



TOWN OF HUDSON

Benson Park Committee



John "Jack" Madden, Chairman

Dillon Dumont, Selectmen Liaison

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Committee Minutes

Date: 3/21/2024 - 7:00pm

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

- **Call to Order:** at 7:02 pm by Chairman John Madden
- **Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by Nathan Muir (alternate member)
- **Attendance:** Chairman John Madden, Vice Chair Judith Brouillette, Sarah Petkiewicz, Mike Catanzaro, John Leone, & Nathan Muir (alternate)
- **Excused:** Dillon Dumont and Scott Anderson
- **Unexcused:** Erica Carreau
- **Other matters:** John Leone, long standing member of Benson Park Committee is submitting his resignation because he has moved out of Hudson. He will sit on this last meeting, but will not vote. Mr. Madden thanked John for his help over the years and stated he looked forward to continuing to work with him through Friends of Benson.
- **Public Input:** Sue Clement, the Adopt of Adopt Coordinator, came to discuss some issues with the Benson Park website. There is outdated paperwork on there and people listed who are no longer on the Committee. She also stated that it was difficult to find the forms. She would like to add a section for forms to make them easily accessible and also to update the information that is no longer accurate because it relates to Covid. She also suggested adding the volunteer days to the Calendar of Events and to include information about what it entails to volunteer. She inquired with the volunteer hours form has been updated and Ms. Brouillette confirmed that it has been. Ms. Clement states she updated the volunteer waivers and Mr. Leone confirmed that once a waiver has been signed it is active indefinitely. Ms. Clement suggested that every few years the committee goes through the waiver forms to remove those members who are no longer active and to have people re-sign the form just to ensure everything is up to date.

Introduction of new member applicant Nathan Muir – Nathan owns his own landscaping company Continuity Landscape Services and we are happy he has joined our group.

- **Approval of minutes:** Holding on approval of minutes – Chairman Madden will re-send them to the group for review.

Old Business:

- A. Balance and Expenditures – No balance change. Year to date spend of \$192.56 and a balance of \$907.44. John submitted for cost of lamination and Judy submitted for reimbursement of the Adopt a Spot Paint. Warrant Article passed that will add an additional \$10,000 to the Capital Reserve Fund.
- B. Train Station update – We are going to use money in the Capital Reserve Fund to do the lead paint inspection at 8am on March 28th.
- C. Golf Cart Use Procedures and New Liability Form – This was approved by the Board of Selectman on March 5th. We should do a training session for the members on how to use the cart. Mr. Catanzaro will arrange this. Sue Clement suggested April 6th because it was the FoB volunteer breakfast.
- D. Tree Removal near Gazabo/Pond – this has been completed. We are going to replace with one tree and then fill it up to level ground.
- E. Adopt a Spot Signs – Ms. Brouillette picked up a primer and paint pins. She has primed them all on Friday and will do the brown and the writing. They will be ready for the first volunteer day.
- F. Damage to the Storage Box – no need for reimbursement.
- G. Appointment to Benson Park Committee by BoS February 27, 2024 - Nathan Muir is officially selected a member.
- H. Review of GPS-based map of Benson Park trails – Mr. Madden has checked online and the info still hasn't been added. Once it is complete we can make it official.
- I. Develop a list of clean-up tasks and potential capital projects in Benson Park – There are 20-30 volunteers coming on April 23rd that needs a list of projects.
- J. Date of Landscape Committee to conduct a walk-through in Benson Park – Mr. Madden has prepared a list of potential items that we could provide to the volunteers, but we should have a Park Walk through.
- K. Mr. Madden will send a list out to everyone and then the subset of members will go out and look. Some suggestions: repairing the hole on the Otter path, painting the railings black, cutting back vines, cutting back poison ivy, replacing the pressure treated 2x4s on the Hazelton trail.
- L. Warrant Article #18 Passed – this adds \$10,000 to Benson Park Capital Reserve Fund

NEW BUSINESS

- a) Department of Historic Resources – we haven't had a visit from Historic Resources in at least 5 years. It would be great for them to see what we have done. They could give us a

view on what would do to the inside of the Train Station and we could share our idea to revert the interior back to the 1916 plan. Mr. Madden will lead this.

- b) Gary Williams in a retired resident who wants to help with the dog park issues. His old company that has offered to let us borrow equipment and remove the asphalt in the small dog park. They can also look at the run-off and use scraps to help prevent it. Mr. Catanzaro will help work with this company on it.
- c) Issue Benson Park permits to volunteers needing them – Mr. Leone and Sue will distribute them to their volunteers.
- d) Mr. Loene asked that Mr. Madden email the map out to the committee members.

Calendar

- Next meeting – Thursday, April 18th at 7pm
- First Volunteer Clean-up Day – 9am – 2pm Saturday April 20th
- Day after Earth Day – Integra Biosciences – Hudson volunteer (20-40 staff member) on 2/23

Other Business/Remarks by Committee Members:

Ms. Clement – Love all the ideas, we need to make the website more accessible. People don't understand that Adopt A Spot is free. It's great for the community. Min Falls notes Volunteer days on a banner. We need to advertise and post so people are aware.

Mr. Catanzaro – I'd love to work with any children at wish to volunteer

Ms. Petkiewicz – none

Mr. Muir – If anyone wants to donate equipment to the park, I am happy to operate it.

Mr. Leone – The volunteer breakfast for FoB is on April 6th.

Ms. Brouillette - thank you voters for passing the Warrant Article. Thank you Mr. Leone for all your service – I know we'll still see you. Volunteers we look forward to you joining and thank you for keeping the park beautiful.

- **Motion to Adjourn by: Mr. Madden Second by: Mr. Muir 2nd the motion.**
Passes unanimously and meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm.