

**Colts Neck Recreation Committee
Minutes – September 1, 2010**

**COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE
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Attendees: Phil Maida, Rich Rehm, Brian McNally, Paul Wild, Ed Piotrowski, Leonor Lesta, Joe Mancino

Excused Absence: A.J. Garito, Frank Baker, Candice Burke

Township Liaison Excused Absence: 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 May 5, 2010 and July 7, 2010 meetings.

The Treasurer's Report was read.

Mr. Hennessy explained there will be more spending, however it will be done very prudently.

Old Business

Fishing Derby – Mr. Hennessy stated close to 90 fish were caught and released by approximately 54 children. John Hyde and his wife ran a fishing clinic prior to the Derby which included fishing rod selection and casting. Mr. Valenti asked if the signs warning “not to eat the fish” were still posted near the pond. Mr. Hennessy replied not anymore. Mr. Mancino and Mr. McNally commented they see people fishing at Township Hall. Summer Day Camp – 317 children attended camp this year, Mr. Hennessy stated day camp attendance was increased by 10 children from 2009, a substantial increase based on our decreasing school enrollment. This year the summer day camp was uneventful as far as any problems. There were many trips and plans for 2011 trips are in the works. Mr. Hennessy noted Tony Senk wrote a great article in the Colts Neck Calendar regarding the Day Camp. Also, in the August issue were photographs from the Fishing Derby.

New Business

Fall Program Guide – Mr. Hennessy shared a copy of the brochure noting a new effort to entice Senior Citizens to participate in fitness programs by offering a 50% discount. Ms. Lesta noted in the past a 10% discount was not advertised and many Seniors were unaware of that discount. Mr. Hennessy pointed to two places in the brochure reflecting 50% was noted. He highlighted a new program “Better Balance and Beyond” by certified instructor Jean Brennan may be of interest to Senior Citizens. Mr. Hennessy highlighted Special Events scheduled for Fall - Fossil Presentation by the 4th grade students of Conover Road School, in addition to Fossil Presenters from New York City, Hofstra University and local fossil experts. Veteran's Day Ceremony will take place on November 11 at Cedar Drive School at 11:00 am. The Community Band has secured private funding and will not be charging admission for the October 21 concert. All donations to the Colts Neck Community Band continue to be welcomed and appreciated. Recreation and Parks will be sponsoring Tommy DeNegris running a Fall Soccer Clinic “Future Stars”, on October 16. We will be sponsoring the first annual Colts Neck Pet Fair partnering with Performance Canine Association, including a variety of animals including dogs, horses, lizards etc. Mr. Valenti commented the orange color of the brochure was a good choice. Mr. Mancino asked if Ms. Poppe's revised ad is included. Mr. Hennessy read the revised ad with corrected program.

Community Projects – Carolyn Rehm is working on her Gold Award for Girl Scouts (similar to an Eagle Scout Award) by repainting the Core Center Exercise Map at Town Hall. Ken Davis Eagle Scout candidate will be building a storage shed for the Kiefco Irrigation unit at Five Point Park. Most Eagle Scouts work on their project just before their 18th birthday. Ken is 16 and is already planning to complete his project this spring, he's very enthusiastic.

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In September a Virtual Back Pack Program will be implemented at all Colts Neck Township Schools. In an effort to go “paperless”, all event flyers will be found on the schools website. This includes all of our Department flyers for programs and special events.

Mr. Hennessy stated he is working with the American Cancer Society to hold their Annual Relay for Life at Bucks Mill Park in June 2011. Mr. Piotrowski commented the event is usually at Freehold Race Track. Mr. Hennessy said they are looking for a larger area. Mr. Valenti asked if this was the same event held at the High School, where participants walk for 24 hours. Brief discussion continued on the format with more details to follow in the upcoming months.

Mr. Maida asked the role of the Recreation Committee in terms of approving decisions for events. Mr. Hennessy stated the committee is strictly an advisory committee and he will provide the by-laws to Mr. Maida prior to the October meeting.

Ms. Laufer commented in November referendum, Recreation as been removed from the Farmland item.

Mr. Piotrowski commented having the Fair and a Polo match on the same day was not a good idea. Mr. Hennessy stated that will not happen in the future, this year there were a number of dates necessary that had to be given to Mr. Garber's Polo Club and the Sunday of the Fair was one of them. Next year there will not be a conflict. Mr. Piotrowski explained they held up running their fundraiser of hitting golf balls for a few hours as to not hit any horses. Mr. Hennessy stated the Lions will be receiving a check for any lost monies.

Mr. McNally asked was the Fair a success. Mr. Karcher co-chair of the Fair committee seemed to think it was a success in terms of weather, if not so much the gate, stated Mr. Hennessy. Mr. Karcher will be meeting with the Fair committee to determine its future. If the fair does continue into 2011, reinforced that there will be no Polo activity on the field per Mr. Hennessy. Mr. Hennessy explained many things were going on that Sunday, the parking attendants hired by Mr. Garber, ended their shift early which was not the agreed time. Mr. Maida explained the road set up for parking was in place, but there were at least five cars that shot across the field, 20% of the cars went down the wrong side. There was definitely a problem and his concern was the safety of all attendees that day.

Ms. Laufer suggested the Fair should collect an entrance fee. Mr. Maida said they thought about that but there are too many ways people could sneak into the Fair.

With no other matters to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Byrne, Secretary