

CORE Commission
March 20, 2024
Zoom Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jillian Vinci, Nancy Nelson, Judith Barnes, Shawn Pelletier, Jeffrey Koonankeil, Sally Whipple, and Jah-Marley Wright

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: OTHERS PRESENT: Board of Selectman Liaison Denise Turner and one citizen

1. **Call to Order** Chair Jillian Vinci called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm with roll call to establish a quorum.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** led by Judith Barnes
3. **Approval of Minutes** - The minutes from February 21, 2024 were approved with no corrections. Motion to approve: Shawn Pelletier Second by: Nancy Nelson. Vote: Unanimous to approve with Jeffrey and Sally abstaining as they were absent at February meeting
4. **Additions or Deletions to the agenda** – Shawn to add topic of reimbursement for \$25 for Black History Month trivia contest winner prize. Money to be returned to Shawn who paid out of pocket. Added as item 5 on agenda.
5. **BHM Trivia Contest Prize Reimbursement to Shawn** – Judith motioned to approve. Second by Nancy with unanimous vote to approve. Shawn and Jillian to connect about payment from CORE funds
6. **Group Discussion** – Jillian shared feedback that the First Selectman had received from the community. While the feedback was critical in some ways, specifically around the MLK event, it allowed to an open and constructive dialogue about how CORE can refocus efforts to make sure that those who spoke up in the community feel heard. Loosely, the new path forward will be less about “celebrations” and more focused on understanding the makeup of Colchester’s people and how we support and integrate that diversity.
7. **New Business**
 - Book Club Feedback
 - Shawn’s feedback – productive and respectful! Jillian saw on CORE’s FaeceBook page that feedback was great. Most attendees asked for this to be an ongoing event
 - Youth Conversations Redo
 - Bacon Academy had a basketball finals game the same night so the kids decided to attend that instead. We will plan to make a few updates to outreach and try again.
 - Bacon Academy Wellness Day – Nancy to attend on 3/21 and provide feedback
 - Juneteenth – group to think about educational for next meeting.
8. **Citizen’s Comments** – none
9. **Adjournment** - Chair Vinci adjourned the meeting at 7:19 PM.

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Gayle Furman
TOWN CLERK