SENATOR SCOTT WIENER CO-CHAIR

ASSEMBLYMEMBER JESSE GABRIEL CO-CHAIR

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VICE CHAIR

P.O. BOX 942849 SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0046 (916) 319-2046

MAX MIGDAIL CONSULTANT MAX.MIGDAIL@SEN.CA.GOV

GARRETT LAYTON CONSULTANT GARRETT.LAYTON@ASM.CA.GOV

May 10, 2023

Supervisor Catherine Stefani 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, City Hall, Room 244 San Francisco, CA 94102-4689 Supervisor Joel Engardio 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, City Hall, Room 244 San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Supervisor Matt Dorsey 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, City Hall, Room 244 San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Dear Supervisors Stefani, Engardio, and Dorsey,

We write on behalf of the California Legislative Jewish Caucus to express our strong support for the renaming of Stow Lake. William Stow was an ardent antisemite who advanced hatred against Jews, using his position as Speaker of the Assembly to call for the expulsion of Jews and for a tax on Jewish-owned businesses designed to effectively prohibit them. Stow was a despicable extremist, and nothing should be named after him.

While, today, California strives to be fully inclusive, our State's history, tragically, has often been one of exclusion. We are all working to right those wrongs. For example, in 2019, San Francisco correctly acted to rename Julius Kahn Playground due to Kahn's role in the Chinese Exclusion Act. William Stow should be treated no differently.

Antisemitism is an ancient hatred that, over time, has resulted in the massacre of millions of Jews, in addition to other severe harms. Jews continue to be the most targeted religious group for hate crimes and we must all take a stand and make clear Jews are welcome in our communities.

We thank Supervisor Melgar for bringing forward this resolution, which our Caucus fully supports.

If you have any questions, please reach out to any of us or to Max Migdail in Senator Wiener's office at (916) 651-4011.

Sincerely,

Scatt Wiener

SCOTT WIENER Co-Chair, Jewish Caucus Senator, 11th District

Jesse Arbrief

JESSE GABRIEL Co-Chair, Jewish Caucus Assemblymember, 46th District

JOSH BECKER Vice Chair, Jewish Caucus Senator, 13th District

California State Legislature CALIFORNIA LEGISLATIVE JEWISH CAUCUS

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ASSOCIATE MEMBERS ASM GAIL PELLERIN ASM BLANCA RUBIO SEN SUSAN RUBIO ASM CHRISTOPHER M. WARD ASM RICK CHAVEZ ZBUR

We also request that these locations be renamed to recognize the multicultural diversity and the values, as a Sanctuary City, of the City and County of San Francisco.

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Thomas Heiner		21. Aug
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Petition to Rename Stow Lake

We support the resolution, introduced to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors on October 18, 2022, by Supervisor Melgar and co-sponsored by Supervisors Chan and Peskin, to urge the Recreation and Park Commission to remove William W. Stow from the name of "Stow Lake", "Stow Lake Boathouse", and "Stow Lake Drive", as well as from the lake and all related locations.

Name	Address	Signature
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Jean Yuan	40 Turglioise Way SF 94131	
Solveig Dimon	584 Chenery St. 2 SF 94131 331 Tredevick St.	ANDER
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Maria Hekker	83 Chillion Avenue Som Francisco CA 94 RI	MARL
Christina Uranga	1308 Hyde st, 57 94109	no
Susan Martin	743 Grant View Ave	Suren Marten
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Stewart Dorsey	900 Chenery St. SP CAPHIP	
Rosana Jimenez	1829 Steiner St. STOA	Tann
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Craig G. Neibaur	58 Ridge Rd. Fair	at Marten
Judie Fouchouse	121 BUCKELEN 94965	Jakie Jucker
Beth Zamiclow	Co Mosemite R.	N
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Carroll, John (BOS)

From: Sent: To: Subject: Marc Eis <marc@eisdesigninc.com> Friday, December 16, 2022 10:29 AM Carroll, John (BOS) Stow Lake

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Commission, I have read about the attempt to rename Stow Lake, Boathouse, and Drive.

I believe this to be unnecessary work for the city. The reason I believe this is that only a select few people know that the lake is actually named after a person, let alone a person who had objectionable views about Jewish people way back in the 1850's. With so little knowledge about the name, and with such long history, it doesn't reflect or not reflect SF values. It is only a name that for 99.9% of people do not think about.

This rename attempt harkens back to the attempt to rename city schools. Where the school board decided to spend much needed resources naming, rather that do the difficult work of running and opening schools during COVID.

I do not feel that it should be a priority for the city to spend money to change a name. If it was someone who had objectionable views about Mexicans, myself with ancestors from there, I would still feel this is unnecessary. The way to reflect SF values is to look forward. Not spending city resources to research obscure old names about views from distant history.

Thanks, Marc Eis District 7
 From:
 Somera, Alisa (BOS)

 To:
 Cabrera, Stephanie (BOS)

 Subject:
 FW: 4 Letters Regarding Renaming of Stow Lake

 Date:
 Thursday, October 27, 2022 9:39:50 AM

 Attachments:
 4 Letters.pdf image001.png

221088

Alisa Somera

Legislative Deputy Director San Francisco Board of Supervisors 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244 San Francisco, CA 94102 415.554.7711 direct | 415.554.5163 fax alisa.somera@sfgov.org

(VIRTUAL APPOINTMENTS) To schedule a "virtual" meeting with me (on Microsoft Teams), please ask and I can answer your questions in real time.

Due to the current COVID-19 health emergency and the Shelter in Place Order, the Office of the Clerk of the Board is working remotely while providing complete access to the legislative process and our services.

Click **<u>HERE</u>** to complete a Board of Supervisors Customer Service Satisfaction form.

The <u>Legislative Research Center</u> provides 24-hour access to Board of Supervisors legislation, and archived matters since August 1998.

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Disclosures: Personal information that is provided in communications to the Board of Supervisors is subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act and the San Francisco Sunshine Ordinance. Personal information provided will not be redacted. Members of the public are not required to provide personal identifying information when they communicate with the Board of Supervisors and its committees. All written or oral communications that members of the public for inspection and copying. The Clerk's Office does not redact any information from these submissions. This means that personal information—including names, phone numbers, addresses and similar information that a member of the public elects to submit to the Board and its committees—may appear on the Board of Supervisors website or in other public documents that members of the public may inspect or copy.

From: Board of Supervisors (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 9:37 AM
To: BOS-Supervisors <bos-supervisors@sfgov.org>
Cc: Calvillo, Angela (BOS) <angela.calvillo@sfgov.org>; Mchugh, Eileen (BOS)
<eileen.e.mchugh@sfgov.org>; Somera, Alisa (BOS) <alisa.somera@sfgov.org>; Ng, Wilson (BOS)
<wilson.l.ng@sfgov.org>; De Asis, Edward (BOS) <edward.deasis@sfgov.org>
Subject: 4 Letters Regarding Renaming of Stow Lake

Arthur Khoo

Office of the Clerk of the Board San Francisco Board of Supervisors 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244 San Francisco, CA 94102 (415) 554-5184 | (415) 554-5163 board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org | www.sfbos.org

Click <u>here</u> to complete a Board of Supervisors Customer Service Satisfaction form.

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I am appalled and frankly sick and tired of the WOKE BS and Cancel Culture that you continue to perpetuate in this city.

I am a first generation Latina born and raised in San Francisco. I am very proud that part of my heritage is Jewish. Never have I seen my city and state go hell due to the idiotic ideology that all of you who are in office hold. This is what is wrong when people elect Socialists and one party rule. There is absolutely no diversity of thought or a fair balance in government.

Stop this ridiculous nonsense of spending our hard earned taxes on stupidity such as this. Leave Stow Lake Alone! Stow Lake has been part of the history of our Golden Gate Park and now you want to screw with this too. If you can't learn from our history that is on you! We learn from the past in order to do better for the future generations. But, that doesn't mean tearing down our statues or renaming schools, the Lake etc. Where does this end....are you going to rename our last names and our history if it doesn't fit with your ideology. What the hell is wrong with all of you! There are more critical things that are at the top of our minds such as crime, inflation, high taxes, high prices, education..can I say more. People are tired of this crap.

Focus on the issues that impact our daily lives. If you believe it is okay for citizens to arm themselves with bats to protect themselves from criminals then something is wrong with you. Stop this madness of tearing down our city and state's history and do something about the things that matter to people in their daily lives. No person or child should watch a person defecating or doing drugs on the street. These are the things that all of you have enacted. This city and state has gone to hell since people elected individuals like you in our government. Common sense be damned! Well, I hope that people continue to wake up like they did with Chelsa Boudin and members of the SFUSD Board and vote Cancel Culture and Woke ideology out of office.

Enough of this Cancel Culture and WOKE BS and leave our Stow Lake alone! If you feel that you can't find anything meaningful to enact that impacts the daily lives of your constituents then you shouldn't be in office. Shame on all of you.

A Common Sense Citizen,

Rosalinda Callejas

October 24, 2022

Dear Phil and Members of the RPD Commission,

I am urging the RPD Commission to rename Stow Lake- Blue Heron Lake.

I strongly support changing the name of Stow Lake. Mr. Stow was a terrible antisemite and his name should no longer grace the beautiful lake that his name is attached to. Other lakes in GG Park have appropriate place names like Mallard Lake, Elk Glen Lake, North Lake, Middle Lake and South Lake.

I think it's time to get away from naming the lakes in GG Pk. after park commissioners and prominent San Franciscans ie. former Julius Kahn playground (Alvord, Lloyd, Spreckels lakes, et al). Then there isn't any risk of other lakes needing to be renamed in the future because of untoward politics and behavior.

As you know, Great Blue Herons have nested at Stow Lake since 1993. Since then, 270 chicks have fledged there. See: <u>https://www.sfnature.org/heron-chronology</u>

I am the Exec. Director of San Francisco Nature Education. We teach children and adults about the Great Blue Herons that breed at Stow Lake. We started our programs in 2000. I discovered the first nest in 1993 and founded San Francisco Nature Education to bring this exciting phenomenon to underserved school children and the public in 2000.

SF residents know these birds very well. We have shown them to over 30,000 people since the beginning 1993 using high powered telescopes. Our Heron Watch volunteers explain the behavior of the birds to the public. Our new movie "Great Blues of the Golden Gate" is on our home page. We installed a Heron Cam in 2015 and for one year everyone could see the herons all day.

Then the herons moved to a different spot nearby.

I recommend that you rename the lake "Blue Heron Lake". If you look at my website <u>www.sfnature.org</u> you will see photos of these beautiful birds. The Stow Lake Heron colony has been featured on KQED/PBS (see listings under film) and newspapers and magazines throughout California.

I would appreciate your support.

Sincerely,

Nancy H. DeStefanis

Nancy H. DeStefanis, Executive Director San Francisco Nature Education office: 415-205-0776 <u>nancyd@sfnature.org</u> <u>www.sfnature.org</u>

Monitoring the Great Blue Heron colony in Golden Gate Park since 1993.

Good day.

My name is Leaette Sullivan and I work here in San Francisco as a drug counselor.

I feel the need to share that I am Jewish, and my husband is Native American.

I was born and raised here in the Bay Area and find it very difficult to deal with how you guys pick and choose monuments to tear down or names to change.

This affects all of us and I take it as a personal insult that we are not involved in the decision making of our city??

First you remove the Native American monument from Civic Center, which makes me cringe to this day.

And now again with Stow Lake.

Something like removing a monument or changing a name should be a little more difficult then you guys make.

Any piece of history you disagree with, you simply throw away.

Have you ever thought that maybe since you were not born at the time in question that you might misunderstand the information?

I am betting that if you had all the facts you would not take this so lightly.

I am organizing a movement to return the Native American statue. My husband is Native American and finds your behavior simply negative.

You guys really have nothing better to do then make office documents, remove monuments and change names.

How nice for you. Really?

Thank you for your time in reading my email.

Leaette Sullivan

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From:	Nancy DeStefanis
To:	MelgarStaff (BOS)
Cc:	ChanStaff (BOS); Board of Supervisors (BOS)
Subject:	Fwd: SUPPORT FOR CHANGING NAME OF STOW LAKE TO HERON LAKE
Date:	Wednesday, October 26, 2022 6:04:04 PM
Attachments:	The-Blue-Heron-Newsletter-Apr22-FINAL.pdf

Dear Supervisor Melgar,

I was surprised today in sfgate your response that our request for changing the name Stow Lake to Blue Heron Lake was "because Herons hang out there".

Apparently you and your staff failed to read the email sent to you on 8-4-22.see below.

We also sent an email to the RPD Commission two days ago and copied the Board of Supervisors. - I am forwarding the email to you directly.

Since the Great Blue Herons have **nested** at the Lake since 1993, I'm surprised that you were unaware of this spectacular event that takes place every year from December through July. We have received copious publicity since we began showing the herons to the public and schoolchildren and two movies shown on KQED/PBS.

Since the Lake now falls under your purview, I would be happy to give you and your staff a tour of the Lake and particularly the Great Blue Heron colony.

We have shown the heron chicks to over 22,000 visitors and over 20,000 SF school children since 2002.

Thanks for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Nancy H. DeStefanis

Nancy H. DeStefanis, Executive Director San Francisco Nature Education office: 415-205-0776 nancyd@sfnature.org www.sfnature.org

Monitoring the Great Blue Heron colony in Golden Gate Park since 1993.

----- Original Message ------

Subject:SUPPORT FOR CHANGING NAME OF STOW LAKE TO HERON LAKE Date:2022-08-04 14:00 From:Nancy DeStefanis <nancyd@sfnature.org> To:MelgarStaff@sfgov.org, Supervisor Connie Chan <chanstaff@sfgov.org>, Board of Supervisors <Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org>

Dear Supervisor Melgar,

I strongly support changing the name of Stow Lake. Mr. Stow was a terrible antisemite and his name should no longer grace the beautiful lake his name is attached to. Thank you for taking the lead.

I am the Exec. Director of San Francisco Nature Education. We teach children and adults about the Great Blue Herons that breed at Stow Lake. We started our programs in 2000. I discovered the first nest in 1993 and founded San Francisco Nature Education to bring this exciting phenomenon to underserved school children and the public in 2000.

SF residents know these birds very well. We have shown them to about 30,000 people since the beginning using high powered telescopes. Our Heron Watch volunteers explain the behavior of the birds to the public. Our new movie "Great Blues of the Golden Gate" is on our home page. We installed a Heron Cam in 2015 and for one year everyone could see the herons all day. Then the herons moved to a different spot nearby.

I recommend that you rename the lake "Heron Lake". If you look at my website <u>www.sfnature.org</u> you will see photos of these beautiful birds. Please let me know if I can be of any help going forward.

Sincerely,

Nancy H. DeStefanis

Nancy H. DeStefanis, Executive Director San Francisco Nature Education office: 415-205-0776 <u>nancyd@sfnature.org</u> <u>www.sfnature.org</u>

Monitoring the Great Blue Heron colony in Golden Gate Park since 1993

----- Original Message ------

Subject:Will antisemite's name finally be stripped from Golden Gate Park lake? – J. Date:2022-08-04 03:50 From:Nancy DeStefanis <sfnature1@icloud.com> To:Nancy DeStefanis <nancyd@sfnature.org>

https://jweekly.com/2022/07/25/will-antisemites-namefinally-be-stripped-from-stow-lake-in-golden-gatepark/

Nancy DeStefanis Executive Director San Francisco Nature Education

Sent from my iPhone

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Nancy H. DeStefanis, Executive Director San Francisco Nature Education office: 415-205-0776 <u>nancyd@sfnature.org</u> <u>www.sfnature.org</u>

Monitoring the Great Blue Heron colony in Golden Gate Park since 1993