



TOWN OF HUDSON

Benson Park Committee



Harry Schibanoff, Chairman

Benjamin Nadeau, Selectmen Liaison

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Meeting Minutes March 21, 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. March 21, 2013, Board of Selectmen Meeting Room, Town Hall, with the Pledge of Allegiance lead by D. Empey

2. Attendance:

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

3. Public Input

None

4. Presentations

A. Mal's Pals Progress Report

Laurie Bowen gave a report on the Amphitheater to be constructed at Benson Park. They had a 'Ladies Night Out' fund raiser during a snow storm and had a really good turn out. L. Bowen also said that they had an Architectural Firm donate there time and interesting information was presented to them regarding the site concerning the wind shear. Plans have to be altered regarding the roof structure with this in mind. L. Bowen presented the committee with a picture of the altered plans for the roof of the structure. Chair H. Schibanoff asked why this had to be altered and L. Bowen said with regular roofing the wind could lift this and could cause potential structural damage. N. Undercofler asked if the altered roof plan had openings at the top and was told yes. This would allow the wind to escape without causing any structural damage. L. Bowen reported that they are gearing up to do another fund raiser. This would be a \$20,000, 50/50 raffle and would only sell 200 tickets for \$100 each, and there could be 10 people on a single ticket. This has been approved by the Town. Mal's Pals is being very ambitious about this and hoping that all tickets will be sold by the end of June. L. Bowen is asking the committee if they could have the drawing (grand finale) at the park on Sunday, June 30, 2013 between 2:00 pm & 4:00 pm. They would like to have a band (small concert) and drawing. Tickets will be \$100 each and A. Desrosiers will have them. Chair H. Schibanoff said he did not think there would be a problem other than there is no power in that area. L. Bowen stated that the Band has its own

generator. Chair H. Schibanoff asked Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau if the use of this generator would be acceptable and he seemed to think this would be approved by the BOS. P. Nichols asked if paper work would be filled out for D. Yates and L. Bowen said this would be done.

P. Nichols made a Motion to accept the proposal from Mal's Pals to hold a drawing with a Band and generator at Benson Park between the hours of 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm on June 30, 2013

N. Undercofler second the Motion

All in favor-Motion Carries

D. Empey told L. Bowen he was concerned about the structure but she answered all his questions and he appreciated this. He also said he heard this would be a pre-manufactured structure and he wanted to know if this was what they were looking at. L. Bowen said they are looking at the company that constructed the playground. This seems to be the least expensive way to construct the Amphitheatre. It is easier to purchase a prefabricated structure. They come in various sizes, colors and should never have to be painted, etc. The companies that Mal's Pals committee researched will construct the Amphitheatre on site. They do not require volunteer help with set-up but will appreciate food and drink at lunch. D. Empey stated he was happy to hear that the Mal's Pals Committee was going this way due to the Engineering liability and the speed that this company constructs their product will produce less disruption to the park and they are known for quick work. L. Bowen said the Mal's Pals committee will concentrate on raising funds and would like to start the project in September if possible. D. Empey, in his opinion, would like to see this done during the summer months, due to families going away on vacation. Spring and Fall seem to be the busiest months. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said he was happy with the progress that is being made on this endeavor. With the 9/11 Memorial, the playground, the new picnic areas opening up, people are looking forward to the Amphitheatre being constructed in the near future. Chair H. Schibanoff asked if they were on track with fund raising and L. Bowen said yes and with the 50/50 fund raiser would put them over the top. This will only be for the structure but conversations with the Road Agent and other companies concerning site work have been in the planning. This might involve more fund raising or donations. Chair H. Schibanoff asked Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau if additional approval for inspections from the Town. Selectman B. Nadeau said that the company that did the playground understood inspections and engineering stamps that are needed on site, and when they are ready he will guide them through this process. N. Undercofler asked L. Bowen to recap the 50/50 raffle for the audience again and she complied.

5. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of January 3, 2013

Minutes of February 7, 2013

N. Undercofler made a Motion to accept both sets of Minutes

R. Alio second the Motion

7 Yes – 1 Abstention

6. Old Business

A. Office Update

Vice Chair, J. Barnes is giving a Presentation tonight and could not be here but told Chair H. Schibanoff he had received a rough estimate on Window Restoration and the cost was \$19,450. Vice Chair J. Barnes forwarded this information to Gary Webster so that he can finalize the Grant request. When we plan the next budget we will see if we can budget a portion of this or just look for Grants and donations. He has also contacted the Highway Department and D. Yates with striping and installing portable toilets. He is getting estimates for this.

B. Office Usage

Chair H. Schibanoff spoke with Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau about usage of the Office Building during the Mal's Pals sled race because it was so cold. The building was opened up but at the last meeting it was suggested that guidelines or rules be posted for the future. P. Nichols made an attempt to create some rules and sent them out to the committee. N. Undercofler wanted to know about the rule of 20 people in the Office Building and P. Nichols said she just came up with that number out of the blue. It can be changed. D. Empey said that the rules were what we wanted them to be but at this time he feels that the Office should be off limits until some of the issues with this building are corrected. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said we should be open about this usage. As an example: If Boy Scouts were doing something at the park and needed a place to put their personal things, it would be fine if someone from the committee were around to open it up.

J. Leone made a Motion to accept the rules for Office Building use

A. Desrosiers second the Motion

All in favor – Motion Carries

C. Rules Update

Chair H. Schibanoff asked Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau about rules for the Park. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau will be meeting with the Police Department to review Rules and Regulations and if a Public Hearing is required to make them effective this will be done. Another point of interest Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau mentioned is that there is no Police record of vandalism at the park. He suggested that before vandalism is fixed or corrected, please call 886-6011 to report it. You can request that they make note of this even if you have solved the problem, records are needed. D. Empey asked questions on some rules that should be enforced and others that are general rules. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said these rules would come under a Town Ordinance and could be enforced. D. Empey also discussed use of large groups using the park. This has been discussed many times in the past. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said he had just filled out a form and he could only find one thing that should be on this and that is the location the group wants to use. All other information is listed, even contact person and phone number.

D. Signs

Chair H. Schibanoff spoke about signs that would describe buildings, etc. throughout the Park. He gave the committee an estimate to have these signs done in alum 0.03 and each sign would cost \$55 or a total of \$605. He thought

this was a reasonable price. Some signs could possibly be attached to a building but others would have to be posted on wood. Using the company that will make the signs, the post would cost \$30 each. D. Empey thought something could be done and he will consult the Building Committee on this.

P. Nichols made a motion that Chair H. Schibanoff look into getting a purchase order for signs not to exceed \$625

N. Undercofler second the Motion

All in favor – Motion Carries

7. Other Business/Remarks by Committee Members

Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau informed everyone of the Easter Egg Hunt to be held at Benson Park on Friday, March 29, 2013 at 6:00 pm for children up to 1st grade and at 6:30 for 1st grade thru 5th grade, weather permitting. This will be held across from the A-Frame, on the site of the Mal's Pals Amphitheatre. For more information on this event contact the Rec. Department or watch HCTV scroll. Snow/Rain date will be Saturday, March 30, 2013 at the same time.

J. Leone asked C. Gagnon if she had the Volunteer Forms update and C. Gagnon said she would send a copy to everyone.

N. Undercofler asked when trash cans would be put in the park and would Pinard be our supplier. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said when the snow was gone and the roads were safe enough for Pinard Trucks to drive in the park. N. Undercofler also asked about the Portable toilets. Chair H. Schibanoff said this was up to D. Yates and he would call him. N. Undercofler stated that April was a busy time at the Park and waiting too long would cause problems.

D. Empey said he had one issue that should be addressed, and this is the Trail Grant that expires this year and can we get it extended through next year. This is a large amount of money and if it is not going to be used for utilities for the Train Station we should plan on what can we use it for. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said we will use this before we lose it.

Chair H. Schibanoff said he wanted to publicly thank Dana Sion for oiling all the locks throughout the Park. This was a wonderful gesture on his part. Chair H. Schibanoff also reminded everyone not to call 911 if they noticed vandalism in the Park. Please call 886-6011. Chair H. Schibanoff asked if anyone knew the progress of the Mural protection that the Friends of Benson Park had promised. J. Leone will look into this.

Adjournment: 7:55 pm

N. Undercofler made a Motion to adjourn

A. Desrosiers second the motion

All in favor-Motion Carries