

**Town of Barre  
Recreation Board  
Meeting Minutes  
May 6, 2019**

The Town of Barre Recreation Board held a public meeting on Monday, May 6, 2019 in the Municipal Building at 149 Websterville Road. Board members present were: Doug Farnham, Dave Rouleau, Terry Smith, Mike Gilbar, Rolland Tessier, Stacey Lynds, and Amanda Gray. Also present were Kevin Spaulding, Al Rosa, Rec Supervisor Dwight Coffrin, town manager Carl Rogers, and assistant town manager Elaine Wang.

Chair Farnham called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Wang asked to add the Recreation Supervisor's Report to the agenda as item number 8.5, noting that he was running late because he was coaching. Rouleau made a motion to accept the agenda with that change. Gilbar seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Tessier made a motion to approve the April 1, 2019 minutes as presented. Gilbar seconded and the Board approved 6-0, with Gray abstaining.

**5. Facility Requests –**

a) Aldrich Library and Barre Town Forest Friends requested use of the Town Forest, June 15, 1pm-2:30pm for their Fairy House Storytime. Rouleau made a motion to approve the request. Tessier seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

b) The Barre Co-Ed Softball League requested use of the softball field for their tournament July 27-28, 7am to dark. Rouleau made a motion to approve the request contingent on receipt of certificate of insurance. Tessier seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

c) The Barre Co-Ed Softball League requested to revise the start time for their season's Friday requests to 6:30pm-10:30pm. Rouleau made a motion to approve the request. Gilbar seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

d) Central Vermont Medical Center requested use of the soccer field, bike path and track for Sep 21, 7am to 11:30am for their Susan G. Komen breast cancer fundraiser 5K. Wang noted that they had not needed the field before, and that the school might need the field for a game. Rouleau made a motion to approve CVMC's request for the bike path and track, and the soccer field if they need it, all contingent on receipt of certificate of insurance, and that the use of the field not conflict with uses of the area schools. Gilbar seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

e) NEK Women Warriors requested use of the soccer field for two Thursdays, Jul 11 & 21, 5:45pm-8pm, in addition to their previously requested Sunday dates. Rouleau made a motion to approve the request. Tessier seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

f) Barre Town Middle and Elementary School requested use of the soccer field for a 1<sup>st</sup> grade field day on June 12, 2019, from 1pm to 3pm. Lynds made a motion to approve the request. Gilbar seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

**6. Millstone Trails Association Winter Grooming Report –** Spaulding shared that MTA groomed 312 miles with 52 hours of volunteer time. They recorded 50 gallons of gas use. At least 40 loops were made around the trail system. The closure of Morse Farm brought in more skiers than in years past. Rouleau asked about maintenance on the groomer. Spaulding noted that the biggest expense was replacing the steering linkage. Rouleau asked about fat biking. Spaulding noted that good skiing means poor fat biking and vice versa, and it was a good year for skiing. There was discussion about a third parking area. Spaulding shared that the new lighting was well received.

**7. MTA Donation –** MTA did not have final numbers yet. The Board tabled this item.

**8. Plan for Staining Garage –** Rouleau stated his understanding that it was the responsibility of the Thunder Chickens Snowmobile Club and MTA to stain the garage. He indicated his preference to find enough

volunteers to undertake staining the entire garage this year. He and Spaulding agreed to organize this project. Wang said the town can order the stain for them to pick up when they are ready.

Coffrin had not yet arrived so Farnham postponed agenda item #8.5.

**9. Spring into Summer** – Smith, Tessier, and Lynds provided updates on activities. There was detailed discussion on several, including using the leftover eggs from the Egg Hunt, and ideas for the police officer activity. Smith said that they would meet Wednesday night at 5:45pm at the Rec Area to plan the layout.

**11. Egg Hunt debrief** – Farnham estimated about 80 kids turned out, much lower than usual, perhaps due to the weather or the reschedule.

Chair Farnham decided to rearrange the remaining agenda.

**13. Open Gym** – Lynds said between 20-30 children came to the Open Gym and that it went well. Rouleau noted that Laura Thygesen was very active and expressed appreciation for her partnership.

**14. Boy Scout picnic shelter fee waiver**. Boy Scout Troop 714 asked on Thursday night April 25 to use the picnic shelter on Monday April 29<sup>th</sup> for their fire skills (using the bbq pit) and knife sharpening class and for the fee to be waived. Smith made a motion to waive the fee. Gilbar seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

**8.5 Rec Supervisor's Report** – Coffrin arrived and provided his activity report. He also noted that the crew had picked up a lot of fireworks paper from the Freezing Fun for Families fireworks show but that it was a manageable amount this year and that he had no objections to them having fireworks in the future. Farnham requested that Wang and he be kept in the loop as to field closures. Coffrin asked the Board to consider another staff person to split between the recreation and cemetery departments.

**10. Dog Park Agreement** – Wang and Coffrin provided options for restoring and maintaining grass on the big dog side of the park where it is currently struggling. The options would require periodic, and/or extended, park closure while the grass established. The Board agreed by consensus to advise the Dog Park Committee to put a feature and mulch there rather than try to maintain grass. The Board discussed the revised draft agreement and agreed to the same level of town responsibility as in the current. They discussed the increase in Mutt Mitt bag use and by consensus said the Dog Park fund pay for the increase in use.

**12. Softball Light Project** – Wang provided a summary of efforts to date and that members of the softball leagues were stepping up to reduce the costs of the project due to labor and equipment rental. A question remains regarding cost of the lighting; advice has differed as to the number of fixtures. One league member, who works at an electrical supply company, was arranging a site visit with a rep from a light company.

**16. Other Business** - Wang asked if the Rec Board would consider taking on the expense of lining the soccer field if Spaulding High School ever decided it was too much for them. Rogers provided input, and Farnham provided direction on what information to get to inform the Board's decision.

Farnham provided an update on the tennis court and pickleball court project. The Selectboard approved a revised proposal per the Board's April 1 direction, i.e. to convert two of the four tennis courts to temporary pickleball courts, and to provide a level of repair comparable to the original (pre-pickleball) plan, which is estimated to buy the courts 5-10 years more life. The new project should cost less than the original plan. Wang said VT Tennis intended to start prep work in the next two weeks. The courts will be unusable for a minimum of 4 weeks, weather permitting, once work starts. Wang noted the town will keep the gravel, at no extra cost, from the temporary road required for the tennis court equipment to get onto the courts. She recommended some of it be used at the entry of the dog park.

Wang shared that last year's tennis instructor intends to offer lessons the last two weeks of June, but that it would depend on the tennis court repair work.

15. **Round the Table** – Smith asked Wang to notify the Dog Park Committee that the Rec Area road would be closed on June 1, 7am to 3pm, because of the festival.

Gray noted she would not be available for the scheduled July meeting and asked about rescheduling. The Board agreed to discuss that at the June meeting.

Rouleau asked about moving the second port-o-let at Brook St. garage to be next to the first, at the side of the building, to be away from the picnic table. He asked if DPW would be able to truck some donated staymat to the disc golf course in time for the tournament on May 25. Rogers said they did not have time. Rouleau said he would make other arrangements. He then asked for the police department to consider locking the pickleball side of the tennis courts once the work is done, when they are at the rec area locking the restrooms.

Farnham asked for an update on the soccer bleacher work. Rogers indicated the purchase order was issued and that the company has been up to take measurements.

At 8:42pm on a motion by Rouleau, seconded by Gilbar, the Board voted 7-0 to adjourn.

Recreation Board Members  
  
The signature block contains four handwritten signatures in blue ink on a set of horizontal lines. The signatures are: 1. A signature that appears to be 'D. Gilbar'. 2. A signature that appears to be 'A. Rouleau'. 3. A signature that appears to be 'Amanda Gray'. 4. A signature that appears to be 'Paula Jones'.