



HABTF

Meeting Minutes

August 24th, 2022

Zoom 1 pm

1. Meeting was called to order at 1:04.

2. Attendance:

Helen Boxwill, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Huntington,
hboxwill@gmail.com

Susan Dewey-Hammer, Huntington Cold Spring Harbor United Methodist Church,
sdeweyhamm@aol.com

Joe Centamore, Superintendent, S. Huntington SD

Brendan Cusack, Principal, Huntington HS, bcusack@hufsd.edu

Susan Dewey-Hammer, Huntington Cold Spring Harbor United Methodist Church,
sdeweyhamm@aol.com

Denise Ham, CCS P.L.I Director, DeniseHam1@aol.com

Roberta Israeloff, Kehillath Shalom Synagogue, r.israeloff@gmail.com

Eve Krief, Long Island Inclusive Communities Against Hate, Huntington Jewish Center, founderliicah@gmail.com

Michelle McCarthy

Jane Pashman, Social Justice Ambassadors, jpashman1@gmail.com

David Pinkowitz, Temple Beth Torah Melville, JCRC-LI, dpinkowitz@gmail.com

Jim Polansky, Huntington UFSD, jpolansky@hufsd.edu

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

Rabbi Lina Zerbarini, Kehillath Shalom Synagogue,
rabi@kehillathshalomsynagogue.org

Town of Huntington:

Carmen Kasper, Human Services Director

Roxane Rapelyea; Huntington Youth Bureau

Kevin Thorbourne, Town of Huntington-Human Services,

3. Approval of Minutes from June 22, 2002

Minutes were approved without amendment.

4. Report from Inspector Scrima

6/26/22 at Oakwood Rd. and Pulaski, graffiti, which included a swastika, was painted on a Lee Zeldin campaign sign. An arrest was made.

7/10/22 at Temple Chaverim, a letter was sent containing a racial element. There were no threats made, and no crime was committed.

7/20/22 threatening emails were sent to several local Jewish centers. It is being handled as a Harassment 2nd degree and Aggravated Harassment 2nd degree, and is being investigated by 2nd Precinct Crime Section.

8/2/22 at Sunshine Acres Park in Commack, a racial slur was carved into a children's slide. Hate Crimes is investigating.

8/16/22 at Family Service League in Huntington, a threat, including a racial slur, was made against a person. It is being handled as a Harassment 2nd degree and is being investigated by 2nd Precinct Crime Section.

To date, there have been 16 incidents in the county that included swastikas, 4 of which took place in the 2nd Precinct.

In 2021, there were a total of 34 incidents, 21 of which took place prior to 8/24/21.

5. Carmen's Bias Report

No calls or emails.

6. Huntington Anti-Bias Task Force Changemakers: Unity Awards

Committee: Betty Ann Schneiderman, Helen, Roxane

Recognize and support youth who stand up against discrimination in any form.

Hoping to give 4 \$250 mini-grants to support student projects. Seeking approval from TOH.

7. Huntington Anti-Bias Concert

There was a discussion about the timing of the concert to involve and engage more high school students – perhaps during the school year? And a proposal to change the name to something positive.

8. Request a new positive slogan to replace "Hate has No Home in Huntington"

There was some discussion to change the language to something like: Huntington: Everyone is Welcome. There was not agreement and the proposal continues to be under discussion.

9. Presentation by Jill Santiago, Director of Center for Social Justice and Human Understanding at Suffolk County Community College.

Suffolk County CC has an annual Unity Day, at which High Schools across the county bring students for speakers, workshops, resources. Info to follow. The speaker couldn't make it today.

11. Other Items

HUFSD: Superintendent Polansky said that the Huntington SD is very busy with upgrades, including and especially meeting the internet needs of all families. A/C being installed in Huntington SD.

National Night Out: HABTF had a table and many flyers were handed out.

Unity Day – Brainchild of Ms. Dee Thompson. Hosted by South Huntington SD in partnership with others, including Huntington SD. Parade, vendors. Saturday, September 17th. Town Hall will have a kick-off event on Thursday, September 15@4 pm – so those who can't participate on Saturday might be able to participate. More discussion about timing for inclusiveness.

Social Justice Ambassadors – Jane Pashman reported. Hope that last year's High Schools will participate once again. 3 TOH High Schools did not participate. Hoping that students will be able to visit each other's schools in the coming year.

Ebenezer Community Church – Community Fun Day, Saturday, August 27, 11-4.

Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration – October 21st, 6 pm, at Town Board. Keynote speaker: Dr. XXXX? from Huntington Hospital. Scholarships will be given to HS students. 250-word essay on what being Hispanic means to them. Raffles, music, refreshments.

The National HS Ethics Bowl is a competitive yet collegial event at which teams of students discuss ethical issues, both timely and timeless, and are scored in terms of the quality of their analysis. If you are interested in learning how your school can participate, please contact me: risraeloff@squirefoundation.org. This is a national event sponsored by the Parr Center at UNC-Chapel Hill. We have an active Long Island Ethics Bowl community that I help organize. Students and teachers love it. For case archive: <https://nhseb.unc.edu/case-archive/>

12. **Meeting was Adjourned at 2:20**

Next meeting is September 28th: Presentation about Hispanic Heritage Month. October meeting will include a presentation by the Anti-Defamation League.