



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

Town of Hudson Benson Park Committee Meeting Minutes April 4, 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. April 4, 2013, Buxton Community Development Room, Town Hall, with the Pledge of Allegiance lead by R. Alio

2. Attendance:

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

Excused: C Gagnon

R. Alio will be a voting member tonight for C. Gagnon.

3. Public Input

Rusty and Bruce Ottman are here to speak on a Fishing Derby that they would like to host on June 1, 2013 at Benson Park. This would be open to children from the age of Two (2) thru the age of Fifteen (15). There is no cost to the participants of this Derby and the Ottman' provide coffee, milk, donuts, soda, pizza and snacks through the day. This will be supervised through the fishing club 'NH Last Cast Fishing Club' and the children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian that must stay with them through the event. The children will be provided with lessons in proper casting, releasing, and handling fish. Prizes are being offered and provided through Carbella's Fishing Club along with many other sponsors willing to donate to this event. They would like to stock Swan Lake and R. & B. Ottman look for approval from the committee and approval would be needed from the NH Fish and Game Department. If approval is given they would like to secure the lake for at least two (2) days only to protect the fish for the derby. Any Bass caught that day must be released, with the exception of Trout, they must be taken home. D. Empey questioned the release of fish to this area because some fish are cold water fish and we have a warm water lake that connects to other bodies of water. He also questioned who would provide the security for the lake overnight. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau spoke with Fish and Game officials recently and they would do the testing if we agree to the stocking of the pond and would let us know if this was viable. If they think the fish will survive then it can be stocked every year and it is a possibility they would do this. R. Ottman said she would contact Fish & Game and find out how soon they could check the waters and how many fish could be stocked. Chair H. Schibanoff said they would have to secure their own overnight protection because we are just volunteers. R. Ottman said she would call the Police Department to find out how this could be done or

if their own people could do this. A. Desrosiers asked if anyone that was not registered for this event and wanted to fish, would this be allowed. R. Ottman said that there was no registry for this event. If you show up at 10:00 a.m. you would be welcome to fish. R. Ottman also asked permission to place a small sign announcing the Fishing Derby in the park. P. Nichols said she would post a notice of the event in the Kiosk when everything is approved.

P. Nichols made a Motion to allow the Fishing Derby at Benson Park on June 1, 2013 with the approval of the Fish & Game Department and allow a vehicle in to stock the pond and provide their own protection overnight.

N. Undercofler second the motion

All in favor-Motion Carries

4. Presentations

Vice Chair J. Barnes update on his slide presentation at the Library. Vice Chair J. Barnes sent copies to the committee and he said D. Empey thought it would be a good idea to update this often because of changes happening in the park. Vice Chair J. Barnes thought that posting this on the Town web site would be good. P. Nichols said she agreed with this.

5. Approval of Minutes

A. Minutes of March 21, 2013

N. Undercofler made a Motion to accept Minutes

A. Desrosiers second the Motion

All in favor-Motion Carries

6. Old Business

A. Signs

Chair H. Schibanoff directed the committee's attention to the signs displayed on the center table. They are as expected and Chair H. Schibanoff is looking for someone on the committee to post them on the buildings, etc. D. Empey, said he thought this was feasible.

B. Trash Cans

Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said the trash cans have been installed throughout the park, and portable toilets will be installed tomorrow. Vice Chair J. Barnes asked when the markings for the parking lot would be done. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau did not know the answer to this. Discussion followed and it was thought that the markings would be done around May 1st.

C. Financials

Vice Chair J. Barnes gave the committee a copy of Financials through the end of February. There are two (2) changes to this: Electricity through March & another line item for March. A balance of \$15,900 is available. \$3,000 should be set aside for expenses and the rest can be used for spring project until the end of June. Last year we were over budget on portable toilets because once a week was not enough to have them emptied and we had to increase this to twice a week.

D. Update on Mural Status

Chair H. Schibanoff questioned the protective coating for the Mural in the Gorilla House at the last meeting and after researching the past meetings and BOS

meetings, no mention of protective coating was agreed on by any group. Chair H. Schibanoff apologized to the Friends of Benson Park. J. Leone said the 'Friends' were looking into this and would let the committee know at a later date if this was something they were willing to do.

E. Progress on Trail Grant

Chair H. Schibanoff asked D. Empey if he had anything on the Trail Grant. D. Empey stated that this was a concern of his because the money remaining is being held to repair the roads after the utility work is done. If this was not done before June 30, 2013, this money would not be available. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said that work would be starting soon on the Senior Center/Hudson Cable TV facility and the ground breaking, if estimates and purchase orders were cut, this is what we should do. He spoke to the Road Agent and the Town Engineer are aware of this and will work on this as soon as they can.

7. New Business

A. Group Usage of Park & Generators

Chair H. Schibanoff spoke about getting all the phone calls from Town Hall and one of the questions often asked is what is an organized group and can generators be used at the Park. Discussion followed and most will be tabled until May 2, 2013 meeting. For now, if anyone wants to use a generator they have to come before the Benson Park Committee and request permission. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said this should be added to the contract that a group over 15 must fill out at the Recreation Center. D. Empey also touched on the responsibility of the generator user. More discussion followed.

B. Garage Doors/Elephant Barn

J. Leone gave an update on the Elephant Barn. New garage doors will replace the old ones at the rear of the building with approval of BOS.

C. Portable Toilets

Chair H. Schibanoff just updated the committee on the installation of three (3) portable toilets in the park and they will be emptied twice a week on Monday and Friday. They will be serviced by 'Daves' and we will be saving a total of \$56 a month on this new system.

D. Traffic Control/Large Events

Chair H. Schibanoff spoke about the Easter Egg Hunt and the need for some sort of traffic control at events like this. Cars were parked on both sides of the road leading into the park and this caused a problem. Also, when cars were trying to turn left after leaving the park they were having a hard time because of the traffic. D. Yates said he spoke to the Police Department but they never showed up. N. Undercofler said she thought this was D. Yates problem because it was his event, and Chair H. Schibanoff wanted to let the public know about this potential problem. D. Empey said it should be mandatory that a police detail be hired for an event like this. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau was thinking along these lines and he said the Hudson CB Patrol are trained in traffic control and could be used. There should be a detail officer hired if the crowd exceeds 500.

E. Withdrawal of Fountain Request

Chair H. Schibanoff said he had been asked if the Lions Club could put in a water fountain at the park. Chair H. Schibanoff said it was a good idea but we did not have any water at the park. They withdrew their offer. Selectman Liaison B.

Nadeau said we might want to get back to them because it won't be long before water and electrical would be brought into the park. Questions if this would be decorative or drinking. Chair H. Schibanoff thought it would be drinking.

F. Security Control

Deferred to May 2, 2013

On May 2, 2013 we will have Chief Lavoie, Captain Avery and Janna McMillan to discuss any questions or concerns in reference to park rules and Town Ordinances and offer explanations that make sense to the Park and Community.

New waiver forms were handed out to members of the committee, please fill out and return.

Other Business/Remarks by Committee Members

A. Desrosiers said that Mal's Pals is conducting a 50/50 raffle to raise fund for the Amphitheatre. This raffle will only have 200 Tickets at \$100 each. The winner will take home a prize of \$10, 000. You can also get friends to go on a ticket with you to make up the \$100. See A. Desrosiers for tickets. The winner will be announced at the park June 30, 2013 between the hours of 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

N. Undercofler wanted to let everyone know that the first clean-up of the year will be held on April 13, 2013 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm weather permitting. Lunch and water will be provided. N. Undercofler has been in touch with McGinnis Tree Service and they would like to offer their service to the park on Arbor Day. They requested that a spokesman for the park be there because they anticipate news media, etc. Chair H. Schibanoff said he would be there to answer what questions he could. D. Empey cannot make that day but will work with N. Undercofler.

D. Empey has a few things, first: He needs money for materials to make sign post for some of the signs, and cement to repair some of the trail signs that have been pulled up. Chair H. Schibanoff asked the amount he would be requesting and he gave an amount of \$75 to \$100.

P. Nichols made a Motion for the release of \$200 for D. Empey to purchase wood, cement, nails, etc. for signs

Vice Chair J. Barnes second the Motion

All in favor-Motion Carries

J. Leone passed a list of assessments for the picnic tables. John Craft and another building volunteer did a walk around and listed the tables in order of repairs. J. Leone asked if some money be allocated to this project for paint and repairs. J. Leone will try to give an estimate at the next meeting.

Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau gave a reminder to dog owners to make sure your dog is on a leash, pick up your dogs waste and please pick up after your children. Candy wrappers, water bottles, soda cans, coffee cups, etc. left in the park is an eyesore and ruin the look of this wonderful park. Volunteers try to keep up but eventually they will tire of this. **Reminder: This is a carry in, Carry out Park.**

Vice Chair J. Barnes update on the Grant for work in the Office Building. He received a rough estimate from a window restorer and submitted this with an application to G. Webster. It is due to DHR this month. Peter Michaud/DHR reviewed the materials and said this is what they are looking for and he will recommend that we get a grant for this project.

Chair H. Schibanoff said after the Easter Egg Hunt and he was turning onto Burns Hill Road. Just as he was doing this he saw a young girl climb on the Old Shoe and slide down. He feels we need to get a sign up there ASAP.

Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said after listening to a few comments earlier he thought that J. Leone should get a purchase order to buy paints to get started with the picnic tables.

D. Briand made a Motion to give J. Leone \$100 to buy paints, etc to start fixing up picnic tables

N. Undercofler second the Motion

All in favor-Motion Carries

D. Empey remembered something he wanted to ask Vice Chair J. Barnes regarding picnic tables. He thought that money was allocated for this. Vice Chair J. Barnes said that this was for 2014 so no money would be forthcoming until July 1, 2014. N. Undercofler asked J. Leone if the Friends of Benson Park would be donating picnic tables to the park and J. Leone said he could not commit to this now but the plan is to donate a few in the future.

J. Undercofler was asked to come to the mike to explain why the scouts were in the audience. He said they were working on Citizen in the Community Badge. Chair H. Schibanoff said if they had any questions they could ask the committee after the meeting was adjourned.

Adjournment: 8:20 pm

N. Undercofler made a Motion to adjourn

D. Briand second the motion

All in favor-Motion Carries