



TOWN OF HUDSON

Benson Park Committee

Harry Schibanoff, Chairman

Benjamin Nadeau, Selectmen Liaison



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Town of Hudson
Benson Park Committee
Meeting Minutes
August 1, 2013

1. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Benson Park Committee was called to order by Chair H. Schibanoff at 7:05 p.m. August 01, 2013, Buxton Community Development Room at Town Hall. R. Alio led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

2. Attendance:

Vice Chair J. Barnes, D. Empey, John Leone, Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau. P. Nichols, Chair H. Schibanoff, N. Undercofler, alternates: R. Alio
R. Alio, alternate, will vote for C. Gagnon this evening)
Absent: C. Gagnon, D. Briand

3. Public Input

None

4. Presentation

A. Beth Baker – Shoe Marker – No Show

5. Approval of Minutes

A. Minutes of June 20, 2013

N. Undercofler made a Motion to accept Minutes

Vice Chair J. Barnes – Second the Motion

All in favor- Motion Carries

6. Old Business

A. Volunteer Program

Chair H. Schibanoff was tasked with doing something about volunteerism but asked forgiveness at this time due to other commitments. He will now work on this.

However, he did go to the Squam Lake Science Center, in Holderness, NH and found something interesting that he wanted to share with the committee. They do a lot with volunteers and they had a puzzle on the wall that showed the names of volunteers.

The different pieces of the puzzle: Water, Tree, Gray Rocks and Brown Rocks with names showed Volunteer Hours Worked, from 200+, 500+, 1000+, and 2000+. There is an interesting explanation of the puzzle underneath it. Chair H. Schibanoff passed around pictures of this puzzle and thought this would be a great idea for our park volunteers. He also mentioned a very large sum of money they had raised the past seven years.

B. Amplification Policy

Chair H. Schibanoff also stated the C. Gagnon was going to look into amplification issues but she is not in attendance tonight. Chair H. Schibanoff thinks this something that should be looked into. P. Nichols said that she has been driving around to the different parks and the concerts are posted for a Wednesday, or some other day: not for everyday of the week. The time of these concerts usually ran from 6:00 p.m. to 9 or 10:00 pm. P. Nichols thought we should follow on this idea and not leave it open for anyone to use every night of the week. R. Alio said he found that most places that allow concerts, etc. have a group that set up this schedule. He thought we should look into the Mal's Pal's group to see if they would be interested in this. A. Desrosiers said she would present this idea to them but she thought this was not what they are looking into for the future. Chair H. Schibanoff mentioned amplification and R. Alio asked about the Amphitheatre having speakers added to the building. Discussion followed on the sound level. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said that it is planned to put power over to the Amphitheatre, possibly by the end of this year, at least the conduit run. He knows that there are all weather speakers that can be used and they can be locked at certain volumes. This would allow players to plug their board into this and we would have some control over the volume. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau also said the sound control could be helped by dense shrubbery planted around the Amphitheatre could control the noise level. D. Empey was very happy with the discussion on this concern. He felt that we are heading in the right direction with all the input the committee has come up with. D. Empey thinks that the construction will be in the late fall, but he is not sure at this time.

C. LCHIP Update

Vice Chair J. Barnes spent a little time on the LCHIP website after exchanging emails with J. Leone looking into the application process for this Grant. The calendar of events was that on July 22, 2013 the Grant Request opened and on July 30, 2013 there were Grant Writing Workshops. One of the things that have to be done in order to submit a Grant Request is you must attend one of these Grant Writing Workshops. The application form is about 12 or 13 pages long. The applications are due no later than September 13, 2013 and the final decision of the LCHIP Board is December 18, 2013. Based on the fact that one of the requirements that the most they will fund is 50% of the cost of the project, (they are looking for some definitive cost estimates), Vice Chair J. Barnes feels we are not in a position to do this for the Office Building at this time and he does not know if J. Leone has this information regarding the Elephant Barn. Vice Chair J. Barnes thinks we should look to gathering cost estimates and be ready to submit an application next year when we are better prepared. Vice Chair J. Barnes also discussed the document he sent around regarding Drainage Improvement and Sill Repair. He would like some feed back on this. D. Empey has already given thoughts to patching the beams instead of replacement, and Vice Chair J. Barnes will take this into consideration with his plan is to get this to G. Webster for a quick review and send it up to the State as a notice on what we intend to do. He would also get started with the drainage piece and this requires a formal request to the Highway Department so they can schedule the work sometime in the fall. Vice Chair J. Barnes said the as far as sill repairs, this would have to go out to bid. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau asked if they do the LCHIP seminars throughout the year and Vice Chair J. Barnes said no, it was that one day only. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau asked if there was a cost to attend this seminar and the answer was no. He is going to ask around Town Hall to see if anyone has attended this seminar and how long it is good for if they have attended in the past.

7. New Business

- A. **Chair H. Schibanoff** said there would be a Clean-up at Benson Park on August 10, 2013 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Volunteers meet at the Office Building. Food and Water will be provided. He said we would try to get the emails out earlier than last month. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said it would be worth looking into Tradesmen Annual Meetings because this is the time they will be looking to volunteer some of their men and women to different local projects for a day. A flyer that lists some of the projects that need attention could be sent and ask if there is anything they could help us with. There are a lot of Youth Groups that are looking for Volunteer projects at this time so it might be good to look into this area.

8. Other Business/Remarks by Committee Members

- A. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said he has been at the Park quite a bit wearing his Benson Badge. The many people that he talks to are enthused with the changes they notice at the park, the adopt-a-spot areas that look so beautiful, how well the grass and the Trails have been maintained and they want to complement the volunteers that keep the Trails clear and the grass mowed. Even when Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau is at other functions people say they stopped at the park on the way to a function or have been at the park a year or so ago and can't believe the difference now.
- B. J. Leone said that the Friends of Benson Park are having a fund-raising Golf Tournament. This will be held on September 27, 2013 at Green Meadow Golf Course. We should start to see some posters around Town and for more information everyone is welcome to stop at the Elephant Barn from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm most weekends to purchase tickets or sign up for a round of golf. This money is raised to enhance the park and Elephant Barn.
- C. P. Nichols asked J. Leone if he could get a flyer to her and she will post it at the Kiosk. J. Leone will get one to her soon.
- D. Vice Chair J. Barnes asked Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau if the Senior Center is now on track. He heard that the construction group ran into some problems. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said that more ledge was found that they did not expect. Things are moving along in spite of the set backs.
- E. D. Empey said a problem has been noted about the moving of tables and benches at the park. No one minds the moving of these items as long as they are returned to the spot where they were found. The Town Road Crew cuts the grass and does not have time to move tables and benches in order to cut under them. Some of the trails committee has been putting them back in place but it takes time away from the trails. D. Empey just wanted to remind people to consider this when they move a bench or table.
- F. Chair H. Schibanoff asked if anything is happening with the Train Station. Selectman Liaison B. Nadeau said nothing is happening at this time.

G. Next Meeting: August 15, 2013 – TBD

9. Adjournment 7:27 pm

- N. Undercofler made a Motion to Adjourn**
P. Nichols second the Motion
All in favor-Motion Carries