



**Jewish Federation of Ottawa
Board of Directors Meeting
Summary of Discussion as a Report to the Community**

**Wednesday June 1st, 2016 at the
Soloway Jewish Community Centre**

In Attendance: Stuart Ages, David Appotive, Sharon Appotive, Harold Feder, Stacy Goldstein, Linda Kerzner, Steven Kimmel, Jeff Miller, Michael Polowin, Mike Shahin, Jason Shinder, Arlene Wortsman, Lenora Zelikovitz

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

Recorder: Alecia Laliberte

I: Welcome – Linda Kerzner

Linda Kerzner called the meeting to order at 5:33pm.

II: President's Report - Andrea Freedman

Andrea provided the following three updates to the previously distributed President's report.

- **Building 31:** a final meeting took place to discuss whether or not Tamir requires a 10-year lease, without a demolition clause, which is necessary for campus purposes. Unfortunately, this is necessary and therefore, they will not be moving into Building 31.
- **TIPES:** negotiations and discussions continue with TIPES.
- **Significant leadership change at OJCS:** Marlene Wolinsky announced her resignation as head of school. Sheldon Friedman will be coming back to OJCS for a short period of time as interim head and will provide leadership and stability as the school transitions to a new permanent Head of School.

III: 2016/17 Budget- Shelly Crawford & Jason Shinder

Shelley reviewed the 2016/17 operating budget and the board was satisfied with the explanations provided.

Jason Shinder moved to approve the proposed operating budgets for July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017 for the following entities:

- Jewish Federation of Ottawa - Federation Services

- Jewish Federation of Ottawa – Annual Campaign
- Ottawa Jewish Bulletin Publishing Co. Ltd
- Jewish Community Campus of Ottawa Inc.

First – Jason Shinder

Second – Lenora Zelikovitz

Motion carried

IV: Phase 2 Security- Stuart Ages

The Campus Committee, in consultation with the Ottawa Police Department, Israeli Embassy representatives and Ryan Hartman (National Security Director for CIJA) are recommending Jewish Community Campus security enhancements be implemented as part of a Phase 2 plan.

The recommendations are designed to improve communications and complete re-enforcements of the perimeter.

Stuart called for a motion for the board to approve the \$41,700 in security enhancements as part of Phase 2.

First – Stuart Ages

Second – David Appotive

Motion carried

V: Education Funding Task Force – Jeff Miller

The Task Force was mandated to examine the way Federation funds day schools and supplementary schools and to determine how funding can be used to maximize impact and ensure appropriate accountability. The Task Force’s mandate was broad and ambitious. The recommendations in this Report present a good starting point from which to address current challenges facing Jewish educational institutions in Ottawa.

Recommendations

- The dollars set aside by the Board this year for “innovation”, be allocated for the exclusive use of innovation at the new unified Orthodox Day School to support excellence.
- In 2017/18, any increases in available funding for Jewish education be allocated exclusively for the use of the new unified Orthodox Day School to begin to redress the imbalance in funding.
- Should enrollment at any school drop by more than 15% from year to year, there will be an automatic review of the funding they are receiving.

- In two years-time (2018/19), when the OJCS \$6 million campaign to help it reach sustainability is complete, and the unified Orthodox school has operated for two full years, further changes to Federation’s funding model should be re-examined.
- Before developing a plan of how funding in 2018/19 will be accomplished, much work is needed to determine how much funding is actually required to sustain a successful day school system, and to consider what additional fundraising might be required to meet needs.
- A revised funding formula for supplementary schools was deferred until the summer/fall.

Other Recommendations

- **Feeder Programs:** The Task Force recognizes that an important element of the future success and sustainability of day schools is having successful feeder programs such as Jewish Preschools. It is therefore recommended that a focus for Federation should be to promote the success of feeder programs.
- **New eligibility and accountability requirements for school funding:** The Task Force recommends the adoption of new eligibility and accountability standards and requirements for Federation funded schools. This includes implementing the newly developed “Good Governance Checklist”.

Linda called for a motion for the board to approve the education funding taskforce report as presented.

First – Harold Feder

Second – Lenora Zelikovitz

Motion carried

VI: Supplementary Schools- Bram Bregman

The Jewish Federation of Ottawa’s 2014-2019 Strategic Plan “Year-Two Work Plan” includes: “Explore possibilities for supplementary school amalgamation with key stakeholders.”

Federation Community Building staff has met with supplementary schools, both formally and informally, over the past year to explore amalgamation. Informal conversations took place with the leadership of synagogue-based supplementary schools and they prefer to be stand-alone schools as they are feeders into their synagogue membership base.

Federation continues to work to support change and improvements at the various supplementary schools.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:49pm