

**Colts Neck Recreation Committee  
Minutes – February 1, 2012**

**COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE  
MINUTES: February 1, 2012**

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

Excused Absence: Leonor Lesta, Brian McNally, Ed Piotrowski

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 January 4, 2012.

The Treasurer's Report was read.

**Old Business**

2012 Recreation and Parks Budget – Mr. Hennessy stated he has submitted the budget to Mr. Bowden with the exception of the Capital portion. He has been meeting with the Colts Neck Sports Foundation Capital Committee and will be completing this portion of the budget soon.

Park Maintenance – Mr. Hennessy noted the leaves have been picked up throughout the Township. With limited Public Works resources and in an effort to avoid tight schedules for field maintenance, he has been in discussion with the Sports Foundation and the Department of Public Works to ensure the ball fields are ready for Spring.

Winter Programs - All programs are going well, the registrations numbers are excellent.

**New Business**

Stewarts of the Park – Mr. Engel asked who is the liaison of Obre Road Preserve. At Tuesday's Township meeting a resident commented there were garbage bags left there from a boy scout camp out. The resident also expressed several ideas to utilize the Preserve. Mr. Hennessy will look into the garbage situation and advise Mr. McNally who is the Park Steward. Mr. Rehm commented, that Freer Preserve has many down trees and in the next few years there will be fewer trees standing in the Preserve. He also shared photos of trash accumulated in the stream. Specifically, building insulation, tractor trailer tires and styrofoam. Mr. Engel asked if someone has been dumping at the site. Mr. Rehm stated the garbage is a shame since the stream does get stocked with trout each year. Mr. Hennessy will investigate the source of the garbage.

Upcoming Events – Mr. Hennessy reviewed a list of upcoming events, this Saturday Nia Jam will take place at 14 Heyers Mill Road. He expects 50-60 attendees. Mr. Garito asked why the 7<sup>th</sup> grade dance is being held at the Community Center and not the school. Mr. Hennessy stated the Community Center allows tables/seating be arranged in a café style. Mr. Valenti asked what grades are involved with the Lacrosse Tournament. Mr. Hennessy stated 6<sup>th</sup> grade and up. The fields will be rented to an outside group for the Tournament. Mr. Hennessy reached a compromise between the Township Committee's request to extend camp to eight weeks and the day camp staff. Day Camp will be extended 7 weeks. He has reached an agreement with the Board of Education to install air conditioning units where applicable at Cedar Drive and Conover Road Elementary schools. Recreation will be paying for the cost of electricity to run the air conditioning units. Mr. Hennessy will be adding a few new activities such as kite flying to the camp activities this year. Mr. Garito asked if the camp will be pro-rated. Mr. Hennessy replied the camp

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will only be prorated if a child is participating in a program Recreation sponsors. Ms. Burke asked what are these programs. Mr. Hennessy named a variety of sports programs held at the High School and the Township fields.

Upcoming Events

Nia Jam, Saturday February 4  
American Cancer Society Relay for Life Kick Off, Tuesday February 28  
Children's Easter Egg Hunt Saturday March 31  
Children's Easter Crafts Saturday PM March 31  
Earth Day April 21 – 22  
Nia White Belt April 26 – 29 and May 4 – 6  
Memorial Day Parade May 28  
Seventh Grade Dance, Friday June 8  
American Cancer Society Relay for Life June 9 – 10  
Lacrosse Tournament June 15 – 16  
Colts Neck Fair June 29 - 30  
Summer Camp June 25 – August 10

Recreation Center Improvements – Mr. Hennessy replaced the entry way carpeting at 14 Heyers Mill Road. Monies from the 2010 Capital fund paid for the installation. He believes the carpeting removed was from 1982. The installer commented the carpeting was in very bad shape with a lot of dirt found underneath. Also replaced was an upstairs toilet and downstairs sink in the women's restroom.

Additional Barre bars (ballet bars) were purchased and installed for a new program.

Community Center – Mr. Hennessy advised Public Works the entry light was not working on the outside of the building. This prompted him to explore adding a 3 way motion light to the building. Mr. Maida will discuss with Mr. Hennessy the feasibility for such lighting at a later date. Mr. Hennessy mentioned the American Cancer Relay for Life event as an example of an activity necessitating additional lighting.

Misc. Discussion – Ms. Burke asked for status on the pond dredging at Town Hall. What are the chances of it being done. Mr. Engel stated chances are pretty good it will be done. The Township has not forgotten about the dredging. Ms. Burke commented the pond at Hominy Hill is being dredged this week.

Senior Citizen Club – Ms. Laufer stated she had no new items.

Township News – Mr. Engel invited the committee to attend the upcoming budget meetings. He has been working with Mr. Bowden on budget issues since early January. He stated negotiations have begun between the Township and Department of Public Works. He is also aware that Mr. Hennessy, Mr. Garito and the Sports Foundation Capital committee are discussing best ways to maintain our fields. Again, he asked if committee members can attend the budget meetings it would be appreciated.

With no other matters to discuss, Mr. Valenti adjourned the meeting at 7:40 pm. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, March 7, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Byrne, Secretary