



**TOWN OF HUDSON
PARK COMMISSION**
Division of Recreation
Town Hall
78 Main Street
Hudson, MA 01749
978-568-9642

PARK COMMISSION MEETING – MINUTES
December 20, 2023
Via REMOTE ZOOM at 7:00pm

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Hudson Park Commission meeting will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found below. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the Town of Hudson website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

The Hudson Park Commission meeting will be held via a Zoom Meeting (Internet)
Public Participation via calling in or using your computer is encouraged

Topic: Park Commission Meeting
Time: Dec 20, 2023 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89269009951?pwd=wkf4tUMDEdUKBqyWZuzN2xFgFpGWwR.1>

Meeting ID: 892 6900 9951
Passcode: 857590

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1. Call Meeting to Order

Mr. Roan called the meeting to order at 7:01pm. Members present were Mr. Roan, Mr. Bowen and Mr. Chaves. Also present: Mr. Santos

2. Minutes to Approve:

A. Public Session – November 29, 2023

Mr. Bowen motioned to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Mr. Chaves and carried...

Vote: 3 – 0, in favor

3. Citizens Issues / Special Interest Groups:

A. Park Commission to meet with HLT Representatives to discuss improvements to Lamson Park/Tripp's Pond

Joe McNealy, Hudson Land Trust (HLT) Board member introduced himself and informed the Commission that HLT wants to support improvements to open space and park facilities and has completed small projects across various town owned areas, including most recently the installation of a pollinator garden at Lamson Park/Tripp's Pond. He continued on stating that HLT is looking to develop a plan to layout the framework for HLT to design and raise funds to install a footbridge over the brook that enters into Tripp's Pond. This would allow for access around the entire pond, connecting the existing loop trail at the park. Continuing on, Mr. McNealy stated that HLT is willing to go before the Conservation Commission to seek approvals for the project but prior to doing so HLT wants to gauge the interest and garner the support of the Park Commission. Mr. McNealy shared that the concept had been discussed with community members outside of HLT and it was well received. Additionally, that the ultimate goal of HLT is to drive a community-based effort to not only construct a footbridge over the brook but also create an ADA walkway from the Green Street parking area to the existing loop trail and also improve accessibility and conditions of the loop trail throughout the park. Mr. McNealy concluded stating that it was the intention of HLT to raise funds for the footbridge phase of the project privately and that any plans would be brought before the Park Commission for further review and approval.

Mr. Chaves stated that he supports the project and suggested that Pam Helinek be utilized as a resource where needed.

Mr. Bowen stated that he too supports the project and that any plans for site redevelopment would be fully vetted by the Conservation Commission.

Mr. McNealy stated that HLT intends to work with design professionals once the project moves forward to ensure proper compliance but at his time, he is merely looking to create a concept for getting the project off the ground.

Mr. Roan commented saying that he supports the project and looks forward to working through its challenges in the future with HLT.

Mr. Santos stated that he supported the project, that it has been discussed in the past and that he would be happy to see HLT perform the leg work to get it off the ground. Mr. Santos concluded by

stating that all design development should be completed by qualified professionals and that the Park Commission may want to vet any project fundraising efforts prior to HLT accepting funds, to support the project, on behalf of the Town.

4. Personnel:

A. None

5. Director's Report:

A. None

6. New Business:

A. None

7. Old Business:

A. Morgan Bowl Bleacher Project Update

Mr. Santos presented the Commission with the final concept plan and corresponding final design services and construction cost estimates prepared by Activitas, dated October 2023. Mr. Santos expressed that the plans as presented were created using the feedback Activitas had received from Recreation Staff, HS Athletic Director and the Park Commission; and further that the improvements shown had been broken out by tasks in order to facilitate a phased approach to the site redevelopment. Mr. Santos concluded stating that he had received a more refined cost estimate for final design services, which was used as the basis for his recent request for funds via CPC.

Mr. Chaves stated that the estimated renovation costs were extremely high while the actual amenities to be improved will only be used by a limited number of groups and community members. He concluded saying that he would carefully scrutinize the scope of work to be performed as this project moves forward.

Mr. Roan concurred with Mr. Chaves.

Mr. Santos stated that via the final design process, the project scope would need to be better defined and that not all items shown on the concept plans had to be completed.

Mr. Chaves stated that he anticipates that renovations may not be completed for several years and asked if there was a contingency plan, should the bleachers need to be closed prior to any renovations being completed.

Mr. Santos stated there were no current contingency plans in place, however he had already done some initial research on the costs associated with leasing temporary bleachers in the short term. Discussion followed.

Mr. Bowen stated that while the concept plan is large in scope, the Commission should continue to move the project forward and can later decide whether or not to complete all the proposed improvements as shown on the plans.

8. Communications and/or Correspondence to be noted by Commissioners:

A. Community Preservation Funds – May 2024 Town Meeting requests

Mr. Santos shared with the Commission the recent requests submitted for CPC funding which included: Final Design Services for Improvements to Morgan Bowl & Bleachers and a request for funds to Restore & Rehabilitate the Statue, Monument and Plaques located at Liberty park.

9. Announcements/Adjournment

Next Meeting – January 10, 2023

Mr. Bowen motioned to adjourn at 7:59pm, seconded by Mr. Chaves and carried...

Vote: 3 - 0, in favor

Motion to Approve: Mr. Bowen

Second: Mr. Chaves
Vote: 3 – 0, in favor
Date: January 10, 2024