



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

**Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021**  
Board Meeting

**In Attendance:** Kevin Barwin, Josh Engel, Harold Feder, Stacy Goldstein, Jessica Greenberg, Jeff Laks, Karen Palayew, Michael Polowin, Victor Rabinovitch, Jacob Shabinsky, Nikki Shapiro, Ian Sherman, Hartley Stern, Danya Vered.

**Staff:** Sarah Beutel, Andrea Freedman, Leslie Kaufman.

**Recorder:** Cibele Rosa

**I: Welcome – Michael Polowin**

Michael welcomed Board members and called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

**II: Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – Michael Polowin**

Michael called for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 20th, 2021 Board of Directors meeting.

**Moved: Danya Vered**

**Second: Hartley Stern**

**Motion carried**

**III: Emergency Fund Request – Kevin Barwin and Sarah Beutel**

Michael invited Kevin Barwin, Grants and Evaluation Committee chair, and Sarah Beutel, Vice President of Community Building, to lead the presentation and discussion about the Emergency Fund requests and recommendations.

As the report was circulated, along with a revised Appendix A, in advance of the meeting, Kevin presented a high-level overview and answered questions.

After a productive discussion, Michael called for a motion to approve the Emergency Funding for the Supplementary Schools, Ottawa Jewish Community School, Torah Day School, Camp Bnai B'rith of Ottawa (CBB) and Tamir for a total of \$357,810 as per the report presented.

**Moved: Kevin Barwin**

**Second: Harold Feder**

**Motion carried**

**IV: Campus Budget – Leslie Kaufman**

Michael invited Leslie Kaufman to present the Campus Budget. As the document was distributed in advance of the meeting, Leslie presented an overview and answered questions.

Leslie thanked Susan Lee and the Finance Team for their hard work on the Campus Budget report, and also thanked Jake Shabinsky for his support and advice during the process.

The budget includes an assumption that the impact of the pandemic will continue for the next fiscal year, increasing expenses for infection control protocols and decreasing revenue due to lost facilities rentals. As a result of this, the board was faced with two options pertaining to the OJCS rent – institute a significant 10% increase to cover actual costs, or reduce for one year, the money Federation puts into the reserve every year on behalf of OJCS.

A robust discussion ensued and ultimately the Board opted for a 1-year reduction in payment into the reserve, understanding that the reserve was sufficiently robust to withstand this 1-year reduction.

Michael thanked Leslie for her presentation and Susan and Jake for their work on the report. Then he asked for a motion to approve the proposed Campus Operating Budget for 2021-2022 and the proposed Campus Capital Budget for 2021-22, with the minor rounding errors corrected and decreasing the Federation’s contribution to capital reserves on behalf of OJCS by 50%.

**Moved: Jacob Shabinsky**

**Second: Jeff Laks**

**Motion carried**

**V: President’s Report – Andrea Freedman**

Andrea noted the following updates to her written report:

- Federation was awarded a \$104K grant from the Ontario Safer and Vital Communities program to bolster security on Campus, with thanks to Leslie and the Campus team for their hard work on the grant application.
- The first board nominating committee meeting was held on February 10<sup>th</sup>.
- The event in conjunction with Black History Month, “I am Jewish: Honouring Black Jewish Experiences” will be held on February 24<sup>th</sup>, to date 223 households were registered, and we will have participation from all 10 Canadian Jewish Federations.
- The annual campaign is continuing strong, with no significant surprises.
- Andrea asked the Board members to provide feedback on the communication dashboard in the President’s Report.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 pm.