

Volunteer Coordinating Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2025
7:00PM
Via Zoom Conference Call <https://zoom.us/j/87454124171>

Present: Gregory Hutchins, Hart Millett and Fang Yang

Absent: None

Virtual Meeting Coordinator: Fang Yang

1. Opening

Chair Hutchins opened the meeting at 7:04PM.

2. Regular Business

A. Public Comments/citizens concerns

None

B. Approval of Meeting Minutes – The meeting minutes on December 05, 2024 were reviewed. Mr. Hutchins moved to approve the meeting minutes and Mr. Yang seconded. Chair Hutchins called roll:
Mr. Hutchins – aye; Mr. Millett – aye; and Mr. Yang – aye.

C. Next Meeting – TBD.

3. New/Special Business

Discussion on Application by Barry Saranich for Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA)

- Mr. Saranich explained that his interest in town affairs was sparked during COVID when remote meetings became common. He found the openings in ZBA from the Town's website.
- Mr. Saranich has lived in Acton for over 17 years, works remotely in telecom technology, and has attended several ZBA meetings. He expresses interest in observing and contributing to the town's zoning processes rather than making changes. Mr. Saranich showed the VCC the he had a volume of the Zoning manual which he planned to study.
- Mr. Saranich keeps up with town affairs through the neighborhood of the Indian Village, and the AB School system.
- Mr. Saranich reported that he is able to attend future meetings regularly, in-person or remotely.
- Mr. Saranich reported no conflict of interest. Mr. Hutchins confirmed that he found no subject of a ZBA hearing either by Mr. Saranich or anyone in his neighborhood through Acton Town's website.

Mr. Yang moved to forward Barry Saranich's name to the Select Board for further consideration to appoint as an associate member of the ZBA. Mr. Hutchins seconded. Chair Hutchins called roll:

Mr. Yang – aye; Mr. Millett – abs.; and Mr. Hutchins – aye.

Discussion on Application by Jack Dirstine for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee (DEIC)

- Mr. Dirstine shared his motivation for volunteering, emphasizing his support for equality and his desire to contribute to an inclusive environment.
- Mr. Dirstine is a baker and a game designer. He was a multicultural student in the AB school system. He studied Game Design in Champlain College, where he enjoyed learning about other cultures.
- Mr. Dirstine reported no conflict of interest.
- Mr. Dirstine reported that he attended one DEIC meeting, and would be able to attend future meetings regularly.
- The VCC highlighted Dirstine's diverse background, motivation, and enthusiasm for the DEIC, considering his youth and diversity as a positive addition.

Mr. Yang moved to forward Jack Dirstine's name to the Select Board for further consideration to appoint as a member of the DEIC. Mr. Hutchins seconded. Chair Hutchins called roll:

Mr. Yang – aye; Mr. Millett – abs.; and Mr. Hutchins – aye.

Discussion on Application by Amy Green for the Open Space Committee

Chair Hutchins will write a separate letter to the Select Board to discuss Ms. Green's application.

Discussion on Application by Dobrochyna Szonert for Human Services Committee

Ms. Szonert was scheduled to be interviewed by VCC, but she did not show up.

4. Adjournment

At 9:00PM

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Chair Hutchins called roll:

Mr. Millett – abs.; Mr. Yang – aye; and Mr. Hutchins – aye.

Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting

- Meeting minutes of December 05, 2024.
- Volunteer Application by Barry Saranich.
- Volunteer Application by Jack Dirstine.
- Volunteer Application by Amy Green.
- Volunteer Application by Dobrochyna Szonert.