

DRAFT of the Minutes of the EDIT meeting of January 19, 2023

Present: Jonathan Tropp, Vice Chair, Tara Figueroa, David Rosenburg, Dan Wisneski, Rick Bolton

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

Absent: Andrea Fonseca, EDIT Chair

The meeting was called to order at 7:38pm by Mr. Tropp.

The roll call was done and the Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Correspondence: None.

Approval of the Minutes: Dan Wisencki made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2022 meeting, Mr. Rosenburg seconded. VOTE: Mr. Wisencki abstained, all others in favor.

Mr. Bolton made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 12 Public Forum, Mr. Rosenburg seconded. VOTE: All in favor.

Public Comment: None.

Old Business – Value Statement for the Town: Ms. Fonseca reported to the Town Council and included the suggested statement. Mr. Rosenburg was present, reporting she had given a 4th quarter progress report that included the statement. The Town Council listened without comment. The only action they took was to swear in Ms. Fonseca for a new term, continuing as Chair.

Public Forum: Everyone was very grateful for the input of the public that attended. There was discussion of whether it was EDIT's purview to advocate for change, or to simply provide a forum for it. The committee came to agree it was their job to advocate. For the request to add EID to the school calendar, it was decided to petition Dr. Iwaniki's (calendar) committee, and to direct Dr. Afifi to have a direct conversation with them. It was also decided that there should be a single point of contact from EDIT for Dr. Afifi, and that should be Ms. Fonseca, as she is the Chair.

Ms. Figueroa made a motion to draft a communication in support of adding EID to the Trumbull Public School calendar. Mr. Rosenburg seconded. VOTE: All in favor. Ms. Figueroa and Mr. Rosenberg will draft a letter to be presented next month for the whole committee's approval and Ms. Fonseca's signature.

Terms and Renewals: Mr. Tropp and Mr. Rosenburg will attend the next Town Council meeting to be renewed. Everyone else's term expires in 2024. Mr. Tropp mentioned they are down two

members and any recommendations, particularly for Republicans and Unaffiliated would be great.

Events: Trumbull Day, Arts Festival are still months away. The library remains interested in collaborating with EDIT for Black History Month. Not sure of the status of things with the Historical society. Mr. Tropp said he had not yet reached out to Trumbull Community TV about the Essay Contest, but will. Ms. Fonseca did present a small budget request to the Town Council, but they did not comment on that.

Other: Ms. Figueroa asked about the status of training. Mr. Bolton has several graduate students working on what local towns are doing, and they will be making recommendations very soon. He stated the SCSU Library has also agreed to help with this. Mr. Bolton cited a New YorkTimes article that stated diversity training often seems to backfire.

Mr. Wisneski asked about the Trumbull Times ``Question of the Week”, nothing has been done on this – it will be on the agenda for discussion next month. Mr. Tropp did note that they did not publish his recent Letter to the Editor in advance of the Public Forum.

Mr. Bolton made a motion to adjourn; Mr. Rosenberg seconded. VTE: all in favor at 8:28pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Glasser Orenstien  
January 23, 2023