

Special Meeting of the Springfield Inclusion Committee
Draft Minutes
9/14/22

1. Call to Order 5:31 pm

Members present in person: Sue Dowdell, Charis Boke, pattrice jones, Char Osterlund, Walter Martone, Brandon Gulnick

Present via Zoom: Jules O'Guin

- Committee Chair pattrice apologizes to the Committee for warning this meeting at 24 hours instead of 48. Due to that timeframe of public warning, this is a Special Meeting rather than a Regular Meeting. We are refraining from anything requiring a vote this meeting: this is discussion meeting. Will vote at next duly warned Special or Regular Meeting.

2. Additions / Subtractions to the Agenda

- entitlement to free and appropriate public education

3. Public Comment

- No comments from members of public

4. Approval of minutes of August 17, 2022 meeting and August 31, 2022 special meeting

- Deferred to next meeting

5. Review committee roles and responsibilities

- Notes
 - Rotating note-taking—Walter and Jules will join Char and Charis as note-takers
- Chairship
 - Chair role will be revisited each March after town meeting
 - Chair posts agenda at 48 hours before meeting, requests items for agenda 1 week before meeting
 - Zoom link is on every agenda, add to town website as live-link
- Accessibility of meetings
 - Folks who don't have access to MS Word applications can't access documents on town website
 - Potential recommendation at next meeting to Selectboard for all committees in town to post agendas as PDFs on town website to improve accessibility

6. Clarification of open meeting rules concerning shared documents

- From the Secretary of State on the collective editing of online documents:
 - "We recommend that a quorum of a public body should not participate in collectively editing a document outside of a duly-warned public meeting, unless the body is in deliberative session as part of a quasi-judicial proceeding. Collective editing, even if performed by members individually and over time, may well fall within the bounds of a "meeting" under 1 V.S.A. § 310(3)(A) when an exchange of ideas and opinions occurs outside of the public view. This is so even if the work in progress is made public, as the open meeting law requires more in terms of advance public notice and public participation. See 1 V.S.A. § 312. We cannot assume, for example, that all members of the public will have the skills or means to access a tool such as Google Docs or be able offer their opinions on

the views exchanged. In our view, an acceptable alternative is to instead name a point person who collects and compiles each member's comments for later discussion at a duly-warned meeting."

- When less than a quorum of the voting body of the committee meets as agreed by the full body of the committee, editing of documents is allowed

7. Old business

a. Glossary

Will discuss this at the next Regular meeting

b. informed consent

Will discuss this at the next Regular meeting

8. New business

- pattrice recaps the Committee's work to date for the public who are present
- a. Planning a public Informational Meeting concerning housing
 - Sept 26th at 6pm the Selectboard will be having an open meeting on housing
 - Town Manager Jeff Mobus agrees the Inclusion Committee is a good place to host an Informational Meeting for the public on work being done to address the housing crisis.
 - Discussion of potential speakers and format
 - Charis will draft a description of what this Informational Meeting will entail to vote on at the next meeting
- b. Other action items arising from special meeting on housing
 - Gathering possible action items for municipal leaders from relevant sources (Housingdata.org, keystothevalley.com) to be discussed at next meeting
 - Gathering materials to give to landlords and tenants about regulations around housing discrimination
 - Discussion of recommendation to the Selectboard that the Town Library and the Town Office host these brochures for public reference

9. Free and Appropriate Public Education

- Public concerns shared about SSDVT's ability to comply with IEP needs and transportation needs for youth and families

Walter Martone left at 6:30

- Jules will gather more information on this and other youth-related needs

Brandon Gulnick left at 6:55

10. Reports and discussion of information gathered since last meeting

- None

10. Recommendations to Selectboard

- N/A – at the next meeting we will vote on a recommendation to put agendas in PDF form on the Town website

11. Set date of next meeting:

- Special Meeting October 5, 2022 at 5:30-6:15pm

12. Adjournment

Charis motioned to adjourn, Sue seconds. Adjourned at 6:59pm