building should be transplanted to free up access and resolve safety concerns. Capital Projects - work is underway for the renovation of the Recreation Building, and the two baseball fields at Laird Road. Mr. Valenti asked about the 90' field at Bucks Mill? Dr. Nolan stated it's scheduled for reconstruction in the fall. However, many smaller projects are not being done due to staff issues. Dr. Nolan reminded the committee he requested a summer supervisor who would be in charge of the weeding, and maintaining the fields and parks. He recently spoke to Mr. Bowden about contracting a part time outside person to tend to these smaller projects. Mr. Wolf asked if trees were planted on the north entrance to Big Brook by the boy scouts? To Dr. Nolan's knowledge, this was not done.

New Business

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Our department will be working on the Recreation and Park Master Plan we did receive a small amount of funding for the project, however, the project will be added to our department responsibilities. Dr. Nolan explained in the past when surveys were sent to every other residence as part of the master plan, all suggestions that were implemented were very successful. Discussion continued about the Shuffleboard Courts, Ms. Burke asked if anyone used them? Not in a while, the equipment is located at our Administration building. Ms. Lesta asked about Bocce? Perhaps the seniors would like to get involved and construct a bocce court? A question came up about advertising the art show, Joe Villa will be working on that, this event just came about this week. It will be advertised in our fall brochure and website which will be out in mid August.

Upcoming events, the 29th Annual 10K Road Race, 16th Annual Whispering Pines Art Contest will begin in September and new this year is a free Art Show at the Community Center on September 23.

As in the past, all agreed to suspend the August meeting.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m. The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, September 5, 2007 at 8:00 p.m. at Township Hall.**

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Byrne, Secretary