

Draft of the Minutes, EDIT Meeting of February 16, 2023, on Zoom

Present: Andrea Fonseca, Chair, Jonathan Tropp, Vice Chair, Dan Wisneski, Kalim Jan, Rick Bolton, David Rosenburg.

Absent: Tara Figueroa

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

Ms. Fonseca called the meeting to order at 7:32pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Tropp made a motion to accept the Minutes of January 19, 2023, Mr. Bolton seconded.

VOTE: Mr. Jan abstained, all others in favor.

Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to accept the Minutes of the January 12 Public Forum, Mr. Bolton seconded. VOTE: Mr. Jan abstained, all others in favor.

Old Business: The Statement for the Town was submitted at the January Town Council Meeting. Mr. Wisneski suggested following up, Ms. Fonseca said she would.

Mr. Tropp said he did reach out and is now waiting for a response from Trumbull Community TV about the essay contest (will they record the winner(s) reading their essays?) Mr. Tropp noted April is Diversity Month, so that would be a great time for the contest. There was discussion on what the prompt(s) would be; should there be different prompts or just different winners for different age categories/grades. The decision was made to go with one prompt: what do equity and inclusion mean to you? , and winners would be selected from grades K-2, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12. EDIT's mission statement will be included in the contest package. It was suggested that someone at each school should be reached out to, and that they are competing for the opportunity to read their winning essay to the community (hopefully on Trumbull Community TV). It was suggested the Town Council would be a great forum for the reward; Mr. Tropp said he has already spoken to Ms. Gaudio about the possibility of Town Council recognition. Mr. Wisneski and Mr. Bolton will put together a flier for the contest and it will be circulated to the committee in advance of the next meeting.

Question of the Week for the Trumbull Times: Mr. Tropp moved to table this item, Mr. Bolton seconded. VOTE: All in favor. Mr. Wisneski agreed to circulate his proposal to the committee for the next meeting.

Research on Diversity Training: Mr. Bolton said his students were assigned to do research on diversity training being done in local towns in regard to their recreational programs: how they train their personnel. The assignment is not due for a few more weeks, it should be done before the March meeting.

Ms. Fonseca said the Town Council has not responded to the budget question for EDIT, specifically around training of town employees; but she noted Ms. Tesoro has said something is being considered.

Other: Ms. Figueroa and Mr. Rosenberg drafted a letter to Dr. Iwanicki and the Calendar Committee in support of the Eids. Mr. Rosenberg noted at the last Board of Ed meeting there was a huge outpouring for the Eids and Diwali. It was decided to keep the letter limited to support for The Eids. Mr. Tropp made a motion to adopt the letter, as edited by the committee, to be signed by Ms. Fonseca as Chair on behalf of the group. Mr. Bolton seconded. VOTE: All in favor.

New Business: Ms. Fonseca noted she had received a survey that West Hartford's Library System sends out to new families: building a welcoming community one book at a time. She thought this was something to think about for the future.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Tropp, seconded by Mr. Bolton. VOTE: All in favor at 8:26pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Glasser Orenstein
February 19, 2023