

**Town of Barre
Recreation Board
Meeting Minutes
July 11, 2022**

The Town of Barre Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Monday, July 11, 2022, starting at 6:00 pm. The meeting was held in the Municipal Building, 149 Websterville Road. Board members present were: Doug Farnham, Dave Rouleau, Carol Hebert, Annette Neddo, Stacey Lynds (remotely) and Amanda Gray (remotely). Also attending were town manager Carl Rogers, maintenance supervisor Dwight Coffrin, MTA representative Kevin Spaulding and Selectboard member Paul White.

Chairman Doug Farnham called the meeting to order at 6:12 pm.

David Rouleau made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Carol Hebert seconded the motion, which was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Hebert moved to approve the June 6, 2022, meeting minutes as written. Rouleau seconded that motion, and it was approved unanimously.

There were no guests for non-agenda items.

Facility Use Requests –

- a) **Aldrich Public Library** – Rouleau made a motion to approve the Aldrich Public Library's use of the town forest #6 Trail for a storywalk from July 9 to October 31, 2022. Stacey Lynds seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion.
- b) **Babe Ruth 13U** – Rouleau made a motion to approve the Babe Ruth 13U team's use of the baseball field for practice on Sunday evenings, June 26 to July 17, from 5:00 to 7:00, with fees waived. Hebert seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.
- c) **SHS Girls Varsity Soccer** – On a motion by Rouleau, seconded by Hebert, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Spaulding High School Girls Varsity Soccer team's use of the lower soccer field on Monday and Wednesday nights, 5:00 to 6:30, from July 6 to August 3, 2022.
- d) **Courtney's Allies** – Rogers clarified the event is a 5k run and walk. He also informed the Board Courtney's Allies might cancel the reservation and hold the event at another venue. Farnham asked Coffrin to be sure the bike path gate is open for the participants. Rouleau made a motion to approve Courtney's Allies use of the Millstone Hill West bike path on Saturday, October 1, 2022, from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm for a 5k run/walk conditioned upon receipt of a certificate of insurance and to waive the picnic shelter use fee. Amanda Gray seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion on a 6-0 vote.
- e) **BYSA (Soccer)** – Rogers told the Board Andrea Ball of BYSA Soccer said they'd prefer to have the lower soccer field full-time instead of the softball field, but then changing fields because of softball games. Farnham said he would like BYSA to be flexible to moving to the softball field if another group, especially adults, want the lower soccer field. He said he would prefer to have children playing on the softball field. Rouleau made a motion to approve BYSA Soccer's use of the East Barre field and the lower soccer field Saturdays from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm and Monday through Thursday nights from 4:30 to 7:00 from September 5 to October 15, 2022, conditioned upon receipt

of a certificate of insurance, with fees waived and with the understanding flexibility in the field schedule might be needed.

Baseball Field Modification – Farnham reported he started marking the infield changes, meaning the turf cut-outs (removal) around second and third bases. He said he received the quote for the portable outfield fence, and he is receiving a donation check to pay for the fence. On July 16, he said, they will use a transit to be certain the pitcher's mound area is level. He said they need dirt. Coffrin said the maintenance crew has 30-40 cubic yards of infield mix ready. Farnham said the volunteers need a one-ton truck and plate compactor. The DPW's compactor will be dropped off inside the maintenance building. The one-ton will be at the maintenance building.

Maintenance Report – Coffrin reviewed his written report distributed to members the day of the meeting. He told the members to delete number 4 on his list, and for item 12 the crew did not purchase any new picnic tables, just repaired and repainted 4 tables.

Farnham asked about the missing basketball backboard. Coffrin said the backboard is completed but he ordered the wrong rim for that board. The correct rim was ordered. Farnham asked about the new fence at 44 Brook Street. Rouleau said the Thunder Chickens would assist the recreation maintenance crew. He told Coffrin to call him when the rec crew is ready to start the work.

Farnham reminded Coffrin to install the caps on the softball field dugout posts.

MTA –

- a) **Pump Track** – Rogers distributed an aerial photo of the nature trail vicinity across the bike path from the soccer field. He noted there are about 2.5 acres inside the nature trail loop. He also distributed a contour map of the same area. Kevin Spaulding said he looked at the area. He said he thinks the site is a possibility for the pump track.
- b) **Amphitheater/Shallow Quarry** – Rogers said using aerial photos, based on location of the GMP's poles the amphitheater is within GMP's 100' right-of-way. That is good news for obtaining Vermont Land Trust's approval to clear the shallow quarry to be used for events. He said he hasn't contacted the VLT land steward about this matter.
- c) **Trail Features** – The presentation about mountain bike trail challenges or features at the last meeting was reviewed. Spaulding said he'd give Rogers a list of possible new structures or challenges. MTA still wants to know if a trail spur to use a challenge would be considered a new trail.
- d) **Signs** – Farnham asked if MTA's Corridor Management Agreement requires MTA receive permission to put up signs, especially signs with a business logo. Discussion regarding the weekly virtual race series and signs for it ensued. Spaulding said this year the racecourse directional signs are an arrow. The sponsor's logo doesn't appear on the directional sign. Furthermore, last year, after hearing concerns about the logo on directional signs, MTA put its sticker over the business logo. Recognition of disc golf sponsors on the baskets was mentioned. Consensus seemed to be the MTA weekly race series sponsors should be recognized. One suggestion was one sign at the trail head. The Board agreed this detail of sponsor recognition signs or logos needs to be addressed in the corridor management agreement and/or in the community forest management plan.

Ice Cream Socials – Rouleau reported he forwarded information about supplies to Angela Valentinetti but has not heard back from her or from Denise Goodnow. The consensus of the Board was to keep the ice cream socials as an open matter, in case the volunteers collect supplies and want to offer the events.

Movie Night – Farnham and Rouleau reported 25-30 people attended the July 9 movie. They said they learned something about the equipment needed to play the movie. There was discussion about informing the public about the movie night. The Board decided to offer another movie night on August 13. The location would be near the picnic shelter because the softball field is reserved that night. Board members need to select a movie.

Fall Festival – Board members said they could help with the festival but could not take the lead. It was decided the Board would not hold a fall festival but asked that discussion about a fall event be on the next meeting agenda.

Park Rules, Ordinance – Paul White gave background information about a campaign event held in the Trow Hill Playground several weeks ago. As a result of that event and seeing there is no ordinance or rule expressly prohibiting campaign events in the playgrounds, the Selectboard asked the Recreation for input about rule or ordinance changes. Consensus of the Recreation Board was something should be done about campaigning in playgrounds, but the language should be drafted at the Selectboard level.

Forest Management Plan Committee – After brief discussion and members present advising they feel too busy to take on this assignment, it was decided to ask Tyler Morse to represent the Recreation Board. If he cannot, Rouleau volunteered to serve on the committee. Official action will be on the August meeting agenda.

Other Business – There was no other business.

'Round the Table – Gray asked about the rec director hiring. Rogers said some re-advertising has begun but more advertising needs to be set in place. Hebert asked about marking pickleball courts on the tennis courts. Rouleau said they need the paint and templates. Farnham reported the no smoking, etc. signs were installed at the softball field. He said there is an advertising sign on the bulletin board at the lower restrooms in the rec area. Rouleau said David Wood hasn't returned his call about the budgeted skate park apparatus repairs. He told the Board about a problem dog at the dog park. Because the dog fights with other dogs, the police department was asked and did issue a perpetual no trespass order against the owner and dog. Farnham reported the police issued another no trespass order, for 90 days, to a man who threatened other park users.

At 8:20 on a motion by Hebert, seconded by Rouleau, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn.

Recreation Board Members







