

Lamoille County Planning Commission

JEDI Committee Meeting

April 2, 2024

Members present:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brian Leven <i>(Video)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Liz Courtney, Chair <i>(Video)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jeff Tilton <i>(Video)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Carol Caldwell-Edmonds <i>(Video)</i>
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Staff: Tasha Wallis, Meghan Rodier *(Video)*, Georgeana Little

Liz Courtney called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

Additions to the Agenda and Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no additions to the agenda and no public comment.

Approval of November 23, 2023 Minutes

Brian Leven motioned to accept the November 23, 2023 minutes. Carol Caldwell-Edmonds seconded. Motion carried..

Approval of January 22, 2024 Notes

Brian pointed out that no approval was necessary.

Possible Committee Name Change

Several suggestions for renaming the committee were made:

- DEIJ (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice) Committee – this would be alphabetical and also denote the order in which the areas were developed.
- DEI (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion) Committee – this is the most common current name for similar committees but has gotten a pejorative meaning.
- Community Engagement Committee.
- Inclusion or Belonging Committee would subsume the other areas.
- Inclusive Planning Committee – this includes both aspects of the committee’s mandate.

Members will consider the various suggestions and make a final decision at the next meeting.

Equity Requirement for the Enhanced Energy Plan

Methan Rodier explained that the Regional Plan Committee is working on an amendment on Energy for the Regional Plan. An equity component is now required by statute to be included in the energy section of all plans. The draft presented was modeled on the plan of the Northeastern Vermont Development Agency, which has already been approved. She is bringing this before the JEDI committee for any suggestions on the equity section of the plan. Overall, the members thought the section was good but several language changes were suggested. These suggestions will be taken up by the Regional Plan Committee at their April meeting.

Considerations for Inclusive Town Planning Discussion

Liz Courtney prepared the draft presented to the committee. She structured the draft around the Regional Plan chapters. She views this document as helpful guidance to towns and not a mandate. Committee members offered several suggestions including removing the word “should” in most places so that the document does not seem to be a mandate. Liz will incorporate the suggestions into a new draft to be presented to the Executive Committee before being presented to the full board.

Meeting Adjourned

Brian Leven motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jeff Tilton seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:42 pm.