

September 13, 2024

Re: Inclusivity Working Group

Dear Select Board:

I would like to be considered for the Inclusivity Work Group to address the proposed Declaration of Inclusion and to assist in the drafting of a unique Town Declaration of Inclusion; to be voted on at Town Meeting Day. I am willing and have performed (some) investigation into the proposed State wide Declaration of Inclusion and feel further research is necessary, for example: if we are to adopt the DI is there any legal loop holes that may make the Town of Charlotte vulnerable to legal action against us should we not follow the implementation and ongoing implementation guidelines. I understand that this is a non profit group and we have been assured that nothing is binding. Is it possible for another entity / business / or special interest group to take action against our Town? I mention this because of what happened at the State level, "In its latest effort to ensure state leaders are held accountable and follow their own climate laws, Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) has sent a notice of alleged violation to Vermont's Secretary of the Agency of Natural Resources for failing to meet her legal responsibilities set by the Global Warming Solutions Act (GWSA), ensuring the State is on track to reduce climate-damaging emissions." ("CLF Files Notice of Lawsuit with Vermont Agency for Failure on Climate Law," Conservation Law Foundation, clf, July 23, 2024) We the tax payers will be burdened by this.

I was at the August 12th Select Board meeting and stood with those in opposition of adaption of the Declaration of Inclusion on that day. I applaud the members of the Select Board for putting this issue to vote by the Town's people rather than rushing it through. We all love Charlotte and moved here to be in Chittenden County but to not have the crowded, dare I say ugly construction that is going on in the other towns. I would hope people of all race, ethnicity, culture, etc... would want to come here for who we are and what we are as a Town. And as a few people mentioned at that meeting on August 12th, we are already inclusive. Charlotte is a unique place and I feel it is important to keep it that way.

I would hope that you might consider me as a member of the Inclusivity Working Group.

Sincerely,
Michelin Carroll

