

***Land Access and Opportunity Board: Hearth Tending Committee***  
**February 7, 2024, 9:30 – 10:30a.m**

Meeting Facilitator: Ornella Matta-Figueroa

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

Meeting Notetaker: Jean Hamilton

## Agenda

Meeting Convened by Facilitator, <u>Ornella</u> @ 9:30	
<b>1. Introductions &amp; Check-in</b>	<b>Name, Nominating Organization,</b>  <b>Check-in:</b> Arriving today energized by sunshine, the work, Lake Champlain rocks and fossils, community members who enrich us. Also feeling the frazzle of so much to do.  <b>Agenda Building</b>
<b>2. Discussion/ Updates</b>	<b>Budget hearings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Hearings on the Governor’s budget are scheduled for 2/13 at 3:30 and 2/20 at 5:30. Ornella and Jean will work with Board members to identify additional witnesses to provide testimony. Dan is available to give oral testimony on 2/13</li> </ul> <b>Moving to monthly board meetings in April</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Samantha- support for moving to monthly board meetings, gives space and time for more engagement with subcommittee work. Consider, asking public</li> </ul>

	<p>to weigh in? Consider the legislative calendar and will staff have enough feedback from board when they need it?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dan – yes support moving to monthly board meetings, for similar reasons cited above.</li> <li>● Susan – is there a way to engage board and/or get feedback from board via email or other digital forms?</li> <li>● Discussion of Samantha’s “weekly update” to her board at Releaf. This is a tool that O and J intend to put in place.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3. Process Check-in, Next Steps</b></p>	<p>Reflections</p> <p>Next Steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discuss the MOU →deep dive to understand where we fit with VHCB. Spread the institutional knowledge and embed it in this committee. Also look at the MOU through the lens of things that are being asked of the LAOB.</li> <li>● Questions about budget testimony: Will we be scheduled for specific times? Conflict with Board meeting on 2/20, is it possible to change to 2/13? Is there a limit on how many written testimonies we submit?</li> <li>● Planning for shift in board meeting schedule: ask public for their input.</li> <li>● Develop an annual timeline for the LAOB including the patterns of the leg schedule.</li> <li>● Develop the weekly update tool.</li> <li>● Finalize Press release. Meeting with Cara from VHCB next week. Will circulate a draft to board before then.</li> </ul> <p>Gratitude</p>
<p><b>Meeting Adjourned at 10:30 AM</b></p>	

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