

Town of Barre
Recreation Board
Meeting Minutes
May 1, 2017

The Town of Barre Recreation Board held a public meeting on Monday, May 1, 2017 in the Municipal Building at 149 Websterville Road. Board members present were: Doug Farham, Dave Rouleau, Terry Smith, Tracy Wright, and Mike Gilbar. Also present were Dave Bullis and Carl Rogers.

Chairman Doug Farnham called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

David Rouleau made a motion to approve the meeting agenda with an addition: 5b, Aldrich Library forest story time. Terry Smith seconded the motion. The Board voted 5-0 to approve the motion.

The Board considered the April 10 meeting minutes. Mike Gilbar pointed out on page 3 in the second paragraph under 'Round the Table' the word trail was misspelled. Farnham commented that under the topic VT Rustic Moose it should be noted the vote was unanimous with Tracy Wright recusing herself. With those two corrections Gilbar moved to approve the April 10 meeting minutes. Rouleau seconded it, and all voted in favor.

There were no guests to talk to the Board about a topic not on the agenda.

Barre Amateur Soccer Assoc. -

Dave Bullis represented BASA, which is requesting use of the lower soccer field through June 20. Weeknight hours are 4:30 – 8:00 pm. Games are on weekends. The town office received BASA's certificate of insurance the day of the meeting, Rogers reported. Smith made a motion to approve BASA's request with the understanding the BTMES's and SHS's practices have priority. Gilbar seconded the motion which the Board approved unanimously.

Library Forest Story time –

Rogers stated the Aldrich Library's requests use of the town forest on Saturday, June 10 starting at 1:00 pm for a story time. Gathering point would be the 44 Brook Street parking area. Tracy Wright moved, and Gilbar seconded, that the Library's request be approved. The Board voted 5-0 to approve the motion.

Maintenance Supervisor's Report –

Dwight Coffrin was not present. Rogers handed out Coffrin's report and reviewed a few items on the report.

Skatepark –

Rouleau reviewed information and cost proposals for adding one (1) major apparatus and possibly 2 minor features, to the Travis Mercy Skatepark. The contractor, Michael Parker, said the cost of installing the major apparatus would be \$20,750 if he did all the work. The cost to install the major item and two minor features with town and community help would be \$26,000. Rouleau relayed Parker said he has time to do the work this season. He estimated the project would take 6 weeks. It looks like work could be done in later summer to early fall.

The Board invited Parker to the next meeting and asked that Linda Mercy be invited to the June meeting.

Dog Park –

The Board discussed two areas that possibly could be a dog park: the little league field and the area along the baseball rightfield fence and between the baseball and soccer fields. Use of the little league field for practice was mentioned. Rouleau said he thought there is adequate space between the baseball and

soccer fields to provide a dog park and keep some picnic area along the rightfield fence. The Board talked about how the little league field could be used from mid-July to mid-September on a trial basis.

The Board decided it would discuss the dog park again next meeting. Members agreed they'd look at both sites again before the next meeting.

Ice Cream Socials –

The Board agreed the socials date and location schedule would be: July 11 – Trow Hill; July 18 – Lower Graniteville; July 25 – Upper Websterville; August 1 – South Barre; August 8 – East Barre; and August 15 – Upper Graniteville. Rogers was asked to obtain a new 5' wide by 3' high banner that states, Ice Cream Social Here Next Tuesday 6:30 pm. A flyer with this year's schedule also is needed. The Board felt last year's artwork (proof #85770) was fine to re-use for the flyer.

Rouleau said he has confirmation of Ben and Jerry's donation. Contact was made with Hood Dairy but the donation is not confirmed yet. Hannaford is a good probability for donations. Rouleau said he asked Frito-Lay to donate small bags of chips. Hannaford provides the bottled water.

A blender bike was discussed. Cabot Cheese and VT Blue Cross Blue Shield each have one. The Board will check both sources to see about having a blender bike at some socials. The Board decided not to offer face painting.

For information handouts the Board thought there could be flyers showing dates of other socials, the photo contest and date of the Fall Festival.

Kiwanis Bike Safety Rodeo –

It was reported Darren Ohls from VT Bicycle Shop would make only simple adjustments to bikes, check helmets, and check handlebar and seat heights. He'll give coupons for more extensive work. Smith said the Barre Kiwanis would do a bike safety rodeo with the bike check during the Summer Festival. She had talked to club member Randy Treis.

The Board discussed what area could be used for the rodeo (bike riding) activities.

Photo Contest –

Smith started the discussion by asking if the Board wants to do the photo contest and calendars again. Farnham said he is skeptical because of the calendars. Doing just the photo contest would be fine. Smith added, generally, the photos received last year were not of high enough resolution for the calendar.

After discussion of several points the Board roughed out a plan: to accept photos until September 1; do judging during the first half of that month and be able to show winners at the Fall Festival. The Board discussed making a traveling display of the winners and making it available at the libraries, town offices, stores and BTMES lobby. Possible judges were mentioned: Board members, photographer from Times-Argus, professional photographers who live in town.

Summer Festival –

Wright said Smith and she have a layout for display tables and events. She named the organizations that would have public information tables. She said they have 2 obstacle courses for the B-Rexs Challenge – one for young children and another for older. She said they need an I-pod or laptop to play music at the bouncy house. Rouleau thought he could provide one. She said she has a sheet of 1/8" plywood for the school to make "medals." Gilbar moved and Smith seconded to authorize Wright to buy up to \$80 worth of supplies. The Board approved the motion without dissent. Wright asked the Board members to arrive at the park at 8:00 am.

Field Banners –

The Board discussed how to start making businesses aware of the softball field banner opportunity. It was suggested they get a list of businesses from the town and the city assessor. The Board did not object to the suggestion that Farnham order a banner stating how a business could get a banner. Wright will post on Facebook; Rouleau will post on Front Porch Forum. Rogers will have the banner sponsorship announced at Selectboard meetings. Orders will go to Farnham for production.

Other Business –

Rogers informed the Board it is too late to host a town forest event as part of the Vermont Land Trust's 40th Anniversary Series. Cara Gauthier said they (VLT) would help promote the event, though, and try to have a presence at the event. The Board discussed the matter and settled on Wednesday, August 16 at 6:00 pm headquartered at the 44 Brook Street area for an event. Possible activities mentioned were: MTA lead mountain bike rides; walking nature tour; granite industry history tour (Todd Paton?); disc golf demo and play (possibly a glow round); children's story time; and a logging explanation and tour hopefully by forester Jeff Smith.

Round the Table –

Smith mentioned a variety of playground maintenance needs. The second basketball backboard at Upper Graniteville was asked about. Dwight Coffrin (who arrived late in the meeting) said he thought a new pole, backboard and hoop would be needed.

Gilbar asked about the bike path bridge (the one by Rock of Ages' driveway) deck. It appears the heavy wood planks need to be replaced. Coffrin said a contractor would be needed.

Rouleau commented on the egg hunt. He thought it went well. He mentioned the thank yous he is sending out. He said more egg variety is needed for the 8-10 year old group. The special prizes went okay.

Farnham asked that the June meeting agenda include re-scheduling the July meeting.

Coffrin said lids are needed for recycling barrels because lids and barrels are disappearing from the playgrounds. He mentioned the muddy area in the Graniteville picnic area where it appeared someone filled along the edge. Rouleau said the snowmobile club wouldn't have done it. Rogers will ask DPW.

At 8:50 pm on a motion by Smith, seconded by Gilbar, the board voted 5 - 0 to adjourn.

Recreation Board Members











