

**Colts Neck Recreation Committee
Minutes – May 7, 2014**

**COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES: May 7, 2014**

Attendees: Frank Baker, Brian McNally, Phil Maida, Rich Rehm. Paul Wild, Judy Laufer

Excused Absence: Jim Valenti, A.J. Garito, Joe Mancino, Ed Piotrowski, Chris Adams

Township Liaison Absent: Mayor Russell Macnow

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Frank Baker at 7:00 p.m.

The Sunshine Statement was read.

The Committee approved the minutes from April 2, 2014.

The Treasurer's Report was read.

Old Business

Baseball/Football field enhancements – Mr. Hennessy, stated Bucks Mill baseball field #2 field enhancements are complete. Irrigation will be turned on in two weeks at the soccer field at Five Point. He noted how rich and nourished the grass is at ball fields. Pop Warner has joined the American Youth Football and Cheer League. One of the leagues rules is to have a fenced in field. Mr. Hennessy asked the fencing be wide enough to accommodate soccer on the field too. Mr. Wild asked if it will be a chain link fence. Mr. Hennessy stated no, they will be putting up a split rail fence. The project is fully funded by the league. Mr. Hennessy shared a schematic for the Five Point irrigation on baseball field # 2. Areas between the base path and dugouts will all be irrigated. It will look like a 1st class field especially with the sod. Mr. McNally asked when will the irrigation project be complete. Mr. Hennessy stated within two weeks. Colts Neck Nursery came in with the lowest bid and was awarded the contract. The Colts Neck Sports Foundation will fund half of the project, the Township will fund the remaining 50% via Capital monies. Mr. Baker noted the renewed interest in football. He had thought interest in football had decreased. Mr. Hennessy stated they had fundraisers to boost the participation. Mr. McNally added he's seen a lot of advertising, he believes the Colts Neck Sports Foundation is promoting the American Youth Football league on their website. Ms. Laufer noted probably because there will be 100 less children in the school system next year.

Mr. Hennessy met the T&M Associated to view the condition of Cedar Drive basketball and tennis courts and Laird Road field # 4. The engineers will be sharing their suggestions for improvements. Mr. Hennessy received a call from Michael Jordan of the Colts Neck Sports Foundation regarding outdoor basketball courts. Mr. Hennessy suggested to Mr. Jordan putting another court at Conover Rod Elementary school. Mr. McNally recalled the existing basketball court there was paid for by the PTO and the Board of Education. Mr. Hennessy said it is a great location. Mr. Hennessy explained in 2005, Mr. Bowden worked with the Board of Education to turn the property into school parking. The Board of Education paid the town \$40K to replace the 3 tennis courts they removed for the new school. Mr. Hennessy would like to use that money for tennis and basketball courts.

Earth Day/Stewardship – All went well with the clean ups at Township Parks and Preserves. Mr. Baker and Mr. Hennessy were at Township Hall, Ms. Laufer was at Bucks Mill Park. She asked Mr. Hennessy if he found the five pieces of rebar she found at Bucks Mill Park. He did not and asked she give him the specific location. After meeting with the President of the Lion's Club, he agreed the club would clean the two ponds at Bucks Mill Park, using crab nets and other tools, Mr. Hennessy stated. Ms. Laufer noted during the clean up of Bucks Mill, most trash consisted of water bottles. She inquired as to whether the Township can post signs – "carry in take out" verbiage for water bottles. She said Ed, Director of Public Works, as the capability to make signs. Mr. Hennessy will look into getting some signs.

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Studio 14 – Mr. Hennessy explained fitness programs have been expanded to include classes from the BFitt Studio, including Spinning.

Special Events - Children's Easter Egg Hunt was a success, Ultimate Frisbee will be returning in 2015, as they enjoyed Bucks Mill Park. Mr. Hennessy added the Colts Neck Community Band's 3 of 4 Conductors all were students of Richard Frankle, Founder of the Community Band. They will have a concert on May 22 at the Colts Neck High School and June 5 at Thompson Park. The Cole Brothers Circus is coming June 8. Mr. Baker asked if the circus is being promoted yet. Mr. Hennessy will check as to when they will be advertising the circus. Mr. Wild asked if it should be promoted during the parade. Ms. Laufer asked where the circus will be set up. Mr. Hennessy replied at Bucks Mill Park where Mr. Maida usually parks cars for the Colts Neck Fair. Students from Cedar Drive school will be invited to watch the set up of the big top during the day. Most counselors from last year will be returning to work at the camp this summer. Mr. Maida noted Marlboro has reduced its fees for day camp and is accepting non residents into their day camp. Mr. Hennessy stated Marlboro also offered the use of their pool for our camp, but this year we will not have the school buses for transportation because they are no longer in service.

Park Projects

Field Use Updates – Mr. Hennessy stated soccer try outs will be held this weekend. The Wildcats soccer league has 150 children coming tonight for try outs. Spring Field Preparation – Laird Rd. 1 & 2, Five Point 1 & 2 baseball fields, and soccer fields have at been fertilized. Because the fields are very green and lush, Mr. Hennessy decided to keep the same schedule as 2013. The vendor will be coming soon to apply 65% slow release fertilizer.

Other – Mr. Hennessy is working with Ocean First Bank to implement on line registrations using credit cards. Each Day Camp will have a credit card machine to eliminate the use of cash. Parents will be able to register and sign up for trips at each camp. All trips will be booked on-line. Mr. Maida asked who is paying the use fee for the credit cards. Mr. Hennessy replied the Township. There is so much to handle with the camps, this will expedite the payment process, Mr. Hennessy stated. Mr. McNally noted the Sports Foundation became very efficient by implementing credit cards for all registrations.

Summer Camps sponsored – Mr. Hennessy has received a great response from Colts Neck High School teachers to run camps this summer. We've also added an Art Camp led by an art teacher from High School. He added he met with a Fencing Club from Red Bank who will be running a camp at our building this summer.

We also have affiliated summer camps, those who rent fields from the Township. We advertise all camps on our website and ensure there are no conflicts between those we sponsor and those who rent fields.

Committee Assignments and the Line of March – The committee reviewed the line of March for the Memorial Day Parade. The Mayor to date, as not mentioned a Grand Marshall. Mr. Dick Winter will be returning. Because this is the 50th Anniversary of Township Hall, Veteran's will receive flags that have flown over the building. Mr. Maida commented that is a lot of flags going up and down. Mr. Hennessy stated he and Col. Sfayer will be hosting the flags up and down the flag pole and presenting them to the Veterans. He advised the letters were mailed to all participants with antique cars. Mr. Orgo will be providing a wagon for the Daisies and Veteran's. A 2nd driver will be needed. The Bicycle Contest will begin at 10:00 am. Mr. Hennessy will contact the girl scouts for added participation. Mr. Maida had contacted Mr. Maniaci, Colts Neck High School band and they will be on board for Memorial Day. Mr. Hennessy noted he will be sponsoring a Percussion Camp with Mr. Maniaci. He doubts the committee will be marching in the parade, given their assignments. Mr. Rehm advised there will be no tractors this year. He will reach out again to try and find a tractor. Mr. Rehm will contact Pebble Creek related to the golf carts. The only request Pebble Creek has each year is to return the golf carts as soon as possible, as that is a very busy day for the golf course. Mr. McNally will be purchasing face paint and has asked two students from the high school to provide the face painting at the fire house after the parade. Mr. Hennessy advised the Mayor would like all three clergy to be in attendance at the parade. Letters inviting all clergy have been mailed. Mr. Hennessy spoke to Jaquie Lee's parents at Opening Day of baseball

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about the possibility of her singing at the gravesite. He will follow up with her parents this week. Mr. Maida stated he will ask his daughter if she would sing the National Anthem this year. Mr. Hennessy will leave the decision up to the Lee family, given her busy schedule. We have not heard from Earle as to who they will be sending to represent them in the parade yet. Mr. Hennessy will contact Mr. Wheeler. He will provide the parade schematic to the committee prior to the parade. Mr. Hennessy asked who would be available to help during the parade, Mr. Rehm, Mr. Baker, Mr. Maida, Mr. McNally, all volunteered to be in attendance. Mr. Hennessy will confirm with Mr. Piotrowski that he will be driving. Mr. Maida will contact Committeeman Engle regarding his participating in the parade. There was discussion he has enlisted car that Jaquie Lee could ride in along the parade route.

Senior Citizen's Report – Ms. Laufer reported the Seniors met today at the Colts Neck Inn. They did receive \$40K in funding from the Township and currently have 270 members. Tomorrow they leave for a Medeterainin cruise which is not being paid for by the Township. July they head to the Surfflight Theater in Long Beach Island, and September to Niagara Falls. Mr. Laufer commented on a great job Mr. Walsh does in finding the best rates for these trips. A new member has offered to create a website for the Senior Citizen club which is very exciting.

With no other matters to discuss, Mr. Baker adjourned the meeting at 8:05 pm. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, June 4, 2014 at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Byrne, Secretary