



**General Meeting
Minutes
January 26th, 2022
1pm**

Attendance:

Helen Boxwill, 631 7489379, hboxwill@gmail.com UUFH

Susan Dewey-Hammer, sdeweyham@aol.com

John Dullaghan, jadully@gmail.com: 631-449-5940 (cell). Huntington resident, parent and community advocate. Director of government affairs Altice/Optimum.

Denise Ham, CCS P.L.I. Director, DHam@childcaresuffolk.org, (631)335-4989

John O'Farrell, Half Hollow Hills CSD

Jane Pashman, jpashman1@gmail.com, 646-245-0150

David Pinkowitz, dpinkowitz@gmail.com, 631-745-4022, Temple Beth Torah Melville, Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC-LI)

Ronnie Pinkowitz, ronchick1@gmail.com, Temple Beth Torah, Jewish Community Relations Council - NY & LI

Jim Polansky, Huntington UFSD, jpolansky@hufsd.edu

Roxanne Rapelyea, rrapelyea@huntingtonny.gov, Youth Bureau

Bette Schneiderman, bes@durhamplace.net

Joe Schramm, jschramm@schrammny.com Mobile # is 646-342-4447, Schramm Marketing Group; Northport Chamber of Commerce; past candidate for Town Council

Bill Scrima, SCPD 2nd Precinct, William.scrima@suffolkcountyny.gov

Bruce Segal, bsegal14@gmail.com, 516.353.8764

Jackson Shrouf, Councilwoman Cergol's Office, jshrouf@huntingtonny.gov, (631) 351-3018

Sara Siddiqui, Huntington Pediatrician, Elwood, Masjid Noor, LWV, sarayasmine@hotmail.com, 631-513-8223

Kelly Smith, Huntington Township Chamber of Commerce, Kelly@HuntingtonChamber.com, 631-423-6100

Rabbi Lina Zerbarini, Kehillath Shalom Synagogue, Cold Spring Harbor, rabbi@kehillathshalomsynagogue.org, 203-915-4786

Town of Huntington:

Carmen Kasper, Human Services Director

Kevin Thorbourne, Minority Affairs Director

Guest Speaker:

Dr. Gregson Pigott – Suffolk County Health Commissioner

Began February 28, 2020 and spoke about the work of the Department dealing with COVID and caring for people in need.

Current COVID:

Yesterday there were 1372 positive cases, significantly diminishing. Over 300 fatalities this month in Suffolk County in facilities. Concerned about relaxation of mitigation measures – not the time to do that. When the percent positivity is 1%, and fewer hospitalized patients, etc., and the weather warms up. COVID is still disproportionately affecting communities of color.

What can we do now? Wear a good, well-fitting mask, like a KN95 or N95.

Cristian Marcario, SC Community Recovery Operations Manager, is coordinating mask distribution to agencies and school districts:

cristian.macario@suffolkcountyny.gov.

Office of Minority Health: Barbershop Initiative, engages barbers in educating clients. HIV work – significant issues in communities of color; ~100 diagnoses every year, mostly among men who have sex with men (MSM).

Health Disparities conference and education, including maternal health.

Bureau of Public Health Nursing – mother-child home visits.

A question was asked: Anything volunteers could do? CERT – Citizens Emergency Response Task Force – helped with vaccination and testing.

The district superintendents spoke of their great appreciation of Dr. Pigott's work.

Dr. Eve Krief posted about children at risk: Over 1000 children have died from covid, tens of thousands have been hospitalized, 30% during the delta wave had no underlying illness and 30% required ICU admission. Locally during omicron 50% of children have no underlying illness. 6500 children have developed a serious condition called Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome of children (MIS-c) which develops several weeks after even asymptomatic or mild covid infection. These children typically require ICU admission and are seriously ill and often have no underlying medical condition. As many as one in 7 children suffer from long covid and a recent CDC study revealed that a covid infection in a child under 18 raises the risk of them developing diabetes by 2.5 %. Although people like to say that children are unaffected by covid and 99.99% of them survive, that translates to the .01% of children who die from covid. With a virus this contagious which has infected over 9.4 million children, that translates to the over 1000 children who have died.

Report by Inspector Scrima

Not a lot of noteworthy incidents. December 10 – a flyer was posted in Elwood by the National Justice Party. The person whose house it was posted in front of thought it might be a white supremacist organization. Intelligence is looking into it. Helen said that the ADL lists it as a white supremacist organization. The Northport Chief reports they have not had any incidents involving the National Justice Party.

MTA handled the situation on the LIRR.

Newsletter update

Published every two months. We submitted to the Town for approval on January 3 but haven't heard back yet. Future issues will include the positive response of Empire Toyota and update of the Social Justice Ambassador program.

Update on Social Justice Ambassador Program

Jane Pashman, Director of Social Justice Ambassador program, a partnership with ABTF and Suffolk Y JCC, updated us. Participating schools are Northport, Elwood, Harborfields, Huntington, South Huntington. First meeting February 3.

Future speakers

Next month: mark Black History Month. Eve mentioned the exhibit at the Huntington Train Station of Black History in Huntington.

Hecksher Museum: February – April exhibit of [Richard Mayhew](#), and also [Moonstruck](#), in which the Asian American Task Force is participating in a Lunar New Year program.

Soldier and Sailors Memorial Building:

Announcements of current events

Black History Month Celebration will be held on Thursday, February 3, 2022, at 7:00 PM in the Auditorium at Harborfields High School. Our keynote speaker will be Hakeem Rahim an internationally recognized mental health consultant, educator, and motivational speaker.

Will post to FoHABTF Facebook page a “Thank You” to Empire Toyota for not allowing expressions of hate by their employees.

Next HABTF meeting February 23, 2022 – or maybe Monday the 28th

Meeting adjourned