

**Land Access and Opportunity Board Sub-committee: Advisory Powers & Advocacy**  
**February 13 2024, 10:00 – 11:00 am**

Meeting Facilitator: Jean Hamilton and Ornella Matta-Figueroa, LAOB Staff

Attendee	Present	Not Present - includes Board Alternates
<b>Board</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dan Coutu, VT Commission on Native American Affairs (VCNAA)</li> <li>● Susan Aranoff, Vermont Developmental Disabilities Council</li> <li>● Rev. Mark Hughes, VRJA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ana Mejia, VT Every Town</li> <li>● Brian Cina, NASW</li> <li>● Xusana Davis, Office of Racial Equity</li> <li>●</li> </ul>
<b>Public &amp; Guests</b>		

### Agenda & Notes

<b>1. Meeting Convened</b> by Ornella @ 10:00am	
<b>2. Welcome &amp; Overview of Agenda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Check-in               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Arriving together.</li> <li>○ Discussion of impromptu invitation to give testimony in house appropriations last Friday: in what ways was this a helpful opportunity, was it fair, did it give the LAOB our best shot, how did we bring our skills and professionalism to this ask, what would we do differently next time.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Agenda Building</li> </ul>
<b>3. Meetings scheduling</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Scheduling: Maintain bi-weekly meetings on Tuesdays 10am-11am. Next meeting 2/27</li> </ul>
<b>4. Learning Journey Presentations, Outreach and Survey</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discuss at next meeting</li> </ul>
<b>5. Equity Assessment Planning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discuss at next meeting</li> </ul>
<b>6. Updates on relevant</b>	<p><b>Mark</b> – working on bills related to Economic Justice, Reparations Task Force, Health Equity – R113: racism is a public health emergency, Cannabis as it relates to expungements and access to market: lets look at the excise tax.</p>

<p><b>legislative initiatives</b></p>	<p>30% of the excise tax is supposed to be directed to prevention, there are currently challenges relating to how equity is being considered within that prevention planning. What about the other 70%?          There is discussion about the 70% being dumped into the general fund in July.          Monica Hutt – state prevention officer          In the middle of a constitutional amendment to address equal protection.          Relevant to LAOB. PR 4 – Peter Teachout offered testimony on this constitutional amendment.</p> <p>Strategy – one of the things we can say is that the LAOB’s budget can come from the excise tax from cannabis. Working on setting up a meeting with ACCD. Ask committees of jurisdiction and the appropriations committee to amend the policy that calls for the distribution of those funds into the general fund and redirect them by statute into the Health Equity Advisory Commission and Land Access and Opportunity Board.</p> <p>Working together and cross pollinating gives us collective liberation, shared learning, economies of scale, and shared power.</p> <p>Health Equity Advisory Commission is doing a health equity assessment, and it extends to all of the social determinants of health, which includes lots of overlap with the LAOB. Working together allows us to look at the systems and policies as a whole.</p> <p><b>Susan</b> – love the idea of linking the LAOB budget to the Cannabis fund</p>
<p><b>7. Updates and Next Steps</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <u>Next Meeting</u>: 2/27/24, 10-11am</li> <li>● <u>Agenda items</u>:</li> <li>● Schedule meeting to discuss cannabis excise taxes</li> <li>● Put cannabis excise tax funding discussion on LAOB meeting agenda</li> <li>● Schedule meeting with HEAC</li> </ul>
<p><b>8. Meeting Adjourned at 11 am</b></p>	

*Recurring Zoom meeting Link - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84487600423>*