

Town of Hudson
Benson Park Committee
Meeting Minutes
November 19, 2009

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The regular meeting of the Benson Committee was called to order by Chairman H. Schibanoff at 7:05 p.m. on November 19, 2009 in the Board of Selectmen Meeting room at the Town Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Attendance:

Attendance: Vice Chairperson S. Rumbaugh, J. Barnes, Martha Lee, Clerk, P. Nichols,
Absent: Selectman Liaison S. Jasper K. Dickinson

3. Public Input (Non-Agenda Items): none

4. Consent Agenda

- A. November 5, 2009 Benson Park Committee Minutes
J. Barnes made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda
M. Lee seconded the motion
All in favor...Motion Carried

5. Old Business:

A. Interviews of Subcommittee Members

Joe Undercofler, resident of Hudson, is interested in working on Trails and Paths on the Benson property.

B. Discussion of Soft Opening

J. Barnes asked about the attendance for this. P. Nichols said that she thought there were about 150 people due to the weather.

Chairman H. Schirbanoff asked if anything could be done to improve the openings.

P. Nichols stated that more advertising of the openings should be done.

C. Posting of Agenda and Minutes on Town Website

P. Nichols said she would look into this for the next meeting.

6. New Business:

A. Winter Planning for the Park

Cleanups:

J. Barnes asked what the general objective of this would be.

D. Empey stated that he expected clearing to be done until the snow starts. Working of clearing of trails, working on clearing out picnic areas...this is a good time to work while the growth is dormant. Another burning would be advisable at this time. (9:30 am to 2:30) Discussion followed.

Vice Chairperson S. Rumbaugh made a motion for a cleanup on Dec. 5, 2009 with a bad weather date Dec. 6, 2009 (possible burning)

M. Lee Seconded the Motion

All in favor...Motion Carried

Soft Openings:

Chairman H. Schirbanoff asked about more Soft Openings this winter. A discussion followed and the Committee gave a consensus to a soft opening of the park in the winter. A date will be set at a later meeting.

B. Development of Park Rules and Regulations

P. Nichols stated that a member of the Out-Reach Committee had a list of rules.

J. Barnes volunteered to set up a list of rules and bringing it to the Committee.

C. Fence Removal

Chairman H. Schibanoff asked about the Committees thoughts on removing the fence around the Elephant Barn. Discussion from Committee Members followed.

P. Nichols made a Motion to recommend to the selectman if it would be possible remove the whole fence around the Elephant Barn

M. Lee seconded the Motion

All in favor...Motion Carried

D. Bat Houses for Haselton Barn

Chairman H. Schirbanoff asked for a report on the Bat Houses.

Vice Chairperson S. Rumbaugh stated that she had been waiting for a reply from Campbell High School on this. Discussion followed and Vice Chairperson S. Rumbaugh will check with Campbell High School again and if no reply will contact other schools.

E. Bush mower proposal from Trails Committee

D. Empey, Chairman of the Trails Committee gave a presentation and proposal to purchase a Bush Mower for Benson Park. **D. Empey** stated that Benson Park needed this equipment to complete the trails and open areas. Questions and in-depth Discussion followed.

Vice Chairperson S. Rumbaugh made a motion to present to the Board of Selectmen a proposal to purchase this Bush Mower and to pay for same with Benson Park Funds.

P. Nichols seconded the Motion

All in favor...Motion Carried

D. Building Report

Chairman H. Schibanoff stated that Shadan Construction was still working on the Office roof. It has not been completed yet. **J. Barnes** stated that the door of the Gorilla House was broken but this was decided it was not recent and would be secured at a later date.

7. Other Business/Remarks by Committee Members

J. Barnes asked about No Hunting Signs to be posted at the park. He also mentioned the walls in the Park and has anyone done an inventory of these walls. **M. Lee** accepted the challenge to inventory the walls. **J. Barnes** also mentioned the hats and shirts to sell. People were inquiring as to where they could purchase these.

Vice Chairperson S. Rumbaugh asked when the open positions on the Committee would be filled. **Chairman H. Schibanoff** stated that an ad would be placed in local papers and it was already posted on the Town Web Site.

Chairman H. Schibanoff stated that the New Hampshire State Grange awarded the Community Citizen Award to Selectman Roger Coutu and this was a State Wide Competition and one of the reasons he was given this award was acquiring Benson Park for the Town of Hudson. The Committee took this time to congratulate him on this very Special Honor.

8. Adjournment:

J. Barnes made a motion to adjourn.

Vice Chairperson S. Rumbaugh seconded the motion

All in favor...Motion Carried

Meeting Adjourned at 8:08 pm

Next Meeting: December 3, 2009 at 7:00 pm in the Board of Selectmen Meeting Room.