

**Town of Barre  
Recreation Board  
Meeting Minutes  
February 4, 2019**

The Town of Barre Recreation Board held a public meeting on Monday, February 4, 2019 in the Municipal Building at 149 Websterville Road. Board members present were: Doug Farnham, Dave Rouleau, Terry Smith, Mike Gilbar, Rolland Tessier, and Stacey Lynds. Also present were Dave Bullis of BASA, Tracy Wright of VT Rustic Moose, and assistant town manager Elaine Wang.

Chair Farnham called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

Wang asked the Board to consider BASA's request before the request from VT Rustic Moose, and discuss whether to recruit for a 7<sup>th</sup> member under Other Business. Rouleau made a motion to accept the agenda with those changes. Gilbar seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Smith made a motion to approve the January 7 minutes as presented. Tessier seconded and the Board approved 6-0.

There were no guests for a matter not on the agenda.

**5. Facility Requests –**

a) Barre Amateur Soccer Association (BASA) requested use of the upper soccer field and the picnic shelter for a soccer camp August 12-16, 2019, and for the usual \$500/camp week fee to be waived. BASA is partnering with Challenger on the camp, which will be a fundraiser for an international trip for BASA participants in 2020. Challenger is charging lower rates than their normal to help attract camp registrants. BASA will provide 9 coaches and Challenger will run the camp. Gilbar made a motion to approve the request as presented conditioned on receipt of a certificate of insurance naming the town as an additional insured, and to waive the fee. Smith seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

b) VT Rustic Moose requested use of the Town Forest for their kids camps Feb 25-Mar 1, June 17-21 & 24-28, July 8-12 & 22-26, and Aug 5-9. She noted June 17-21 might not be held depending on the school schedule due to all the snow days this year so far. Rouleau made a motion to approve the request as presented conditioned on receipt of a certificate of insurance naming the town as an additional insured. Gilbar seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

c) Freezing Fun for Families fireworks – Northstar Fireworks submitted a request for a March 1, 2019 fireworks display, where they have done them before, for the Freezing Fun for Families snow softball tournament at the Rec Area. Wang said that the Rec Supervisor was ok with the location. The Rec Board discussed concerns about the paper that comes off the fireworks and has littered the grounds in the past, and how to mitigate that litter. Smith made a motion to approve the request with the condition that visible, paper-dollar-bill-sized trash be picked up by April 15, 2019. Tessier seconded. The Board agreed that if such trash from the fireworks is visible after April 15 (when all snow can be expected to have melted), the Rec Board will charge Freezing Fun for Families a fee for facility rental in 2020, whereas they have been waiving the fee to date in light of its charitable cause. The motion passed 6-0. Wang informed the Board that Freezing Fun for Families was procuring insurance for the tournament naming the town as an additional insured.

d) Other: Babe Ruth Baseball requested use of the baseball field July 5-9, 2019 for their state tournament for 14-year-olds. Smith made a motion to approve the request as presented conditioned on receipt of a certificate of insurance naming the town as an additional insured. Lynds seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

**6. Sledding Party** – The Board discussed the weather and their availability and decided not to hold a sledding party on Saturday February 9 or Sunday February 10. They noted that anyone can use the hill where the parties have been held/planned in the past (behind the town offices) at any time.

**7. Memorial Bench** – Last month the Board considered a request to donate a memorial bench for Trow Hill Playground and directed Wang to find out whether the town could approve the bench without accepting the costs to replace or repair. Wang provided a copy of the letter that was drafted with input from the Town Attorney that would so allow. Smith made a motion to authorize the town manager to grant a revocable

license to use space in the Trow Hill Playground for a memorial bench owned by Shelley Cochran, to be placed in coordination with the Recreation Superintendent. Tessier seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

**8. Dog Park Agreement** – Farnham and Rouleau discussed their interest in modifying the agreement between the town and the Community Dog Park Organizers so that a) the volunteers, who have provided an asset to the town, would not be on the hook for every tangential expense, for example a light that would benefit not just the dog park; and b) purchases for the dog park would have to be approved by the Rec Board before they were made. The Board discussed these topics and agreed that Farnham and Rouleau could develop a revision accordingly for their consideration. Chair Farnham also indicated interest in a model agreement that could be used for all future groups or subcommittees managing specific facilities.

**9. Fundraising for Pickleball Outdoor Courts** – Farnham presented two options for fundraising the approximately \$11,000 that would be required to refurbish two of the outdoor tennis courts as pickleball courts: a Calcutta or a tournament. He concluded that a tournament would not be feasible due to volunteer and payment logistics and recommended a Calcutta. The Board indicated agreement by consensus. Farnham suggested planning for May so that the sport's snowbird fanbase would be back in town.

**10. Recreation Capital Plan** – Gilbar presented his and Farnham's progress on a capital plan for fixed recreation equipment. The Board discussed the content and next steps and thanked him for his efforts. Gilbar said he would plug in lifespans to help prioritize what to cost out first for planning purposes. The Board was advised to think about upcoming priorities.

**11. Other Business: 7<sup>th</sup> Member** – The Board received Adi Dobrilovic's resignation before this meeting. They directed Wang to recruit for a 7<sup>th</sup> member now, rather than wait until the usual May recruitment for open seats across all town boards, commissions, and committee.

**11. Round the Table** – Lynds previewed some events she was planning in her capacity at Head Start and on which she would like to partner with the Rec Board. Rouleau reminded everyone that the Travis Mercy Skatepark annual fundraiser would be on February 16. Smith reminded everyone that Spring into Summer Fest was on June 1 and the Board discussed their to-dos and ideas. Gilbar noted that surveys to inform the capital plan could be conducted at the ice cream socials.

At 8:00pm on a motion by Smith, seconded by Lynds, the Board voted 6-0 to adjourn.

Recreation Board Members  
  
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