



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

Wednesday, December 16th
Soloway Jewish Community Centre

In Attendance: Stuart Ages, David Appotive, Harold Feder, Stacy Goldstein (phone), Linda Kerzner
Steven Kimmel, Jason Shinder, Hartley Stern, Arlene Wortsman

Staff: Andrea Freedman, Arieh Rosenblum, Bram Bregman, Shelley Crawford

Observers: Sharon Appotive & Jeff Miller

Recorder: Alecia Laliberte

I: Welcome – Linda Kerzner

Linda Kerzner called the meeting to order at 5:35pm and welcomed the board and welcomed Alecia Laliberte to the Jewish Federation of Ottawa team as the Executive Assistant.

II: Approval of Board Meeting Minutes:

Linda Kerzner called for a motion to approve minutes from the November 18th Jewish Federation of Ottawa board of director's meeting.

First – Harold Feder

Second – Stuart Ages

All in favor

Motion carried

III: Chairs 6 month report

Linda addressed the board, thanking and congratulating them on a job well done.

She identified the diverse and complex population in the community who are looking to the Federation to be the convener of new ideas, new methods, and to offer solutions for positive and sustainable change and transformation.

Preparation is the key to move forward while engaging individuals, families, groups and community to open up new pathways to engage Jewishly. New tools, alternatives and bringing in outside expertise can help to achieve these goals.

IV: President's Report

Andrea Freedman provided a few updates to the previously distributed report.

- EG Hanukah ball was attended by 120 young people and was very successful.
- Hanukah at the Sens, a joint event with the Ottawa Torah Centre, took place on December 14th and was a proud, public moment for the Jewish community.
- A small group of individuals that are potentially interested in working to form a high school is meeting on December 17th.

VI: Financial Report – Shelley Crawford

Shelley Crawford reviewed the monthly finance reports with the board (interim report for 5 months up to the end of November 30th).

Overall, the budget is tracking favorably, with the exception of the rentals available at Building 11, the Hillel House and the continuing situation with the tenant in arrears. The Bulletin is a potential area of concern, with a recent slippage of ad sales. With prolonged staff medical absences, salaries are trailing positively for the year.

VI: Governance Review

The governance review committee chaired by Debi Zaret conducted a review of Federation governance documents. All sections of the governance documents were approved at a previous board meeting except for sections 2.1 and 2.3. A small working committee led by Debi submitted revised work to the board.

2.1 Governance Chart: the chart was renamed from organization to governance and re-structured in an easier to follow format.

2.3 Committee Authority: the authority of committees was more clearly delineated and committee types were redefined as follows:

Active advisor: the committee investigates reports and recommends.

Active delegate: the committee takes action and reports on action taken.

Linda called for a motion to approved sections 2.1 and 2.3 of the governance report.

First – Jason Shinder

Second – Steven Kimmel

All in favor

Motion Carried

VII: Audited Financial Statements (Bulletin and Campus) – Jeff Miller

Jeff Miller presented the audited financial statement for the Jewish Federation of Ottawa for the year ending June 30, 2015. The issue of the cost of the Ottawa Va'ad HaKashrut and arrears was raised and requires further discussion.

All questions were answered to the satisfaction of board members.

Linda Kerzner called for a motion to approve the audited financial statement for the Jewish Federation of Ottawa.

First – Jason Shinder

Second – Harold Feder

Motion Carried

VIII: Campaign Update – Sharon Appotive/Jeff Miller

Campaign 2015:

Campaign Year to date: \$3,866,651

New and Returned Donors: 183

New and Returned Dollars: \$61,425

Campaign 2016:

Campaign Year to date: \$4,019,013

New and Returned Donors: 180

New and Returned Dollars: \$84,006

On a gift by gift basis, the campaign is currently running at a 3.9% increase. This does not include \$180,000 raised as part of Annual Campaign asks for special Federation projects (Shinshinim program and exploring incentivizing participation in Jewish life).

To date, EG has raised \$22,000 from 117 pledges, representing an increase of 32%. The pilot project of pillar giving has produced little interest with respect to directed giving and will therefore have a negligible impact on allocations.

IX: Campus Reserves & SJCC Capital Needs

The campus committee has initiated a collaboration with the SJCC to ensure that an important community asset is well protected. This includes structural work (e.g. pool, brick work, etc.) in addition to cosmetic upgrades.

The SJCC has a reserve fund of approximately \$420,000 from a variety of sources, including a grant from the government of \$120,000.

Campus has a reserve fund of \$1.6M, with approximately \$700,000 available for immediate use. The campus committee is recommending that \$300,000 be allocated to assist the SJCC towards Phase 1 costs of \$736,000.

Linda called for a motion to approve an allocation of \$300,000 from campus reserves toward the cost of Phase 1 capital improvements, contingent on the campus committee's ultimate agreement with:

- the SJCC's plans for how funds will be spent
- overall fundraising objectives
- agreed upon plans to contribute to a capital reserve fund are established

First- Hartley Stern

Second- Stuart Ages

Motion Carried

X: Terms of reference for review of school funding

As per the Board's instructions, a task force is being formed to review the education funding formula. The board was asked for input into the mandate and potential leadership. Feedback included:

- Align funding to create an incentive for schools to increase enrollment.
- Ensure greater accountability/efficiency as to how funds are being spent.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:13pm