

Town of Barre
Recreation Board
Meeting Minutes
March 6, 2017

The Town of Barre Recreation Board held a public meeting on Monday, March 6, 2017 in the Municipal Building at 149 Websterville Road. Board members present were: Doug Farnham, Terry Smith, Dave Rouleau, Mike Gilbar, Shaun Corbett and Craig Locarno. Also present were Patty Merriam, Andy Powell, Damion Craig and Carl Rogers.

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

Terry Smith made a motion to approve the agenda as written. Dave Rouleau seconded the motion. The Board voted 6-0 in favor of the motion.

Rouleau moved to approve the February 6 meeting minutes as presented. Mike Gilbar seconded the motion. Smith offered a friendly amendment that the motion to adjourn should be added. She said she made the motion and Tracy Wright seconded it. With that friendly amendment added the Board unanimously voted to approve the February 6, 2017 meeting minutes.

Guests –

Damion Craig, representing the Barre Men's Over 30 Softball League was present. He predicted area businesses would give the Board very positive feedback about the field banners. He informed the Board the two men's leagues are planning a raffle, if the Board doesn't object. The raffle could profit \$4,500 which the leagues would give to the Recreation Board with the intent the money be used for new lights. He said MaxLight would send a representative to evaluate the field's lighting needs, and Efficiency Vermont offers rebates. He said the leagues didn't hold the fund-raising tournament as they planned last year, but would like to do it in 2017.

Rogers was asked to send the banner policy and application to Craig.

Field and Facility Use –

Andy Powell representing Green Mountain Disc Golf Club (GMDGC) was present to request use of the Quarries Disc Golf Course on May 13. He said it would be the first points tournament of the year in Vermont. Play would be limited to 90 players. There would be 2 rounds. They would need use of the parking area at 44 Brook Street and course from 8:00 am to 5:30 pm. The opportunity for a group to offer breakfast items and hot lunch as a fund raiser was discussed. Craig Locarno said he knows of an organization that might be interested. Powell said the certificate of insurance is coming. On a motion by Rouleau, seconded by Gilbar, the Board voted unanimously to approve GMDGC's use of the town parking area and course from 8:00 am to 5:30 pm on May 13.

Patty Merriam represented the Vermont Granite Museum of Barre to request use of the town forest and 44 Brook Street parking for Rockfire. She said the town forest event would be on Saturday, June 24. She said profits from the Rockfire event will be held by the Granite Museum for preservation of the Grand Lookout. She said a certificate of insurance will be supplied. Rouleau said the event workers need to do more checking to collect all luminaires. On a motion by Rouleau, seconded by Gilbar, the Board voted 6-0 to approve use of the town forest and Brook Street parking area for Rockfire on Saturday, June 24.

No one was present for the next matter. The request was included in the meeting material. On a motion by Rouleau, seconded by Gilbar, the Board voted all in favor of approving the Central Vermont Runners' and Rehab GYM's request to use the town forest and Brook Street parking area on Saturday, July 30 from 9:00 am to noon to conduct a 5k trail run.

Bond Fields –

Mark Mast was present representing the Bond family. The family still owns the land where several youth athletic fields (Bond Fields) are located. Mast currently handles coordination of use by the various

youth associations (Barre Community Baseball, Barre Youth Sports Assoc. (BYSA) Football and BYSA Lacrosse). The Bond family pays for maintenance.

Farnham said if the Town paid for maintenance the Recreation Board would want authority for scheduling use.

Mast said the Bond family would like someone to takeover (assume) cost of mowing. The users could pay for other repairs or improvements. Farnham asked what if the Town leased the fields from the family for \$1 and the Town took over everything.

Mast confirmed there has been some talk of moving the Barre City little league field lights to the Bond Fields. Locarno said there is no other little league field in Barre Town.

Mast said there is talk about constructing a concession stand/storage building in 2017. Port-a-lets are used. Restrooms are not in the building plan. He does collect certificates of insurance. Kyle Bellavance did the mowing last year for \$142.50 per week. Bonds do not charge for use of the fields. BCB pays the electric bill now.

Farnham asked that this matter be on next month's meeting agenda. Locarno pointed out it is a very good baseball field. Mast said the family buys top grade infield material from New Jersey. He thought it cost \$5,500 per truck load. Rogers and Mast were asked to get together and draft the framework of an agreement.

Skatepark –

Rouleau provided background information beginning with an on-site meeting held last year. He distributed a memo from Parker Construction. The proposed equipment was consistent with the discussion at last year's meeting at the park. Possible funding for the skatepark improvement was discussed. The Board signaled an interest in moving ahead with the project, and asked to have the topic on next month's agenda.

Programs –

The egg hunt co-sponsored with Barre City Recreation will be on April 15. Rouleau reported he met with Barre City's Stephanie Quaranta. There has been work done on getting sponsors. An event poster has been drafted; it shows sponsors' logos. He said they talked about the request to bring a non-perishable food item and decided to keep it; a little food collected is better than none. Rouleau said they talked about preparing the plastic eggs and it seemed the city recreation department and volunteers will handle it. He said this is the 29th year for the Barre egg hunt.

Smith said she thought the February 12 sledding party was "awesome." She said she thinks at least 100 people attended. Shaun Corbett said he thinks a steeper hill is needed. Smith said she found there is a VT Mushers Association. She contacted the Association but hasn't heard back from anyone. She intends to ask about getting a dog sled team to give children rides at a party next year. She said the people used the sledding hill the next weekend. She hopes to hold the sledding party next year.

Farnham gave Rogers \$49.75 in donations collected at pickleball since the last meeting. He said there are two more Sundays this month. On average 9 players have been coming out each Sunday, since the last meeting.

The Board confirmed calendars can be given away now. The Board briefly discussed having a photo contest and making 2018 calendars. Ordering fewer calendars but not selling them was discussed. Smith said she is meeting with the Times Argus and will discuss its help with managing the photo contest. The Board asked for this matter to be on the May meeting agenda.

Spring into Summer Festival –

Smith handed out 2 lists, one for advertising, publicity and one of supplies in storage. She asked the Board their opinion of bartering with the Times-Argus: the Board pays for and puts a Times-Argus banner on the softball outfield fence in exchange for recreation event advertising. The consensus was Smith could talk to the Times-Argus about the idea. Rouleau said he talked to someone about the Barre City Grocery Co-op taking the lead on the touch-a-truck event. He will report back. Smith said she'd like to add an obstacle course, possibly on the softball outfield, to the event.

Littlejohn Road Parking –

Rogers reported he walked the woods next to the town’s Waterman Street lot. He said the grout piles, quarry holes and steep terrain block access to the existing Mainline and Sidewinder trails. Following the snowmobile trail, he said, leads to the approved site for the Littlejohn Road parking area. He suggested in the spring, after the logging is completed, town staff see what is needed to use the log landing/parking. He suggested opening the existing landing for parking to see how much use it gets and better gauge the need to create the full parking area.

Disc Golf Operation and Maintenance –

The Board received a clean copy of the new agreement, which is not what was intended. Rogers wanted the Board to receive a version showing all the proposed changes. He pointed out the changes he remembered. The biggest change was from Development and Maintenance Agreement to Operation and Maintenance Agreement. Also the Recreation Board was added as a party to the agreement because the Board handles requests to use the course. The Board requested this matter be placed on the April meeting agenda.

Other Business –

There was no Other Business.

Round the Table –

Gilbar reported on the latest night time guided snowshoe tour; it was canceled.

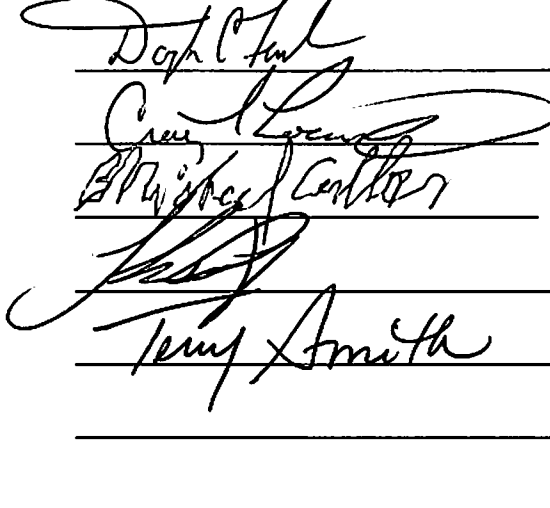
Smith said Hannaford is a sponsor for almost every recreation event. She asked what the Board thought of getting a small Hannaford banner to hang at all events the store sponsors. A decision wasn’t made. Rouleau said it is important to list sponsors on event materials.

Rouleau talked about a bike safety course. He wondered about offering it on June 3 along with the Spring into Summer Festival. The ice cream socials were suggested. He said the event could be expanded to include child car seat safety and finger-painting for children. He said the Washington County Sheriff’s Department offers child car seat instruction.

Farnham presented the Freezing Fun for Families plaque. He said FFFF has storage needs. He asked if Dwight Coffrin could contact Corey Touchette about possibly using the vending machine area by the softball field. Farnham asked for a motion to change the April meeting to the 10th. The change in meeting date was moved by Gilbar and seconded by Smith. All were in favor.

At 9:01 pm, on a motion by Corbett, seconded by Gilbar, the Board voted 6-0 to adjourn.

Recreation Board Members

The image shows five handwritten signatures in black ink, each written over a horizontal line. The signatures are: 1. Doug Corbett, 2. Chris Rouleau, 3. Dwight Coffrin, 4. Terry Smith, and 5. An illegible signature. There are two additional empty horizontal lines below the last signature.