

Draft of the Minutes, EDIT Meeting of July 27, 2023, on Zoom

Present: Chair, Jonathan Tropp, Challa Flemming, Vice Chair, Rick Bolton, David Rosenburg, Tara Figueroa, Chris Powell

Absent: Kalim Jan

Also Present: James Cordone, Town of Trumbull Attorney, William Chin, Town of Trumbull Technology Director, Joanne Glasser Orenstein, Clerk, Janet Epstein

Mr. Tropp called the meeting to order at 7:34pm. Mr. Tropp welcomed Mr. Powell, who was sworn in at the last Town Council meeting in July. Mr. Powell said he is excited to be on the Committee, and help to make a positive change in Trumbull. He is currently a Norwalk Community College sophomore.

Mr. Tropp observed a moment of silence for Dan Wiseneski, who passed away since the last meeting. He was a member of EDIT since it's inception, and he did the work with passion and heart. He will be missed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and roll call completed.

Correspondence: Mr. Tropp noted 2 items of correspondence: the first, which was forwarded to all the members on EDIT on 6/20/23, was from Dr. Hassem Hafifi re: the schools' observation of EID. The calendar committee has since added it to the the school calendar. The second was from Janet Epstein, on July 20, 2023, which was a link to an article on health equity.

Public Comment: None.

Ms. Flemming made a motion to accept the Minutes of May 18, 2023, Ms. Figueroa seconded. VOTE: Mr. Powell abstained, all others in favor.

Old Business: Historical Society

Mr. Tropp reported the June 22 program by Eve Galanis was well done and well attended. He, Mr. Rosenberg and Ms. Figueroa were in attendance. All felt very good about the program, and learned a lot. Ms. Figueroa said the conversation that followed the formal program was great. Mr. Tropp says they will move forward with the next program.

Report to Town Council

Mr. Tropp gave the EDIT report to the Town Council on July 6. Mr. Rosenberg and Mr. Powell were also in attendance. The Council was attentive to the report, asked questions and invited EDIT to coordinate with other departments and identify prospective items that require budgeting well in advance. EDIT is free to fundraise as well. Sustainable Trumull may be a source of some funding.

## Library Programs

1. The Poster Prompt does not seem to be up, Mr. Tropp will follow up.
2. The Summer reading list is up and the books are available at the Library.
3. The Book Club is scheduled for 4 times a year and to start this fall. After polling the committee members and discussing, the Sum of Us was chosen as the first book and How the Word is Passed as the second. Mr. Tropp will report back to the Library. The Library has suggested 6:30-7:30pm or 7-8pm, Monday - thursday. After discussion, the committee preference was Monday or Wednesday, 7-8pm.
4. Panel on Censorship. The Librarians did not like the idea of having one of them on the panel. They suggested State Representative Sarah Keitt, as she is working on a bipartisan sub committee working on designating libraries as safe zones. It was suggested by Mr. Bolton to include a republican as well. Mr. Tropp will ask the Library what they thought, and will go with their wishes.

## Data Haven Community Well Being Index and Trumbull Equity Profile

Most members felt they need to look at the material again, certainly in more depth. Ms. Figueroa stated her initial impression was there were missing data points. Mr. Tropp felt Trumbull came out looking better than many surrounding communities. Ms. Fleming suggested breaking it up into smaller parts and starting with the first 8 pages of the Trumbull Equity Index and the demographics with housing. All agreed to start there for the August meeting.

## Essay Contest

Ms. Flemming reported that she, Ms. Figueroa and Mr. Jahn met and had a robust discussion. When to launch the contest is a key question. They also discussed solicitation of sponsors. It will be on the agenda for the August meeting.

## Research on Diversity Training

Ms. Figueroa reported that she and Mr. Rosenberg met with Tom McCarthy, the Director of HR for the Town. The department is excited to hear about what options there could be. They currently do trainings with an organization called ESI. Mr. McCarthy is looking at what ESI offers for Diversity Training. It would involve about 20 employees, department heads, so they can become the trainers. The Town is enthusiastic about doing the training. EDIT can check with other departments (such as Police and EMS) who have already done the training, see who they used and how they feel it went. The next step is to draft a short description of the training options, who can offer it and at approximately what cost.

## Trumbull Times

Mr. Tropp said there was coverage after the Town Council meeting. There is nothing for this month.

New Business:

Mr. Tropp said August 17 is the next scheduled meeting. Suggested the schedule for next year be looked at.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Bolton, seconded by Mr. Rosenberg. VOTE: All in favor at 8:53pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Glasser Orenstein

July 30, 2023