COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP
Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes
October 20, 2025, at 7:00 pm

1. Chairman Montalvo called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2. Chairman Montalvo asked everyone to join him in the salute to the flag.

3. "The Notice Requirements of the New Jersey Public Meetings Law have been satisfied by noticing the News Transcript and the Asbury Park Press stating that a Regular Meeting of the Colts Neck Township Recreation Committee would be held on October 20, 2025, at 7:00 pm at 14 Heyers Mill Road. A copy is on file in the office of the Township Clerk."

4. Roll Call by Secretary, Ms. Byrne indicated the following:

Present:	Chairman Montalvo, Ms. Sullivan, Mr. Wild, Mr. McNally, Mr. Garito, Mr. O'Connor (left meeting 7:50 pm), Mayor Buss
Also Present:	Mr. Marques, Director Recreation and Parks, Ms. Byrne, Administrative Assistant Recreation and Parks
Absent:	Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Maguire, Mr. Sikorskas, Ms. Kronstedt Township Liaison Buzzetta
Public Present:	None

5. **Discussion Items**

Mayor Buss stated the Township is working on the 2026 Budget and is busy with Affordable Housing. The Township has also purchased a new firetruck. She shared there is misinformation circulating about Affordable Housing. If anyone has questions to speak directly with the Township Committee. Because our Town is a desirable place to live, builders are interested in our town. There have been signs related to a referendum for Open Space. This is a county effort, not the Township. Mr. Montalvo asked about the Township receiving a State Grant. Mayor Buss explained the Township did receive a $200K grant from the State. It is not a matching grant. The project(s) must be completed by 2026 and follow specific parameters. The grant must be managed through the SAGE System (System for Administering Grants Electronically), which is run by the state and may lead to additional restrictions. The Township will receive the funds at the end of the project. Mayor Buss stated it is exciting that we received $200K. The grant will be used to enhance Recreation areas.

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6. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Montalvo asked for comments to the September 15, 2025, meeting minutes. Ms. Sullivan noted under Discussion Items, Wellspring Farm has been purchased; to be revised to “has not yet been purchased,” Ms. Byrne will revise that statement. Mr. McNally’s question related to the number of Pickle Ball/Tennis reservations this summer should have read “memberships” not reservations. Both items will be revised in the meeting minutes and resent to the committee. Chairman Montalvo called on a motion to approve the minutes with the revisions, Ms. Sullivan approved the motion, Mr. Wild seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

7. Old Items

a. Fall Events Update
Mr. Marques welcomed the return of Battle at Monmouth Lacrosse Tournament at Bucks Mill Park on October 18. Trilogy Lacrosse will have their Tournament on November 8. Colts Neck Trail Riders will sponsor the Mae Jubinsky Poker Ride on November 9, also at Bucks Mill Park. The PTO will sponsor a Trunk or Treat this Saturday October 25 from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm, at Bucks Mill Park. The Historic Preservation Committee will have their Haunted Hayride on Saturday October 25, 5:00 – 8:00 pm at Firehouse # 1. Mr. Montalvo added the Sports Foundation flag football is midway through their season. This Friday and Saturday is a baseball tournament at Laird Road.?? November 15 is the Flag Football Superbowl at Five Point Park.

b. Senior Club Update
Mr. Marques stated the club had 285 members as of their October meeting, The meeting included a Flu clinic, by the Colts Neck Pharmacy. Their annual Holiday luncheon is on December 18 at Molly Pitcher in Red Bank. They continue to have a very active membership.

c. Parks Update
Several local baseball teams have rented Bucks Mill fields. Laird Road Fields 1 and 3 are active with Fall baseball with a Tournament coming up this weekend. Five Point is home to soccer. Bucks Mill is being used by a U13 team. November 15 is the Flag Football Superbowl at Five Point Park. Mr. Marques noted The Sports Foundation has provided $15k for enhancements to the Five Point electrical system. Mr. Montalvo explained a conduit has been added along the base of the turf field to allow for temporary lights to be plugged in safely rather than using extension cords. The wiring was professionally installed. Mr. O’Connor credits the Department of Public Works for keeping Five Point free of trash. He noted on windy days trash blows to the fencing along Rt. 537. Mr. Marques added Big Brook Preserve is still closed until future discussion.

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8. New Items

a. Veterans Day
Recreation will assist the Woman's Club with their Veterans Day luncheon. The event will take place at Cedar Drive Middle School. Colonel Jim Sfayer will be Master of Ceremonies. Colts Neck High School is closed on Veterans Day, Mr. Marques will reach out to Commander Eatom and ask if their ROTC Color Guard would be available for Veterans Day.

b. Holiday Tree Lighting and Montrose School
The format will be the same as last year; John Luckenbill will provide his brass band. Scouts will provide the flag salute, the Colts Neck Business Association Window Decorating display and Colts Neck Dance and Performing Arts Academy. Mr. Marques will work with the schools and contact BJ Willis for his holiday music and choir. Boy Scout Troop #290 will provide hot chocolate. Mr. McNally suggested ordering 500-1,000 munchkins and five hundred cups. Mr. Wild stated last year they only had one burner to heat up water for the hot chocolate. He asked Mr. Marques if the Boy Scouts would be able to provide a second burner for the water. Mr. McNally will order cider from Delicious Orchards. Recreation will supply jugs of water. Mr. Marques will speak to CSAV about a different sound system. Many noted it was difficult to hear the singers and other announcements during the event. Mr. Garito asked what type of system Mr. Marques was looking for and offered to provide guidance. A company had contacted Mr. Marques asking if he would be interested in artificial snow for the event. The committee agreed "snow" would be a nice addition. Mr. Marques added the Historical Preservation Committee will host a Country Christmas at the Montrose School on Sunday, December 7 from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm.

c. 2026 and beyond planning
Mr. Marques attended a meeting today with representatives from the Colts Neck Sports Foundation, Township Administration Capristo, and Mayor Buss to discuss one-, three- and five-year plans for recreation facility improvements.

Recreation programs will continue into 2026 Sounds of Summer Concert Series, Egg Hunt, Memorial Day etc. Monmouth County will celebrate America's 250th anniversary and our local programs may expand to acknowledge this anniversary. Suggestions include a House or Barn Tour, a Run/Walk. Mayor Buss asked the committee to bring ideas to our next meeting. Ms. Sullivan stated the Colts Neck Trail Riders will be participating at Tatum Park for Monmouth 250. She added a Monmouth 250 website that was set up with more event information. Suggested activities to celebrate Monmouth 250 included Home Run Derby, Fair, Round Robin Flag Football. Our July 3, 2026, Fireworks will add something special to celebrate.

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9. Comments from the Public

Chairman Montalvo called for a motion to open the public portion of the meeting. Ms. Sullivan made a motion to open the public portion; Mr. Wild seconded.

As there was no one present from the Public, Chairman Montalvo asked for a motion to close the public portion, Ms. Sullivan made a motion to close the public portion of the meeting and Mr. McNally seconded.

10. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss Chairman Montalvo asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Wild made a motion to adjourn; Mr. Garito seconded the motion. Chairman Montalvo adjourned the meeting at 8:15 pm.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, November 17, 2025, at 7:00 pm.

Sincerely,
Barbara Byrne, Secretary