

Draft of the Minutes, EDIT Meeting of May 18, 2023, on Zoom

Present: Chair, Jonathan Tropp, Challa Flemming, Vice Chair, Rick Bolton, David Rosenburg, Tara Figueroa, Kalim Jan

Absent: Dan Wiseneski

Also Present: Phil Meagher, Town of Trumbull Technology Dept., Joanne Glasser Orenstein, Clerk

Mr. Tropp called the meeting to order at 7:32pm.

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

Correspondence: None. (Mr. Tropp noted he had e-mailed with the Parks and Rec Department, and would get to that later.)

Public Comment: None.

Mr. Rosenburg made a motion to accept the Minutes of March 16, 2023, Ms. Figueroa seconded. VOTE: Mr. Jan abstained, all others in favor.

Old Business: Essay Contest

Mr. Tropp reported there were no submissions. After discussion, the committee agree to table for now, and but to put back on the agenda for June.

Trumbull Arts Festival

After the April meeting, Mr. Cordone told Mr. Tropp that typically participation was limited to paid vendors. Communication with Parks and Rec confirmed that to be the case. They did say they'd be happy to coordinate with other events that EDIT might come up with.

Research on Diversity Training

Ms. Flemming stated she reached out to a friend who works for the Fairfield County Foundation who does similar trainings. They can explore more.

Mr. Tropp reached out to the DEI coordinator from his firm, who suggested two people: Joelle Murchinson of EMG LLC, who have done trainings in East Windsor, East Hartford, Glastonbury and other towns. They offer a series of three programs that would cost \$6000 on zoom, or \$8200 in person with an EMG facilitator. (EMG is formerly ExecMommyGroup). Mr. Tropp also spoke with Marji Lipchez Shapiro, who formerly worked for the Anti-Defamation League, now retired. Her work has been primarily in anti-Semitism but also other areas of DEI. She pointed out that DEI work is often met with resistance or can feel watered down.

Ms. Figueroa contacted the Town of Windsor, a resource recommended by Janet Epstein. They offered an FRP that Ms. Figueroa thought was the right way to go about it. She shared the RFP with EDIT, on screen and in an e-mail.

Mr. Tropp stated the Town Council had not asked for a proposal on DEI training, but did ask for it in writing if it was a recommendation of this committee. Ms. Figueroa said it should be included in the next report to the Town Council. Various data points that could be brought up suggest an RFP to define the type of training to be done. It was discussed further, and it was agreed that it would be good to include Tom McCarthy, the HR Director for the Town of Trumbull, to determine what was already being done. Scope was discussed further: Mr. Bolton would like guidance from the Town Council. Ms. Figueroa will set up a meeting between herself, Mr. Rosenberg and Tom McCarthy.

#### Collaboration with the Historical Society

Ms. Flemming and Mr. Tropp met with them. They developed thoughts about different speakers and the Historical Society developed an event and flyer for June 22 at 7pm: Pride in our Past – LGBTQ+ Resistance movements in Connecticut. The speaker, Eve Galamis, has a nominal fee the Historical Society will cover. Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to co-sponsor the event and approve the flyer, Mr. Bolton seconded. VOTE: All in favor. Publicity was discussed.

#### Collaboration with the Library

They had a good meeting with Mr. Tropp and Ms. Flemming. They are excited about the poster prompt; the Library will execute. They also liked the reading list provided by EDIT and will publicize it for summer reading. Delighted for EDIT's interest in the October panel discussion, Ms. Flemming will be a moderator, along with someone from academia, the Mental Health Field (and possibly politics). The group felt a librarian would be a better choice than a politician; Ms. Flemming will ask if a Librarian from the Trumbull Library will consider.

The Library would like to co-offer a quarterly Book and provided EDIT with a list to choose initial books from. The first book will be in the fall, and the Library will make sure to have enough books for everyone who wants to participate, this will be a town-wide invitation. Mr. Tropp requested everyone come to the June meeting with their choice for the first book.

Mr. Bolton left at 8:42pm.

#### Trumbull Times

Mr. Tropp said he hopes they will feature the Historical Society Event in June.

#### Value Statement for Town.

Mr. Tropp formally submitted it to the Town Council.

#### Data Haven

Mr. Tropp observed Trumbull looks good compared to other Connecticut towns as a whole, Fairfield county as a whole, and towns in its local cohort. Ms. Figueroa said much of the data regarding minority groups seemed incomplete. This item will be put up higher on the Agenda for June.

New Business:

The next report to the Town Council will be June or July. No one has reached out from Town Council for EDIT to report in June; Mr. Tropp prefers July.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Jan, seconded by Mr. Rosenberg. VOTE: All in favor at 8:51pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Glasser Orenstein  
May 24, 2023