



TOWN OF HUDSON

Benson Park Committee



John Madden, Chairman David Morin, Selectmen Liaison

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Committee Minutes

Date: 04/20/2023 - 7:00pm

Location: HCTV Meeting Room, 19 Kimball Hill Road, Hudson, NH 03051

- **Call to Order:** at 7:03 pm by Chair John Madden
- **Attendance:** Chairman John Madden, Selectman David S. Morin, Sarah Petkiewicz, Erica Carreau, John Leone, and Judith Brouillette
Excused: Scott Anderson & Ralph Alio
- **Public Input:** Ms. Natalie Anne is interested in volunteering at the park but wanted to come and watch one of our meetings. Chairman John Madden read a letter from a family member of Richard Ahlquist asking us to accept the donation of the lithograph. Chairman/President John Leone and Secretary Natalie Newell from the Friends of Benson Park accepted the Benson Wild Animal Farm Wooden Lithograph Plate from Chairman John Madden for it to be part of the museum. The lithograph was donated by the family of Richard Ahlquist. Friends of Benson Park Secretary Natalie Newell also suggested that we consider merging our volunteer list and use Sign Up Genius so we know who is coming for clean up days or other days we need help. It was suggested to include the leaders at Boys/Girl Scout programs, social media, and the Town sites. Judy Brouillette made a motion to accept the suggestion of our group merging our volunteer list and use this new system to provide a better means of communication to our volunteers. Erica Carreau 2nd the motion. Vote 5 yes/0 no.
- **Approval of minutes:** Reviewed March 17, 2023 minutes. John Leone made a motion to accept the minutes with suggested typo changes. Seconded by Sarah Petkiewicz 5 yes/0 no

Old Business:

- A. Balance and Expenditures were reviewed by John Madden. As of March 2023 we have \$1065.54 in our budget.
- B. It was reported we had a very large group of people at our first Park clean up for the season. It was hoped that we can continue to have many people come and to increase it over the season.

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- C. Consolidate the BPC and FoBP volunteer clean up list – this was discussed during the public input area when the Secretary Natalie was with our group.
- D. Judy Brouillette brought up a concern that she had about the picnic tables. It was understood that after we did a walk through we would discuss long-term plans for future maintenance of the picnic tables. The ones that were noted that were damaged were fixed. This is great but what about the long-term plan and she suggested going with the option that Mr. Leone brought up that we ask those people who would like to do a bench donation if they would consider donating a picnic table instead. Mr. Leone will follow up to see how much it would cost and the most cost-effective way to ship at a reasonable price. Mr. Leone will look into and get back to us.
- E. Mr. Alio's term is ending this month and he has decided not to renew. The group stated they thanked him for his years of service to the committee. Mr. Madden mentioned that a new member Mike Catanzaro will be brought to the board at the 4/25/23 meeting.
- F. We are still looking for two alternate positions to be filled and we still have a vacancy sign hanging at the dog park entrance stated Ms. Brouillette.
- G. Mr. Madden stated our 2nd quote still has not been able to be reached. He will try again this week and report back to the committee.
- H. Laura Black from the Division of Historical Resources sent the necessary forms for Mr. Madden to review.
- I. Another member from the FoBP will follow up with the DPW as Mr. Leone does not have the time. He did state he would like to consider using the Hazelton Barn for storage and other items as well. He stated it would be beneficial to schedule a time to check out the space. They were able to locate the keys.
- J. Ms. Carreau has received the pictures and had some herself and will follow up with the existing brand to see what the options are. They needed to see what the existing brand was in the other bathroom.

New Business:

- The group reviewed the draft report for the BOS on potential fundraising alternatives for Benson Park.
- Scott Anderson volunteered for the Chair position of landscaping.
- Elections for various Benson Park Committee seats:
 - Jack was nominated Chair and a motion by John Leone, Judy Brouillette 2nd the motion - vote 5/0 he was voted in the Chair position
 - Judy Brouillette was nominated by Chair Madden for the Vice Chair position – John Leone 2nd the motion – vote 5/0 and she was voted in the VP Chair position
 - Mr. Madden suggested a nomination with the Secretary position for Sarah Petkiewics – she stated she needed to think about it. Position still open at this time and Ms. Brouillette stated she can cover the position until someone steps up for the nomination.

Calendar

- a. Warrant Article #14 for \$10,000 and Town Budget passed
- b. Next meeting – Thursday, May 18, 2023 at 7 pm.
- c. Volunteer Clean Up – 3rd Saturday, May 20th, 9 am to 2 pm

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Other Business/Remarks by Committee Members

- a. Mr. Leone stated that they have a meet and greet on Saturday from 12 to 2 which will include refreshments and information about different volunteering opportunities.
 - b. Selectman Morin, Sarah Petkiewics, Erica Carreau, and Mike Catanzaro all didn't have anything to add.
 - c. Ms. Brouillette thanks Ralph for all his years and dedication to the Park over the years.
 - d. Mr. Madden reminded everyone of Jess's retirement party on 4/21/23 which is a drop in event.
- **Motion to Adjourn by:** John Leone **Second by:** Sarah Pekiewicz Passes unanimously and meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm.