



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

Summary of Discussion for  
the community

**Wednesday, May 10, 2023**

Board Meeting

**In Attendance:** Leila Ages, Kevin Barwin, Harold Feder, Jeff Laks, Marina Milyavskaya, Karen Palayew, Michael Polowin, Gillian Presner, Alice Retik, Tal Scher, Ian Sherman, Jacob Shabinsky, Evelyn Silverman, 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 12:00 pm.

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

Ian called for a motion to approve the minutes from the April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Board of Directors meeting, with an adjustment on the second paragraph of the Strategic Plan Addenda, where it should read “July 1, 2025” instead of “July 1, 2026”.

**Moved:** Tal Scher

**Second:** Kevin Barwin

**Motion carried**

**III: Strategic Priorities Committee Report – Karen Palayew**

Ian invited Karen to present the Strategic Priorities Committee Report. Karen summarized the content of the document, circulated ahead of the meeting. After some discussion, the total recommended for FY24 was adjusted slightly.

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

Ian thanked Karen and Sarah for their work on this file. Karen called for a motion to approve the Strategic Priorities Committee Report with the proposed adjustment.

**Moved:** Karen Palayew

**Second:** Leila Ages

**Motion carried**

#### **IV: Generations Trust and School Loans – Andrea Freedman & Ian Sherman**

Ian asked Andrea to present on the Generations Trust and School Loans. 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.

Andrea highlighted some of the key points noted in the document circulated ahead of the meeting and opened the floor for questions. The board had a fulsome conversation and all questions were answered to their satisfaction.

Ian called for a motion to approve the Generations Trust and School Loans memo as presented indicating that the Federation will make a loan to Generation Trust and not to the schools. It is subject to any required amendments to the structure of the Generations Trust and underlying agreements.

**Moved:** Michael Polowin

**Second:** Gillian Presner

**Abstentions:** Leila Ages, Kevin Barwin and Tal Scher

**Motion carried**

#### **V: Federation Legislative Compliance Review – Rena Garshowitz**

Ian asked Rena to present the Federation Legislative Compliance Review. Rena informed that in the past this document was signed by the CFO and the Chair, however, this time it was signed by the CFO and the CEO and President because of their proximity to the operations. The board had no questions.

Ian thanked Rena for presenting the Federation Legislative Compliance Review.

#### **VI: Nominating Committee Report – Michael Polowin**

Ian asked Michael to present the Nominating Committee Report. Michael summarized the content of the document circulated ahead of the meeting, and thanked Harold, as a departing board member, for everything he has done in his time on the board. Ian also expressed his appreciation to Harold.

The board had no questions or comments regarding this report.

Michael made a motion to approve the Nominating Committee Report.

**Moved:** Michael Polowin

**Second:** Marina Milyavskaya

**Motion carried**

#### **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:

- Later today is the Top Donors Briefing with a strong attendance;
- Tomorrow are the meetings for the community awards;
- After the rockets that were launched today in Israel, we are closely monitoring the situation;
- Congratulations to Rabbi Teitlebaum on rectifying the upcoming lack of Kosher bagels for the community, and securing Kettleman's Bagel (College Square) as an OVH partner.

All questions were answered to the board's satisfaction.

Ian thanked Andrea for her report.

#### **IX: Annual Campaign Report – Micah Garten**

Ian invited Micah to present an update on the Annual Campaign.

As of May 10<sup>th</sup>, Campaign 2023 has raised just over \$4.9 million, from 1,509 donors. Micah congratulated Gary Viner and Evelyn Silverman for their work at canvasser retention, securing almost everyone who canvassed last year.

Ian thanked Micah and the team for their incredible work.

The meeting then moved in camera.

#### **VIII: In Camera**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 pm.