



# TOWN OF HUDSON

## Benson Park Committee

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

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### Minutes

May 17, 2018 – 7:00pm

HCTV Center, 19 Kimball Hill Road, Hudson, NH 03051  
Downstairs Meeting Room

1. **Call to Order** at 7:05 pm by Richard Empey.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Ralph Alio.

3. **Attendance:**

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

4. **Public Input**

Jason DeBow of Artists in the Park advised that, even though the weather was predicting rain, the event was going forward rain or shine; there is no rain date. There will be 5-6 members of the Nashua Artists Club and some young painters. They will try to capture the beauty of the Park. If there is rain, they may try to work out of the A-Frame, the Gazebo or the Gorilla Cage.

5. **Approval of Minutes**

John made a motion to accept the minutes of May 3, 2018; Paula seconded the motion.  
All in favor.

6. **Old Business**

a. **Dog Park Subcommittee update:** The Subcommittee is working on the new rules.

- b. **Restroom Subcommittee update:** The DRAFT RFP was provided to the Town Engineer Elvis Dhima, who make some suggested changes. Dick Empey, Jack Madden met Elvis Dhima and Dan Flores from the engineering consultant firm SPC on May 8 to review the DRAFT RFP. Elvis recommend that we hire SPC to provide construction management services for the bidding, award and construction inspection of the restroom construction. SPC was asked to provide a cost estimate to Elvis for review. SPC indicated that code may require two ADA accessible restroom, one each on the male side and the female side, rather than one Unisex ADA accessible restroom as the Family Restroom. This will need to be verified. Elvis recommended that we hire Brian Mason Electricians for electrical work to bring power to the Gorilla House and that we used DPW employees to dig the trench for the conduit on their off-hours. The expense of the DPW employees will be charged to and paid as a cost of the project funds previously approved under the Warrant Article in March. Brian Mason will coordinate directly with and pay Eversource for their installation of the transformers; both Brian Mason's cost estimate, previously provided to the Town Engineer, will include his work to run the conduit & power wires and the cost of the Eversource work. Brian Mason will coordinate directly with the DPW to schedule their work to dig the trench for the electrical conduit. Town Engineer Dhima recommended that the Committttee prepare two memos for presentation to the Board of Selectmen at their meeting on May 22. The first memo is to request sole source award to SPC for the construction management services and a second memo is to request a sole source award to Brian Mason for the electrical work. Chairman Empey will make the request at the May 22 BOS meeting and Restroom Committee members Hubert and Madden will attend as well.
- c. **Shade Trees for Playground:** The three shade trees have been delivered and installed at the locations discussed at the last meeting, two near the playground and one near the picnic area. They will need to be watered using 5 gallon buckets once per day for the next two weeks, ten gallons total each tree. Selectmen Dave Morin suggested that the Committee consider installing an attachment to one of the fire hydrants to reduce the distance which the water would be carried; Chairmen Empey appreciated the suggestion, but noted the time it takes to install and then breakdown the attachment is such that it is easier to carry the 5 gallon buckets. We also did not want to bother the Fire Department for something which we can do ourselves. Paula Hubert noted that we owe thanks to Country Brook Farms Jay Shattuck for the donation and delivery of the three trees. Jim Weaver volunteered to assist in watering and will work with Chairman Empey.
- d. **New Volunteer Day signs:** The new signs, to notify visitors to the Park that a volunteer clean-up day is scheduled, have been delivered.

## 7. New Business

- a. **Liberty Utilities Volunteer Day – May 21, rain date May 24:** Chairman Empey noted that Liberty Utilites allows their employees to volunteer during one work day each year. Fifteen employees volunteer in the Spring and a different fifteen employees volunteer in the Fall. It is more efficient to assign and supervise two separate groups of 15 volunteers rather than one larger group of 30. This worked extremity well last year. John Leone noted that paint and brushes for the elephant Barn have been moved to the Kitchen, and requested that the volunteers may do some painting.

## 8. Calendar

- a. **Volunteer Clean-up Day – May 19:** Based upon the projected bad weather this Saturday, May 19, Chairman Empey recommended that we cancel the scheduled cleanup day. All members agreed. John Leone will send out an email notification to the volunteer list to let everyone know that the clean-up is cancelled.

- b. **Last Cast Fishing Derby – June 2:** This is free for children 12 and under. The event is scheduled for 10am to 2pm. The pond has been stocked in the past with trout as well as the sunfish and bass which are already in the pond. The organizers for this event do cleanup after and leave the park better than when they found it.

#### 9. **Other Business/Remarks by Committee Members**

- a. **Haselton Barn:** Jack Madden noted that he had emailed the Chair of the Hudson Historical Society to discuss potential uses of the Haselton Barn for inclusion in the DRAFT Master Plan for the Park. He had not heard back from him, but will reach out again.
- b. **Cage Concerts:** John Leone, Chair of Friends of Benson Park, noted that the next Cage Concert will be June 16. The B-Naturals Singing Group and the Alvrine High School Jazz Band will be performing 1130am to about 130pm. The event is free.

#### 10. **Adjournment**

- a. Jack Madden made a motion to adjourn the meeting; John Leone seconded. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:44 PM