



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

Summary of Discussion as a Report for the Community

**Wednesday, November 17, 2021**

Board Meeting

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

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

**Recorder:** Rebeca Palacios

**I: Welcome – Ian Sherman**

Ian welcomed the board members and called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

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

Ian called for a motion to approve the Minutes from the October 13, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting.

**Moved:** Kevin Barwin

**Second:** Stacy Goldstein

**Motion carried**

**III: Audited Financial Statements– Harold Feder, Jeff Miller & Sarah Tremblay**

Ian invited Harold Feder, Board Treasurer, Jeff Miller & Sarah Tremblay from GGFL, to present the audited Financial Statements, which were circulated to the board in advance of the meeting.

Harold introduced Jeff & Sarah and invited them to present. They highlighted some of the key points noted in the Federation audited financial statements. They also presented the Campus financial statements noting that there wasn't anything of great significance to highlight for the board's attention.

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

Harold thanked the Finance & Audit committee (Larry Hasson, Lenora Zelikovitz, Judie McKenney & CFO Mark Gruner) for their efforts and then he asked for a motion to approve the audited financial statements.

Comptroller Tinh Ly and the finance team were also thanked for all their hard work on the audit.

**Moved:** Harold Feder

**Second:** Jeff Laks

**Motion carried**

#### **IV: Employee Engagement Survey Results - Shari Cooper**

Ian invited HR Manager, Shari Cooper to present the Employee Engagement Survey Results.

Shari presented the results described in the Leading-Edge Employee Experience survey, and outlined the results and remedial actions taken following the survey previously completed in 2018.

The board had a few questions that require Shari to seek out answers from Leading Edge and advise on the response once received.

Recognizing its importance, the board and executive team are committed to continue working on the issue.

Ian thanked Shari for her presentation and her guidance during her tenure, and wished her well as she migrates to full time work with Hillel Lodge.

#### **V: Security Funding Recommendations – Kevin Barwin**

Ian invited Kevin Barwin to present the Security Funding Recommendations. As the document was sent to the board in advance of the meeting, Kevin answered questions to the board's satisfaction and asked for a motion to approve the Security Funding Recommendations.

**Moved:** Kevin Barwin

**Second:** Harold Feder

**Motion carried**

#### **VI: Emergency Funding for JFS – Kevin Barwin**

Kevin Barwin also presented on the Emergency Funding for Jewish Family Services (JFS). As the document was sent to the board in advance of the meeting, Kevin answered questions to the board's satisfaction and asked for a motion to approve the Emergency Funding for JFS.

**Moved:** Kevin Barwin

**Second:** Karen Palayew

**Motion carried**

#### **VI: President's Report – Andrea Freedman**

Ian asked Andrea to provide updates to the report previously circulated to the board.

Andrea noted the following updates:

- Campaign 2021 currently sits at \$3.1 million from 1,175 donors, with a gift by gift increase of 4% over last year. It continues to be an unusual and positively surprising upward trend later in the fall.
- Andrea advised of a very timely meeting tonight with President Fremont of the University of Ottawa with some student and community leaders. They will be discussing the recent antisemitic motion passed by student government earlier this week. Andrea will be circulating a copy of the motion by the student government and a strong statement made by a coalition of

students. Federation and Hillel Ottawa continue to look into the legalities of how this troubling motion was passed.

- The Ottawa Police continue to work diligently in identifying the suspects responsible for the horrific antisemitic posters in the west end and the antisemitic and homophobic graffiti in downtown Ottawa.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 pm