



**Jewish Federation of Ottawa  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Summary of Discussion for  
the community

**Tuesday, December 5, 2023**

Board Meeting

**In Attendance:** Leila Ages, Kevin Barwin, Marina Milyavskaya, Karen Palayew, Gillian Presner, Alice Retik, Tal Scher, Jacob Shabinsky, Ian Sherman, Marci Surkes, Danya Vered and Gary Viner.

**Staff:** Sarah Beutel, Pauline Colwin, Rena Garshowitz, Micah Garten and Mark Gruner.

**Recorder:** Sabrina Vitoriano.

**I: Welcome – Karen Palayew**

Karen welcomed board members and called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm. She expressed her gratitude to Sarah Beutel and Federation staff for successfully coordinating the Canada Rally for Israel one day before and mentioned the importance of this historic moment. In solidarity with all of Israel, for the lost lives, the remaining hostages and the IDF, Karen requested for a moment of silence.

**II: Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – Karen Palayew**

Karen called for a motion to approve the minutes from the November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Board of Directors meeting.

**Moved:** Danya Vered

**Second:** Kevin Barwin

**Motion carried**

**III: Audited Financial Report – Jeff Miller & Mark Gruner**

Karen welcomed Jeff Miller and Matas Milukas, from GGFL. He invited Jeff to present on the Audited Financial Report, which was circulated to the board in advance of the meeting, with Mark and Matas adding comments.

Jeff highlighted the key points in the Federation audited financial statements.

All questions posed by the board were answered to their satisfaction.

Karen thanked Mark and the finance team for their tremendous work, and Jeff for his work and recommendations to the Federation. Jacob Shabinsky, Board Treasurer, made a motion to approve the audited financial statements as presented.

**Moved:** Jacob Shabinsky

**Second:** Tal Scher

**Motion carried**

The meeting was briefly adjourned at 6:10 pm. Karen called the meeting back to order at 6: 17pm.

#### **IV: War Update – Sarah Beutel**

Karen invited Sarah to present a War Update which was divided into three parts:

##### **1. Canada Rally for Israel**

The event occurred on December 4<sup>th</sup> and was well-attended with people coming from different parts of Canada. It was a strong collaboration between Ottawa, Montreal, and Toronto Federations and CIJA, in an effort to unite Canadians. The expenses of the event will be divided proportionally between the Federations.

All questions were answered to the board's satisfaction.

##### **2. Security**

Sarah invited Rena to provide an update on security. Rena reported that there are now weekly Campus Briefings that include all Campus tenants and partners, which has been very positive.

Rena requested to extend the additional security funding to January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and then proposed that the additional funding be reviewed at the January 6<sup>th</sup> board meeting.

All questions were answered to the board's satisfaction.

Karen asked for a motion to extend the security funding to January 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Moved:** Gillian Presner

**Second:** Danya Vered

**Abstentions:** Tal Scher and Ian Sherman

**Motion carried**

##### **3. Funding Recommendations for Federation's Security Enhancement Fund**

As the document was circulated in the board package, Sarah highlighted the main points and answered questions from board members.

Kevin Barwin asked for a motion to accept the recommendation for applying allocated but unused funding to the Security Enhancement Fund, as presented.

**Moved:** Kevin Barwin

**Second:** Tal Scher

**Motion carried**

**V: President's Report – Sarah Beutel**

Karen invited Sarah to present the President's Report. Sarah indicated there were no other updates to the report circulated in advance than the ones already discussed in the previous topic. No questions were raised.

**V: Fundraising Update – Gary Viner**

Karen invited Gary to present the Fundraising Update. He said that Campaign 2024 currently stands at \$4.36 million from just under 1,100 donors.

Karen thanked Gary, Evelyn, and Micah for their hard work.

The meeting then moved in camera.

**VI: In Camera**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 pm.