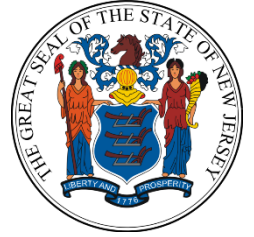




**State of New Jersey  
Commission on Holocaust Education**

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**New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education  
1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Holocaust Commission Meeting  
New Jersey Department of Education  
Friday, September 20, 2024  
11:00 am  
Minutes**

**Presiding:** Maud Dahme, Chair

**Executive Director:** Doug Cervi

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Brianna Doherty

**Present Constituting a Quorum**

Tamara Beatty  
Nicholas Capuano  
Allison Connolly  
Maud Dahme  
Phil Kirschner  
Igor Kotler  
Michelle Myers  
Irvin Moreno Rodriguez  
Judy Olesh  
Marvin Raab  
Ilyse Shainbrown  
Frank Stebbins  
Shana Stein  
Colleen Tambuscio  
Elyse Wolff  
Gene Woods

**Absent**

Dina Cohen  
Abe Foxman  
Rabbi Avi Richler  
Yitz Stern  
Sister Alice Swartz  
Betty Schwartz

### **Convening**

The New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education Chair Maud Dahme convened the public meeting at 11:00 a.m. and seeing there was a quorum, the meeting of September 20, 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 June 3, 2024.

### **Chair Report**

Chairwoman Maud Dahme stated that the 2024 Summer Seminar was a success. We also hosted our annual Center Director meeting, which will be discussed later. She also asked that, during lunch, the Commission have a discussion about expectations of being a member and what you would like to see in the year ahead.

### **Vice Chair Report**

Vice Chair Marvin Raab shared experiences from international outreach in Poland, including discussions on educational programs and live tours. He also highlighted challenges in attracting participation due to logistical and financial constraints.

### **Executive Director Report**

Doug Cervi reflected on the summer seminar with positive feedback from participants. He acknowledged NJEA's \$150,000 funding support for the 2025 Summer Seminar and provided updates on participation in a program on antisemitism with the Attorney General's office.

### **Standing Committee Reports:**

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

The Committee reported that the Commission received its annual appropriation of \$255,000. They also reported that the Commission received 1 donation in Quarter 1.

\$110 from Newell Elementary School in honor of Maud Dahme

The Committee also reported on the Event Sponsorship Grant Opportunity for the Holocaust Resource Centers. For Q1 (August and September), \$10,000 was budgeted for the grant. The Commission received 6 requests totaling \$10,623.58.

4 from the Sara and Sam Schoffer HRC at Stockton

1 from Mercer County Community College

1 from Kidsbridge

After reviewing the requests, the committee agreed to fully fund 2 of the Stockton requests and the 1 Mercer County Community College request and reduce the funding for the other 2 Stockton requests and the 1 Kidsbridge request. Kidsbridge withdrew their application. Of the \$10,000 budgeted, \$8400 was encumbered.

#### **Legislative Committee**

The Committee reported on plans for a "lobby day" to build relationships with elected officials and promote the Commission's work.

**Curriculum Committee**

The Committee reported on ongoing collaborative efforts to align the k-12 curriculum with NJSLS and provided a progress report on professional development initiatives and upcoming workshops.

**Professional Development Committee**

The Committee reported on plans to develop workshops for teachers to ensure the practical implementation of Holocaust education resources.

**Evaluation and Assessment Committee**

The Committee reported that the detailed report of the survey that was conducted last year is available on the Commission's website, right on the homepage. Brianna Doherty is currently working on developing county-specific reports based on the overall data.

**Student/Survivor Project Committee**

The Committee reported on enhancements to the website and improved collaboration among centers.

**PR and Awareness Committee**

The Committee reported that a Facebook page has been created. This will increase visibility through social media platforms.

**Generation of the Shoah Committee**

No report.

**Special Events Committee**

January 2025 marks the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. The Committee and Chair will be speaking with the Office of the First Lady to request a commemoration on January 27<sup>th</sup> at Drumthwacket.

**Interfaith Committee**

No report.

**New Business:****2025 Summer Seminar**

It was reported that there is currently a waitlist for participants. There was also discussion on expectations and post-trip responsibilities

**Updates from the Center Director Meeting**

The Executive Director reported that the annual Center Director Meeting was held on August 30, 2024. The meeting went well, the centers are doing some really amazing work and have some wonderful things planned for the upcoming year.

**Key Announcements**

- Brianna Doherty reported that the DOE will be hosting a conference featuring all of the Commissions on December 5, 2024, from 8:00-4:30 at TCNJ. Facing History and Ourselves will be presenting on building an inclusive classroom, the Office of Standards will be presenting about integrating the various mandates into the standards, and there will be a panel of educators

discussing practical implementation for meeting the mandates. The DOE asked each school district to send at least 1 representative to attend.

**Action Items**

- Develop a shared calendar system to streamline event planning and enhance collaboration among centers
- Finalize plans for January 27, 2025, International Holocaust Remembrance Day
- Continue outreach to principals and educators through county superintendent networks
- Coordinate legislative outreach initiatives for 2024-2025
- Support and promote professional development workshops across the state.

**Public Comment****Upcoming 2024-2025 Meeting Dates**

Please add the dates below to your calendar.

March 7, 2025, Q3 Commission Meeting

June 13, 2025, Q4 Commission Meeting

**Adjournment**

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the NJ Commission on Holocaust Education adjourned its September 20, 2024 public meeting at 2:08 p.m.