

Proposed minutes of the July 9, 2026 Barre City JEDIB meeting

1. Meeting called to order at 6:31PM

Members Present: William Toborg, Greg Quetel, Rick Pereira, Sean Warner, Christopher Roberts

Members of the Public: Joelen Mulvaney

Land Acknowledgement read by William Toborg

2. Adjustments to Agenda- Chris Roberts asked to speak and did so to begin the meeting.

Chris has been in rehab at Barre Gardens due to complications from neuropathy in his foot, leading to a partial amputation. Chris will need to sell his house and is prepared to resign from the committee once he moves out of Barre. It was suggested that he does not need to live in Barre to be a member of the committee and Chris stated in that case he may stay on the committee.

3. Motion to approve the minutes for the May 2026 and June 2026 meetings made by Greg and seconded by Rick, approved unanimously.

4. Elections

- a. William Toborg nominated by Greg and seconded by Rick for chair. Chris moved to cease nominations and Greg seconded. Motion approved unanimously
- b. Greg Quetel nominated by Chris and seconded by Sean for vice chair. Chris moved to cease nominations and Greg seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

5. Old Business

- a. Report on working group. Joelen reported that there is a 10 foot vinyl banner that was brought to the rally with great feedback.
- b. No updates on items from last meeting
- c. No updates on Language Access Policy
- d. Joelen reported that 802 Scoop, Rainbow Bridge, two local businesses, and Outright Vermont organized a rally in the park after a 14 year old Elementary student committed suicide. Joelen suggested that we should stay in our lane, the municipal government, we should be reviewing municipal policy, including the results. The city has no policy to deal with those who are bullied on the way home from school, which is not the school policy. We need to hold leadership responsible for bullying in their meetings.
Rick agreed that school policy is school policy and that is not our job and liked the idea of a broader policy citywide, discussing applying the equity tool to include voices of the community, to bring in community voices. We should give thought to the process of applying the tool. Policies are one layer of equity and how they are applied is another layer, How does it achieve or not achieve the results one year later.
Greg suggested it would be good to have a follow up on how the tool was effective and if people used the tool as recommended.
Chris said it would be fine to have an anti-bullying ordinance and a lot of bullying takes place at home on social media and that is not part of the jurisdiction of the school. A lot of bullying would be covered by other ordinances. There is not a reason to not have an anti-bullying policy
Sean suggested we get together with the city to see what we already have in place, how can we put this in place and what may already cover this.

Greg suggested Sonja might have input into how we should go ahead and advising the city council. The Equity tool should be applied before the policies are made. I don't know how it would happen.

William suggested we rely on the city council liaison to let us know when policies are being proposed. Looking at them after they have been implemented is better than not but looking at them before they have been implemented is a better use of time.

Joellen suggested looking at the ones that exist and run those through the tool and adding an anti-bullying ordinance to it. Ordinance 25.

William reported that we did that last time, that it is in the minutes.

Joellen suggested that we could add anti-bullying language.

Chris suggested the Council be more responsive to adding to a new ordinance.

Rick motioned to table indefinitely the Equity Tool Assessment of the BUUSD Harassment and Bullying policy. Sean seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

6. New Business

a. Discussion on Creation of Anti-bullying workgroup.

Rick wanted to discuss offering a space for bringing community members together and adjusting ordinance number 25.

Joellen suggested we might put this in motion to draw other people into the conversation, that we are intending to put into place policies around harassment.

Rick agreed to chairing the working group which would report to the committee. Chris and William both expressed interest in being on the working group. If we are going to get the community involved, we would want the working group meetings.

Chris suggested there would be a lot of parents and students interested in this.

Rick moved and Greg seconded making an anti-bullying working group. Joellen also agreed to be on the working group.

b. No suggested items for future meetings

Motion to adjourn made by Greg Quetel and seconded by Chris Roberts at 7:30PM.