



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

Wednesday, April 21st, 2021
Board Meeting

In Attendance: Kevin Barwin, Harold Feder, Stacy Goldstein, Jessica Greenberg, Jeff Laks, Karen Palayew, Michael Polowin, Victor Rabinovitch, Ian Sherman, Hartley Stern.

Staff: Sarah Beutel, Andrea Freedman, Leslie Kaufman.

Recorder: Cibebe Rosa

I: Welcome – Michael Polowin

Michael welcomed the Board members and called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

II: Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – Michael Polowin

Michael called for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 17th, 2021 Board of Directors meeting.

Moved: Karen Palayew

Second: Kevin Barwin

Motion carried

III: JFS Emergency Allocation Approval – Kevin Barwin

Michael explained that Jewish Family Services submitted their latest Emergency funding request at the end of February. As the request was related to an extension of items for which emergency funds were already being used, the Grants and Evaluation committee recommended full funding and the Federation Board approved this allocation over email.

To make the approval official, Michael called for a motion to approve the emergency funding request for Jewish Family Services for the repurposing of \$27,000 and an additional \$95,000 of new requests for a net total of \$68,000.

Moved: Kevin Barwin

Second: Harold Feder

Motion carried

IV: OJCS: Repatriation of High School Allocation – Andrea Freedman

Michael invited Andrea Freedman to present the background regarding the OJCS letter of understanding. As the document was distributed in advance of the meeting, Andrea framed the issue, provided the corrected paragraph and answered questions.

When OJCS made the decision to close the high school in 2015, to help with the school's sustainability, Federation did not lower the OJCS annual allocation by \$100,000, which had been the allocation for the high school. After discussion between the two parties, OJCS proposed a plan to repatriate the full amount over the next 5 years, as described in the letter of understanding.

Michael thanked Andrea for her explanation, then he called for a motion to approve the execution of the Letter of Understanding between OJCS and Federation.

Moved: Karen Palayew
Second: Harold Feder
Motion carried

V: Strategic Priorities Committee Allocation Guidelines – Sarah Beutel

Michael invited Sarah Beutel to present the Recommendations for Federation Allocation Envelopes for 2021/22, drafted by the Strategic Priorities Committee. As the document was distributed in advance of the meeting, Sarah presented an overview and answered questions.

Michael thanked Sarah for her presentation, Ian Sherman and the Strategic Priorities Committee for their hard work on these recommendations, then he asked for a motion to approve the recommendations for Federation Allocation Envelopes for 2021-2022 as presented with an update in the table to reflect the shift of TDSO's allocation to organization funding.

Moved: Ian Sherman
Second: Jeff Laks
Motion carried

VI: Annual Work Plan Update – Andrea Freedman

Michael invited Andrea to present the Annual Work Plan Update. As the document was circulated within the Board Package, Andrea highlighted a few items and answered questions regarding her written report.

- 10 of 13 objectives are expected to be achieved and the 3 remaining ones will likely be partially achieved.
- The goal of conducting the holistic review of Federation activities and funding will only be partially achieved, primarily due to priority being given instead to Emergency Allocations. There is a plan in place to complete the process early in 2022.
- Andrea also complimented all staff for the extraordinary effort in the last year.

Michael thanked Andrea for the update, and the Federation Staff for all the hard work in difficult circumstances.

VII: Nominating Committee Report – Hartley Stern

Michael invited Hartley Stern to present the report, circulated along with the Board package, focusing on welcoming the two new board members Alice Retik and Gillian Presner.

Michael thanked Hartley Stern for his presentation, also he thanked Hartley and Victor for completing their service on the Board of Directors. Then he asked for a motion to accept the Nominating Committee Report as presented.

Moved: Hartley Stern
Second: Kevin Barwin
Motion carried

VIII: President's Report – Andrea Freedman

Andrea noted the following updates to her written report:

- On April 1st the second year of the Life and Legacy program began. Federation needs two more letters of intent by the end of May to qualify for the \$750 Grinspoon Foundation incentive grant.

- The annual staff reviews will take a different form this year. A dialogue between managers and staff will be focussed on self-reflection, talking about last year's challenges and achievements, and identifying opportunities for improvement and future goals.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 pm.