



TOWN OF HUDSON

Benson Park Committee



Harry Schibanoff, Chairman Benjamin Nadeau, Selectmen Liaison

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Meeting Minutes June 6, 2013

1. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Benson Park Committee was called to order by Chair H. Schibanoff at 7:01 p.m. June 6, 2013, Buxton Community Development Room, Town Hall, with the Pledge of Allegiance lead by Leo Bernard.

2. Attendance:

Vice Chair J. Barnes, A. Desrosiers, D. Empey, C. Gagnon, John Leone, Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau. P. Nichols, Chair H. Schibanoff, N. Undercofler, R. Alio, D. Briand

3. Public Input

None

4. Presentations

A. Leo Bernard – Hudson Recycling Committee

L. Bernard appeared before the Benson Committee to get some answers to questions that the Recycling Committee wanted, mainly why there were no recycling barrels at the park. Chair H. Schibanoff told L. Bernard that it was deemed necessary to have trash barrels because some people did not understand the carry-in, carry-out rule. Pinard had agreed to do this at not cost and we are trying to cut down on signs and barrels in the park. D. Empey said that he thought that if the recycle barrels were added, a cost could be issued because these barrels require a different truck. L. Bernard will bring this answer back to his committee.

B. Linda Kipnes – Butterfly Garden

L. Kipnes said she knew the committee did not want a lot of signs in the park but she is asking for signs to be placed at the Butterfly Garden. J. Griffith has designed Two (2) signs for the Butterfly Garden. One would be with the name of the clubs that sponsor and take care of this area. The second one would be the life cycle of the butterfly (for education). L. Kipnes passed around a sample picture of the sponsor sign, just a little taller than they wanted and not in the space they planned. The life cycle of the Butterfly would be similar but also smaller and placed in the large main Butterfly Garden. Discussion on size and placement followed with questions and suggestions from all committee members.

**Vice Chair J. Barnes made a Motion to allow Linda Kipnes to post
Two (2) signs at the Butterfly Garden**

**G. Gagnon second the Motion
All in favor – Motion Carries**

C. Jon Maltz – Alligator Pit Wall Project

J. Maltz stated he has done work at the Alligator Pit area with the Trails Committee and wants to build walls along some of the area. Phase one will consist of constructing a wall on top of the existing cement wall, and up the slope to the bridge. Phase two will happen much later and will consist of repair and extension of the existing rock wall that is within the alligator pit. In total the wall from the edge of the concrete to the concrete at the exit drain would be 30feet. He has shared pictures with the committee of this area. The Trails Committee has spread mulch over a large area where it can be contained but the picture shows down slopes where heavy rains or winter melting could wash this away. J. Maltz went to Hudson Quarry who offered to donate and deliver Five (5) pallets of Wall stone to assist in project. Bags of mortar mix will need to be purchased at \$5.40 per bag and Hudson Quarry will allow the purchase of a pallet (49 bags total) with a cost of \$264.40. Partial delivery will be allowed for phase one and we will pick up bags for phase two at our convenience. J. Maltz said this amount of wall stone could be enough to complete the project. Discussion followed with questions from the committee. Some questions asked; who would be doing the work, erosion of the walls from underneath, putting rocks on top of another wall, Is he qualified or has the skill level to do this level of work, and is a foundation needed on the part that will be going up to the Bridge, and has a group said they would be willing to do the work? J. Maltz answered most of the questions and D. Empey said he disagreed with J. Maltz and he has misgivings about it. The donation is very generous and most, if not all of the rock could be used throughout the park. One of the issues with this area is some of the children throw smaller rocks into the pond. The Trail Committee has started to replace some of these smaller rocks with larger rocks that can not be lifted. D. Empey gave his thoughts on phase one and said the grass was growing fairly well. It would do a lot to prevent the mulch washing into the stream. He also said he was not sure of the man-power to accomplish this or the look if it were done. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau gave his view and he thought the stones could be put to better use in the park and only buy half the mortar at this time. He sees no problem with the purchase of mortar and cement from this company so it would be on hand for use. He thought we should accept the donation of the stone and wait until later to discuss how much mortar and cement should be purchased. J. Leone questioned the storage of the stone and he does not want to unload this under the Office Building. D. Empey recommended storing the pallets of stone on the cement pad behind the office building. He thought the mention of using under the office building would be for the mortar and cement.

Vice Chair J. Barnes made a motion to accept the donation of Wall Stone from Hudson Quarry

C. Gagnon second the Motion

All in favor – Motion Carries

5. Approval of Minutes

A. Minutes of May 16, 2013

J. Leone made a Motion to accept Minutes

N. Undercofler Second the Motion

Nine in Favor-One abstention-Motion Carries

6. Old Business

A. Master Gardner Seminar

N. Undercofler said she would be more than happy to set this up but she has no information. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau will get all this information to N. Undercofler.

B. AED and CPR Program

Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said the Fire Department did a class on CPR training and it would be good if some members of the committee were to participate. He asked Vice Chair J. Barnes, who took this class, to tell the committee about it. Vice Chair J. Barnes said it was one night and there were about 8 people in the class. EMT personnel put on a demonstration, shown Life Saving equipment, let them practice CPR breathing on dummies, and were shown how to use Defibrillator equipment. Vice Chair J. Barnes said it was a valuable training exercise and he would recommend this to all. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau thought this would be of value to the entire committee because they are in the park at different times of the day or week. As for the AED, this would be down the road when the Train Station is open and with donations this could be purchased. It could be put in the Elephant Barn for now because it is open on weekends and that is when the park has the most visitors. It might be wise to ask the Friends of Benson Park to join the Benson Committee at a CPR training session. Interest from committee members was noted and Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau will contact the Fire Chief to find out available dates and how many could attend a class.

C. Trail Grant Update

D. Empey deferred to Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau on the state of this and he said he was at the park today and the Town Road Crew was down at the lake working on the road. He did not know if they were ripping up asphalt or putting it down but they were working all day. Chair H. Schibanoff asked if the Grant money would be used and Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said yes.

D. Request for Stairs on the Shoe

Chair H. Schibanoff mentioned that the Girl Scouts attended out last meeting and requested that stairs be installed on the door of the Shoe so that people could climb up and view the loft. This was tabled until tonight so Chair H. Schibanoff asked for thoughts. P. Nichols said she had gone over to look at this and tried to figure out how steps could be attached to the door. She said even small steps would allow no room on Shoe platform for anyone to look into the lower window. Chair H. Schibanoff, Vice Chair J. Barnes and D. Empey said they had also looked into this and felt the same way. A. Desrosiers also visited the Shoe and agreed that there would be no room on the landing. N. Undercofler stated that if stairs were added than a railing would be needed and it was just not practical. D. Empey stated his logical reasoning on this and he is not in favor of these steps. Chair H. Schibanoff said the consensus of the committee was no steps on the door of the Shoe.

E. Senior/HCTV Groundbreaking Ceremony

Chair H. Schibanoff shared the invitation to the Senior/HCTV Groundbreaking Ceremony on June 14, 2013 at 1:00 P.M., Main Gate. All are invited.

F. Last Cast Fishing Derby

Chair H. Schibanoff said that there were a number of committee members attending this Fishing Derby. He wanted to comment on how well this Derby was run and how wonderful the prizes, food, and the example they projected for future Derby's in the park. P. Nichols said she was there and everyone was having a wonderful time, adults and children alike. The snack attack area was wonderful with drinks and munchies and the prizes were outstanding. P. Nichols sent a thank you email and asked if a letter should be sent. This was agreed on. R. Alio could not attend in the afternoon but was in the park

later and could not believe how clean they left the area. It was spotless. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau requested that when the letter is sent an invitation to come back next year is included. As everyone has said it was a very well run event, a well maintained event, there were no problems and it was an excellent event for the Town and for the Community. The assistance that was available to teach how to fish, how to cast, and Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said how much he appreciated this event.

7. New Business

A. Dumpster Location and Fencing

Chair H. Schibanoff sent the committee an email he received from a woman who live across the street from the park and does not like the dumpster location and wants to ask the committee to move it. The Road Agent recommended putting a fence around it. P. Nichols said she stood at the top of the Hill looking down toward the dumpster and she could not see what is so wrong. The dumpster is not overly large and it was like looking for “Where’s Waldo”. It is tucked into a corner out of everyone’s way. Vice Chair J. Barnes said there could be a possibility of moving it by taking a look at a better location. He does not think that a fence is going to work. Looking from the top of the hill to the dumpster is not an issue; this woman is looking down from a Condo which is a lot higher and even with a fence around it the dumpster is still visible. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said the dumpster is in a good location for Pinard, a fence would have to be huge and would look out of place. The dumpster is centrally located to where the dog park people can use it without crossing the parking lot over to the far corner. If it were placed there, the trash would be all over the park and parking lot. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said the dumpster is fine in this location and if it is not broken don’t fix it. A. Desrosiers also agrees with the location of the dumpster and if a fence was erected around it, the top of it would still be visible to people on balconies across the street.

B. Train Station Update and Alternatives

Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau stated that we have been trying to put a basement in the Train Station and the conclusion is that it is costing a lot of money in Engineering Fees, a lot of money in deferrals, and every time it is deferred, it cost more money in Audits from the Federal Government to make sure the money is being used properly and things are being done right. Every time we put this off it cost us more money in the escalation costs for building materials and it is time we move forward. The BOS is moving forward with this. If one of the ways to store equipment was underneath the Train Station there are other ways to do this. One solution to this is the placement of a two (2) car shed (similar to a Carriage House), someplace in the park. Our Deed allows for a small storage building as long as it resembles a red barn and a Carriage House would meet this requirement. One of the places suggested would be between the A-Frame and the Gorilla House. Another suggestion was if you made it a two and a half, (2 ½) bay Carriage House you could have storage with two (2) bays and a half (1/2) bay for rest room facilities. This is only 50 feet away from the sewer line. The BOS are moving forward with putting the Train Station on slabs with crawl space underneath. The BOS are looking toward to financing our facility and one way to do this is to create a Capital Reserve Fund and put money away for the next few years or look to donations. We can do the site work by putting a slab down, run the plumbing, sewer lines, and electrical. This could be sooner than later. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau will be working on this later this week to see what comes of it. P. Nichols asked if the Carriage House would be what donations would

be looked for in the future and Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said yes. She also asked if money was available to move the Train Station and this was available. Vice Chair J. Barnes asked if the final resting place for the Train Station would still be what had been decided a while back and this was also a yes answer. The Grant will cover the cost of the slab with crawl space. The cellar money was from the Town and was escalating at a rapid rate. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said this needs to be done. He was on the Budget Committee 1993 and this was a project that was on the agenda way back then. Chair H. Schibanoff asked if the Carriage House was allowed in the deed and Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said that was true along with the Bath House. N. Undercofler asked if this area would be near where the portable toilets are now and he said right in that area. The sewer lines are about 50 feet away from where this Carriage House will be and it will be a help to the Mal's Pals Amphitheatre. There will be bathroom facilities in the Train Station that will take care of the Elephant Barn and that area.

C. Completion of 2013 Budget Year

Vice Chair J. Barnes handed out last statement on what our expenditures were. If you look on pages Three (3) and Four (4) we are current through the end of May. We still have June electrical bills and bills for portable toilets, and these bills will come to approximately \$550 in addition to what has already been spent. Vice Chair J. Barnes does not know if other expenses will be coming up in June. He said that we would have a total of \$10,190.30 minus the \$550. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau has a request from the Road Agent. He would like to purchase Three (3) pallets of Lime for the parking lot and this will get us through next season. This cost \$350 a pallet. Another discussion with the Road Agent was sewer lines that were purchased last year. We also had money to purchase water lines and electrical conduit so at the end of the meeting he would like to tell the Road Agent to go purchase water lines and electrical conduit. Speaking with Electrical Contractors, 3" electrical conduit would be sufficient for what we need. When we are ready to lay the line for Mal's Pal's amphitheatre we will be able to do this from where ever we want. Those are the things we need to think about to order these supplies to complete these projects. The first is for the Lime at a total cost of \$1050. Chair H. Schibanoff asked what the Conduit would cost. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said to go to D. Empey and he would have that number for him after. D. Empey had a question on the purchase of mulch for \$300. He said that a full truck load was purchased from that same vendor and it is not listed on this budget or the last budget. Vice Chair J. Barnes was not aware of this expenditure and would ask K. Carpentier. Vice Chair J. Barnes asked D. Empey if he had a receipt for this and he said it was picked up by the Highway Department. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau will ask K. Burns for him. D. Empey asked if there was money for parking lot striping in the next year budget and Vice Chair J. Barnes said yes. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said that was not in the default budget. Vice Chair J. Barnes said we have not been informed what is in the default budget. D. Empey asked about lawn enhancement, should money be put aside for this, Vice Chair J. Barnes said that there is money for this. Chair H. Schibanoff asked Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau if he had the cost of the conduit and he is still working on that. He did mention that we have a shortage of picnic tables in the park and out of maintenance or our money we should figure out how much we should be purchasing and purchase the lumber and hardware. D. Empey asked how many picnic tables would be needed, he suggested between Six (6) and Ten (10). Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau asked if Eight (8) should be sufficient. D. Empey said it was \$172 for a set of legs. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau just found out the cost of electrical conduit and it is \$150 per 150 feet. Discussion followed about where to

spend the money and is a vote needed for this. Fixtures, cement, mortar, etc. At this time Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau asked for a 10 minute recess.

RECESS: 8:30 P.M.

RECESS OVER: 8:40 P.M.

Meeting is being convened and Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau is asking for motions to accept spending of money for supplies from the 2013 budget:

C. Gagnon made a Motion to purchase the hardware, Wood and stain for 10 Picnic Tables not to exceed \$3, 200

N. Undercofler second the Motion

All in favor – Motion Carries

N. Undercofler made a Motion to purchase 2,000 feet of Electrical Conduit for not more than \$3,000

P. Nichols second the Motion

All in favor - Motion Carries

Vice Chair J. Barnes made a Motion to purchase Loam to do repairs around the park, not to exceed \$800

D. Empey second the Motion

C. Gagnon asked where the repairs were needed in the park. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said that at the request of the Highway Department a higher grade of loam should be purchased due to the seeding, etc. throughout the park.

All in favor –Motion Carries

P. Nichols made a Motion to purchase Cement not to exceed \$250

N. Undercofler second the Motion

All in favor – Motion Carries

C. Gagnon made a Motion to purchase 3 pallets of Lime for parking lot striping not to exceed \$1,050

P. Nichols second the Motion

All in favor – Motion Carries

C. Gagnon made a Motion to purchase supplies for clean-up, (water, plastics, etc.) not to exceed \$300

D. Empey second the Motion

All in favor – Motion Carries

D. Empey mentioned that a sum of money is set aside for fuel for 2014. Did not know how this will work with the default budget. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said he was not sure but will check on this. He said we do have to purchase fuel for this year but he will contact the Finance Director to find out how we do this. D. Empey stated we had agreed with K. Burns to use his fuel supply and he would back charge us \$900 or whatever it cost for our usage. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau will look into this.

8. Other Business/Remarks by Committee Members

John Leone had to leave early so he asked Chair H. Schibanoff if Paul LaCasse could speak in his place and it was agreed. P. LaCasse is the Treasurer of Friends of Benson Park and he wanted to let everyone know that the Elephant Barn is now open on weekends. It has been a great hit with a lot of visitors stopping by and wanting to purchase shirts, jackets, etc. There are many that would like to use credit cards but with no phone line it is not possible. The Friends of Benson Park approached Town Manager, Steve Malazia and Chairman of the BOS, Richard Maddox and they would like to run a temporary phone line from the Office Building over head to the Elephant Barn so credit cards can be used until they can get there own utilities. This would help generate more income so Town Manager Steve Malazia suggested he come before the Benson Committee. The Friends of Benson Park tried to use Smart Phones, etc. but it is too expensive at this time. The cheapest way to utilize credit cards is a land line. They donation of a card reader has been given to the Friends of Benson Park but it needs a land line. He would like the Committee's input. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said that there is a phone line in the Office Building and he thought that a conduit went to the Barn. P. LaCasse said he was not sure of this and mentioned that John Craft would have done this before now. D. Empey said that there is conduit between the Office Building and the Barn but it is in poor condition. You cannot carry phone and electrical line in the same conduit. This would have to be separate. The plan of running the line overhead is workable on a temporary basis. In D. Empey' opinion we should allow this temporary line with the understanding that all cost and installation is on Friends of Benson Park. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said he had a few concerns and one of them would be the moving of the Train Station. He does not know the height needed for equipment to move the Train Station and he thought it would be in their best interest to contact Fair Point and find out the easiest and cheapest way to do this. P. LaCasse thinks that Fair Point has be contacted and he said Friends of Benson Park would pick up all cost if this was allowed. D. Empey understood that this would be a temporary line and could be dropped when the Train Station is being moved. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said there was another snag. Overhead lines cannot be run through the park per the Deed. He did not think even temporary lines would be allowed. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau will look into this and get back to the Friends of Benson Park.

C. Gagnon said for everyone to watch the weather for the clean-up. Notification would go out Friday evening. If it is cancelled, the rain date will be Sunday, June 9, 2013.

Vice Chair J. Barnes said the park was very noisy yesterday due to the clearing of the area for the Senior Center/HCTV Center. It is one of the only times he has not seen anyone at the dog park.

Chair H. Schibanoff asked if the next meeting should be held at the Park or Town Hall. The consensus was to meet at the park.

➤ **Clean-up June 8, 2013, Rain Date June 9, 2013, Time 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM**

➤ **Next Meeting: June 20, 2013 @ Benson Park Office Building**

9. Adjournment: 9:02 pm

C. Gagnon made a Motion to Adjourn

N. Undercofler second the Motion

All in favor-Motion Carries