

**Colts Neck Recreation Committee  
Minutes – January 5, 2011**

**COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE  
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Attendees: Frank Baker, Phil Maida, Joe Mancino, Brian McNally, Jim Valenti, Rich Rehm, Candice Burke, Leonor Lesta, A.J. Garito

Excused Absence: Joe Mancino, Ed Piotrowski, Paul Wild

Township Liaison: Jarrett Engel

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 December 1, 2010.

The Treasurer's Report was read.

Mr. Valenti welcomed Jarrett Engel as Township Liaison and stated the Committee looks forward to his participation. Mr. Engel thanked the Committee; he also mentioned the group he is leading related to park/field refurbishment which meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday each month at 7:30 pm at Township Hall, all are welcome to attend. He is also working on an Open Space Referendum.

**Old Business**

Mr. Hennessy noted the Treasurers Report balance for both Recreation and Parks Departments is due to money saved by paring down expenses. He will continue cutting costs in both Departments. Mr. Maida and Ms. Lesta both commented it is good to have monies saved. Ms. Burke asked if other departments had money left in their budgets.

**Holiday Festival Concert** – Mr. Hennessy asked if anyone attended the concert. Mr. Maida said he did and enjoyed the music. Mr. Hennessy plans to enhance the concert next year by inviting St. Mary's Choir and Bell Ringers. Ms. Burked added the Reformed Church has Bell Ringers too and had a lovely Thanksgiving ceremony.

**Christmas Tree Lighting** - Mr. Hennessy thanked those who participated in the Tree Lighting. Mr. Rehm asked next year to have a better amplifier system. Mr. Hennessy stated thank you again and said the event would not be possible without the assistance from Committee members.

**Letters to Santa**

Mr. Hennessy reported over 100 letters to Santa were mailed this year. He thanked Ms. Burke who assisted Ms. Byrne with the project again this year.

**Adult and Children's Holiday Workshop** – Both workshops were fairly well attended, Mr. Hennessy stated. Next year he will be advertising to the girl scouts to boost attendance. Ms. Lesta asked why not advertise to the cub scouts. He will also include the cub scouts. Ms. Joanne Dafeldecker acted as Supervisor for both workshops.

**Budgets 2011** - Budgets for both Recreation and Parks are formally complete, Mr. Hennessy is waiting to discuss the details with Mr. Bowden. Mr. Valenti asked the timeline for the budget process. Mr. Hennessy stated the budgets will be shared with the Recreation Committee at the February meeting. Mr. Engel advised Mr. Hennessy the Township is requesting all Departments to prepare a three year budget opposed to the traditional one year budget.

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**New Business**

**Winter Program Guide** – The program guide was mailed Monday, a few days later than expected due to the blizzard last week. The printer was unable to open his building due to the snow. Mr. Hennessy noted several new programs appearing on the brochure cover. Mr. Baker asked what is “Hooping”. Mr. Hennessy explained it is a fitness class with weighted hula hoops. He is also continuing a 50% discount for Seniors. Ms. Burke mentioned at the last meeting Ms. Laufer suggested having a sample class during a Senior Citizen Club meeting. Mr. Hennessy said we did have our Zumba Instructor perform a class last year. Ms. Lesta suggested inserting a notice in the next Senior Newsletter announcing to wear sneakers and be ready for a sample exercise class.

**Donations**

Mr. Hennessy acknowledged donations for repairs to the Community Center. David Spader of Quality Roofing, LLC. Repaired a number of leaks around stand and exhaust pipe. Mario Geneve sheet rocked and spackled the damage.

**2010 Year in Review** - Accomplishments from 2010 were distributed to the Committee for review. Mr. Hennessy led the discussion. Comments included, Mr. Maida asking who is responsible for the flag at Five Point Park. Mr. Hennessy replied Recreation is responsible. Mr. Engel asked if the Recreation and Parks website is linked into the Township website, and to check with Ms. Kara for guidelines for using Facebook. Mr. Hennessy replied yes, Recreation’s website is linked into the Township website. Mr. Hennessy explained to Mr. Engel the Department has attempted to gain on-line registration and payment capabilities for all Recreation and Parks programs with no success. Each attempt included a processing fee, which the Township would not agree to pay. Mr. Engel stated it seems Recreation could use the same model as the Sports Foundation does for on line registration and payments. Mr. Valenti suggested future agendas should include a “Park and Facilities” item. By being proactive and adding this item to the agenda it will keep the Committee focused on Parks/Facilities as well as Recreation. All agreed in 2011 the Township will be facing many financial challenges. Improvements to Parks and Facilities will depend on funding. The Sports Foundation will continue to hold fund raising events to partner with the Township for improvements. Mr. Valenti stated this Committee supports the Sports Foundation’s great ideas and has an interest in all of their projects.

**Senior Citizen Club** - Ms. Laufer stated membership is 221. 75 members attended today’s meeting with speakers discussing “Power of Attorney” and “Living Wills”. A trip to the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse is scheduled for January 26 and a visit to Two Rivers Theater Company is scheduled for February 16.

**Township Liaison** – Mr. Engel invited all to attend the group he leads related to parks and facility refurbishment. These meetings take place the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday each month, 7:30 pm at Township Hall.

With no other matters to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, February 2, 2011 at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Byrne, Secretary