

COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES: September 6, 2006

Attendees: Frank Baker, Ed Piotrowski, Dr. Harold Nolan, Rich Rehm, Jim Valenti, Phil Maida, Bruce Bennett, Art Goodwin, Joe Mancino, Leonar Lesta, Dwight Wolf

Absent: A.J. Garito

Township Liaison Absent: Tom Hennessy

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Frank Baker at 8:05 p.m.

Summer Programs

Day Camps

Dr. Nolan provided an update of the Summer programs, Day Camps had approximately 450 children this year. The whole program ran very smoothly up until the last week. An incident occurred at the overnight camping trip at Allaire State Park. An Assistant Supervisor provided alcohol to other counselors which resulted in the termination of that Assistant Supervisor and another Supervisor. In addition, two counselors involved were also terminated. Four other counselors remained on probation for the last few days of camp, and will in all likelihood not be hired back next year. In all of the 28 years conducting this overnight camp out, nothing like this had ever occurred. Mrs. Lesta asked if alcohol is mentioned in the contract counselor's sign? Dr. Nolan stated yes, verbiage is not only documented on the contract each employee signs, but reinforced by him at the orientation and all of the Senior Supervisors throughout the Summer, and is specified in the Day Camp Manual..

Sports Camps

Football Conditioning Camp had more than 90 registrants, Basketball, Soccer and Girls Lacrosse camps also went well. Dr. Nolan reported, these programs bring additional revenue for Recreation and Parks, as we partner with these camps each Summer.

Instructional Programs

All programs went well this Summer, no issues reported.

Fishing Derby

The Colts Neck Journal had a nice article about this event. Dr. Nolan stated that 97 fish were caught from the ponds at Township Hall. Approximately 60-70 children participated, Mr. Hennessy was also involved the entire day. The biggest fish was 32" in length.

July 4th Fireworks

Most people in attendance agreed the program was great, per Dr. Nolan. The program was a bit shorter than last year, and Dr. Nolan thought a few fireworks did not go off, resulting in a slightly shortened program. The vendors have provided their contributions to the department for participating at the event.

Summer Concert

Dr. Nolan stated this year's concert came with a big promotion campaign. Jim Day and his band did a terrific job, however the raining weather reduced the number of spectators.

Band Camp

The Department co-sponsored with the Community Band a Youth Band camp this year, with 40 registrants. The camp was four days long ending with a concert for the parents/friends.

Fall Recreation Programs

28th Annual 10K

This Sunday, September 10 is the 28th annual 10K Road Race. Dr. Nolan is expecting approximately 200 runners. Delicious Orchards and Buy Rite Liquors of Colts Neck are providing refreshments. Dr. Faistle, M.D. returns as a sponsor. Dr. Nolan mentioned he has been with the event for 28 years. This year a new

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sponsor joined Justin Bennett of Northeast Planning made a contribution. Mr. Maida stated first aid will be in attendance at the event.

Instructional Programs

Yoga	Adult Golf
Mixed Cardio	Step
Yogalaties	Mat Pilates (M,W, F)
Latco Latin Dance	Fencing
Adult Volleyball	Youth Karate

Mr. Baker asked if Latco was a new class? Dr. Nolan stated we've had Latco in previous years. The instructor unfortunately will not be available this session and we will have a replacement teach the class.

Special Events

Dan Petrillo will again be sponsoring the Whispering Pines Art Contest this year.

The Veteran's Day celebration will take place on Saturday, November 11 at 11 a.m. at Township Hall.

Mrs. Laufer stated the seniors would appreciate being seated on the library side not the Town Hall side for the Veteran's Day celebration. She also commented the Women's Club will sponsor a luncheon for the Veteran's after the ceremony.

Our traditional Halloween Party will be held on October 28 and a Fall Band Concert will also be occurring, the date to be announced.

Mr. Baker asked what dates the Craft Show will be at Bucks Mill Park? Dr. Nolan reported September 30 and October 1, and reminded the committee there is a very strict one year contract with Cottage Crafts. If there are no issues this year, a multiple year contract may be offered. Mr. Bennett asked how the fee was determined for Cottage Crafts to use Bucks Mill? Dr. Nolan took a sampling of past fees Cottage Crafts had paid other venues. It cost 8,000 for example, to rent the PNC Bank Arts Center. The Township Committee decided to ask \$10,000.00, and Cottage Crafts agreed. Part of that money is used towards a bond in the event of damages. Dr. Nolan explained everyone who rents our facilities for large parties pay a maintenance fee in the event of damages prior to using the facility.

Park Development & Maintenance

The new recreation building is 98% completed, heat and air conditioning have not been installed. Mr. Barbagallo will be raising the necessary monies for the projects. Dr. Nolan has communicated to Mr. Barbagallo he has negotiated some monies from the Town to assist with the cost if necessary. Mrs. Laufer stated the building was very comfortable during the fair in terms of temperature. As of today, Dr. Nolan is awaiting for a Certification of Occupancy, which he expects to receive later this week.

He reported receiving many telephone calls to use the building from Halloween parties to family reunions. The committee will need to discuss such use items as which type of organizations and groups will have use of the building, the fee structure, the acceptable types of use, etc. Mr. Valenti asked what is in the building, tables/chairs? Dr. Nolan stated an administrative office, eventually there will be tables and chairs. Our Karate Instructor will be holding his program there and possibly our Winter gymnastics too. Dr. Nolan stated that a part time position will need to be budgeted to be on premise for events/use and monitor the activities. Mr. Rehm asked who will be cleaning the building? To date, our Public Works staff will assume that responsibility, Dr. Nolan replied. Mr. Valenti asked about alcohol and parties held at the facility? Dr. Nolan explained all permits for alcohol goes through the Township Committee, not Recreation and Parks. Mrs. Laufer mentioned the Senior Club is planning to purchase new tables, the older ones may be good to use for the new building? Mrs. Lesta suggested waiting for a year or 6 months before allowing private groups to use the building. This would give the committee a chance to see how it's being utilized for an extended time period.

All agreed there needs to be more discussion related to the building.

Mr. Piotrowski asked if Dr. Nolan saw the article he provided regarding Skateboard Parks? He stated to the committee if a person signs a waiver, the Town could still be liable. Dr. Nolan explained signed releases are used to advise a person is participating in an activity freely. The liability in most cases, is in question in terms of how well the facility was designed and programs conducted. Dr. Nolan advised the committee the

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skateboard group will be raising money for the effort. It's basically a Township Committee decision as to the future of such a facility.

Fit Trail Course Replacement

Three bids were sent out for the project, Dr. Nolan reported. State laws ask for disclosure forms from vendors for projects over \$18,000. The documents have been passed to the Controller. December 1 is the target date for completion of the project.

Eagle Scout Projects

The Blind Garden behind the Library is complete. A lot of time was spent in completing this project which resulted in a very nice garden.

The flagpole at Five Point Park is up, JCP&L is arranged for a telephone pole to provide electricity for lighting on the flag.

Mrs. Laufer commented the scout who provided the flowers at the new Community Center did a great job.

Cedar Dr/Conover Rd. Baseball Field Renovations

Dr. Nolan stated one of the unsung heroes of the Township is Billy Cromer of our Public Works Department. He spent 2 weeks redesigning the fields and did a fantastic job, he is also a mason and will be working on the cement slabs for the bleachers. A.J. Garito also volunteered his time to conduct all of the design and survey work.

All the work at the field is scheduled to be completed by the end of September in partnership with the Sports Foundation for the cost and work.

Conover Rd. Playground

The playground facility has been removed, funds are being raised to replace the facility.

Tennis Court Activity

There remains discussion between the Township and the Board of Education regarding two replacement Tennis Courts at the Conover Road School Park. Dr. Nolan also indicated that he is working on a Monmouth County Open Space Grant to construct two new Tennis Courts at the Cedar Drive Park Tennis Center.

General Park Maintenance

Dr. Nolan reported the Parks have been very busy - setting up for the Fair, soccer fields, and meetings with the Sports Foundation Soccer club. Saturday is opening day for Soccer Season, the Township Committee and the Mayor will be in attendance. In October the fields will be seeded and fertilized. The Sports Foundation is doing a great job with the two front fields at Laird Rd. The soccer fields at Five Point Park will be used for traveling soccer, the Cedar Dr. Fields will be used for Recreation soccer, Bucks Mill will be a combination for travel and recreation with one field dedicated to outside groups.

Mr. Wolf asked about out of town groups using Five Point Park? Joe Neidermeyer of the Sports Foundation has requested that those fields will be used by the Traveling Soccer teams. There is no guarantee the parks will not be used by non residents. The fact remains they are public parks. A permit will guarantee use of the field for that time period reflected on the requested permit.

Senior Citizen Club

Mrs. Laufer reported the club as 301 members. 9 of 11 trips are scheduled. They collected \$2,300 at the Fair with selling items they collected. Mrs. Lesta said Mrs. Laufer should be commended for the hard work during the Fair. Mrs. Laufer suggested building bocce courts over the septic near the new building. Reason being someone drove over the pipes with their car during the Fair. If the bocce courts were there it may prevent someone from driving over that area again.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 4, 2006 at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Barbara Byrne
Secretary