

Town of Hudson  
Benson Park Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
March 18, 2010

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

The regular meeting of the Benson Committee was called to order by Chair Harry Schibanoff at 7:05 p.m. on March 18, 2010 in the Board of Selectmen Meeting Room at the Town Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Attendance:**

Vice Chair S. Rumbaugh, J. Barnes, R. Empey, Clerk P. Nichols, K. Dickinson, Alternates A. Desrosiers, J. Leone  
Absent Selectman Liaison S. Jasper, M Lee, C Gagnon

**3. Public Input**

Chair H. Schibanoff introduced Scout Troop 20 in attendance this evening toward earning their Communications Merit Badge.

**Ticket Booth Proposal Request**

Eagle Scout Candidate Michael Undercofler from Troop 20 is looking for permission to refurbish the Ticket Booth at Benson Park. He would like to paint, repair, and replace some areas of the Booth that are needed. His idea for the use of this Booth would be a Kiosk with information about the Historical area of the Park. There is a place near the Elephant Barn that he would like to put pavers and place the Booth. Questions followed by Committee Members and the cost of this would be funded by a Spaghetti Supper for this.

**Vice Chair S. Rumbaugh made a motion to accept this Eagle Scout project with the plan to be brought back to the Committee for approval before any work is started.**

**P. Nichols seconded the motion**

**All in favor-Motion Carries**

**911 Memorial Request**

Casandra DeVilla Hudson Police Department and Captain Todd Hanson, Hudson Fire Department spoke about a 911 Memorial that is being proposed for the Town of Hudson. The 911 Memorial Committee would like to place this memorial on the leveled off area near Kimball Hill Road and Central Street. This area is a part of Benson Park. A draft of the plan was shown to the committee with an explanation of how the Memorial would look, what it would be built of and the beams are part of the 911 rubble. This memorial would be in honor of the professional people that lost their lives but in honor of civilian's that were lost too. Other lots were considered but, in there opinion, this appeared to be the best choice. Dave Morin as head of the Memorial Committee has spoken with D.O.T. on this and will talk to the Committee at a later date. The Committee made no decision and will discuss this at length at a later date.

**Ken Matthews** stated that if the Outreach sub-committee is broken up into different sub-committees he resigns from the Communications Committee

## **Consent Items**

A. Minutes of January 7, 2010 Benson Park Committee

B. Minutes of March 4, 2010 Benson Park Committee

**J. Barnes made a motion to accept all.**

**K. Dickinson seconded the motion**

**All in favor...Motion carries**

## **4. Old Business**

### **A. Committee Reports**

#### **➤ Trails/Land Conservation**

D. Empey reported that he had taken delivery of a major order of lumber for the building of the Kiosk and the trail sign posts. A report on the construction of the Kiosk was given and a report on work done in the park that resulted in the North Field being a major endeavor. D. Empey thanked the men who worked on this.

The Brush Mower is performing up to standard and has been a big help in clearing areas that would have taken many hours.

#### **➤ Grounds/Landscaping/Clean-up**

D. Empey stated that due to the storms that we have had lately left a lot of damage and problems in the Park. The Swan Lake dam washed out almost completely in the area of the culverts. He stated that the highway department came in and reset the culverts and repaired what had washed out. The Moose Pond drainage is a problem but hopefully it will be resolved before too long. Two large Norway Spruce Trees were lost during a wind storm and a smaller one. They have already been cut up and the brush is ready to be burned Saturday at the Clean-up. Questions were asked about the wash-outs and other damage to park.

## **5. Proposed Rules and Regulations**

J. Barnes made a small change to the Rules and Regulations and would like to get this to the Board of Selectmen for a review as soon as possible. It was decided to try to get it on the agenda for the coming BOS meeting. J. Barnes will do the presentation.

## **6. Plan for Opening**

Vice Chair S. Rumbaugh stated that most of the items to be done will be at the discretion of the BOS. Some will be in the hands of Trails/Grounds/Clean-up, Outreach and Planning. She is looking for feedback from the Committee and sub-committees as to what the time-line, cost, etc. would be so that a date for opening the park could be set. Questions followed on the parking lot kiosk, publicity, trails, ticket booth, paving of main road, culverts, electronic gate, etc. Vice Chair S. Rumbaugh wants to put it in a format to present to the BOS. Chair H. Schibanoff will make the presentation accompanied by Vice Chair S. Rumbaugh.

**7. Liaison Progress**

Chair H. Schibanoff said that there have been discussions with a candidate for Liaison and this will be determined at the next BOS meeting.

**8. New Business**

D. Empey handed out a list of tasks to be done at the clean-up for Saturday. Priorities will be determined by how many volunteers, weather, equipment, etc. C. Gagnon will not be there so Chair H. Schibanoff will handle sign-in and have the volunteers sign the new waiver. P Nichols will be able to handle the lunch for volunteers. CTV will be filming the clean-up and volunteers.

➤ Signs

The Benson Signs were discussed, pros and cons. These signs were designed and purchased many years ago and do not reflect the park as it is now named.

**K. Dickinson made a motion to look into refurbishing the old signs or creating new ones.**

**J. Barnes seconded the motion**

**All in favor-Motion Carries**

➤ Subdivision of Outreach Committee

J. Leone said that the Outreach Committee wants to subdivide into Communications and fund raising due to the increased work load in working to opening the park.

**J. Leone made a motion to subdivide the Outreach Committee into Communications and Fund Raising.**

**A. Desrosiers seconded the motion**

**All in favor-Motion Carries**

➤ Ice Cream Social

Chair H. Schibanoff said that he received a communication from Selectman K. Massey regarding an Ice Cream Social to be held on May 6, 2010 at the Community Center at 7:00 p.m. A count will be taken on what members of the Committee will attend at the next meeting.

**9. Other Business/Remarks by Committee Members**

**J. Barnes** asked for an update on the Bat Houses. Vice Chair S. Rumbaugh said she would look into this as it had been put on hold for the winter months.

**D. Empey** met with an organization from the town that is interested in establishing a butterfly garden on the Benson Park Property. D. Empey will take a walk around the park on Sunday, March 21, 2010 so that they would have an idea on where to place the garden if the Committee approved the idea. They will have a Master Gardener along to help choose a site.

**A. Desrosiers** wished for a good clean-up with lots of volunteers

**K. Dickinson** mentioned the Ticket Booth and a hint to the Eagle Scout on weight and depth of area to be chosen.

**P. Nichols** mentioned the no hunting/no motor vehicle signs that were placed around the parameter of the property and how well they looked.

**H. Schibanoff** mentioned that HCTV Access Center, Nadeau Farms on Old Derry Road is having an Open House on Saturday, April 11, 2010 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. all are welcome.

## **10. Adjournment**

**J. Barnes** made a motion to adjourn

**D. Empey** seconded the Motion

**All in favor-Motion Carries**