

**Town of Barre  
Recreation Board  
Meeting Minutes  
September 9, 2019**

The Town of Barre Recreation Board held a public meeting on Monday, September 9, 2019 in the Municipal Building at 149 Websterville Road. Board members present were: Doug Farnham, Terry Smith, Stacey Lynds, Amanda Gray, and Moriah Fraga. Also present were Kevin Spaulding, town manager Carl Rogers, and assistant town manager Elaine Wang.

Chair Farnham called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

Farnham asked to move item 12 to between 5 and 6. Rouleau made a motion to accept the agenda with that change. Gray seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Smith made a motion to approve the August 12, 2019 minutes as presented. Lynds seconded and the Board approved 6-0.

**5. MTA Trail Accessibility** – MTA Vice President Kevin Spaulding had requested at the August meeting that the town consider leaving open the gate on Capitol Quarry Road. Rogers explained that his concern was security, as people have been known to drive into the town forest when gates are unlocked. He said he would visit to consider further. Ideas were shared regarding how to achieve accessibility at reasonable cost.

Wang provided an update on ebike policy work by Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB), a co-easement holder. The Board agreed by consensus to wait on their conclusions before working on their policy. In the meantime, they can consider ebike requests on a case-by-case basis.

Spaulding shared that MTA plans to not blow leaves off trails this season, to reduce erosion.

**12. Water Service at 44 Brook St** – The total cost estimate came to \$4,620 for materials and labor to install water service at the garage. Spaulding said he would ask the MTA board if they were interested in contributing this cost, though personally he'd rather see that much spent on trails. Farnham said the Rec Board can consider the cost during the town budget process.

**6. Facility Requests** –

a) Washington County Mental Health (WCMH) Ch.O.I.C.E. Academy 5K, Sat Nov 2, 7a-12p. Rouleau made a motion to approve contingent on receipt of certificate of insurance, seconded by Gray, and the use was approved 6-0.

b) WCMH Ch.O.I.C.E. Academy/Gusto's Disc Golf tournament fundraiser, Sat Oct 26, 8a-1p. Smith made the motion to approve the use contingent on receipt of certificate of insurance. Gray seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

c) There were no additional requests not on the agenda.

**7. Rec Supervisor's Report** – The Board reviewed a written report and asked questions. Smith noted the post and cable installed at the Rec Area by the crew look great. The Board asked about the Little League infield work cost estimated by the Rec Supervisor. When informed that as town labor and materials some portion of it could be supported by this year's budget, the Board agreed the Rec crew could do some of the improvement work this fiscal year as they have time.

**8. Disc Golf Agreement** – Wang had shared a draft renewal. Rouleau indicated one of the three original signatories on the organizers' side was not willing to sign the renewal, so he was looking for a third. He also said he was mostly fine with the changes, except that cost of operating and maintaining this well-used town asset is mostly paid by organizers, and the agreement says the organizers will bear all such costs. He noted the MTA Corridor Management Agreement relating to the Town Forest Trails says the same, and yet the town budgets for a donation annually. Gray asked the origins of that donation. Farnham explained it was from when they were grooming winter trails with a machine in poor condition and the Board decided to contribute to that cost, based on a grooming report. Rogers noted that MTA grooms other town properties outside the Town Forest not covered by the Corridor Management Agreement.

Rouleau said the Town Forest Conservation Easement deed does not allow the disc golf organizers to raise money to operate and maintain the course. Wang read a paragraph from the easement that seemed to indicate they could charge fees. The Board discussed ideas for generating user fees. Rouleau said he would review his documents and asked for the topic back on the next agenda.

**9. Bench on Disc Golf Course** – Rouleau shared that course users have requested a bench. He has one he would be willing to donate and suggested at tee 10. All three co-easement holders must approve; the Rec Board represents the town. VHCB had indicated approval, and Vermont Land Trust said they would consider approving but would want to know the exact location before doing so. Rouleau said he would provide coordinates.

**10. Fall Fest** – Smith led the discussion of final plans.

**11. Open Gym** – Lynds provided an update on plans for two events at Barre Town School.

**13. Lower Graniteville Playground Fence Request** – A playground neighbor, whose lawn is adjacent to the playground property, requested something to show the property line and keep basketball court users from driving onto her property to shine their lights on the court in the evening, as has happened repeatedly. The Board discussed several options, then directed staff to ask the neighbor if they would be agreeable to a split rail fence.

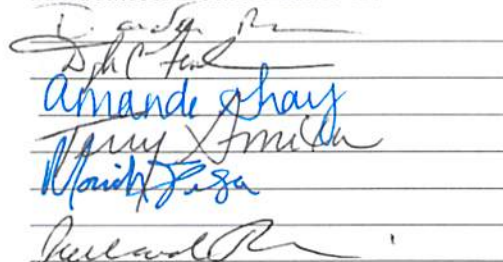
**14. Other Business** – Wang said the Lower Graniteville Playground Community Build went very well and that the Spaulding High School Football Team did a great job. She asked Smith to repeat her idea for the Board. Smith asked for the Board’s interest in contributing to the team’s Tatum’s Totes drive of diaper bag items in appreciation of the team’s great help during the build. Smith made a motion to spend \$100 on diaper bag items for Tatum’s Totes. Gray seconded and the Board approved 6-0. Farnham said he would make the purchases. Wang said the topic item would be on the next agenda so the Board can take warned action.

**15. Round the Table** – Smith and Rouleau agreed to paint the Little League dugouts after October 1. Smith asked the town to consider creating an outdoor fitness park for older people in 10-15 years. She asked for the Board’s approval to attend the Vermont Recreation and Parks Association’s Vermont Conference on Recreation October 10-11 at Lake Morey. Wang said the fee for both days is \$170. Rouleau made a motion approving registration and hotel fees for Smith to attend the VRPA 2019 Annual Conference. Lynds seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Rouleau shared several updates, including the dates for indoor pickleball Sundays November 17 through March 15, 9am to 12pm, and made a few requests, including communicating to the public that pedestrians should be prepared for snowmobile use of VAST trails.

At 8:42pm on a motion by Smith, seconded by Rouleau, the Board voted 6-0 to adjourn.

Recreation Board Members

The image shows five horizontal lines representing signature lines. The first line has a signature that is mostly illegible but appears to start with 'J. Gray'. The second line has a signature that is mostly illegible but appears to start with 'D. Farnham'. The third line has a signature that reads 'Amanda Gray'. The fourth line has a signature that reads 'Terry Smith'. The fifth line has a signature that reads 'Wanda Farnham'. The sixth line has a signature that reads 'Rouleau'.