



TOWN OF HUDSON

Benson Park Committee

Harry Schibanoff, Chairman

Benjamin Nadeau, Selectmen Liaison



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Meeting Minutes May 16, 2013

1. **Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Benson Park Committee was called to order by Chair H. Schibanoff at 7:05 p.m. May 16, 2013, Buxton Community Development Room, Town Hall, with the Pledge of Allegiance lead by attending Scouts.

2. **Attendance:**

Vice Chair J. Barnes, Late, A. Desrosiers, D. Empey, John Leone, Late, P. Nichols, Chair H. Schibanoff, N. Undercofler, Alternate R. Alio
Excused: D. Briand, C Gagnon, Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau,
R. Alio will be a voting member tonight for C. Gagnon

3. **Public Input**

None

4. **Presentations**

A. **Beth Baker – Old Shoe**

B. Baker is here to update the Committee on the progress being made by the Brownie Scouts in their refurbishing inside the Old Shoe. B. Baker asked one of the Scouts to ask the Committee for approval to place a Rose colored granite block with the poem about the Old Lady in the Shoe written on it. This block is being donated by Gate City Granite and will be inscribed in 1” letters. A Scout said the group mapped this granite out and she passed this drawing around. Another Scout had marked two possible spots for this block and shared this drawing with the committee. Chair H. Schibanoff asked how many lines would be on the Granite block and was told there would be seven (7) lines. The committee chose one spot for the block but thought it was very wide and tall. B. Baker explained the height of the Block would enable it to be put deep into the ground to prevent it from being tipped over. Chair H. Schibanoff told B. Baker that we are having a problem with climbing on the shoe and wanted to know if this would be a stepping stone. B. Baker said there would be a four foot gap between the stone and the shoe. N. Undercofler let B. Baker know that this area is an Adopt-a-Spot. The volunteers that have adopted this spot are making it a Children’s Garden area with adults and their children designing and working together. This was discussed at great length. A. Desrosiers asked how high the stone would be after it was placed in the ground and B. Baker said around two and a half feet. D. Empey asked if the correct width and height be measured and sent to the committee. The biggest problem will be digging the hole for this size stone. B. Baker said the girls were planning a Daddy/Daughter Day and Community Support to prepare the

ground for the stone. There is no exact time line for this endeavor but B. Baker will inform the committee at a later date.

P. Nichols made a Motion to allow the placement of the Granite Stone at the Old Shoe.

D. Empey Second the Motion with the information that after the project is ready, the Troop would have to appear before the BOS to donate this to the Town and Benson Park.

All in Favor - Motion Carries

Chair H. Schibanoff asked about progress on the interior of Old Shoe and B. Baker said the loft and the floor was donated and is in place. All other decorations are inside. This Thursday, depending on the weather, the Scouts hope to finish the inside. The door will be changed to a solid door with access from the outside with a lock. B. Baker said she was hoping to have a few steps attached to the door to allow access to the upper windows looking into the loft. This was discussed by the committee at great length and was tabled until a later date. N. Undercofler asked if there was a mannequin in the Shoe and was told that there was an old woman and an old man donated. J. Leone asked if the roof had been done yet and B. Baker said she has not told by D. Sion when this would be done. They have many dolls for the Shoe and they just need a small table and chairs and a small bookcase to complete the inside. Chair H. Schibanoff thanked B. Baker and the Scouts for attending the meeting with updates on the Old Shoe.

5. Approval of Minutes

A. Minutes of May 2, 2013

A. Desrosiers made a Motion to accept Minutes

N. Undercofler Second the Motion

Seven in Favor-one abstention-Motion Carries

6. Old Business

A. Budget Update

Chair H. Schibanoff sent an update of the budget to committee members.

➤ **Spending according to the May expenditure Report, the following funds are available:**

Benson Park Committee	\$1710.00
Benson Park Operations	
• Small Equipment Maintenance	\$ 750.00
• Small Equipment	\$ 900.00
• Electricity	\$ 204.00
○ Bills for April, May & June should use much of this Balance	
• Equipment Rental	\$ 500.00
• Portable Toilets	(\$920.50)
○ Over budget, bills for May & June will add approximately \$1000 overage	
• Park Maintenance	\$10319.39
○ Estimate Expenses for new rules signs and parking lot stripping at \$800.00	

Chair H. Schibanoff asked N. Undercofler if supplies were needed for park clean-ups. N. Undercofler will look into this. P. Nichols asked if some of this money would be used to pave around Swan Lake and was told that this cost would come from the Trail Grant. She then said the purchase of wood to do the front of the Office Building was discussed. J. Leone said that the building committee met with Vice Chair J. Barnes to discuss the repairs of the Office Building and will put together a plan to present to the Benson Committee. J. Leone looked at the scope of the work to do some of these repairs and thought it would be wise to contract some of this. P. Nichols said if this work was outsourced it would have to be approved by the State and this could not be done before July 1, 2013. R. Alio asked if volunteers were to do the work, could the materials be purchased and stored until it was time to use them. D. Empey said our Selectman Liaison was going to look into this and meet at the park with the Town Engineer and make a decision on volunteers be approved for this project. Our former Town Engineer met with someone from Concord and received permission to do the sills and windows. Vice Chair J. Barnes said he did not think anything could be done on the Office Building this fiscal year and he is ready to hand over the money to the BOS for conduits, etc. D. Empey said the last BOS meeting had discussions about the Train Station and there is still an issue with the funds being made available before July 1, 2013. P. Nichols still wants the money to be used for something in the park that is needed at this time not in the future. D. Empey suggested the committee move on to the next item to be discussed.

B. Trail Grant Update and Reaffirmation of Activities

D. Empey said there was \$17,000 left in the Trail Grant. This is a reimbursement Grant and funds have to be paid up front, send invoice to the State, then money will be returned. A discussion followed with many opinions given and it was finally decided to allow further discussion to be held when Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau was available. In the meantime a vote on what to do with the remaining Trail Grant money followed.

P. Nichols made a motion to spend the Trail Grant money on repaving the Swan Lake area and the Bear area.

Vice Chair J. Barnes second the Motion

All in favor-Motion Carry's

C. Landscape Committee Request for Donated Funds

Chair H. Schibanoff announced that N. Undercofler submitted a request to the BOS for withdrawal of funds from the Benson Park Account (deposited by Eagle Scouts) to be used to purchase landscaping Trees and Bushes from Country Brook Farm. This was approved by the BOS and it is the first time we have used donated funds from an Eagle Scout. N. Undercofler was please that this was approved and as of today the plants, etc. are in the ground at Alligator Alley. Chair H. Schibanoff asked N. Undercofler if she had purchased compost that he had approved and she said not at this time.

7. New Business

A. Master Gardner Seminar

Chair H. Schibanoff mentioned that Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau was going to speak on this subject but he is not in attendance. It is a request from the Co-operative Extension Service that is affiliated with NH (possibly connected with UNH). A Master Gardner would like to have a class of six (6) to eight (8) people along with some adopt-

a-spot volunteers to give them guidance and assistance in improving or changing their spot. R. Alio thinks this is a great idea and check with adopt-a-spot volunteers to ask if they would approve this. Vice Chair J. Barnes had the same thoughts and N. Undercofler will call a few of the adopt-a-spot people. P. Nichols asked if N. Undercofler was happy with this and N. Undercofler said she is more than happy and is familiar with Master Gardner's. Chair H. Schibanoff asked what a Master Gardner was and N. Undercofler said this was someone that went to UNH (the extension) and take weekly classes to become certified to be Master Gardner's. The topics are usually the various diseases of plants and care of same. Chair H. Schibanoff called for a vote.

Vice Chair J. Barnes made a Motion to accept Co-operative Extension Service Master Gardner to have a class if there was enough interest in the adopt-a-spot volunteers

A. Desrosiers second the Motion

All in favor-Motion Carry's

B. AED & CPR Program

Chair H. Schibanoff said this was a subject Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau was going to mention. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau had a conversation with the Fire Department on the number of people using the park and we don't have a defibrillator in the park, this is called an AED. They cost around \$4,000 and are usually donated. He also wanted to know if anyone was interested in taking a CPR course and how to use this machine. P. Nichols said she would be interested and hoped others would be interested too. N. Undercofler said someone would have to at the park Seven (7) days a week and Chair H. Schibanoff said this would not be the case. R. Alio said if the AED machine was left in the Office Building, by the time anyone reached this building, unlocked the door, and returned to the one who needed it, the Fire Department will be there to take care of the problem. D. Empey said he thought this was something that should be attached to the outside of a building like a fire alarm. This is something that we need to ask questions about and if it is something that has to be locked inside a building it seems like a waste of money. This is something the committee will discuss at a later date with Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau.

C. Independent Services Network Volunteers

R. Alio has volunteered to coordinate with Independent Services to set up some light clean-up at the park. All they would need was permission to do light work in the park (ie: picking up trash, light weeding) they would supervise their workers. Discussion on this topic followed. Chair H. Schibanoff agreed to schedule a meeting with someone from Independent Services to get more information.

D. Senior Center Groundbreaking

Chair H. Schibanoff gave a date of June 14, 2012 for the official Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Senior Center at Benson Park at 1:00 pm.

8. Other Business/Remarks by Committee Members

John Leone asked the committee for approval to let the Friends of Benson Park put another coat of paint on the front of the Elephant Barn and paint the new garage door at the same time.

P. Nichols made a Motion to let the Friends of Benson Park paint the exterior of the Barn

D. Empey second the Motion

All in favor-Motion Carry's

A. Desrosiers updated Mal's Pal's fundraising effort to build an Amphitheater in memory of Malory Grey. The Mal's Pal's committee is asking for permission to place a table at the park during the Memorial Day weekend to sell tickets to aid in their fundraising efforts. They also wanted to know if a flyer could be placed in the Kiosk. P. Nichols said that all the funds were coming back to the park so this should be no problem and a sign could also be placed in the Kiosk. D. Empey said that this should be checked with the BOS.

D. Empey made a Motion to allow the Mal's Pal's to set up a table to sell fundraising tickets (with the provision that the BOS approve this event) for the Memorial Day Weekend

P. Nichols second the Motion

All in favor-Motion Carry's

Vice Chair J. Barnes mentioned that fresh wood chips were placed around the playground. This was arraigned by the Rec. Dept. and wood chips were placed by the Highway Department.

Chair H. Schibanoff asked D. Graham at Town Hall to post the Accident Waiver Form on the Town Web Site. This could be printed out and signed before volunteers came to the park. This is now available. The second thing is the Fishing Derby is still scheduled for June 1, 2013 as far as he knows. The NH Last Cast Club is still working on this.

D. Empey asked Vice Chair J. Barnes if he had a price on the Bark Mulch that was purchased for the park. Vice Chair J. Barnes has not seen a price at this time

9. Adjournment: 8:04 pm

N. Undercofler made a Motion to adjourn

A. Desrosiers second the Motion

All in favor-Motion Carries