

**CITY OF BARRE
PUBLIC BODY MEETING MINUTES**

Committee/board/task force: Unhoused Community Committee

Date of meeting: June 18, 2025

Location of meeting: Downstreet Community room

Members in attendance: Anne Merrill, Osa Busch, Kathi Partlow, Beth Mueller, Dan Barlow.

Members absent: none

Others in attendance: Tess Taylor, Zach Hughes

Topic(s) Discussed (use additional sheets as necessary):

Sanctioned municipal camping: DB shared guidance recommended by Samantha Sheehan. Some necessary provisions include: cooperation between municipality and providers, a 24 hr presence at the site, and also water and sanitary facilities. It would be a big undertaking. Our next step is to invite someone from a successful sanctioned camping program in another town to zoom in on one of our mtgs.

Humanizing the issue: We discussed possible ways to communicate out stories of unhoused folks, and also “good news” stories in the media to work on clearing up some misconceptions.

Strategies for July 1: We discussed the current lack of shelter and camping spaces. We also discussed the current self pay options at hotels. We then discussed how to prepare folks being evicted for camping, both in terms of knowledge and equipment. Another call for camping supplies may be put out. ZH noted that the Montpelier Homelessness Task Force is interested in cooperating with all affected parties.

Action items (use additional sheets as necessary):

DB to follow up with contacting someone connected to a successful municipal sanctioned camping site.

OB to let us know if and when to start dropping off camping supplies at the Welcome Center.

DB and BM to work on media outreach.

Meeting adjournment

DB motion, KP second

Time:6:05

Next meeting date/time/location:

Downstreet July 16, 5 PM, Community room Keith Ave. in Barre

Person filing minutes:

Beth Mueller