

**Town of Barre
Recreation Board
Meeting Minutes
October 2, 2017**

The Town of Barre Recreation Board held a public meeting on Monday, October 2, 2017 in the Municipal Building at 149 Websterville Road. Board members present were: Dave Rouleau, Terry Smith, Adi Dobrilovic, Brian Wilcock and Mike Gilbar. Also present were town manager Carl Rogers, assistant town manager Elaine Wang, recreation maintenance supervisor Dwight Coffrin, and Janice King and Heidi Vihinen.

Vice-chairman Dave Rouleau called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Terry Smith moved that the meeting agenda be accepted as presented; seconded by Brian Wilcock. The board voted unanimously to approve the motion. (Gilbar was not present for the vote.)

Smith made a motion to approve the September 11, 2017 minutes with one correction: under the topic Fall Festival, in the next to last sentence, reference to Wilcock saying he could help during the morning should be deleted. Gilbar seconded the motion. The board voted 5-0 to approve the motion.

There were no guests for a matter not on the agenda.

5. **Field Requests** – There were no field or facility requests.

6. **Maintenance Supervisor's Report** – Dwight Coffrin distributed a brief written report. He added that wood chips would be placed at the playgrounds, as needed. He mentioned that during October he planned to recondition the softball infield using new material. Gravel was placed at the entrance to the Quarry Hill Picnic area to make a better transition from the road. FR Lafayette is supposed to repair the Lower Graniteville Playground fence.

7. **Dog Park** – Rouleau reported the dead trees were removed Friday. Rouleau said he was there with Alan Garceau who did the cutting. The board reviewed the draft of the dog park Development, Operation and Maintenance Agreement with Janice King and Heidi Vihinen. King had a question about snowplowing in paragraph #18. The board said a sentence stating park organizers may arrange grooming should be added.

The need to scratch Town Forest and insert dog park in paragraph #13 was noted. A suggestion was made to re-write paragraph #14. The C.V. Humane Society was selected as recipient of the fencing and structures, if the park is not maintained. (Paragraph #15.)

King and Vihinen said the dog park collected \$48 from the raffle tickets sold at the Fall Festival. They had 10 pints of ice cream as prizes. Tickets were drawn at the meeting to select the 10 winners. King said all-in-all they received a good response at the Fall Festival. One person who attended was anti-dog. King turned in \$110 in donations received. She said she believes the organizers are getting close to raising the money needed to buy the fence posts. She said she applied for a \$2,000 grant from the Ben & Jerry's Foundation. She said she thought she would apply for a \$200-\$1,000 grant from another program. King said the organizers had an idea for placing a banner at the park to recognize any donor who gave \$500 or more. Another fund-raising event could be a raffle or an auction. Donated products would be needed.

The Board decided it would like to have the final Development, Operation and Agreement on its November meeting agenda.

8. **Winter Sledding** – Rouleau reported the St. Sylvester Cemetery Board is not keen on the idea of using its hill (off of Graniteville Road) for the sledding parties. Smith said the hill behind the municipal

building is long but not steep. She asked if any other town property was suitable? There were no ideas. It was suggested the Thunder Chickens Snowmobile Club could build a ramp or hill with snow to give the sledders a faster start. The board picked Saturday, January 13 and Sunday, February 11, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. both days, for the sledding parties. The board thought it would offer hot chocolate and marshmallow roasting again.

9. **Pickleball** – Rouleau stated the school gym is available Sundays January 14 – March 18 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. He said someone contacted Doug Farnham about starting to play sooner than mid-January. The person who contacted Farnham said there were upwards of 90 people playing pickleball in Montpelier. Rouleau suggested that group could contact BTMES directly or contact Barre City Recreation about using the city auditorium. The board thought the November newsletter could include an article about the possibility of pickleball.

10. **Fall Festival** – Smith reported 302 people attended the festival. She said the feedback slips indicated people liked the crafts, face painting, Lets Grow Kids and hay maze. Attendees remarked the festival could do better at: offering more information and recruiting volunteers, offering more activities and more food, making the croquet golf with pumpkins more challenging and with more holes, bringing back pumpkin carving and the scavenger hunt. Smith said she'd do all of this year's activities again next year.

She said, except for the board members, there were no volunteers. Two or three volunteers, even school students, would have been very helpful.

11. **Other Business** – Rogers said the board should begin planning if it wants money in the FY 18-19 budget for an improvement to the Lower Graniteville Playground. After discussion of what's there, what might be done and value of a master plan, the board voted 5-0 on a motion by Smith, seconded by Dobrilovic, to authorize Wilcock to spend \$30 on supplies to do a survey in Lower Graniteville on Halloween.

12. **Round the Table** – Picking up on the comment about using student volunteers at events, Gilbar wondered about making an ex-officio member seat for a school student. Discussion about lining up school student volunteers ensued. Dobrilovic suggested contacting the Honors Society.

Wilcock said he hopes the Lower Graniteville fence is repaired soon.

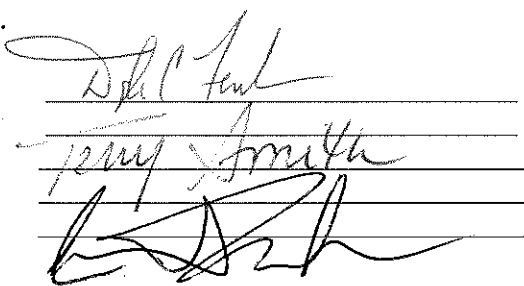
Smith asked for a budget report next month. She said Shawn Stabell contacted her about his idea to offer an Escape Room event. Target date is sometime the week of April 29, 2018. A site in Barre City is being considered. She said Mr. Stabell was looking for the board's support, not money. Smith said maybe there would be an update to discuss at the December meeting.

Smith made a motion to schedule the 2018 Fall Festival for September 22, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; seconded by Dobrilovic and approved unanimously.

Rouleau said Front Porch Forum is conducting a voluntary donation fund-raising. He asked if the town donated. Rogers said no, and if the Budget Committee's and Selectboard's reluctance to pay for bringing FPF to Barre Town was an indication making a donation would not be approved.

Rouleau presented 3 Fall Fire sky lanterns he found in the town forest. He asked that staff tell the selectboard. He said at the Fall Festival he sold 10 hay bales. He will turn in \$15.

On a motion by Gilbar, seconded by Dobrilovic, the board voted without dissent to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.



Recreation Board Members
