

Bethel Equity and Inclusion Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 1/18/21

Committee Members Present:

Christy Fry, Rita Champion, Tristan Brown, Owen Daniel-McCarter, Jesse Plotsky, Jerry Thomas.

Community Members Present:

Lenny Meek, Thomas Meek, Lindley Brainard

Public Comment:

no public comment was made

Discussion:

Lenny updated committee of legislator meetings and goals for those.

subcommittees updated group on progress.

Website committee presented rough draft of layout made by Thomas which included mission statement and general layout. An independent website needs to be approved by the selectboard. One committee member will ask to present at an upcoming selectboard meeting, group decided to hold off until things were dialed in more before talking to selectboard. Bios were asked to be written by members. domain name voting was put off until next meeting.

Survey committee, Jesse recounted sitting in on selectboard meeting last week and talked about how information gets to residents. He came out of meeting with broadened perspective on how difficult it is to communicate with the population of Bethel. Some of the Population is being missed who are not property owners. Many BIPOC in the area are renters and not property owners so they get left out. Lindley talked about ways of how to get survey to most amount of people as well as the Statutes of where information has to be posted vs all the places it would like to be posted. not recommended using utility bills. Recommended going through the postal service but it is important to specify all Bethel residents. Some have randolph addresses.

Owen brought in the conversation of new subcommittee to take on the BIPOC land access act as part of E&I committee work. The act is asking legislators to establish a fund to help BIPOC buy a home, land or a farm. Land can both be donated to the trust or deeds can be transferred over directly to BIPOC. Bethel proposed as being a model town for the act. We as E&I can help be part of the education element for preparing towns to have inclusivity work.

Owen made a motion to vote for partnership with historical society on the phonebook and survey. Motion was approved. vote will take place at next meeting.

Motions, Proposals, and Resolutions Made:

Motion to approve last meetings minutes made by Owen. approved by Jerry.

Voting Record:

(Note: need to indicate individual votes if a roll call is taken)

Open Meeting Laws:

<https://www.vlct.org/sites/default/files/documents/Resource/VLCT%20Open%20Meeting%20Law%20FAQs.pdf>

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Next Meeting Date:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/5820627640?pwd=TVNiSURhVm5ScTgweWl6OHdRbzZ4QT09>

Meeting ID: 582 062 7640

Passcode: equity

Dial In: 1-646-558-8656

Notes Taken By: Rita Champion

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