COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP
Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2024, at 7:00 pm
Recreation and Parks Department
14 Heyers Mill Road

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. Chairman Cantalupo, read the following Sunshine Statement: "The notice requirements of the New Jersey Public Meetings Law have been satisfied by noticing the Asbury Park Press and the Colts Neck Journal stating that a regular meeting of the Colts Neck Township Recreation Committee would be held on February 20, 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, Mr. Montalvo, Ms. Sullivan, Mr. Wild, Mr. Sikorskas, A.J. Garito, Ms. Sullivan
Also Present:	Mr. Marques, Director Recreation and Parks, Ms. Byrne, Administrative Assistant Recreation and Parks
Absent:	Ms. Kronstedt, Mr. Maguire, Mr. McNally, Mr. Fitzpatrick
Public Present:	None

Mr. Garito was read the Oath of Office by Committeeman Viola.

5. **<u>Discussion Items</u>**:

Committeeman Viola encouraged all to attend the Public Session of the 2024 budget this Saturday, February 24 at Town Hall. If you have not seen the Annex building recently, the cupola has been removed. He shared photos of the framing for the new cupola with the committee. Committeeman Viola noted the Annex building will be getting a new HVAC system this year. The Block Building will be converted into a storage facility to store recreation materials and files. The building will also be climate controlled. He is expecting a balanced budget, the Township has decreased its debt, and the Town is in good shape overall. Mr. Cantalupo asked the status of Five Point bathrooms; Committeeman Viola stated the Town is waiting to hear back from the architect. Ms. Sullivan asked why doesn't the Town digitize the documents instead of storing them. Committeeman Viola added some documents are digitized but there are many that the Town is required to store, and it is cost effective to store ourselves. Committeeman Viola asked the committee to tell their friends to sign up with the notification system on

the website for Township information. It is quick and efficient, and users will not be bombarded with notifications. It is different from the SWIFT site managed by the police.

6. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Cantalupo called for comments. Mr. Montalvo asked the minutes be amended regarding his comment about a new gate at Five Point Park. The minutes were amended "Mr. Montalvo suggested using one of the existing gates as an egress". Chairman Cantalupo then called for a motion to approve the January 16, 2024 minutes. On a motion by Mr. Montalvo and seconded by Mr. Wild the minutes. Chairman Cantalupo stated minutes are approved.

7. Old Business

a. Winter Programing – Mr. Marques shared 14 Heyers Mill Road is doing great with fitness classes, in addition to evening Zumba and Saturday yoga classes. Limitless Fitness LLC also rents the building on Tuesday evenings for a fitness class. The Community Center is being used for soccer, Boy and Girl Scouts, Pickle Ball, Soccer Shots several days a week.

b. Mr. Marques replied to a request by Ms. Sullivan. She asked at a previous meeting how many participants attending fitness classes are residents vs. non-residents. Director Marques shared Fall of 2023, 50 participants were Colts Neck residents and 17 non-residents, in Winter of 2024, 59 are Colts Neck residents and 21 non-residents. Ms. Sullivan thanked Mr. Marques for the information.

8. New Business

a. Field Use and Fees Other Comparison – Mr. Marques passed out a spread sheet reflecting field use/fees he collected this past month from surrounding towns. Oceanport Director of Recreation met at Mr. Marques' office and explained they had hired a consultant from Capelli's Sport Complex to identify ways to gain more revenue by renting out their fields. Mr. Wild asked if any town is self-sufficient or does the money go straight to the General Fund. Mr. Marques replied they are not self-sufficient as every field needs some type of maintenance. He reported Holmdel has a Community Center and a Senior Center which they rent out. Mr. Garito added Marlboro fields are not owned by an organization, but by the town. Larger towns have their fields done professionally unlike Colts Neck. Colts Neck is dependent on Sports Foundation parents. Colts Neck also owns the fields that are used by other groups and taxpayers pay for it. Chairman Cantalupo commented that the

Sports Foundation recently funded $60K for a new water pump at Five Point field. Committeeman Viola asked Mr. Marques to add a column to his spreadsheet for Colts Neck fees. Mr. Montalvo stated the agreement with Director Hennessy was if the Town needed any maintenance work in the fields, that if it were feasible the Sports Foundation would step up and provide funding. Chairman Cantalupo asked Committeeman Viola to discuss with the Township Committee if it would make sense to have a sub-committee formed from this committee to determine if our field fees are on par with surrounding towns. Discussion continued regarding Green Acre rules for charging field users. Committeeman Viola asked Mr. Marques to provide clarity on the Green Acre rules for our next meeting.

b. Easter Egg Hunt – Mr. Marques shared a flyer for the Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday March 16. He encourages everyone to share the event information. He has sent the flyer to the schools and pre-schools in town. The information is also posted on the Township website.
c. Pickleball/Tennis Laird Road Update – Mr. Marques stated the 2024 season is upon us and he will drive interest for tennis and pickleball. The nets were taken down to avoid damage during the colder months and should be back up on or around March 14. He noted if someone reserved a tennis court that would eliminate two pickleball courts. He shared USA Pickleball will provide Ambassadors to teach pickleball. They also provide up to $350 in Grant money for equipment. It would be a one-time grant; all they require is to post the Laird Road courts on their website. Mr. Montalvo added he doesn't think there will be a problem getting attention for Pickleball, as the Colts Neck Racquet Club is always crowded.
d. 5K and Walking Group – Mr. Marques announced the Farmhouse 5K is returning to Town Hall on Sunday, May 19 at 8:00 am. He will be seeking potential Sponsors to provide T-shirts and light refreshments. A weekly Monday morning Walking Group will begin on March 4 (weather pending) at 9:00 am at Town Hall. Walkers will meet at the library. Mr. Marques plans to include the walk with a talk by a physician who will then walk with participants. All are welcome.
e. Summer Camp Progress – Mr. Marques reported he has met with the two Camp Supervisors. One is not returning; a replacement has already accepted the position. Many trips have been booked and he has advertised for Counselor positions. He is planning to start registration the 2nd week of March.
f. Sounds of Summer - Mr. Garito shared several bands are booked for the summer however booking is not complete. Last year the music was monthly, this year music in the park will occur every Thursday except for July 4. He and Mr. Fitzpatrick are also searching for a high school band to participate in the concert series this year. Mr. Sikorskas asked what do the bands charge, do they charge their going rate. Is it about the gate or is it a benefit for them.

Mr. Garito replied some of the musicians/bands charge next to nothing. This year the payment process will be more formal. Last year was the first year of presenting Sounds of Summer and he and Mr. Fitzpatrick plan to revise a few of their procedures. Mr. Garito will provide concert dates to Mr. Marques.

g. Spring Kickoff for Youth Sports – Mr. Montalvo stated sports sign-ups are ahead of last year. Next week softball for grades two to six will begin training at the Community Center. Opening Day for baseball/softball is April 6. Softball Coach, Brooke Maslow, a National Champion Softball player was inducted into the NJ USA Softball Hall of Fame. She will be recognized at the Opening Day Ceremony. Mr. Montalvo added what a big deal it is for a Hall of Famer to be coaching girls' softball. Sunday, April 14 is the Father Daughter Dance at Battleground Country Club, the event begins late afternoon. Travel baseball/softball will be up and running. Flag Football is always performing and noted they have hit the limit and closed registration for Flag Football.
h. Senior Citizen Club – Mr. Sikorskas shared a group of club members were at Doolan's Shore Club in Spring Lake for a Mardi Gras themed lunch today. He provided a list of upcoming trips, a play at the Axelrod Theater in Long Branch, Atlantic City Tropicana for a Jersey Girls and Boys show, Papermill Playhouse in Milburn, and a 4 day/3-night trip to Newport, Rhode Island scheduled for September.
i. Miscellaneous -Chairman Cantalupo asked Committeeman Viola if he would ask the Township Committee to consider renaming Town Hall Park.
He also asked the Recreation committee to elect a Vice Chair, as there may be meetings he will not be available to attend. Chairman Cantalupo suggested the March and April meetings be focused on the Memorial Day Parade. He added a parade sub-group may be necessary too. He requested the Line of March be distributed with the March agenda, and noted the parade will be another "top shelf" parade. Mr. Marques will contact Shamrock for the shuttle similar to last year. Mr. Montalvo will provide the ice cream truck. Mr. Marques will invite Alan Ryan of Fire Company #1 to join our March meeting. Reminder: Our future meetings will return to Mondays at 7:00 pm.

9. Comments from the Public – None

10. Adjournment

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

Sincerely,

COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP
Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2024, at 7:00 pm
Recreation and Parks Department
14 Heyers Mill Road

Barbara Byrne
Secretary