

Town of Fairhaven
Town Hall - 40 Center Street - Fairhaven, MA 02719



Belonging Committee

Date, Time, and Location:

July 15, 2025

Remote Only via ZOOM: 1-929-205-6099; Meeting ID: 892 1866 8394;

Passcode: 686316

Video Recording Available on Fairhaven TV: <https://vimeo.com/showcase/11514976>

Meeting Overview:

Call to Order: The Massachusetts Open Meeting Law and updated Zoom requirements were reviewed.

Quorum/Attendance

In Attendance:

Members: Kelly Ochoa, Vice Chair; Alliea E. Group, Clerk; Krystal Lunn; Rachel Medeiros

Absent:

- **Members:** Jessica Fidalgo, Chair; Laura Barillaro;
- **Ex Officio:** Officer Mary Christ, Police Department Representative; Andrew Romano, Select Board Representative.
- **Vacant Positions:** Fire Department Representative; School Department Representative; Town of Fairhaven Employee Representative.

Future Planning: On October 12th, we will be sponsoring a community event in coordination with the Commission on Disability and Council on Aging. We will check with the organizing team regarding including multi-heritage food trucks and vendors. We will host a sensory tent. We are working to include Unified Basketball, a program that brings together students with and without intellectual disabilities to train and compete on the same team while representing their school. For more information, visit: [unified-basketball-format-2025-final_0.pdf](#). We are also hoping to host a Touch-A-Truck event to enable children to explore emergency services. More information will be provided at our next meeting.

Disability Pride: The event with the Commission on Disability will be held this Friday, July 18th, on West Island Beach from 12-4 PM. The event will highlight the improvements to accessibility made by the town to access the beach, including a floating chair and accessibility mats.

<https://www.discoverfairhaven.org/event-details-registration/disability-pride-beach-day>

Rachel Medeiros made a motion and seconded by Alliea Group, to purchase a sign for \$17.98 using committee funds to support the event. A roll call vote was held; the motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Alliea Group and seconded by Krystal Lunn to spend up to \$450.00 from the gift account to support hiring the Oxford Creamery food truck to provide ice cream for the Disability Pride event. After a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Belonging Committee Open Positions:

Liaison Positions:

Fire Department

Fairhaven Public Schools –Melissa Duarte has been approved; however, she has not yet been sworn in. We welcome her as a future member of the committee, joining us tonight.

Town of Fairhaven Employee

Staff Liaison

Public Comments:

A reminder that public comments may be submitted to belonging@fairhaven.ma.gov, in person or remotely, during the Public Comment period of Belonging Committee meetings.

No public comments were received.

A motion was made by Alliea Group and seconded by Krystal Lunn to hold our next meeting On Tuesday, September 16, 2025. After a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 16, 2025

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by Kelly Ochoa at 6:54 PM.

Alliea E. Group

Signed by: