



TOWN OF HUDSON

Benson Park Committee



Harry Schibanoff, Chairman

Benjamin Nadeau, Selectmen Liaison

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Meeting Minutes August 02, 2012

1. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Benson Committee was called to order by Vice Chair J. Barnes (standing in for Chair H. Schibanoff) at 7:03 p.m. July 19, 2012, in the Buxton Community Development Room with J. Leone leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Attendance:

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

3. Public Input

Priority A

John Maltz, in coordination with the Trails Committee, submitted handouts for proposed projects at Benson Park. The first is a Picnic area near Swan Lake. The goal is to remove most of the asphalt currently there, while leaving four (4) sections to place Picnic tables on. One more area of RAP will be created for a fifth (5th) Picnic table. There are also a number of tree stumps that must be removed before the area is ready to plant grass. If the Highway Department is unable to cut the asphalt before the end of the week, the Trails Committee can rent a pavement saw from Grand Rental Station of Hudson and do the cutting themselves. K. Burns, Road Agent, is on vacation at present. He will be back next week and will be asked if it would be feasible to complete the asphalt cutting.

Priority B

Finish Prepping Bear Island

The Trails Committee along with volunteers at the July clean-up have removed the two asphalt paths from Bear Island and have moved over 30 yards of loam to the area. There is still the need to remove some more asphalt and move more loam to the area and ensure all tree stumps are removed prior to planting grass in the area.

Priority C

The Trails Committee has recently completed a drainage project below the overlooks, and wishes to complete the RAP path to connect this from the bridge to the current RAP path, and that path to the asphalt road alongside the butterfly garden. If time is running short, this may just mean bringing material to the area and finishing the project later.

Priority D

If the first three (3) priorities can be completed with enough time and volunteer energy left over, there is a large amount of asphalt next to the A-frame. This would be removed and loam would be spread over the area in advance of planting grass there.

Discussion followed about the cost of these projects including rental of equipment from Bobcat of N.E. fuel. and trying to reach K. Burns, Highway Department, before any rental equipment or fuel was purchased.

D. Empey made a Motion to spend no more that \$400 for the rental equipment if K. Burns was unable to remove the asphalt.

J. Leone second the Motion

All in favor – Motion Carries

4. Presentations

None

5. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of July 21, 2012

J. Leone asked for a **correction** to be made under **Approval of Minutes, July, 19, 2012**. The age of children in the Dog Park escorted by a parent was discussed but not posted in the final minutes. P. Nichols will make this correction.

N. Undercofler made a Motion to accept minutes as corrected

C. Gagnon second the Motion

All in favor – Motion Carries

6. Old Business

A. Dog Park Rules

D. Briand spoke of the Dog Park Rules to be sent to the printers. These rules were discussed at length and it was determined that Children in the Dog Park ages 10 to 17 must be escorted by a parent. This would be in keeping with Dog Park rules in surrounding towns.

D. Empey made a Motion to accept the Rules

J. Leone second the Motion

All in favor – Motion Carries

B. Shoe Access

Chair H. Schibanoff received an email from B. Baker, GS Troop12360, regarding access to the inside of the Old Shoe. With much discussion, J. Leone, a member of the Building Committee, and other committee members said that a new door, locks, etc. would have to be installed because the old door is not easily opened due to the amount of screws holding it together and the Scouts could not gain access easily to do their project. J. Leone would look into installing a new door and lock with help from D. Empey.

7. New Business

A. Request for Eagle Scout Fund Raiser in Park

Chair H. Schibanoff received an email from Eagle Scout Candidate D. Teague on his plans to build a walk-way for the Gorilla House at Benson Park. He would like to set up a table in the park to sell engravings for the bricks to be used in helping fund his project. This was discussed by all committee members. The rules state that fund raising is allowed as long as all monies collected revert back to the park.

P. Nichols made a Motion to accept D. Teague' request for the fund raiser in the Park and that a sign be posted at the table "Approved by Benson Park Committee", and any handouts also contain that language unless they were previously printed.

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

B. Dog Park

D. Briand reported to the Committee that the last check was sent to the Fence Company. The Dog Park Committee will schedule a meeting with the BOS to donate the Dog Park to the Town. They are still raising funds for equipment at the park. D. Briand said there is more clean up to do before the park will be ready to open.

C. Old Home Days

Old Home Days will be held on August 16 thru the 19, 2012. Visit old and new friends and welcome the new group running this fun event.

8. Other Business/Remarks by Committee Members

J. Leone said he was looking for volunteers to join the building committee. If interested visit the park on the next clean up and talk to a building committee member.

N. Undercofler stated that with the low water table, some of the ponds are lacking water and children are going into these areas. Most are shoeless and glass, etc. has been found. A warning to parents to keep children out of these areas for their own safety would be welcome.

D. Empey asked if anything has been done about the porta-potty being emptied twice a week and moved. Chair H. Schibanoff said he has sent messages to D. Yates but has not heard back. He will keep trying.

Chair H. Schibanoff received an email from C. Owen informing him of an Outdoor Open House at the Hills Memorial Library building on Thursday, August 16, 2012. She would welcome representatives of our committee to set up a booth with materials about Benson Park. After asking the committee about interest in this event, it was decided with vacations and meetings that week it would not be feasible. He also mentioned that the GFWC Juniors and Community Clubs were awarded second place in the nation for their community development project of the Butterfly Garden. The Committee would like to congratulate them for this achievement and thank them for their contribution to the Park.

The next meeting of the Benson Park Committee will take place on August 16, 2012 at Benson Park, Office Building at 7:00 pm.

Adjournment: 7:59 pm

**J. Leone made a Motion to adjourn
C. Gagnon second the motion
All in favor-Motion Carries**