

# TEAM Westport Meeting Minutes May 2, 2017 8:00 AM Room 201, Westport Town Hall, Westport, CT

<u>Attendees:</u> Harold Bailey (Presiding), Judy Hamer, Ramin Ganeshram, Catherine Onyemelukwe, Maggie Mudd, Karen Kleine, Catherine Lewis, Bernicestine McLeod, Zoe Tarrant, Althea Seaborn, Steve Daniels, Dolores Paoli, and Susan Ellis.

Guests: Gail Kelly - Westport Town Attorney, Savitri Horrigan, and Rebecca Marsick

The meeting was called to order at 8:07AM.

<u>Approval of Minutes:</u> Catherine Onyemelukwe moved that we approve the minutes of our April 4, 2017 meeting. Judy Hamer seconded the motion. The motion passed.

#### **Programming:**

## 1. <u>Essay Contest</u>:

Town Attorney, Gail Kelly, briefed us in depth on the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) process as a result of a request for all of the essays submitted during the recent TEAM Westport Essay contest on White Privilege. It was agreed that Harold would inform all students who had submitted essays and their parents of the request.

### 2. Book Club:

Approximately 12 people attended the most recent session held at the Westport Library last night coordinated by Zoe Tarrant and Catherine Lewis. The book discussed was <u>The Hate You Give</u> by Angie Thomas.

The book for the June 12<sup>th</sup> session at 7PM at the Westport Library is <u>The Warmth of Other Suns</u> by Isabel Wilkerson.

We continue to assemble a list of books as recommended reading.

### 3. Other Events:

The session at the New Canaan Library last month by Debby Irving, the author of <u>Waking Up White</u>, was attended by Jennifer Keller of the Westport Library.

## 4. New Items:

Ramin would like to receive any and all information and contacts regarding African American historical figures in Westport, Fairfield County, and Connecticut in order to put together an exhibit proposal.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 AM.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 6, 2017, at 8AM in Room 201 of Westport Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernicestine McLeod Secretary