

**Colts Neck Recreation Committee  
Minutes – October 6, 2010**

**COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE  
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Attendees: Frank Baker, Candice Burke, Leonor Lesta, Phil Maida, Joe Mancino, Brian McNally, Ed Piotrowski, Jim Valenti, Paul Wild

Excused Absence: A.J. Garito, Rich Rehm

Township Liaison Present: 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 minutes from September 1, 2010.

The Treasurer's Report was read.

**Old Business**

Arts and Crafts Festival – Mr. Hennessy stated the Arts and Crafts Fair will return in 2011. The company who runs the fair are great tenants! They did a lot of the set up themselves and picked up all loose trash from the park. In terms of attendance, Saturday was a great day, Sunday, due to weather, was OK. Mr. Piotrowski asked where does everyone park. The parking area is the same as the Colts Neck Fair, per Mr. Hennessy. Mr. Piotrowski asked if that's expensive as the fields must need to be re-seeded where the cars are driving over them. Ms. Lesta commented the contract between the Township and the Arts and Crafts company is for five years. No, Mr. Hennessy said it is a year to year contract.

Fall Programs - Mr. Hennessy attended today's Senior citizen's meeting to gain more support for our fitness programs. Ms. Lesta suggested having an exercise class immediately follow the Senior meeting. Mr. Hennessy stated it was an excellent idea and will contact John Walsh, President of the Senior Citizen club.

**New Business**

Colts Neck Pet Fair – October 17 – Mr. Hennessy stated he is trying to find opportunities for revenue, This event in conjunction with Paw Pals, will bring the Department 40% of the gate. A variety of animals will be in attendance, dogs, cats, horses, etc. There will also be pet adoptions and demonstrations. Ms. Burke asked what the fee was for admission. Mr. Hennessy said \$5.00 per person, children under 12 are free and the rule is one animal per person. Meridian Health System is already asking to have a Pet Fair at Bucks Mill with us for 2011. Ms. Lesta commented she's seen signs in other towns for "dog walks", they seem very popular. Mr. Hennessy stated we had a very successful dog walk at the Colts Neck Gallop. Ms. Burke asked if the Hunt Club from the Memorial Day parade is involved. No they are not, replied Mr. Hennessy. Mr. Maida asked who will be cleaning up after the animals during and after the event. All participants are responsible for cleaning up after their pets during the event. Mr. Hennessy stated Paw Pal volunteers will also clean the park after the event.

MCISCCO Championship Track Meet – October 17 – Mr. Hennessy is charging \$500 for this County event for use of Bucks Mill Park. Mr. Valenti commented that it seems there are a lot of events bringing in revenue will we have a dollar amount of what Recreation and Parks brought into the Township. Mr. Hennessy said yes, at the end of the year he will share that amount with the committee. He explained he's awaiting monies from several Softball Leagues for use of the fields this summer. The fees are \$20/game, \$10/practice and \$30/for a double header. If these teams apply for a permit next year he'll ask them to pay the balance from 2010 before granting them a permit in 2011. Mr. Maida asked if there was a fee to use Big Brook. Mr. Hennessy stated yes, there is a \$25.00 fee for groups over 15. Ms. Burke commented the field at Bucks Mill used by the Hispanic League is left much cleaner than last year. Ms. Burke asked if there is a charge to use the Pavilion

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at Bucks Mill Park. Mr. Hennessy said yes the fee is \$50 for residents and \$100 for non-residents. He noted it is a good value compared to fees in surrounding towns for a similar facility.

Community Band Concert – 10/21 - The Township as asked the Community Band to become self sufficient as they will not be receiving monies from the Township in 2011. Mr. Hennessy suggested the Band stand at all exits at their concerts and ask for donations. This practice is done at concerts at the Great Auditorium in Ocean Grove. The Band advised Mr. Hennessy there will be no admission charge for the October concert.

Fossil Night – 10/28 – Mr. Hennessy reminded the committee the event will take place at the Primary School Cafeteria. He has been working with the school and all of the 4<sup>th</sup> grade children's fossil displays will be shown. They will have their displays shown at the beginning of the evening and take them home at the conclusion. The event is open to the general public.

Apple & Pumpkin Festival - 11/6 – Proceeds from this event go to the Ashley Lauren Foundation and will take place at Bucks Mill Park.

Veteran's Day - 11/11 – Mr. Hennessy has made 15-16 improvements to the program which will be held at Cedar Drive School at 11 am. The Women's Club will provide lunch for the Veterans.

Whispering Pines Art Contest (ends 11/20) – Mr. Hennessy expanded the advertising of the contest to several Monmouth County Art organizations along with all Libraries, and a very popular website bizturtle. The intent is to attract more art work than last year.

Broadway Trip - 11/17 A trip to see "Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown" starring Patti LuPone is planned for November. The cost is \$80 (ticket and transportation) Mr. Hennessy stated. The school bus will be used again. He is in the process of finding a driver.

American Cancer Society, Relay for Life – 6/20/11 Mr. Hennessy is working with the local American Cancer Society for use of Bucks Mill Park as the location for their 24 hour walking event. The last ten years they held it at the Freehold Race Track. Mr. Valenti commented years past he remembers it being held at the high school, which had a turf track for the walk which was ideal. Ms. Burke asked if the people planning the event have walked the park. Mr. Hennessy explained the group did see Bucks Mill Park. Mr. Piotrowski added Port-O' Johns will need to be added. Mr. Hennessy said currently they're in feasibility discussions to use Bucks Mill Park. There will be more details in the coming months.

Fall Maintenance schedule – At the last Township Meeting (9/29) Mr. Hennessy presented information related to the Township fields. Five Point Park fields are in excellent shape and having irrigation is key. There is not enough money for adequate maintenance, the plan is to weed/feed and fertilize as many fields as possible with remaining monies. Mr. Valenti asked what fields are in the worst shape. Mr. Hennessy replied the Pop Warner field, then the back fields at Laird Road. Laird Road # 2 received irrigation via donation. The Department of Public Works tried to use an aerator in the summer to loosen up the dirt, with the drought, the machine could not penetrate the dirt. They are planning to use an infield "mix" on the back fields to loosen the soil. A rented aerator will be used on the Pop Warner field. Mr. McNally asked where the Kiefco Unit will be stored. Mr. Hennessy explained the Sports Foundation agreed to finance an Eagle Scout project for a shed in the Spring Mr. McNally commented irrigation is the key in that Five Point Park fields look good.

Donations – Joann Dafeldecker, who is our Art Supervisor at the Conover Road Day Camp, donated her air hockey table to Recreation. Mr. Hennessy mentioned to her he was looking to purchase one this past summer. She had one not being used in her basement. Rich Rehm donated shrubs that were planted around the announcer's stand at the Polo field.

Pop Warner – Mr. Hennessy stated they are enjoying their games at the south side of Dorbrook Park. The use of the field is a cost savings for Pop Warner.

New Facilities Committee – Mr. Hennessy explained a new committee is forming with Committeeman Engle, Pop Warner and the Sports Foundation and all other interested parties. They're discussion overall field

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maintenance, expansion of fields etc. Mr. Valenti asked if Mr. Hennessy is involved, he replied yes. He then asked if anyone from the committee would like to volunteer, Mr. McNally will join the committee.

Face book – Ms. Byrne shared the news that Recreation and Parks now has a Face Book page. During the meeting Ms. Burke went onto the Face Book page and commented how nice it looked. The intent is to promote our programs and share ideas with residents and Fitness Instructors.

Future Programs – Mr. Hennessy was contacted by a cooking instructor who would like to teach cooking classes. He anticipates having the classes in the Library's kitchen area. Another instructor contacted our office asking if we'd be interested in starting a Hula Hoop class. "Hooping" is a new fitness class using weighted hula hoops.

Geese Control – Mr. Hennessy and Mr. Frank the Township Health Officer will be using laser guns to deter geese at Township Hall and other areas of the Township. There is nothing harmful with this method; they will start the process at Bucks Mill Park. Other ideas for geese control were discussed, Mr. Hennessy said he would consider other methods if there was proof of their success.

Open Discussion

Mr. Valenti asked if the Colts Neck Fair will continue into 2011. Mr. Maida replied it will return but perhaps be toned down in terms of number/types of rides. They will be looking at ideas to attract families and change some areas of the Fair.

Mr. Hennessy reminded everyone this Friday is the Men's Softball League Finals.

Mr. Maida asked if Mr. Hennessy had a copy of the Committee by-laws and what was his understanding of them. Mr. Hennessy explained his understanding has not changed after reading them. Mr. Maida stated he read them to be the opposite of what was discussed in September. The September discussion centered around the committee's role/Director's role as advisory. Mr. Valenti asked if this should be a discussion item on our agenda for November. All agreed. The committee will read the by-laws prior to the November 3 meeting.

Mr. Valenti asked the minutes reflect the passing of Art Goodwin. Mr. Goodwin did great service to the Township and to this committee. He had been a member of the Recreation Committee in past years and was a wealth of knowledge. He also served as our Master of Ceremonies at our Gravesite Ceremony at the conclusion of the Memorial Day Parade. He will be missed!

Ms. Laufer said the Senior Citizens went to Baltimore Harbor two weeks ago. There was short notice location change of the last Senior Citizen meeting from the Primary School to Cedar Drive. Ms. Laufer commented Mr. Rigby, Principal of Cedar Drive cleared the front parking lot to allow space for the Seniors to park and did an overall great job in accommodating them.

Committeeman Fitzgerald commented that the new Facility Committee is a good thing. He felt past fixes tended to be a "shotgun approach". This committee will lend to better coordination by having all of the stakeholders in one room. This is a good first step in planning field /maintenance in the Township.

With no other matters to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, November 3, 2010 at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Byrne, Secretary