

**Town of Barre
Recreation Board
Meeting Minutes
July 1, 2019**

The Town of Barre Recreation Board held a public meeting on Monday, July 1, 2019 in the Municipal Building at 149 Websterville Road. Board members present were: Doug Farnham, Dave Rouleau, Terry Smith, Rolland Tessier, and Moriah Fraga. Also present were Shelby Armstrong, Julia Wilk, Rec Supervisor Dwight Coffrin, town manager Carl Rogers, and assistant town manager Elaine Wang.

Chair Farnham called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Rouleau made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Smith seconded and the motion passed 4-0. Tessier was not present for the vote.

Rouleau made a motion to approve the June 3, 2019 minutes as presented. Smith seconded and the Board approved 4-0. Tessier was not present for the vote.

5. Facility Requests –

a) Vermont Bicycle Shop requested use of the Town Forest 44 Brook St parking lot for a bike demo on July 6, 12pm-4pm. Rogers reminded those present that by ordinance, soliciting on town property is prohibited, and suggested that if they approve the use, that they consider language accordingly. Wang read the relevant ordinance aloud, that no person shall: “announce, advertise, or call the public attention in any way to any article or service for sale or hire except as authorized by the Barre town recreation board.” Rouleau made a motion to approve the request conditioned on receipt of certificate of insurance naming the town as an additional insured, and with the conditions that the event is for demonstration purposes only, not sales, and that those holding the demo not put any pressure on town forest users. Smith seconded and the motion passed 4-0. Tessier was not present for the vote.

b) Washington County Mental Health requested use of the upper soccer field on July 8th, 9am-3pm for a staff training, and for their field use fee of be waived. Wang noted they are renting and paying for the picnic shelter. Smith made a motion to approve the field use request and to waive the \$10 fee. Rouleau seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

c) Armstrong and Wilk presented their request to use the Barre Town Rec Area tennis courts for roller derby practices. The Board shared concern that the freshly paved tennis courts would need a year to cure completely and could be damaged by roller skates. Several ideas were shared about other facilities that could be used, including those managed by the Rec Board. Smith made the motion to approve the request and Tessier seconded. The Board voted down the motion unanimously.

d) Barre Youth Sports Association (BYSA) Soccer requested use of the softball field and East Barre Rec Field – not the upper soccer field per the posted agenda – for youth soccer, September 2 to October 17, 5pm-7:30pm evenings, and Saturdays 8:30am to 1:30pm, with exceptions regarding the softball field request of Friday September 6, no request, and Saturday September 7, 8am-12pm, due to the Co-Ed Softball League tournament. Rouleau made the motion to approve the request contingent on receipt of certificate of insurance naming the town as an additional insured. Smith seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

e) Chelsea Senior Baseball requested use of the baseball field on July 19, 5:30pm-9pm, with use of lights. They had already provided their certificate of insurance naming the town as an additional insured and the fee of \$35. Smith made a motion to approve the request. Tessier seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

6. Co-Ed Softball League Tournament Lighting Fee Waiver –BYSA’s original request was modified for September 6 and 7 as a compromise with the Co-Ed Softball League’s tournament use approved by the Board in June. The Co-Ed League had already changed its dates twice before in coordination with the other softball leagues, and in consideration of them adjusting a third time for BYSA they requested the Rec Board waive their fee for lights, \$50.00 in total, for their September 6-7 tournament. Smith made a motion to approve this fee waiver request. Rouleau seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

7. Rec Supervisor’s Report – Coffrin reported on the department’s maintenance and project activities, especially the Rec Area, including recovery work from arson of the Rec Area upper men’s restroom, lower

restroom sewer line repair due to paper towel clogs, and painting Rec Area structures; as well as Wilson St ballfield work and court surface repair of the basketball court behind the East Barre EMS station.

8. Boy Scout donation – The donation discussed by the Rec Board in June 2019 was not warned. Smith made a motion to donate \$263.10 to the Boy Scouts. Tessier seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

9. Tick Signs in the Town Forest – The Vermont Department of Health offered to provide free Lyme Disease prevention signs to the town, and Vermont Rustic Moose Camp offered to have their campers install them. The Board discussed where they would like signs installed. Smith made a motion for paired signs (facing in and out) at all Town Forest perimeter trail entrances. Tessier seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

10. New Authority to Permit Alcohol Use and Form – Wang had provided the new facility use request form, which reflects that requesters can now consume alcohol if such consumption is permitted by the Rec Board in advance. The Board discussed their questions with staff and indicated no changes be made.

11. Water at Town Forest garage – The Board and staff discussed this service and the quote to install it, about \$3,104, which included town labor and equipment charges. Questions remained whether the quote included all material costs. Rouleau noted that Thunder Chickens and Millstone Trails Association were raising enough money for other purposes that they would be hard-pressed to raise money for this also. Ideas about grant opportunities were discussed.

12. Fall Festival purchases and planning – Smith shared options for a Fall Festival banner. By consensus the group agreed on one of the designs (slide 8) with one modification (Rockwell font, except “Barre Town Recreation Department” in Poor Richard font). Smith said she would get a quote and proof, and not purchase yet. The Board then discussed siting and activities.

13. Port-o-Let at Trow Hill Playground – The Rec Board had asked about providing a seasonal port-o-let at this playground. Wang had provided 2019 costs of \$220 per 28 days for an ADA unit and \$140 per 28 days for a standard unit. The Board discussed the precedent this might set for the other playgrounds. The consensus was that Trow Hill sees the most use, and several of the other playgrounds already have options. Smith made a motion to place an ADA port-o-let for Trow Hill Playground through Labor Day weekend, 2019, as a trial. Rouleau seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

14. Softball field lighting retrofit – Wang said the State of Vermont Recreational Facilities Grant application is due July 31, and that a letter of support from the Rec Board would be helpful. She asked that the Board authorize Doug Farnham to represent them on a letter of support given his long history with Barre Town softball. Smith made a motion so authorizing. Tessier seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

15. Leash Law Signs – The Selectboard asked for the Rec Board’s input on whether “Dogs must be on leash” signs should be added to more recreation properties. The Board and staff discussed they have seen dogs off leash on the Millstone West bike path and Rec Area, and that they felt signs would be advisable. Smith made a motion that leash law signs, with icons for a leashed dog and picking up after your dog, be posted at all recreation properties, including one at each 44 Brook St entrance, on an existing post or fence, or on a new post if required. Tessier seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

16. Lower Graniteville Playground – Wang noted that the current quote on the two structures previously approved by the Rec Board included a sale price that would expire July 24, 2019, requiring action at this meeting. Tessier made a motion to approve the presented plan, layout and structures. Smith seconded and the motion passed 5-0. Wang said the community build supervisor recommended September 7-8, and a rain date of September 21-22, for the install. The Board agreed by consensus. Recruiting volunteers was discussed.

17. Dog Park Agreement – Rouleau shared that one active volunteer was unlikely to be the lead signatory on the agreement. He said that he was willing to ramp up recruitment for Dog Park Committee members. He

noted that it might help to distribute the main tasks among the members, e.g. agreement maintainer, park maintenance, fundraising. Relatedly, he asked Wang to provide documentation that donations to the town would be tax exempt to help with fundraising needs. He mentioned a donation of 20,000 dog waste bags had been received, costing under \$400, and that two volunteers were taking turns stocking the park with them.

18. Benches on Millstone West Bike Path. Last month Rouleau asked about placing benches along the bike path in an area where the town has an easement from Rock of Ages for the bike path. Rogers had noted that the benches at the former community garden along Websterville Road on Wilson Industrial Park land might be used for this purpose. Wang provided information that the easement is wide enough to accommodate benches, and that the garden organizers had agreed to them being moved. Malone Properties owns the lot they sit on and she had a request out to them. Rouleau made a motion to approve moving the two granite benches currently in the area described to a location across from 585 Graniteville Rd. if Malone Properties and Rock of Ages were agreeable. Tessier seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

19. Ice Cream Socials – The Board finalized plans and staffing for the first few ice cream socials.

20. August meeting date – The Board discussed their August schedules. Smith made a motion to move the Rec Board’s August meeting to the 12th provided schedules of absent members indicated there would be a quorum on that date. Tessier seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

21. Annual Reorganization –To affirm their unwarned June reorganization motions, Rouleau made a motion to appoint Doug Farnham as Chair. Tessier seconded and the motion passed 5-0. Tessier made a motion to appoint Dave Rouleau as Vice Chair. Smith seconded and the motion passed 5-0. Rouleau made a motion to set the regular meeting time to the first Monday of the month, except for August 2019. Smith seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

22. Other Business – Wang shared that Janice King, former Dog Park Committee member and continuing volunteer, was estimating \$200 for the memorial sign previously discussed. She asked for an informal ok on this maximum amount. The Board indicated agreement by consensus.

23. Round the Table – Smith extended a welcome to Fraga as this was her first meeting as a member. Tessier asked for when the Rauli’s Run horse prohibition signage would be installed. Wang said she would follow up with MTA. Rouleau asked for an update on the dugout painting Community Service Learning Project. Wang said she would follow up. He updated the Board that the Thunder Chickens and MTA had not yet painted the town forest garage. He asked for an update on signage for the alternate parking in the Rec Area before the turn in the access road towards the picnic area. Discussion ensued as to how to best convey that users may park in rows perpendicular to the road there, which has been improved for that purpose. Farnham asked about Rockfire. Rogers said the Chiefs indicated low turnout due to weather. He asked about extending 44 Brook St. parking into the woods due to the high usage. Discussion ensued about what that would entail.

At 8:40pm on a motion by Smith, seconded by Rouleau, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn.

Recreation Board Members


