

**Town of Barre  
Recreation Board  
July 12, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

The Town of Barre Recreation Board held a hybrid (in person with a virtual option) public meeting. Board members in attendance were Doug Farnham, David Rouleau, Stacey Lynds, Amanda Gray, Moriah Fraga, Carol Hebert, and Tyler Morse. Also in attendance were Anna Van Luvender, Cooper Bushey, Rec Supervisor Dwight Coffrin and Assistant Town Manager Elaine Wang.

1. Chair Farnham called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.
2. **Agenda** – Rouleau moved the Board reorder the agenda for a guest. Gray seconded. The motion passed 7-0.
3. **Minutes** - Gray motioned to approve the June 7 minutes as presented. Fraga seconded. The motion passed 7-0. Rouleau motioned to approve the May 3 minutes. Fraga seconded. The motion passed 7-0.
6. **Dog Park Agreement** – Rouleau reported that Anna Van Luvender was comfortable with the agreement, and that he would stay on the committee for another year. Lynds motioned to approve the revised Dog Park Agreement and to recommend the Seletboard accept it. Morse seconded. The motion passed 7-0. Rouleau described a dog issue and how the committee planned to address it. He mentioned the three committee members are all administrators of the Dog Park Committee Facebook page.
5. **Facility requests** – Wang asked for e) to be taken up first because Cooper Bushey was the guest for that request. e) Bushey introduced himself as a Barre Town School PE teacher and YMCA Camp KODA co-director. The program is 8:30am to 5pm on weekdays free for anyone in Greater Barre with free lunch and free transportation. They rotate through 6 activities, including STEM and recreation. Bushey appreciated how the rec crew has accommodated them by coordinating mowing. Lynds motioned to approve the request and to waive the fees. Gray seconded. The motion passed 7-0.
  - a) Residents of the McLaughlin Road neighborhood in years past requested use of the basketball court behind the EMS Station for a reunion meal. Farnham asked about parking. Wang said they would mostly use McLaughlin Rd, not in front of the EMS parking lot, and any overflow could use the grass. Rouleau made motion to approve, with no alcohol allowed. Lynds seconded. The motion passed 7-0.
  - b) Barre Amateur Soccer Association requested use of the lower soccer field after the last Rec Board meeting. There were no conflicts so the manager's office allowed the use. Rouleau motioned to retroactively approve the use and to waive the fee. Lynds seconded. The motion passed 7-0.
  - c) Vermont Creamery requested the upper soccer field and basketball court for a company day. Gray motioned to approve the request conditioned on them cleaning up after themselves and a compliant certificate of insurance, and assess a fee of \$50. Hebert seconded. The motion passed 7-0. The Board noted other uses that day and to advise VT Creamery of that, and where they may not park.
  - d) The Aldrich Library again requested the ability to post signs for storywalks through the season. Lynds motioned to approve the request conditioned on compliant insurance. Morse seconded. The motion passed 7-0.
  - f) Washington County Mental Health requested the upper soccer field July 6 through August 13. They will work around the July 21 and August 9-13 conflicts. Rouleau motioned to approve the request and waive the fee, conditioned on compliant insurance. Gray seconded. The motion passed 7-0.
  - g) New Hope Beginners AA Group requested use of the volleyball court with their annual picnic. Lynds motioned to approve the request conditioned on compliant insurance. Morse seconded. The motion passed 7-0.
  - h) Babe Ruth 16-18yo team requested the baseball field in June and July after the last Rec Board meeting. The manager's office allowed the use. Rouleau motioned to approve the request retroactively and to waive the fee. Lynds seconded. The motion passed 7-0.
  - i) Spaulding High School requested the soccer field and baseball outfield for fall soccer and field hockey. Rouleau motioned to approve the request. Lynds seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

7. **Dog Park temporary closure** – Rouleau presented the Dog Park Committee’s request to close the dog park for two days July 26 and 27, weather permitting, to repair the gate. Morse motioned to approve, with the option to delay for rain. Hebert seconded. The motion passed 6-0 with Rouleau recusing.

8. **Rec Supervisor report** – Dwight Coffrin reviewed the crew’s work over the past month, including grass cutting, field repair and/or maintenance at the Rec Area and South Barre fields, tree trimming and removal, bathroom cleaning, trash pickup, removing the Little League outfield fence for safety reasons, blocking vehicle entry to the bike path by the picnic shelter, remulching playgrounds, equipment maintenance, filling potholes at 44 Brook St, and helping DPW with a plugged sewer line at the Rec Area. Farnham noted that St. Albans is exploring artificial turf for their baseball infield which would allow softball uses. Farnham also reported he was approached about two softball tournaments.

9. **Fall Festival** – Gray led the discussion on activities the Board will be able to host and want to provide if it could find volunteers. Lynds said she would ask Spaulding’s ROTC. Gray asked Wang to make flyers.

10. **Ice cream events** – The Rec Board finalized plans and staffing.

11. **Picnic shelter form** – Farnham said he asked for this agenda item because a camper overnights without approval. Although the user group had done this, with approval, before without issues, the concern was what other users might infer. After discussion, Gray motioned for “Overnight uses are not allowed without prior approval” to be added to the latter part of the instructions, with the expectation that the manager’s office staff would handle such requests. Fraga seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

12. **Rec Facilities Grant** – After some discussion, the Rec Board asked Wang to apply for the grant to supplement the fencing refresh project across most town recreation facilities. The approved budget does not have enough to complete the work recommended by the Rec Board.

13. **Logging** – Farnham had asked for any updates. The Selectboard scheduled a public discussion about it during their August 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, which unfortunately is also an ice cream event date.

14. **Facility use survey** – The Board agreed they would like a survey done but did not have someone who could supervise an intern to administer it. Morse said he had ideas and asked for the matter on the September agenda.

15. **How to meet** – The Board agreed by consensus they wanted to continue to hybrid meetings, so that Board members who were running behind due to work, or needed to be at home with children, could still participate.

17. **‘Round the Table** – Gray reported she made to the Barre Partnership the Board’s offer on how Barre Town could participate in their “Barre Fall Festival” and hadn’t heard an answer back. Farnham asked how the bike shop signs in the town forest had come about. No one did. He reported he and Rouleau were looking to hold a pickleball tournament. He said the town manager agreed Farnham could remove the fence along the road at 44 Brook St. He said as DPW did not have time to install the water spigot at 44 Brook St, that the Millstone Trails Association, DPW, Rec board, and Disc Golf be invited to a meeting to provide input on placement of the waterline. He asked if two dump truck loads of gravel from a dirt road project could be left at 44 Brook St for use by the Thunder Chickens to move the VAST trail that is too close to the quarry hole near that parking area.

At 8:38pm on a motion by Lynds, seconded by Morse, the board voted 7-0 to adjourn.

Recreation Board Members

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