

**CITY OF BARRE
PUBLIC BODY MEETING MINUTES**

Committee/board/task force: Unhoused Community Committee

Date of meeting: January 21, 2026

Location of meeting: Remote

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

Members absent: Kathi Partlow

Others in attendance: Sonya Spaulding

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

Capstone Overflow Overnight Shelter:

AM shared information about the recently opened overflow shelter in Montpelier which is sponsored by Capstone. It is located at the Montpelier Unitarian Church and runs nightly from 8PM until 7AM.

Zine to help communicate safe and effective winter camping:

OB had shared that they thought it would be a helpful tool. BM mocked up a sample for discussion, but since the meeting was changed to remote, that discussion was tabled until next month. DB suggested perhaps we could reach out to cartoonists at the Center for Cartoon Studies for help.

Upcoming Extreme Cold Weather:

OB is working very hard to convince campers to come indoors. BM shared resources in Barre City for the extreme cold weather period.

Outdoor lockers for folks to store their gear:

DB has been in communication with Montpelier about lockers that they had used and are no longer actively using. He will follow up to get more info about Montpelier's experience. He will also reach out to Another Way (who has lockers on their porch) to see what their experience has been. AM offered to assist. SS suggested the Aldrich Library as a potential partner in hosting the lockers.

Good News

DB shared a very encouraging story about a long time unhoused and chronically ill individual who recently got shelter at Speranza. The individual is much improved, and is now able to address their health issues. We all had a collective moment of joy.

Action items (use additional sheets as necessary):

DB and AM to reach out to Ken R at Another Way for info on their experience with hosting lockers.

OB to report back info on the Capstone overnight shelter.

DB to follow up with ReSource regarding the possibility of purchasing vouchers to pass out to unhoused folks.

BM and OB to follow up and finalize zine.

Meeting adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:45

Time:**Next meeting date/time/location:**

Downstreet Community Room Feb.18 5 PM

Person filing minutes:

Beth Mueller