



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

Summary of Discussion for  
the community

**Wednesday, March 8, 2023**

Board Meeting

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

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

**Recorder:** Sabrina Vitoriano.

**I: Welcome – Ian Sherman**

Ian welcomed Board members and called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm. He welcomed Gary Viner to his first in-person meeting and invited board members and staff to introduce themselves.

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

Ian called for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Board of Directors meeting.

**Moved:** Jeff Laks

**Second:** Kevin Barwin

**Motion carried**

**III: Torah Day School of Ottawa Loan – Ian Sherman, Tal Scher & Andrea Freedman**

Ian thanked the board for the robust and healthy discussion regarding a loan to Torah Day School of Ottawa at the last board meeting. He notified there are two board members who also serve on the boards of day schools and, as per past practice, Tal Scher and Leila Ages would be abstaining from the vote but would participate in the discussion.

Ian, Tal and Andrea, answered all questions posed by the board regarding the document circulated ahead of the meeting. Ian then opened the floor for a more general discussion. All questions were answered to the board's satisfaction.

Ian called for a motion to approve the recommendations as presented.

**Moved:** Marina Milyavskaya

**Second:** Alice Retik

**Abstentions:** Leila Ages and Tal Scher

**Motion carried**

**V: Microgrant Funding – Andrea Freedman**

Ian invited Andrea to present on Microgrant Funding. As the document was sent to the board in advance of the meeting, Andrea answered questions to the board's satisfaction.

Ian thanked Sarah Beutel, Anne Read and the team for their great work on Microgrants and called for a motion to approve additional funding for Microgrants as presented.

**Moved:** Tal Scher

**Second:** Gillian Presner

**Motion carried**

**VI: Campus Operating Budget Presentation – Mark Gruner & Harold Feder**

Ian invited Mark and Harold to present the Campus Operating Budget. Mark highlighted some of the key points noted in the Operating Budget, circulated ahead of the meeting, and answered questions from board members.

Ian thanked Mark, Harold, Rena, and Tal for their work on this file and explained that, as Campus is a separate legal entity, the campus board would be voting on the budget.

**VII: President's Report – Andrea Freedman**

Ian invited Andrea to present on the President's Report, who provided the following updates to the report previously circulated to the board:

- The event "PJ in PJs Celebrate Shabbat" was very successful and attended by 25 families (75 people);
- The "Maccabee Task Force Fact Finding Trip to Israel" is not able to happen in May but the team is working hard to recruit for a new date in August;
- The "Mission to Israel" scheduled for April has 27 Ottawans confirmed;
- Tomorrow there will be a "Momentum (JWRP) Women's Trip to Israel" information session for which 40 women have signed up; and
- There were delegations made at recent meetings at the OCDSB concerning anti-Palestinian racism. In a meeting with the Director of Education, Andrea expressed understanding of the challenge presented to them and the need to always stand against hate; and at the same time, the recent delegations risk importing a foreign geo-political conflict to schools, which is a significant concern. Federation will start one-on-one approaches with trustees to discuss the issue.

All questions were answered to the board's satisfaction.

Ian thanked Andrea for her report.

#### **VIII: Good & Welfare – Ian Sherman**

- Acknowledgment of International Women’s Day and special appreciation to all women on Federation’s board, staffing and volunteer group; and
- Compliments to Andrea for her 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary as President and CEO of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa and the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation on March 10<sup>th</sup> and gratitude for her incredible contribution to this community.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 pm.

#### **Campus Board Meeting**

**In Attendance:** Leila Ages, Kevin Barwin, Harold Feder, Jeff Laks, Marina Milyavskaya, Karen Palayew, Gillian Presner, Tal Scher, Jacob Shabinsky, Ian Sherman and Gary Viner.

**Staff:** Pauline Colwin, Andrea Freedman, Rena Garshowitz, Micah Garten and Mark Gruner.

**Recorder:** Sabrina Vitoriano.

#### **I: Campus Operating Budget Motion – Tal Scher**

Tal asked Harold to make a motion to approve the Campus Operating Budget as presented.

**Moved:** Harold Feder

**Second:** Jacob Shabinsky

**Motion carried**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm.