Colts Neck Historical Preservation Committee
Wednesday, June 18, 2025, 6:30 PM at the Colts Neck Library Lower Level

In Attendance: Mary Pahira – Chairperson, Mallory Reardon, Maggie Osmulski, Mike Pahira, Michelle Warendorf, Jennifer Reinson, Jessica Tobia, Jiya Verma, Patricia Mitchell, Jim Schatzle
Absent: Frank Rizzuto - Township Liaison, Janine Strafaci, Tom Sullivan, Jeanette Moriarty, Nick Moretta, Joanne Passalacqua – all excused

1. Mrs. Pahira called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM stating "The notice requirements of the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law have been satisfied by forwarding a news release to the Asbury Park Press on January 2, 2025 stating that a meeting of the Colts Neck Historical Preservation Committee (HPC) would be held on June 18, 2025, at 6:30 PM. The notice requirements have been posted on the Township bulletin board and a copy is on file in the office of the Township Clerk." Mrs. Pahira led the Salute to the Flag.
2. The minutes of the May 21, 2025, meeting were accepted by Mrs. Moriarty & Mrs. Reinson.
3. Mrs. Pahira mentioned Mrs. Eastman resigned and Mrs. Mitchell will work on text for a proclamation.
4. Old Business
   a. Historic Marker – Erie Landmark sold to Noble Bronze. Next Eastmont Orchards - Dave Barclay working verbiage with Archives. 2026 Consider 4JGs as farm with barns and houses that date back to the early 1700's. Plantation at the Falls photo op in Nov, Lil' Orleans Farm photo op from end of June and should mention received Monmouth County Preservation Award. Mrs. Pahira will write Press Release.
   b. Booklet update – Mrs. Pahira will work on edits and Mrs. Battista to work with editor about a digital version.
   c. Schoolhouse – 1. Powerwash. 2. Remove underground oil tank by where pipes seen in ground at back of school, 3. Foundation repair. Mrs. Pahira said estimate from Paulson was $125,000. Mrs. Pahira to get official quote. Mrs. Pahira talked with Mr. Rizzuto about hiring Paulson like they did for the cupola. County regrant not for repair of building. Mr. Rizzuto needs to have a conversation with Mrs. Capristo about budget for repairs. Mrs. Pahira wants to apply for a grant from the county to fund Historic buildings preservation.
   d. 2025 Halloween event October 25/26 5-8pm –CN PTO Trunk or Treat same day 1-3pm. Subcommittee signups. Wagons from Mr. Sullivan and Mrs. Pahira check with Mr. Orgo. Go to Trunk or Treat and drum up attendance with a spiel about needing help to find the character or hidden grave site…
   e. 2025 Country Christmas – Dec 7th 1-4pm. Town Tree Lighting Dec 6th.
   f. Monmouth 250 – Mrs. Pahira at Country 250 meeting & they want to promote tourism. WIOM revolutionary theme, May 17, 2026 Hunter Pace at Tatum park, Parade at Middletown, Operation Sail on July 3-4. HPC to form a Monmouth 250 subcommittee with Mrs. & Mr. Pahira, Mrs Passalacqua. We should consider a horse and buggy ride or a Christmas lantern tour. Look into Monmouth 250 truck from July 3, 2026. Consider a scavenger hunt throughout Colts Neck. Have a scavenger hunt for historical places or a book so some sort.
   g. Mrs. Pahira and the committee suggested to use the Colts Neck Living for resident's memory.
   h. Fundraiser – Mrs. Pahira said John Antonides said we could get brick engraving, silver picnic bench, brick $150, $1,000 sponsor, plaque for flower garden, platinum. 5.9% if they collect money. Mrs. Reinson suggested other events like Easter bunny though rec has event. Mrs. Warendorf provided sheet with events like historic tour, photo contest of historic site or talks on such. No PayPal to trust. Mr. Pahira can we set up a QR code. Get table at fireworks and letter out for July 1st. Consider check, e-check and credit card online.
   i. Get the word out about history in Colts Neck – Add "Things to do" on Township Community page (example https://www.explorehunterdonnj.com/city/oldwick)
   j. HPC Vacancy –Mrs. Passalacqua waiting to be approved. Need a replacement for Mrs. Eastman.
   k. Student Liaison, Ms. Jiya update to replace broken marker for Ed Brock's grandson at schoolhouse
   l. 2025 budget - $200 for a pine and Mr. Sullivan offered $250 to get a taller Frazier Fir or Colorado Spruce.
   m. Next historic marker – Eastmont Orchards, all in favor. Or 4JGs Next possible Mrs. Moriarty's house?
   n. Participate in 6 one room schoolhouse tour April 5, 2025 11am to 3pm – successful. Consider 5 minutes of free time for an outside activity like Tug of War.
   o. Weekend in Old Monmouth May 3 (10am to 4pm) & 4 (Noon to 4pm) – sign up sheet
   p. Conover Rd Elementary 3rd grade visit Montrose: Mrs. Warendorf worked with Mr Osmond Wed, 4/30. Order porta-potty and ball in cup & cats cradle games.
   q. Cedar Dr School 60th Anniversary, 4/24 – Well attended!

r. Jiya Verma purchased a plaque to replace the cement plaque for Ed Brock's grandson at the tree at Montrose Schoolhouse and will look to add to it. HPC to plan ribbon cutting when pine tree in the ground. Restore the plaque and prop up against a pot near door or under tree.
s. Mrs. Pahira wants to submit ½ mil grant for historical. Mrs. Reardon has grant writing experience.
t. A discussion about getting Boy Scout Eagle project for Cemetery and marker maintenance – get map of all cemeteries in town from Richard Vit. Ms. Verma check with boy Scout Troop out of Holmdel #331.
u. It was discussed to have a House tour in fall of 5-6 houses or a garden tour or a barn tour.

5. New Business
   a. Schedule Betsy Ross in Fall at Conover Rd Primary. Mrs. Battista reached out to Principal Barr for one morning on October 14-17 at 9:30am
   b. Mr Sullivan will look at Brocks for a pine to plant at Montrose – Frazier Fir or Colorado Spruce
   c. Need to buy OPEN tall banner to attract attention. Mrs. Battista reached out to jay at Serotonin.
   d. Consider a "Joshua Huddy" day in 2026
   e. Monmouth County's Revolutionary era free educational resource for America's upcoming 250th birthday, July 4, 2026. https://monmouthnj250.org/monmouth-county-nj-revolutionary-war-history/
6. The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 PM motioned by Mrs. Reinson, 2nd by Mr. Pahira. The July meeting canceled so the next meeting is August 20, 2025 at 6:30 PM at the Colts Neck Library Large Meeting Room.

Respectfully submitted, Michele Battista, Secretary