

Minutes
Barre City Cow Pasture Stewardship Committee
September 18, 2025

Committee Members in attendance: Chris Russo-Fraysier, Janette Shaffer, Jim Deshler (5:49 – 6:24), Emily Hoffman, Susan McDowell

Others:

Call to Order: 5:49 pm.

1. Adjustments to Agenda: Move Agenda items that require a quorum vote to the top of the Agenda and postpone items needing full Committee participation.

2. Agenda Items:

Communication Agreement & Mission.- Motion to skip reading – Susan. Seconded-Jim. All in favor.

Approval of Minutes: July 17, 2025: Motion-Jim. Second-Susan. All in favor.

Committee Position Descriptions: Postponed

Election of Officers: Postponed.

Committee Membership Expectations and Member Recruitment (1): Mark Martin has resigned. The Committee's desire is to find a new member with Mark's skill sets.

ERSA Grant Subcommittee Updates:

- **Grant Closure:** The Committee/Sub-Committee work has been finalized. Jim submitted a letter to FPR (c: Janet Shatney and Nicolas Storellicastro). The letter: identified and justified reasons for not completing three trail projects. The work completed is under budget. The Committee is waiting for the City to finalize allowable Public Works reimbursements.
Janet followed up with the State after receiving the Sub-Committees letter. A permit amendment is required. Janet proposed requesting a Grant extension so that she can provide the Committee with the ERSA Grant balance which would allow the Committee to utilize remaining funds. The Committee will use some of the remaining funds to purchase a 'Trash Grabber' that will be stored behind the kiosk, posts for the Johnson Street entrance and permanent trail arrows to replace the temporary ones that will be installed by Zac.
Motion: To ask Janet to request a 1-year ERSA Grant Extension -Jim. Second- Janette. All in favor.
Motion passes.
- **Trail Assessment and New Map:** Both have been posted on the Barre City Cow Pasture Web page.
- **Apex TrailWorks- deliverables:** Way-finding maps and temporary arrows are scheduled to be installed the week of September 15th. The final ApexTrails invoice is expected after sign installation is finalized and all needed documentation is submitted (i.e. photos of before and after improvements). Final reimbursement is anticipated to be \$5,540 (\$5,000 balance + \$540 for the 2 additional way-finding signs and 12 additional trail signs).
- **Committee Trail Projects:** Committee Members and volunteer completed several trail project.
- **City Projects:** There is a tree down on the Service Road and the gate should be cleared of brush. An old sign should be replaced and possibly updated. Posts need to be installed in the City ROW at the Johnson Ave. entrance.
- **Grant Balance:** Unknown.

Advisory Group Updates:

- **Conservation & Access-** Mike Fraysier provided an update.
- **Invasive Plant Control-** Discussed the possibility of a winged euonymus educational event in October.
The brush-hog can go over the buckthorn triangle if the mower blade is lifted

Social Media Update: Several posts have been made by Emile. Discussed a media campaign to celebrate the completion of the ERSA Grant. Discussed the possibility of an event this fall to celebrate the completion of the ERSA trail improvements.

Brush Hogging: The City will donate \$500 to the Snobees for their assistance with brush-hogging. Chris has been in contact with Greg Rouleau who is coordinating with the individual that will complete the work. Chris will meet with the individual completing the work to identify areas to be brush-hogged, sensitive areas and an area with invasive Bittersweet that should not be spread.

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn: Susan @ 7:13. Seconded- Janette. All in favor.