



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

Wednesday, February 26, 2020
Board Meeting

In Attendance: Kevin Barwin, Harold Feder, Stacy Goldstein, Michael Polowin, Nikki Shapiro, Ian Sherman, Hartley Stern, Danya Vered.

Staff: Sarah Beutel, Andrea Freedman, Leslie Kaufman, Susan Lee.

Recorder: Cibebe Rosa.

I: Welcome – Michael Polowin

The meeting was called 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 22nd Board of Directors meeting.

Moved: Harold Feder

Second: Kevin Barwin

Motion carried

III: Shinshinim Report:

Michael asked Nikki Shapiro, Chair of the Shinshinim program, to present the Shinshinim Report. The Board received the report in advance of the meeting, Nikki answered questions and noted the following points:

- The Shinshinim committee made a recommendation to extend the program for one more year, considering the value to the community.
- A few modifications will be implemented as described in the report, and partners will need to take greater responsibility for the program.
- The program will be reviewed and presented to the Board at the end of 2020.

Michael thanked Kara and Nikki for their hard work on the Shinshinim program, then he asked for a motion to approve the Shinshinim program extension for one more year.

Moved: Nikki Shapiro

Second: Ian Sherman

Motion carried

IV: Report on Caring for the Vulnerable Recommendations:

Michael asked Kevin Barwin, Chair of the Grants and Evaluations Committee, to present the recommendation to approve grants for Caring for the Vulnerable. The Board received the summary of the Recommendation in advance of the meeting, and Kevin answered questions.

The Board suggested resolving the Inclusion Coordinator's employment relationship as a priority, according to legal requirements.

Michael thanked Kevin, Kara, and the entire Grants and Evaluations Committee for their hard work. Michael called for a motion to approve the recommendations of the Grants and Evaluations Committee on funding to

ensure Caring for the Vulnerable as per the committee's report, subject to resolving the employment relationship of the inclusion coordinator.

Moved: Kevin Barwin

Second: Harold Feder

Motion carried

V: Finance Report

Susan presented the financial report for the six months ended December 31st, 2019. For the most part, variances are due to timing and Federation is forecasted to be on budget. This figure may change, as the forecast is updated throughout the year.

- Overall, there is a modest surplus of approximately \$70k.
- Salaries and benefits are slightly below budget due to vacant positions.
- Community overhead is above budget, due to the fact the benefits and pension expenditures are adjusted through the year.
- Communications and the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin are below budget, also due to timing.

Michael thanked Susan for the report and the finance team for their work.

Campus Budget:

Susan presented the proposed budget for Campus 2020-2021. As the Board received and reviewed the summary in advance of the meeting, Susan answered questions.

In addition to the building condition audits already completed, the board suggested that a reserve fund study be conducted to ensure the reserve fund is sufficient to address necessary capital improvements.

Michael thanked Sender and the staff for their hard work, and asked for a motion to approve the Proposed Operating Budget for Campus 2020-2021 and the first year of the Capital Budget for Campus.

Moved: Harold Feder

Second: Ian Sherman

Motion carried

VII: President's Report – Andrea Freedman

Andrea answered questions and noted the following updates:

- After 14 years of Mitzvah day success, Federation is exploring different models as attendance has decreased.
- Andrea and Michael met with Carleton University President Bacon and other key university officials on February 4th.
- There was a Life and Legacy meeting on February 25th. Federation's plan was accepted and is ready for implementation.
- Andrea encouraged board members to attend the supplementary Board meeting on March 2nd, with consultant Debbie Smith who conducted the CEO review.

The Board suggested a more active presence in advocacy efforts, and recognized the importance of the work that Victor Rabinovitch is undertaking. It is likely that additional staff resources in this area would be helpful.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.