

# *Town of Barre Recreation Board*

## *Meeting Minutes November 13, 2023*

*The Town of Barre Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Monday, November 13, 2023, starting at 6:00pm. The meeting was rescheduled from its original date of November 6, 2023.*

*The meeting was held in Conference Room #3 in the Municipal Building at 149 Websterville Road. Board Members present included: Interim Chair David Rouleau, Annette Neddo, Carol Hebert, and Anastasia Douglas. Absent: Amanda Gray. Also present at this meeting: Recreation Director Johnny Crossley.*

1. **Call to Order:** Interim Chair David Rouleau called the meeting to order at 6:09pm
2. **Consider Approving Agenda:** Interim Chair David Rouleau asked Recreation Director Johnny Crossley if there were any changes to the Agenda. Director Crossley stated that the scheduling didn't work for VTwins Motorcycle Group. In addition, Green Mountain Gravel were not present at the meeting. Carol Hebert made a motion to approve of the agenda with 7. VTwins and 5b. Green Mountain Gravel removed from the current Agenda and to be rescheduled. Annette Neddo seconded the motion. Board approved 4-0.
3. **Consider Approving October 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting Minutes:** Carol Hebert made a motion to approve of the October 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting Minutes with the correction made to the spelling of "VTwins." Annette Neddo seconded the motion. Board approved 4-0.
4. **Public Input (for non-agenda items):** No members of the public present to speak.
5. **Restructuring of the Recreation Board Positions:** Interim Chair David Rouleau began by expressing a desire to have the two Recreation Board vacancies filled before formal restructuring of the Board takes place. In addition, Board Member Amanda Gray is not present. Interim Chair David Rouleau expressed that he does not want to permanently serve as Chair of the Recreation Board as he is already spread thin amongst clubs and organizations. He would, however, serve as Vice Chair. Other Board members spoke in agreement of having vacancies filled first. Carol Hebert expressed there should be an expectations of the Chair position created. That way each Board member knows exactly what they are signing up to do if they choose to run for the position. Carol Hebert added that an orientation for new Board members would be helpful. Interim Chair David Rouleau added that Public Meeting Law and Robert's Rules should be shared with new Board members as well. Vacancies will be posted by Recreation Director on Front Porch Forum and Facebook. On a motion by Carol Hebert, seconded by Annette Neddo, the Board voted to move the restructuring of the Board to the December meeting with the hope that vacancies can be filled and formal expectations of the Board Chair are written, 4-0.
6. **Consider Facility Use Requests:**
  - a. **Websterville Christian School** requested an extension on their use of the East Barre Park and Playground Soccer Fields. The request included three more games, two of which are now retroactive. Recreation Director Crossley conveyed to the Board the gratitude Websterville Christian School has for the use of these fields. School contact Alyssa Johnston wrote an email to the Board and Director expressing their thanks. Their newly

kickstarted intramural program has been successful. On a motion by Anastasia Douglas, seconded by Carol Hebert, the Board voted to retroactive approve of use and approve of last remaining game, 4-0.

7. **VTWins Motorcycle Group** – Representation could not be present. Agenda item removed from Agenda and rescheduled.
8. **Event Planning – Thoughts from this year’s Fall Festival**
  - a. Board members who attended and volunteered at Fall Festival shared thoughts on the success of this year’s event.
    - i. Anastasia Douglas: Event went well. It may have been too spread out for its size. Long day for volunteers, only 4 volunteers present. The pumpkin painting was very popular, a lot of people participated. Thoughts on next year: Redesign event space and acquire additional volunteers.
    - ii. Carol Hebert: Event went well. Happy vendors. People played the lawn games we set out. Terry Smith’s pumpkin mini golf was well received. A couple of the hockey stick “putters” were broken and will need to be replaced. Town staff who worked the various Big Rigs were extraordinary with the public. The Face Painting vendor had a line at her table for a good portion of the event. It would be nice to see another next year, in addition to more kid related vendors. Smaller pumpkins for pumpkin painting next year. Also, no one used the apple stacking activity. Remove next year. Lastly, skip the after party movie next year. Only one family attended this year. Possibly due to weather being cold.
    - iii. Interim Chair David Rouleau: Didn’t attend/volunteer, but gained insight from position on the Community Dog Park Committee (hosted a “Howlathon” Dog Parade at Fall Festival). Committee members had fun participating at Fall Festival. Parade was successful. People want to know what Barre Town Rec is doing next. Willing to participate in a Spring or Summer event.
    - iv. Recreation Director Johnny Crossley: Very happy with how the event went. Lots of families present. Biggest worry was the crowd size not matching the 21 vendors present. Crowd size turned out good. Consistent flow throughout the day until 4:30 - 5:00pm. Lot of positive public feedback on Town staff and Firefighter volunteers at Hands on Big Rigs. Kids activities went past anticipated 3:00pm cut off. Next year rethink event layout, remove movie night, and work to add a Haunted Trail behind the Bike Path.
9. **Updates From the Recreation Director:**
  - a. The baseball lighting project is still being scheduled. Benoit Electric did not have the man power in November to take on the project. Too many workers on vacation for hunting or Thanksgiving. Currently looking at early December. Director Crossley is attempting to get all Contractors onsite to discuss logistics.
  - b. Rototilling at Wilson Street fields will occur in Spring so seasonal staff are present to maintain. Little League infield was rototilled by Director Crossley this past month. A.H. Fencing was awarded the bid for the Little League Fencing replacement project. Materials have begun to arrive. Once all are shipped they will be present for a site visit. Work will be conducted this year.

- c. Recreation Area has been closed for the year. Water is shut off. Nets removed. Bathrooms closed. Two thirds of the seasonal staff have gone home for the season. One crew member remains to finish closing duties and leave the sheds prepared for next Spring.
- d. There is a need to address Recreation Facility Use Forms, fee schedules, policies, and rules. The Selectboard will be delegating reviews to Department Heads. The Recreation Board will have a chance to review drafts as the Director progresses with the updates.

**10. 'Round the Table:**

- a. **Anastasia Douglas** – Thank you David for stepping up as Interim Chair in the meantime. Looking forward to having new members here. We have a good crew here!
- b. **Annette Neddo** – Nothing to add.
- c. **Carol Hebert** – Add Playground Shelter policy to next Agenda. Need to establish guidelines for use of the shelters, size of parties, and parking limitations. Pin policies to website and Facebook.
- d. **David Rouleau** – Would like to establish some events for the school vacations throughout the Winter. Indoor movie, dance, or something to that liking.

**11. Adjourn: On a motion by Carol Hebert, seconded by Annette Neddo, the Board voted to adjourn 4-0.**

---

---

---

---

---