

**Town of Barre
Recreation Board
Meeting Minutes**

The Town of Barre Recreation Board held a virtual public meeting on Monday, April 5, 2021. Board members in attendance were Doug Farnham, David Rouleau, Terry Smith, Amanda Gray, Stacey Lynds, and Moriah Fraga. Also in attendance were Carol Hebert, Scott Dolan, Abby Fusco, Craig Locarno, Michael Squier, David Chrisitansen, Cheri Goldstein, Peter Kopsco, and assistant town manager Elaine Wang.

1. Chair Farnham called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
 2. Rouleau made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Smith seconded and the motion passed 5-0. Lynds was not present for the vote.
 3. **Minutes** - Smith made a motion to approve the March 1 minutes. Rouleau seconded and the motion passed 5-0. Lynds was not present for the vote.
 4. **Receive guests** – Carol Hebert said she had applied for the Rec Board vacancy and was observing.
 5. **Facility requests** – Wang presented a request from Town of Barre Community Dog Park volunteers to hold their usual fundraiser yard sale on June 19, 8am to 3pm in the auxiliary parking area of the Rec Area. Smith made a motion to approve the request. Rouleau seconded and the motion passed 5-0. Lynds was not present for the vote.
 6. **Facility scheduling** – a) Tennis: Wang said there was one request for the tennis courts, from Spaulding High School. Smith made a motion to approve the request as presented, conditioned on compliance with executive orders. Rouleau seconded and the motion passed 5-0. Lynds was not present for the vote. b) Soccer: Wang said there were two non-conflicting requests from regulars, BASA and NEK Women Warriors. Smith made a motion to approve the request conditioned on executive orders and receipt of a compliant certificates of insurance. Gray seconded and the motion passed 5-0. Lynds was not present for the vote. c) South Barre ballfields: Wang said one request was received from Barre Community Baseball and Softball. Rouleau made a motion to approve the request conditioned on executive orders and receipt of a compliant certificate of insurance. Gray seconded and the motion passed 6-0. d) Softball field: Wang described the four requests received: from the school, Barre Men’s League, Barre Men’s Over 30 League, and the Barre CoEd League. She said David Christiansen had said the Men’s League was working out their tournament conflict with the CoEd League. Wang asked Michael Squier about their possible tournament conflict with the CoEd League’s regular Sunday. Squier said they would only conflict if they were rained out the Saturday before. If that happened, he said they would reach out to the town to reschedule their tournament. Rouleau made a motion, seconded by Smith, to approve all four use requests conditioned on the Men’s and Men’s Over 30 tournaments not conflicting with the CoEd Leagues’ regular nights, receipt of a compliant certificate of insurance and compliance with executive orders. The motion passed 6-0. e) Major League Baseball field: Wang reviewed the four requests received” from the school, an incomplete one from Babe Ruth 13-15 year old team, American Legion Post 10, and new Green Mountain Baseball League team the Capital Blue Jays. Cheri Goldstein said the Blue Jays might need two Wednesdays in addition to the Sundays she had requested. Rouleau motioned to approve the requests pending coordination of conflicts and the motion receipt of a compliant certificates of insurance and compliance with executive orders. Gray seconded and the motion passed 6-0.
- Because the scheduling portion of the meeting went quicker than expected and needed guests had not arrived, Chair Farnham took the items without guests out of order.
9. **Egg Hunt debrief** – Wang reported 36 cars had come through the drive-through Egg-stravaganza. The Board discussed what could have explained the low turnout and ideas for the future. Gray proposed to start planning for the 2022 event at the October meeting. The Board agreed by consensus.
 10. **Ice cream events** – The Board agreed by consensus that they would hold some sort of COVID-safe ice cream event this summer, and discuss details at the next meeting.
 11. **Other business** – Wang informed the Board that the bathrooms could be open to the public this summer.

7. **Tennis lessons** – Wang reported the town’s tennis instructor was willing to offer tennis lessons. Wang said it could be done safely. Rouleau made a motion to approve Barre Town Recreation to offer tennis lessons in 2021. Smith made a motion and the Board voted 6-0 to approve.

8. **Vermont Outdoor Recreation Communities Community Grant Program** – Wang said two organizations, MTA and CRAG-VT, had approached the town about this relatively new grant program authorized by the state legislature in 2018. She read out the goals of the program, which are to: Grow the outdoor recreation related business opportunities; increase participation in outdoor recreation activities; Strengthen the quality and extent of outdoor recreation resources; and Increase stewardship of outdoor recreation resources. She said the 2021 application wasn’t available yet. She noted CRAG-VT’s idea of a ‘manmade’ ice climbing wall in a quarry had to first pass a gauntlet of liability questions which they were working on. Peter Kopsco, MTA President, shared some ideas he’d had and said he was interested in hearing others. Rouleau, Smith, and Lynds each shared ideas. Kopsco said he would track the grant and notify the town when applications were out.

12. **Round the Table** – Fraga said she would be out of town June 14 through July 30, and September 13 through October 29. She said she was happy to remote in to meetings but would not be able to help out with activities. She asked the Board whether they would prefer she step down. The Board agreed by consensus they were comfortable with her staying on the Board. Lynds said there was a lot of trash at Trow Hill Playground and asked about trash barrels. Wang said she had visited the playgrounds, which looked pretty good from the parking areas, but when asked said she had not walked inside. Lynds said the trash was not visible unless you walked the playgrounds. Wang said she would do so. Rouleau asked for the Rec budget, once passed, to be on a future agenda. Farnham asked what the status was for expanding the 44 Brook St parking lot for the town forest. Wang said she would find out. Smith asked when the Rec Board wanted to have Fall Fest. The Board agreed by consensus on Saturday September 25. She then said the May Rec Board meeting would be her last because she needed a break, but she would help with any event where needed.

At 7:20pm on a motion by Roleau, seconded by Smith, the board voted 6-0 to adjourn.

Recreation Board Members
