



TOWN OF HUDSON

Benson Park Committee

Harry Schibanoff, Chairman

Benjamin Nadeau, Selectmen Liaison



12 School Street • Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 • Tel: 603-886-6000 • Fax: 603-598-648

Meeting Minutes October 17, 2013

1. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Benson Park Committee was called to order by Chair H. Schibanoff at 7:05 pm October 17, 2013, Ann Seabury Room, Police Station.

2. Attendance:

A. Desrosiers, D. Empey, John Leone, P. Nichols, Chair H. Schibanoff, N. Undercofler,
Alternates: R. Alio, (Alternate will vote for absent member this evening)
Excused: J. Barnes, Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau, D. Briand,

3. Public Input

None

4. Approval of Minutes

A. Minutes of September 19, 2013

N. Undercofler made a Motion to accept Minutes

J. Leone– Second the Motion

All in favor - Motion Carries

5. Old Business

A. Budget

Chair H. Schibanoff said that the Presentation of our Budget to the Selectmen was on Tuesday night and unfortunately Chair H. Schibanoff could not make it. Vice Chair J. Barnes did a great job. Everything seems to have gone through but there was quite a bit of discussion on hiring people to work at the Park. K. Burns, Road Agent, stood up for this by saying we cannot depend on volunteers and people are needed on a steady basis to work at the park. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau told Chair H. Schibanoff that this was helpful. The next step is going before the Budget Committee sometime in November. Some questions and answers on individual Budget items followed. D. Empey disputed the Budget Meeting to the BOS. He felt that the plan to hire workers was in error due to stating work on Special Projects was needed. This was not correct. The hiring of workers was to help alleviate the volunteers that spend many hours in the park and are getting tired. Help is needed in keeping the Trails clear, mowing grass, trimming brush, spreading mulch, and general upkeep of the Park. Discussion followed among the committee members.

B. Rules

Chair H. Schibanoff said he spoke with D. Yates, Rec. Director about the Reservation Form groups of more than 15 people are required to fill out requesting hours and areas of the Park. D. Yates agrees somewhat about this but he does not

know how to enforce this. He did agree to start using a calendar again. His new assistant has not done this but he will have her incorporate this into her schedule. D. Empey asked if this calendar was available to everyone and J. Leone thought so but N. Undercofler thought it would be more useful if it was included on the Town website. D. Empey suggested that the calendar be put on Benson Park website and Chair H. Schibanoff said he would speak to Lisa Nute about this. Discussion followed about adding a few extra information lines to the Reservation Form and Chair H. Schibanoff will ask him. Discussion also followed about Schools using the park for cross country meets. This was agreed upon a long time ago with the promise that about 60 children would participate, this has escalated to a minimum of 100. This was a trial run and it was also agreed that no practices would be held on park grounds due to damage to trails, etc. Practices are held all the time at the park. Other schools are also using the Park for class projects without anyone knowing they are coming. When too many schools show up at the same time then this creates problems that need to be solved. Schools using the Park should be scheduled on the calendar if possible. This might alleviate some damage.

C. Halloween Parade at the Park

Chair H. Schibanoff mentioned hearing about a Halloween Parade being held at the Park but did not know anything about this. J. Leone spoke to D. Yates about this and then he had second thoughts about parking and traffic, etc. and said the Friends of Benson Park does not want to be involved at this time. D. Yates said that was no problem and he would cancel it. The next day he emailed J. Leone and said he had posted this on Facebook. J. Leone said D. Yates could do what he wanted but Friends of Benson Park voted no against this idea. A. Desrosiers said the parade will be on October 27th, not sure of the time, and they are looking for Adults to hand out candy in non-scary costumes.

D. Portable Toilets

Chair H. Schibanoff gave D. Yates the wrong date for removing the Portable Toilets. Instead of November 1st, the committee wants them left at the park until December 1, 2013 due to heavy visitor usage through Thanksgiving. He will email Dave with the correct date and remind him that a handicap Portable Toilet should be placed near the Elephant Barn.

E. Liberty Utilities

Chair H. Schibanoff reported that Liberty Utilities was sending 13 of their workers to volunteer at the park tomorrow. They will be working at the park from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm to fulfill their "Make a Difference Day". No lunch will be served but Chair H. Schibanoff will provide water. D. Empey and Chair H. Schibanoff will coordinate areas to be worked on.

6. New Business

A. Telegraph Award

Chair H. Schibanoff announced that Benson Park received an Honorable Mention Award from The Nashua Telegraph. Two complimentary dinner tickets are available on October 24, 2013, 5:50 pm to 7:30 pm at the Crown Plaza in Nashua. P. Nichols will attend with Chair H. Schibanoff.

B. Clean up

Chair H. Schibanoff said, after discussion, that October 19, 2013 will be the next volunteer clean up. Rain date is October 20, 2013. Menu was planned.

7. Other Business/Remarks by Committee Members

- A. A. Desrosiers** said that she attended a meeting of the “Mal’s Pal’s” committee and the update to the Amphitheatre was discussed. The beginning of this installation is being planned for April or May if all goes according to plan. Questions on amount of money to do this project were asked and answer given. A few more fund raisers are being planned over the next few months.
- B. Chair H. Schibanoff** said he heard an Eagle Scout was planning a project for the Dog Park and that someone said he did not have to come before the Benson Park Committee. Chair H. Schibanoff will verify this with the Town Manager.

Next Clean up is scheduled for November, 9, 2013, 9:00 am to 2:00pm

Next Meeting:

November 7, 2013 – Buxton Community Development Room, Town Hall at 7:00 pm

8. Adjournment 8:32 pm

J. Leone made a Motion to Adjourn

P. Nichols Second the Motion

All in favor-Motion Carries