COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP
Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes
October 21, 2024, at 7:00 pm

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

2. Chairman Cantalupo 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 21, 2024, 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:	Township Liaison Viola, Chairman Cantalupo (via Zoom), Mr. Maguire, Mr. Wild, Mr. McNally, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Montalvo, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Ms. Sullivan, Mr. Sikorskas, Mr. Garito
Also Present:	Mr. Marques, Director Recreation and Parks, Ms. Byrne, Administrative Assistant Recreation and Parks
Absent:	Ms. Kronstedt
Public Present:	None

5. **Discussion Items**:

Committeeman Viola explained the library roof had a leak, a new roof was promptly installed. Several diseased trees have been removed at Town Hall along with the gazabo. The Township will be planting new trees and adding a new gazabo and paver walk. All is scheduled to be completed before the December 7 Tree Lighting. The HVAC system is near completion in the Annex building. The bathrooms have been renovated by Public Works. Leaf and brush pick up and brush is being done, along with road paving on designated streets. The Township is preparing for the next round of Affordable Housing. A Resolution will be on the agenda for the January 29, 2025 Township meeting. Committeeman Viola stated for everyone to enjoy Fall and the Township appreciates all the committee does for the town.

6. **Approval of Minutes**

Chairman Cantalupo called for comments. Hearing none, Chairman Cantalupo called for a motion to approve the September 16, 2024, minutes. On a motion by Ms. Sullivan and seconded by Mr. O'Connor. The September 16, 2024 meeting minutes were approved.

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7. Old Business

a. Fall Events

Mr. Marques reported the Township is in full swing mode. The Historical Committee's Hayride event, Trunk or Treat and all of the Fall sports are taking place this month. The only rainout was the National Night Out for the 2nd time. Fortunately, the one-year license fee we paid for the movie Zootopia won't expire until the end of August 2025. We will be able to use the movie next year. He extended appreciation to the Department of Public Works, the Police Department and all the other groups for their efforts towards the National Night Out event. This past weekend eight fields at Bucks Mill were used for a Lacrosse Tournament, flag football and soccer were held at Five Point, Laird Road held softball. Firehouse House #1 held the Historical Committee Haunted Hayride on Saturday. Mr. Marques noted, Ms. Sullivan was involved with the event. Suggestions were made on how to increase participation for next year. Ms. Sullivan was not involved in promoting the event and could not speak to who was contacted. Mr. O'Connor suggested contacting the PTO, who will share event information with each school who will provide weekly updates to parents. Mr. Montalvo added hanging a banner on the split rail fence on Five Point. There were 100 children/parents at Five Point this weekend. Include a QR code on the banner too. Groups can also send information to the Sports Foundation, to post on their website. Mr. Fitzpatrick added to include Nursery Schools in town for children's events too. He asked if the Trunk or Treat was on the Township website. Trunk or Treat is this Saturday from 1 – 3 pm at Bucks Mill Park. November 16 is Flag Football's Superbowl weekend at Five Point Park. Colts Neck High School's undefeated Boys soccer team is playing in the Shore Conference on Tuesday at 2:00 pm on the turf. Mr. Fitzpatrick attended the Lacrosse Tournament this past weekend and noted it was a big success. He noticed the General Store was very busy after the event. He recalled a pamphlet that was handed out to spectators last year listing local food establishments and other businesses open during the tournament. Mr. Marques did share a pamphlet with the event organizer this year.

b. Park Updates

Mr. Marques thanked Mr. Wild for his email sharing improvements for Big Brook Preserve. The bridge on the Laurelwood side needs work and was one of the items. He also received feedback from Ms. Kronstedt at the last meeting regarding the sand weights leaking onto the tennis/pickleball courts. He would appreciate an email from anyone who may see items that need work at their assigned park/preserve. He will be sure Bucks Mill will be ready for the Trail Riders November 10 event. Chairman Cantalupo reminded the committee of the issues he shared related to Schlesinger Preserve. Mr. Marques will follow up with Director Bader of DPW. Mr. McNally spoke to Mr.

Hennessy, who is on the Green Team Committee, there will be a clean-up at Town Hall tomorrow evening. It should not take long should anyone on the committee would like to join. He added the Green Team would help with any future clean ups. Mr. O'Connor noted garbage along the fence at Five Point near where parents stand outside the fence. Committee Viola suggested if any Stewards for the Parks/Preserves needs help with a clean up to email this committee with a date and time and everyone could pitch in if they are available.

c. Photo Area
Mr. Marques is working with Ms. Kronstedt to have a portable photo background on December 7, at the Tree Lighting. The plan would be to continue using the background at future events.

d. Sports Foundation Projects
The organization added new spectator stands at Cedar Drive. Mr. Marques continued by stating in early September the Sports Foundation also redid baseball field # 2. Plans are underway to add a shed at Five Point Park. Mr. Montalvo noted they are looking at different shed companies to ensure the building will fit into Colts Neck's theme. He added, there seems to be an increase of young families involved with the Sports Foundation. They are providing good feedback as to what they want to see in terms of sports etc. And it is always good to have new perspectives/fresh ideas. Flag football is going well. Discussion continued related to the luxury bathrooms at Five Point. Mr. Marques noted he has had discussions with the vendor related to cleaning the units. Mr. Maguire suggested looking for another vendor. Mr. Marques stated unfortunately there are not many vendors in the area. The units cannot be moved to a different location to avoid public use during the day, as the electric/water hook up is only available at one location. Mr. Garito suggested asking the vendor who cleans the Township buildings to price out cleaning the units at Five Point. Committee Viola advised we will need the trailers for a few more years because here are no immediate plans for permanent bathrooms.

8. New Business

a. Senior Update
Mr. Sikorskas reported their September trip the Vietnam Veteran Memorial at Holmdel was very interesting. The tour was given by a man who was on the last helicopter to leave Vietnam. He came to the United States and became an architect. And he designed the Holmdel Memorial. After the tour the club had lunch at a local Vietnamese restaurant. Last week they went to Kingston, NY for a Fall Foliage Sail and Ride. The trip included lunch aboard the train ride. In November they will see Fiddler on the Roof at the Axlerod Theater in Deal. In December, they travel to Lancaster, PA for a two day trip. They will

see a show at the Sight and Sound Theater. Mr. Sikorskas added December 16 is their traditional Holiday Luncheon at the Molly Pitcher Inn. The new year will start with the club going to the Algonquin Theater in Manasquan for a play, You're a Good Man Charlie Brown.

b. Veterans Day

Mr. Marques is working with the Woman's Club and Principal Rigby of Cedar Drive Middle School on this event. We mailed out over 100 letters to Veterans inviting them to attend the ceremony on November 11, at 11:00 am at Cedar Drive Middle School. As is tradition, the list of Veterans was also shared with Cedar Drive Middle School, Principal Rigby. Older students at the school will be able to write letters to several Veterans inquiring and learning about their service to our country. The ceremony will also include Earle military, including parents of children who attend Cedar Drive Middle School.

c. Holiday Tree Lighting/Montrose Country Christmas

Chairman Cantalupo asked if Alan Ryan was in attendance, he was not. Mr. Marques noted he will contact Ms. Kronstedt to have the background photo set up at the event. He has confirmed the Brass Band, Colts Neck Dancers, and BJ Willis and the school choir. Hot chocolate and donuts will be available. When asked by Mr. Marques, how can we improve the event. Mr. McNally added the only item, possibly buy more donuts. He and Mr. Wild will be working with Scout Leader Michael Taeschler and Boy Scout Troop 290 for the distribution of hot chocolate and donuts during the event. Chairman Cantalupo asked Ms. Byrne if everything was in place for the "Letters to Santa Claus". She replied, yes, we are all set, we have our letterhead and envelopes. Mr. Marques added Recreation will be involved again this year with the PTO's Frosty event on December 7. Joanne Dafeldecker will be supervising three craft projects for children. These crafts may be given as gifts during the holidays.

d. Livana, Community Developments and Recreation

Mr. Marques provided an overview of the new community. The plans indicate the majority of the units will be 1 or 2 bedrooms, with 3 bedroom units being minimal. Discussion continued regarding safety at the intersection of Route 537/Five Point Road. Especially if new residents of Livana seek to cross over Rt. 537 to gain access to Five Point Park. Ms. Sullivan asked if the community will provide their own snow plowing. Committee Viola stated it is a private community with their own amenities including snow plowing, dog park and fitness center. It was agreed by the committee to keep Livana has an ongoing agenda item. Mr. O'Connor noted Five Point Park along Rt. 537 there is no continued fencing. There is an opening close to the DeAngelis property that would allow people to cross Rt. 537 and enter the playground. Mr. Sikorskas suggested getting a barrier with a fence on top to prevent crossing at that opening. The committee agreed that the Department of

Transportation will be identifying the intersection for safety issues. Mr. Sikorskas added, the Township could ask the state to put up a fence. Mr. Cantalupo asked future agendas should reflect this item has “recreation planning”.

9. Comments from the Public

Chairman Cantalupo called for a motion to open the public portion of the meeting. Mr. O’Connor made a motion to open the public portion; Mr. Maguire seconded. No one from the public was in attendance. Chairman Cantalupo asked for a motion to close the public portion, Committeeman Viola made a motion to close the public portion of the meeting and Mr. Montalvo seconded.

10. Adjournment

As there was no further business, Chairman Cantalupo called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Montalvo made a motion to adjourn; Mr. O’Connor seconded the motion. Chairman Cantalupo adjourned the meeting at 8:00 pm.

Sincerely,
Barbara Byrne, Secretary