

Meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm.

- Attendance: John Ranco, Anne Bancroft, Veda Kiperphelps (YHS student), Catherine Bonner, Arche Jones, Owen Davis, Victoria Simon and James Kences (town historian).
- Moment of Silence honoring 911
 - Anne/John, facilitating; Remembrances shared by meeting attendees
- Land acknowledgment - Anne - article shared
- Review minutes from August meeting- discuss, edit (if needed) and approve - All
- Motion by Archie, 2nd Victoria, motion passed

Meeting Recap:

The meeting discussed the impact of 9/11, with participants recalling personal experiences and the aftermath.

The main agenda focused on land acknowledgment and a mural design for the town hall. James Kences, the town historian, emphasized the importance of land acknowledgment, citing its inclusion in other towns' practices. Citizen forums was suggested to raise awareness.

The mural design, created by Gordon Carlisle, represents different centuries of York's history. The committee supported the idea and suggested incorporating community feedback to refine the design.

The meeting further discussed the development of a historical map, emphasizing the need for more detailed geography and inclusive representation. James explained budget constraints limit the number of icons, but a QR code will provide additional information. Concerns were raised about the map's historical accuracy, particularly the lack of Native American history and the absence of conflict and slavery.

The project aims for community involvement, with a meeting scheduled to finalize the design.

The next discussion proposed exploring restructuring YCCRAB to include town employees and suggested a more open process -highlighted was what had been learned from our meetings with Kittery DEI town committee, and the cross departmental value of more participation by department heads.

Action Items:

- Draft a letter outlining concerns about the proposed mural and suggestions for a more open community process. Send to Peter Joseph within two weeks.
- Schedule a follow up Zoom meeting on October 9th to discuss the draft letter.
- Create a Google Doc of the draft letter for other members to provide input.
- Present an update on the committee's work and a proposal to restructure membership to the York Select Board next month.

- James Phillips will continue advocating for land acknowledgements at citizen forums in the coming month.
- A land acknowledgment to be developed by the committee.
- The committee will discuss how to formally recommend the adoption of land acknowledgements at the next Select Board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm