



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

Wednesday, May 26th, 2021
Board Meeting

In Attendance: Kevin Barwin, Josh Engel, Harold Feder, Stacy Goldstein, Jessica Greenberg, Jeff Laks, Michael Polowin, Victor Rabinovitch, Jacob Shabinsky, Nikki Shapiro, 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 April 21st, 2021 Board of Directors meeting.

Moved: Harold Feder

Second: Victor Rabinovitch

Motion carried

III: Funding Allocations – Kevin Barwin

Michael invited Kevin Barwin, chair of the Grants and Evaluation Committee, to present the Funding Allocations Report. As the document was circulated in the board package, Kevin highlighted points and answered questions.

Michael thanked Kevin for his presentation, leadership and hard work of the Grants and Evaluation Committee, then he called for a motion to approve the grants and evaluation committee Funding Recommendation for 2021-2022 as presented in the report.

Moved: Kevin Barwin

Second: Stacy Goldstein

Motion carried

IV: CBB Emergency Funding Request – Kevin Barwin

Michael explained that CBB's Emergency funding request has changed a bit since they received authorization to operate this summer. As the total amount required has decreased slightly from what was expected, 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 updated emergency funding request from CBB of an estimated \$133,375, in addition to \$30,000 from an outside Foundation, as per the document shared with the board.

Moved: Kevin Barwin

Second: Nikki Shapiro

Motion carried with Michael Polowin and Jeff Laks abstaining due to conflict of interest.

V: Torah Day and Jewish High School – Andrea Freedman

Michael invited Andrea Freedman to present the background regarding the Torah Day request. As the document was distributed in advance of the meeting, Andrea framed the need for a stable and sustainable Orthodox High School in Ottawa and answered questions.

The board then had a fulsome discussion about the need for continued dialogue about a Jewish high school that could meet the needs of additional segments of the Ottawa Jewish community, and agreed to keep that option open.

Michael thanked Andrea for her explanation, then asked for a motion to approve transferring the current \$21,000 annual allocation for Machon Sarah and OTI, as adjudicated annually by the Grants and Evaluation committee, to Torah Day School of Ottawa for the express and only purpose of running a high school.

Moved: Ian Sherman

Second: Jacob Shabinsky

Motion carried

VI: Legislative Compliance Review Report – Leslie Kaufman

Michael invited Leslie to present the Legislative Compliance Review Report. As the document was circulated within the board Package, Leslie explained that the document is an annual confirmation that the Federation is fully in compliance with the Legislative requirements.

Michael thanked Leslie for her explanation and hard work.

VII: President's Report – Andrea Freedman

Andrea noted the following updates to her written report:

- The 4th letter of intent was received for Life and Legacy, which means that Federation is now eligible for the \$750 incentive grant from the Foundation.
- The CFO search committee is conducting interviews, and the calibre of the candidates interviewed is impressive. Second interviews with two of the strongest candidates are being conducted this week.
- Advocacy efforts are elevated due to the Israeli crisis and the rise of antisemitism. The Board expressed their appreciation about Federation's handling of the issue. Andrea thanked Victor Rabinovitch for his hard work with the CCRC over the last week in support of our advocacy efforts.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm.