

Draft of the Minutes, Special EDIT Meeting of November 2, 2023, on Zoom

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

Also Present William Chin, Town of Trumbull Technology Director, Joanne Glasser Orenstein, Clerk, Jame Cordone, Town Attorney

Mr. Tropp called the meeting to order at 7:02pm by Jonathan Tropp.

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

Public Comment: Mr. Tropp said there would be no public comment at this special meeting, but the public will be welcome to comment at the next regular meeting.

Mr. Tropp explained this meeting was called to address the distribution of hate flyers in town by a neo-nazi group. The Task Force composed the following statement as a response:

We, the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Task Force of the Town of Trumbull, stand united against hate, discrimination, and bigotry. It is with deep concern that we address an incident that recently occurred within our community. The distribution of hateful leaflets in our town by a neo-Nazi group is an affront to the values of equity and inclusivity that we hold dear.

We wish to extend our heartfelt gratitude to First Selectman Tesoro, Chief of Police Lombardo, and both the Trumbull Republicans and Trumbull Democrats for swiftly and unequivocally denouncing this hateful act. Their immediate response sends a powerful message that hate has no place in our community. We are heartened by their commitment to upholding the principles of inclusion and respect that define the Town of Trumbull.

Let it be clear that our community values diversity, equity, and inclusion. We reject the venomous ideology espoused by hate groups and firmly denounce the distribution of such leaflets in our town. We stand together against hatred and will continue to work to ensure that every resident of Trumbull, regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or background, is treated with dignity and respect, which we all deserve.

In times such as this, it is essential that we come together as a community to support one another. Trumbull is made stronger by its diverse members, and we reaffirm our unwavering commitment to fostering an environment of inclusivity, understanding, and acceptance.

Trumbull Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Task Force

Jonathan Tropp (chair)

Challa Flemming (vice chair)

Tara Figueroa

David Rosenberg

Richard Bolton

Christopher Powell

The committee discussed how to disseminate the statement and agreed Ms. Flemming would forward it to the CT Post reporter who has been in touch with her, and that Mr. Tropp would forward it to William Chin and Patricia Zablocky to post on the Town website, and Ms. Figueroa would post it to the EDIT web page. A motion was made by Ms. Flemming, seconded by Mr. Figueroa. VOTE: All in favor.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Bolton, seconded by Mr. Rosenberg. VOTE: All in favor at 7:13pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Glasser Orenstein  
November 5, 2023