

**Colts Neck Recreation Committee  
Minutes – November 4, 2009**

**COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE  
MINUTES: November 4, 2009**

Attendees: Frank Baker, Joe Mancino, Ed Piotrowski, Rich Rehm, Jim Valenti, Paul Wild

Absent: Phil Maida, Candice Burke, A.J. Garito, Dwight Wolf, Leonor Lesta

Township Liaison: Ken Florek

Also in Attendance: Judy Laufer

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Jim Valenti at 7:30 p.m.

The Committee agreed to carry the approval of the October minutes to the December meeting.

The Treasurer's Report was read.

**Special Announcement**

Mr. Valenti shared with the committee a town wide effort to dispose of unused and expired medicine. On Saturday, November 14 between 10 am and 2 pm residents can bring their unused and expired medicine to Police Headquarters.

**Old Business**

Barbara shared her experience at the NJ Recreation and Parks OPRA (Open Public Records Act) Workshop. She explained residents may complete an OPRA form requesting public documents. To date, there have been no requests for Recreation information. The workshop was beneficial in discussing sharing children's information, file maintenance and retention. The workshop was attended by both County and Municipal Recreation and Park employees.

**Fall Programs**

Mr. Hennessy stated the Whispering Pines Art Contest is underway, judging was completed today. Paintings will be on display at the Library between November 9 and November 20. An Award ceremony will be held at 3:30 pm on Thursday November 19. Phil Maida will be providing the monetary adult awards and presenting plaques to the youth winners on behalf of Whispering Pines.

Mr. Hennessy continued with Veteran's Day plans for November 11 at 11 am at Cedar Drive School. Mr. Goodwin, Col. Sfayer and Major Penczak from Colts Neck High School will all be in attendance.

Our Tree Lighting and Concert is set for December 6, Mr. Hennessy is asking for assistance from committee members. In past years the concert was provided by the Navesink Brass Band, this year the brass ensemble of the Colts Neck Community Band will be providing holiday music. A brief concert will be held in the Court House as in the past with the band then continuing outdoors for Santa's arrival. This musical entertainment will also keep costs down, because we won't be paying a fee this year. Both Adult and Youth Holiday Craft Workshops are set for December. And the Letters to Santa will begin November 28 until December 20.

The Colts Neck Community Band held their fall concert on October 29, attendance seemed lower than expected mainly due to the World Series conflict.

The budget for 2009 has been frozen as of November 1. Mr. Hennessy stated he expected this to happen mid November. He has placed a call to John Antonides regarding potential purchases for Recreation and Parks.

Eight mirrors have been installed at 14 Heyers Mill Rd. creating a more professional studio atmosphere for fitness programs. Mr. Hennessy has also consulted a decorator for free advice related to work necessary to continue with creating a professional look to the building. The Department of Public Works will assist during the winter months with the work.

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**Park Project Updates** – Eagle Scout Project at Freer Preserve is becoming closer to completion, soon there will be new benches and trails. Mr. Rehm commented of a large hole in the parking lot. Mr. Hennessy also asked for input from the Park Stewards. Mr. Wild mentioned he has uncovered old sports equipment found in the woods behind Conover Road School. There were no other comments regarding the Parks. Seed and Fertilizer have been applied to all parks and a lime application to Five Point. The Trump organization offered to repair (dress) a small portion of ground at the southeast field at Five Point Park. Mr. Hennessy will be going out for bids for the Schlesinger Bridge project with a target completion date of August 2010. It will be completed by an Eagle Scout. Mr. Hennessy asked for engineering volunteers to assist with the project. Mr. Valenti offered his help. The Colts Neck Arts and Crafts Fair was great, it did rain and the attendance was lower than anticipated. Mr. Hennessy reported we did receive our use fee from Woodwill Corporation. The group is looking forward to next years' fair.

**Bucks Mill Park Activities** – Mr. Hennessy shared the following, the past few weeks Freehold High School, Monmouth County Middle School, Invitational Junior Varsity Track Meet, Shore Conference Cross Country Track Meet all took place at Bucks Mill Park. He did attend all of the meets. He explained Monmouth County has increased its rules on using the parks, prompting schools to contact Colts Neck for use of Bucks Mill Park. November 7 (rain date November 14) the Ashley Lauren Foundation is due to have a charity event at Bucks Mill. Initially expecting 100 people, currently they are anticipating 300 or more. Mr. Piotrowski asked where will everyone park? Mr. Hennessy stated he has experience with the parking from all of the track meets. He plans to tape off and/or use the north side where the pine trees are located. He does not want anyone on the areas where seed has been applied. Mr. Valenti asked are the permit fees for use of the park? Mr. Florek asked if the Foundation has submitted insurance. He also asked if each track meet submitted a fee. Mr. Hennessy replied he does not have the right to ask for a fee from non-profit groups, without a Township Ordinance. He will ask the Foundation for insurance documents tomorrow. And he plans to charge \$600 for all future track meets using a park in Colts Neck. Mr. Hennessy has future meetings with his peers to assist in determining the fee scale for Colts Neck parks and facilities. He will submit a fee proposal to the Township Committee. Mr. Florek reminded Mr. Hennessy the more revenue generated by the department increases the likelihood of receiving more money towards next years budget.

**New Business** – Mr. Hennessy introduced a New Attendance Policy for committee members. If you are unable to attend a meeting please call him by noon the day of the meeting. Mr. Baker commented the committee always requested members to call if they were unable to attend a meeting. Mr. Hennessy stated this was a formal policy and asked if they needed to vote as part of an addition to the Rules and Regulations. He then thanked the committee for their cooperation. Mr. Hennessy will be meeting with Mr. Bowden and Mr. Antonides in planning the Recreation and Parks budget for 2010 and plans to put much effort into a realistic budget for next year. Mr. Valenti asked if there were any questions for Mr. Hennessy? There were none. Mr. Florek reported a good election turnout, and the Township Committee will be welcoming Mr. Fitzgerald as the new member of the Township committee in January. Mrs. Laufer reported 100 Seniors attended the meeting today, with 265-275 members in the Senior Club, this month there will be a trip to Atlantic City.

With no other matters to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Byrne, Secretary