



TOWN OF HUDSON

Benson Park Committee

Richard Empey, Chairman David Morin, Selectmen Liaison



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Committee Minutes

Date: 11/18/2021- 7:00pm

Location: HCTV Meeting Room, 19 Kimball Hill Road, Hudson, NH

- **Call to Order:** at 7:04 pm by Chairman Dick Empey
- **Pledge of Allegiance by:** John Leone
- **Attendance:** Richard Empey, Ralph Alio, John Leone, Selectman David S. Morin, Nancie Caron, Judith Brouillette, and John Madden
Excused: Carol Ann Viens
Absent: Kevin Cormier

- **No Public Input**

- **Approval of minutes:**

10/21/2021 Minutes – Mr. Madden made a motion to accept the minutes. Second by Nancie Caron. 6 yes and 0 no

- **Old Business:**

New Trees: The committee reviewed some choices for new trees and the final choices decided were the Autumn Cherry as option one and Yoshino Cherry as option two. Mr. Empey will see which options are available when purchasing them.

Planning for future projects: Mr. Empey stated after some discussion with the town it was found that the Park had a Capital Reserve set up in 1998 which has \$110,000 already in the account. It can be used for any improvements within the park - just no routine regular maintenance. A list of items and dates were presented to the committee by Mr. Empey. Some items can wait but others will need to be done sooner. It was discussed if we should have a warrant article set up in order to make sure we have regular money placed in their in order to take care of these items as they come up.

Selectman Morin brought up that he felt there was an unfair comment at the last meeting which mentioned that if it couldn't be repaired it would have to be taken down. He stated if it was unsafe that it would not be able to be used for liability concern but he knows that Benson's is loved by the town and they would want to do something for it to be replaced.

Options discussed for cost is maybe to have it as a pedestrian bridge. An updated inspection should be done and to determine next steps.

Selectman Morin recommended to get a Warrant Article and to check with Steve Malizia to see if it can be written and placed on the next meeting. The purpose of having more money added is because as it is used we want to make sure we are replenishing the amounts so money is available if some of these big priced items fail and need to be replaced immediately.

Mr. John Leone made a motion to proceed with a Warrant Article of \$20,000 to be added to the existing Capital Reserve Account. Ms. Judy Brouillette 2nd the motion. It passed - 5 yes 1 no

The goal is to try to get it on the next 12/1/21 town meeting.

- **New Business:**

None

- **Calendar:**

- a. Next Meeting scheduled for 12/16/2021 - we will leave it as scheduled at this time and cancel it if not needed.

- **Other Business/Remarks by Committee Members**

Ms. Caron asked if we were going to talk about future fundraising efforts as we talked about it at the last meeting. Ms. Brouillette mentioned that maybe we could send you the information and discuss it whenever we have our next meeting. We will need to decide what types of fundraising efforts the committee will want to use for the future.

Mr. Empey stated the bathrooms are closed for the season which they need at this time of year to prevent freezing of the water in the pipes. He also stated Mr. Blanchette is almost done with the kitchen and it looks great.

Mr. Leone stated next week The Friends of Benson's will be the charity at the Lucky Moose that they will give some of their proceeds too. He also stated the Elephant Barn roof has had lots of progress and it should be done within the next few weeks.

- **Motion to Adjourn by:** Jack Madden **Second by:** Nancie Caron
Passes unanimously and meeting adjourned at 8:23pm.