

TOWN COUNCIL  
**Town of Trumbull**  
CONNECTICUT  
www.trumbull-ct.gov

TOWN HALL  
Trumbull

TELEPHONE  
(203) 452-5000



MINUTES  
AUGUST 2, 2021

CALL TO ORDER: The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. All present joined in a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance. The Chair asked all those present to remember the memory of Trudi Black, a special education teacher at Trumbull High School for 37 years, Lisa Beers a Booth Hill School 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher who was there 40 years and retired in 2020, and Nancy Gottschalk a 35 year teacher at Tashua and Madison and also the chair of the Trumbull Nature & Arts commission from 2015-2018.

ROLL CALL: The clerk called the roll and recorded it as follows:

PRESENT:

Dawn Cantafio	Eric Paulson	Joanne Glasser-Orenstein
Kevin Shively	Mary Isaac	Bill Mecca
Michael Miller	Ashley Gaudiano	Stephen Lemoine
Jason Marsh	Tony Scinto	Nicole Satin
Thomas Whitmoyer	Carl A. Massaro, Jr.	Carole Hans
Donna Seidell	Lisa Valenti	Joy Colon
Bruce Elstein	Patricia Borghesan (Via Conference Call)	

ABSENT: Lori Rosasco-Schwartz

ALSO

PRESENT: First Selectman Vicki A. Tesoro, Chief Administrative Officers, Cynthia Katske and Kathleen McGannon, Town Attorney Daniel Schopick

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\*The Chair reserves the right not to vote unless otherwise noted.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There were twelve (12) people present to speak. (Public Comment Attached)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Moved by Gaudiano, seconded by Colon to approve the regular June meeting minutes as submitted. VOTE: Motion CARRIED by unanimous consent.

Moved by Marsh, seconded by Massaro to take TC28-198 out of order. VOTE: Motion CARRIED by unanimous consent.

1. RESOLUTION TC28-198: Moved by Mecca, seconded by Colon  
BE IT RESOLVED, That Robert Christiani of 10 Sciortino Road, be and the same is hereby appointed Vice-Chairman of the Middlebrook Elementary School Roof Building Committee.

Committee Report: The R&R Committee met on July 26, 2021 and voted by unanimous consent.

VOTE: ADOPTED by unanimous consent.

Moved by Marsh, seconded by Gaudiano to take TC28-191 out of order. VOTE: Motion CARRIED by unanimous consent.

2. RESOLUTION TC28-191: Moved by Miller, seconded by Colon  
BE IT RESOLVED, That David Rosenberg of 30 October Lane, be and the same is hereby appointed as a member of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Task Force for a term extending to the first Monday of December 2022.

Committee Report: The R&R Committee met on July 26, 2021 and voted to pass without recommendation 6-1 (AGAINST: Elstein).

Mr. Rosenberg explained how he worked with people with different views and opinions and explained he does that often in his career. They try to build consensus as they spend millions of dollars on a building, whether it is academic, artistic departments, or issues with administration and faculty or issues of race and equity. His industry is about listening and building consensus, which is much easier to say than do. He thinks it's important not to over react, and to really listen to what people are saying. He is not a fan of social media, and is rarely on it. Occasionally he checks in on his friends. It is the ability to post something behind a mask and not really dealing with people as people. His understanding of what happened in the past was from what he read in the paper. The ability to post something and not take personal responsibility for what you say or mean is a problem and has gotten out of control globally. What we have seen here is a just a fraction of what is happening everywhere.

VOTE: ADOPTED by unanimous consent.

3. RESOLUTION TC28-189: Moved by Lemoine, seconded by Gaudiano  
BE IT RESOLVED, That Jeannine Stauder of 153 Governor Trumbull Way, be and the same is hereby appointed as a member of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Task Force for a term extending to the first Monday of December 2024 and is further appointed Chairman of said Task Force.

Committee Report: The R&R Committee met on July 26, 2021 and voted 6-1 (AGAINST: Elstein).

Moved by Gaudiano, seconded by Glasser-Orenstein to amend by replacing Chairman with Co-Chairman.

Mr. Massaro noted that he had proposed a similar amendment before based on the Easton model and was glad to see it come around.

The clerk called the roll call vote and recorded it as follows:

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN
Mary Isaac	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill Mecca	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michael Miller	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Donna Seidell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carole Hans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nicole Satin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tony Scinto	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kevin Shively	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thomas Whitmoyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jason Marsh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carl Massaro, Jr.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joanne Glasser-Orenstein	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Eric Paulson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Patricia Borghesan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joy Colon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bruce Elstein	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ashley Gaudiano	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephen Lemoine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lisa Valenti	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

VOTE: Motion CARRIED 18-1 (AGAINST: Scinto)

Mr. Massaro stated Mr. Elstein at the R&R Committee explained the process followed. Going back to earlier conversations in April Mr. Massaro was opposed to having any groups or individuals other than one of the Council's standing committees, the rules have not been followed and the drawback of that is the council members were not part of the process, and are not familiar with all the people who were interviewed and what their

qualifications and/or disqualifications may have been. As a result the candidates have been brought out a third time. We need to move ahead and fill the roster.

The Chair explained the process was different and was done in the footsteps of the prior one, having three representatives, a democrat, a republican and an unaffiliated interview the applicants. They did reach out to the minority leader and knows he did not approve of the way it was handled. The Chair felt this was a fair way to vet the candidates. Mr. Massaro stated he did not think the Chair had that authority and should have followed the Council rules.

Mr. Scinto explained they don't know what was said at the meetings, no notes were given to them and don't know how they voted. He questioned how someone who is not on the Council could vote or pick a candidate. The Chair explained she did not vote as she was not part of the deliberation. Mr. Scinto added that this has never happened before. He noted when he asked the town attorney it was said this was not FOI'able. The Chair noted she did not run the meetings. Mr. Scinto stated the process was wrong.

Mr. Elstein stated three people were picked to interview, how they were picked that he did not know. They volunteered their time to interview ten people. All those interviewed were all asked the same questions, they gave their answers. Those interviewing the candidates considered what they said and decided which ones to recommend to R&R. They were unanimous on all the recommendations made. They had no disagreements. The process was conducted fairly, and evenly. If you disagreed you could have asked questions at R&R or tonight. These are the people they thought would best serve.

Mr. Shively added everyone on the Council received a list of every person who applied and there was no prohibition to reach out to those people to ask them their own questions or to call Mr Whitmoyer, Mr. Elstein or the third interviewer. All were informed of who exactly applied and could have reached out to the interviewers at any time.

Ms. Stauder of 153 Governor Trumbull Way was present and explained how she worked with people whose views and opinions she disagreed with. She was a marriage and family therapist for many years, happy families do not go to a therapist. She worked with families of all ethnicities, religions and everything else. She always tried to learn the problems, evaluate them and try to lead them to a more functional outcome. That is what we do, we learn, listen and do the best we can to point whatever the problem is in the direction that the conclusion will be successful. Whether it is for people, a town or an organization.

Ms. Stauder explained she is not on social media, she never reads or sees it. When she hears about something it has come out publically. She thinks it's a shame nothing is private anymore. If someone is going to use social media and knows it's social media, they should watch what they say.

Ms. Stauder explained if the EDIT Committee was formed there must have been a reason for it, she has not seen racism, so she could not say it exists, if it does, and obviously it does, because that is why the committee was formed, and then it has to be addressed. Mr Massaro noted that Mrs. Stauder’s late husband was Lloyd Stauder, and was a former chairman of this body and spoke in favor of Mrs. Stauder’s service on the committee.

Ms. Stauder conformed for Ms. Colon she would believe her if she told her there was a problem.

VOTE: ADOPTED as amended by unanimous consent

4. RESOLUTION TC28-190: Moved by Colon, seconded by Gaudioano  
BE IT RESOLVED, That Andrea Fonseca of 82 Bonnie View Drive, be and the same is hereby appointed as a member of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Task Force for a term extending to the first Monday of December 2022 and is further appointed Vice-Chairman of said Task Force.

Committee Report: The R&R Committee met on July 26, 2021 and voted by unanimous consent.

Moved by Gaudioano, seconded by Glasser-Orenstein to amend by replacing Chairman with Co-Chairman. This amendment would allow for a republican and democrat as co-chairs.

The clerk called the roll call vote and recorded it as follows:

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN
Mary Isaac	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill Mecca	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michael Miller	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Donna Seidell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carole Hans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nicole Satin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tony Scinto	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kevin Shively	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thomas Whitmoyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jason Marsh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carl Massaro, Jr.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joanne Glasser-Orenstein	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Eric Paulson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Patricia Borghesan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Joy Colon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bruce Elstein	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ashley Gaudiano	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephen Lemoine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lisa Valenti	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

VOTE: Motion CARRIED 18-1 (AGAINST: Scinto)

Ms. Fonseca of 82 Bonnie View Drive was present and indicated her party affiliation as democrat. Her interest was piqued with the social media controversy and wanted to make sure this was a place that was inclusive, equitable and valued her children’s diversity. Once she saw that threatened she felt her experiences both professionally and personally would be something to bring to the committee. She is a woman of color, she is a first generation American with parents as immigrants. She grew up in a culturally rich community in Bridgeport, her father served in the military, she has three brothers who are also part of the military and a brother who is a law enforcement officer. She understands how to be of service in so many areas of a community. Academically she has a degree in sociology with a concentration in race relations in America. She went on to become an educator, while working in some of the most diverse communities in CT. She has been involved in many EDI initiatives and has had training in EDI. Most recently she worked in a district with a three year plan to move the district. They started with the administration and then the faculty and staff on EDI issues. These people did not come to the table with the same understanding or values, once they have the common training they can get the work done. They see the ones that benefit the most are the children. Essentially she wants to make sure this is an inclusive place for her children, your children, all children.

Ms. Fonseca stated her priorities for EDIT in the first year would be education. This work takes work and time, understanding and common ground. First and foremost we have to have an understanding. They need to have background education because we all come from different walks of life and experiences, but we all need to recognize that we don’t know what everyone’s experiences are. This can be understood through education on how we got to this place.

Ms. Fonseca stated she moved here in 2018 and at the time of the controversy she did not know it was happening, she didn’t know about it until a member here posted, she learned how the town responded. It was through social media how she got her information. Equity is her life’s work, and when sees it misrepresented she wants to make sure it is not perpetuated in Trumbull.

Ms. Fonseca explained the different components of the training referenced earlier in the meeting. They were given the background knowledge to understand, they studied housing law, the Federal Transportation Act, lots of the seminal laws & policies in place and compared them what is happening in the community now. They were able to get an understanding of the impact it had. Administrators got the training first over the course of

the year and they then gave the information to staff. They started with the history and brought it down to a more granular level to better understand the impact and how it impacts the students and their families. That hit home with a lot of people and were able to move in a forward direction.

She picked Trumbull to move to because she looked at Trumbull's ed-site, program performance, scores and how it was the best place racially for her child to be in. She picked Frenchtown district because she wanted to make sure her son had a multicultural program that Frenchtown has and wanted to make sure she was in that community. She has no regrets moving here now, but when this social media hoopla began she was worried about her child, the people he was interacting with and the things said on social media. That was the start of why she wants to get involved, she doesn't ever want a parent to feel the way she felt reading the information that was posted by some members of our community.

Moved by Gaudio, seconded by Colon to amend the resolution by adding to the end of the resolution, "BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Jonathan Tropp of 27 Salem Road be appointed Vice-Chairman of said Task Force.

Mr. Marsh supported the resolution, he knows Mr. Tropp as an attorney and has worked on EDI initiatives. He thinks he brings a unique skill set and is appropriate in the role of Vice-Chair. Having two strong women of two different parties is a good lead for the committee and believes Mr. Tropp would bring good back-up as Vice-Chair with his skill set.

It was clarified for Mr. Scinto Mr. Tropp would be Vice-Chair and there would be two Co-Chairs. It was confirmed for Mr. Massaro Mr. Tropp is currently the Vice-Chair. Mr. Massaro would not support the amendment, he believes Co-Chair is sufficient.

The clerk called the roll call vote and recorded it as follows:

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN
Mary Isaac	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill Mecca	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michael Miller	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Donna Seidell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carole Hans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nicole Satin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tony Scinto	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kevin Shively	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thomas Whitmoyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jason Marsh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carl Massaro, Jr.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Joanne Glasser-Orenstein	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Eric Paulson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Patricia Borghesan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joy Colon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bruce Elstein	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ashley Gaudiano	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephen Lemoine	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lisa Valenti	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

VOTE: Motion CARRIED 14-5 (AGAINST: Scinto, Seidell, Massaro, Lemoine, Valenti)

Mr. Massaro stated the resolution has two parts and noted they may want to vote for Ms. Fonseca but not the vice-chairman. Attorney Schopick stated the resolution has been amended twice and voted on, it is appropriate to vote on that, it could be voted down and then moved to be reconsidered.

Moved by Massaro, seconded by Gaudiano to divide the question. VOTE: Motion CARRIED by unanimous consent.

RESOLUTION TC28-190: BE IT RESOLVED, That Andrea Fonseca of 82 Bonnie View Drive, be and the same is hereby appointed as a member of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Task Force for a term extending to the first Monday of December 2022 and is further appointed Co-Chairman of said Task Force.

VOTE: The first part of the resolution ADOPTED as amended by unanimous consent.

Part 2:

BE IT RESOLVED, That Jonathan Tropp of 27 Salem Road, be and the same is hereby appointed Vice-Chairman of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Task Force.

The Council discussed and explained the original resolution forming the committee, read they would appoint the Chair and Vice-Chair, therefore it was necessary to include and reaffirm the appointment of Vice-Chair. After further discussion the following motion was made.

The clerk called the roll call vote and recorded it as follows:

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN
Mary Isaac	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill Mecca	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michael Miller	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Donna Seidell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Carole Hans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nicole Satin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tony Scinto	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kevin Shively	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thomas Whitmoyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jason Marsh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carl Massaro, Jr.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joanne Glasser-Orenstein	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Eric Paulson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Patricia Borghesan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joy Colon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bruce Elstein	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ashley Gaudiano	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephen Lemoine	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lisa Valenti	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

VOTE: The second part of the resolution ADOPTED 16-3 (AGAINST: Scinto, Massaro, Lemoine)

- RESOLUTION TC28-192: Moved by Seidell, seconded by Isaac  
BE IT RESOLVED, That Dede Robinson of 97 Moose Hill Road, be and the same is hereby appointed as a member of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Task Force for a term extending to the first Monday of December 2022.

Committee Report: The R&R Committee met on July 26, 2021 and voted to pass without recommendation 6-1 (AGAINST: Elstein).

Mr. Robinson of 97 Moos Hill Road stated working with people who disagree takes being open minded and hearing them. They will not always agree but need to have an open mind and be willing to learn from the situation.

Mr. Robinson explained social media is a tricky thing, it can be used for good or evil. It is up to the individual. He grew up with six brothers and five sisters, he likes dialogue. It depends on the individual, each person who uses social media needs to take responsibility for what they say and try not to offend anyone. It was his understanding the original committee was disrupted by a comment made by Ms. Figuera re; the comparison of the confederate flag to the Blue Lives Matter Flag and the backlash received. It spiraled from there. It was noted the comment was made six months before she was on the committee. He did make a comment on the post. He doesn't remember what he said and does not believe it was offensive. Social media for him is open dialogue. If he is offensive, FB

would ban him. He tries to be respectful whether he agrees with them or not. Mr. Robinson believes he engages in respectful dialogue on social media, he is not offended by what is said and looks at it as objectively as possible and tries not to put his personal feelings into it.

Mr. Robinson explained when it comes to African Americans, the racial card is over played and by doing so it cancels out real racism. The people who came before them endured real racism. For him to stand before the Council shows they have come a long way from racism and believes there is more of a hatred problem. He believes racism exists in every dynamic of the country and has witnessed it growing up. He has been in Trumbull for two years and has not endured any racism. Growing up in Bridgeport he did not experience racism, he experienced hate. Hate trumps racism now. We have a hatred problem in this country. We have the right of freedom of speech and the right to be respectful of one another. He will not agree with everyone, but is open enough to hear them out and to listen to where they're coming from and may gain a better perspective. At the end of the day, they are there as a committee to tackle one problem. There is a hatred problem, whether you label it hate or racism they all need to tackle it. Racism has not been his personal experience. He can address racism, he knows when there is racism, he can witness it, sometimes it is subliminal and sometimes it is blatant.

Mr. Shively questioned some of Mr. Robinson's posts on social media. Mr. Robinson explained he didn't remember certain posts Mr. Shively referred to and explained he does not dislike all democrats. He does have a disdain for BLM because with all the money they have raised he questioned how much of that money went back to black people to help their community. They have rallies, sell merchandise and then disappear with the money. The people at the rally last year, didn't dislike police they used their protection. Mr. Robinson confirmed he was running for town council. Mr. Shively noted if he won his seat he would have to resign from EDIT. Mr. Robinson noted he brings passion to the committee, he speaks his mind. Sometimes people don't agree, but know he comes from a place of pain and suffering and is trying to correct it in his life and in other aspects of his community. If he has a chance to do good in his community, he is all for it. He is here to do the will of the people and to serve.

(Ms. Gaudiano and Mr. Elstein left the meeting at 8:54 p.m.) (Ms. Gaudiano returned at 8:55 p.m. Mr. Elstein returned at 8:58 p.m.)

The Chair called a RECESS at 9:12 p.m.

The Chair called the meeting BACK TO ORDER at 9:32 p.m.

Mr. Robinson explained hate and racism are one in the same, racism is disliking a person because of the color of his skin, hatred is disliking someone for no reason, and they can be two in the same. He understands racism and this country has a history. Even slavery is used by both sides for their advantage, people don't talk about all the good after slavery, their ancestors endured so much, but good has come from that sacrifice. Progress has been made. Every ethnicity has gone through the struggle. We still have a way to go but have made progress. Saying one group are clowns would be a prejudice. Ms. Valenti

spoke against how the Council is interviewing. Mr. Scinto noted this was Mr. Robinson's third interview and did not hear these questions at the R&R meeting and spoke against how Mr. Robinson was interviewed at this meeting. It was confirmed Mr. Elstein voted against the resolutions as being passed without recommendation, he wanted them to pass with recommendation.

Mr. Lemoine spoke against Mr. Robinson having to answer questions based on posts that took place long before Mr. Robinson's potential appointment just as it was pointed out at this meeting the same injustice happened to Ms. Figuera. Ms. Glasser-Orenstein noted she asked all the appointees the same question because it's known what happened on FB made the committee fall apart and wanted to clarify what Mr. Robinson stated re: Ms. Figuera's post was not posted in February, but was posted on FB by someone else in February from a post of hers six months prior to her being on the committee. It wasn't originally on FB for very long as she took it down very quickly. Someone saved a screen shot of it.

Ms. Satin stated there has been a lot of concern on previous statements made. Mr. Robinson explained the primary pillar of the EDIT Task Force he sees is to work with the committee on any issues the community is facing. He is a believer in solving problems, he is passionate and will speak his mind but is open to listening to other people's opinions. Everything needs improvement, nothing is perfect we are taking a stance now to come together, which is a starting point. No one is perfect. There are diversities in Trumbull and believes them to be economical v. racial. When he moved here he felt proud. He is an example of inclusion, being present at this meeting and trying to be on the committee. Whatever he can learn and make better he is here for. Ms. Satin explained she needs to know he will move on from the statements and it has been an issue in multiple ways for EDIT and the only way to move forward with the EDIT work is by having different perspectives and wants the members of the committee to believe there is a mission for EDIT in the town of Trumbull. Mr. Robinson is willing to work with any and everyone on the committee.

Mr. Massaro spoke in favor of Mr. Robinson's ability to stand up to this questioning and to be a valuable member of the Task Force. He called the question, seconded by Elstein. VOTE: Motion passed.

The clerk called the roll call vote and recorded it as follows:

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN
Mary Isaac	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill Mecca	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michael Miller	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Donna Seidell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carole Hans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nicole Satin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tony Scinto	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Kevin Shively	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thomas Whitmoyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jason Marsh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carl Massaro, Jr.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joanne Glasser-Orenstein	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Eric Paulson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Patricia Borghesan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joy Colon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bruce Elstein	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ashley Gaudiano	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephen Lemoine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lisa Valenti	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

VOTE: ADOPTED 14-5 (AGAINST: Miller, Hans, Shively, Glasser-Orenstein, Colon)

6. RESOLUTION TC28-193: Moved by Isaac, seconded by Whitmoyer  
 BE IT RESOLVED that TC28-87, adopted by the Town Council on July 9, 2020, is hereby amended by adding the following before the last sentence of the Resolution: The Task Force shall also consist of two (2) Alternate members who shall be appointed by the Town Council. The Council shall first appoint two (2) Alternate members whose terms will run until the first Monday in December, 2022, and thereafter all appointments of Alternate members shall be for a term of one year each. Said Alternates shall not be members of the same political party.

Committee Report: The R&R Committee met on July 26, 2021 and voted to pass without recommendation 4-1-2 (Against: Elstein), (Abstention: Glasser-Orenstein, Mecca)

Mr. Lemoine, seconded by Massaro to strike TC28-193 and to amend TC28-87 by adding 4 additional members.

Mr. Marsh questioned whether the motion was possible, because the resolution on the floor can be amended, but to strike the resolution and amend another resolution would be new business. Mr. Massaro stated it is a viable motion. Mr. Shively explained by striking the resolution, it is no longer and we would need a new resolution, but the main resolution can be amended. Mr. Massaro clarified they were striking language and bringing the total to 12 members. Mr. Whitmoyer questioned whether it would be equal parities. Atty. Schopick explained not more than 2/3 would be from the same party under minority representation. Mr. Lemoine explained the Task Force would be 14 members, bringing all applicants on. The Chair clarified the committee is currently 8 members and the original motion proposes adding 2 alternates. Mr. Lemoine stated he wants to expand the committee. Mr. Massaro stated the point of the motion was to appoint all 10 new

applicants bring the membership to 14. Ms. Guadiano added it would be 14 fully seated members. Attorney Schopick added the Council could make the alternates 2 full members and the Chair could put on the next agenda the additional members.

Mr. Lemoine corrected his motion, to include the alternate members as full members of the EDIT Task Force with the idea that the 4 other applicants will be selected at a future time.

Mr. Lemoine withdrew his original motion.

Moved by Massaro, seconded by Lemoine to amend the resolution to read as, “The Task Force shall consist of fourteen (14) members.

Mr. Marsh stated he would vote against the amendment, he would like the Task Force populated with 8 members to get their feet on the ground and people could be added at a later date.

The Council discussed the terms for the new members.

Mr. Massaro restated the motion as follows:

Moved by Massaro, seconded by Lemoine to amend the resolution to read as, “The Task Force shall consist of fourteen (14) members, seven (7) members’ terms shall run until the first Monday in December 2022 and seven members’ terms shall run until the first Monday in December 2024.

The clerk called the roll call vote and recorded it as follows:

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN
Mary Isaac	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill Mecca	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michael Miller	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Donna Seidell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carole Hans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nicole Satin	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tony Scinto	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kevin Shively	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thomas Whitmoyer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jason Marsh	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carl Massaro, Jr.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joanne Glasser-Orenstein	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Eric Paulson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Patricia Borghesan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joy Colon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bruce Elstein	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ashley Gaudiano	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephen Lemoine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lisa Valenti	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

VOTE: Motion FAILED 5-14 (IN FAVOR: Massaro, Scinto, Seidell, Lemoine, Valenti)

The clerk called the roll call vote and recorded it as follows:

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN
Mary Isaac	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill Mecca	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michael Miller	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Donna Seidell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carole Hans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nicole Satin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tony Scinto	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kevin Shively	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thomas Whitmoyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jason Marsh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carl Massaro, Jr.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joanne Glasser-Orenstein	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Eric Paulson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Patricia Borghesan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joy Colon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bruce Elstein	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ashley Gaudiano	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephen Lemoine	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lisa Valenti	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

VOTE: ADOPTED 15-4 (AGAINST: Massaro, Seidell, Scinto, Lemoine)

Moved by Glasser-Orenstein, seconded by Gaudiano to pass as Emergency Legislation.

VOTE: Motion CARRIED by unanimous consent.

7. RESOLUTION TC28-194: Moved by Satin, seconded by Gaudio  
BE IT RESOLVED, That Martin Isaac of 50 Skating Pond Road, be and the same is hereby appointed as an alternate member of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Task Force for a term extending to the first Monday of December 2022.  
Committee Report: The

Committee Report: The R&R Committee met on July 26, 2021 and voted to pass without recommendation by unanimous consent.

Mr. Massaro stated under Mr. Shively's rule, because Mr. Isaac is a BOF member he could not serve on this Task Force. Mr Shively clarified it was not his rule but the Town Council's rule. It is only done when they are specifically a town council representative. Mr. Massaro stated the only prohibition is in the Charter. Atty. Schopick stated the Charter states that Town Council members can't serve on other boards or commission unless it is a committee formed by the Council. The question regarding Mr. Robinson's appointment is a question for another day.

Mr. Isaac was present and indicated social media played a significant role as to why he wants to serve, he was disappointed with social media. Most people regardless of party affiliation are in favor of the goals of this committee. He believes social media was divisive and purposely set out to get people against each other. He was very disappointed by that, this should not be about partisan issues, this is about making people feel welcomed in our community. He does participate periodically on social media, in this situation he does not believe he commented on social media at all. At one point he did write an editorial with regard to Blue Lives Matter flag, trying to add some factual pieces to both sides of this. This committee is a good example in terms of how people should listen and understand different perspectives, and to help people see more than one side of an issue, so we can all get along and feel more included. That is what he is going to do

VOTE: ADOPTED unanimously.

8. RESOLUTION TC28-195: Moved by Scinto, seconded by Guadiano  
BE IT RESOLVED, That Zdena Quinn of 29 Waller Road, be and the same is hereby appointed as an alternate member of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Task Force for a term extending to the first Monday of December 2022.

Committee Report: The R&R Committee met on July 26, 2021 and voted to pass without recommendation by unanimous consent.

Ms. Quinn was present and indicated she believed social media did play a big role, she was not sure at what point she jumped on, but there were names being called out and was worried because there are predators out there and was worried that someone's opinions would put someone in danger and she did say that. Mr. Scinto showed Ms. Quinn a FB account page and she confirmed it was her account.

Ms. Quinn explained this was her first experience as a committee applicant, it has been an unnerving experience, and has felt palpable tension and is not sure this Council wants an EDIT committee.

Ms. Gaudio stated this has been a trying few months and extended her gratitude to everyone who stepped forward to be interviewed and those that have stayed on the Task Force despite all of this. The challenge of our times is figuring out in this very polarized environment, perpetuated by social media and the echo chambers of social media, how we can have honest and respectful conversations and work together on what we need to do. Each person on this committee approaches the matters at hand differently, and brings different life experiences. All those sitting at this meeting either agree or disagree with various members and/or candidates, this is a starting place for the dialogue on equity, diversity and inclusion. It is dialogue that in many ways mirrors the landscape of our town. She reminded all that once voted, members of this committee are subject to the Code of Ethics. That Code of Ethics states officials and employees have responsibility to discharge their duties conscientiously and impartially and to their best of their ability place the good of the town above any personal or partisan considerations. It also requires officials to act morally and honestly and to conduct themselves with propriety, discharge their duties impartially and fairly and make continuing efforts towards obtaining and maintaining the highest standards of performance. It is her hope that tonight serves as a reset for what this committee can and should do. Each member is charged with a mission, to foster a more equitable, diverse and inclusive Trumbull where all residents have and feel they have opportunity and representation. The members need to do so within the confines of the Code of Ethics. She hopes going forward there will be respect and face-to-face conversations that goes out and we can propel the committee forward with the backing of the Council and the First Selectman’s office to improve the lives that live here. She looks forward to working with all the members.

The clerk called the roll call vote and recorded it as follows:

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN
Mary Isaac	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill Mecca	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michael Miller	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Donna Seidell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carole Hans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nicole Satin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tony Scinto	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kevin Shively	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thomas Whitmoyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jason Marsh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carl Massaro, Jr.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Joanne Glasser-Orenstein	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Eric Paulson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Patricia Borghesan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joy Colon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bruce Elstein	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ashley Gaudiano	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephen Lemoine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lisa Valenti	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

VOTE: ADOPTED 18-1 (AGAINST: Scinto)

9. RESOLUTION TC28-196: Moved by Gaudiano, seconded by Satin  
 BE IT RESOLVED, That Lynne Salta of 57 Wildwood Drive, be and the same is hereby appointed as a member of the Middlebrook Elementary School Roof Building Committee.

Committee Report: The R&R Committee met on July 26, 2021 and voted by unanimous consent.

VOTE: ADOPTED by unanimous consent.

10. RESOLUTION TC28-197: Moved by Hans, seconded by Gaudiano  
 BE IT RESOLVED, That Patricia Borghesan of 11 Scattergood Circle, be and the same is hereby appointed Chairman of the Middlebrook Elementary School Roof Building Committee.

Committee Report: The R&R Committee met on July 26, 2021 and voted by unanimous consent.

VOTE: ADOPTED by unanimous consent.

11. RESOLUTION TC28-199: Moved by Glasser-Orenstein, seconded by Gaudiano  
 BE IT RESOLVED that the First Selectman, be and the same is hereby authorized to initiate the marketing of Town-owned properties at 77 Church Hill Road, 85 Church Hill Road, 93 Church Hill Road, and 2 South Edgewood Avenue.

Ms. Valenti recused herself at 10:28 p.m. because she is an active realtor in town.

Moved by Gaudiano, seconded by Elstein to waive the reading of the committee minutes.  
 VOTE: Motion CARRIED by unanimous consent.

Attorney Schopick confirmed when selling the property they would need to go to P&Z for an 8-24 application and to the Council for approval of the final sale. Per Atty. Fasi the best thing is to use the funds for other things that would otherwise be bonded. At

which point they finance, any contract would go back to bond counsel for approval so they do not negatively impact the tax exempt status. There are some things they have to follow.

Mr. Massaro stated he would vote against the resolution, the opportunity provided five years ago to acquire the properties in proximity to Town Hall was the major reason they bought them. The properties were sold to town by the owners, they were not coerced or taken by eminent domain. The last administration had the ambition to put a community center there. The current administration never wanted this to happen. It is unfortunate that we would give up these particular properties in this location. Atty. Schopick stated the properties were purchased for \$1.4 or \$1.5 million, including attorney's fees and anticipates getting all of that back.

Atty. Schopick stated the intention is to sell the properties with deed restrictions, each of the houses could only be used for residential purposes. They do not intend to sell them as a block that would not be possible with the deed restrictions. He would be happy to incorporate Mr. Massaro's ideas. Appraisals of the properties were done if discussion was to take place it would need to be discussed in executive session. The appraisals were done by Baldwin Pearson. All the houses need work, the appraisals assumed they needed work and were appraised as "as-is" condition. The deed restrictions will prevent merger of title as well.

Mr. Lemoine noted if a proposal was put forward to the state that was appealing to the state there would not be a problem getting the crosswalk and sign there. He is concerned about the people's safety at the crosswalk at the Long Hill Green. Safety is an argument to do away with what we don't want. He was on the building committee and they were told there are only 2 viable places to put a community center, this is one and the other is the Long Hill Administration building, now there would be only viable location and questioned where the Long Hill Administration would go.

Ms. Isaac stated the Long Hill light has been approved by the state as well as the one at the Edge, this one was not approved by the state. Mr. Mecca stated it's not just a crosswalk at Church Hill Road, it is a light and is an issue. The argument that if a project was worthy the state would approve is flawed. Strobel Road was successful and took decades. We had residents tonight, neighbors, concerned about the property. Years ago this was a standing room only auditorium for residents who did not support the community center and didn't want it in Island Brook. This project has been fraught with a lack of support from the community. The residents tonight reminded us they don't want anything commercial or municipal built in the area. Mr. Marsh clarified there was not a lack of support for the project but there was a lack of resident support for the location.

Atty. Schopick explained the expectation is to put out a RFP for real estate agents. When they sold properties at Tait Road, at one point they considered an auction, but ultimately utilized the services of a real estate agent at a 2.5% commission. They want a low commission.

First Selectman Tesoro spoke to how public safety should be all of our highest priority, it certainly is hers. The light at Church Hill Road and Quality Street was not approved after meeting numerous times with representatives from the state, including the Commissioner of Transportation. Every time they met with them it was an absolute no on the light. There is no certainty the light would come if we go back and meet with them. The light at the Edge Plaza and the Long Hill Green light are going to happen. They hope they are going to construction sometime later this summer or early fall. You have to say hope because when you are dealing with the state, it can be difficult. This is not so with the Church Hill Road light the state does not believe the traffic is heavy enough in the area to make a light appropriate there. We don't agree with them, but they have to give the approval because it is a state road. The state made suggestions of other safety provisions, such as rapid crossing beacons in the road, but she didn't think they were appropriate if a senior center or a community center was built there.

Ms. Gaudio stated there are rapid beacons at the trail on RT. 111 and we now have police officers parked at the intersection, it is a step better than what we had. Cars don't stop. First Selectman Tesoro asked the Chief to post police at that intersection because she doesn't believe the rapid beacons protect people. Especially on the weekends with heavy traffic. Accidents have happened and are lucky no one has been seriously hurt. No one should get hurt at all.

First Selectman Tesoro could not speak for the Ms. Bakalar with regard to selling the properties. Markets have changed, there have been 2 building committees, and the fact of the decision on the traffic light there. She believes Ms. Bakalar has a different opinion now than she did years ago, but could not speak for her and Mr. Massaro would need to ask her himself. Mr. Massaro stated the state would consider a hawk light. First Selectman Tesoro doesn't believe there is a substitute for a traffic light and doesn't believe a hawk light would serve safety. First Selectman Tesoro never believed the Church Hill property was big enough to sustain a community center. They had to build a 2-story building because of the topography which made it too expensive. They could build a building on a different property for much less. The trail argument doesn't hold any water, people would have to scale a mountain to get to the trail, (switch-backs). By the time the emergency vehicles get down to the people on the trail it would be too late, they would get to them much quicker from Tait Road or another entrance. The real argument is the land isn't big enough. Mr. Massaro stated they never got to the point of a traffic study. Ms. Tesoro stated there was an election and people chose to go in a different direction. Mr Massaro stated it is a valuable property by its proximity to the Town Hall campus. First Selectman Tesoro indicated they plan on selling the properties, return them to the tax rolls and return to what they should be under the POCD, residential real property. She is very consistent with what she believes from 5 years ago when the property was purchased.

Mr. Marsh noted the pool at the property would have been a 6-lane pool that doesn't address the competition pool needs with the even more aged Hillcrest Pool. The design doesn't meet the needs of the community now. We need to move forward with the community's needs and not backwards.

The Chair added she was on both building committees. There was a grant to open up and expand that trailhead which never came to fruition. That was part of the reason why that didn't go through. There were concerns with seniors walking in the area with a hawk light. Safety was their number one reason. For being a community center, it didn't work because there was no room for expansion, the property is not big and parking was limited, additionally the cost of it was not feasible.

The clerk called the roll call vote and recorded it as follows:

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN
Mary Isaac	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill Mecca	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michael Miller	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Donna Seidell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carole Hans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nicole Satin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tony Scinto	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kevin Shively	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thomas Whitmoyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jason Marsh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carl Massaro, Jr.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joanne Glasser-Orenstein	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Eric Paulson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Patricia Borghesan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joy Colon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bruce Elstein	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ashley Gaudiano	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephen Lemoine	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lisa Valenti	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

VOTE: ADOPTED 15-4 (AGAINST: Massaro, Seidell, Scinto, Lemoine)

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to discuss the Trumbull Town Council adjourned by unanimous consent at 10:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Margaret D. Mastroni  
Town Council Clerk

Public Comment:

1. Joe Pifco of 158 Plymouth Avenue thanked the Council for their service and work. He spoke to the sale of the properties on Church Hill Road. He was the co-chairman of the bi-partisan building committee that investigated the community/senior center. They selected the site, had multiple meetings in multiple districts and came to the conclusion that it had to be in the center of town, meaning this area. Being adjacent to the Town Hall campus made it ideal. They had an architectural firm that did that an unbiased review and came up with the same site, because of its location and borders the valley. The original plans called for a zig-zag entrance into the trail that was ADA compliant, emergency personnel could get through to the middle of the trail. P&Z is most important to the town because the decisions they make last forever, we don't want someone looking back and questioning why we ever sold the property, it would be the perfect spot for \_\_\_\_\_, to be filled in at a later date. It would even make a great park. The building was large and had enough parking equal to Stop & Shop's. It could be a new entrance to the trail or even build a new library. He asked they think not for today. Knowing there is no street light, but down the road that may change.
2. Stuart Schwartz of 29 High Ridge Road supports the creation of the EDIT Task Force because it is critical to the conversation about diversity and inclusion. That needs to take place in an open and transparent way to be formalized for the town of Trumbull. Since its formation this Task Force has been plagued by one mishap after the next. It was rushed without the necessary structure in place to launch successfully. It was established without a defined scope, budget, charter and a reporting schedule to the Council. They met without set guidelines in place and missed its first reporting deadline of January 2021. In February of 2021 unfortunate comments were made on social media by the Chair, resulting in an uproar by the community and the resignation of 4 of the 8 members. The democrats initiated a new sign up period for new members by the end of April, it was extended to June 1<sup>st</sup>. This caused another delay. The Town Council Chair established an ad-hoc committee to screen and recommend 4 out of the 10 applicants. This was behind closed doors and out of the view of the public and Council. The public or the Council never got the opportunity to see what the other 4 applicants offered. The Chair sent an email to those selected to be on the EDIT committee congratulating them and notifying them they would need to attend another meeting before the R&R committee of the Town Council or the Town Council 08-02-2021 meeting. Their appointments were passed to the Council without recommendation and were told to come to the full council meeting. Those who were not selected were also told to attend. As a result of the lack of transparency he asked the Chair to explain the criteria to be chosen and what was the reason for the 4 not selected. It is great there were so many people willing to help the town. The public and Council members deserve transparency and suggested appointing them all. There should be no partisanship. Let them start laying out processes and procedures for what the Task Force should be focused on. Don't continue to compound one mistake after the other.

3. Edith Jonas of 38 South Edgewood Avenue has great concerns of what direction everything will go. It is considered a historic section and should be reserved for not building anything and is wondering what will happen to the Church Hill Road properties. She has the feeling they let them talk but do what they intend to anyway. She worries about the traffic. Trying to pull out of South Edgewood is a challenge. When the properties were acquired nobody did the math and questioned how much money was spent, she believes it was over \$1 million and questioned who pays for the loss of revenue, and the upkeep of the buildings, and it comes to the people who pay taxes. We don't need more traffic there. A big building will bring more people than a one-family house and doesn't think the section needs more traffic.
  
4. Kalman Jonas of 15 Ascolese Road and part owner of 38 South Edgewood Avenue stated the architect firm selected this site as #1 but the #2 site was only a 5 point difference. It was a subjective decision, it was not a mathematical equation. The #2 choice was the old Long Hill School. That point difference was close enough not to spend a \$1 million on houses that uproot people's lives tied to those houses. His father built the house. It wasn't necessary to do buy the houses. There was a study done that dealt with Old Church Hill Road and South Edgewood Avenue that stated the two areas should remain residential. He supports the return to single family houses with protection of not being developed and/or a condo complex.
  
5. Michael Barker of 26 George Street stated he had seen a small number of Mr. Robinson's posts, an EDIT candidate with regard to race, sex and gender. The posts are so far out of the mainstream and encouraged the Council not to appoint him to this or any other committee. He doesn't know Ms. Stauder personally and has heard she is easy to work with, works across the aisle and does good work. He also heard her speak at the R&R Committee, she did not seem certain that racism exists in Trumbull and encourage the Council not to appoint her Chair of a committee that deals with that issue. Perhaps it would be better for her to use this as a learning experience and come on as a member so she can be educated as to the reality of racism in our town.
  
6. Cindy Penkoff of 101 Columbine Drive spoke to the letter she sent to the Council today and subsequently the letters sent over the months since this started 173 days ago. She spoke to several resolutions on the agenda.
  1. Yes sell the houses across the street they should have never been purchased and neither should the street that was just purchased for \$7 million.
  2. Building Committees for the schools keep getting formed, every single elementary and middle school needs to be redone, stop throwing good money after bad, it's a waste.
  3. 173 days to make a difference and to apologize and build bridges, to takeback, to try to sell yourself to a community that you say you want to represent. 173 days of wasted time. The one thing on the agenda is to remove the current EDIT Chair from the committee completely, she doesn't belong there. She does not think the committee is a necessity for the town, but for it to have a chance at all she has to have no association with it.

7. Mark Block of 60 Ridgeview Avenue spoke to TC28-199 and a group of resolutions. TC28-199: This is contrary to earlier recommendations of the town's Economic & Community Development Director. The Church Hill Road properties were a reasonable and responsible purchase to better the community. There was a plan, the purchase down the street had no community discussion and remains devoid of a plan. He wants to build a "state of the art" library and community center similar to the scope of Westport and other communities. He wants to take down the library to retrofit it to the BOE. A proper facility to take them out of an unhealthy building and put in other services such as the Finance Dept. He wants the municipal campus to remain a campus where the townspeople can go for all their needs and services. He wants creative thinking and no more reactive policies. When a reasonable and responsible plan is provided and we are prepared to build, the state will approve the traffic light and urged them to think outside the box. Politics can be replaced by sound fiscal and town policy.  
Regarding resolutions TC28-189-198: he is disappointed to be discussing the EDIT Task Force again. Weeks ago he called out publically in the press and on social media for the Council to seat all those that expressed a willingness to be on the Task Force to benefit the entire community, instead there was a series of behind closed doors interviews with no recommended vote of confidence to move them to the Council. It's as if no one wants to take responsibility, because it's a sensitive topic or people can't agree on the possible outcomes. It sadly reflects the process that has been uneven at best. We are nowhere tonight near where Fairfield is with their Task Force, or other towns. He researched 8 communities similar to Trumbull to see how they handled their EDIT committees on how they were established and how they made progress for their communities. They were transparent. How do you get residents' support when you ignore the word inclusive? Stop for a minute and see the benefit of all those that applied, be inclusive not exclusive, after all what's the harm. The number of seats can be changed at any time, it's the Council's choice. He recommended seating all the applicants, no matter what party they are, let them do the work that should have been done from the onset.
8. Kyle Norton of 1809 Huntington Turnpike spoke to the EDIT resolutions and appointing a Chair. He doesn't know Ms. Stauder and doesn't if she has courage and resolve, he does know this committee has a Chair with those qualities. Those qualities will be necessary. This is not the solution to the problem, he thinks Andrea Fonseca is a great candidate and she should be considered as Chair instead.
9. Jeremy Rampino of 14 South Edgewood Avenue adjacent to the properties purchased does not support any development there. No libraries, senior center or town owned properties, he did not support them being purchased. They should be reverted back to single family homes where families will live, not sold as a whole for development or any municipal or commercial development of any kind. He moved there 20 years ago and loves the neighborhood. The neighborhood was taken away when it was purchased and he didn't like that. He doesn't want to live next to something like that.



He wants the support in keeping it a neighborhood, he doesn't want to look back in two years and say I wish we sold those properties.

10. Susan Shaft of 57 Crown Street supports the concept of EDIT, it's something needed. She is saddened for the volunteers serving, particularly the Chair who has been subjected to criticism on social media. The work of EDIT is more important than any one person and hopes the current Chair is able to continue working regardless. She supports the creation of Co-Chair because the work is more important than any one person. She voiced concern on the appointment of Mr. Robinson, she does not know him but has read his social media posts. Based on what she read it is hard to understand why he would want to be on the committee, since he has posted nonsupport of the idea and has said he doesn't think racism exists in Trumbull and is prone to name calling and perpetuating the dissemination of false information. For someone to be on a committee like this we would need a higher standard than that type of behavior and hopes the Council is able to ascertain why this person wants to be on the committee.
11. Tara Figuera of 105 Grove Street expressed gratitude for the efforts to reaffirm EDIT and working diligently to reconstitute the committee to pursue the important work it was set up to do. She was present as a private citizen to urge the Council to have a Chair be a person of color that believes in the mission as well the value if the committee. It is important to have a deep and direct understanding of the issues faced by minorities in our community. That should be the bare minimum. This is the opportunity to reaffirm the Council's support for diversity, equity and inclusion.
12. Dede Robinson of 97 Moose Hill Road spoke to the EDIT committee which he is seeking to be a member of. He is disappointed of the subliminal disdain for republicans seeking to be seated on the committee. After each meeting he was told one thing, only to receive an email of the total opposite, this continued after each line of questioning. There were nominees who didn't show for any of the meetings yet still were still recommended. He wants to be on the committee and has taken time out of his life on three occasions to answer questions as to why he wants to be on the committee. He has proven himself and thinks the committee needs to reexamine their bias towards republicans. He is well qualified to serve, his life experience is proof. He grew up a poor kid to a single mother. Every day of his childhood he witnessed a community full of hatred, he spent many nights on his bedroom floor as rival gangs shot each other, has been to countless funeral for friends and relatives. He moved from Bridgeport to escape the violence and hatred, as a Trumbull resident of ten years he can't help to see how bias some individuals are. If this was truly a committee of fairness and equality ten end your bias and focus on the will of the people. He has given this committee the most precious thing he has to offer, his time. It is the one thing he can give but never get back. If selected to this committee he will help carry out the duties of the committee. To those that oppose him, his job is not to judge or figure out if someone deserves, but restore the broken and heal the hurting. As a hospice care worker he has taken care of the elderly dying. He practices patience, love and compassion on a daily basis and as a member of EDIT he plans on practicing

the same. He also asks the committee to do the same. Put aside political affiliation, see people as looking forward and being part of possible change in the community. He doesn't know how much time he has left on this earth, but he does know he intends on spending the time making a difference in people's lives.

Public Comment Closed at 8:06 p.m.