

Colts Neck Recreation Committee Minutes – June 6, 2018

COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE MINUTES: June 6, 2018

Attendees: Frank Baker, Brian McNally, Phil Maida, Judy Laufer, Ronnie Sullivan, Rich Rehm, Paul Wild.

Excused Absence: Mike Tormey, John Cantalupo, Chris Adams, Joe Mancino.

Township Liaison Absent: Mayor Bartolomeo

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Frank Baker at 7:00 p.m.

The Sunshine Statement was read.

The Committee approved the minutes from April 4, 2018.

The Treasurer's Report was read.

Old Business

Critique of Memorial Day Parade - Because of the rain on Sunday, the Gravesite Ceremony was relocated to the grounds at Fire House # 2. Vice Chair Baker noted the parade went well. Perhaps if the ceremony continues at the Fire House # 2 a different configuration for seating could be changed. Many children were distracted by the fire trucks. There were no objections to have the ceremony at the Fire House # 2 next year. Mr. Maida stated the bicycle contest was not well attended, perhaps next year focus on grades K-3. Ms. Sullivan, suggested contacting Colts Neck school personnel for involvement. Mr. Wild asked the cost of the "event postcard", maybe a postcard to all residents advertising the parade and bike contest. Mr. Hennessy stated the advertising budget will not allow for another post card. He added, Monmouth County Parks Commission finds that print advertising is their most successful advertising. We are now transitioning many print tasks to on-line throughout the Township. Mr. Wild suggested next year a tent for shade should be available for the Veteran's during the ceremony.

Stewards of the Parks – Mr. Rehm reported no trash or vandalism found at Freer Preserve. He also reported approximately 30 new hemlock tree seedlings are growing in the Preserve. Nurturing these trees would be a good Scout project. He suggested a wire wrap would be necessary around each tree, approximately 4-5' round be place around the tree trunks to keep the deer away for the trees. Mr. McNally reported he filled up two bags of trash from around the entrance of Schlesinger Preserve. Ms. Sullivan added the Trail Riders will be cleaning Bucks Mill Park prior to their July 15 Poker Ride. She has been in contact with Eagle Scout, Coleby Mariner to complete the hitching post project at Bucks Mill. This was an item from his Eagle Scout project last year.

Colts Neck High School Color Run – The event was held in the rain. In planning their event for next year, Sponsors have asked for a raindate.

Colts Neck Farm House 5K – A very fun event held at Town Hall.

Upper Bucks Mill Park – Formal bids will be completed on Monday for an excavation company to flatten the dirt pile at this location.

New Business

Identify short and long-term goals of recreation needs – Mr. Hennessy noted extending a path from Colts Neck High School to Hominy Hill/Monmouth County Parks is one long-term goal. The area presently farmed, might become our leaf compost. The path would cross without being plowed under and the wet land area would not be tamped down. The trail would go from Matthews and Five Point and would be used for Colts Neck High Schools cross country meets and other events. Mr. Hennessy explained Mayor Bartolomeo is confident the DeAngelis property will be acquired by the Township. It is possible funding for the purchase includes a matching grant from Monmouth County Parks, similar to the paving of the path at Town Hall. Mr. Maida asked if obtaining the DeAngelis property is a definite deal. Mr. Hennessy replied no. Ms. Sullivan met with Township Administrator Capristo regarding Township greenways. The Colts Neck Trail Riders would like to become part of a group to clean up the greenways throughout the Township for residents to use for walking paths and horseback riding. Discussion continued, with Ms. Sullivan

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asking if the Township has asked the residents for their input on Recreation and Parks long-term goals. Others suggested revisiting the previous Visionquest 1999-2005 document. This document provided surveys to residents. The results were published in this document with regards to future Recreation and Park enhancements for Colts Neck. Mr. Wild suggested having a subcommittee explore long range plans. Ms. Sullivan noted, we need to have a working document. Mr. McNally commented, as we work on specific efforts for parks and recreation as Township committee members priorities change. Our initial efforts may not be implemented. With a new Township committee. Mayor Bartolomeo is emphasizing inclusiveness, Mr. Hennessy added. The town has spent a lot of money on the artificial field. Mr. Hennessy stated about half was money bequeathed to the Township. This will be an agenda item at our next meeting.

Location, functionality and infrastructure of potential Recreation Office/Sports Center – Mr. Hennessy met with Deputy Mayor Orgo, and Administrator Capristo on Monday regarding plans for a new Recreation Office/Sports Center. He continued by stating the Sports Foundation is considering funding a building to be built near the Community Center at Bucks Mill. This building would be an indoor sports center adjacent or attached to the proposed location of the Recreation and Parks Department office. Depending on the timing, the new recreation building may be used as an interim Police Station first, as plans are in the works to demolish the current police station and replace it with a new two-story building. Once the Police Station is complete, Recreation and Parks Department would move to the Bucks Mill location. Because Chairman Adams and Liaison Mayor Bartolomeo are absent tonight, Mr. Hennessy suggested the committee carry this item over to our next meeting.

Summer Camp – We are in the process of hiring staff and Counselors for Summer Camp. Our camp continues to be very affordable and we have a great staff returning this year.

Special Events 2018 – Mr. Hennessy explained we have implemented a special event application that must be completed within 30 days of an event. This application is completed by the event requestor and interfaces with the following Township Departments: Health, Fire Marshall and Municipal Clerk (gambling and alcohol) permitting.

Senior Citizen Club – Ms. Laufer reports 110 attend lunch today at the Colts Neck Inn. Eight new members have joined the club. June 12 they will be visiting SurfFlight Theater in Beach Haven, July 10 the Tropicana in Atlantic City, July 26 the Algonquin Theater in Manasquan, August 14 Cape May. They are planning an overnight trip in October to Baltimore, MD. Ms. Laufer added Friday is the 75th anniversary of Earle. The first 500 will be admitted at noon for a program, games, food etc.

Mr. Baker noted our July meeting is scheduled on the July 4 Holiday. He proposed our next meeting be held September 5. Mr. Rehm seconded.

With no other matters to discuss, Vice Chair Baker adjourned the meeting at 8:35 pm. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, September 5, 2018 at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Byrne, Secretary