

**Town of Barre
Recreation Board
Meeting Minutes**

The Town of Barre Recreation Board held a virtual public meeting on Monday, May 3, 2021. Board members in attendance were Doug Farnham, David Rouleau, Terry Smith, Amanda Gray, and Moriah Fraga. Absent was Stacey Lynds. Also in attendance were Pierre Couture, Carol Hebert and assistant town manager Elaine Wang.

1. Chair Farnham called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.
2. Rouleau noted the April minutes were missing from the packet and made a motion to approve the agenda except with the minutes approval tabled to the next meeting. Smith seconded and the motion passed 5-0.
4. **Receive guests** – Carol Hebert said she was observing the meeting.
5. **Facility requests** – a) Rockfire: Pierre Couture reviewed their plans for a COVID-safe Rockfire event, including outdoor registration, only two food trucks, eating disallowed near booths, and spacing out people at the opening gate. He said they were open to other suggestions. Wang noted that the outdoor distancing guidelines were not really designed for the parade-like situation the firewalk resembles and that guidances released closer to July 4 might be helpful. The Rec Board and Couture agreed guidances could be reviewed closer to Rockfire and their plan for the firewalks reviewed by town staff then. Smith made a motion to approve the request conditioned on compliance with executive orders and provision of compliant certificate of insurance. Rouleau seconded and the motion passed 5-0. Rouleau said he expected Rockfire would pick up candles and scatter firewood as they have the last few years and Couture confirmed.
b) St. Monica-St. Michael School requested the Town Forest Trails for a fundraiser run Thursday June 3. Smith made a motion to approve the request conditioned on compliance with executive orders and provision of compliant certificate of insurance. Gray seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

The expected visitor for 5c had not joined so Chair Farnham rearranged the agenda to address the quicker agenda items first.

6. **Ice cream events** – After some discussion, the Rec Board agreed to distribute ice cream at the playgrounds in August. To reduce crowds they would distribute at two playgrounds each night, Tuesdays August 3, 10, and 17. Hebert asked what happens if there is excess ice cream. Rouleau said it goes to a daycare he knows that serves many government-subsidized kids. Smith made a motion to approve the ice cream event dates. Rouleau seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

8. **Bunny suit purchase** – Rouleau reviewed that Tim Bevins' bunny suit the Rec Board used for the Eggstravaganza he would sell for \$50. Rouleau noted it could be used at other events like a library story walk. Smith was making vests to make it more versatile for other events. Rouleau made a motion to approve and Gray seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

9. **Wind nets purchase** – Farnham proposed purchasing netting, designed to block wind from the tennis and pickleball courts. He reviewed what he found about possible products. The cost of the three needed to cover the south and front sides of the courts should cost less than \$400. Smith motioned to approve the purchase of wind nets up to \$400. Rouleau seconded and the motion passed 5-0. Farnham said he had more research to do and would give the final information to Wang.

5. c) As the skateboarding competition requestor had not joined, Farnham asked Wang to review the request as had been presented to her by organizer Devon Deyhle. She said he proposed to organize a skateboarding competition at the Travis Mercy Skateboard Park and was looking to do several others around the state. It would be his first time organizing such an event. He had said he anticipated being able to obtain insurance. Wang said she had asked about emergency services, and had provided Deyhle with the Barre Town EMS

Director’s recommendation that he have an athletic trainer onsite to take care of any injuries. He had not responded to that suggestion yet. The Rec Board brainstormed options for an athletic trainer.

7. Dog Park successors – Rouleau said neither he nor the other signatory had time anymore to serve as the primary Dog Park Organizers. Rouleau said that he did not want the facility to become the town’s problem, so he would do what he could to find other signers. The Board, and Hebert, brainstormed ideas to attract other Organizers.

5. c) Action: The visitor never arrived. Rouleau made a motion to approve the skateboard competition request conditioned on executive orders and insurance. Smith seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

11. Other business – Rouleau had emailed Wang several questions regarding the status of various Rec facilities. Wang answered the questions.

12. Round the Table – Gray asked for the Fall Festival on the next agenda. Rouleau asked when the Board vacancies would be advertised. Wang said the town would advertise them with the rest of the ending terms. Farnham said that the disc golf course tee pad was installed by 4 volunteers the previous Sunday and the next day the disc golf course donation station received \$127. This was a third as much as was collected all through 2020. Rouleau said the goal was to do lay pavers at 6-7 more tees. In recognition of this being Smith’s last meeting, Farnham thanked Smith for her energy and service to the Board. Smith suggested the Board consider having the Fall Festival the same weekend as the Barre Partnership, and to not give up on an internship.

At 7:30pm on a motion by Smith, seconded by Rouleau, the board voted 5-0 to adjourn.

Recreation Board Members
