The Town of Barre Recreation Board held a public meeting on Monday, August 1, 2016 in the Municipal Building at 149 Websterville Road. Board members present were: Doug Farham, Mike Gilbar, Dave Rouleau, Shaun Corbett and Angelo Arnold. Also present was Elaine Wang.

Chairman Doug Farnham called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Rouleau made a motion to approve the agenda as written and with no changes. Corbett seconded the motion, which the Board approved unanimously.

Corbett moved that the July 11, 2016 meeting minutes, as presented, be approved. Rouleau seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion unanimously.

Guests for Non-Agenda Items: A guest, a Barre Town resident, was present to participate in the meeting after hearing at an ice cream social that they were open to the public. Everyone introduced themselves and Dave Rouleau provided an overview of the facilities and activities overseen by the Rec Board.

Maintenance Supervisor Report:

- Wang provided a verbal report from Dwight Coffrin who was not present and provided his partial report over the phone to her.

- Mulched all playgrounds
- Installed 2 basketball rims, one at Graniteville and one at Trow Hill
- Picked up tree fall debris at Wilson St playground
- Repaired two picnic tables at Rec area
- Repaired merry go round at Park St, took down bucket swings and purchasing replacements
- Trow Hill swings mostly up, still waiting on UltiPlay shipment for remaining bucket swings
- Trow Hill stripped bolt was replaced and other loose bolts, including on steering wheel, have been applied with Loctite and are fixed now.
- Next week will be topping up mulch (which has settled since the Community Build) next week at Trow Hill
- Wang added that the date of installing the ADA path at Trow Hill is pending the paving schedule, because the paving contractor is donating the paving and will time it with the Meadowcrest work.
- Ordered 2 big and 8 small soccer nets for lower soccer field, will install soon. Farnham requested that Wang follow up to check on the cost share with SHS.
- Light system at tennis courts and basketball court are up.

Farnham said Lower Graniteville is missing a toddler swing and he hasn’t yet talked to Dexter Electric about the electric behind the softball field backstop. Tracy Wright said she would like to donate some perennials for the bike path planters.
Rogers and Coffrin reported work was done at Trow Hill that day. The steering wheel nut was secured, the new swing chains were installed and the playground rules sign was erected, temporarily.

Field Use:

a) On a motion by Corbett, seconded by Rouleau, the Board voted unanimously to approve Mad River Valley Senior Baseball use of the baseball field for their August 11 night game.

b) Rouleau made a motion to approve Get a Baby Ultimate Frisbee team’s use of the lower soccer field retroactively for their July 24th game and for their August 21st game from 10am to 1pm. Gilbar seconded the motion and the Board approved it without dissent.

Fall Festival:

This subject was on the agenda per the Board’s request. Wright and Smith could not attend the meeting but sent their updates in advance. Wright has contacts for hay bales, horse-drawn wagon rides, and apple donations for apple bobbing. She contacted Ian Gauthier at the library who has reserved the date to do a haunted storyline/walk. She will meet with him and Suzy Kleinfelter to plan a route. Wright and Smith shared new ideas, including pumpkin coloring contest (on paper), apple cider pressing, and fall fling. Corbett checked on a band who quoted $300, but if there was no power they could do a scaled down/acoustic gig which would be cheaper. He will negotiate further. Arnold provided an update on the lantern walk costs, ~$100, with half being for LED lights that participants could keep. He will bring a template for the lanterns to the next meeting. Farnham requested that a ‘Save the Date’ announcement be included in the next newsletter. Wang briefed the Board on Rogers’ discussion with Wilkins about their email list for their chili cook-off; Wang recalled them saying they don’t have an email list as it’s just their customers, and also that they switched to a mac-and-cheese cookoff which was very successful. The Board discussed having a combination chili and mac-and-cheese cookoff. The Festival will be back on the September meeting agenda to continue plans.

Photo Contest/Calendar:

Smith and Rogers were not present for the discussion on draft procedures and rules. The Board asked Wang to promote the contest on Front Porch Forum. This for Smith’s review before the next meeting.

Softball Field Banner:

Farnham updated the Board on the banner that would advertise the availability of advertising space at the fields which he discussed with Jeff Blow at Accura Printing. They agreed 4’x8’ was too small and settled on either 5’x8’ or 5’x10’. Accura’s ad would occupy the back of the banner in exchange for donating the banner. He indicated that advertising should face spectators and not face the road.Gilbar reported on his research of the practice of other towns: Waterbury allows nonprofits only, for nothing. Concord NH (size of Burlington) has fees ranging from $500-$1250 for banners. Hanover NH (new director from Saco Maine) has never done banner advertising. In some places it tends to be controversial. Arnold shared that when he was in Ohio, they would include a line that explained where the money was going to mitigate controversy. Farnham mentioned that other banners could be placed at the tennis courts, where the hedge is. Ideas were discussed as to what businesses might be interested in advertising. Farnham indicated the Board should wait until the ownership of the Rec area was decided before pursuing the banner project.

School Property:
Barre Town has not heard back from the School Board about meeting regarding ownership of the Rec Area. Farnham requested Wang ask the school for an update, as their next meeting is Wednesday night. This item will be back on the agenda in September.

**Ice Cream Socials:**
Rouleau reported that we are out of product. Ben and Jerry’s and Hannaford will continue to donate ice cream, Breyer’s cups, and freeze pops. Regarding freeze pops, Rouleau indicated lessons learned from their first distribution of them and said he would separate them in advance and keep them in a separate cooler. He indicated he had plenty of water to give away and enough coolers for the next one. Arnold brought a donation of cups and will bring the Barre Town pop-up tent to the next one at Park St which has no shelter. Rouleau, Gilbar, Arnold and Wang will help with the August 2 social; Corbett, Rouleau and Arnold will be at the August 9th social, and Gilbar, Corbett, Arnold and Wang will be at the August 16th social. Rouleau requested that Wang ask the church to use their parking lot. Discussion ensued about the Trow Hill social doubling as a grand opening. There had been concern about a stand-alone grand opening because ‘no one’ came to the Upper Websterville Playground grand opening. However the board decided to have the grand opening as a separate event after the path was done. Wang suggested the end of August, on a weekday evening after dinner hours, the time a neighbor indicated was busiest at the park. The turnout for the socials, which is during a similar time, corroborates this suggestion.

**Other Business:** Wang reported that the Travis Mercy Skatepark balance is just shy of $21,873, and that the design for a new apparatus and small addition is pending.

**Round the Table:**
Rouleau had several items:

- Reported that Vermont Bicycle Shop still interested in big race, first raised with Rouleau six months ago. Barre City police isn’t getting back to the organizer; there may be concerns about their proposed route which crosses Rt 14 twice. Corbett recommended they contact Chris Bump from District 4 about Rt 14. Originally interested in holding the race this fall, but organizer will probably need to tweak route.
- Asked whether another key for the Town Forest kiosk could be shared to help keep them up to date.
- Brook St Port-O-Let requires servicing.
- Dog park: Rouleau visited the one in Waterbury one, apparently a volunteer group takes care of that facility from mowing to composting, and people from all over to use it because it’s the only one. Hopes to make time to prepare a presentation of locations and pros and cons, to have as an agenda item at next meeting.

Farnham requested that Wang follow up with Coffrin regarding the checklist that the previous Assistant Town Manager created for the Rec crew to review at each site, including mowing, weed whacking, broken facilities, fences, and port-o-lets.

On a motion by Corbett, seconded by Arnold, all voted in favor of adjourning at 8:32pm.

Recreation Board Members