

MEETING MINUTES
ST. ALBANS CITY BELONGING, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE
ST. ALBANS CITY HALL, 100 NORTH MAIN STREET
6:00 PM TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2025

Approved November 4, 2025

Committee Members Present: Moira Jamieson-Brooks, Co-Chair (Via Zoom); Melyssa Bailey (Via Zoom); Anais Olshan; Vikki LaRose (Via Zoom); Preston Fuller (Via Zoom); Cody Hooper-Kaufmann; Connor Holtkamp

Committee Members Absent: Carl Watkins, Co-Chair

City Staff present: Paul Olshan (Minute-taker); Chip Sawyer (Director of Planning and Development);

Members of the public present: Lindsay Hunn (Via Zoom)

1. **Begin Recording and Open Meeting.**
 - **M. Brook started the meeting at 6:03 PM.**
 - P. Fuller read the Land Acknowledgement and M. Bailey read the BEI Committee Values.
 - All attendees introduced themselves.
 - Public Comment.
 - No additions or deletions
2. **M. Bailey motioned to approve the minutes from September, as presented. Seconded by P. Fuller. The motion passed with all in favor. No additional discussion.**
3. C. Holtkamp gave an update on the meeting with City Council and some upcoming events that were shared with the City Council. They approved for the BEI Committee to share the Declaration of Inclusion “far and wide.” BEI members requested a more visual representation of this document on the city website. This was taken well by the City Council. M. Brooks specified that they were ready to have more meetings with the City Council in the future.
 - The BEI discussed a little bit about the importance of how the Declaration of Inclusion should look and why it’s a good document to share.
 - C. Sawyer gave an idea of how this could be implemented on the website. The Committee was all in agreement.
4. Discussing Committee member attendance policy.
 - The Committee discussed a motion passed last meeting that mentioned if two meetings are missed consecutively, the co-chairs would reach out for a check-in before further action is taken.
 - M. Brooks would get this in writing for the next meeting.
 - There was a discussion about this not being a punitive measure but a supportive

measure for community members. BEI members equated it to a “wellness check.”

5. Discuss funding for Spooky Saturday supplies.
 - Connor Holtkamp brought up the face painting at the fountain and how this would look. C. Hooper-Kaufman wouldn't mind donating time and supplies for the face painting setup. They were all set in terms of support, but wouldn't mind committee members coming by to say hello. The Committee would work to add some flyers for Pride and the Declaration of Inclusion.
6. Updates on Initiatives
 - A. Olshan gave an update on the Witch's Dance and the Monster Mash Dance, and gave some details for anyone who wanted to join.
 - M. Brooks updated the committee on the process for Movies That Matter and Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and the difficulty of finding the right movies that can be appropriate for public viewing.
 - V. LaRose brought up Gone Boys, a documentary about the struggles of adolescent boys, and the committee generally liked the idea. Since this would be for January, V. LaRose would reach out to the Welden Manager in November. The committee discussed inviting the producers to join the panel when the movie is shown.
 - M. Bailey brought up a lack of bike racks in some places. M. Bailey and C. Hooper-Kaufmann would discuss places to add bike racks in the future, as well as potentially creating a bike rack map. This would be put on the agenda for next month.
 - V. LaRose brought up public transportation difficulties in St. Albans, especially the timings of bus routes with GMT. She mentioned advertising the timings of bus routes for people who depend on them. C. Sawyer unveiled some substantial changes to GMT routes over the next few years. V. LaRose expressed interest in being active in that process. The committee also discussed adding links for transportation resources to the BEI webpage.
7. Other Business
 - V. LaRose brought up potential stipends for members. C. Sawyer stated that he did not think a stipend request for volunteer boards would be successful. This was reinforced by the fact that even the mayor and the city council were not paid.
8. The next BEI meeting would be 6:00 on November 4, 2025. Even though this is election day, there are no midterm votes, so there would be no conflicts that day. C. Hooper-Kaufmann wanted to have a list of initiatives for brainstorming in advance.
9. Committee members gave their plus/deltas. P. Fuller mentioned the grace trail in Hard'Ack, which is a reflective walk that's half a mile. He also brought up the newly opened Harvest House, which is the first Latino market in the city.
- 10. M. Brooks adjourned the meeting at 7:05 PM.**