

CORE Commission
Nov 15, 2023 Meeting via ZOOM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Shawn Pelletier, Nancy Nelson, Jillian Vinci, Jeffrey Koonankeil, and Judith Barnes,

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Sally Whipple, Jah-Marley Wright – Alternate,

OTHERS NOT PRESENT: Board of Selectman Liaison Denise Turner

1. Call to Order

Chair Shawn Pelletier called the meeting to order at 6:01pm with a roll call to establish a quorum.

2. Pledge of Allegiance led by J. Barnes

3. Approval of Minutes

Oct 18, 2023 Meeting: Motion to approve: N. Nelson Second by: J. Koonankeil

Vote: Unanimous to approve

4. Additions or Deletions to the agenda – none

5. **OLD Business** – S. Pelletier met with M. Williamson, town Finance Director to develop a process for handling the addition and withdrawal from the CORE account. The Donation policy that was drafted in 2022 was updated and finalized dated Oct 26, 2023. Motion to approve: N. Nelson Second by: J. Koonankeil Vote: Unanimous to approve

6. New Business

- Update on the continuation of Youth Conversations
 - N. Nelson said they are looking organize a conversation with the Youth sometime in Jan or Feb 2024 timeframe. N. Nelson will work with subcommittee members to organize the next meeting.
- 2024 CORE meeting schedule
 - Members agreed to keep the schedule as is for 2024; 3rd Wednesday of every month starting at 6:00pm. Motion to approve: S. Pelletier Second by: J. Barnes. Vote: Unanimous to approve
- Areas to focus on in 2024:
 - Given the election results, S. Pelletier suggested that we not continue with the idea of some type of a town pledge, but instead focus on supporting and hosting events in town for Martin Luther King Jr. in January, Black History Month in February, and Women's History Month in March. Since we started the effort in 2023, it makes sense to build on what we've done, advertise it in the Rivereast newspaper, and make it scalable where we can. Motion to approve: S. Pelletier Second by: N. Nelson. Vote: Unanimous to approve
- Monthly Learning Opportunities:
 - J. Koonankeil shared information about the attacks and vandalism on Pregnancy Resource Centers and Pro-Life Groups from early May 2022 when the draft opinion of *Dobbs* case was leaked through September 28, 2023. Regardless of your personal beliefs, Jeff raised the issue that discrimination and/or violence of/against Christians in the U.S. is real, and either not reported, underreported, dismissed, or cheered on.

7. Citizen's Comments – none

8. Adjournment - Chair Pelletier adjourned the meeting at 6:29pm.

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TOWN CLERK