

Town of Sharon

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month is observed during the month of May to recognize the contributions and influence of AAPI persons as part of the whole history, culture, and achievement of the United States;

WHEREAS, during AAPI Heritage Month, we acknowledge the additional determination, hard work, and perseverance AAPI persons must put forth to be heard and seen and that these additional efforts are a result of inequitable institutional and systemic injustices;

WHEREAS, while we celebrate the achievements and contributions of AAPI persons that enrich our history, society, and culture, we must also acknowledge a darker aspect of the AAPI experience in America, which includes painful stereotypes, structural discrimination, internment camps, injustices, and periods of hate and violence. These actions come at the cost of the mental health of the AAPI community and distorts the larger community's ability to recognize the humanity in us all;

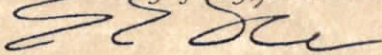
WHEREAS, diversity represents one of our greatest strengths, and by recognizing the contributions and accomplishments of AAPI persons, our town will put our values of inclusion into practice to build a brighter future for all of our residents;

WHEREAS, Sharon is committed to providing comprehensive support to ensure that Sharon is equitable and welcoming to all people and each of us has a personal responsibility to prevent the spread of misinformation, stereotypes, condemn violent acts in any form, support all fellow community members;

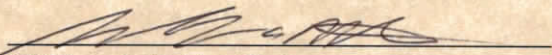
WHEREAS, Sharon is proud to be home to a large AAPI population that contributes to the prosperity and enrichment of our community and Sharon is proud to celebrate AAPI Heritage Month and commemorate the essential contributions, sacrifices, and accomplishments that the AAPI communities have made; and

NOW THEREFORE: The Sharon Select Board does hereby proclaim the month of May to be annually recognized as AAPI Heritage Month; we call this observance to the attention of all Sharon residents.

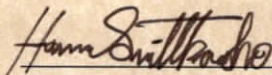
Given this 11th day of May, 2021 in Sharon, Massachusetts.



Emily E. Smith-Lee, Chair



William A. Heitin, Clerk



Hanna R. Switekowski