

Town of Hudson
Benson Park Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 02, 2010

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

A meeting of the Benson Committee was called to order by Chair H. Schibanoff at 7:04 pm. September 2, 2010 in the Community Development Meeting Room at Town Hall. C. Gagnon led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Attendance:

J. Barnes, R. Empey, C. Gagnon, M. Lee, Selectman Liaison S. Jasper, Vice Chair S. Rumbaugh, Alternates: A. Desrosiers, John Leone
Excused: P. Nichols, M. Lee, K. Dickinson

3. Public Input

None

4. Approval of Minutes

A. Minutes of August 19, 2010 Benson Park Committee.

C. Gagnon made a motion to accept minutes

J. Barnes seconded the motion

All in favor...Motion Carries

5. Old Business

A. Accounting for Benson Park Funds

Chair H. Schibanoff stated that this was tabled from last meeting to give the Committee time to review it. He asked if anyone had questions. A. Desrosiers said that the cost for the porta-potties was listed under the committee's \$5,000 budget and she felt that this should also be added to the regular budget along with electricity and security. She was under the impression that the \$5,000 was for expenditures that the Committee needed to improve the park.

Selectman Liaison S. Jasper said that he did not have an answer to that question at this time. He said that we had budgeted for one (1) porta potty and then changed it to add another one and that this would come out of our \$5,000. He noticed a change in the cost and will look into this. He did not think this was accounted for correctly. J. Barnes said that he noticed that septic service bills started last August and wanted to know what these were for. Selectman Liaison S. Jasper said that porta-potties were used for the Open House and at some clean-up days and when the roofers were working at the Park. J. Barnes also asked questions about Fairpoint Communications bills and Selectman Liaison S. Jasper said that was for the telephone lines for the security system. Chair H. Schibanoff said the right now we are in a deficit position with bills due. Vice Chair S. Rumbaugh asked if anything would be needed for the Grand Opening Celebration. Selectman Liaison S. Jasper said

that the two porta-potties would be adequate for the Celebration. The Scouts will donate water and drinks for the attendees. Selectman Liaison S. Jasper said he walked the park with the Music Director of The Alvirne Marching Band to plan what they would be doing on Grand Opening day. An area should be kept clear for the Band to stand and perform.

6. Interview and Presentations

A. Ben Bates, Eagle Scout Candidate

B. Bates said that he had been before this Committee in April with his plan to restore the old remote control car area. He plans to fund raise for the cost of restoring this area and would like to start clearing the area on September 18 and 19. He talked about removing roots on the track and there is at least one tree in the middle of the track that will need to be cut down. He will remove the siding that goes around the track and replace it with something else. The middle area will be cleared and crushed granite will be placed in this area. He also plans to add fencing, repair, paint and replace broken benches. He also plans to place plants on the island area. B. Bates plan is to have this completed by the end of October or mid November. Chair H. Schibanoff what his plans were for fund raising and B. Bates said he would host a Spaghetti Supper at the Community Center. He hopes to have the paper work completed by this weekend.

C. Gagnon made a motion to accept B. Bates plan

J. Barnes seconded the Motion

All in favor-Motion Carries

Selectman Liaison made a motion to have Chair H. Schibanoff sign B. Bates Eagle plan when ready

J. Barnes seconded the motion

All in favor-Motion Carries

7. New Business

A. Committee Reports

Video/Photography Subcommittee

A. Desrosiers said that the recording that Lee Lavoie and Jeremy Griffins produced with Cindy Provencher giving a tour of Benson Park aired for the first time last Friday. If you wish to view this you can check the schedule for channel 20 HCTV. For people who do not have access to this channel they can go to the website and view it on their computer.

Landscape Subcommittee

C. Gagnon reported that a sign was being worked on for “adopt-a-spot” at this time. It was reported that the volunteers that are planting at the Old shoe are being congratulated for refurbishing the Shoe. C. Gagnon wanted to know if a sign like the ‘adopt-a-spot’ could be placed at the Old Shoe with wording from the Scouts and builder would be appropriate. D. Empey stated that all signs in the Park should be consistent. Discussion followed. A consensus was

given by the Committee that C. Gagnon and D. Empey would work together on this project.

Building Subcommittee

J. Leone, Chair of the Building Subcommittee, is just back from vacation and could not give much in the way of an update. He stated that the restoration of the Gorilla House was completed last weekend but more material was needed because of extra damage that was found. A meeting will be held soon and options will be discussed at that time. He hopes to have the walls painted white at least for the Grand Opening. The Graffiti will be covered and long term solutions will be forthcoming at a later date. The painting group is looking for a really large ladder to paint the top of the A-Frame. Selectman Liaison S. Jasper said that a ladder is not the way to go. Maybe a rental company with a bucket truck would volunteer to lend it to the committee to finish the job. D. Empey would like to see a minimal amount of money be spent on timber for repairs and the money be spent to fix the two windows correctly before winter sets in.

Paths/Trails Subcommittee

D. Empey said that they have met with the Planning Board and have one remaining thing to do on the five (5) bridges. He needs to apply to DES on two of the bridges on the mitigation area and the Planning Board indicated that they sent their approval to the BOS. Now they have to go before the BOS for their next approval.

Volunteer Sub Committee

C. Gagnon said that there was a clean-up scheduled for Saturday, September 11, 2010 from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm and a rain date on Sunday, September 12, 2010. C. Gagnon also said that another clean-up would be held on Saturday, September 18th with a rain date on Sunday, September 19th. Vice Chair S. Rumbaugh wanted to know if a notice could be sent to the schools because some of the students needed volunteer hours and it would be helpful to them to be able to plan when they could help. This was discussed at length. Lunch would be served to all volunteers.

Chair H. Schibanoff mentioned that complaints were sent to the BOS on people not picking up after their dogs. The BOS said that signs were to be placed at the park and if this were to continue then dogs would be banned from the park. It would be a shame to ban all dogs for a few. Chair H. Schibanoff asked if anyone had ideas that would help in addition to the signs that would alleviate the problem. J. Barnes recommended issuing citations to people who disregard the policy. He said it is very difficult to force responsibility on people. Chair H. Schibanoff said that he worked on temporary signs for the park. Everyone liked the work he did and thanked the Chair for his efforts. No objections were made and he asked how he could get them in the ground. A discussion and suggestions followed.

8. Other Business/Remarks by Committee Members

Selectman Liaison S. Jasper gave a synopsis of what D. Yates was going to bring before the Committee. He stated that he wanted to have cross country

meets for the Middle School held at Benson Park. J. Barnes asked if it was a competition and if so how many students were involved. Someone said that number of students would be 60. Questions were asked about where the buses would drop off the runners. Selectman Liaison S. Jasper said that the busses could negotiate the public parking. Other questions were asked and discussed.

D. Empey made a motion to allow three (3) fall meets on trial with NO practices to be recommended to the BOS.

S. Rumbaugh seconded the motion

All in favor-Motion Carries

J. Leone mentioned that he understood that a form needed to be filled out if the group was more than 20. This was discussed at length and will be revisited at a later date.

Vice Chair S. Rumbaugh said that when she had been going into the park she is asked about having more trash receptacles placed around. More and more people are having lunches, picnics, small children with diapers and no place to dispose of them that are handy. Sometimes it is too much to carry out if you have small children and lunch too, just plan ahead...carry a couple of bags for trash.

C. Gagnon wanted to thank the volunteers for all they have done and how so many people stop her and express their gratitude for what has been done to make the park a beautiful place for all to enjoy.

Chair H. Schibanoff received an email from the Town Administrator saying that people are going into the Office Building and setting off the alarm. He asked Chair H. Schibanoff to inform the Committee and Sub Committees that wanted to go into the office building to please clear this with D. Yates or the Town Administrator. The Police are getting annoyed with the alarms going off. Next is the October 21st meeting will have to be changed due to the Budget Committee meeting on this day. Another meeting place will be looked into. Chair H., Schibanoff is working with J. Griffins on the new sign.

**Next Meeting Date: September 16, 2010 at 7:00 pm
Community Development Meeting Room-Town Hall**

9. Adjournment 8:20 pm

J. Barnes made a motion to adjourn

Selectman Liaison S. Jasper Seconded the Motion

All in favor-Motion Carries