



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

Summary of Discussion for
the community

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Board Meeting

In Attendance: Leila Ages, Josh Engel, Harold Feder, Jeff Laks, Marina Milyavskaya, Karen Palayew, Michael Polowin, Tal Scher, Ian Sherman, Evelyn Silverman and Marci Surkes.

Staff: 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 8:01 am.

II: Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – Ian Sherman

Ian called for a motion to approve the minutes from the November 9th, 2022 Board of Directors meeting.

Moved: Jeff Laks

Second: Harold Feder

Motion carried

III: Audited Financial Report – Mark Gruner & Jeff Miller

Ian welcomed Jeff Miller, partner at GGFL, and invited him to present on the Audited Financial Report, which was circulated to the board in advance of the meeting, with Mark Gruner adding comments.

Jeff highlighted some of the key points in the Federation audited financial statements mentioning that overall figures indicated a healthy position for the Federation and there were not any significant notes to highlight for the board's attention.

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

Ian thanked Harold, Mark and the finance team for their tremendous work and Jeff for his work and recommendations to the Federation. Harold Feder, Board Treasurer, made a motion to approve the

audited financial statements.

Moved: Harold Feder

Second: Tal Scher

Motion carried

IV: OJCS Loan Request – Andrea Freedman & Ian Sherman

Ian started by noting that he and Andrea spent a great deal of time working on the Generations Trust and meeting with OJCS and Torah Day regarding the financial challenges faced by both schools.

Ian also explained that two board members, Leila and Tal, who serve on the boards of day schools as well, and as per Federation's governance and history, would abstain from the vote.

As the document was sent to the board in advance of the meeting, Andrea and Ian answered questions to the board's satisfaction and Ian asked for a motion to approve the recommendations as presented.

Moved: Jeff Laks

Second: Marina Milyavskaya

Abstentions: Leila Ages and Tal Scher

Motion carried

V: 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:

- Microgrants continue to be on a very high trajectory in terms of demand and, since the report, five additional microgrants were confirmed, bringing the total to \$55,000 thus far for the year;
- On December 10th and 11th there will be the "Jewish Indigenous Relations through the Creative Arts" event, a partnership between Temple Israel and Federation;
- The Grants and Evaluation Committee have changed the name of 'Strategic Funding' to the more apt 'Community Impact Grants';
- For the first time in a very long time, the senior professional and lead person from Jewish Federations in Canada will be coming to Ottawa next week and will be meeting with leadership; and
- The Federation's Staff Hanukkah Party will be on December 21st and the participation of board members would be welcome and meaningful.

All questions were answered to the board's satisfaction.

Ian thanked Andrea for her report.

VI: Annual Campaign Report – Josh Engel

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

As of December 6th, Campaign 2023 is just over \$4.15 million, which represents a 4% increase on a card

over card basis, with 53 new donors. There are still 371 open cards with a value of about \$736,000; out of that total, \$583,000 are donor cards of \$5,000 or more.

As a final push, tomorrow there will be a Call Night for canvassers to complete those remaining open cards, and on December 12th a mail solicitation will be sent to close additional gifts.

Ian thanked Josh and Evelyn for their leadership through this year's campaign and acknowledged the great work from Josh, who is transitioning out of the role of Co-Chair of Campaign at the end of the year. Josh was thanked for all his incredible work.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 am.