

Glover Equity Committee
MINUTES
17 December 2024

Present: Ann Creaven, Betsy Day, Lindsay Gillette, Sara Gluckman, Jethro Hayman, Chair, Mariel Hess, Maria Hill, Vice Chair, Doug Safford, Darlene Young, Secretary.

Meeting called to order at 4:00 p.m. at the Glover Town Hall. We began with check-ins.

United We Stand – Building Community Through Courageous Conversations

The speaker series through the Vermont Humanities Council ended on December 9 with a presentation by Northeast Kingdom Organizing (NEKO). Jethro will send out a survey so participants can provide feedback individually. Comments from the committee: maintaining participation levels over four sessions was challenging; providing a meal was an important feature of the evening; getting a cross-section of the community was a challenge.

Sensory Trail/All People's Park

Committee members closed the trail for the winter, taking down some elements and moving others to protecting them from the worst of the weather.

Headwaters Community Land Trust

The newly-formed land trust is seeking partners for affordable housing projects. The model they are using allows people to build equity. The committee might be able to play an advisory role to help the trust identify suitable sites in town. We hope to have representatives from the trust at our February meeting.

Community Garden/UVM Intern for 2025

The community garden is a project that might benefit from the work of a UVM intern. The same program that provided interns for 2024 will operate for 2025. Next year the program will run for 10 weeks. The committee would have to come up with about \$4,000 to cover the cost of the intern's salary. Heidi has an idea for funding the intern position. We should identify other possible funding sources.

Central Vermont Asylum Seekers

Jethro has been in touch with one of the key people who has been part of a Central Vermont organization that provides support for refugees and asylum seekers. That person has recently moved to St. Johnsbury where they are continuing the work of providing support. Several families are moving to the Northeast Kingdom and require assistance. A meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 19 at 3 p.m. at Boule

Bakery and Cafe to learn more about what we might do to help. After the meeting, Jethro will forward info to the committee.

Office of Racial Equity

Wednesday January 8th 2025 the Office of Racial Equity will host a webinar that will provide an overview of its work. [Register for the 2025 ORE Overview webinar.](#)

Three Kings Day

With leadership from Lisette, the committee and Barton Library will sponsor a Three Kings Day celebration on Friday, January 10 from 5-6:30 at the library. Volunteers are needed to help with decorations, food and costumes. Authentic pasteles are an important food for the event. Three Kings Day has cultural as well as religious significance.

Welcome Bags

Through property transfers, Darlene has identified six new residents in town. She'll notify committee members after the first of the year about what is still needed for the bags and to schedule deliveries.

Annual Report Message

Darlene will draft a message to include in the 2024 Glover Annual Report about the work of the committee. She'll share it with the group.

NEKO Membership

The committee discussed the possibility of becoming a member of NEKO; cost is \$250 but we might be able to join for less. Membership numbers gives NEKO leverage for their initiatives. Volunteering is another important way to support their work. For example, we could provide another meal to the Barton Meal Site. On January 16, a senior meal and game day is planned.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Meetings are held each month. Next meeting: Thursday, January 9, 2025 at 4 p.m. at the Glover Town Hall. We will hold election of officers at our January meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene Young, Secretary