



Town of Montgomery - P.O. Box 356
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UNAPPROVED MINUTES
Montgomery Town Hall Committee
Wednesday Sept 25th 2024
6:00 pm
PSB Conference Room
Members Present: Tosca Smith, Joanne Dennis, Tara Lumbra, Tiffany Salyards, Brad Elliot
Visitors Present: Peter Locher

1. Brad Elliot opened the meeting at 6:05 pm
2. Tara Made a motion to approve minutes as written from 9/11/24 , Tosca seconds, 3 in favor, 2 abstains, motion carries
3. A statement was read by Joanne Dennis. In it she resigned her position on the Town Hall Committee. Tosca made a motion to accept Joannes resignation, Tara Seconds, 4 in favor, Motion carries. Tosca made a motion to enter Joannes' statement into the minutes, Tara seconds, 4 in favor, motion carries. The statement is attached to these minutes.
4. Discussion about renting kitchen and basement, questions arise concerning access for everyone. No motions made
5. Tiffany Salyards makes a statement and resigns her position on the town hall committee. Tosca makes a motion to accept Tiffany's resignation. 3 in favor.
6. Peter Locher speaks about the importance of working together to bridge our differences. Says it is not insurmountable. Thankyou Peter.
7. As we are not sure about whether we are a sitting quorum without our other 2 members present it is decided that we adjourn without a motion and figure out what next steps are at the next duly warned meeting of The Town Hall Committee on October 9th at 6 pm at the PSB Conference room.

Respectfully Submitted
Tosca Smith
Secretary Town Hall Committee
9/30/24

September 25, 2024

To the Town of Montgomery,

I am resigning from the Town Hall Committee, as of today, September 25, 2024. I have spent the last year working diligently as the committee member in charge of community scheduling and contract/policy execution to establish a process of open communication and equal access to everyone who is interested in using our Town Hall. It has always been my absolute primary goal in this role to maintain a sense of complete fairness and to impart the sentiment that the building belongs to everyone in the community, equally. Additionally, I have put time toward assessing potential grant funding for necessary improvements and repairs for the building and I began the preliminary work to nominate the building to the National Register of Historic places. I have always put my responsibility as a representative of the town and our community at the forefront of all my actions, and never put my own agenda or gains ahead of that responsibility.

As one of the community members that helped to establish this committee, I feel extremely conflicted about resigning given the concerns I have that led to my resignation. Some members of this committee have established a culture of actions and behaviors that I do not feel comfortable contributing to. An attempt to address these issues at our meeting on September 11th made it clear to me that there would not be any feasible way to resolve or address these concerns professionally within the current make up of this committee.

My last statement as a representative on this committee would be to strongly suggest that anyone remaining on the Town Hall committee read, sign off to, adhere to and enforce the Municipal Code of Ethics & Town Conflict of Interest Policy that pertains to all town employees, board members and committee members.

I plan on continuing to serve our community in some capacity by following through with the goal to nominate the Town Hall building to the National Register of Historic places. I will do so as a private citizen and seek the guidance and collaboration of the Selectboard, the Historical Society, the Town Hall committee, and the State of Vermont to see this through.

Respectfully,
Joanne Dennis