

Minutes of meeting of The Neighborly Barre Committee
Monday, June 1 2026 in Roosevelt Room Alumni Hall



Present: Tracie Lewis, Beth Hilgartner, Ernie Drown, Joanne Reynolds, MiChelle Brown, Marjorie Strong and Ginger Cloud

Not Present: N/A

Guests: No Guests

Meeting called to order at 1:00 pm..

Agenda approved.

Minutes of the last meeting approved with the addition of MiChelle Brown as present.

No visitors.

Old business. Adopt a drain launch was successful. About 15 were present.
All drains to be mapped by June 15.

Pay it forward campaign. Tracie will get back to work on this.

Volunteer sign up link is up. 10 to 15 volunteers have.

Shall we have a table at the Heritage Festival? Friday 4 to 9.

Saturday 9 to 9. July 24 and 25.

Marjorie and Ernie volunteered for Saturday morning.

Beth and Joanne will be in the parade, somehow.

Ernie and MiChelle will split the cost of the booth.

New business. Beth offers thanks to Ginger for being willing to help get the Committee started. She gave a little info about her next venture with psychedelics.

Beth mentions neighborhood garden parties. Should the Committee participate?

Garden Club members who might be willing to open their garden for tour? Do it Ward Based, on different days. Mini-grant money up to \$250. Hoping to do the first one Towards the end of June. Garden club might have a table for new members; maybe a talk? Refreshments from Sunday June 28, 12-5? Ward One Neighborhood Garden Tour and Party. A motion to pursue this moved and approved.

No other new business.

Motion to adjourn moved and approved at 1:42.

NEIGHBORLY BARRE COMMITTEE VISION STATEMENT

(from City's website)

The City Council created a Neighborly Barre Committee, and charged it with generating ideas and enthusiasm for volunteer-driven efforts to create community, build connections and engagement among residents, and boost simple projects (like picking litter, or "adopting" a bus stop) to beautify and care for our physical spaces. The Committee's role will be to generate ideas that provide opportunities for residents of all ages to come together to model the type of community we want to be; to collaborate with other organizations or committees (eg. The Barre Partnership, the Barre Rivers Collective etc.) when projects overlap; and to encourage resident engagement in the City, its people, and its businesses and organizations.

The committee will initiate programs and products based on needs, including the unhoused, civic beautification and building social capital. A welcoming Barre where neighbors feel connected, supported, and proud to call our community home.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Welcoming First

We believe everyone deserves to feel seen, included, and at home in Barre, whether they are new to the community or have lived here for generations.

Connection Builds Community

Strong relationships are the foundation of a thriving city. We create opportunities for meaningful, low-pressure connections among neighbors.

Inclusive & Accessible

We strive to design programs and initiatives that are accessible, inclusive, and reflective of Barre's diverse residents, backgrounds, and experiences.

Community-Driven

Our work is guided by the voices, needs, and ideas of the community. Collaborate, promote & support other community committees and organizations to facilitate support of programs already in motion.

Positive & Neighborly

We lead with kindness, respect, and optimism, fostering a culture of care and mutual support throughout Barre.

Building Social Capital

We foster trust, relationships, and shared experiences that strengthen social networks, encourage civic engagement, and build a more resilient Barre.

Pride in Place

We celebrate Barre's people, neighborhoods, and shared spaces, encouraging community pride and a sense of belonging.