

Recreation Board Meeting Minutes

January 9th, 2023

The Town of Barre Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Monday, January 9, 2023, starting at 6:00pm. The meeting was held in Conference Room #3 in the Municipal Building at 149 Websterville Road. Board Members Present included: Doug Farnham, David Rouleau, Annette Neddo, Amanda Gray, Carol Hebert, Stacey Lynds, and Anastasia Douglas Also present at the meeting: Recreation Director Johnny Crossley and Millstone Trails Association President Kevin Spaulding. No Board members were absent.

- 1) **Call to Order:** Chair Doug Farnham called the meeting to order at 6:06pm.
- 2) **Consider Approving Agenda:** David Rouleau made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Amanda Gray seconded the motion. Board approved 7-0.
- 3) **Consider Approving December 5th Meeting Minutes:** David Rouleau made a motion to approve of the December 5th Meeting Minutes as presented. Annette Neddo seconded the motion. Board approved 7-0.
- 4) **Receive Guests (for non-agenda items):** No guests from the public appeared for non-agenda items.
- 5) **Barre Community Baseball:** Chairman Doug Farnham provided a brief history of the Barre Town Rec Area Little League field and the recently made donation to Barre Community Baseball to be spent on improvements to the field. The Little League field was originally built by a group of Barre Town volunteers in 1968. One of those volunteers, Merle Dwyer, has donated \$5,000.00 to be spent on improvements to the Little League Field at the Rec Area. Chairman Farnham addressed the priority of three improvements: 1) Address Field Fence; 2) Rototill Infield, make it playable; 3) develop warning track area. The Recreation Board seeks to work in collaboration with Barre Community Baseball on spending the donation. A memo was drafted by Amanda Gray for Recreation Director Crossley to send to BCB requesting their collaboration.
- 6) **Consider Facility Use Requests:**
 - a. The Recreation Board considered approving the "Quarries Throwdown" in the Town Forest hosted by Disc Golf Vermont on May 27th and May 28th from 8:00am – 5:00pm each day. David Rouleau made a motion to amend with the time changed to 8:00am – "Till completion." Stacey Lynds seconded the motion. Board approved Facility Request, with amendment, 7-0.
 - b. The Recreation Board considered approving MTA's use of the Town Forest on February 4th and March 4th, and retro approving on January 7th, Full Moon guided hike and rides. MTA President Kevin Spaulding was present. Kevin explained that they did not host the January 7th event due to weather conditions. David Rouleau made a motion to approve of the February 4th and March 4th Events. Carol

Hebert seconded the motion. The Board approved 7-0. Chairman Farnham approved of MTA's request to have a small fire for the event at the parking lot at 44 Brook Street. A posting will be made by Recreation Director Crossley and posted at Lawson's Store the week of MTA's events.

- 7) **Movie Night:** The Board discussed the need for a projector and a/v equipment. Carol Hebert made a motion to authorize Recreation Director Crossley to purchase a projector and sound system for the purpose of continuing movie nights. Stacey Lynds seconded the motion. Board Approved 7-0. The Board discussed hosting a Winter movie nights. BUUSD has availability on Friday nights after February 17th. The Selectboard room is available select evenings. The Board wishes to entertain the notion of partnering with Barre City to utilize their Civic Center as a means to host Winter Movie Nights. Recreation Director Crossley will contact Barre City's Stephanie Quaranta and ascertain availability for hosting movie nights. The Board agreed to revisit the movie nights schedule at next months meeting.
- 8) **MTA (formerly 9):** MTA President Kevin Spaulding was present. Kevin spoke on the conditions of the trails after recent Winter storms and the efforts by volunteers to keep the trails clear. In addition, Kevin shared MTA's excitement over the now ADA compliant "Grand Lookout Trail." MTA's certificate of insurance is due, Kevin stated that he would send it to Recreation Director Crossley. A copy of MTA's Winter Trail Grooming map was provided to the Board. Recreation Director Crossley informed Kevin that there were members of the public requesting groomed walking loops at the Rec Area, similar to years passed groom trails by the MTA. Kevin explained that the MTA sold one of their drags to a XC program a few years ago. Kevin stated he would send Crossley a map of the Rec Area grooming loops to continue the conversation.
- 9) **Quarterly Offerings – Seasonal Festivals (formerly 8):** The Board discussed the need for volunteers to assist with programs, events, and/or festivals. Stephanie Quaranta will be providing more info on the upcoming Egg Hunt joint venture with Barre City on April 8th. David Rouleau made a motion to authorize \$750.00 to reimburse Stephanie for the Egg Hunt. Stacey Lynds seconded the motion. Board Approved 7-0. The Board discussed hosting the Spring into Summer Festival one of the first two weekends in June, either June 3rd or June 10th.
- 10) **Pickleball:** VRPA (Vermont Recreation and Parks Association) is hosting a Statewide Pickleball Tournament. Qualifying District games will be played in June and July with the final rounds concluding in August. As a result of Recreation Director Crossley's VRPA membership, he was privy to information on this tournament. The Tournament is seeking volunteers for its various sub committees and regional sites to host the tournament. The Recreation Board has requested Crossley discover additional details on what is needed and expected from a host site.
- 11) **Other Business:** Updates to the Facility Use Request Form, Picnic Shelter Reservation, and Picnic Shelter Certificate of Reservation were provided to the Board. Chairman

Farnham told Crossley he would meet with him to discuss additional revisions needed to the Forms.

- 12) **'Round the Table:** Amanda Gray instructed the Board members to reach out for volunteer contacts. Annette Neddo had no additional thoughts. Stacey Lynds announced Dabble Day is on for February 4th from 10:00am – Noon. Community groups are encouraged to set up a table with brochures/flyers and bring kid/family friendly activities. Anastasia Douglas addressed conversations about further trail accessibility through guided hikes, scavenger hunts, and walking programs. David Rouleau stated we'll need to make an Agenda item next meeting about VT Senior Pickleball. Doug Farnham stated Freezing Fun for Families needs to get on the February Agenda to have their Tournament approved for March.

Doug Farnham

David Rouleau

Stacey Lynds

Annette M. Neddo

