

**Colts Neck Recreation Committee
Minutes – November 6, 2013**

**COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES: November 6, 2013**

Attendees: Jim Valenti, Rich Rehm, Brian McNally, Judy Laufer, Paul Wild, Phil Maida, Ed Piotrowski

Absent: Candice Burke, A.J. Garito and Joe Mancino

Township Liaison Present: Mayor Michael Fitzgerald

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jim Valenti at 7:00 p.m.

The Sunshine Statement was read.

The Committee approved the minutes from October 2, 2013.

The Treasurer's Report was read.

Because the Mayor needed to leave by 7:30 pm Mr. Valenti asked he provide his liaison report prior to his departure.

Old Business

Stewards of the Parks Report – There were no new reports related to the parks.

MCISCCL Championship – Mr. Hennessy stated there were 26 schools, grades 6-8 participating in this track meet at Bucks Mill Park. The weather was great for this event.

Field Maintenance – Recreation soccer has completed it's program and in two weeks travel soccer will be done, Mr. Hennessy stated. Dog luring, soccer programs, lacrosse clinics are still going on at Bucks Mill Park. Monmouth County Men's Soccer League is also continuing at Cedar Drive and Bucks Mill Park. Forty five acres of fertilizer was applied to all fields today. Growmark completed the task in 1 3/4 hours. The price per ton was better than what the Township was quoted without labor for spreading. Mr. Hennessy continued, it was a good time for the application. In the beginning of September 40% slow release was applied to the fields, with the third driest October on record, the grass is still very green and lush. Mr. Piotroski asked what was the ratio. Mr. Hennessy replied 1,000 lbs to the acre.

Mr. Hennessy shared a map of the arboretum at Township Hall, as possible scout project to update it. He will be discussing the project with the Boy Scout leader in the coming month.

The Lions Club adopted Bucks Mill Park and recently replaced 48 missing railings from the fencing at the old Polo field. They plan to paint the entire fence in the spring.

Township Liaison- Mayor Fitzgerald introduced Kyle Jeffery a senior at Colts Neck High School. Kyle will be attending Township meetings to learn Township operations. Mayor Fitzgerald explained having students attend selective committee meetings will keep the township better connected with the high school. Because Kyle is interested in sports and recreation, Mayor Fitzgerald thought it would be a good match. Kyle thanked the committee for the opportunity to attend future meetings. Mayor Fitzgerald hopes he will also contribute to future discussions. Mr. Valenti welcomed Kyle and stated the committee looks forward to his input.

Mayor Fitzgerald advised the committee Polo will not be returning to Colts Neck. The Township is not in the business to have on and off field usage. The Polo field is generating revenue from various sporting organizations and the Township Committee supports Mr. Hennessy using the field for local sports as well.

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Mayor Fitzgerald indicated the Colts Neck Sports Foundation experienced some issues during the election process, relating to unauthorized voting. He is not sure what will come from it, but wanted to advise the committee. They also planned to add a shelter (covered picnic area) near the snack stand at Laird Road.

They have met with local resistance to the shelter at the last Township meeting. Unfortunately, there was not a representative from the Sports Foundation at the Township meeting. The Mayor advised the committee it is likely the responsible for this committee to create use policy for the new shelter. Especially in terms of renting it out similar to the pavilion at Bucks Mill Park. This may be revenue producer for the Township. Mr. Hennessy will look into this matter.

Mr. Baker asked the Mayor for status on deer control. The Township is looking into being compliant with state law about discharge.

A bid was made for a company to provide electricity to residents at a cost savings through aggregation. Maintenance would still be covered by JCP&L. Plumstead Township requested bids and Con Ed was the cheapest. Residents may keep their current electricity provider.

The Mayor did state they will be negotiating to have the electricity from light poles at Town Hall covered in the program.

A resident would like to donate five flag poles and flags for each division of service. A location for the flag poles is under discussion.

New Business

Community Band Concert will be held on November 14. Mr. Hennessy shared three new conductors have joined the band. Their new direction has reinvigorated the Community Band.

Whispering Pines Art Contest has three entries for the children's categories and two for the adult category. Mr. Hennessy sent emails to several art guilds in the area and the Colts Neck High School expecting additional entries, to date there has been no response. Mr. Maida asked the date for the ceremony. Mr. Hennessy stated the ceremony would be Friday, November 22 and the paintings would be on display at the Library the week of November 18.

Veteran's Day Ceremony will be held at the Court House on November 11 at 11 a.m. followed by a luncheon sponsored by the Women's Club at the Library.

Holiday concert and tree lighting will be held on Sunday, December 1, noting this is also Thanksgiving weekend. Mr. Wild and Mr. McNally will be coordinating the hot chocolate for the event. Mr. Hennessy explained Santa's Workshop will be held in conjunction with the Colts Neck PTO's Frosty's Holiday Shopping Experience held at Conover Road Primary School. Last year, Mr. Hennessy approached the PTO and offered Recreation's upscale craft program during their event. The PTO were very receptive to the program. Art Supervisors Ms. Joanne Dafeldecker and Kerrie Hannen, of our summer day camp, will supervise the event. Craft supplies to accommodate 200 children have been ordered.

Letters to Santa will begin on November 22 to December 18. Mail boxes will be placed at Township Hall and the Post Office.

Community Center Winter Use – Mr. Hennessy stated Colts Neck Sports Foundation wrestling and American Youth Football cheering programs are currently using the facility.

Winter Brochure will be prepared in the coming weeks.

Mr. Hennessy will be working together with Health Officer, Tom Frank to promote the Township Fit Trail located at Township Hall.

Discussion of field irrigation at Five Point Park – Mr. Hennessy received a call from a parent from Howell saying the irrigated soccer field # 2 at Five Point is one of the best in the Monmouth County. The plan is

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to expand irrigation to other fields such as Five Point # 2 baseball field. Mr. Valenti asked if the current well would handle another field. Mr. Hennessy stated yes. Mr. Valenti asked if there were any upcoming field improvements requiring a bond. Mr. Hennessy stated 11K from Travel Soccer paid for one half of the irrigation. The preliminary total estimate for additional irrigation at Five Point Park is \$12,000. Mr. Hennessy stated at Laird Road Park, the cost would be \$63K for further irrigation and would require bonding along with monetary assistance from the Colts Neck Sports Foundation. Sports Foundation is most concerned about Laird Road # 2 for now. Mr. Valenti noted when he was involved with the Sport Foundation mounds would be switched to accommodate 50/70 fields. Mr. Hennessy explained that is what is done today with grass kept in place at the infield.

Mr. Hennessy noted Jacquie Lee has advanced on the national singing competition TV show, The Voice. He explained Mrs. Lee is very involved with her daughter's career and all wish her the best of luck.

Senior Citizens Club – Ms. Laufer reported 130 attendees at the last meeting held at the Colts Neck Inn. Upcoming trips include the NJ Repertory Theater, Atlantic City and a trip to Long Beach Island's Surf Light Theater.

She also noted the Club had paid for 16 tables to be used at the Primary School. The School was the club's long time meeting location. Due to security concerns the Board of Education has advised the Senior citizens they can no longer hold meetings at the school. Ms. Laufer asked if the tables should be removed from the school and used by the Township.

There are 256 members in the Senior Citizen's Club. The Executive Board is discussing revising the bylaws of the club, to allow them to revoke member status.

With no other matters to discuss, Mr. Valenti adjourned the meeting at 8:10 pm. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 4, 2013 at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Byrne, Secretary