

VT Land Access and Opportunity Board Meeting

May 15, 2023, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Facilitators: Natanya Vanderlaan WholeHeart Inc., Jessica Laporte CRO's

Attendee	Present	Not Present
Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Kirsten Murphy, Vermont Developmental Disabilities Council ● Samantha Langevin, Vermont RELEAF Collective ● Xusana Davis, Office of Racial Equity ● Shingai Kagunda, Vermont Every Town Project ● Brian Cina, National Association of Social Workers (NASW) ● Raheemah Madany, Pride Center of Vermont ● Pastor Arnold Thomas, Vermont Racial Justice Alliance (VRJA) ● Pasifique Nsengiyumva, US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI) ● Dan Coutu, VT Commission on Native American Affairs (VCNAA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Britaney Watson, NAACP ● Vermont Psychiatric Survivors (no active board member)
Board Alternates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rev. Mark Hughes, VRJA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rich Holschuh, VCNAA ● Ashley Devereaux, NASW ● Kenya Lazuli, Vermont Every Town Project
Guests & Public	<u>Public</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vincent Mitchell ● Ernest Caswell (Buster); ● Malcolm, ● Jay Greene, Office of Racial Equity ● Mindy Blank, Seeding Power ● <i>Phone dial in unidentified</i> 	<u>Guests</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Robert Appel (lawyer); ● Francis Sharpstene, VHCB ● Gus Seilig, VHCB ● Bonnie Woodford, VHCB

– Agenda & Notes –

1. Natanya Vanderlaan to convene meeting of the LAOB on May 15, 2023 at 5:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No additions to Touchstones ● All present introduced themselves and responded to the prompt
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Welcome, Facilitator team introductions, Intentions and Agreements b. Touchstones/agreements (slide 2) c. Board members and alternates to introduce themselves in response to prompt: <i>In the spirit of land access, share a favorite place/landscape you enjoy</i> 	
<p>2. Review Meeting Notes from May 1, 2023 LAOB meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Minutes posted to the website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No additions or revisions at this time
<p>3. Presentation of Scope of Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Jess presented Overview (Slides 3-6) b. Natanya invited space for reflection before discussion - Reflection Point (1 minute) c. <u>Discussion</u>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Do the scope of services, as presented, align with your needs in the next 5 meetings? ii. Deltas & Positives - what is positive or aligned and where would you invite change? d. <u>Decision Point</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Poll 1 - Approval of Facilitator Scope of Services Proposal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I approve the facilitator scope of services proposal and have no requests or additions to make at this time. (11 out of 12) 2. I have requests or additions to make to the facilitator scope of services proposal and would like further opportunity for discussion. (1 out of 12) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Samantha - Scope of Services → Work Plan for next 5 meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Should we come to both of you for everything we went to VHCB for? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Admin - VHCB ■ Meeting content - Jess & Natanya ○ Jess - we welcome input into the agendas, sharing information and requesting topics to cover ● Brian <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Appreciate the content and think it covers all ○ Is there a way to have urgent items LAOB can get involved in? How can we maintain structure but also be flexible (referencing the call to action around the hotel voucher program) ● Pastor Thomas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Appreciate the need to reach out to State Agencies to make them aware of our work - but it's also our need to make our presence known to People of Color and other marginalized groups to help address the housing crisis. Outreach to community spaces and resources ○ Jess - Let's think together about how we want to do this throughout the different parts of the scope of services and in sub-committees. ● Gus (Guest) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ VHCB staff will continue to be here to support the board's work ○ Francis handles HR for the board - anyone hired will become an employee of VHCB

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Multiphase process - Facilitator, Board, VHCB and then shifting with staff coming on ○ Kirsten's board has a MOU with the state agency - this would be good process for LAOB to use with VHCB ○ Conversation early in the year (July) - what do we want to be able to tell the General Assembly about the work of this board (between sessions) ○ Budget Process - will get a call about the Administration about budget request for the coming year in October ● Pacificque <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How do we approach people in the government in response to what is happening with the hotel voucher program ending? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Example: hotel voucher and homelessness - would want to think broadly about how to fix the long-term problems with housing available? ● <i>NOTE: Non-board members voted in poll</i>
<p>4. Creation of Sub-committees for priority projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Jess presented Proposed Sub-committees (see slides 7&8) b. Natanya invited Reflection Point (1 minute) c. <u>Discussion & Questions</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. What subcommittees do we need? ii. How can we structure them to be effective? d. <u>Decision point</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Poll 2 - What Sub-committees would we like to prioritize? (pick three) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Advocacy & Relationship-building 2. Hiring committee for staff 3. H.126 Collaboration with VHCB 4. Community Engagement 5. Developing framework for Advisory Powers ii. Poll 3 - Sub-Committee availability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Kirsten <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Advisory Powers is important - relationship building, information gathering and understanding for the board ● Samantha <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In terms of convening, it could be effective for Natanya and Jess to invite people to sub-committee ● Brian <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Assessment of inequities - state is tracking this more and we could intersect with that and have our own feedback ○ Legislative / Political sub-committee (aka Advocacy) could be the intersection between this and Advisory powers of the LAOB ○ Brining in my perspective from Seeding Power - Community Building ● Mark (alternate) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Can you tell us more about H.126? ○ Jess gave a quick response because she has asked Trey to come present to the board. She would suggest we make informational presentations outside of board meeting time and record to have a different mode of information sharing. ○ Mark suggested - sub-committee on policy - separate from advocacy - to follow bills and bring to the board or be involved in ● CHAT

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I would like to participate in a sub-committee - only available M-F 9 to 5 2. I would like to participate in a sub-committee - only available weekends and evenings 3. I would like to participate in a sub-committee - I am flexible on timing 4. I cannot participate in a sub committee at this time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jay Green <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ LAOB enabling statute: https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/10/015/00325u ○ Dan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ I had expected that an aspect of what this board would be doing is the identification of current inequities that exist with regard to land and housing. ○ Robert Appel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ We had pitched to the Legislature of equity audits of existing state agencies and related entities. I think that got us some traction. I believe that this is a very component of the work of the LAOB. ■ Kirsten - Agree with Robert and this could be some of the work of the Advisory Subcommittee. ○ Raheema - Are you compensated for being on sub-committees? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Jess - Yes, same as board meetings. Per diem \$50 per day so we try to schedule on separate days ○ Mark <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ It would be nice if the community knew that they could participate in subcommittees and understand that they would not be able to vote, if a vote were required (if that is the intent). ● PUBLIC VIA CHAT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Malcolm - Do you have to be a board member to participate in a subcommittee? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Jess - Yes, for now. These meetings will be open to the public. There are also empty board seats and alternate seats that we should work to fill.
<p>5. Public Comment</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Invite people to raise their hand or put their name in the chat for the stack b. When making a public comment please introduce yourself c. We will welcome 1-2 responses from board members (this is an opportunity to flag a follow up) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Malcolm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hearing administrative processes and establishing structure but not hearing the overarching goal? ○ Do we know what land that's in trust that could be reclaimed? Are we going to reclaim golf courses for housing? Are you going to make land accessible to contractors to build housing? ○ Would appreciate follow-up on public comment ○ Should layout clearly the overall goal and strategies

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>BOARD RESPONSES</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Samantha <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Response to Malcom in the chat and can email directly ● Frustrated about how the board was established - under resourced to meet the task, but current capacity limits our speed and ability to respond ■ Brian in chat - Malcolm, we are about to embark on a historic amount of development and the LAOB needs to assert ourselves in the process. I have my own vision that I would love to share when the time is right ● Jay Green - <i>Update from Office of Racial Equity</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Office of Racial Equity was invited to participate in that is in line with mission of LAOB ○ Report - researching and writing with the Agency of Commerce and Community Development ○ Expect that the ACCD members and consultants - Smart Growth America and Community Works LLC - will attend LAOB meeting to introduce themselves ○ How to change the community development designation programs (S.100) ○ Certain benefits for communities for development projects and the state wants to streamline how communities get grants and funding for projects across the state ● Buster <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It may be helpful to learn more about state funding, grants and budget appropriations of the bodies you have advisory powers over ○ You could learn about them, then be a voice between the people and those agencies
<p>6. Board Announcements 6:45 - (10 min)</p>	<p><u>Notes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Brian to talk about the press release if he has not spoken up yet <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Distraught about how things are unfolded and can share more ○ We need a popular movement to speak up against this and engage in the long-term solutions ○ LAOB is a part of the long-term puzzle ○ Wants to discuss how we can advocate and influence in housing issues like this
<p>7. Meeting Adjourned at 7:05 pm</p>	

Projects/Tasks developed in this meeting

- MOU between LAOB and VHCB
- Follow-up with Robert Appel about questions about Staff Hiring Process
 - Is the intent to continue the same membership going forward and are those folks amenable to continue to serve in that capacity?
 - Is it VHCB's counsel's role to draft and approve consultancy contracts or should I be taking that on??
- Share compensation information with Board Members
- Follow-up on hotel voucher program call to action (Brian)
- Re-circulate updates Scope of Services with revisions (via email)
- Sub-committee sign-up form with updates to potential committees (via email)

Next Meeting dates: Mon 5/22 & Mon 6/5

Upcoming Topics:

- a. Priorities for Networking and Outreach
- b. Establishing Sub-committees
- c. Online presence and communication norms - email & website/domain