



TOWN OF HUDSON

Benson Park Advisory Committee

12 School Street.
Hudson, New Hampshire 03051

Meeting Minutes June 18th, 2026

Call to Order: 7:01 pm

Pledge of allegiance:

Attendance: Ellen Griffin, Susan Clement, Nathan Muir, Jan Horvath, Matt Pelletier, Evan Maloney excused absence, Jake Baechemin excused absence, alternate Harry Schibanoff

Matt Pelletier Friends of Benson Park present. Kim Allen Board of Selectman Liaison excused absence and Ally Web Friends of Hudson Dog Park absent.

Public Input: Emails to Benson Park Website. Having an activity with more than 15 people, a Park Usage Form with the DPW needs to be filled out. Benson Park website. No fee but no reserved spots. 2 groups on each weekend day. There is no reservation system. Usage of the park is first come first served. If you have not obtained permission, you may be asked to leave.

Approval of Minutes: Meeting Minutes for May 21, 2026 were reviewed. A motion was made by Matt to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Nate. Six in favor, zero opposed.

Old Business:

- 1) Balance and Expenditures- June Balance 667.35 The Benson Park Capital Reserve Fund
Ballance is 120,660.66 as of 6/9/2026 – Sue

There are other accounts that are not included in the paperwork sent by the Town. Sue requested that the Board consider adding a position to the Board. The Financial Coordinator would be responsible for reviewing the finances of the Board monthly to ensure accuracy.

The additional accounts and account balances include:

Tree replacement \$4,055.50
9/11 Memorial \$716.00
Old Lady in the Shoe \$100
Train Station \$5200
Lions Pride \$400

Sue asked the Board to if anyone would be interested in taking on the role. This will be discussed again in the July meeting. The public is also welcome to consider volunteering and taking on the role. A motion was made by Nate, seconded by Matt to add the role of Financial Coordinator to the Benson Park Advisory Board. Six in favor, zero opposed.

Sue requested approval to spend \$89.57 for lunch during the June Park Clean Up. Harry informed the Board that June 30 was the end of the fiscal year and suggested that the Board use the funds in the budget before the fiscal year ends. to Sue Plan to use the budget next year before the end of the fiscal year. A motion was made by Nate, seconded by Matt to reimburse Sue \$89.57. Six in favor, zero opposed.

- 2) Update on our response to DHR review of Lead Paint and Mold Moisture Removal – Sue was able to meet with Chris Madden and we now have all the records from this project. We need to go through them to determine where we are in the process. It is believed that the last step needed to complete is Historical Society approval. Jake is interested in taking on this project. Scope of work from contractor may be what needs to be sent. This would need to be done through Town Engineer.

Does the Town provide storage space for the BPAC committee materials?

- 3) Update on Proposed Charter changes of the Benson Park Advisory Committee – Jake More updating needs to be done based on Heidi's recommendations and the Charter for the Sustainability Committee. The position of Financial Coordinator will need to be added. This will be reviewed in July and forwarded to the BOS when complete.
- 4) Update on Historical Building Post Markers - Markers are being installed at the Hazelton Barn, Office/Kitchen and Train Station. The donation of the markers and the project plan were approved by the BOS and DPW. The DPW will be digging the holes and Gate City Monument will be installing and sealing them. Sue spoke with Sally at Gate City and they are working to find a date that works for all to complete the project and then schedule a date for an unveiling and historical walk. July 21 is a potential date. Who can speak about the historical buildings?
- 5) Update on Lions Pride Restoration Project – Sue Another donation was received. Lee has started working on cleaning the lions. The tail is being reconstructed and will be attached when complete. Discussion then ensued about what to do with the Lions once they are restored. Where could a habitat be created that would allow the public to view but keep the lions out of the weather? Additional discussion is needed before a decision can be made.
- 6) Status of Covered Bridge Replacement – Jan Discussion with town Engineer Elvis Dhima concerning site Preparation design of covered bridge replacement as well as review of the Plans. Jan requested a meeting. Diagrams were made that included the landscaping design and foundation design for DPW. Water has eroded the side of the bridge. Can drainage be installed? Jan prepared preliminary budget to be presented to Selectman. Monies for this project would come from the Capital Fund.
- 7) Review of Ordinances on Park Usage Form – Evan has been in contact with other cities and town and is working on the ordinances. Ordinances regarding E-bikes, suggest speed limits, noise level and control are being worked on. .
- 8) Safety in the parking lot near Friends of Hudson Dog Park when entering and going down the hill to the lower lot was again discussed. This was brought up again due to the recent bike accident. A motion was made by Nate, seconded by Matt to request that the DPW add signage and speed bumps. Six in favor, zero opposed.
- 9) Erickson Foundation Solution Volunteer Day Inquiry - Sue Sent slide show of projects that BPAC

would like to have Erickson consider completing during Volunteer Day. A walk through of the projects will also be done. Projects include the water issue in the Kitchen, the graffiti in the Kitchen, the foundation of the Gorilla cage, and painting the Gorilla cage.

- 10) Damage to the lower parking lot outside of the dog park. What is causing this needs to be determined and the area repaired. Nate will investigate and email the DPW.

New Business:

Friends of Benson Park upcoming events:

8/1 11:00 Live Raptor Show

9/12 – Centennial Celebration – Food Trucks needed. For more information email

info@friendsofbensonpark.org

The Store is open Saturday and Sunday from 12 – 4. Volunteers are needed to work in the store.

Two hour shifts each day.

Calendar:

Benson Park Advisory Meeting Thursday, July 16, 2027 at 7:00 pm. All are welcome to join and learn about volunteer opportunities.

Volunteer Clean Up Saturday, June 202, 2026 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Lunch will be provided.

Thank you to the Girl Scouts who are coming to help out.

Other Business/Remarks by Committee Members:

Adjournment: A motion made by Nate, seconded by Matt. The meeting adjourned at 8:02