

**Colts Neck Recreation Committee  
Minutes – January 4, 2012**

**COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE  
MINUTES: January 4, 2012**

Attendees: Jim Valenti, Frank Baker, Rich Rehm, Ed Piotrowski, Paul Wild, Joe Mancino, Phil Maida, A.J. Garito, Candice Burke, Brian McNally

Excused Absence: Leonor Lesta

Township Liaison Present: Jarrett Engel

Also in attendance: Judy Laufer

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 7, 2011.

The Treasurer's Report was read.

**Old Business**

Letter to Santa – Mr. Hennessy stated over 120 Letters to Santa were collected with Barbara and Candice replying on his behalf.

The Adult Holiday Work Shop was well attended and Mr. Hennessy stated he received numerous positive comments about the program. Gina Ryan was the Instructor for Adult Work Shop, who is also our Dog Obedience Trainer. She was a former florist and ran an excellent workshop.

The Children's Holiday Work Shop was attended by 14 children and went well too.

Budget 2012 – Mr. Hennessy is currently working on the budget with Bob Bowden. Ms. Burke asked are there any improvements included in the budget. Mr. Hennessy stated Laird Rd. # 2 is being considered to be improved as is making Five Point Park a viable field. He noted, three years ago Mr. Trump donated sod to Five Point # 1, today the field is in very poor condition. The Township can no longer operate in this environment. Mr. McNally asked what other fields are slated for improvements. Mr. Hennessy stated there is room for improvement at all fields except Laird Rd. # 1 as that was improved last year by the Sports Foundation.

**New Business**

Winter Program Guide – Mr. Hennessy announced our new Program Guide was mailed Thursday before New Year's Day. Cardio Step, Contract Bridge, Nia Jam, Open Barre, and Young Men's Basketball League are all new programs for Winter.

2011 Year in Review – Mr. Hennessy shared a list of accomplishments for 2011 for Recreation and Parks. Including – 21 new programs offered, added Pay Pal for on line registration and payment, implemented field user fees for 2011, implemented rental fees for Community Center, hosted American Cancer society's Relay for Life, conducted successful Earth Week Litter Campaign, set record for Summer Camp Enrollment at 320 children, arranged for a donation of a large Kiefco Water Reel for irrigating Bucks Mill Park, coordinated the building of a 21' storage shed for Five Point Park's Kiefco unit (Eagle Scout Project), promoted greater use of Community Center (American Youth Football Cheerleaders, CNSF soccer, baseball, and softball, Dog Obedience Classes). Personally aerated and groomed all athletic fields, aerated and seeded fair grounds, seeded Five Point Park, football/lacrosse field and upper/lower Cedar Drive soccer fields as well as Bucks Mill soccer fields and limed Five Point Park.

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Liaison Report - Mr. Engel stated he will be reappointing several members of the committee at Saturday's reorganization meeting. The township will be expediting the budget sessions to the first week of February. He will ensure recreation programs, park maintenance and open space monies are protected in the budget. The Township has begun union contract negotiations with the Department of Public Works and the Police Department. The Township has had extreme success hiring temporary employees at Public Works for brush pick up. Mr. Engel is looking to this committee as Park Stewards to identify what improvements need to be done throughout the Town's Parks and Preserves. Mr. Engel noted the Township will collect all ideas into a comprehensive list.

Senior Citizen Club – Ms. Laufer stated 211 have signed up as members of the Senior Citizen Club. One of their members turned 102 in November. The Christmas luncheon at the Molly Pitcher Inn was attended by 165 members. The next trip is to Atlantic City this month, February the club will attend a play at the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse and in May an overnight trip to MA and CT is planned. Ms. Laufer explained there will be no future trips planned beyond those mentioned until the Township completes their 2012 budget process. The Senior Citizen's Club receives a monetary contribution from the Township to supplement their activities.

With no other matters to discuss, Mr. Valenti adjourned the meeting at 7:25 pm. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, February 1, 2012 at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Byrne, Secretary