Minutes of the EDIT Meeting of 2/12/26 on the Zoom Platform

Present: Jonathan Tropp, Chairman; Challa Flemming, Co-Chair; David Rosenburg, Samantha Miller, Rick Bolton, Rodney Gray
Absent: Chris Powell
Also Present: James Cordone, Town of Trumbull Attorney; William B. Chin, Town of Trumbull Technology Director; Jennifer Winschell Town Council Liaison

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Tropp at 7:31pm

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Roll Call was completed.

There was no correspondence.

No members of the public were present.

Ms. Flemming made a motion to approve the January minutes, Mr. Bolton seconded. VOTE: Mr. Gray abstained, all others in favor.

Mr. Tropp reported Chief Lombardo, who had been scheduled to attend the evening's meeting, was unable to attend because of a budget meeting with the Board of Finance. He has agreed to come in March.

Old Business

Ms. Flemming and Mr. Tropp met with First Selectman Tesoro. Ms. Tesoro is appreciative and supportive of EDIT. She expressed views similar to Mr. McCarthy about the December anti-bias training. She expects to meet with Mr. McCarthy about next steps. Finally, they discussed the survey, including how to best distribute the survey. The Town does not have emails for all residents, but the Town website and Facebook pages can be used as well as the First Selectman's newsletter. The Senior Center and the Board of Ed have big email bases. Town Council Chair Ashley Guadiano raised the concern of how to prevent abuse of the survey and asked how the survey data would be used.

Discussion among EDIT members led to consensus to proceed. There was agreement the survey should have a limited time of 2-4 weeks for answering. It would be a starting point for further discussion.

Book Club: Mr. Tropp reported he, Ms. Flemming and Mr. Rosenburg's wife attended the book club discussion of Difficult Conversations with a Jew. It had an overall similar number of attendees but with some new people, including some Jewish people. It was a good discussion, and there was overall appreciation of the book choice. They liked the structure of the book, as a conversation. It was seen as a thoughtful model on how we can engage in the world.

There was discussion on what should be the next book, with 7 titles specifically raised for non-exclusive consideration. A decision will be made in March.

New Business
Future Meeting Guests
Mr. Tropp said Chief Lombardo will attend the March meeting. Ms. Bakalar is out on leave and may be rescheduled, perhaps for April. Mr. Tropp will follow up with EMS, the Health Department, the First Selectman, the Library, and Dr. Semmel and/or the Board of Ed, as well as Parks and Rec, from which there has been no response at all.

Mr. Gray wants to discuss suspension data with Dr. Semmel.

New Business
Mr. Gray met with two detectives and a sergeant from the State Hate Crimes Investigative Unit. The State Police attended the November event at the Islamic Center. They are working to build community trust. Tomorrow he is meeting with the Senior Director of External Affairs and Hate Crimes Initiative Coordinator. He is interested in collaborating.

Mr. Gray also attended a breakfast in Hartford and met with CJ Gladstone, who runs a social justice network. They are interested in seeing if Trumbull wants to join the network. He is meeting again next week with her.

Mr. Bolton made a motion to adjourn, and Ms. Flemming seconded. VOTE: All in favor at 8:18pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Glasser Orenstein
February 15, 2026.