



TEAM Westport Meeting Minutes  
June 2, 2015, 8:00 AM  
Room 201, Westport Town Hall, Westport, CT

**Attendees:** Steve Daniels, Maggie Mudd, Susan Ellis, Judy Hamer, Harold Bailey (Presiding), Brett Aronow, Zoe Tarrant, Bernicestine McLeod, and Dolores Paoli

**Guests:** Savitri Horrigan, Rev. Alison Patton

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 AM.

**Minutes:** Steve moved that the minutes for our May 5th meeting be approved. Judy seconded. The motion passed. The minutes were approved.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **What's Up?**

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **Programming**

#### Conversations

##### Recap

1. TEAM Westport held a community conversation on May 17 in reaction to the #WhiteLivesMatter leaflets that were placed around town in early May. The discussion was kicked off by a panel moderated by Alison. Panel members included our First Selectman, Jim Marpe, our police chief, Dale Call, and Dan Woog. Different emotions were expressed by people from the town (and not from the town) such as fear of being targeted, feelings about diversity, the need for more diversity, that the town has international diversity. Attempts to provide affordable housing were mentioned as well as personal testimonials from people who have witnessed racism and feel there should be more reaching out to stop racism. In general, people left feeling that "lives matter". Relationship building was an important outcome. We have more people now who are interested in TEAM Westport.
2. TEAM Westport marched in the Memorial Day Parade. A number of people saw our banner and a sign saying "#BlackLivesMatter. Our participation was very enthusiastically received. One monetary donation came in as well.

##### Summer

Following up during the summer, we will plan for our fall activities including neighborhood conversations, book discussions, and additional community conversations.

##### Action:

1. We discussed a few possible films to show over the summer (including Selma, "42", Fruitvale Station).
2. We discussed whether to show the film "The Good Lie" later in June. The screenwriter, Margaret Nagle, will be present to lead a discussion about the movie. We will explore.
3. Also, we'll develop a list of books to engender conversation for our upcoming book discussions (including The Half Has Never Been Told, The New Jim Crow, Islam is a Foreign Country, The Justice Imperative, and The Blind Goddess).



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4. Additionally, we'll establish dates at the Library for our programs and community conversations.
5. Maggie will follow up on the James Baldwin Project.

Fall

We'll continue with our community conversations on the proposed topics: "What Do We Tell Our Children", "Policing within the Bubble", "The Issue of Privilege".

Action:

Zoe and Maggie will look at facilitator training materials and documentation since we'll need good facilitators as we expand our discussions. Alison has some potentially applicable materials. Also, we'll establish our means of distributing information about our events to reach as many people as possible.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernicestine E. McLeod  
Secretary