

**Colts Neck Recreation Committee  
Minutes – October 5, 2011**

**COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE  
MINUTES: October 5, 2011**

Attendees: Frank Baker, Rich Rehm, Ed Piotrowski, Paul Wild, Candice Burke, Joe Mancino,  
Brian McNally

Excused Absence: Phil Maida, A.J. Garito, Leonor Lesta, Jim Valenti

Township Liaison Present: Jarrett Engel

Also in attendance: Elaine Mann, Roseann Scotti, Tom Orgo, Ms. Wilcox, and Mr. Jacoby

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Frank Baker at 7:00 p.m.

The Sunshine Statement was read.

The Committee approved the minutes from September 7, 2011.

The Treasurer's Report was read.

**Presentation to Carolyn Rehm**

Mr. Hennessy presented a plaque to Carolyn Rehm. She volunteered to recreate the sign at Town Hall Core Center Park depicting the Fitness Trail. The previous sign was faded and in need of serious repair. Once Carolyn started to refurbish the sign she realized a new one would be more beneficial and long lasting to those using the area. Mr. Hennessy expressed his appreciation for her volunteerism and the committee gave her a warm round of applause for her hard work.

**Colts Neck Farmland and Open Space Committee**

Mr. Richard Malinowski, Chairperson of Farmland and Open Space Committee provided an overview of impacts to the Township and the Farmland Committee if the Recreation Referendum passes in the November election. The current referendum would obtain up to \$55,000 of funds from the Farmland and Open Space budget. He expressed concern for the poor conditions of sports field in the Township, but his committee feels the way the referendum is written, by removing funds for Farmland preservation, would create a financial burden the township and eliminate the committee, in coming year, to continue to preserve farmland. His intent in appearing was to explore alternate alternatives for field improvements. He has seen the Hispanic League playing soccer on Bucks Mill fields. Mr. Hennessy explained that it is their dedicated field as part of the Green Acres policy. Mr. Orgo asked what policy is that. Mr. Hennessy stated Bucks Mill was partially paid for by Green Acre monies, which states a portion of the park be open to the public. Mrs. Wilcox asked for more detail, Mr. Hennessy asked if she was on either of the committees here tonight, she answered no. He stated he would discuss this with her later in the meeting. Mr. Malinowski asked if his committee has the support from the Recreation Committee that the referendum is not a good one.

Mr. Baker stated he is not prepared yet to give an opinion on the referendum. He would like more knowledge. Other Recreation committee members also agreed with Frank. Mr. Piotrowski commented this committee is an advisory only and does not have the authority to stop the referendum. Ms. Scotti asked if Mr. Malinowski presented the concerns that the Farmland and Open Space Committee shared tonight, to the Township Committee. He replied yes they did, however the Farmland and Open Space Committee was never asked for input or approached about the creation of the referendum. She suggested to Mr. Engel the township committee should provide the public with statistics and long term cost associated with the referendum. She asked if the Township had intentions to share this information with the public. Mr. Engle replied the point of the referendum is to discuss ideas, and there is a 15% cap on what the Township can spend. Mr. Hennessy thanked Mr. Malinowski for coming and sharing the information with the Recreation committee.

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**Old Business**

Mr. Hennessy stated the Arts and Craft Fair would return in 2012. The Ashley Lauren Foundation Barn and Winery Tour was a success.

**New Business**

Events - Mr. Hennessy shared the following upcoming events: True Velocity Youth Cross Country Challenge on October 9, MCISCCL Meet of Championships Cross Country Track Meet also at Bucks Mill on October 26, Community Band Concert on November 3, Veteran's Day Ceremony on November 11 at Township Hall, Whispering Pines Art Contest is underway, Fall Volleyball League starting October 26 and the American Cancer Society Relay for Life returns to Bucks Mill Park on June 9 and 10 next year.

Maintenance – Mr. Hennessy stated the water reel shed at Five Point Park is almost complete. He also stated there is a published field maintenance schedule; however there is no man power to maintain the schedule. He also added the Colts Neck Sports Foundation contributed \$16K towards soccer goals, and improved field maintenance and that sometimes these donated funds go unnoticed.

Stewards of the Park – Mr. Hennessy asked committee members to please survey your park and provide feedback at the November meeting. Mr. Rehm stated the recycle containers at Freer Preserve have been destroyed. It was also mentioned an extended appreciation to Mr. Orgo and Mr. Bennett for assisting in improvements at Township Hall for the September 11 ceremony. Field discussion included Mr. Orgo suggesting fields are rested for longevity. Ms. Burke mentioned they committee is aware that soccer fields need to be rested and two years ago the soccer fields at Five Point were rested. All agreed parking cars on fields should be avoided. Ms. Burke commented on the poor condition the driveway is into Bucks Mill Park. Mr. Orgo stated he and Mr. Barbagallo will be taking care of the driveway. Mr. Hennessy asked if anyone has a laser measure to aid in field improvements. Mr. Orgo knows who has one. Mr. Wild asked what happened to the facility meetings Mr. Engle was having. Mr. Engle stated a lot was learned at those meetings and those who attended realized more money is needed for the fields. Ms. Mann asked what are the field use fees. Mr. Hennessy replied they will be published in the Township Ordinance binder. Mr. Engle stated they be posted onto the website.

With no other matters to discuss, Mr. Baker adjourned the meeting at 8:15 pm. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, November 2, 2011 at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Byrne, Secretary