

Attendance: Frank Baker, John Cantalupo, Judy Laufer, Brian McNally, John Maguire, Ronnie Sullivan, Heather Tormey, Paul Wild, Jacki Kronstedt, John Killick (arrived at 8:10 pm)

Absent: Phil Maida

Township Liaison Present – Committeeman Bartolomeo

Meeting called to order by Chairman Cantalupo at 7:00 pm  
Sunshine Statement

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

Approval of November 18, 2019 meeting minutes

Liaison Report – Committeeman Bartolomeo reported the chairs in the meeting room are on loan from First Aid. Each chair has been documented and inventoried. The police will be moving to the First Aid building and First Aid offices have moved to the lower level of the Library. The chairs would have to be stored in a climate-controlled facility. Rather than put them in storage, they are on loan to the Township. Originally the police were to move to the block building at Bucks Mill Park. After doing due diligence the cost to refurbish the building went from \$200K to \$1.1 million. The Chief of Police then suggested we share the CNFA building.

Plans for the new building will be discussed at a special town meeting on Wednesday, January 29. Residents will be advised of the meeting this week and FAQs (frequently asked questions) will be available on the Township website. The Board of Education is having a meeting to discuss their past 5 years and their vision for the next 5 years the same evening. It's unfortunate, but that's the way everything lined up. The engineers, members of the Colts Neck Police, architects and Township Administration will be present to answer questions and share the timetable for the new building project.

Affordable Housing is in a holding pattern. The two areas of consideration are the property across from Colts Neck High School on the westbound side of Rt. 537, the second area is on Rt. 537. There was discussion of developing Obre Road property, but probably not for a high-density project. Maybe more of 1-acre per home community. The Township Committee has been advised not to change these two locations, as the state could choose different properties.

Reorganization was great, Sue Fitzpatrick was sworn into the Township Committee.

2020 Calendar – Committeeman Bartolomeo is working with Mr. Hennessy on the 2020 Township Calendar and he looks forward to the Capital presentation from the Recreation Committee at the next Township Committee meeting.

### **Old Business**

Stewards of the Park – Mr. Cantalupo noted with Joe Mancino's resignation Laird Road becomes available for a new Steward. As does Big Brook (Sue Fitzpatrick) and Schlesinger Preserve (Mr. McNally). Mr. Hennessy will speak to new members and revise the assignments accordingly. An updated listing will be distributed prior to our February meeting.

Mr. Cantalupo introduced new member Jacki Kronstedt. Jacki provided the members with her background and all welcomed her to the committee.

Capital Improvement Projects – Mr. Cantalupo asked Ms. Byrne to contact the Township Clerk and have his name added to the agenda for the January 29 Township Committee meeting. The four projects include 1) Trail Maps and Markings 2) Bucks Mill Park Community Center Bathrooms, Floor and Safety Features, 3) Foot Bridge connecting Schlesinger Preserve and Big Brook Preserve, 4) Pickleball Court Conversion or Construction at Laird Road Park.

Mr. Hennessy shared an estimate for the flooring for the Community Center would run \$25,000 for indoor/outdoor carpeting to a Mondo rubber option costing \$64,400.

Mr. Wild shared an estimate for Laird Road tennis courts to be reconstructed and lined plus adding 4 pickleball courts would cost \$125,000. Ms. Tormey added the courts are currently not safe and are cracked all around the area.

Ms. Tormey asked about adding speed bumps to the entrance of Bucks Mill Park. Mr. Hennessy stated the police said no to speed bumps. Mr. Cantalupo mentioned using “traffic calming devices” which would be an alternative to speed bumps.

Ms. Sullivan asked Mr. Hennessy for a cost breakdown for the four Capital projects. Mr. Hennessy was not ready to share details at this meeting. Ms. Kronstedt asked about Cedar Drive Park courts? Ms. Tormey explained it is owned by the Board of Education. She asked about storage and security for Laird Road tennis nets, pickleball equipment etc. Mr. Wild noted the storage and security concerns will be addressed in the future.

#### Events in Review

Colts Neck Country Christmas – Mr. Cantalupo noted the great job Mr. Hennessy did in organizing the event. Committeeman Bartolomeo suggested (based on feedback he received) next year distribute hot chocolate and cider outside. Further, the ceremony was too long and suggested decreasing the number of dances. He added the possibility of having some type of contest like the Memorial Day Parade bicycle contest prior to the tree lighting to get attendees. Also, advertise in the school backpack, directly to the Sports Foundation and involve the Business Association. Ms. Tormey commented the tree looked great. She noted there is a new dance studio in town, maybe use that group next year or at least the “recreation” side of the dancers of either studio.

Ms. Sullivan attended a holiday event at Poricy Park which included a bon fire, petting zoo and living manger. Committeeman Bartolomeo reminded the members that there are no religious affiliations to the Tree Lighting. Ms. Sullivan continued by suggesting Colts Neck could promote the towns agrarian roots at the tree lighting by including a petting zoo.

Letters to Santa – Ms. Byrne reported this year there was an increase in Santa letters from 2018.

Santa’s Workshop (PTO)/Frosty’s Craft Workshop (Recreation) – Mr. Hennessy reported children who attended the craft workshop created 270 crafts. Our former Camp Supervisors of Art led the children in choosing between two different crafts they could create and give as holiday gifts.

#### New Business

Winter Activities - Mr. Hennessy reported fitness classes have begun for the Winter session. Ms. Sullivan asked how many attendees are Colts Neck Residents. Committeeman Bartolomeo reminded her to bring these types of question up at the Township Meetings. These questions are not part of the purview of this committee. Ms. Sullivan noted she was reading the role of this committee from the Township website and thought this was an appropriate question.

Five Point # 2 50/70 baseball field update – Mr. Hennessy reported the field will be utilized this year. It will be mixed use for soccer and baseball. Committeeman Bartolomeo noted possible parking concerns.

Events – Thursday, January 30 at 7:30 the Colts Neck Community Band will have a concert at Colts Neck High School. They will also perform at Monmouth County Library Headquarters on Sunday, February 2 at 2:00 pm.

Senior Report – Upcoming trips include Medieval Times Dinner and Tournament on January 18 and “Unmasked” at the Papermill Playhouse on February 15.

Resignation of Vice Chair Baker (committee member since 1984)

Vice Chair Baker announced he and his wife are downsizing to a smaller home in Freehold. As he will no longer be a resident of Colts Neck, he is tending his resignation from this committee.

He was an active member of this committee for 36 years, with 20 years as Chairman. He thanked all on the committee, and special thanks to Mr. Hennessy. He jokingly stated he was hoping to act as Chairman for Mr. Cantalupo, this past year, however Mr. Cantalupo never missed a meeting, so he was unable to fulfill being “in charge” last year. He expressed how much he will miss being a member of this committee.

Mr. Hennessy presented him with a plaque in appreciation of his 36 years of service to Colts Neck.

Committeeman Bartolomeo will request our Municipal Clerk prepare a Proclamation for Mr. Baker on behalf of the Township Committee.

With no other business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm. Due to President’s Day on Monday, February 17, our next meeting will be held Tuesday, February 18 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Byrne