

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

The Town of Barre Recreation Board held a public meeting on Monday, November 4, 2019 in the Municipal Building at 149 Websterville Road. Board members present were Dave Rouleau, Terry Smith, Moriah Fraga, Amanda Gray and Stacey Lynds. Also present were town manager Carl Rogers, assistant town manager Elaine Wang, recreation supervisor Dwight Coffrin and Peter Kopsco.

Vice-Chair Rouleau called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Gray moved that the agenda be approved as presented. Smith seconded the motion and the board unanimously approved a 6-0 vote.

Tessier made a motion to approve the October 7, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. Gray seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**4. Guest:** Peter Kopsco, Millstone Trails Association President was present to provide the Rec Board advance notice of a grant for which they intend to apply to extend the Town Forest trail known as Rauli's Run. They are waiting on an cost estimate. If that is provided in time, he asked for the trail extension to be on the Rec Board's December agenda. The trail extension would also be closed to horses. The work would be done in 2020 or 2021. He was asked whether the MTA Board was interested in cost-sharing water service to the 44 Brook St parking lot. He said they were not that interested but that it would be nice.

**5. Facility request(s):** None.

**6. Program and Event Ideas** – Smith provided information from the Vermont Recreation and Parks Association Conference that she attended on behalf of the town, and the Board discussed several program and event ideas. Smith asked for the topic of considering and scoping work for an intern to count facility usage in 2021 be put on the May 2020 agenda.

**7. FY 2020-21 Budget Prioritization** – Wang provided the cost estimates that weren't available for the October meeting. The Board discussed each item and by consensus indicated that their top priorities were ADA port-o-lets at Trow Hill and Lower Graniteville playgrounds, making the Rec Area picnic shelter accessible, and putting a couple thousand dollars aside for adult fitness park equipment. Also of interest were finishing the softball field lighting retrofit, purchasing replacement for the baseball field lights, and geochemical studies of the softball field and Little League field. Lower priorities were water service to 44 Brook Street, repair to the Little League fencing without more information from Barre Community Baseball and Softball, and a drainage solution to the leaning softball field fence without results from a geochemical study.

**8. Recreation Supervisor's Report** – Coffrin reported on the crew's work, including a variety of maintenance on the Rec Area fields and South Barre fields; repairs to the rec road, baseball field gate, restrooms, and bike path bridge railing; replacing posts and cable and light fixtures, winterizing the Rec Area; constructing more benches for the pickleball courts; and expanding the 44 Brook St parking area. He noted that the fields were aerated four times this summer thanks to the new aerator.

**9. Open Gym** – Lynds and the Board discussed events from 5pm - 6:30pm once each in January, February and March, with dates to be discussed with the school. Without more volunteers the advertising of the event would need to be limited.

**Other Business** – Wang asked the Board whether siting the budgeted light pole halfway along the full fence line of the do park would work. They indicated yes by consensus. She asked the Board if they wanted to try for spontaneous winter sledding parties again this year and they indicated yes by consensus. They will discuss at each Board meeting from January through March whether to hold one the following Saturday.

**Round Table** – Tessier shared his concern about expanding the amount of Town Forest closed to horses, and said he would want the Board to discuss that if and when the trail extension was on a future agenda. He asked for an update on the Dog Park Committee. Rouleau said he had been very busy but was planning on spending more time on it soon. He did share that a new member seems to be getting more consistent volunteers to work.

Smith asked Wang to follow up on tennis camp information she forwarded. She brought up the rise of esports and the Board had a wide-ranging discussion about what they could offer to encourage teenagers to be outside. They asked for the item to be back on future agendas.

Lynds noted the need for more fixed benches at the Lower Graniteville Playground. She asked whether the Rec Board would like a table at Dabble Day, being held the first Saturday in February at the Barre Auditorium. By consensus they indicated they would.

Rouleau asked Wang to order replacement pickleballs. Smith made a motion to approve the purchase, not to exceed \$65, and Lynds seconded. The motion passed 6-0.

Rouleau said he talked to someone interested in leading snowshoeing at the Town Forest, and to check whether to have this on the December agenda.

At 7:56 pm on a motion by Tessier, seconded by Lynds, the board voted unanimously to adjourn.

Recreation Board Members

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