

COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES AUGUST 6, 2003

Present: Dr. Harold Nolan, Frank Baker, Bruce Bennett, Leonor Lesta, Philip Maida

Absent: A. J. Garito, Richard Rehm, Dwight Wolf, Edward Piotrowski Arthur Goodwin

Liaison Present: Thomas E. Hennessy, Jr., Township Committee

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Frank Baker at 8:10 p.m. The Sunshine Statement was read and the minutes of the July 2nd meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: In the Recreation operating budget \$84,888.23 has been disbursed, \$49,387.93 has been encumbered, leaving available \$36,553.84 and in the Park & Playground budget \$14,764.85 has been disbursed, \$0.00 is encumbered, leaving available \$19,985.15.

Old Business: Dr. Nolan reported that the Day Camps are in the last week. Today everyone went roller skating and tomorrow there will be a talent show for the last day for campers. Friday is a cleanup day for the counselors. It was a very good year and we had a little over 400 children registered.

Most of the summer instructional programs have either ended or are about to end. Next week the youth tennis instruction will begin. We have over thirty children registered.

The Men's Softball League has been running very smoothly. Newt Hausmann has taken over its supervision and it has worked out very well.

Everyone seemed pleased with the July 4th Fireworks show. It lasted for about forty minutes. However, the eight inch shells were not shot. Dr. Nolan said we will be getting an adjustment on the price.

The Fishing Derby was a huge success. It was a beautiful day and there were over sixty children that participated. A photo of the event is on the front page of the August Colts Neck Calendar.

Dr. Nolan reported that the July outdoor concert was excellent. However, there was a low turnout of spectators. We are thinking of canceling the August concert, as the cost may not be worth it for only about forty people.

The football camp run by Coach McArthur at the High School was extremely successful. It has grown from about thirty participants a few years ago to over eighty this year. Soccer coach Art Collier asked us to sponsor his soccer camp this year. It too was also successful with about thirty five registrations. At the last minute we were asked to sponsor a basketball camp. Since they had already collected over twenty thousand dollars in registrations, and we had not budgeted for such an amount, Dr. Nolan asked that we be sent 10% and a list of all the registrations. Next year we need to make some kind of a special arrangement to collect and disperse fees as it would be an added twenty to thirty thousand dollars to our budget, that would probably not approved.

Dr. Nolan reported that park maintenance is progressing but we have not gotten as much done as we would like due to the rainy weather.

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Plans are being made for maintenance at the Conover Road baseball fields. We will be correcting the erosion problems, putting up a backstop and fencing, and the bleachers will be painted.

Plans for the Fall Festival Parade were discussed by the Committee. The parade will be on Sunday, October 19th. It will begin at Town Hall and proceed up Cedar Drive to Bucks Mill Park where tractors and classic automobiles will be displayed and refreshment will be served. Dr. Nolan provided a preliminary order of march which included the police, first aid and fire departments, High School ROTC, Township Committee, a clown, Trail Riders Club, DJ music, high school band and Halloween costume participants. Mr. Maida reported that he has arranged for a bagpipe band. Also suggested was pumpkin carving, face painting and food vendors with affordable prices.

New Business:

The 25th Annual 10K Race is scheduled for Sunday, September 14th and the 11th Annual Whispering Pines Art Contest for the month of October.

Preliminary approval has been given for the "Bucks Meeting House" project. This is being sponsored and paid for 100% by the Colts Neck Boy Scouts. It will be a building in place of the old Fair Office for storage and for meetings. Their first fund raiser will be a raffle at the Colts Neck Fair this month.

Due to increased field usage needs of soccer and Pop Warner Football, we have given permits to these groups. Soccer will be using the Bucks Mill baseball fields, Cedar Drive baseball fields, lower field and track field, while football will have the Cedar Drive upper field, Bucks Mill Park fair area and polo field. The parking at Bucks Mill will also be limited to the right side for football participants and the left side for soccer participants.

The Conover Road Tennis courts that were removed for the building of the primary school will be replaced by the Board of Education sometime in the near future. We need to decide if we want them built at Conover Road or at another location, based upon future park need.

Plans for Five Points Park were delivered today from the Township Engineer and were on the meeting table. Dr. Nolan said there is still a problem of a slight slope at the end of the soccer fields toward Rt. 537. Mr. Jim Valenti, President of the Sports Foundation, who was present at the meeting, said he will be calling a meeting for the Sports Foundation to look at the plans. He said they will be willing to do what they can as far as contributions toward the construction of the park. He also reported that the Sports Foundation is contributing \$1,000.00 toward the video for the Gold Medal Award.

Dr. Nolan reported that we are finished collecting the donations for the video. He thanked Mr. Bruce Bennett for soliciting many of the donations. The production company is completing the final version of the video with a lead in and a list of the sponsors at the end. We may want to market this video in the future to Realtors and other interested parties. It was suggested that orders could be taken at the Fall Festival and marketed as holiday gifts.

Mrs. Judy Laufer, President of the Colts Neck Senior Citizens was present at the meeting and reported that the club had a picnic today with 89 participants. They have also collected a large amount of "Trash & Treasures" for the Colts Neck Fair and have already sold \$700.00 worth of these items. Next week they will be taking an overnight trip to Lancaster, PA. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, September 3, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Houlihan
Secretary