Equity and Diversity Committee - Town of Shelburne

PUBLIC MEETING Minutes

Monday, January 17, 2022; 6:00pm

Hybrid Meeting: Zoom & In-Person

Physical Location: Basement of Pierson Library;

Old Town Hall (Historical Society)

Committee Members present: Erika Lea, Jennie Hoenigsberg, Wanda Morgan, Patricia Fontaine, Michele Crowder, Cate Cross, Mercedes Ortega, Josh Flore, Marcela Pino, Fabienne Boisvert-DeFazio

Others present: NA

• **Call to Order**: 6:07 pm

   Facilitator: Cate Cross
   Minutes: Michele Crowder

• **Approval of Agenda for:** 1/17/22

   Motion to approve Agenda: Erika
   Second: Wanda
   Favor: majority **Opposed:** None

• **Approval of Minutes from:** 1/3/21

   The following updates to the minutes will be made by Wanda:
      o Correct spelling of Ben Eisenberg's name
   Motion to approve Minutes: (with changes) Patricia
   Seconded: Fabienne
   Favor: majority **Opposed:** None

• **Public comments:** None

• **Member/Membership Update:**

Cate emailed Lee Krohn about when we can apply for grants. We can apply, but cannot use until we are provided Town funding/next fiscal year (July 2022). To get approval, we would need Selectboard approval. They may have questions especially if it is a matching grant. Once we get an approval letter, we would need to alert the Selectboard that we would like to add this to the agenda (about 3-4 weeks prior to the actual Selectboard meeting: email Mike Ashooh and CC Cate).

Erika spoke with Ben Eisenberg (Chair of Democratic committee) re: his invitation around

potential collaboration around a shared interest topic. The committee feels we are unable to do so to prevent alignment with a political party. Individual/ private citizens who are interested in connecting can do so independently. Those interested can email Erika and she will help to connect as needed.

Mercedes provided an update re: new committee documentation/shared spreadsheet. Tabs include: committee info, strategic plan/overview, action items, shared ideas, budget. All team members to review and add pertinent information as needed.

- **Discussions:**
  - o Strategic Planning: group discussion; updated year 1 info (to currently work on these action items until July 2022 when we will have a budget). Moved trainings to year 2. In need of larger strategic goals that current "action items"/objectives can be placed under. To work in 2 sections of time (pre and post budget: July 2022)
  Possible goals to include: 1. To increase E & D Committee recognition in our community (objectives to include: sustainability of committee as well as community outreach/culture building, adoption of VCLT declaration of inclusion) New subgroup needed to support this work. 2. Complete an accurate needs assessment of the Town of Shelburne (objectives to include: identifying and applying for grants, hiring of a consultant to support our work/complete an accurate assessment). All team members to discuss/work on this in "Shared ideas" tab

- **Report from Sub-Groups:**

Strategic Planning: see full group discussion above

Grant Subgroup: Wanda provided updates re: 2 identified possible grant options: SCHIP grant and ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds. Unclear of when we would be able to apply, although potentially would have to await acceptance of an award until July of 2022. Clearer understanding of when /how to present possible grants to the Selectboard (see above). Grant subgroup meetings now being held every 2 weeks. Wanda sent out an invite. (Wanda, Jennie, Patricia with support from Michele, Marcela as needed)

Consultant Subgroup: No further action at this time

Community/Culture Building Subgroup (newly formed as of this meeting): to discuss possible outreach into the community. Question around whether we can get community "sponsors"? (Mercedes, Erika, Fabienne with support from Marcela, Josh as needed). Ideas around social media outreach, listserv and possible open house discussed.

- **Action Items**:

Action Responsible Due

All team members to review new documentation/spreadsheet and add information as needed	All	2/7/22
All team members to add possible "strategic goals" and/or review others in "Shared ideas" tab	All	2/7/22
To gather information around adoption of VLCT Declaration of Inclusion	Patricia	2/7/22

- **Next meeting:** 2/7/22

Facilitator: Fabienne
Minutes: Cate
In -Person: Mercedes (if needed)

- **Meeting adjourned:** 7:15pm

By: Patricia
Seconded: Michele
Favor: majority **Opposed:** None