

CORE Commission
February 21, 2024
Meeting Room First Selectman's Boardroom Town Hall

RECEIVED
COLCHESTER, CT
2024 FEB 26 PM 3: 25

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jillian Vinci, Nancy Nelson, Judith Barnes (remotely), and Shawn Pelletier (remotely)

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Jeffrey Koonankeil and Sally Wipple

OTHERS PRESENT: Board of Selectman Liaison Denise Turner and two citizens

- Gayle Furman*
GAYLE FURMAN
TOWN CLERK
1. **Call to Order** Chair Jillian Vinci called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with roll call to establish a quorum.
 2. **Pledge of Allegiance** led by Judith Barnes
 3. **Approval of Minutes** - The minutes from January 17, 2024 were approved with no corrections. Motion to approve: Shawn Pelletier Second by: Judith Barnes. Vote: Unanimous to approve
 4. **Additions or Deletions to the agenda** – Nancy Nelson to add topic of wellness days at Bacon Academy. Added as item 5 on agenda.
 5. **Wellness Days at Bacon Academy** – there are two upcoming Wellness Days being hosted at Bacon – 3/21 and 3/26. While we don't have time to host a booth this year, Nancy and Jillian will try to attend on 3/21 to learn what the day is about and how we can better participate next year.
 6. **Group Discussion**
 - Jillian joined to help make Colchester a safer and more welcoming place for her children.
 - Nancy is a parent and was a teacher. She was new to town during COVID and looking to get more involved. She thought this would be a good opportunity to help the town and especially the children.
 - Shawn has a clinical research background and wanted to be apart of the inclusion in town. She knew that she could contribute positively.
 - Judith was a business analyst and was involved in a car accident in her late 20s that left her disabled. She later became a volunteer and knew she could offer another perspective and help bring people together and educate people in town.
 7. **New Business**
 - First Book Club Event
 - There were 8 attendees for the first meeting. Chapters 1-4 were discussed. It was a respectful and thoughtful discussion. Demographic was limited at over 50 and white only.
 - Black History Month posts and trivia – seems to be well received and has increased the number of followers on the CORE FaceBook page.
 - Youth Conversations
 - Nancy reserved Colchester Federated Church for March 5. She is looking to have a minimum of 5 youth, and still planning to do a separate session running at the same time for parents. Jillian and Nancy will bring cookies and drinks.
 - Women's History Month – will table anything in person and work on a social media campaign instead. Jillian and Shawn to form a sub-committee.
 - Juneteenth – group to think about educational for next meeting.
 - Pride – group to think about celebration ideas for next meeting.
 - Monthly Learning Opportunities:

- Jillian shared a common meme about how sassy young girls often grow to be powerful leaders but offered another viewpoint as a mother raising black men. That there are a lot of parents with black children that fear having sassy black children because it could be detrimental for them instead.

8. Citizen's Comments – none

9. Adjournment - Chair Vinci adjourned the meeting at 7:18 PM.