COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP
Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes
April 20, 2026

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 Asbury Park Press and the Two River Times on January 9, 2026, stating that a Regular Meeting of the Colts Neck Township Recreation Committee would be held on April 20, 2026, at 7:00 pm at 3 Veterans Way, Colts Neck. 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. O'Connor, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Sikorskas, Mr. Garito, Mr. Wild, Ms. Kronstedt and Township Liaison Mayor Viola
Also Present:	Mr. Marques, Director Recreation and Parks, Ms. Byrne, Administrative Assistant Recreation and Parks
Absent:	Mr. Maguire, Mr. McNally, Mr. Williams
Public Present:	Mr. Ryan (arrived 7:20 pm; left meeting 7:30 pm)

5. **Discussion Items**

Mayor Viola stated the 2026 Budget will be introduced at the April 29 Township Meeting. All the Department Heads worked aggressively on their budgets. The tax rate decreased by 8.66 points and the budget will allow for investments. We are busy putting together activities for the 250 Celebration and other Township events.

6. **Approval of Minutes**

Chairman Montalvo asked for comments to the March 16th, meeting minutes. Mayor Viola noted under Discussion Items, it should read Superior Court not Supreme Court in the first line of the first paragraph. With no other comments, Chairman Montalvo asked for a motion to approve, Ms. Sullivan made a motion to approve, and Mr. O'Connor seconded the motion. The March 16, 2026, meeting minutes were approved.

7. **Old Items**

a. Stewards of the Park, Park Updates, Earth Day Clean-ups
Mr. Marques asked everyone to walk through their park/preserve. He noted the Environmental Commission will be conducting a cleanup after their meeting at approximately 5:45 pm. Mr. Sikorskas will pick up tools from the Recreation Department for the clean-up. If you see any damage, trees down on a path/trail at your park/preserve, please take a picture and send it to Mr. Marques. He will put in a work order for Public Works. Mr. Marques stated the fields are ready for opening day. He has a dedicated Department of Public Works (DPW) employee who has been preparing the fields. Mr. Fitzpatrick asked if down trees are not on a walkway will DPW still move the trees. Mr. Marques shared, DPW will move down trees as needed. Ms. Sullivan added Bucks Mill Park is clean and does not need a clean-up. The users of the park have been great and have been picking up trash.

b. Sports Foundation – Opening Day and Season Updates
April 11 is Baseball opening day at Laird Road. Buster will again be in attendance, the snack shed will be open with the General Store providing pre-packaged snacks. Mr. Montalvo noted the weather is going to be nice and it should be a good day. Baseball, softball fields, soccer, and flag football are active, and the grass looks good on the fields. It was a great start to the season with no issues. Mayor Viola noted the Township has invested into Laird Road field 2. The Township will be sharing the cost with the Sports Foundation to create 2 fields. Mr. O'Connor asked Mr. Marques about the 50/70 - 40/60 flex? If we had that we could have five games playing at once. Softball/Rec uses the back two fields at Laird. In the past (5-7 years) softball was using Cedar fields. Mr. Garito added, older children play at Tinton Falls. Is there a place for them to play here. Mr. Marques noted yes, field 2 at Bucks Mill Park. Mr. Wild asked if parents are permitted on the Turf Field to watch games. Mr. Montalvo shared they have received positive responses to keep parents off the field. If they are inside the fence, they may cause a distraction for players. Discussion continued about the maintenance of the turf field. It is done quarterly, we are good and are on track with maintenance, stated Mr. Marques. The turf field is in good condition. The field is monitored for issues. Mr. Montalvo noted the softball is a quieter side of the field. They do evaluate the surface in the high traffic areas. Ms. Sullivan asked who was called for maintenance. The company who installed the turf field is contacted with issues, Mr. Marques stated. Mr. O'Connor added June 6 is the Sports Foundation Father Daughter dance.

c. CN 250 Events – Barn Tour and Looking Ahead
Mr. Marques stated CNBA is sponsoring a Barn Tour on May 6. Tickets are $50 and can be purchased online through the CNBA website. Buses will pick up attendees at Beckers Hardware store on Rt. 34 and travel to the selected

Barns. Light refreshments may be provided. He noted the tour is on the same day as the Senior Luncheon.

d. Summer Camp
Our Lakewood Blue Claws and Urban Aire trips are sold out. Camp Supervisors will conduct interviews mid-May. We will determine how many Counselors are returning before we hire new staff. Camp dates are June 29 – August 6, with August 7 as a cleanup day for camp staff.

e. Recreation Facilities
Mr. Marques shared if anyone has questions, please contact Mr. Wiliams. He was unable to attend the meeting tonight. Mr. Marques stated Cedar Drive fields #1 and #2 are used on a nightly basis. Bucks Mill #3 is used, Five Point Park holds Flag Football and soccer activities.

f. Sounds of Summer Update
Mr. Marques stated twelve shows are lined up for Town Hall this summer. Posters will be out soon, and information will be on the Township website.

g. Memorial Day Parade
The parade will kick off after the 1-mile race. Mr. Marques is collaborating with John Sauter on details. The Bike Contest will take place before the 1-mile race. Ms. Kronstedt added she will be available to help with the Bike Contest again this year. Mr. Ryan said the Firehouse is ready for this special 250 celebration. Please let him know if there are additions/changes, he will support the committee on Memorial Day. Mr. Marques thanked Ms. Sullivan for volunteering to play the bagpipes at the grave site ceremony.

h. Monmouth County Municipal Park Improvement Grant Ideas
Mr. Marques asked for project ideas for the upcoming Grant Application. It was suggested to add trail markers to Bucks Mill Park. The total Grant is $500K. If anyone has other suggestions, please contact him.

8. **New Items**

a. Senior Club Update
Mr. Sikorskas stated the club has 285 members. He and other members attended a trip to the BAPS Swaminarayon Akshardham Temple in Robbinsville. The May trip is to Atlantic City for a show “Celebrating Celine,” June they travel to The Shore Club in Spring Lake for “Let the Good Times Roll.” July will be a Lakewood Blue Claws game and August to Long Beach Island to the Surflight Theater for “1776” and lunch.

b. Recreation and Parks Public Hearing/Open House 4/28 7:00 pm
Mr. Marques is planning an Open House at the Community Center on Tuesday, April 28 at 7:00 pm. The purpose is to showcase what Recreation and Parks offers to the Township. For example, Fitness classes, installing

bathrooms at Five Point. Representatives from the Senior Club and Sports Foundation will be participating. Please encourage your neighbors to attend. Residents will have the opportunity to interact and provide input with Recreation, Senior Club and Sports Foundation. All suggestions for the parks are welcomed. Mr. Marques as an example, adding a new floor and security system to the Community Center. Is that what residents really feel is important. A brief discussion about long-term strategic planning followed.

10. Comments from the Public

Mr. Montalvo asked for a motion to open the public portion of the meeting. Mr. O'Connor made a motion, Mr. Fitzpatrick seconded. Mr. Ryan left the meeting at 7:25 pm. There was no one else present from the Public. Mr. Montalvo asked for a motion to close the public portion of the meeting; Ms. Sullivan made a motion and Mr. Fitzpatrick seconded.

11. Adjournment

Mr. Montalvo asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting; Mr. O'Connor made a motion and Mayor Viola seconded.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Our next meeting will be held on May 18, at 7:00 pm; at the Annex Building, 3 Veteran Way.