



TOWN OF HUDSON

Benson Park Committee



Harry Schibanoff, Chairman

Benjamin Nadeau, Selectmen Liaison

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Town of Hudson
Benson Park Committee
Meeting Minutes
Nov. 1, 2012

1. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Benson Committee was called to order by Chair H. Schibanoff at 7:03 p.m. Oct. 18, 2012, Hudson Town Hall in the Buxton Community Development room with Vice Chair J. Barnes leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

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,
Alternate R. Alio
Excused: D. Briand,

3. Public Input

None

4. Presentations

None

5. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of October 16, 2012, with corrections to be made

J. Leone made a Motion to accept minutes with correction

N. Undercofler second the Motion

All in favor-Motion Carries

6. Old Business

A. Clean Ups

Chair H. Schibanoff asked if there should be a clean up at the park this month. N. Undercofler said there was a lot of clearing of leaves that could be done. The consensus of the Committee was, weather permitting, a clean up should be held. C. Gagnon said the a clean up at the park would be held on Saturday, Nov. 10, 2012, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm, with a rain date on Sunday, Nov. 11, 2012. Volunteers were asked to bring their own rakes, etc. Lunch and water will be provided

7. New Business

A. Request from Friends of Benson Park

J. Leone invited John Craft and Richard Tassi, Board Members of the Friends of Benson Park, to speak on this request. At the last meeting a plan was submitted for asbestos mitigation by J. Craft and R. Tassi, along with J. Leone. They were

tasked with the option of coming up with a plan for this and if there was a recommendation from the Benson Committee concerning this issue and how the Friends could carry this back to the BOS or what the next options would be. J. Leone handed out copies of a letter and drawings for their plans to Committee members. R. Tassi said they are at a stand still with refurbishing the inside of the Elephant Barn in making this a Museum and Store for the future. There are several options for the asbestos mitigation.

- **Option 1** – looking at plan, there is an outline of green. The area behind it outlined in red is where there is asbestos. Their plan was to create a new wall to encapsulate all the asbestos and run electrical lines behind the new wall. There would be no exposure to the Asbestos.
- **Option 2:** Looking at pictures, the plan is to remove all the asbestos from the above to the top of the Tile wall and build a new wall.
- **Option 3:** Remove tile because there is asbestos behind it.

There question is where do they draw the line...tear out all the Asbestos or go with Option 1, and build a new wall, leaving the Asbestos undisturbed. R. Tassi spoke with someone from the State and found out Option 1 would be acceptable and there would be no problem doing that. Vice Chair J. Barnes asked if there would be a new wall built inside even if the Asbestos was removed and was told that this would happen. N. Undercofler asked if something in writing from the State approving Option 1 would be forthcoming, and R. Tassi felt that this could happen. This would have to be forthcoming because, what ever is left in the building has to be documented. Chair H. Schibanoff asked Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau if the interior of the Elephant Barn was at the discretion of the BOS. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau stated that Chair H. Schibanoff was correct and he said that Friends of Benson Park brought this before the Benson Committee as a courtesy to let us know what is transpiring at this time. We could voice our opinion on what we like but we do not have to. The Friends of Benson Park can go before the BOS to present their options and if the Benson Park Committee gave their opinion, this may help the BOS make a decision. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau wanted to know when this new wall is installed, is there some way that would show where the Asbestos is, to prevent drilling, etc. into this area? Is there some protective material that is put between the asbestos and the new wall? R. Tassi said he knew of no material other than the documentation to let future workers know where it is. Chair H. Schibanoff asked the Committee to recommend to our Liaison that we liked the Friends of Benson Park Option 1, and he agreed to present this to the BOS.

B. Park Damage

D. Empey was called upon to give an update on storm damage to the park. He said we lost one (1) large Norway Spruce tree near the pond. It landed partially in the pond and on a bench that was under it. It has all been taken care of with the exception of the stump. D. Empey also said about four (4) smaller trees along the trails and a lot of smaller branches need to be picked up. This is one of the reasons that a clean up, if possible, is necessary for November. J. Leone said that the dedicated bench that was damaged is back at the barn waiting to be repaired. It was not as bad as it looked, so repairs can be done.

C. Donated Equipment

D. Empey said he wanted to start this story at the beginning. One of the volunteers with the trails committee during the week works for UPS Corp. They have a program

(nationwide or worldwide-not sure) called the UPS Foundation. This Foundation provides Grants to non-profit organizations throughout the Country and involves large sums of money. Through the local branch, this worker became aware of this program, and some of the Trails Committee got together and wrote a Grant for some equipment to be used by park workers on a daily basis. As the Benson Committee is aware, a lot of personal equipment is used and not up to the commercial standards needed for park and trail work. The Grant was applied for and approved by the UPS Foundation. This Grant could only be given to a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, so working with the Friends of Benson Park, the money was sent to the Friends and equipment will be purchased and given to the Trails Committee for their use. When you apply for this Grant, you must state what equipment will be purchased and what it will be used for before monies will be forthcoming. Through this Grant we have a new Tractor, a new wagon to haul materials around the park, good quality walking mower, backpack blower, a gas power trimmer to use on edges of trails. The Friends of Benson Park will be coming before the BOS to present that donation to the town. D. Empey said thank you to the Friends of Benson Park for their cooperation and their partnership with this Grant. D. Empey believes this is one of the real reasons for the Friends of Benson Park. Chair H. Schibanoff said that a letter should be sent to The Friends of Benson Park thanking them for this donation. C. Gagnon wanted to thank the employee of UPS for the number of hours he has donated to the park and to get this donation. A letter of thanks should also be sent to the UPS employee and the regional office of UPS should also receive a thank you letter for sending volunteers to the park to help facilitate this Grant.

D. Other Business/Remarks by Committee Members

A. Desrosiers visited the park on Tuesday, and the crew had already got to the tree that fell. Thank you to the group that cleaned up so quickly and efficiently.

N. Undercofler let everyone know that Country Brook Farm donated two (2) White Oak trees and one (1) Japanese maple tree to Benson Park. They have been accepted and the oak are planted in the new picnic area, and the Japanese maple has been placed at the Gorilla House. N. Undercofler wanted to know if the trash cans have been removed from the park. Dan Teague, Eagle Scout Candidate, doing walkway at the Gorilla House was at the park working on placing of donated bricks. He will finish next weekend.

P. Nichols said she had seen some of the bricks that were being placed at the Gorilla House, and she just loves all our Eagle Scouts that have added their special signature to Benson Park. She also participated in the bark in the park, poker walk. Seeing the dogs dressed in Halloween Costumes on such a beautiful day was just plain fun.

Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau took this opportunity to thank the volunteers that worked on the Grant and to all who helped clean up after the storm. This took a lot of burden off the Highway Department. They were out through the storm and the roads are now open throughout the town. There are a few residents without power but everything is getting back to normal.

Vice Chair J. Barnes handed out copies of donations slated for Benson Park. They are not listed to the different areas of the Park (i.e. Buildings, Maintenance, Adopt-a-spot, Trails, etc.) The Benson Park Budget Committee will follow and register these donations in the future so that monies can be distributed to the areas intended.

Chair H. Schibanoff said he was not at the last meeting due to speaking at the Library's History of Hudson Meeting. He learned a lot about Hudson many years ago and this will be on HCTV. It was a very interesting evening with many speakers.

**The next meeting of the Park Committee will take place on November 15 ,
2012 Buxton Community Development Room at 7:00 pm.**

Adjournment: 7:43 pm

P. Nichols made a Motion to adjourn

C. Gagnon second the motion

All in favor-Motion Carries