



**Jewish Federation of Ottawa**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
Summary of Discussion for the Community

**Wednesday April 13, 2022**  
Board Meeting

**In Attendance:** Kevin Barwin, Josh Engel, Harold Feder, Stacy Goldstein, Jeff Laks, Karen Palayew, Michael Polowin, Alice Retik, Ian Sherman and Danya Vered

**Staff:** Sarah Beutel, Andrea Freedman, Leslie Kaufman

**Recorder:** Rebeca Palacios

**I: Welcome – Ian Sherman**

Ian welcomed the board members and called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

**II: Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – Ian Sherman**

Ian called for a motion to approve the Minutes from the March 2, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting.

**Moved:** Kevin Barwin

**Second:** Harold Feder

**Motion carried**

**III: Hillel Update – Sasha Kathron**

Ian asked Sasha Kathron, Director, Hillel to present an update on Hillel.

Sasha presented and provided updates on Hillel, emphasising all the programming and contacts that had been made and how challenging the pandemic had been for students. All questions were answered to the board's satisfaction.

Ian thanked Sasha for presenting the update and her terrific work.

**IV: Supplementary School Funding Request – Kevin Barwin**

Ian asked Kevin Barwin to present on the Supplementary School Funding Request.

Kevin highlighted some of the key points noted in the document circulated ahead of the meeting. The board had no questions or comments.

Kevin made a motion to approve the Supplementary School Funding Request.

**Moved:** Kevin Barwin

**Second:** Harold Feder

**Motion carried**

**V: Emergency Funding Request – JFS & OKFB – Kevin Barwin**

Ian asked Kevin Barwin to present the Emergency Funding Request from JFS and OKFB.

The Grants and Allocations committee received two applications for emergency funding, and after careful review, recommends the full requests of **\$7,500** to the Ottawa Kosher Food Bank (OKFB) and **\$23,000** to Jewish Family Services (JFS).

Kevin highlighted some of the key points noted in the document circulated ahead of the meeting. All questions were answered to the board's satisfaction.

Kevin made a motion to approve the emergency Funding Request for JFS and OKFB.

**Moved:** Kevin Barwin

**Second:** Michael Polowin

**Motion carried**

**VI: Emergency Funding Request – OJCS – Kevin Barwin**

Ian asked Kevin Barwin to present on the Emergency Funding Request from OJCS.

Kevin highlighted some of the key points noted in the document circulated ahead of the meeting, he also noted that since the committee met, additional information has come to light with respect to the HEPA filters.

The board recommended that the \$2,700 that was shifted to the school's general fund from the donor be reduced from the total amount being requested in emergency funding.

Kevin made a motion to approve the Emergency Funding Request for OJCS as follows: the board moved to approve the recommended funding from the grants and allocations committee, which includes \$20,000 for supply teachers and \$12,650 in IT expenses. HEPA filters were approved at \$2,343, and the board asks for greater transparency moving forward.

**Moved:** Kevin Barwin

**Second:** Jeff Laks

**Motion carried**

It will be communicated to OJCS that a discussion on the additional tuition assistance for OJCS has been deferred to a later and unspecified date, pending the need for additional information.

**VII: Ukraine Refugee Resettlement Request – Andrea Freedman**

Ian asked Andrea Freedman, President and CEO to present on the Ukraine Refugee Resettlement Request.

Andrea presented the Ukraine Refugee Resettlement document that was circulated ahead of the meeting, and provided the following updates:

- Federation has confirmed matching funds of **\$37,500** for year 1 from the Shapiro Foundation, contingent on Federation matching the dollar amount;
- The Shapiro Foundation may also consider a future request for year 2; and
- Approximately 3 weeks ago, Federation messaging shifted slightly, indicating that a small percentage of funds would remain local. 25% local is being held locally, and under this formula, \$30,000 has now been set aside for Ukraine Jewish refugee resettlement in Ottawa.

All board questions were answered to their satisfaction.

A motion was made to approve a maximum amount of \$150,000 for JFS for Ukraine Jewish Refugee Resettlement over two years.

**Moved:** Danya Vered

**Second:** Michael Polowin

**Motion carried**

**VIII: Nominating Committee Report – Michael Polowin**

Ian asked Michael Polowin, to present the Nominating Committee Report.

Michael highlighted the following key points noted in the Nominating Committee Report, circulated ahead of the meeting:

- In addition to the committee members noted in the report, Karen Palayew also served on the committee.
- Four board members' terms are ending in June (Jake Shabinsky, Stacy Goldstein, Danya Vered and Jessica Greenberg) with Jake agreeing to another term.
- Nikki Shapiro has expressed her desire to end her term a year early.
- The recommendation is for the four (4) open seats to be filled by Tal Scher, Leila Ages, Marci Surkes and Marina Milyavskaya.
- All the current officers will continue for another year in their respective roles.

Ian has one year left as chair and Karen will begin serving as chair in 2023. Federation and the community is truly going from strength to strength.

The board had no questions or comments regarding this report.

Michael made a motion to approve the Nominating Committee Report.

**Moved:** Michael Polowin

**Second:** Stacy Goldstein

**Motion carried**

**IX: Presidents Report – Andrea Freedman**

Ian invited Andrea Freedman to provide an update to the circulated report.

Andrea noted the following updates:

- In regards to advocacy, staff will put together a more fulsome report and present it at a later meeting to provide the board with a more detailed understanding.
- After many months of frustration, the Ottawa Carleton District School Board is now engaged with Federation. Training is being offered through CHES and while much work remains, progress has been made.
- Federation has had 2 staff resignations within the last few weeks: Amit Khoja from the finance team & Lindsay Newman who is the EG director. They have taken new positions outside the non-profit sector.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> of 3 trainings on indigenous communities recently took place. Each session had approximately 60 participants, with consistently positive feedback.
- Federation has now returned to in person programming and on Friday night, there was a joint Congregation Machzikei Hadas and EG Shabbat dinner, attended by approximately 60 young adults.
- On Monday night, Federation held a virtual volunteer session together with Jewish Family Services for Ukraine refugees, with over 175 participants, an amazing testament to our community! Additionally, 121 people completed the volunteer placement form.

All board questions were answered to their satisfaction.

**X: Business Arising – Ian Sherman**

Ian advised the board that there would not be a formal business arising session today but that there will be a meeting with the board at a later date to have an open mic type discussion to update the entire board on a number of different areas.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12pm