COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP
Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes
May 18, 2026

1. Call to Order
   Mr. McNally called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2. Salute to the Flag
   Mr. McNally 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 May 18, 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: Ms. Sullivan, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Garito, Mr. Wild, Ms. Kronstedt (arrived at 7:20), Mr. Williams, Mr. McNally, Mr. Maguire, and Township Liaison Mayor Viola

   Also Present: Mr. Marques, Director Recreation and Parks, Ms. Byrne, Administrative Assistant Recreation and Parks

   Absent: Chairman Montalvo, Mr. Sikorskas

   Public Present: Mr. Alan Ryan

5. **Discussion Items**

   Mayor Viola stated there is a $2.3 million surplus in the new budget. The Township has plans to purchase a new Fire Truck. Having a surplus is good. It will also affect the Town's credit rating, which is great and helps with interest rates.

6. **Approval of Minutes**

Mr. McNally asked for comments on our April 20th, meeting minutes. Mayor Viola noted under Discussion Items, it should read "there was an 8.66 reduction in the tax rate," not a six reduction. Ms. Byrne will correct the minutes. With no other comments, Mr. McNally asked for a motion to approve, Ms. Sullivan made a motion to approve, and Mr. O'Connor seconded the motion. April 20, 2026, meeting minutes were approved.

7. **Old Items**

a. Park Updates
Mr. McNally recently walked through Town Hall Park and stated it looked great. Mr. Marques asked the committee to continue walking their assigned parks/preserves. If anyone needs cleanup supplies or sees down trees, please contact the Recreation office. Mr. Marques will generate a work order for Public Works.

b. Sports Foundation – Mr. Wiliams explained they are waiting on field proposals. Irrigation will be added to the Football field at Cedar Drive. Field two will be split into two fields at Laird Road. Mr. Williams thanked the Township Committee for assistance with the Laird Road field project. Batting cages at Laird will also be coming soon. The Father Daughter Dance is scheduled for June 6 at the Trump Golf Club. In October there will be a fundraiser at the Colts Neck Golf Club. Mr. Williams shared they will continue to provide the Ice Cream truck for the Memorial Day Parade. The Flag Football Superbowl will be held on May 30 at Five Point Park. The Township Committee is welcome to attend. Mr. McNally asked if the Sports Foundation is marching in the parade. Mr. Marques will contact Mr. Luthmann, President of the Sports Foundation regarding the parade.

c. CN 250 Events – Barn Tour and Looking Ahead
On May 6 over one hundred participated in a Barn Tour, sponsored by the Business Association. Mr. Fitzpatrick shared it was a great event and a lot of fun. Barn owners shared what types of horses were raised in their barns, previous owners, and history of the paddock. Everyone enjoyed the event. Mr. Marques added

Motts Artillery will have a cannon display and muskets during the Parade Ceremony. They will also be in attendance on July 3. Township K-8 schools and Colts Neck High School are getting involved with CN 250 by having an Art Contest. Students can submit a hand drawn American Themed piece of artwork. Winners will have their artwork featured in a Colts Neck Semi-Quincentennial Community Calendar.

d. Summer Camp Update
As of today, 120 children are registered for camp. Several trips are sold out. We will add an extra forty tickets for the Lakewood Blue Claw trip. Mr. Marques added we anticipate additional registrations, especially with the flexible schedule this year.

e. Recreation Facilities
Mr. Marques had nothing new to report.

f. Sounds of Summer Update
Mr. Garito stated a donor is sponsoring an adult autistic band. Mr. Fitzpatrick saw the band perform. He shared they sounded very good and it was a fun show. Ms. Sullivan added she attended the Autism Harmony event at Bucks Mill Park. This group may want to attend the concert. Flyers and posters will be out soon, and information will be on the Township website.

g. Memorial Day Parade
The Colts Neck Memorial 1-mile run will begin at 10:15 am with Mr. Sauter. The course will start at the corner of Heyers Mill Road and Heritage Lane and end just past Memorial Park. The bike contest will be at the same location as last year. Trophies will be lined up. The parade will start at 10:30 am. The Grand Marshall will be NWS Earle Commanding Officer, Captain Kent Smith. He invited Commanding Officer Brian Forster to march alongside him. NWS Earle's Firetruck will be in the parade, classic cars can be added, Boy and Girl Scouts, John Luckenbill Band, Women's Club, Colts Neck Community Church, Motts Artillery and Colts Neck Trail Riders. Mr. McNally suggested participants sign up for the Bike Contest at 10:00 am to ensure contest is over by 10:20 am. He asked if there would be ribbons to give out to all participants. Mr. Marques will provide the ribbons. Gravesite

Ceremony is at 11:15 am. CSAV will provide equipment for the ceremony, so everyone will be able to hear the guest speakers. Mr. Ryan will keep the Firehouse doors closed until Mr. Marques calls him, letting him know when the ceremony is complete and firehouse # 2 doors may be opened. Port a Johns will be in place at firehouse # 2. The shuttle will start at 9:30 am. Mr. Ryan suggested having a professional photographer be available to take CN 250 photos of at the gravesite and firehouse.

h. Monmouth County Municipal Park Improvement Grant Ideas
Mr. Marques provided an example project of adding a new padded floor to the Community center along with security cameras. He has been discussing other ideas with playground companies. The Grant application due date is July 9. Ms. Sullivan suggested adding trail markers to Bucks Mill Park. The total Grant is $500K. If anyone has other project suggestions, please contact him. The Township recently adopted an ordinance banning E-bikes from park trails. The question is, where can children go to ride their e-bikes. Mr. Maguire suggested identifying one park for e-bike use. Mr. Garito shared years ago there was discussion about connecting trails where residents would not need to use major roads.

i. Recreation Open House Recap
Community Center Mr. Marques appreciated Mayor Viola and Mr. Sikorskas and his wife representing the Senior Club for attending. New ideas from all attendees were documented by Mr. Marques.

8. **New Items**

a. Senior Club Update
Mr. Marques shared that Ninety-six seniors attended the May meeting. Mayor Viola explained with current inflation, members may find it difficult to participate in trips and other activities. The Township added additional funding to their budget to offset these costs. This will increase participation within the club. Mr. Marques added Pickleball Senior night on Mondays at the Community Center. Pickleball courts are also reserved at Laird Road for Senior use. Upcoming trips include Lakewood Blue Claws, which is the same day as our summer camp trip, Atlantic City for “Tribute

to Celine Dion," June 16 the Shore Club, Spring Lake for "Let the Good Times Roll". Ms. Sullivan added that Mr. Anfuso, Township Planner and Zoning Officer, was a great speaker at the last meeting. He discussed the Affordable Housing process.

b. July 3rd Events
Mr. Marques noted the Colts Neck Business Association will sponsor the Fireworks. The Colts Neck Community Band is scheduled to perform, and Motts Artillery will provide demonstrations.

c. June 21 Fishing Derby June 21 (Father's Day)
The event will be at Bucks Mill Park, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. Boy Scouts will be there to assist. The Colts Neck Police Benevolent Association will provide bait. Ms. Sullivan asked if participants could bring their own bait. Mr. Marques replied yes.

An ad hoc committee is putting together the 25th anniversary of 9/11 ceremony at Town Hall. The Township anticipates local churches, schools, first responders, Naval Station Earle, and Colts Neck High School Color Guard will all be participating. Also, The Sports Foundation maintains a 9/11 Memorial at Laird Road Park.

Miscellaneous
Mr. Williams asked what the Grant parameters are. Applications usually focus on a package deal and build from there. The upcoming Grants are 50/50 matching. There are opportunities for non-profits to apply for Grants. Mr. Marques does share Grant information with Mr. Luthmann, President of the Sports Foundation. Mayor Viola shared the Township uses an agency to identify available Grants to avoid mismatching Grant opportunities. Department Heads find Grants via email. Monmouth County does share Grant Opportunities too.

10. <u>Comments from the Public</u>

Mr. McNally asked for a motion to open the public portion of the meeting. Mayor Viola made a motion, Mr. Fitzpatrick seconded. Mr. Ryan asked everyone to enjoy the Town on May 25 and this special America celebration of 250 years. Remember the

sacrifices made. He shared a great movie on TCM, The Best Years of our Lives, regarding soldiers returning from WWII. We should all love what we have here in our Town. Mr. McNally asked for a motion to close the public portion of the meeting; Ms. Sullivan made a motion and Mr. Fitzpatrick seconded.

11. Adjournment

Mr. McNally asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting; Mr. O'Connor made a motion and Mr. Garito seconded.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Our next meeting will be held on June 15, at 7:00 pm; at the Annex Building, 3 Veteran Way.