

**Colts Neck Recreation Committee  
Minutes – April 7, 2010**

**COLTS NECK RECREATION COMMITTEE  
MINUTES: April 9, 2010**

Attendees: Frank Baker, Jim Valenti, Phil Maida, Leonor Lesta, Rich Rehm, Brian McNally, Paul Wild, Joe Mancino

Absent: Ed Piotrowski, A.J. Garito

Township Liaison Absent: 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 March meeting minutes

The Treasurer's Report was read

**Presentation by Colts Neck Polo Club**

Mr. Goodwin provided folders for the committee which contained information of their club and history of the game of Polo. Mr. Bowne led the presentation by introducing several members of the club who were present. He then continued by reviewing the information page in the handout. At the close of the presentation Mr. Maida, if they were looking to add sprinklers to the Polo Field. Mr. Hennessy provided comment at Mr. Goodwin's suggestion. Mr. Hennessy stated there is a plan to purchase another Kifco unit (similar to the one used at Five Point Park) for use by the Polo Club. Water would be pumped from the pond as there is no pump or well currently at Bucks Mill Park. Once funding is secured at a later date, a pump and well would be implemented for the Kifco unit. He noted this Kifco unit is portable and would be available to provide water to all fields at Bucks Mill Park. Mr. Goodwin invited the committee to choose a date to attend a Polo match as their guests. Ms. Burke asked what the logistics are to attend on a normal Sunday. Mr. Goodwin explained you may park below the field and walk up or buy a spot with your car. Mr. McNally asked what kind of turnout do they have at matches. Mr. Goodwin explained they would have to have 60 spots for a full day, many walk up to the field and the fee is \$10.00. Normally, the Fall months have the highest attendance. Mr. Baker asked if there are matches in the rain. Mr. Goodwin said they do have a cancellation procedure including website blasts to advise of cancellation due to weather. If the rain is not heavy they may have a match. Mr. Valenti thanked the Polo members for attending the meeting and their presentation. He commented how special it is to have Polo in Colts Neck. He asked what are the challenges the club is currently facing. The reply was irrigation for the field.

**Old Business**

Mr. Hennessy stated sixty plus children participated in our Easter Egg Hunt. Ms. Burke commented how great the prizes were this year. Mr. Hennessy stated Janine Yadakis purchased the prizes. Brunch with the Easter Bunny was very successful, all but one family remained after the egg hunt. Our attendance at our Children's Easter Craft workshop was down this year. He indicated the day before Easter may have been the reason.

**Special Projects**

Spring Program Guide has been mailed. Earth Day is April 22, our clean up will occur on Saturday, April 17 and Sunday April 18 and continue into the following week. Mr. Maida noted his group of Cadets will be cleaning up April 11. Mr. Hennessy has contacted Ms. Mann for the blue garbage bags. He will provide each group with the trash bags. 2010 Clean Up assignments were distributed and reviewed. Each committee member will contact their assigned group for the cleanup effort. Colts Neck Classic Bicycle Race will begin at Laird Road Park on May 2. Mr. Hennessy stated the Fire Police will support the event. The Colts Neck Gallop 10K applications have been mailed to all previous Colts Neck 10K participants and Brielle Day 10K participants. Mr. Hennessy distributed a "Race Check List" provided by Phil Hinck (President of the Jersey

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Shore running Club). Mr. Hinck was ill and unable to attend tonight's meeting. Mr. Hennessy is looking for support at the event from the committee. The majority of members will be available on May 15. Mr. Hennessy reminded the events at Bucks Mill Park are fundraising events for the Sports Foundation and Pop Warner. He is also hoping enough sponsors will participate, and monies would then be used to purchase the Kifco Unit for the Polo Field and ball fields at Bucks Mill Park. Mr. McNally asked if The Gallop information was being promoted on the Sports Foundation website. Mr. Hennessy stated he has reached out to the Sports Foundation asking the information be posted on their website. Ms. Sheehy is the representation for the Sports Foundation. Mr. Hennessy stated he is also sending the information to all the schools that participated at the Shore Conference Track and Field completion at Bucks Mill Park. Mr. Maida asked if there would be two registration areas. Mr. Hennessy replied yes, one at Township Hall for the 10K and the other at Bucks Mill. He would like names tonight from the Committee on who would be available to hand out pre-registration materials and accept registration monies for those registering the day of the event. Mr. Maida will be covering the 10K via the First Aid Squad. Mr. Hennessy asked each member and all said they will be in attendance, Ms. Laufer will also attend. Ms. Burke will let me know at a later date. Sponsor fees are \$100 for a sign \$300 for a banner, again Ms. Sheehy is in charge of public relations. Also contributing to the K-9 5K event is the Sight Hound group. They will have demonstrations and include all dogs at the event. In addition, rescue dogs will be in attendance at the Pavilion. Mr. Hennessy has arranged for 40% of the Sight Hound revenue will be shared with the Recreation and Parks Department along with a fee for park use. The Jersey City Rescue group will also be in attendance. Mr. Hennessy has several signs for the 5K event which will be recycled and painted white with stenciled lettering. Students from the STEP program at Freehold High School will be providing the labor. Past attendance at the May 8 - Jr. Olympic Track and Field has been on the downside. Mr. Hennessy may combine that event with next year's Colts Neck Gallop. A reminder May 27 is the Community Band Concert. Mr. Hennessy told the committee this will be the last free concert. The Township Committee agreed there should be an admission charge of \$2.50. He has asked the Conductors to be creative with future programs to ensure the band sustains. Attendance has been up to 450, but the last rescheduled concert due to weather did have a decrease in attendance. Mr. Hennessy indicated the Band should promote the concerts by each band member bring 5 people to the concerts. Mr. Maida mentioned the fee amount would require the band to have a lot of change (coins). Perhaps asking \$3.00 would eliminate issues with change (coins) the night of the concert. Mr. Hennessy has negotiated with the Canine group (Site Hounds) to donate the proceeds from a May 15 event to the Colts Neck Community Band. He also mentioned a band Conductor requested guests make a donation to the band instead of gifts for his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday party. April 10 is date the final budget will be completed.

Mr. Hennessy stated there will be a \$5/per car charge for the July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks. Proceeds will offset about half of the cost for fireworks. There will be No Parking signs along Cedar Drive. Parking will also be provided at Cedar Drive School. Mr. Gil Sanchez Country Club Parking, will be providing quality parking and collect all money. He is currently working his 15<sup>th</sup> season at the Masters Golf Tournament in Augusta, GA. A question was asked, how much does Mr. Sanchez charge for the event, Mr. Hennessy replied the fee last year was \$1,200.00. It will likely be more this year, they will be working Cedar Drive and collecting money also. It was estimated at least 1,000 cars attended the fireworks, with approximately 5 people per car. Mr. Maida mentioned Mr. Engle of the Township Committee mentioned charging \$10.00/per car. Garden State Fireworks most likely will provide the firework display again.

### **Park Projects**

This will be the first year we will be charging for field permits. Mr. Hennessy has received in-kind donations of fertilizer and seed from The Maverick lacrosse league. He stated there is revenue to be gained. There will be a fee for practices vs. games. Mr. Maida suggested those paying for games should be the only ones able to practice. Mr. Hennessy is still working on the fee rates for 2010. There has been very little Spring Field preparation, given the weather and rain storms. April 17 is opening day for the Sports Foundation Baseball. Laird Road #2 baseball field has received irrigation through a donation. It does not look like the artificial turf for Laird Road will be installed. Mr. Hennessy stated he has been given most of what he requested in terms of budget monies for Recreation and Parks, however funding soccer goals was not included. He has salvaged nets and goal parts and partnered with the Hispanic Soccer League to build 2 soccer goals. April 14 STEP of Freehold High School will begin working on the Children's Garden at the Library and the Blind Garden. Mr. Baker reported, as a Park Steward, that many plants need to be replaced at the Blind Garden. There were

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many down trees on the fitness path. And part of the path near Cedar Drive is eroded due to the latest storm. Mr. Hennessy noted Ms. Burke will be participating with the STEP program as she is in the process of becoming a Master Gardener. Mr. Hennessy will be participating in Field Surveys of all of the parks. He will be accompanied by two turf experts and will implement a regular maintenance schedule for all of the fields in the Township. Mr. Valenti is part of the Schlensinger Bridge project and pointed out to Mr. Hennessy that the DEP should be made aware of the project. There are certain steps necessary to perform with the DEP prior to upsetting a waterway.

**Other**

Summer Day Camp dates June 28 – August 6. Mr. Hennessy is planning to increase staff at the Camp by two Trip Supervisors. He also stated he is within days of signing an agreement for on-line registration for all Recreation programs. Mr. Hennessy is also in the process of upgrading the Recreation and Parks website to include Face Book and Twitter capabilities. Mr. McNally asked if this would include the Township website. Mr. Hennessy explained no this upgrade is solely for Recreation and Parks, a 15 year old volunteer has already spent 78 hours of inputting as part of Community Service. He stated both the website upgrade and on-line registration is within a week of becoming a reality. The website is being built through a website “Build your own website” with a cost of \$14.95/per month. Our first reward of last year’s participation with the STEP program of Freehold High School is beautiful flowers blooming in the back of our building on Heyers Mill Road. Stewardship Reports – Ms. Burke asked why field #1 has no bleachers at Bucks Mill. She also commented the purple martins have returned to Bucks Mill. It was discussed to return to “tours of parks” prior to the monthly meetings. **Members who are available will meet at 6 pm on May 5 at Obre Road Preserve for those interested in a tour, Mr. McNally will be the host.** 2010 Recreation and Park Budget Update – Mr. Hennessy advised the committee the Township will not be able to provide Capital monies for 8 fans for the Community Center. He has been given most of what he asked for in terms of monies for the Recreation and Parks budget. Memorial Day Parade Line of March – the committee reviewed the Line of March from 2009 and made revisions. Barbara will revise the document and distribute along with the meeting minutes.

**New Business**

Ms. Lesta reminded the committee of our upcoming trip to Broadway for Promises, Promises on April 28. Tickets are \$80.00 (play and transportation).

Ms. Laufer reported 274 members are in the Senior Club. Approximately 120-130 attended the April 7 luncheon at the Palm in Matawan. The end of April there is the Dude Ranch Trip to NY.

With no other matters to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Byrne, Secretary