

**Colts Neck Recreation Committee
Minutes–February 19, 2019**

**COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES: February 19, 2019**

Attendees: John Cantalupo, Frank Baker, Joe Mancino, Ronnie Sullivan, Paul Wild, John Maguire, Susan Fitzpatrick, Heather Tormey

Excused Absence: Brian McNally, Phil Maida, Judy Laufer

Township Liaison Present: Committeeman Bartolomeo

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Cantalupo at 7:00 p.m.

The Sunshine Statement was read.

Chairman Cantalupo welcomed new member Heather Tormey.

Liaison Report: Committeeman Bartolomeo discussed with Committeeman Viola, Mr. Hennessy and Administrator Capristo upcoming events. A listing of events will be mailed to residents. The Council of Affordable Housing will be coming to the Township. The Township Committee is currently working on drawings for a new Police Department and Court House building. Plans will be shared with the public. This Saturday the public is invited to attend the 2019 Budget review at Town Hall. Chairman Cantalupo asked if there were any budget items to be discussed tonight related to parks. Mr. Hennessy replied all will be discussed at the budget hearing on Saturday.

Mid and Long-Range Planning for Recreation – Recommendations:

Mr. Hennessy contacted Monmouth County Parks asking if they might be interested in any aspect of the Blind Garden at Town Hall. The committee has discussed the poor condition of this past Eagle Scout project. Monmouth County has partnered with Colts Neck Lions Club by building a Sensory Playground at Dorbrook Park. Mr. Hennessy invited the County to visit the space to see if any materials may be used for the Sensory Playground. Vice Chairman Baker shared photos recently taken of the area. He reminded the committee of the ground hog hole remains a safety hazard. He asked if any part of the Blind Garden is worth moving. Mr. Hennessy stated based on a telephone call with Monmouth County Parks they may not be eager to take away items, but they will visit the area before making a decision. Mr. Hennessy added there is fencing that would be salvageable for the Township.

Steward of the Parks – Mr. Hennessy reviewed suggestions from the November meeting below.

Freer Nature Preserve – Mr. Hennessy noted fencing needs to be replaced near the cliff area and signage needs to be added. He shared forty-page pamphlet describing the preserve. Creating an updated pamphlet would be a nice idea. The committee asked this pamphlet be downloaded to the Recreation and Parks website. Seedlings are growing at Triple Brook Nursery which will be planted by Boy Scout Troop 290 in this Spring. Mr. Rehm has donated the seedlings in an effort to replenish trees at the Preserve. Recreation and Parks will supply the protection(fencing) from wildlife for the seedlings.

Schlesinger Preserve – Mr. Hennessy noted this preserve has a bog area. Mr. Cantalupo asked if it needs decking. Mr. Hennessy stated perhaps we can add this item to the long-term Capital plan. An Eagle Scout project was completed two years ago and included refurbishment of the park and signage. Mr. Cantalupo asked if there is a five-year plan for all projects. Mr. Hennessy explained, yes there is a five-year plan included in the budget.

Bucks Mill Park/Cedar Drive Park – Suggestions include, adding a horse decal to the Community Center sign, improve Kiosk use, welcome sign, trail maps, regulations, schedule of events and a fish ruler. Mr. Hennessy asked if Ms. Sullivan would like the keys to the kiosk, in order to have access for posting/maintaining information.

Obre Preserve – Mr. Cantalupo asked if there were any parking provisions, as parking is limited. Mr. Hennessy noted it is a passive preserve that could become active. As mentioned, COAH may be coming to that section of the Township. Ms. Sullivan asked if any of the above discussions be added to the budget. Mr. Hennessy added no, many of the projects will be completed by scouts.

Old Business

Pickle Ball – Mr. Wild attended a meeting with Pickle Ball representatives to discuss the possibility of creating a court in the Township. Mr. Hennessy stated Monmouth County Parks is adding six Pickle Ball courts at Deerbrook Park.

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The courts will go over the existing ice hockey rink. The courts will be open to the public and may satisfy the current interest in Pickle Ball.

Ms. Tormey asked if the Laird Road tennis courts and basketball courts at Cedar Drive will be refurbished. Mr. Hennessy replied no. Ms. Tormey suggested repainting the lines and possible portable nets be added. The nets may be able to be stored in a CN Sports Foundation shed.

Line of March Memorial Day Parade – Mr. Cantalupo noted at past meetings members would like to have more participation in the parade. He suggested to ask those stakeholders to attend our March meeting (and be listed first on the agenda) to review the parade line up and receive a number of potential participants for the parade. The committee assigned members to contact specific stakeholders to ensure their attendance the March 18 meeting.

Mr. Hennessy suggested the Chief of Police and other members of the police department lead the parade, followed by the CNHS Cadets. He also agreed with Ms. Laufer's suggestion in past meetings, to obtain a list of Veteran's from the Township property tax listing and send them invitations to the parade. Ms. Sullivan suggested to also include younger Veteran's who may not be on the Township listing. A suggestion was made to add exotic cars in addition to antique cars to the parade line up.

Ms. Tormey will contact Amy Dimes, CNPTO to explore the possibility of the PTO getting involved with the bicycle contest. Mr. Maguire suggested having a float contest. Groups of children, neighbors would make floats, march in the parade and receive some type of award. Children with decorated wagons was a suggestion from our last meeting.

Mr. Hennessy stated he receive a phone call from a Girl Scout Daisy group in Lincroft who would like to march in the parade. Ms. Tormey asked if there is a "bandstand" along the parade route. The local dance school could perform a routine (stopping the parade briefly).

Mr. Hennessy suggested having four members of the CN ROTC each one stand at each corner of the flag pole as part of the ceremony.

Mr. Baker reminded we also need golf carts.

New Business

A revised listing of the Stewards of the Park assignments will be completed and distributed prior to the March 18 meeting.

Event	Date
CNSF Baseball/Softball Opening Day	4/6
Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Firehouse # 1 Lunch with the Easter Bunny	4/13
Earth Day	4/22
CN Community Band Concert CNHS	5/16
2 nd Annual Colts Neck Farmhouse 5K	5/19
Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony at Firehouse # 2	5/27
CN Community Band Thompson Park	6/6
Movie in the Park at Town Hall	6/14
Summer Camp Begins	6/24
CNBA Fireworks and Community Bank Concert	7/3

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Music in the Park at Town Hall

7/10, 17, 24, 31

Mr. Hennessy reviewed the above upcoming events list. It was noted the Trial Riders have an event at Bucks Mill Park on July 14. Committee Bartolomeo advised the events are Recreation Sponsored events, i.e. sports are a subset of Recreation as is Santa's arrival etc. A comment was made if the Trail riders are using the park, shouldn't they be added to the event listing. Ms. Sullivan added, for years we were sponsored by Recreation and Parks then we weren't. Ms. Tormey suggested another listing of 'Other events/Town Happenings' in Town, or maybe a listing for Bucks Mill Park events only.

Senior Citizen Report - Committee Bartolomeo attended the meeting on February 6 and shared the announcement of Paul Santucci's promotion to Chief of Police, along with a promotion of a new Sargent. The regular agenda was reviewed at the meeting.

Miscellaneous – Ms. Sullivan noted the Recreation website needs work. She is willing to contact Monmouth University. Perhaps a group of students in need of a project could build a new website at no cost. Committeeman Bartolomeo stated the Township is in the early stages of redoing the Township Website and will include changes to the Recreation and Parks website. He continued to explain the Township has a small staff, bandwidth issues and budget concerns. However, a small amount of money has been set aside for the improvement of both websites.

Ms. Byrne clarified that the November 22, 2018 and January 22, 2019 meetings have been approved.

With no other matters to discuss, Chairman Cantalupo adjourned the meeting at 8:15 pm. Our next meeting will be Monday, March 18, 2019 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Byrne Secretary