

Roxanne Maher

From: Naomi Rodriguez
Sent: Monday, July 03, 2023 1:08 AM
To: Town Council Group; Nina Diaz
Subject: Re: Follow up on meeting 6/28/2023

Hello Ms. Diaz,

This is to acknowledge that I have received and read your letter in its entirety. Thank you for your letter, the Town Council appreciates resident input.

Respectfully,

Naomi Rodriguez,
Ledyard Town Councilor

From: Nina Diaz <ninadiaz24@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 29, 2023 4:06 PM
To: Town Council Group <TownCouncil@ledyardct.org>
Subject: Follow up on meeting 6/28/2023

Good afternoon,

I wanted to take a moment and follow up on last night's meeting. There is some info that is important to share after hearing council members remarks regarding the signs plastered in and around town.

While I appreciate Naomi stating "if you see something, say something" or "to notify to police", I personally spoke with Troop E CT state police twice yesterday regarding the signs. They are refusing to remove them. This is not the first time CT state pd has declined to step in regarding the patriot front propaganda. While the signs may seem harmless or be considered as free speech to some, they are actually a recruiting tactic used by the group.

The lack of awareness within the board and or PD is frightening considering that in recent years CT has seen the highest increase of antisemitic and hate propaganda, incidents and hate crimes. In 2021 alone, there was a 40% increase ranking CT in the top 10 states of hate group activities by the ADL. For anyone to claim that the best thing to do is "not give it the attention" only gives them further traction. As Mr. Saums stated "patriot front was started by a teenager", who do we think these signs are aimed at recruiting?

In recent years anytime a "Black lives matter" sign was put up in town, they were immediately removed and community members were reminded of rules and regulations by town officials. Yet these signs get the "don't give it attention" response from the chair of town council.... That is terrifying especially as a mother of bi-racial children.

While I do not believe anyone has "the answer or solution" I do believe it is imperative to work together and also have some type of faith in our community leaders. I say this because it seems as though the ONLY time we hear anything, is when we show up to a meeting and speak on continued issues and the lack of awareness and or support the majority of our community leaders and or police dept seem to have. I want to be able to feel safe in town, I want my brown and black children to feel safe, my brown and black neighbors and friends to feel safe and also feel as if they belong. In order for that to happen, our elected officials need to speak up, speak out, educate themselves, and most importantly GET INVOLVED!!!!

I apologize for not stating this last night. I did not share this information as Mr.Dombrowskie was already extremely upset, and caused multiple people in the room to flinch or jump(you can watch the video, niaomi specifically can be seen flinching at his extremely aggressive gavel hits) even after being informed there were community members with ptsd in the room. Given that this was not the first time Kevin raised his voice at me as if I was an unruly child or disobedient wife(you can watch the Feb 2023 meeting regarding black history month), I absolutely did not feel safe or comfortable based on his behavior.

I anticipate your prompt response.

Best-
Ginnina Diaz

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)