

**Colts Neck Recreation Committee
Minutes – May 5, 2010**

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

Township Liaison Absent: Mike 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 April 7, 2010 meeting minutes

The Treasurer's Report was read

Old Business

Earth Day clean up assignment activities went well. Tony Senk will be writing an article of how the community came together for the cleaning of Parks and Preserves. Mr. Hennessy thanked the committee for their participation. Remarks from the committee included the Township ponds were much cleaner than last year. The Colts Neck Classic Bicycle Race was held May 2 with 300 participants. Mr. Hennessy commended the Fire Police for their involvement this year. They were set at three stations along the course and two cars were involved in monitoring the course. Doug Mitchell, in charge of the Bicycle Race will be making a monetary donation to the Fire Police. Mr. Hennessy will be asking for assistance from the Fire Police for the Colts Neck Gallop. This morning, Mr. Hennessy attended a goose control process at Duck Hollow. A skewer like object creates a hole in each egg, the puncture mark causes the goose embryo to die.

Special Events

The Colts Neck Gallop is scheduled for May 15, applications to 400 runners from previous Colts Neck 10K and Brielle Day 10K. Mr. Hennessy stated sponsors will receive advertising on the Recreation and Parks website, the event day shirts and banners. \$5,000 has been collected from Sponsors with many making in-kind donations as well. We are also partnering with Paw Pals, who will be bringing a Lure Course and pets for adoption. Some asked if doggie bags will be provided for clean up. Mr. Hennessy stated pet owners would likely bring their own baggies, he will contact Public Works to inquire the cost of providing doggie bags. Mr. Hennessy shared color coded aerial maps of the courses that will be used at Bucks Mill for the Gallop. Each event course markers/signs for the 5K will be recycled from the Zoning Department and painted by students involved in the S.T.E.P. program at Colts Neck High School. Due to low registrations for the Jr. Olympic Track and Field Meet, the event has been cancelled due to low registrations. However, registrants have been advised of the Kid's Sprint and Fun Run on May 15. Next year Mr. Hennessy will also add a softball throw and long jump to the Colts Neck Gallop events. The Community Band Spring Concert will be Thursday, May 27. Mr. Hennessy advised this will be the last free concert. The next concert will have an admission charge of \$2.50 at the door. The Community Band needs to be self sustaining. The Township Committee will not be providing funding in 2011. Memorial Day parade may not have a marching band. Mr. Hennessy received a call last night from Mr. Maida who stated due to budget constraints, specifically transportation and school building access the band would not be able to participate in the parade. Mr. Maida spoke to Mr. Manaci who explained due to budget constraints the school cannot afford a driver and bus to transport the children to and from the parade. Most instruments are kept at the High School, a Custodian would need to be hired for several hours on Memorial Day to open and close the building. Mr. Hennessy contacted Ms. Bruno and offered our Recreation bus for transportation. We would still need to pay the Board of Education for a Custodian. Mr. Maida went ahead and contacted the Freehold Regional School Board and is awaiting a return telephone call. Mr. Hennessy believes the cost is worth it to pay the Custodian as we are saving monies by not having the Face Painter return. Hiring an outside band for the parade would be expensive. July 4 Fireworks will be funded by the Township this year. There will be a charge of \$5.00/car, Mr. Hennessy stated.

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Mr. Piotrowski asked if the Lions Club would have to pay to park. Mr. Maida suggested they park near the Block Building similar to the Fair. Mr. Hennessy will also advise the Swing Band and Community Band to park in that area. He asked the Lions and/or Girls Scouts to sell refreshments on July 4th. Rather than outside vendors collected monies, groups in Colts Neck would be able to collect revenue for their organizations. Ms. Burke suggested contacting Delicious Orchards to sell Apple Fritters as they will be selling them at the Fair this year. Mr. Hennessy congratulated Ms. Lesta on another successfully trip to Broadway to see Promises Promises. The trip was sold out!

Park Projects

Field permit update – Mr. Hennessy has not collected monies from the Hispanic Soccer League, however they are providing field maintenance, lime and seed for Bucks Mill #1 and #3 soccer fields till June. Spring Field Preparation for the most part, as been non-existence due to weather. Mr. Hennessy met with two turf experts who claimed Five Point Park fields are the best, the worst being the Pop Warner upper field behind Cedar Drive School. Test patches have been in place for treatment of fields. Mr. Hennessy stated his goal is to have an overall maintenance plan for all Township fields. Irrigation on the infield of Laird Road #2 has been completed by an anonymous donor. Mr. Garito added plans are in the works to add bathrooms and an addition to the snack shed at Laird Road. The septic system was completed in 2009. Mr. Mancino asked who would be maintaining the new bathrooms etc. Mr. Hennessy replied Department of Public Works. Mr. McNally asked what the timeline is for completion. Mr. Garito believes construction would begin this summer. Mr. Hennessy stated the STEP students have begun work on the Children's Garden at the Library and soon will begin improvements to the Blind Garden. Schlesinger Bridge based on feedback from Monmouth County Parks engineers \$35K (Schlesinger Fund) is not enough money to replace the bridge. Mr. Valenti added, the project would involve DEP as well as encroachment permits, and evaluation of the stream. Suggestions for an alternate project for Schlesinger included benches, picnic table and improvements to the steps.

Other

Interview letters will be mailed this week to new applicants and returning applicants for Camp Counselor positions. Mr. Hennessy stated fees for Summer Day Camp will increase slightly, \$330.00 first child, \$315 second child, and \$300 for the third child. The Summer Brochure will be mailed soon. Flyers advertising the camp and Memorial Day parade will also be included in "goody bags" distributed at the Colts Neck Gallop. Mr. Hennessy is planning on having canoes this summer at Bucks Mill for the campers. Mr. Hennessy was close to completing on-line payments for programs. However, the amount of information required to participate with on-line payments would not warrant one time use for day camp registrations. To have no charge to the Township and on-line registration would save time in handling of monies. Mr. Garito suggested contacting Henry Largey of the Sports Foundation for information on their on-line costs. Mr. Hennessy asked if Mr. Wild had any background information on – line payments. He commented there is a lot of resistant for people to sign up. Someone suggested using "paypal", Mr. Hennessy stated that process requires a 6% fee. Recreation and Parks has a new website (cnrecparks@squarespace.com). The website was designed by a 15 year old resident, Vincent Accetola. Tony Senk will be adding a story in The Journal about Vincent. Someone asked the cost of the website. Mr. Hennessy stated the fee for squarespace is \$120.00/year. Barbara will continue to make all updates to the new website. Mr. Candelora was previously managing our website at \$500.00/year. Stewardship program – tonight those who were available met earlier at Obre Park. Mr. McNally did a great job as Park Steward. Pop Warner at Dorbrook Park – Mr. Hennessy explained the Pop Warner will be playing 4-5 games at Dorbrook Park. The sound announcer will face Rt. 537, they have bleachers there and fields will be lined. He continued by asking Mr. Garito to discuss the future of Pop Warner. Mr. Garito shared plans to develop the upper field at Cedar Drive Park, including multipurpose fields, grandstand, and space for Cheerleaders. This concept was introduced years ago, and is still evolving. This is a first draft and discussion is ongoing. Mr. Hennessy shared users of Big Brook Preserve to date, Museum of Natural History, N.Y. Paleontological Society, and N.J. State Museum. He worked with JG's Winery to provide additional parking as the Paleontological Society had several buses. Having fossil hunting in Colts Neck is a big attraction. Mr. Hennessy explained the "turtle find" at Big Brook will be donated to the N.J. Museum.

The meeting continued with a review of the Line of March for the Memorial Day Parade.

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Mr. Hennessy spoke to Fire Chief Romano who has pledged all sirens will stop at Prothero Road. The fire trucks have been moved to the #1 spot. Mr. Hennessy is not sure the ROTC will be in the parade, their banner etc. is school property and the same issue with the Band may impact ROTC. Mr. Baker asked about the Navy Color Guard. Mr. Hennessy is not sure of their participation. Mr. Maida asked if the First Aid sirens should be silent at Prothero Road. It was agreed they too would not use sirens. Mr. Mancino will ask Polo to wear uniforms and/or carry mallets. The committee discussed what to wear to as a group. It was agreed to wear kaki colored shorts or pants. Shirts? Mr. Maida commented in 2009 there were not enough ribbons for the bicycle contest, please order additional ribbons this year. Also needed are posters/signs describing war titles representing Veteran's. They will be riding in order via gold carts. Mr. Hennessy has confirmed Pebble Creek will supply up to 12 golf carts for the parade. Becker Hardware stated there are no Lawn Tractors in Colts Neck to participate in the parade. Ms. Burke asked if they can throw candy. Mr. Hennessy said it would be OK.

Discussion returned to the Colts Neck Gallop. Mr. Hennessy stated Mr. Hinck and his wife will be managing the 10K race. He and the timing person providing the clock will be compensated. Mr. Baker will be helping with 10K registrations and asked if there was a checklist of items needed to be done for the 10K. Mr. Hennessy said it is the same set up as in the past. Mr. Hinck will be there to assist volunteers. Mr. Maida asked if there will be acknowledgement of Dr. Nolan at the 10K. Mr. Hennessy asked Mr. Baker if Dr. Nolan were coming. Mr. Baker said he was, last time they spoke. Mr. Valenti will bring the poster of the Harold Nolan 10K. Mr. Wild will be at the 5K, as will Mr. Valenti. Mr. Hennessy asked volunteers be at Bucks Mill Park at 7:30 am on May 15.

With no other matters to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Byrne, Secretary