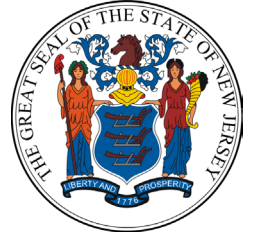


**State of New Jersey  
Commission on Holocaust Education**

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New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education  
3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Commission Meeting  
New Jersey Department of Education  
Monday, March 11, 2024  
11:00 am  
**Minutes**

**Presiding:** Phil Kirschner, Chair

**Executive Director:** Doug Cervi

**Present Constituting a Quorum**

Tamara Beatty  
Dina Cohen  
Allison Connolly  
Maud Dahme  
Jaclyn Jones  
Michelle Myers  
Irvin Moreno Rodriguez  
Judy Olesh  
Marvin Raab  
Rabbi Avi Richler  
Peter Schild  
Ilyse Shainbrown  
Frank Stebbins  
Shana Stein  
Yitz Stern  
Betty Schwartz  
Colleen Tambuscio  
Elyse Wolff

**Absent**

Abe Foxman  
Igor Kotler  
Sister Alice Swartz  
Gene Woods

### **Convening**

The New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education Chair Phil Kirschner convened the public meeting at 11:01 a.m. and seeing there was a quorum, the meeting of March 11, 2024, was called to order.

### **Approval of Minutes of The Meeting**

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the NJ Commission on Holocaust Education approved the minutes of the public meeting conducted on December 4, 2023.

### **Chair Report**

No Report

### **Standing Committee Reports:**

#### **Budget and Fundraising Committee**

Brianna Doherty stated that as of March 11, 2024, the NJ Commission on Holocaust Education has \$48,653.16 in the account. She also stated that there will be a new procurement process starting in FY25. This new process is going to put a schedule in place for centers to submit funding requests. It will be done quarterly, all requests will be reviewed by a DOE-selected committee of Commission members and funds will be distributed accordingly.

#### **Curriculum Committee**

Colleen Tambuscio stated that the Curriculum Committee will be working on the first revision of the high school curriculum. They hope to better align the middle school curriculum with the high school curriculum.

#### **Evaluation and Assessment Committee**

Report was given during executive session.

#### **Generation of the Shoah Committee**

No Report

#### **Interfaith Committee**

No Report

#### **Legislative Committee**

Frank Stebbins stated that we are continuing to find a way to get Doug, Brianna, and any interested Commission Members to conferences related to Holocaust Education. We have met with NJEA for some assistance with this matter and Brianna is scheduling a meeting with Treasury to discuss options. We are also excited to hear about the Holocaust and Genocide Education Mandate Survey results. One thing the Legislative Committee is working on is connecting with Legislators after each election cycle to create, foster, and strengthen our relationship with our Legislators.

#### **PR and Awareness Committee**

No Report

#### **Professional Development Committee**

Frank Stebbins reported that in lieu of a summer professional development program, we will be partnering with NJEA the Holocaust Resource Center at Kean University, and the Sara and Sam

Schoffer Holocaust Resource Center at Stockton University to host 2 symposiums. The symposium with Kean will be on March 15, 2024, and the one with Stockton will be on May 13, 2024. There will be a panel discussion on the summer seminar led by Maud, multiple breakout sessions covering a variety of topics and featuring several Commission members, and a film screening followed by a Q&A.

### **Special Events Committee**

Brianna Doherty reported that the next big event will be on April 15, 2024. It is the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration of the Signing of the Holocaust and Genocide Education Mandate. This event will be at Stockton University, doors will open at 4:30 and the program will start at 6:00. You all should have received your formal invitations. Please let me know if you will be attending.

### **Student/Survivor Project Committee**

Michelle Myers reported that the committee has finalized its resources for speaker visits. This will be available on the Commission website. They have also revised the Adopt a Survivor program. We have begun working on the webpage. We have also crafted a simple survey to send to the centers to inquire about the assistance they might need from us.

### **New Business:**

#### **2024 Summer Seminar**

Maud Dahme reported that this year we have 32 teachers who are attending the Summer Seminar.

#### **2024 CHEC Conference**

Brianna Doherty, Colleen Tambuscio, and Dr. Adara Goldberg attended the USHMM Community of Holocaust Education Centers (CHEC) conference at the beginning of February. This was an amazing experience; they were able to speak with Doris Bergen about her new book and establish relationships with other state Commissions and centers across the country.

#### **2024 NJEA Convention**

Brianna Doherty reported that the proposal for the Commission to host a keynote presentation has been submitted along with the booth request. NJEA has kindly offered us 4 90-minute sessions.

### **Preparation for reorganization in June**

The reorganization meeting is scheduled for June 3, 2024. If you would like to submit a letter of interest for the position of Chair or Vice Chair, please send it to Brianna Doherty by May 3, 2024. Also, please send Brianna Doherty an email with what committee or committees you would like to be on for the next year.

### **Member Concerns**

- Allison Connolly inquired about the Commission representation at NJCSS in October. If the Commission would like to be involved at NJCSS, Allison will assist with working on the proposal.
- Marvin Raab updated the Commission on the Virtual Tour of Sobibor.
- Irvin Moreno Rodriguez provided a demo of Ed Mosberg's Dimensions in Testimony.
- The Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest launched its 2 storyfiles, which are now available upon request.

### **Public Comment**

- Paula Aspell presented her film *Resistance – They Fought Back*. If you are interested in seeing the film, please email Brianna Doherty.

**Adjournment**

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the NJ Commission on Holocaust Education adjourned its March 11, 2024 public meeting at 1:24 p.m.