

Colts Neck Recreation Committee Minutes – February 1, 2017

COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE MINUTES: February 1, 2017

Attendees: Frank Baker, Phil Maida, Ronnie Sullivan, Paul Wild, Rich Rehm, Joe Mancino, Brian McNally,
John Rocco, Chris Adams

Excused Absence: Judy Laufer, D.J. Ten Hoeve

Township Liaison Absent: Mr. Eastman

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Adams at 7:00 p.m.

The Sunshine Statement was read.

The Committee approved the minutes of January 4, 2017.

Old Business

2016 Year in Review – Mr. Hennessy reviewed 2016 events at the parks, an income and expense chart, and a brief overview of Capital Projects for 2017 and beyond.

2017 Recreation and Parks Budget: Ms. Sullivan stated she asked for a copy of the budget prior to the meeting to be prepared for discussion. Mr. Hennessy explained the budget document is not for distribution until his final meeting the Ms. Capristo next Thursday. He assured the committee that Recreation, Parks and Capital budget documents will be distributed as soon as possible and assured the committee that the documents will be sent before his public budget meeting on February 27 at 8:15 pm. at Town Hall. Mr. Baker noted the revenue numbers look good. Mr. Hennessy stated he met with the Colts Neck Sports Foundation and others regarding \$50K investment to bring baseball fields up to being playable and maintained as such. Tim Mariner provided Mr. Hennessy with a prioritized assessment of the fields. It included evaluation and detailed the work necessary for the fields to be acceptable for play. Mr. Mariner will be working on those fields. Mr. Hennessy plans to provide materials to the Sports Foundation for field improvements. Ms. Sullivan asked why the revenue from Recreation does not go back into the funds for field maintenance. Mr. Adams asked Mr. Hennessy if he would a copy of the budget would be sent to the committee after he meets with Ms. Capristo next week. Mr. Hennessy stated yes, a final copy of the budget will be distributed to all members on the committee.

2017 Capital Budget Cedar Drive Basketball Courts – A discussion transpired about the status of the basketball courts at Cedar Drive. Mr. Hennessy contacted Principal Rigby, of Cedar Drive School, to inquire as to the extent the basketball courts were utilized by the school. Mr. Rigby will advise Thursday after he speaks to his staff. Mr. Hennessy and others commented the courts don't seem to be used. If the courts were to be removed, Mr. Hennessy stated Public Works would do the demolition and removal. Mr. Rocco suggested, why have 2 locations of basketball courts as there are playable basketball courts at Conover Road Elementary School. Mr. Adams stated many organizations use indoor facilities for basketball. Mr. Wild has seen use at the Conover Road Elementary basketball courts. It was the unanimous consensus of the committee to not replace or repair the basketball courts but to remove them.

Stewards of the Park – Ms. Sullivan shared photos from Bucks Mill Park. She found an electrical box without a cover. Mr. Maida, an electrician himself, noted the box without a cover is not a danger. But the box should have a cover.

Letters to Santa – Barbara provided the following – 71 letters to Santa (38 from Colts Neck, 13 Freehold, 7 Marlboro, 2 Lincroft and 11 with no return addresses).

New Business

Eagle Scout Projects – Mr. Hennessey reviewed 8 Eagle Scout projects pending. Including a post and rail fence at Bucks Mill with gated access and GPS base for all trails in the park.

Upcoming Events – A review of the following events was discussed. Children's Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 2 (rain date April 9th), Earth Day Week, April 16th – 22nd, Jackson Lacrosse Club Tournament – May 5th and 6th, CNHS Power Run 5K – May 13th, Memorial Day Parade May 29th, Maverick Lacrosse Tournament, June 3rd, Fishing Derby, Sunday, June 11th, Battle of Monmouth Lacrosse Tournament June 17th – 18th, Summer Camp June 26th – August 4th. Mr. Hennessy noted he is weighing as to whether the Fishing Derby will return to Township Hall.

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Field Damage – There was damage to Cedar Drive football field and lower Cedar Drive soccer fields. Damage was lessened by the ground being frozen. Discussion continued, Mr. Rocco added perhaps a post and rail fence should be installed to prevent vehicles from driving onto the fields. Funding for a fence may be available through the Sports Foundation and DPW installing the fence would save costs.

In continuing a discussion related to parks, Mr. Hennessy reminded the committee of the benefits to the Township of Eagle Scout projects, including the #2 Five Point baseball field that was done by Pat Boag's son which saved the Township approximately \$10K.

On another positive note, a multi-purpose turf field will be installed at Five Point Park.

The Township also received a \$94K Monmouth County Parks matching grant to pave the walking trail at Town Hall.

Senior Citizen Meeting – Mr. Hennessy stated he attended Senior Citizen meeting today and spoke about the importance of fitness for Seniors.

With no other issues to discuss, Chairman Adams adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Our next meeting will be held March 1, 2017, at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Byrne, Secretary