

Land Access and Opportunity Board: Onboarding Committee
March 27, 2024, 9:30 – 10:30a.m

Meeting Facilitator: Ornella Matta-Figueroa

Attendee	Present
Board <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Susan Aranoff, Vermont DDC ● Samantha Langevin, Vermont RELEAF Collective ● Dan Coutu, VT Commission on Native American Affairs (VCNAA) 	
Guests & Public	

Meeting Note taker: Jean Hamilton

Agenda

Meeting Convened by Facilitator, <u>Ornella</u> @ 9:30	
1. Introductions & Check-in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Name, Nominating Organization, ● Check-in <p>Ready for spring. Not sure how to deal with Covid best practices. Lots going on. Caring for family with medical issues. Feeling stormy, with some sunshine on the horizon. Hard to know and plan for what happens next. Trying to do one thing at time and eat the frog (Mark Twain: do the hardest thing in your day first). Processing what it means that LAOB is not in the house budget bill. Feeling the tenderness of what it means to advocate for equity, make progress, and then have it slip back to the status quo. What stories do we tell ourselves about systems? Noticing how emoting in public, esp crying, allows for stories to be told. Crying is going to happen, how do we make that safer so the stories can be told? Encouragement to welcome our full selves, including our teams, and to lean on one another so we can show up and tell our stories. A lot of people don't like change, and so they don't like us, the agents of change. Our ancestors survived so we can be here, they support us now in our struggle. The purpose of Hearth Tending committee is to be a space where staff can express frustrations and what is making the work hard, and imagine the way through the</p>

	<p>barriers. When we leave our hearts at the door, we end up with heartless policies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Agenda Building
<p>2. Discussion/ Updates</p>	<p>Process for Finalizing the RFP for the Equity Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Samantha: Do staff want board approval? Or is staff ok to get board feedback and then move forward with a plan? This represents the transition from a working board to a board supported with staff who need agency to make decisions. - Dan: Staff have been engaged to do this work. Informing the board and giving an opportunity for feedback is the right next step, but no need to seek board approval. - Susan: Interesting to be part of transition from working board to board with staff. Board has approved the budget and the work plan, so feels appropriate for staff to move forward within those guardrails. Inform the board, give opportunity for feedback from board, and keep moving forward. - Ornella: considering how our budget may change if it looks like we don't receive a significant fy25 appropriation. Heard about possible medicaid funding for housing advocates. <p>Discussion of Housing Coach RFP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Samantha: reflecting back what Ornella said. Change in strategy away from RFP, towards a different structure. Also sounds like staff may be interested in reformatting the budget. - Ornella: can we all dream about how to move forward with our programming given the challenges around fully supporting equity coaches, supporting lasting equity systemic change, and what to do with what we are seeing in the FY25 appropriations.
<p>3. Process Check-in, Next Steps</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reflections ● Next Steps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Board agenda item for April: discuss plan B budget if FY25 appropriation is less than what we planned for. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gratitudes <p>Spring is starting. This meeting and how it prepares us for other meetings. A landing place like this one, where we can</p>

Meeting Adjourned at 10:30 AM

Recurring Zoom Link - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85603029734>