

COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES: October 1, 2008

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

Township Liaison Present: Tom Hennessy

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

The Committee approved the minutes from September 3, 2008.

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

Old Business

I. Fall Programs Update

Our 30th Annual 10K was perfect, Dr. Nolan stated over 180 runners participated; the weather was great on race day. Special plaques were presented to the sponsors including Dr. Faistl (30 year sponsor), Bill McDonald of Delicious Orchards, Joe Danik of Buy Rite. Phil and Penny Hinch members of the Jersey Shore Running Club also received a plaque for their support for coordinating the results for the past few years. We also had a new sponsor this year Road Runner Sports of Shrewsbury. As a sponsor, they provided a monetary donation. Dr. Nolan explained that money was given to the Sports Foundation and earmarked toward a special "irrigation" account. To date, our Department has arranged for approximately \$4,000 in donation monies to fund irrigation at the sports fields. Instructional Programs – most programs are doing very well, Yagalaties is a bit down in terms of enrollment, the NIA program has added weekend offerings and is very popular. Ms. Lesta noted Meredith Amato, Nia Instructor is wonderful! Cougar Invitation Cross Country Meet was held September 26 at Bucks Mill Park. The event hosts high schools across New Jersey, a District Cross country event will be held on October 18 at Bucks Mill. Star Gazing Workshop – Dr. Nolan reported this program went very well, we had big numbers and the workshop hit our maximum of 20 people. October 4 and 5 Bucks Mill will host the Arts and Crafts Fair. Dr. Nolan reminded the Committee we receive \$11,000 for use of Bucks Mill from this event.

II. October and November Programs

Next week our Whispering Pines Art Contest begins, last year the entries were low, we're hoping to have more participation this year after advertising in a special Fall flyer to the schools. October 25 is our free Children's Halloween Costume Party, we get a nice turnout every year. We are also repackaging our second session of Karate by adjusting the cost. Dr. Nolan explained the economy is impacting programs, with an adjustment and re-marketing the program we plan on receiving more participants. Veteran's Day Ceremony will take place at Cedar Drive School. Dr. Nolan as confirmed that the light lunch will be supplied by the Women's Club, he has left a message for the Principal of Cedar Drive to discuss the plans for the day. Letters will also be sent out by the Department prior to the event from an expanded list provided by Judy Laufer to Veteran's inviting them to attend the ceremony. Our Community Band will have a free concert on October 30 at Colts Neck High School. Mr. Hennessey asked for Dr. Nolan to be present at the concert, his support through the years is appreciated. The Community Band would like to honor Dr. Nolan at the concert. Recreation and Parks is also supporting a Fencing Tournament on October 25 and 26, the tournament is run by our Fencing Instructor of Atlantic Fencing and will be held at the Primary School.

III. Park Operations

Colts Neck Recreation Committee Minutes – October 1, 2008

The resurfacing of the Cedar Drive Tennis Courts is complete, Dr. Nolan reported. And they look great! The courts were resurfaced, new lines painted and nets replaced. We also had a remainder of monies for which we were able to have the same company repair the basketball courts at Cedar Drive. We have sent a contract to Garden State Roofing and Construction to complete our replacement windows and siding at Recreation and Parks Building at 14 Heyers Mill Rd. Unfortunately the previous vendor was unreachable after several telephone calls and mail correspondence. Dr. Nolan sent a letter stating we have voided their contract and also notified the Better Business Bureau of their breach in the signed contract. Five Point Electricity installation of 2 functioning wells at Five Point one at the soccer field the other at the baseball field are complete. Another electrical pole was installed and will be able to accommodate expanded electrical function for future use. Both in place for future irrigation at those fields. Laird Road playground equipment is in the works, Dr. Nolan explained the installation is an additional cost from the prices of the products which he has obtained. This project should be completed in the next few months. Ms. Burke asked of the possibility of playground equipment for Bucks Mill? Dr. Nolan explained depending what type of equipment he purchases for Laird Rd. he may have the money for some playground equipment at Bucks Mill too. Septic System at Laird Road Park – Mr. Garito is volunteering time as an engineer to provide plans for a septic system at Laird Road. The Sports Foundation has plans for bathrooms and a formal snack building with offices. Ms. Burke asked about status on the Schlesinger Bridge? Dr. Nolan replied this project is on the “back burner” as the purchase of the bridge is not an issue but how to place the bridge at the sight is a concern. He has spoken to Mr. Thompson of Public Works in terms of machinery to move the bridge but no firm plans are in place. Dr. Nolan will be attending the National Recreation and Park conference in Maryland this month and will look for possible solutions at the conference.

New Business

I. 2009 Budgets - Recreation and Parks and Playground Operation Budgets – Dr. Nolan will provide budget information for 2009 to the Committee at our November meeting along with his recommendations. He will also provide recommendations for the 2009-2011 Capital Budget.

II. Park Division Full Time Staff – Dr. Nolan stressed again the need for a Parks Foreman, he mentioned Holmdel recently was granted a separate Parks Foreman and staff to the Recreation and Parks Department. He continued that the park system of the Township has grown significantly since 1980 and we now have major areas in need of work and maintenance. Mr. Pitrowski commented Colts Neck does not have the “rateables” to offset taxes that Holmdel has. Mr. Valenti offered an idea for a standalone budget for parks where monies received by Recreation would not enter into the “general funds” but to a standalone budget. Perhaps this would assist in funding a Park Foreman position? Mr. Hennessey stated it has been a difficult struggle with the Township Committee to move forward with a Park Foreman position.

Senior News

Ms. Laufer advised the Senior Club is going strong with several trips and activities planned. They will be electing a new Officers before the end of the year. She will no longer be serving as President. Mr. Hennessey provided a summary of his attendance at the National Park Program in Oregon. Mr. Hennessey also wanted to advise the committee of Pop Warner’s concerns in lack of field space. The Pop Warner organization is seeking land for practice and hosting activities on weekends in the Township.

Mr. Valenti added as an informational item – that Marlboro has a dog park, it’s a fenced in area that seems to have a lot of use by families and pets.

**Colts Neck Recreation Committee
Minutes – October 1, 2008**

With no other matters to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 5, 2008 at 8:00 pm. at Township Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Byrne, Secretary