



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

PARK COMMISSION MEETING – MINUTES

November 2, 2022

Via REMOTE ZOOM at 7:30pm

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

Time: Nov 2, 2022 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84426312666?pwd=ZXp1b2pJcmVsbjgwSzFRdWdOVHdPQT09>

Meeting ID: 844 2631 2666

Passcode: 016775

One tap mobile

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Dial by your location

+1 646 931 3860 US

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

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+1 564 217 2000 US

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Meeting ID: 844 2631 2666
Passcode: 016775

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84426312666>

1. Call Meeting to Order

Mr. Chaves called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. Members present were Mr. Chaves and Mr. Bowen. Also present: Mr. Santos and Mr. Hannon.

Mr. Chaves dispensed with the reading of the statement regarding Zoom virtual meetings and Governor Baker's statement on the Covid-19 virus & Open Meeting Law, as all those present were familiar with the statement, the meeting procedures and no one other than those listed above were present.

2. Minutes to Approve:

A. Public Session – October 26, 2022

Mr. Chaves stated that the minutes should be amended to reflect that Mr. Roan, not Mr. Chaves, dispensed with the reading of virtual meeting statement related to covid.

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

Vote: 2 – 0, in favor

3. Citizens Issues / Special Interest Groups:

A. None

4. Personnel:

A. Park Commission to consider Fall/Winter 2022-2023 Part-Time Seasonal Staff

Mr. Bowen motioned to approve the Seasonal Part-Time Staff as presented, to be submitted to the Select Board for final confirmation. Seconded by Mr. Chaves and carried...

Vote: 2 – 0, in favor

5. Director's Report:

Mr. Santos provided updates as listed below...

A. Fall/Winter Program Updates

Current enrollment in Basketball programs is 192, last year total enrollment was 203. Registration for Basketball started earlier this year compared to the past.

B. Facility Bleacher Inspections

Mr. Santos stated that he intends to have outdoor bleachers at Morgan Bowl and perhaps those at other sites inspected in the near future.

C. Update on Playground Improvements

Concept Design estimate for Riverside Playground came in at \$4,000.00. This design would not provide construction drawings but instead would provide a level of detail that would layout any ADA walkways and their relation to the footprint area of the new playground at Riverside Park.

D. Town of Hudson, ADA Transition Plan

Community Development previously completed an ADA Transition Plan for the Town of Hudson. Recreation Department is now working with the Town's Disabilities Committee to start implementing some of the recommended changes identified in the plan.

E. Assabet River Nature Trail – Stone Boundary Wall

Due to feedback received from DCR, the latest potential solution discussed to preserve the names on the wall, is to remove the stone pillar at the end of the wall, located on the river bank and repair the

stone wall where the pillar is located. Currently, as it stands the stone pillar is compromised and will eventually fail and most likely fall into the river. Then create a new pathway over the existing wall, closer to the river to avoid stepping onto and over the area where the names are inscribed into the mortar. This new pathway would require some sort of low retaining wall due to the change in grades and it is the intent to integrate the stones from the removed pillar into the new retaining wall and/or pathway.

F. Update on Dog Park planning

Recreation staff held an introductory meeting with three residents who had previously expressed a high level of interest in assisting. The residents stated they would be willing to assist with the project and they were confident others would be interested in helping out as well.

Mr. Santos stated that he had already been in communication with the Stanton Foundation regarding grant funding, where grants are available for 100% design costs, up to \$25,000.0 and 90% hard construction costs, up to \$250,000.00. Mr. Santos stated that he felt confident in the Town's ability to secure both types of grants to support this project. Mr. Santos stated that while the Master Plan called out the Dog Park being built at Sauta Fields, there may be other locations that should be explored such as Farina Field or Apsley Park. Mr. Santos concluded by stating that in order to proceed with a grant application, a final location must be identified by the Town and asked the Commission how they wish to proceed in identifying that location.

Mr. Bowen stated that the Sauta site may be an easier build, as parking infrastructure and access to water is already in place at this location.

Mr. Chaves stated that access in and out of Farina may have its own set of challenges and also that he preferred not to take any action until Mr. Roan was present and could weigh in.

Mr. Bowen suggested that Mr. Santos start exploring firms who have recently designed Dog Parks for future consideration.

6. New Business:

A. Park Commission to consider installation of Downtown Wayfinding on Assabet River Rail Trail along Vila do Porto

Commissioners reviewed the request and agreed that if approved any maintenance and/or upkeep of the sign should be the responsibility of the BID or another entity and not the Park Commission - Division of Recreation.

The proposed location was discussed and the Commissioners stated that they were not in favor of the location, as it was very close to the existing electronic sign board, that clearly states "Welcome to Downtown Hudson". Additionally, the commission felt that this specific location was already saturated with many other signs. Mr. Chaves suggested other locations, perhaps intersection of Villa do Porto, South Street and Broad, be explored as this is also an entrance into the Downtown BID District. Mr. Santos to follow up with the BID.

7. Old Business:

A. Park Commission to discuss updates to FY24 Budget

Mr. Santos informed the Commission that he had met with a contractor at the Splash Park and that the cost of repairs, was not such that it would warrant a budget capital plan item request. Mr. Santos continued on, stating that there had been an error in one of the budget worksheets provided by the Finance Department, which had since been corrected. This correction altered some personnel expenses and the new FY24 budget total was \$455,324.00.

Mr. Bowen motioned to approve the amended FY24 Budget in the amount of \$455,324.00, seconded by Mr. Chaves and carried...

Vote: 2 – 0, in favor

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

A. None

9. Announcements/Adjournment

Mr. Santos informed the Commission that the Guidotti Family performed a final review of the new sign and that he was currently working with the sign vendor to have it completed and installed.

Next meeting November 30, 2022 at 7:30pm

Mr. Bowen motioned to adjourn at 8:32pm, seconded by Mr. Chaves and carried...

Vote: 2 - 0, in favor

Motion to Approve: Mr. Bowen

Second: Mr. Chaves

Vote: 2 – 0, in favor

Date: November 30, 2022