



TOWN OF HUDSON

Benson Park Committee

Richard Empey, Chairman Roger Coutu and David Morin, Selectmen Liaisons

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Minutes

January 17, 2019 – 7:00pm
HCTV Center, 19 Kimball Hill Road, Hudson, NH 03051
Downstairs Meeting Room

1. **Call to Order** at 7:06 P.M. by ____Chairman Dick Empey_____.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by ____ Dick Empey _____.
3. **Attendance:**

Richard Empey, Chairman	Present
Ralph Alio, Vice-Chairman	Present
Jack Madden, Clerk/Secretary	Present
Mark Boulger, Member	Excused
Paula Hubert, Member	Present
Ann Desrosiers, Member	Present
John Leone, Member	Present
James Weaver, Member	Present
Nancie Caron, Alternate	Present
Casey Davies Alternate	Present
Roger Coutu, Selectman Representative	Absent
Dave Morin, Selectman Representative	Present

The Chairman advised that he would seat Alternate Davies in the place of Member Boulger.

4. Public Input

Ms. Marion Muskiewicz of the GFWC (Greater Federation of Women’s Clubs) – Hudson proposed to honor a late member, Barbara Habina by placing a memorial sundial in the middle of the Butterfly Garden, which is maintained by the GFWC. GFWC would pay for it. Ms. Muskiewicz understood that the BPC had recently established a new policy concerning memorials, and that someone suggested a bench instead. Discussion ensued among the members. Several members noted that we have a new policy and that we should adhere to it. A sundial would likely be prohibited under the new policy. A new bench with a plaque would be allowed as well as changing a plaque on an existing bench. If a new tree were to be planted, a plaque would be allowed. The BPC will take the proposal under advisement.

5. Approval of Minutes

John made a motion to accept the minutes of December 20, 2018; James seconded the motion. Aye 8 Nay 0 Abstain 1. The minutes were approved.

6. Old Business

- a. **Master Plan:** Chairman Empey reported that the Master Plan is complete except for links in the document; when it is completed, it will be posted on the Town's website.
- b. **Haselton Barn Roof:** Chairman Empey reported that he met with an engineer to discuss conducting a study to see if the structure will support a new roof. The roofing contractor declined to work on the roof until the roof's structural inspection is done.
- c. **Haselton Barn Security Lights:** The security system has been installed and is operational. Everything went as planned.
- d. **Kitchen Roof update:** Have had contractors out to obtain cost estimates to install the tile required by NH DHR. The preliminary cost estimate is \$60,000 if all new tiles are installed. The tile is a custom color, which increased costs about 20%. The new tiles cost about \$3,000 per "square" (100 square feet), plus 20% for the extra cost for the custom color. We have on hand about 50% of the tiles to complete the roof, but these tiles are already about 80 years old and would have to pass a "moisture test" to see if they are usable; new tiles have about a 100 year lifespan. In the ensuing discussion, the consensus was that we may want to not use any of the old tiles (as they would only have about 20 years of life left in them) and go with a roof of only new tiles as a better long-term use of taxpayer's money. The possibility of using a lower cost roofing solution was also discussed, but the sense was DHR would not approve this, as the ceramic tiles are considered by DHR to be a "defining nature of the building". Also discussed was the possibility of some type of temporary solution to keep the roof watertight, and then put the new roof on the Town's Capital Improvement Plan.

7. New Business

- a. **Replacement Trees for playground area:** Chairman Empey reported that two dying Maples were removed at the playground; replacement of those two trees would be "maintenance" and not a "donation". A discussion ensued as to the type of replacement trees: maple or red oak. No final decision was reached.
- b. **Trains Magazine Preservation Award:** Clerk/Secretary Madden reported that he had applied for a \$10,000 award (no matching funds required) for asbestos removal and rehabilitation of the windows in the Train Station. He learned in early January that award went to a tourist railroad out west to complete rehabilitation of a steam locomotive. Chairman Empey advised Mr. Madden that he should have obtained approval from the Board of Selectmen in advance, even if there were no matching funds required for the grant. Mr. Madden advised he would do so next time.

8. Calendar

- a. **Next Committee Meeting scheduled for February 7th:** The Chairman advised that due to the small amount of business anticipated for this meeting, he may cancel it. He will let us know.

9. Other Business/Remarks by Committee Members

- a. **Municipal Association's Roles and Responsibilities Training:** Selectman Morin advised that this is a 2-hour class for committee members of all the committees in the Town. They plan to hold it late March or early in April. At least the Chair of each committee must attend, but all committee members are welcome. One of the items to be discussed is that 3 or more people together constitute a meeting, so caution should be used in distribution of an email of the Committee's meeting minutes. Distribution should be by use of Blind Copies (BCC) so each member does not see the other members email address. Selectman Morin recommended that we send the minutes to Donna for them to be sent out.
- b. **Deliberative Sessions:** Jim, who is on the Budget committee also, advised of the two Deliberative Sessions coming up: Saturday, February 2nd for the Town and Saturday February 9th for the School. He encouraged all to attend.

- c. **Friends of Benson Park:** John noted that FoBP will be holding the cardboard sled race this year, but the date is TBD.

10. Adjournment

- a. Paula made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Nanci seconded. All in favor.
Meeting was adjourned at 7: 53 PM