

**Town of Barre
Recreation Board
Meeting Minutes
April 2, 2018**

The Town of Barre Recreation Board held a public meeting on Monday, April 2, 2018 in the Municipal Building at 149 Websterville Road. Board members present were: Doug Farnham, Dave Rouleau, Terry Smith, Mike Gilbar, and Adi Dobrilovic. Absent board member was Brian Wilcock. Also present were Vermont Rustic Moose owner Tracy Wright, Barre Community Baseball president Craig Locarno, Barre Amateur Soccer Association president and coaching coordinator Dave Bullis, Barre Men's Metal Bat League representative Adam Wheatley, Barre Town Community Dog Park Organizers Janice King and Heidi Vihinen, town manager Carl Rogers and assistant town manager Elaine Wang.

Chairman Doug Farnham called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Dave Rouleau requested an addition of 5d to the agenda to consider a facility use request by the Green Mountain Disc Golf Club. Terry Smith moved that the agenda be approved with that change. Mike Gilbar seconded the motion and the board approved it by a 4-0 vote. Dobrilovic was not present for the vote.

Smith made a motion to approve the March 5, 2018 meeting minutes as written. Gilbar seconded the motion. The board voted 5-0 to approve the minutes of 3/5/18.

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

5. Field Requests –

- a. Vermont Rustic Moose's Tracy Wright requested use of the Town Forest over five weeks, June 18-22 and 25-29; July 9-13 and 23-27; and August 6-10 for her annual Vermont Rustic Moose kids' summer camps for up to 20 kids per week, as in years past. The camps spend 6-10 hours per week in the forest. Discussion ensued regarding community service work they might consider: trailblazing and looking for invasive species like Emerald Ash Borer and/or plants like honeysuckle. Wright said they would be interested. They already pick up garbage one day of each week. She is also looking for them do another natural sculpture, and to help Millstone Trails Association with bridge work. Rouleau made a motion approve the use request per above conditioned upon the Town receiving their Certificate of Insurance. Gilbar seconded and the board approved it 5-0.
- b. Snap Fitness requested use of the outdoor sand volleyball court to host a beach volleyball tournament on July 3 or 4, or the weekend of July 7, from 9a to about 4p depending on the number of teams. The event will benefit DragonHeart VT. Rouleau made a motion to approve the use request per above, conditioned upon the Town receiving their Certificate of Insurance. Gilbar seconded and the board approved it by a 5-0.
- c. Central Vermont Runners had two requests for the events below. They had already provided the town with their certificates of insurance for both.
 - i. The Millstone Hill West Bike Path, picnic shelter and track on Saturday, May 19, 2018, 7a-11a for the Barre Town Spring Run 5K, with proceeds benefitting Barre Town Recreation Department. Rouleau made a motion to approve the use request per above. Gilbar seconded and the board approved it by a 5-0 vote. Smith made a motion to waive the fee for the picnic shelter. Gilbar seconded and the board approved it by a 5-0 vote.
 - ii. The Barre Town Forest and 44 Brook Street parking area on July 29, 2018, 9a-12p for the Barre Heritage Trail 5K. Rouleau made a motion to approve this use request. Gilbar seconded and the board approved it by a 5-0 vote.

- d. Green Mountain Disc Golf Club requested use of the Quarries Disc Golf Course in the Town Forest for their annual point series tournament 6a-7p Saturday May 26. Rouleau made a motion to approve Green Mountain Disc Golf use request per above, conditioned upon the Town receiving their Certificate of Insurance. Smith seconded and the board approved it by a 5-0 vote.

6. Field Use Scheduling – The scheduling invitation was sent to 10 leagues or organizations. The requests:

- **Baseball field:** The Barre City Elementary and Middle School baseball team of 7th to 8th graders requested use of the baseball field for games on May 7, 15, & 31 from 4p-6:30p. They were still working on dates for their request for practices, which they will plan around the BTMES baseball schedule. They requested the field use fees be waived. Smith made a motion to approve the use request per above, for practices provided they do not conflict with the BTMES baseball schedule, and to waive the field use fees. Gilbar seconded and the board approved it by a 5-0 vote.
- **Softball field:**
 - The Over 30 Barre Men’s Wood Bat League requested use of the softball field with lights for games May 7-August 18, Mondays (four games a night from 6pm-10pm; two per night with lights) and Wednesdays (three games a night from 6pm-9pm, one per night with lights). The last weekend is tournament weekend. Rouleau moved to approve the use request per above. Gilbar seconded and the board approved it by a 5-0 vote.
 - The Barre Men’s Metal Bat League representative Adam Wheatley requested use of the softball field with lights for games Tuesdays and Thursdays, May 15-August 26 (four games a night from 6pm-10pm; two per night with lights), except instead of Thursday June 21 they requested Friday June 22. Farnham said that there may not be bleachers on Thursday June 7th. Wheatley said that was fine. Rouleau made a motion to approve the Barre Men’s Metal Bat League use request per above. Gilbar seconded and the board approved it by a 5-0 vote.
- **Soccer fields:**
 - Barre Amateur Soccer Association requested the upper and lower soccer fields for practices April 16-June 30, every Monday through Friday, 5pm-8pm, and for games on Saturday or Sunday. They would provide a schedule for their games. Farnham advised that they would not have use of the upper soccer field nor, most likely, the lower field, on June 8th and 9th. Rouleau made a motion to approve the use request per above, except for any game dates that would conflict with another approved use. Gilbar seconded and the board approved it 5-0.
 - Capital Soccer requested use of the soccer field(s) from June 25-June 29, 9a-12p. Rouleau made a motion to approve that use. Gilbar seconded and the board approved it by a 5-0 vote.
 - Spaulding High School’s Ultimate Frisbee team requested the main soccer field (inside the track) once the surface is deemed playable, dates not yet provided. Bullis noted that they shouldn’t conflict in the spring. Rouleau made a motion to approve their request conditioned on receipt of the schedule to get on the town recreation calendar. Gilbar seconded and the board approved it by a 5-0 vote.

5c. Barre Community Baseball – Craig Locarno requested use of the South Barre fields and the Little League Field for practices. He said he would send dates. Rogers confirmed that no other groups use those fields in early summer. Rouleau made a motion to approve the requested use. Gilbar seconded and the board approved it 5-0.

Locarno noted that 34 kids signed up for BTMES baseball this year but they’ll have to turn half of them away due to lack of playable surfaces for practices or games. The fields at Williamstown and Spaulding are not available because they both have 2 teams.

6. Field Use Scheduling (continued) – Spaulding Girl’s Tennis Team requested the tennis courts for practices from about 3:30pm until 6:00pm. Smith made a motion to approve the use request starting April

16th, when the nets will be up through the end of the school year in early June. Gilbar seconded and the board approved it by a 5-0 vote.

7. Discussion with Dog Park Organizers – The organizers shared their priorities ahead of the June grand opening: the water hookup, kiosk for signage and rules, designing and printing a vinyl sponsor sign, bench, general cleanup days with volunteers, and having the fence finished. Farnham noted that the kiosk will need to be approved by the Development Review Board prior to installation.

Rouleau reported that eight people attended the dog park planning meeting. They discussed mowing, re the cost of buying equipment, and storage, and decided to use a contractor instead and solicited quotes from the town's grass cutting contractors accordingly. They had a similar plan for snow removal next year.

Janice King asked whether the water could be hooked up by June 9th. Rogers said it was possible.

Discussion ensued regarding the placement of the new features. The organizers said that the kiosk and bench would be to the right as you enter the dog park main gate and the spigot on the left. They requested trash and recycling bins on both sides of the park to make responsible dog waste disposal easy. Rogers recommended having just one recycling bin, by the kiosk, to reduce the likelihood that dog waste being inappropriately deposited in the recycling bin. The organizers had no objection.

Farnham explained he requested this agenda item because he was frustrated that, this winter, the gates were not kept clear of snow. Discussion ensued as to options and concerns. Rouleau and King maintained that volunteership would improve over time as more people use the park and understand that it is managed by volunteers; later even this winter, calls for help needed on the Facebook group were heeded.

Rouleau asked who was paying the water spigot costs. Rogers said the Recreation budget. Smith said she remembered a discussion that it would come out of the program budget. Rogers said he recalled the Rec Board wanting to allocate excess Program Expenses budget to the skatepark. Smith and Rouleau said that shouldn't be a need after the latest skatepark fundraiser. Farnham added that he may be able to get the rebar required for the skatepark donated. Rouleau added, concrete too. Rogers said that information is needed right away. Rouleau said he would ask Parker Construction about the quantities needed. Back on the water spigot topic, all noted that it should be an automatic shutoff style to reduce water wastage. Smith made a motion for the Rec Department to assume the cost of installing a water spigot. Gilbar seconded and it passed 5-0.

8. Caws 4 Paws – Rouleau said that Dock Dogs has been booked. The Saturday qualifiers would be 9am-5pm, every hour on the hour, with finals on Sunday. The organizers are working on sponsors and vendors.

Regarding placement, the Board agreed to have Disc Dogs in the baseball field, right field, so that the Spring into Summer Festival could be in the softball field. The Pet Expo, with an estimated 60 vendors, would start around the lower restroom and go up from there. The Board agreed that more discussion was needed regarding where to place the food vendors and coordinating their food offerings.

9. Spring into Summer Festival – Smith shared the work of the committee. They confirmed the Boy Scouts vending food, library-led storytime, facepainter (who might be late), Granite City Coop, kid's firefighter agility challenge led by the Barre Town firefighters, 7-8 B-Recs challenge activities, crafts, Vermont Bicycle Shop and bounce house (at a lower price than budgeted). She noted the bounce house would be placed to the right of the lower restrooms, beyond the flagpole. Smith said Vermont Bicycle was interested in hosting a ride and she asked the Board for input on the idea. Rouleau said it could be a draw for a different audience. It could be kid-oriented and on the bike path. Smith said she would respond "yes" to Vermont Bicycle Shop and just to let us know where the ride would be.

Farnham noted that 60 vendors translates to 600' of road frontage, and asked when the poles and cable up the access road would be replaced. Rogers said the goal was to do it before the primary summer duties of the DPW started, because they would be needed to help the Rec crew with the job. Discussion ensued regarding options for coordinating pole, or at least cable, installation and the June 9th activities.

Smith asked whether, and Rogers confirmed that, the town could move picnic tables to inside the softball field for crafts. Smith said she would provide the number. She also requested a clicker (counter). She

expected 10-14 high school volunteers to staff the festival again. They still need volunteers to lead fairy house building, the water wall and the music wall. Gilbar said he would follow up with Tracy Delude.

The organizers have not heard back from the state's tick educator, or Vermont Fish & Wildlife.

Smith said she asked Michael Pope of the BTMES Design Lab, whether they could fix the green Recreation Area sign. Pope said no but they could help replace the sign and what's on it, though not by the end of the year. Smith asked if the content of the sign should be anything other than what it is and recommended the Rec logo be added. Rogers advised that one thing must be retained - the fund logo that established the Rec Area would be required per the conditions of the grant.

10. Boy Scout Sculpture Committee request – Pierre Couture, on behalf of the Boy Scouts Sculpture Committee, requested permission to remove several hundred granite cobblestones from a location in the Town Forest for fundraising purposes. Wang advised that the Vermont Land Trust, from whom the town has a conservation easement for the Town Forest, told us that this use was not allowed. Restricted uses under the conservation easement include disturbing the surface and removal of rocks and minerals that would change the topography. The scale of removal is the primary concern. The Board acknowledged the prohibition.

11. Outdoor Pickleball Court – Farnham confirmed that the tennis court nets could be lowered. Discussion ensued regarding a dedicated pickleball court versus having a pickleball court there one day a week. Rogers recommended the latter, with the option of adding another day. Rogers said he would check the scheduled tennis court rehab work. If the contractor is painting, we can ask them to add on pickleball court markings. He also recommended posting at the courts an explanation of which lines were which. Farnham indicated the pickleball lines should be narrower and a different color.

12. Escape Room – This Times Argus event has been put on hold due to the paper's change in ownership.

13. Lower Graniteville Playground Retrofit – Rec Board member Brian Wilcock had volunteered to lead this effort and created an equipment survey board. He was not at this meeting nor the last. Smith said she would try to get the survey board. Rouleau said he would introduce a potential volunteer to Smith.

14. Egg Hunt Feedback – There was discussion regarding the time of arrival to help set up. 8am has been the time to reflect when there have not been many volunteers. This year there were a lot. Smith noted if volunteers were assigned an age group they could decide what time to arrive. Rouleau said having the three groups closer together, e.g. by using the skatepark, would make it easier for parents with kids in multiple age groups. The Board thought the prizes and water bottles were good, although the 8-10 year old group's eggs could have more variety for what's inside, and that the stuffed rabbit special prizes were not appealing for that age group. Rouleau purchased items from the Dollar Store which were well received. He also asked kids who found more than one special egg to leave extras for another kid to find, which they all did. Smith reviewed the receipt provided by Rouleau and made a motion to reimburse Rouleau \$23.32 for the prizes purchased from the Dollar Store. Dobrilovic seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

18. 'Round the Table –Dobrilovic apologized for being late; school has kept him very busy.

Gilbar said that at the next Egg Hunt, the Board should have a brochure showing the schedule of the ice cream socials, and any other events we have. Rogers asked what the ice cream social location schedule would be. The Board agreed: the same as last year. They liked having Trow Hill as the kickoff.

Rouleau asked for the disc golf signage purchase request be on the May meeting agenda. They are all set on staymat. He asked when the Board decides on the Millstone Trails Association grooming donation. \$1,500 was budgeted. Rogers advised at the May meeting. Rouleau will find out how much they groomed.

Smith said that snow melt created a several-inch-deep river between the parking lot and the dog park airlock on Saturday, deep enough that she didn't want to cross it, and asked if DPW could lay some boards down temporarily to help access. Wang said that she didn't note that much water on Sunday when she was

there so perhaps the issue had resolved itself. Smith asked whether playground inspections could be assigned to Board members. Rouleau noted they should have a common checklist. Farnham suggested the assignments be rotated to take advantage of fresh eyes. The Board agreed to randomly drawing assignments next month. Farnham said each person should check a few times between meetings, once just before. Smith requested that Rec Supervisor Dwight Coffrin provide them with a checklist of what he would like the Rec Board to look for. Wang gave an example of checking whether bolts have loosened as something the crew could not be checking every time. Finally, Smith said that she had not worked on the grow banner since the last meeting, and that she would work with Farnham on it, who had ideas about it.

Farnham asked for an update on the picnic shelter at the Upper Graniteville. No one had heard any news. Smith had asked Youth Build if they would construct it but that they wouldn't be able to until the fall. Farnham had ideas about where to get material donations for railings for the rec area bleachers, and that the Rec Board could hold a joint workbee with the Selectboard to install them, if it could be done without welding, and if the town's insurer said it was okay. Gilbar will give specifications to Farnham to obtain a quote. Rogers indicated the concern with aluminum railing is that adults leaning on the rail behind the top seat could strip it out. Farnham said he thought the softball field bleacher railings were aluminum and that he would see how those were done. Rogers suggested that, since the owners of DMS Machining and Fabrication live in the town that they may be willing to give us advice, and to have this item on next month's agenda. Rouleau said he would help with installation.

At 8:44 pm on a motion by Rouleau, seconded by Gilbar, the board voted 5-0 to adjourn.

Recreation Board Members

The image shows five handwritten signatures on a set of horizontal lines. The signatures are: 1. A signature that appears to be 'Daphne' or similar. 2. A signature that appears to be 'Dana' or similar. 3. A signature that appears to be 'Dana' or similar. 4. A signature that appears to be 'Dana' or similar. 5. A signature that appears to be 'Terry Smith'.