# *Land Access and Opportunity Board:* Hearth Tending Committee
## August 26th, 2026, 9:30AM – 10:30AM

Meeting Facilitator: Jean Hamilton

Notetaker: Arealles Ortiz

| **Attendees** | **Not Present:** |
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| **Board:**<br>● Susan Aranoff, Vermont DD Council<br>● Kirsten Murphy, Vermont DD Council<br>● Jaada Longmore, Vermont Racial Justice Alliance<br>● Brian Cina, National Association of Social Workers, Vermont Chapter<br>● Samantha Langevin, Liberation Ecosystem Inc.<br>● Dan Coutu, VT Commission on Native American Affairs<br><br>**Staff:**<br>Arealles Ortiz<br>Jean Hamilton | ● Mark Hughes, Vermont Racial Justice Alliance |
| **Guests & Public:** Mindy Blank | |

## Agenda

| Meeting Convened by Facilitator at 9:30AM | |
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| **1. Introductions & Check-in** | <u>Agenda Items:</u><br>-Check ins Name, Nominating Organization<br>-Prompt: How are you landing today?<br>-8.19.26 DRAFT Minutes Review<br>-Presentation on Board Tools:<br>-Board Policy Binder Brief Overview<br>-Board Files & Sharing<br>-Executive Session to discuss personnel matters (20mins)<br>-Public Comment |

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| | -Other items:<br>-Update on communications with Tabitha |
| **2.Discussion/ Updates** | <u>8.19.26 DRAFT Minutes Review:</u><br>Brian Cina makes a motion to approve 8.19.25 minutes as presented.<br>Susan Aranoff seconds that motion.<br>All were in favor.<br><br><u>Presentation on Board Tools:</u><br>Overviewed the 8.21.26 updated version of the LAOB Board Policy Binder for the committee to use as a tool while working on the strategic plan. If the committee would like to make changes to the document, please reach out to Arealles so she can keep the most updated version available for the Board in the LAOB.Board Shared Folder.<br><br>Comment: Include a section that overviews the Boards Liability and whether LAOB is obligated to carry Board insurance.<br><br><u>Executive Session to discuss personnel matters:</u><br>Samantha Langevin makes a motion to move into executive session to discuss personnel matters.<br>Jaada Longmore seconds that motion.<br>All were in favor.<br><br>Samantha Langevin makes a motion to exit executive session at 10:34AM.<br>Jaada Longmore seconds that motion.<br>All were in favor.<br><br>No formal votes were made. The committee was in consensus to recommend to the full board the proposed structured Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) increases for LAOB Co-Directors. |
| **3. Process Check-in, Next Steps** | ● Reflections<br>● Next Steps:<br>-Strategic Plan/Stabilization Plan Check in<br>-Is LAOB obligated to carry Board Liability Insurance? Directors & Officers Insurance?<br>● Gratitudes |
| **Meeting Adjourned at 10:35 AM** | |

***Submitted by: Arealles Ortiz***