

**Town of Barre  
Recreation Board  
Meeting Minutes  
December 2, 2019**

The Town of Barre Recreation Board held a public meeting on Monday, December 2, 2019 in the Municipal Building at 149 Websterville Road. Board members present were: Doug Farnham, Dave Rouleau, Terry Smith, Rolland Tessier and Amanda Gray. Also present were Kristopher Hunt by phone, assistant town manager Elaine Wang, and recreation supervisor Dwight Coffrin.

Chair Farnham called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

Wang asked that the Board skip item #6 as information for it was not provided in time. Smith moved that the agenda be approved without item #6. Tessier seconded the motion and the board unanimously approved the vote.

Gray made a motion to approve the November 4, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. Tessier seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

No guests were present for non-agenda items.

**5. Facility Requests** – Discussion took place about MTA and Vermont Bicycle Shop wanting to host a LGBTQ ride on January 5<sup>th</sup> from 10 am – 1 pm. It was noted that these rides are hosted by an MTA Board member monthly around northern Vermont. For this event they would like to put up an event tent with Vermont Bicycle Shop providing fat bikes for participants, and have coffee, hot chocolate and snacks for after the ride. They will carry out their own trash. They expect 4-10 riders and would use groomed trails only if conditions are favorable. If not they would use the gravel roads around the forest.

Smith and Rouleau expressed safety concerns about use of the VAST trail, since Sundays is often a day that families ride snowmobiles. Hunt said they would limit their time on the VAST trail, and ride single file with traffic when riding on it to get to single track trails.

Rouleau made a motion to approve the request with the understanding that use of the VAST trail system would be minimized to the best of their ability, conditioned on receipt a certificate of insurance naming the town as an additional insured. Tessier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**7. Teen Programs** – The group talked about ideas for outdoor programs for 10 to 15 year olds, between May 15 and October 15. Thoughts included involving smartphones to increase likelihood of participation, like phone-based geo caching, Where's Waldo, or Pokemon Go!. The Board discussed a Rec Area-based tournament with 2-player teams competing in tennis, volleyball, basketball and pickleball, with prizes. The Board agreed to get feedback on this idea from others.

**8. Supervisor's Report** – Coffrin reported on recent completed work, including replacing 48 posts and associated cable along the access road, having a field hockey goal damaged by users repaired weatherizing the rec area water system, removing rec area nets, removing or mulching leaves in playgrounds.

Farnham asked for an update on the softball field fence lean issue. Wang said that the crew investigated and found the end posts were in concrete and the in-between posts were not, so frost heave is not the likely issue. Farnham asked for a quote on better bracing by the January meeting so that they could discuss options for using this year's budgeted money or what next year's request should be.

**9. Open Gym** – Board member Stacey Lynds, who was leading this effort, had to miss the meeting. The Board members present noted that a January date was still possible.

**10. Dabble Day** – Board member Stacey Lynds was leading this effort as well. Board members present discussed what they needed to do and did not need to do for the event.

**11. 2020 Ice Cream Socials** – The group was interested in Selectboard members attending the socials. They discussed the schedule and that ideally the one at Lower Graniteville be on a night the Selectboard could attend. However, as the Selectboard meeting dates aren't set until May it would be too late for the advertising usually done starting a few months prior. The Rec Board agreed by consensus to start the socials July 14<sup>th</sup> with the Grand Opening for Lower Graniteville Playground. If the Selectboard was not able to make it they would be invited to ones they could.

**12. Other Business** – Wang asked the Board if they would like a representative from Freezing Fun For Families at their January meeting with the facility use request, given that there were no changes from recent years. They said yes.

Wang asked the Board if they were interested in hosting a sledding party this Saturday they said no and to ask again in January, February and March.

**13. 'Round the Table:**

Rouleau provided an update about moonlight snowshoeing in the Town Forest led by volunteers. Smith made a motion to host a snowshoe on Friday, January 10, with weather date of Sat., January 11, with a tentative start date of 7pm if the snowshoe leader agrees. It will start at 44 Brook Street. Lynds seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Farnham asked for an update on the dog park light. Wang said if the ground could still be dug once the base is delivered, the light would be installed this month. Farnham noted that town manager Carl Rogers, and Wang, need to review the recreation capital improvement plan that he and Mike Gilbar worked on.

At 7:15 pm on a motion by Smith, seconded by Tessier, the board voted unanimously to adjourn.

Recreation Board Members

*signed by* \_\_\_\_\_

*Doug Farnham* \_\_\_\_\_

*David Rouleau* \_\_\_\_\_

*Rolland Tessier* \_\_\_\_\_

*Amanda Gray* \_\_\_\_\_

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