



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

Wednesday, May 27th, 2020
Board Meeting

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

Staff: Sarah Beutel, Pauline Colwin, Andrea Freedman, Micah Garten.

Recorder: Cibebe Rosa.

I: Welcome – Michael Polowin

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 pm.

Michael welcomed the Board members.

II: Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – Michael Polowin

Michael called for a motion to approve the Minutes from the April 7th, April 22nd, and May 6th, 2020 Board of Directors meetings.

Moved: Kevin Barwin

Second: Stacy Goldstein

Motion carried

III: Strategic Priorities Committee Report – Ian Sherman

Michael invited Ian Sherman, Chair of the Strategic Priorities Committee, to present the Proposed Changes to Federation's Program Funding to the Board. As the document was sent to the board in advance of the meeting, Ian made a few comments and answered questions.

There was a robust discussion as the board provided feedback and some concerns were raised.

Michael thanked Ian and the Strategic Priorities Committee for their hard work. He asked for a Motion to approve the Proposed Changes to the Federation's Program Funding Report as presented to the Board.

Moved: Ian Sherman

Second: Danya Vered

Motion carried, with 1 abstention and 1 opposed

While the motion passed, given the seriousness of the topic and that concerns were raised (the vote was not unanimous), the decision was made to bring a revised motion to the Board for consideration in June, taking into account board feedback. A second motion was made, to directionally adopt the report but with it being returned to the board at its next meeting with refinements.

Moved: Ian Sherman

Second: Danya Vered

Motion carried

IV: Interim/Status-quo Budget Approval – Harold Feder

Michael invited Harold Feder, treasurer of Federation, to present the Interim Budget request to the Board.

Due to the pandemic and the need for more time to gain greater insight into budget implications, Federation is not in a position to present and approve a new budget at this time. For this reason, it was proposed to the Board to approve a status-quo of the current budget for three months, allowing management time to prepare a more accurate budget for the new fiscal year.

Michael thanked Harold for his presentation, then asked for a Motion to extend the current budget for three months on an interim basis.

Moved: Harold Feder

Second: Nikki Shapiro

Motion carried

Harold also shared that, due to the efforts of a small working group to support management in applying for government pandemic support, Federation and Bulletin have qualified to apply for the federal wage subsidies, resulting in \$172K related to the last 2 months for Federation and \$11K for Bulletin. The subcommittee is still working on the rent relief program for Early Beginnings and TIPES.

A more robust Finance Committee is being struck for the coming year. Once the committee is formed, the names will be shared with the Board.

V: Emergency Campaign for Community Resilience Update and Annual Campaign – Karen Palayew

Karen presented a brief campaign update. The 2020 Annual Campaign is currently at \$5M, including supplemental giving and the match. The Emergency Campaign is currently at \$1.742M from 180 donors, and canvassers continue working to secure donations.

Michael thanked Karen for agreeing to continue as a campaign co-chair for one additional year (now a 3-year term).

VI: President's Report – Andrea Freedman

Andrea answered questions and noted the following updates:

- The Legislative Compliance Report was circulated in the board package.
- Reminder for the Board to RSVP to the Foundation and Federation AGMs to be held on June 9th and June 17th respectively.
- The Shinshinim recruited for the coming year were informed that the program will unfortunately be paused this year.
- In anticipation of the province allowing for an increase from 5 to 10 people in a gathering, a meeting of synagogue Rabbis took place to discuss the measures and actions to be taken in preparation for the reopening of houses of worship.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 pm.