



**TOWN OF SWAMPSCOTT, MASSACHUSETTS
RESOLUTION BY THE SELECT BOARD CONDEMNING HATE**

BE IT RESOLVED:

THE SELECT BOARD AND TOWN OF SWAMPSCOTT FINDS THAT:

- A. THE SELECT BOARD OF THE TOWN OF SWAMPSCOTT ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT POLICIES AND EFFORTS THAT UPHOLD OUR COMMITMENT TO PROTECT AN INDIVIDUAL'S ABILITY TO EXPERIENCE A SAFE, WELCOMING AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY IN SWAMPSCOTT.
- B. IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE SELECT BOARD'S GOAL OF CREATING A SAFE AND WELCOMING COMMUNITY, WE VALUE HUMAN RIGHTS, PEACE, RESPECT, INCLUSIVITY, AND EQUITY, AND RECOGNIZE THAT WE DERIVE STRENGTH FROM OUR DIVERSITY.
- C. WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT SCHOLARS CONSISTENTLY DEFINE WHITE NATIONALISM AS THE PROMOTION OF THE IDEA THAT NATIONAL IDENTITY SHOULD BE BUILT AROUND WHITE ETHNICITY, AND THAT WHITE PEOPLE SHOULD THEREFORE MAINTAIN BOTH A DEMOGRAPHIC MAJORITY AND DOMINANCE OF THE NATION'S CULTURE AND PUBLIC LIFE ACROSS THE COUNTY.
- D. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THERE HAS BEEN A RISE OF WHITE NATIONALIST AND WHITE SUPREMACIST GROUPS IN THE UNITED STATES AND THAT THE NATIONAL POLITICAL DIALOGUE REFLECTS THIS RACIAL TENSION.
- E. OUR COMMUNITY IS COMMITTED TO A JUST AND INCLUSIVE REPUBLIC. WHITE NATIONALISM PLACES THE INTERESTS OF WHITE PEOPLE OVER THOSE OF OTHER RACIAL GROUPS, AND IS AN IDEOLOGY FOCUSED ON MAINTAINING WHITE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND DEMOGRAPHIC DOMINANCE, AND IT IS AT ODDS WITH OUR VISION FOR SWAMPSCOTT.
- F. THE MASSACHUSETTS CONSTITUTION STATES, "THE RIGHT OF FREE SPEECH SHALL NOT BE ABRIDGED." (EMPHASIS ADDED.)
- G. FREE SPEECH IS A CORE PRINCIPLE OF OUR AMERICAN REPUBLIC AND THE DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS THAT UNDERPIN ITS EXISTENCE. THE AGENDA OF WHITE NATIONALIST GROUPS SEEKS TO DESTABILIZE THE AMERICAN REPUBLIC, USE FEAR THROUGH THREATS AND PHYSICAL VIOLENCE AS A CONTROL TACTIC, DIVIDE OUR COMMUNITY, AND PROMOTE AND IGNITE SOCIAL ANIMOSITIES.
- H. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE TOWN OF SWAMPSCOTT EXISTS ON THE LAND PRIMARILY OCCUPIED BY THE NAUMKEAG PEOPLE. MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES HAVE EXPERIENCED GENERATIONAL OPPRESSION AND TRAUMAS RELATED TO THE DECISIONS MADE BY PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENTS IN BOTH THE PAST AND PRESENT. WHITE SUPREMACY GROUPS HAVE A HISTORY OF ADVOCATING FOR THE MARGINALIZATION OF COMMUNITIES OF COLOR THROUGH GOVERNMENT POLICIES. FOR EXAMPLE, LEGISLATION STARTING WITH THE INDIAN REMOVAL BILL OF 1830 MADE IT THE POLICY OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO BEGIN THE FORCIBLE REMOVAL, RELOCATION AND GENOCIDE OF NATIVE PEOPLE. IN MORE MODERN TIMES, EXTREME RACIAL PREJUDICE TOWARDS JAPANESE-AMERICANS FOLLOWING PEARL HARBOR, LEAD TO GOVERNMENT ACTION THAT RESULTED IN THEIR FORCED RELOCATION TO INCARCERATION CAMPS WITH DEPLORABLE LIVING CONDITIONS.
- I. WE HAVE SEEN AN ON-GOING SURGE OF WHITE NATIONALIST ACTIVITY AND HOSTILITY HERE, IN OUR HOME, CONJURING PAINFUL MEMORIES OF OUR NATION'S PAST AND CAUSING HARM TO

CURRENT RESIDENTS. TODAY, MEMBERS OF WHITE SUPREMACY GROUPS ARE GATHERING AT OUR STATE'S AND NATION'S CAPITOLS BEARING SYMBOLS OF HATE AND INTIMIDATION INCLUDING NOOSES, SIGNS AND CLOTHING WITH VALORIZATIONS OF NAZI WAR CRIMES, AND WAVING THE CONFEDERATE BATTLE FLAG. THESE INDIVIDUALS HAVE CARRIED AND WIELDED WEAPONS INCLUDING AUTOMATIC RIFLES, KNIVES, BATS AND PEPPER SPRAY WHICH THEY HAVE USED AGAINST LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS WHO WERE CARRYING OUT THEIR DUTIES TO PROTECT. VIDEO EVIDENCE SHOWS MEMBERS OF THESE GROUPS SAVAGELY BEATING A CAPITOL POLICE OFFICER WITH POLES ON WHICH THEY HAD MOUNTED THE AMERICAN FLAG. MEMBERS OF THESE GROUPS HAVE ENGAGED IN ACTS OF SEDITION BY VIOLENTLY ENTERING THESE CAPITOL BUILDINGS WHERE ELECTED LEGISLATORS WERE CONDUCTING THE AMERICAN PEOPLE'S BUSINESS. THEY DID SO IN ORDER TO INTERFERE WITH THE LEGITIMATE FUNCTIONING OF OUR GOVERNMENT.

- J. THE TRAUMA INFLICTED ON BLACK PEOPLE, PEOPLE OF COLOR, MUSLIM AND JEWISH PEOPLE, RELIGIOUS MINORITIES, THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY AND OTHER MARGINALIZED GROUPS BY WHITE SUPREMACISTS RESULTS IN GENERATIONAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HARM AFFECTING HEALTH, EDUCATIONAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL OUTCOMES.
- K. THE TOWN OF SWAMPSCOTT HAS A LONGSTANDING HISTORY AND COMMITMENT OF CELEBRATING AND SUPPORTING PEOPLE OF ALL RACES, NATIONAL ORIGINS, IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEE STATUSES, RELIGIONS, GENDER, GENDER IDENTITIES, SEXUAL ORIENTATIONS, ABILITIES, AGES, AND ECONOMIC STATUSES.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SELECT BOARD OF THE TOWN OF SWAMPSCOTT, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. THE SELECT BOARD IS COMMITTED TO MAKING SWAMPSCOTT A WELCOMING, INCLUSIVE, AND SAFE COMMUNITY FOR EVERYONE. WE CONDEMN HATE, XENOPHOBIA, RACISM, WHITE SUPREMACY, ANTI-SEMITISM, ISLAMOPHOBIA, HOMOPHOBIA, TRANSPHOBIA, ABLEISM, SEXISM AND OTHER FORMS OF BIGOTRY.

SECTION 2. THE SELECT BOARD IS COMMITTED TO STANDING IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE OF SWAMPSCOTT IN OPPOSING WHITE SUPREMACY AND CREATING A COMMUNITY WHERE ALL PEOPLE CAN SAFELY, FREELY AND FULLY ENGAGE IN OUR DEMOCRACY. WE WILL NOT TOLERATE HATE IN ANY FORM AND WILL PURSUE POLICIES TO ENSURE CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS TO ALL INDIVIDUALS.

SECTION 3. THIS RESOLUTION IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY UPON ITS PASSAGE BY THE SELECT BOARD.

SWAMPSCOTT SELECT BOARD


NEAL DUFFY
CHAIR


MARY ELLEN FLETCHER


DAVID GRISHMAN
VICE CHAIR


CATHERINE PHELAN


PETER SPELLIOS

SEAN FITZGERALD
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

