Meeting notes from 1-21-23

Our sergeant-at-arms, Diane Mackins, called us to order at 10:04 am

Attending: Trista, Sandy, Diane, Doug, Taneda, Amin, Sherry, and—by zoom—Jonathan

- we talked about our first empowerment summit, Feb. 11, 9:30 am at Joliet Township offices

- we want to hold a summit each month

- for our first one, we are asking speakers to keep their presentations under 10 minutes

- the event will kick off with Trista giving an introduction, then Amin will provide our moment of inspiration followed by Sandy doing a quick recruitment for SpeakUp!

- Here is the order in which our speakers will appear (tentative): Taneda A., Jonathan E., Ranisah B., David C., Cynthia P., and Michael H.

- helpers should wear their SpeakUp! t-shirts

- we will have sign up sheets so we can track attendees for future events

- refreshment table: Diane is bringing bagels and cream cheese; Taneda is bringing fruit and bottled water. All other donations—juice, coffee, Danish, cookies, or crackers—would be welcome.

- Doug is bringing a small sound system; Michael will be recording video.

- we need to end with information about our next event; get dates from your organizations with space to use!

- Michael has provided some text to use for press releases and promotional posts:

*“SpeakUp! And Prairie Legal Services want you to feel empowered! You can be stronger and increase your own self determination and that of your community. Our Empowerment Summit is a free event where you can learn and walk away with tangible tools to help you level up and create the future you want! Learn how to create a will, understand your purpose, pick up free financial budget spreadsheets, get tools for discipline when your motivation is low, learn goal setting principles to turn your vision into reality, find legal resources available to you now, and more.”*

- please promote in your own churches, masjid, organizations, newsletters, etc.

- update—Sandy will be on Scott Slocum’s show on Wednesday, Feb. 1 at about 8:40 am—who wants to join in?

- OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS: The Nonviolent Cities’ Project is holding a candidates’ forum on March 15 at Mt. Carmel church from 6-8 pm. Sherry Williams told us about the county board’s fist meeting for the new mental health board.

- meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m.