

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-3008

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE, FLORIDA, APPROVING A DONATION TO HOLOCAUST HEROES WORLDWIDE INC. IN SUPPORT OF THEIR EFFORTS TO COMBAT THE RISE OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN THE UNITED STATES; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, in 2022, the Anti-Defamation League reported that anti-Semitic incidents in the United States reached one of the highest recorded levels since the 1970s; and

WHEREAS, recent studies also revealed that over 41% of Americans lack basic information about the Holocaust and 22% of American millennials were unaware of the Holocaust; and

WHEREAS, in the face of the growing levels of antisemitism in Florida, the Florida Legislature adopted Senate Bill 269 during the 2023 legislative session, which bill makes it a hate crime to willfully and maliciously harass, threaten, or intimidate another person based on the person wearing or displaying any indicia relating to any religious or ethnic heritage; and

WHEREAS, approximately 33% of the residents of the Town of Surfside (the "Town") are members of the Jewish community; and

WHEREAS, regrettably, the Town has not been immune to the wave of hatred experienced throughout the U.S. and has experienced an increase in anti-Semitic incidents; and

WHEREAS, specifically, the Town has experienced numerous incidents of hateful propaganda littered throughout the Town and individuals verbally abusing Jewish parishioners leaving their places of worship; and

WHEREAS, the Town desires to make a donation to a nonprofit organization in order to combat the rise of anti-Semitism in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, Holocaust Heroes Worldwide Inc. ("HHW") is a unique 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that employs Holocaust survivors to educate and enlighten the nation (especially the next generation) about the atrocities committed against various groups during the Holocaust because of hatred exhibited towards those who were different; and

WHEREAS, the HHW also provides aid and companionship to the survivors of the Holocaust; and

WHEREAS, the Town Commission desires to approve a donation in the amount of \$5,000 to HHW to combat the rise in anti-Semitism in the U.S., with HHW holding an educational event at the Town's Community Center and inviting the neighboring communities of Bal Harbour and Bay Harbor Islands; and

WHEREAS, the Town Commission finds that the donation to HHW and this Resolution are in the best interest of the Town and its residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals. The above recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 2. Approval of the Donation; Community Event. The Town Commission hereby approves the donation to HHW in the amount of \$ 5,000, with HHW holding an educational event at the Town's Community Center and inviting the neighboring communities of Bal Harbour and Bay Harbor Islands.

Section 3. Authority to Implement the Donation. The Town Manager is hereby authorized to take all action necessary to implement the donation and the purposes of this Resolution.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 8th day of August, 2023.

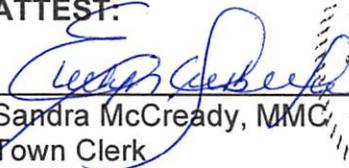
Motion By: Vice Mayor Rose

Second By: Commissioner Landsman

FINAL VOTE ON ADOPTION:

Commissioner Fred Landsman	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Marianne Meisheid	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Nelly Velasquez	<u>Yes</u>
Vice Mayor Jeffrey Rose	<u>Yes</u>
Mayor Shlomo Danzinger	<u>Yes</u>

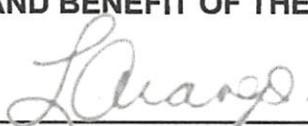
ATTEST:


Sandra McCready, MMC
Town Clerk




Shlomo Danzinger, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY FOR THE USE AND BENEFIT OF THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE ONLY:


Weiss Serota Helfman Cole & Bierman, P.L.
Town Attorney