

Bethel Equity and Inclusion Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 7/23/24

Committee Members Present: Gene Kraus, Rita Champion, Alvi Reed, Owen Daniel-McCarter & Jesse Plotsky

Community Members Present:

Public Comment: No public comment was made

Discussion:

Selectboard meeting updates, Jesse and Alvi attended. reported more speeding on gilead and camp brook rd, Therese told sheriff to post up there. There was an audit of general town operating funds, town may be over estimating tax revenue bu \$100,000 from delinquent tax. New town lister in the office, FEMA has still not paid from infrastructure fixes post floods 2023

discussion of EIC retreat. Sub group will synthesize the recap to a year arc and timeline as well as goals and articulated core values for the group. Gene will head community hamlet discussions.

next meeting will be in person at Town Hall August 27th

Juneteenth reflections:

- best one yet! The speakers were a wonderful addition, music and food were amazing. Great turnout. a big success for Bethel. between 150-170 attendees.
- politicians were interested in posting up and as a sub committee we chose to not allow that this year. open to discussion for next time once we establish core values.
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Updates:

next Book Group: September 17th 5:30-7:30 potential book options: “prisons make us safer, and 20 other myths about mass incarceration” . Potentially bringing in Ashley Messier to speak at the book group to give context for Incarceration in Vermont.

Town Meeting Committee- we would like to collaborate with them for the community conversations. Hamlet specific community conversations. Alvi, Jess and Gene subcommittee in organizing the conversations and list of questions to pose at these gatherings. Potentially happening September and October.

Declaration of Inclusion poster. Checking in with artists to create a poster. Rita will reach out to Dayna Sabatino about hosting a space for kids to gather and workshop art for the poster.

meeting notes approved.

Open Meeting Laws:

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

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Motions, Proposals, and Resolutions Made:

Owen will chair next EIC meeting.

Voting Record:

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

Next Meeting: 8/27/24 @ 6:00pm

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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