

Colts Neck Recreation Committee Minutes – October 4, 2017

COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE MINUTES: September 6, 2017

Attendees: Ronnie Sullivan, Rich Rehm, Judy Laufer, Joe Mancino, Paul Wild, Phil Maida, Brian McNally

Excused Absence: Chris Adams, John Rocco, Frank Baker, D.J. Ten Hoeve

Township Liaison Absent: Mr. Eastman

The meeting was called to order by Mr. McNally at 7:00 p.m.

The Sunshine Statement was read.

The Committee approved the minutes of September 6, 2017.

Old Business

Five Point Field House – Location, functionality and infrastructure - Mr. Hennessy shared a map of Five Point Park and identified the proposed 60 additional parking spaces to the park. The Township Committee had a second reading for Bond Ordinance # 2017-18 to acquire the DeAngelis property. He noted this is exciting news to acquire additional acres for Five Point Park. A detailed discussion regarding a Field House will be held at the November meeting when Chairman Adams is in attendance.

Identify short and long-term goals of recreational needs. Mr. Wild will be presenting details related to bringing Pickleball to Colts Neck Recreation at our November meeting.

The artificial turf field is expected to be completed in late July of 2018. The field will be lined for five different sports.

New Business

Stewards of the Park - Ms. Laufer stated Rockfest was a success at Bucks Mill Park.

Ms. Sullivan met Eagle Scout, Coleby Mariner on Sunday at Bucks Mill Park. Coleby did a great job replacing the old yellow posts. He will be adding a hitching post to the area. Ms. Sullivan shared details of how the hitching post should be built with Coleby. The Colts Neck Trail Riders will be donating \$500 to his project.

Ms. Sullivan stated the fence is falling apart along the polo field at Bucks Mill. This is a safety hazard and feels what is there now should be removed, as children may fall off the broken wood. Mr. Hennessy will contact Mr. Adams to identify if the Sports Foundation would be able to remove the broken fencing.

Freer Preserve – Mr. Rehm would like to donate small hemlock trees, to be planted at Freer Preserve, to replace dying trees. He explained the small trees would need a wire fence around them until they grow taller. Ms. Laufer will donate the funds for the fencing.

Mr. Rehm, as a private citizen, reminded the committee there will be a referendum in November for residents to vote for an increase to Farmland Assessment tax. The increase will assist in preserving Farmland and Open Space. It is an important vote to maintain Colts Neck's Farmland and for the Township's future.

Park Improvements

Baseball/Softball fields improvement – Coaches have been working on Cedar Drive 1 and 2, they have brought electricity and water to the fields; American Youth football and Cheer has brought electricity to their upper field. Mr. Mariner and Mr. Garito have worked on Field 1 and 2 at Laird Road. Mr. Hennessy will continue to provide field supplies to the coaches for field restoration and conditioning. Photos were shared with the committee on completed field improvements.

Fertilizing – All 75 acres will be fertilized and the upper field at Bucks Mill Park (the old Polo field) will be reseeded along with the football field.

Colts Neck Recreation Committee Minutes – October 4, 2017

Eagle Scout Projects - Ms. Sullivan described the nice job Colbey Mariner did replacing the posts with split rail fencing. Robbie Borsha will be replacing the rails along the fence near the Community Center. Mr. Hennessy stated he instituted the scouts raise funding for their projects, unlike in the past when the township provided the funding. It is a chore to raise the money for projects and document project plans but there is fostered a sense of pride and accomplishment. The scouts are monitored by their Scout Master and other supporting adults within Troop 290.

Matching Grant – The Township applied for a Monmouth County Matching Grant of \$125,000 to purchase the DeAngelis property at Five Point Park. Mr. Hennessy stated the Township has a good chance to obtain a County Grant, as land acquisition is usually less competitive than playground equipment.

Fall Park Utilization

Cedar Drive fields – Saturdays, Rec Soccer, Sundays, Soccer Clinics, Flag Football and American Youth Football and Cheer. Weekdays, Cedar Drive Middle School soccer and Recreation soccer practices.

Bucks Mill Park – Upper fields – Sports Foundation travel soccer, lacrosse clinics, Lower field Sports Foundation and soccer and lacrosse clinics, CN High School Cross Country Invitational, Middle School Cross Country meet.

Five Point Park – Colts Neck Sports Foundation travel soccer and baseball.

Community Center – Troop 290 Boy Scout weekly meetings, American Youth Football and Cheer use the Community Center to practice 6/7 times per week, saving \$25K from not renting commercial space.

Whispering Pines Art Contest – It has been difficult finding participants for the contest the past few years. The contest will move to summer 2018, with participants being children attending the Rec camp. The original theme will be the same, rural/country setting. Recreation will provide donated prizes in conjunction with Mr. Maida.

Tree Lighting Coordination – Both Mr. Wild and Mr. McNally will manage the hot chocolate. Discussion continued related to entertainment. Given the short time constraints of the event, only two groups will provide entertainment, The Colts Neck Dance and Brass Quartet.

Senior Citizen Meeting – Ms. Laufer noted prior to today's luncheon/meeting sixty members received their flu shots. Future trips include the Algonquin Theater in Manasquan, Radio City Christmas Show and New Hope, Pa. The annual holiday lunch will be held at the Molly Pitcher on in December.

With no other issues to discuss, Mr. McNally adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Our next meeting will be held November 1, 2017, at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Byrne, Secretary