



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

**Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>**  
Soloway Jewish Community Centre

**In Attendance:** Stuart Ages, Harold Feder, Stacy Goldstein, Jennifer Kardash, Linda Kerzner, Mike Shahin, Jason Shinder, Hartley Stern, Arlene Wortsman, Lenora Zelikovitz

**Staff:** Bram Bregman, Shelley Crawford, Andrea Freedman, Arie Rosenblum

**Observers:** Sharon Appotive & Jeff Miller

**Recorder:** Nicole Collett

**I: Welcome – Linda Kerzner**

Linda Kerzner called the meeting to order at 5:05.

**II: Approval of Board Meeting Minutes:**

Linda Kerzner called for a motion to approve minutes from the October 21<sup>st</sup> Jewish Federation of Ottawa board of director's meeting.

First – Stacey Goldstein

Second – Mike Shahin

**Motion carried**

**III Pew Report – Arlene Wortsman**

As part of efforts to ensure board members are well informed on trends and topical issues in the Jewish world, Arlene Wortsman provided an overview of the PEW report and key conclusions that emanate from it. While the report is based on American data, the trends provide valuable insight for Canadian Jewry.

**IV Allocation Envelopes – Arlene Wortsman/Sarah Beutel**

Based on all fundraising efforts, there is an additional \$112,000 available for allocation (2-year cycle). The Board must determine how to divide the available funds between the three funding envelopes: assisting the vulnerable, strengthening the community and Jewish education.

Discussion ensued about various possible funding scenarios, including if all dollars should immediately be allocated or if some should be kept in reserve. Additionally, should Federation priorities (e.g. PJ Library) be considered as eligible to apply for increased funding? Key points in the discussion included:

- All agency needs cannot be met; therefore consideration should be given to where a modest increase would have the greatest impact.
- Is there a demand for innovation that warrants the dollars?
- Respect for the expertise of the grants and evaluation committee was expressed.

If funds for innovation are not used, other options will be brought to the board for consideration.

Based on the discussion, Linda Kerzner called for a motion to approve allocation envelopes with increases in the amount of: \$30,700 for assisting the vulnerable; \$30,700 for strengthening the community, \$30,600 school funding and \$20,000 for innovation.

First – Hartley Stern

Second – Harold Feder

**Motion Carried**

#### **V: Financial Report – Shelley Crawford**

Financial statements for 4 months ending October 31<sup>st</sup> were presented and overall, no significant new variances were reported. There has not been any notable progress to report with respect to tenant vacancies and arrears. Ad revenues for the Bulletin are slightly more promising than in past years.

#### **VI: Audited Financial Statements (Bulletin and Campus) – Jeff Miller**

Jeff Miller presented the audited financial statement for the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin Publishing Co. Ltd for the year ending June 30, 2015. For the past few years, the Bulletin's operating losses have been financed by advances from the Jewish Federation of Ottawa. Last year, the Board approved forgiveness of these inter-company advances totaling \$164,722. It was noted that Federation has included \$18,000 in its 2015/16 operating budget to subsidize the anticipated loss from the Bulletin in the current year, as the Bulletin is a primary means of communication for Federation. This was not done in the past.

All questions were answered to the satisfaction of board members.

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

First – Jason Shinder

Second – Mike Shahin

**Motion Carried**

#### **Jewish Community Campus of Ottawa Inc.:**

Jeff Miller presented the audited financial statements for the Jewish Community Campus of Ottawa Inc. for the year ending June 30, 2015. Jeff highlighted the details of Net Assets, explaining the Restricted from Unrestricted and the General Fund vs. Property Fund. The operating results of Building #31 and Building #11, as outlined in Schedule 1 of the statements were highlighted, including the costs of major repairs and additional security responses undertaken during the year.

All questions were answered to the satisfaction of board members.

Linda Kerzner called for a motion to approve audited financial statements for the Jewish Community Campus of Ottawa Inc.

First – Jason Shinder

Second – Hartley Stern

## **Motion Carried**

### **VIII: Campaign Update – Sharon Appotive/Jeff Miller**

- To date, the Annual Campaign has raised \$3.4 Million, representing a 3.5% increase on a gift by gift basis.
- Canvasser appreciation night at the Ottawa Senator's game will take place on Thursday November 19<sup>th</sup> and is expected to be well attended.
- Major efforts are being made for canvassers to complete their fundraising. The overall pace of the campaign remains strong.

### **IX: Ottawa Jewish Community School (OJCS) Budget Assumptions – Shelley Crawford**

The Ottawa Jewish Community School (OJCS) is beginning preparations for the 2016 school year which calls for a planned deficit of \$156,000 (vs. \$384,000 in 2015), as per the Sustainability Plan. They are requesting clarity on 2 budget issues:

- Rent at Building #31, formerly paid by the high school: this past year, OJCS and Federation split the \$94,972 rent. High school portion of Federation's allocation: before amalgamation, the high school received an allocation of \$59,450, which was rolled into the overall OJCS allocation at the time.

The issue is complex and includes a strong desire for OJCS to be given every opportunity to succeed. The board emphasized the need to secure additional tenants in the building. It was also noted that the grants & review committee will be meeting with OJCS in the near future to mutually agree on their tailored accountability framework required for funding as part of the new grants review process. Finally, as mandated by the board, Federation will be undertaking a review of the education funding formula.

Based on the discussion, Linda called for a motion for Federation to include the high school portion of Federation's allocation this year and continue subsidizing the cost of the vacated high school space at 50% until a suitable tenant is found, with the proviso that OJCS cooperate fully with this search and restrict their use of the space appropriately.

First – Hartley Stern

Second – Lenora Zelikovitz

## **Motion Carried**

The meeting was adjourned and members were invited to participate in the Members' Meeting with keynote speaker Daniel Held.