

Town of Barre
Recreation Board
Meeting Minutes
April 10, 2017

The Town of Barre Recreation Board held a public meeting on Monday, April 10, 2017 in the Municipal Building at 149 Websterville Road. Board members present were: Doug Farnham, Terry Smith, Mike Gilbar, Tracy Wright, Shaun Corbett and Craig Locarno. Also present were: Andrea McLaughlin, Greg West, Adam Wheatley, Damian Craig, Dan Kiniry, Steve Maas, Kevin Jacques and Carl Rogers.

Chairman Doug Farnham called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Terry Smith made a motion to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Mike Gilbar seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Gilbar made a motion, seconded by Smith, to accept the March 6 meeting minutes as written. The Board voted 6-0 to approve the motion.

Guests-

Steve Maas and Kevin Jacques, representing Millstone Trails Association (MTA), talked to the Board about the 2016-2017 winter trail grooming and plans for the coming summer. Maas said MTA's grooming sled was driven 476 miles, but it was not grooming the entire 476 miles. 100 hours were volunteered to groom trails in the town forest, the Millstone Hill West bike path and in the main park.

Jacques said he hopes MTA can make some new trails to provide a "beginners" loop around the forest. The missing section is on the east side. The trail would be 3' – 4' wide and mostly covered with gravel. The target period for this trail building work is July, 2017. Maas said the VT Land Trust had been contacted. Jacques said there is a lot of bridge repair work to be done. On Sunday, April 23 the Trail Committee will have its first workday; they will remove tree branches and brush from trails in the logging area.

Dan Kiniry, vice-president of baseball for Barre Community Baseball (BCB), talked to the Board about the Bond Fields. He said BCB would like to collaborate with the Recreation Board to continue maintenance and use of the fields.

Field and Facility Use-

- a) **Barre Town Spring Run (5K)** – Rogers suggested the Board consider the B.T. Spring Run, the United Pentecostal Church's 5K and the BTMES' Family Fun Day together because all 3 are planned for May 20. The church will hold its 5K after the B.T. Spring Run. Both races could be in progress during the school's Family Fun Day. On a motion by Shaun Corbett, seconded by Gilbar, the Board voted unanimously to approve all 3 events and to tell the school about the runners on the park access road.
- b) **SHS Girls Tennis** – Coach Kelly Cleveland and athletic director Patrick Merriam requested reserved use of the tennis courts for practice. A list of dates from April 10 to June 2 were provided. Practice time normally would be 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm. The entire board voted to approve Smith's motion, seconded by Gilbar, to grant SHS girls tennis rights to use the tennis courts per the schedule from Merriam.
- c) **Ultimate Frisbee** – Smith moved and Gilbar seconded the motion to approve SHS's Ultimate Frisbee team's practice and match schedule (practices soon as field allows to May 23) on the upper soccer field. All were in favor.

- d) **Millstone Relay** – Gilbar made a motion to approve Casco Bay Sports request to use the town forest for the Millstone Relay on Saturday, July 29. Racing time is 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. Smith seconded the motion, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve it.
- e) **Softball, Baseball, Soccer** – Damian Craig, Greg West and Adam Wheatley were in attendance to talk about the softball field and the schedule for 2017. Craig said the raffle tickets were distributed. He asked how much use the baseball field gets because it could be retro-fitted for softball play. With two fields side-by-side major tournaments could be hosted in the park. He mentioned a mobile pitchers mound cost \$2,500 - \$3,000. Doug Farnham said the infield would have to be skinned and temporary backstop installed to use the field for softball. Input from the baseball teams and organizations that use the field would be needed. Wheatley said Williamstown has temporary outfield fence that is easy to install and remove.

The softball league reps turned in their schedules for 2017. Play would start the week of May 8. The Barre Men's League will play Tuesday and Thursday nights, until Thunder Road racing starts and then games would be scheduled for Tuesday and Friday. The Over 30 League will play Monday and Wednesday nights.

They said the Women's League is playing on Barre City's Farwell Street field.

Regarding the new banner policy, the reps suggested lowering the price and maybe offering a smaller banner. Farnham explained the pricing and how a banner price set too low could draw sponsors away from teams.

A field work day is scheduled for April 30. The leaning outfield fence was mentioned as a work item. Wheatley said something to consider in the future is a sunscreen above the third base dugout.

On a motion by Corbett, seconded by Craig Locarno, the Board voted unanimously to approve the two softball leagues' schedules as presented.

VT Rustic Moose – Tracy Wright said her camp business would use the town forest 3-4 hours per week, 5 weeks per year. She presented her certificate of insurance. Following a motion by Corbett, seconded by Gilbar, the Board voted unanimously to approve VT Rustic Moose Summer Camps use of the town forest the weeks of June 19, 26, July 10, 24 and August 7.

Bond Fields – Board members stated they are not ready to take over maintenance responsibilities now. They think an agreement with the Bonds is needed. Board members mentioned term of agreement; maintenance responsibilities of both parties (town and Bonds); insurance; and utility bills as topics to be covered. Installing light poles and providing water were mentioned. How these capital improvements would be accomplished and taken care of in the future is another set of topics. A site visit and conversation with the Bond family rep Mark Mast were noted as possible next steps.

Travis Mercy Skatepark – David Rouleau was absent and he had offered to obtain more information about constructing the new apparatus. The Board discussed the estimated costs and funds available. The members present thought there was enough money to construct this summer and leave money for skatepark maintenance and events. The subject will be on next month's meeting agenda.

Spring into Summer Festival – Smith and Wright gave a list of activities, information tables, games and crafts to be offered. They noted volunteers are needed.

Disc Golf O&M Agreement – The Board reviewed the marked up version of the Agreement. Gilbar suggested that in paragraph 8 liability be added after \$1 million and before coverage. He suggested 16c be changed by removing to and adding that before the word violates. Corbett made a motion to approve the Agreement with the two suggestions made by Gilbar. Gilbar seconded the motion. The Board voted 6-0 in favor of approving it.

Egg Hunt – Farnham read from an email from Rouleau. He said volunteers should be at Barre City’s park ready to set up and spread eggs at 8:30. He said a couple of folding tables are needed. The Town could display recreation materials like the calendars and other handouts.

Other Business – The Board said the thank you cards are needed for Denise Bergeron, Sherri Englert, Lawson’s Store, Forget-me-Not Shop, Darren Oles, and Next Chapter Bookstore.

Round the Table – Locarno asked if there were plans to finish the East Barre bike path. Rogers explained some work to extend the path is planned for every year, and that the path would come to the municipal building parking lot.

Smith said she found an on-line service for conducting the photo contest. She asked Board members to check it. She asked about donating to MTA in appreciation of their grooming. Smith made a motion to give MTA \$275 in recognition of their winter trial grooming work. Gilbar seconded it. The Board voted without dissent to approve the motion.

Wright turned in \$45 of calendar money collected from Lawson’s and Forget-me-Not. She mentioned the beekeeping workshop.

Corbett said he’d be absent for the May 1 meeting.

At 8:30 pm, on a motion by Smith, seconded by Corbett, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting.

Recreation Board Members











