

Equity and Diversity Task Force - Town of Shelburne

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Friday, April 16, 4pm

In attendance

Yasamin Gordon

Patricia Fontaine

Cate Cross

Josh Flore

Ken Scott

Erika Lea

Jennie Hoenigsberg

Public: Nancy Baker

Selectboard: Jerry Storey (joined at 4:20pm or so)

4:05 meeting called to order

Discussion of the proposed policy that was sent for policy from SB to make Task Force into a committee. Needs to be rewritten to reflect

Discussion on how to share the role of chair among members and have that rotating role set agenda -- this is to model equitable share of power (decentralize from one person).

Discussion on note taking rotating among members.

Discussion on new leadership as Task Force becomes a committee. If not led by underserved or BIPOC person, co-leadership is recommended so that someone from those communities can be partnered to learn that role.

Discussion on how to get more diverse voice, and those who have not served in government before, to get involved in Town government.

Discussion on training that needs to be done by Selectboard members so that they can be models for this work and also be better informed on anti bias. VLCT has training the Town can access for free through its annual membership. Suggest starting with that.

Discussion on canvassing the Town in a fair way to garner new, underserved voices on this Task Force. Use insert in Shelburne News to get paper submissions to apply for a role. Many folks who started Task Force, when it began, did not intend to stay on long term. They joined to get the work going and then would step down to allow for more diverse voices to take their seat.

Yasamin Gordon steps down from Task Force. She has new job as Director of Diversity and Equity in Winooski.

Ken Scott steps down from Task Force.

Marcela Pino to facilitate next meeting and write/post agenda.
Meeting adjourned 5:15pm.