

Minutes of meeting of The Neighborly Barre Committee

Monday, March 2, 2026 Roosevelt Room Alumni Hall

Present Tracie Lewis, Marjorie Strong, Beth Hilgartner, Ernie Drown, Ginger Cloud. All present.

Meeting called to order at 1:06. February Minutes approved, with correction.

Our new email is neighborlybarrevt@gmail.com The password was shared among committee members. Tracie is Administrator.

Discussion about publicizing the Mission Statement, and Ginger's introductory email proposal about submissions for the logo competition. Beth suggests that we go ahead and open the competition. Contact various art teachers. Ginger will do this. Will make flyers. Front Page Forum, Barre Partnership Facebook page. Motion made for Ginger to proceed. Seconded and passed.

Should we have a Facebook page? No.

Lengthy discussion of Amanda Gustin's proposal Adopt a Drain. Schools, boy and girl scouts. Local employees. Project run by Hamlin university in Minnesota. Make this a 3 ward event, maybe a social gathering afterward. Beth will invite Amanda to next month's meeting.

Tracie will create a flyer about us, and Beth will get it to Nicholas. On the Partnership facebook page.

Discussion about the 100+ Neighbors who care proposal. Beth talked about how this might work and benefit. Different levels of giving. Get BADC on board. This might supplant the pay it forward campaign.? Ginger recommends that we look at the road map document.

Tracie suggested that we start small, pay it forward comes first. 100+ program after we are more established, and have some accomplishments to point to. This was agreed to. Tracie has some emails to send to businesses about pay it forward.

Discussion about GMT fares.

Ernie reminded us of the need to create a list of volunteers.

Adjourned at 2:42.

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.