

**Colts Neck Recreation Committee
Minutes – October 1, 2014**

**COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES: October 1, 2014**

Attendees: Jim Valenti, Frank Baker, Ed Piotrowski, Phil Maida, Paul Wild, Judy Laufer

Excused Absence: A.J. Garito, Brian McNally, Joe Mancino, Rich Rehm, Chris Adams

Township Liaison Absent: Mayor Russell Macnow

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 3, 2014.

The Treasurer's Report was read.

Colts Neck Trail Riders – Ronnie Sullivan was in attendance representing the Trail Riders whose purpose it to keep horseback riding alive in the Township. In the afternoon, she had taken photos and shared them with the committee of the upper field at Cedar Drive Park. The perimeter of the field is used by the Trial Riders for horseback riding and is littered with water bottles and turned over bleachers. When viewing the wooded area building materials have been discarded. Examples shown were fencing and metal poles. Ms. Sullivan added if a horse is spooked, both rider and horse may be hurt given the debris in the area. All in attendance expressed concerned of the safety of the area for both horses and people. Mr. Valenti asked if anyone has a permit for use of the field. Mr. Hennessy stated yes, Colts Neck American Youth Football and Cheer. Litter has been a constant issue at that location. Mr. Baker asked who is in charge of the organization. Mr. Maida asked if that was the property of the Board of Education. Mr. Hennessy said no, it is our property from the west side of the curb of the Cedar Drive parking lot. Mr. Baker suggested if the field is not kept clean, the permit holder should not be permitted to use the field. Mr. Maida asked who owns the destroyed bleachers. Mr. Hennessy stated the AYFC. Mr. Valenti stated if the area is unsafe the Township needs to shut it down and/or take immediate action to make it safe. Mr. Hennessy will be taking action tomorrow.

Mr. Valenti thanked Ms. Sullivan for bringing the problem to the committee's attention. He invited her to stay for the remainder of at the meeting, which she did.

Old Business

Field Maintenance – Fifty acres of fertilizer has been applied to fields, with the Fair grounds, pavilion area, Laird # 3 and # 4 remaining to be done.

Colts Neck Arts and Craft Festival – Saturday the festival had a 25% increase in volume from last year. The event took place last weekend.

New Business

Stewards of the Park – No reports given. Mr. Baker noted after listening to Ms. Sullivan it reminds the committee to go out and look at their assigned area.

Field Maintenance for Fall – Mr. Hennessy reported by the end of the year Bucks Mill # 2 and # 3 baseball, Cedar Drive softball, and Laird Road # 2 baseball infields will all be refurbished. Positive comments were made on the improvement of Cedar Drive softball field. Adding infield mix resolved the past drainage issues. Mr. Hennessy spoke to Brendan Dowd, CNSF President today. They will be assisting in the cost of Laird # 2 they also assisted in purchasing soccer nets.

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He is working with Colts Neck High School's work program and two students will be fertilizing by hand the fairgrounds and pavilion area. They will also work on repairing the damage the circus caused at Bucks Mill Park.

Seeding of the Cedar Drive soccer, upper field and infield at all baseball locations will be done. Mr. Hennessy is negotiating an outside company to aerate and seed all open areas as well as fenced in fields.

Events – Mr. Hennessy shared upcoming Recreation events for Fall.

1. PBA 5K and 2 Mile walk for the "Cure Breast Cancer Foundation" this Sunday at Bucks Mill Park
2. Whispering Pines Art Contest
3. CNSF Fall Baseball/Softball and Soccer
4. Veteran's Day Ceremony – 11/11/14 Mr. Hennessy explained a new war memorial at Colts Neck High School will be dedicated on Veteran's Day. Major Penczak asked if the ceremony could be held at the high school this year. Mr. Valenti asked what and where is the memorial located. Mr. Hennessy stated it is four statues of members of each military service and is located at the main entrance. The Colts Neck High School Navy JROTC, Colts Neck High School Band, Cedar Drive Middle School Band and Chorus will be involved, and the students will also be involved. Ms. Laufer asked if all of the 8th grade could be bussed over for the ceremony. Mr. Hennessy stated no.
5. Dog Lure Coursing and Box Racing at Bucks Mill will take place until mid December.
6. Bucks Mill Park Cross Country Races – Cedar Drive School, CN High School, MCISCCL Meet of Champions and Shore Conference Coaches Invitational. Bucks Mill is becoming a Cross Country Headquarters outside of Holmdel Park which is expensive. And why not, the park has beautiful grounds for events. Inquiries are also increasing for Lacrosse activities to be held at Bucks Mill. Mr. Wild asked if groups pay to use the park. Mr. Hennessy said yes, everyone pays. He is also relying more on outside vendor expertise to do field work rather than our Department of Public Works.

Senior Citizen's Report – Mr. Piotrowski stated the group held their regular meeting today. Those who wanted to could also receive a flu shot. He reported he returned from the Senior trip to Niagara Falls. It was one of the best trips. He explained Mr. Walsh, President of the club, finds tour guides. With a tour guide they learned interesting facts on the trip.

With no other matters to discuss, Mr. Valenti adjourned the meeting at 7:40 pm. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, November 5, 2014 at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Byrne, Secretary