Freedom and Unity Task Force
September 30, 2024 Meeting Minutes
Craftsbury Public Library

Present: Daniel Solomon, Wendy Turnbull, Susie Houston, Ruth Krebs
Absent: Bru Mille, Jeannine Young

Working group updates

- Civics Education – no update
- Reimagining Leadership – did not meet over the summer, Daniel will see about reconvening the group this fall.
- Craftsbury Community Month – no update

Other business

- Microgrant funds for Craftsbury: VCF approved all applications submitted by June 30 deadline, including establishing a "Freedom & Unity Fund" with the unspent remaining funds (~ $800). The town clerk issued reimbursement checks for all incurred expenses associated with Craftsbury Community Month and the Memorial Day observance.
- A written policy outlining the purpose of the Craftsbury Freedom & Unity Fund and how funds will be managed and used was drafted (required by VCF) and shared with selectboard for review at their Sept 17th regular meeting. The selectboard approved the policy. The Fund will reside with the town and all remaining VCF grant funds will be released to the town by year's end.
- Orleans Senate Candidate Forum: discussion about whether to organize a candidate forum with neighboring towns for the open Orleans Senate seat. During the meeting, we learned that two forums are happening – Oct 16 @ Lake Region Union HS and Oct 23 @ Craftsbury Academy. Agreed we need to get more details and share information on FPF as soon as possible.
- Vermont Declaration of Inclusion: statewide effort to get all towns to adopt. Further discussion tabled as task force lost quorum; add to next meeting agenda.
- Next meeting – TBD, late October.