

**COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES: December 5, 2007**

Attendees: Rich Rehm, Dwight Wolf, Jim Valenti, Leonor Lesta, Candice Burke, Dr. Nolan

Absent: Frank Baker, Bruce Bennett, A.J. Garrito, Joe Mancino, Phil Maida, Ed Piotrowski

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 November 7, 2007

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

**Boy Scout Storage Shed at Bucks Mill Park**

Clive Lay from the Boy Scouts presented a plan for a shed to be erected at Bucks Mill Park. Dr. Nolan explained one of the intents of the Community Center was to provide storage for the Boy Scouts, when that didn't seem feasible it was decided a storage facility could be put on Bucks Mill property, however, it would need to be one that is free standing and movable. Mr. Lay provided the committee with the documentation of a possible shed structure which would be placed on a gravel base. Ms. Burke asked if there was storage available at the block building. Dr. Nolan explained the block building houses all of our summer day camp equipment including a canoe. In the winter Public Works stores their summer tractors and equipment in the block building too. Mr. Wolff made a motion to approve the ready made shed be erected at Bucks Mill, Mr. Valenti seconded the motion. Mr. Lay will meet with Dr. Nolan to discuss having the shed installed.

**Fall Programs**

At this point of the year, most of our Fall programs are winding down. The only class we cancelled was Zumba due to issues with the Instructor. We may bring it back in the Spring. Dr. Nolan continued, the Whispering Pines Art Contest was held and Tuesday we had a photo shoot with the winners. The entries were low, but the quality of the paintings were excellent. Next year we may expand the contest to include the schools (including the high school).

**Veteran's Day**

The day was well attended, Mayor Stuart did a great job in honoring the Veterans. Thank you to Judy Laufer for her coordination and caring for the Veteran's in town. Judy stated next year the event will likely return to Cedar Drive School and requested the ceremony be held indoors.

**Holiday Festival Programs**

Tree Lighting Dr. Nolan explained the weather played a bit of havoc with the event. But Santa arrived outdoors as planned; given the weather the event was well attended. Because of the weather earlier in the afternoon, the number of attendees were down a bit for the Holiday concert, however the tree lighting and Santa were successful.

Children's Holiday Craft Workshop is this Saturday, is the workshop at Cedar Drive School, the Adult Holiday Craft Workshop was held last night, we limited attendees for the Adult workshop to 15, and we had 19 enroll. Barbara supervised the event at our building on Heyers Mill Rd. The Santa Letter program is underway; mailboxes are set at the Post Office and Town Hall.

**Park Project Update**

The Laird Road project is moving along and is 90% complete. The backstops are up and the old fencing will be removed. Dr. Nolan explained that Whirl construction may be erecting the new bleachers with the entire project to be completed 100% by February. After the holidays, G&C Construction will begin replacing the windows, installing siding, and new security door to our Recreation Administration Building on Heyers Mill Rd. Five Point Parks electricity is close to completion, pending Public Works digging the hold for the electrician, followed by an inspection from JCP&L that project will be completed.

Recreation and Parks Master Plan 1,100 surveys were mailed out two weeks ago and we've received approximately 300 completed surveys to date. Dr. Nolan explained 27% of returned surveys is considered a good return, but to reach 35% so far is excellent. Ms. Burke asked how will the results be compiled? Barbara will be manually inputting the data.

A rough analysis should be ready to view by the committee in February/March. Mr. Valenti asked if the survey was on our website for residents to complete? Dr. Nolan explained we are performing a systematic sampling; we've received

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labels from the tax assessor's office to ensure we've done a sampling from all sections of the township, and to make the survey scientifically valid.

**New Business**

Winter Programs

Dr. Nolan listed the many programs which will be underway for the Winter session. We're changing up our Adult Volleyball offering from free play to include a round robin league. Our winter brochure will go to the printer no later than Monday. Recreation Committee Member Re-appointments, Dr. Nolan made the committee aware that two member's terms are expiring, Ms. Burke and Mr. Bennett. Ms. Burke stated she's told Mr. Hennessy she'd be interested to stay on as a committee member. Dr. Nolan will contact Mr. Bennett to determine if he'll be remaining on the committee.

2008 Recreation & Park Budgets

Much discussion took place with questions and clarification to both budgets. Dr. Nolan explained that our department does bring in significant revenue and he budgets programs for a maximum attendance to ensure we accommodate the participants. As in past years, Dr. Nolan again will strongly request for a Park Foreman position. The committee made clear they would be proactive in supporting this request. A suggestion was made for members to attend the open budget meetings held in February. All agreed that this would be a good idea.

Discussion moved to the proposed list of Capital projects in addition to the already listed projects from this year. Dr. Nolan will combine the lists and distribute to the committee for prioritization.

Senior News

Ms. Laufer reported the Holiday luncheon was attended by 142 members at Mike Doolan's in Spring Lake Heights. Many trips are already planned for 2008. The club still maintains just under 300 members.

Dr. Nolan made a special announcement that Mr. Bennett and Ms. Lesta have both been committee members for 20 years. Given this milestone, Dr. Nolan presented Ms. Lesta with a plaque commemorating the event. A plaque will also be presented to Mr. Bennett in the future.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 10, 2008 at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Byrne, Secretary