

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD
SPRINGFIELD DECLARATION OF INCLUSION COMMITTEE

Springfield Town Library
Main Street, Springfield, VT 05156
Tuesday, June 25, 2024, 5:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order:** the meeting was called to order by pattrice jones at 5:08 p.m.
 - Present in person: pattrice jones, Char Osterlund, Dan Bannan, Carolyn Comley, Traci Price, Tara Chase, Carol-Lynn Knight
 - Present on Zoom: Charis Boke
2. **Additions/Subtractions to the Agenda:** none.
3. **Public Comment:** no public present
4. **Announcements:** Rainbow Palooza / Vegan Fest on Saturday, June 29. Springfield Supported Housing bake sale on Friday July 5. Tara announced that SSHP has applied for a grant to support an emergency shelter.
5. **Discussion with police department representative:** no police representative attended the meeting.
6. **Approval of Minutes: June 25, 2024:** 1 changed noted. Char motioned, and Dan seconded. Unanimous approval.
7. **New Business:**
 - a. Committee vacancy: Dan asked if vacancies are being posted on the town website. Several committee members are aware of possible candidates to fill the open position.
 - b. New open meeting regulations: No changes appear to be necessary for the Inclusion committee.
 - c. Committee reviews: pattrice suggested that each committee member review the current town committees and select one to attend with the aim of increasing awareness of the Inclusion Committee.
 - d. Char volunteered to create a welcome packet containing useful information for new committee members.
 - e. Pattrice will complete the Vermont Declaration of Inclusion Initiative questionnaire.
8. **Old Business**
 - a. Town plan. i) Report on Select Board hearing: pattrice suggested changes/corrections to the plan. All suggestions were incorporated into the latest version of the plan.
ii) Land Acknowledgement: Good information is available on the Toonerville Trail information sign. Charis and pattrice will submit this information prior to the next Select Board meeting.
 - b. SSD Inclusion Committee update: the committee did not meet this month.
 - c. Subcommittee reports: i) Youth: Traci and Carol-Lynn are preparing to reach out.
ii) Stigma reduction: Disability stigma discussion will be held at the library on July 24. Suggest inviting Select Board members and Health District representatives.
 - d. Review of selected town policies and procedures: i) Health Officer: Will be discussed at the next meeting.
9. **Potential Recommendations to Selectboard:**
 - a. Need better communication between the Select Board and committees.
 - b. During public hearings and public comments, a procedure needs to be developed to determine what pronoun the public members desire, and then the pronoun should be properly used when addressing the person.
10. **Set date of next regular meeting:** July 23, 2024, at 5:00 PM.

10. Adjournment: Carolyn moved, and Tara seconded that we adjourn. Unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel Bannan