

**Land Access and Opportunity Board Sub-committee: Advisory Powers & Advocacy
Relationship-building (Meeting #3)**

July 18th, 2023, 11:00 – 12:00 pm / Meeting Facilitator: Jessica Laporte CRO's

Attendee	Present	Not Present - Board Alternates
Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dan Coutu, VT Commission on Native American Affairs (VCNAA) ● Xusana Davis, Office of Racial Equity ● Brian Cina, NASW ● Susan Aranoff, Vermont Developmental Disabilities Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jennifer Morton-Dow, Vermont Releaf Collective ● Ashley Devereaux, NASW ● Rev. Mark Hughes, VRJA ●

Agenda & Notes

1. Meeting Convened by Facilitator, Jess Laporte @ 5:00pm	
2. Welcome and Check-in - 20 mins	How are you in the aftermath of the flooding? and where is your head/capacity for LAOB work?
3. Calendar Check-in	NEXT MEETING: SKIP Tuesday 7/25 for Full Board Meeting at 5pm in Waterbury Tuesday 8/1 @ 11am https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84487600423
4. Topics coming out of Flooding & Determining next steps - 15 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Brian - Vermont will be doing major housing development after Flooding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Likely an additional 1,000 unhoused people (at least) on top of 2,000 already in hotel program ○ Flooding Recovery can worsen disparities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ How can we rebuild in a way that take into account the new reality of intense storms? ■ How do we rebuild in a way that promotes equity? ■ Best Practices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rebuild to increase access and opportunity ● Center those most impacted and those who are marginalized ● Need New Deal level comprehensive program (not repeating mistakes with indigenous people, people for disabilities, etc) ○ Need to start where we left off ● Xusana <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In State government when it comes to recovery and infrastructure, they move so quickly and allocate \$\$ fast before, far before ○ Certain givens in the process - like fixing the culvert on I-89 - so when we get involved there will be designated chunks already ○ We need to rightsize expectations of what we can impact in recovery efforts

- **Dan** - Mixed bag in terms of what's available and already being done and if they would want to collaborate
 - probably worthwhile to connect with other groups thinking about recovery efforts, but they may also be overwhelmed so not sure how much attention we'll get.
 - We may be a tool in terms of equity and advocacy - something we can offer
- **Jess** - Interesting to think about outreach in terms of what LAOB can offer to agencies involved in recovery efforts.
 - What do we need to learn in order to do outreach and know where to get involved?
 - What do we need to put out there about LAOB so they know about our group?
- **Susan** - Suggestion from broader national disabilities coalition, collecting stories to build communications.
 - DDC is currently hosting storytelling sessions for members → LAOB cuts through silos and can intersect between disability, farmworkers, people living in mobile homes, etc can all be represented and could do something similar to collect stories.
 - DDC working on accessible information sharing for their programs - could use for flood relief and recovery
- **Xusana**
 - Something similar happened in Flint when water was unsafe to drink but people who didn't speak English were exposed to toxic water for weeks because notices weren't translated
 - This was raised in COVID for VT State but still
 - We could do a tracker of Flood Recovery housing, infrastructure and land-use funding that is publicly available - This may already exist...
- **Dan**
 - I bet there are some sites/places this is aggregating, but they may need help gathering information
- **Jess**
 - Flood Relief - Seeing both web and social, but not cross referencing much
 - State web-based resource <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/flood>
 - In general, as the LAOB is getting started we are still looking for where to get information on relevant agencies, state appropriations (annual) and programs of interest. Maybe a clearinghouse of State housing, landownership and land use bills, appropriations, agencies, departments, etc would be helpful so LAOB can be a source of information.
- **Dan** - where would we go to get this information?
- **Brian**
 - Looked at a few key bills/executive orders
 - 1) State budget - who got what amount and some specifications- [Vermont State Budget 2024 \(Act 78 of 2023\)](#)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2) Compare to players/advisory powers lists ○ 3) Triangulate by asking agencies/departments about their overall budgets ○ Was already gathering this information for the veto session to see where funding would come from for the hotel program → Budget office have a version of this in the “Housing side by side” document ○ Housing & Affordable Housing Development Appropriations - H.494 and S.100 ● Jess - We have ideas of where to get started and what we want to learn, but how can we begin doing this work together in working sessions? ● Xusana <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lots of ideas, but can we actually do that? ○ In everything we want to do, how much are we going to pass off to paid staff and act as advisors? Are we going to be a working board and tackle projects ourselves or create the work plans and review/advise on actions? ● Jess <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Exactly, it’s outside of the scope of work of Facilitators to do research, develop database, etc but can format & circulate information ○ If members of this subcommittee do not have capacity to be a working group, then we could at least gather the basic outline of a Work Plan for staff coming on as well as a clear contact list. ● Dan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A few tools we discussed creating - Introduction Letter to institutions - here is the working draft ○ If we do this outreach it may also allow us to collaborate with other organizations/institutions that could increase our capacity ● Brian - Interested in being a part of a working board
<p>5. Gathering next steps - 5 mins</p>	<p>8/1 will be a working sessions to draft/create MATERIALS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Created shared Google Drive folder to collaborate on docs - Please review and add comments, content, etc before 8/1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ DRAFT Introduction letter ○ DRAFT 1- pager ○ DRAFT Engagement & Outreach Methodology ● Review 6/29 Public Comment from Caroline at Rural VT as an example of information members - <i>this is a good example of the information/collaboration that allies of the board would be looking to the board for</i> <p>End-of-Session Recap where we understand the Home Act in concert with the Community Resilience and Biodiversity Protection Act that expresses support for “the historic settlement pattern of compact villages surrounded by rural lands and natural areas” as part of the conservation vision for Vermont that also expressly envisions support for working lands businesses. Given the impairments that the housing</p>

	<p>crisis, development of price inflation, and lack of economic viability in agriculture impose on land access for farmers and farmworkers these pieces of legislation should inspire to seek policies that would facilitate land access. -</p> <p>https://www.ruralvermont.org/from-the-statehouse-blog/2023/6/27/end-of-session-recap-062623</p>
6. Board Announcements	None
7. Public Comment (if any present)	No members of the public
8. Meeting Adjourned at 12:00pm	