



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

**PARK COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
November 18, 2020
Via REMOTE ZOOM at 7:15pm**

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***

Time: Nov 18, 2020 07:15 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/92186805664?pwd=OTFkeFN2V1BWUzIGQVE3bjBwMzdiQT09>

Meeting ID: 921 8680 5664

Passcode: 755732

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,92186805664#,,,,,0#,,755732# US (New York)

+13017158592,,92186805664#,,,,,0#,,755732# US (Washington D.C)

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 921 8680 5664

Passcode: 755732

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/adK1FtCXra> Topic: Park Commission Meeting

Meeting ID: 953 3427 4049

Passcode: 089767

PARK COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

November 18, 2020

Via REMOTE ZOOM at 7:15pm

1. Call Meeting to Order

A. Mr. Roan called the meeting to order at 7:20pm. Members present were Mr. Roan, Mr. Chaves and Mr. Bowen. Also present: Mr. Santos, Mr. Hannon and Mr. Aponte

Mr. Roan read a statement regarding Zoom virtual meetings and Governor Baker's statement on the Covid-19 virus & Open Meeting Law.

2. Minutes to Approve:

A. Public Session – October 21, 2020

Mr. Roan 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. HYBS (President, Brian Bowen) – to discuss proposed Well installation at Boutwell Complex and other town facilities.

Mr. Brian Bowen was not present. Mr. Roan suggested Mr. Santos reach out to Mr. Bowen and offer him the opportunity to come to a future meeting.

4. Personnel:

A. None

5. TBA (note: There was a typo on the agenda and this item, should have been listed as Director's Report)

A. Mr. Santos informed that Park Commission that he and his staff continue to work both in the office and remotely on various tasks related to the department; specifically naming the following items: updating field use policies and fees, continuing to make playground improvements as funds permit, and collaborating with other departments and organizations on projects such as the improvements to the foot bridges located along the Assabet River Nature Trail. Mr. Santos went on to say that he had planned to have the old lower (and easily accessible), project adventure course elements removed as he believed they were now potential hazards. Also, he stated that he plans to remove a section of the stone boundary wall, located along the trail where the park property and school property meet, to allow for greater access.

The commissioners stated that they had no issues with the removal of the old project adventure course elements and/or a section of the stone wall. Mr. Santos stated that he would also verify that the stone wall could be removed, with the Building Inspector prior to doing so.

6. New Business:

A. FY22 Budget Discussions

Mr. Santos presented the proposed FY22 Budget. Mr. Santos highlighted the FY22 EA budget memo and instructions. Stating further that the FY21 covid-19 related budget cuts, had all be absorbed in the Seasonal Employment line item, a reduction of \$28,000.00. Mr. Santos stated that per the EA's direction, this line item should be level funded. Mr. Santos went on to say that the adjusted FY21 funding level for this line item was equivalent to the funding request in FY14 when minimum wage was \$8.00, soon to be \$13.50. Mr. Santos then reviewed the departmental long-range capital plan, then asked the commissioners to provide input and direction so that he could prepare a final budget for submission.

Mr. Roan suggested that the Seasonal Employment line item be adjusted and increased to match the historical funding requests, the department has submitted in the past and pre-Covid.

Mr. Chaves stated that he supported Mr. Roan's suggestion and that a long-term reduction in this line item, will significantly impact the affordability of summer programs and services the department can offer the community

Mr. Bowen suggested that Mr. Santos move forward in preparing the budget utilizing the commissioner's input as he too agreed, stating further that in order to continue to provide affordable programs in the future, support from the town will continue to be critical.

Mr. Santos asked commissioners for input on the long-range capital plan.

Mr. Chaves, stated that given the financial uncertainty that lies ahead, he would support not making any capital item requests during FY22, shifting all requests currently listed off by one year and making it known to both the EA and the BOS that the Commission has all intentions of making capital request again in FY23. Mr. Roan and Mr. Bowen each stated that they agreed with this approach.

7. Old Business:

A. Centennial Beach Project Update

Mr. Santos provided an update on the project progress. Stating that the most current construction issue they are working through is who will be responsible for the installation of the underground plumbing utilities, in preparation for the future arrival and installation of the buildings. Mr. Santos, stated that although he anticipated the site contractor would perform this work, it appears that it was not originally within the scope of their work or contract. Mr. Santos stated that he hopes to have this issue resolved in the next couple weeks.

B. Winter 2020-2021 Programming Outlook

Mr. Santos stated that he had recent discussions with the Hudson Public Schools Facilities Department regarding use of the buildings during the winter months. Stating that, while there may be considerable limitations if use is permitted, it may be a possibility. However, Mr. Santos would ultimately needs to discuss this matter further with the Superintendent and plans to do so in the coming weeks.

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

A. None

9. Announcements/Adjournment

A. Next meeting, will be held on November 24, 2020. This is an added meeting and the agenda will only carry the following item to be discussed – FY22 Budget Review.

Mr. Bowen motioned to adjourn at 8:10pm, seconded by Mr. Chaves and carried...

Vote: 3 – 0, in favor

Motion to Approve:	Mr. Chaves
Second:	Mr. Bowen
Vote:	2 – 0, in favor
Date:	November 24, 2020