The Town of Barre Recreation Board held a public meeting on Monday, November 7, 2016 in the Municipal Building at 149 Websterville Road. Board members present were: Doug Farnham, Terry Smith, Tracy Wright, Dave Rouleau, and Mike Gilbar. Also present were: Dwight Coffrin, Carl Rogers, Chris Cadorette, Dirk Anderson, Corey Touchette, and Stephen Maas.

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

David Rouleau made a motion to approve the meeting agenda with the addition of 5.b., discussion with Millstone Trails Association. Terry Smith seconded the motion which passed by a 5-0 vote.

Mike Gilbar moved that the October 3, 2016 meeting minutes as written be approved. Tracy Wright seconded the motion. Rouleau noted "stories" in the fifth paragraph on page 2 should be "stores". Gilbar and Wright accepted Rouleau's friendly amendment. The board approved the amended motion unanimously.

There were no guests to talk with the board about a subject not on the agenda.

6. Maintenance Supervisor's Report

While waiting for Touchette and Maas the board took up item #6. Dwight Coffrin handed out a brief report of activities since the last meeting and other notes. Coffrin said the Spaulding High School athletic director thanked him for the fine condition of the soccer and field hockey fields this fall. Water has been shut down in the recreation area and the temporary porta-let was delivered. Picnic tables and barrels are being stored under the picnic shelter. Carl Rogers and he visited recreation facilities to make a list of '17-'18 budget needs.

Farnham informed the board the Barre Town School Board voted last Wednesday night to approve the Purchase/Sale agreement with the Selectboard. To get voter approval the School Board will add a question about this to the March election ballot.

5a. Freezing Fun for Families
Corey Touchette and Chris Cadorette were present for this item. Touchette introduced Cadorette as a Freezing Fun for Families (FFff) board member and head of the 2017 softball tournament committee. Touchette said in the future he (Touchette) will focus on executive director duties, grants, donors, etc. He said FFff proposes to change the tournament weekend to the last weekend of February. They plan to cap the number of teams at 68 and raise the entry fee to $300. Because of minimal snow cover last year they used a foam core ball. They plan to use it again regardless of snow depth. Touchette asked the Town to donate use of the field lights again.

Rouleau made a motion, seconded by Gilbar, to approve FFff’s use of the entire recreation area for a softball tournament the weekend of February 24-26, 2017 and to donate use of the lights. The motion was approved without dissent.

Farnham asked about FFff’s golf tournament. Touchette said they had 8 teams but it was the same day as the Capital Candy tournament. He said FFff’s tournament was played at the Country Club of Vermont, a beautiful course. He talked about how the softball tournament helps two families, but every year there are many more children diagnosed with cancer. The golf tournament and other fundraising will allow FFff to help families year round and quicker when they need help.

7. Fall Festival

The board moved to item #7 and reviewed the Fall Festival held on October 22. Comments included:

- About 80 people attended
- Protection (from wind and rain) on the backside of the shelter would be helpful
- People really liked the maze. Another time, the bales should be 2 high and the maze could be left out for people to use after the event
- There was a good combination of games and crafts
- Face-painting always is popular
- The Boy Scouts might have made $200 selling food and drinks
- The board shouldn’t be overly concerned about scheduling against other activities or events
- Because of the rain it would be hard to say what not to do again.

5b. Millstone Trails Association

Dirk Anderson and new MTA president Stephen Maas were present. They explained MTA’s plan for grooming trails during the coming winter. Al Rosa volunteered to be the grooming coordinator. MTA plans to have a network of town forest trails groomed.
Like last year, they plan to groom the Millstone Hill West bike path. They proposed grooming a trail around and between the fields in the recreation area. The board thought that was a good idea.

Anderson said MTA applied for a VT Mountain Bike Association grant to make a beginner/intermediate mountain bike loop around the town forest. The loop would use some existing trails and may require building some new trails.

Maas asked about the logging. Rogers replied it still is planned for this fall or winter with same logger as last winter.

8. Pickleball

Rouleau reported hours will not be 1-3 pm on Sundays. The school gym already was reserved those hours. Rouleau will ask about 4-6 pm. Farnham said he'd take responsibility for set-up and take-down. He will find back-up for Sundays he can't do it. Donations will be collected. Farnham said 20 rolls of gym floor tape, in a variety of colors, are needed. Town staff will look for what is in storage and attempt to order the rolls needed.

9. Sledding Hill and Parties

Smith said she'd make the case for using the field behind the town offices. She described it to the board and mentioned it is owned by the town, the municipal building parking lot could be used, it is close to a snowmobile trail to facilitate grooming and it could offer several types of hills. The board agreed they would not provide sleds. On a motion by Smith, seconded by Wright, the board voted 5-0 to schedule sledding parties on Saturday, January 14 and Sunday, February 12 from 1-3 pm. The recreation board would provide fire rings and hot drinks.

Rouleau reported he had talked to Darren Ohls from the Barre City bike shop. Mr. Ohls is selling an unique sled. Rouleau will tell Ohls the board's plans and that he could promote the sled at the parties.

10. Dog Park

Rouleau distributed an aerial photo of the recreation area. It showed the area he suggested for a dog park. The park would have two sections—one for small dogs and one for large dogs. The area he had in mind is the picnic grove between the baseball field and the road. The board reviewed the two areas shown in aerial photos provided in their meeting packets. Rouleau said from what he has learned, at dog parks water and shade/shelter should be available. The board discussed the three locations.
Ruleau noted dog parks help older people exercise their dog. Parks also help dogs get used to other dogs—it especially helps socialize puppies.

Consensus of the board was public input is needed. A survey at the March Town Meeting was discussed. Rouleau said in Waterbury a group of residents created an organization with 501 c 3 status to operate and maintain their dog park. He will see about getting information from the Waterbury group. Rogers will check on the number of licensed dogs in Barre Town.

11. Calendars

Rouleau distributed a consignment reconciliation form. He suggested individual board members placing calendars at stores, etc use the form to keep track of the number of calendars sold and money received. The board explained calendars would cost $10 with $3 going to the store selling the calendar.

Farnham said Jet Service donated 200 calendars with a center staple (stapled at the fold). Jet Service could sell the town spiral bound calendars for $4.25 each. Farnham said the board would have to sell 121 calendars to break even, if it bought the 200 spiral bound calendars. A distribution network was listed: MTA, Next Chapter Bookstore (Smith), Boy Scouts (Wright), Lawson’s Store, Quarry Hill Quick Stop, Morgan’s East Barre Market (Rogers), Lower Graniteville General Store, Darren Ohls’ bike shop, and Wilson Industrial Park businesses (Smith).

Smith made a motion to buy 200 spiral bound calendars for $4.25 each. Gilbar seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

12. Banners

Farnham reported a 5’x8’ white background banner with full color print would cost $175. He asked the board to think about the draft banner order form in their packets. Smith asked if businesses would be allowed to supply their own banner. Farnham said it would have to meet the town’s specifications and all content would have to be approved. There was discussion of the ads at the VT Mountaineers field. Gilbar will check with the City of Montpelier and with VLCT regarding issues associated with selling advertising space or accepting sponsorships in return for banner space.

13. Slides

Rogers informed the board someone called to ask about buying a slide or slides in storage at the recreation maintenance building. He said in the past the board expressed interest in having artwork created out of the slides and/or steps. Elaine Wang followed up and over the weekend received a response from an artist who looked at the
an idea for the future is a music wall. On a fence or wall things are attached for children to make music.

On a motion by Rouleau, seconded by Gilbar, the board voted without dissent to adjourn at 8:53, and so did.

Barre Town Recreation Board

[Signatures]
sliding boards and steps. He decided not to take on the project. Rogers relayed that Wang learned that artists should be paid about $1,000 to produce an art piece similar to the board’s first idea. Rogers asked the board what they wanted done. The board said sell the slides.

14. Programs

Wright said among the program ideas she mentioned last meeting she was most interested in snowshoeing. Wright said Denise Bergeron is very interested in leading snow shoe outings on the town forest trails. Wright said she also asked two other people who have been involved in guided town forest walks. Farnham advised Wright to ask Bergeron to pick days and times she’d lead the snow shoeing hikes.

15. 2017-2018 Budget

Farnham asked for a budget report next month. Coffrin and Rogers reported they made a list of needs that will be considered for next year’s budget. Farnham asked for that, too. For the dog park a quote for a 4 foot high chain link fence is needed.

16. Other Business

There was no other business.

17. ‘Round the Table

Gilbar gave Rogers the candy corn count contest prizes and winner’s name. The prizes are to be picked up at the town office. Rouleau asked that disc golf play in the town forest be allowed during hunting season. Farnham made that motion, seconded by Gilbar, and the board approved it 5-0. Farnham asked that Stephanie Quaranta from the Barre City Recreation Department be invited to the next meeting for a discussion about the egg hunt.

Wright said Pierre Couture is renting the Littlejohn Road parking area for an used car lot. She said some picnic tables and benches need repairs. Coffrin said repairs were done over the summer. Also, when Rogers and he were checking for budget needs Rogers stated DPW would be asked to paint and repair tables during the winter. Wright said Joann Darling talked to her about a farmer’s market in Barre Town. It was pointed out siting a farmer’s market wouldn’t be a recreation board duty. Ms. Darling should see Chris Violette about zoning and Joel Schwartz from Barre Area Development about a location.

Smith asked about tennis court lights being on late one night recently. Coffrin said people go to the park, turn on the lights (on a timer) and play basketball. She asked Farnham and Rouleau if one of them could contact the Barre Kiwanis (Randy Treis) about the Kiwanis organizing the Touch-a-Truck show during the spring festival. She said