

**ST. PAUL JEWISH FEDERATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, OCT. 24, 2018, 7 p.m.**

**PARTICIPANTS:** Mark Adelman, Erin Baldinger, Jay Baldinger, Sharon Benmaman, Alan Bernick, Lisa Bernick, Aaron Biel, Deb Frishberg, Mitzi Gramling, Jerry Helfand, Brian Kamin, Jennifer Kaplan, David Krco, Rick Linsk, Scott Marvy, Ron Matz, Susan Minsberg, Charlie Nauen, Jon Parritz, Linda Perry, Bonnie Resnick, Mitch Rubinstein, Lynne Sanders, Marsha Schoenkin, Rosalyn Segal, Yoav Segal, Ezra Strohm, Marni Tselos, Mark Usem, Mary Ann Wark, Deb Weiss

**BY PHONE:** Rabbi Zalman Bendet, Nancy Lane

**STAFF:** Rob Jacobs, Marilyn Ruby, Judy Sharken Simon, Julie Swiler, Sherri Monson

**NON-PARTICIPANTS:** Steve Brand, Bruce Goldfarb, Jon Brod Farber, Karen Gordon, Liza Henry (Mole), Michael Levitt, Ryan Lohr, Adi Leviatan, Ryan Lohr, Linda Nides, Jeffrey Perlman, Ben Saxon, Mike Saxon, Polly Saxon, Michelle Shaller, Steve Shaller, Sally Silk, Howard Zack

**GUESTS:** Rena Glaser, Rachel Resnick, Jeffery Prottas

**WELCOME:** Mark Adelman called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**DVAR TORAH:** Delivered by Lisa and Alan Bernick. Next month's Dvar Torah will be delivered by Rick Linsk.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES, SEPT. 26, 2018:** Approved unanimously.

**JFS COMMUNITY B'YACHAD PROJECT:** Rena Glaser spoke about JFS's 7<sup>th</sup> annual B'Yachad project that prepares holiday gift baskets for needy clients. Board members were asked to fill a specific bag, donate cash or gift cards, or bring gift items to the bin in the Federation lobby. Donations are due by Thursday, Nov. 15. Volunteers are needed to wrap gifts during the week of November 25, and to deliver gifts the week of December 2.

**EMPLOYMENT UPDATE:** Rob introduced Jeffery Prottas, our new Chief Officer Development as of October 29.

**JEWISH METROPOLITAN COUNCIL UPDATE:** Jon Parritz described the historical background of the organization, comprised of community leaders from both Minneapolis and St. Paul. The council is concentrating on the following issues:

- Millennial engagement
- Bi-city agency planning and funding
- Organizing a Twin Cities or Minnesota General Assembly
- Creating an annual collaboration award fund
- Finding management solutions for unaffiliated Jewish cemeteries

**TWIN CITIES POPULATION STUDY:** Rachel Resnick explained issues pertaining to St. Paul's participation in the joint population study.

- Harry Kay donated \$87,000 (50% of the initial quote) and assumed that both federations would fundraise to cover remaining costs (est. \$135,000). Current estimates put the cost at approx. \$225,000.
- Minneapolis Federation plans to move ahead regardless of interest or funding from St. Paul. It was agreed that this is an important study, and it's in St. Paul's best interest to participate in the study.
- Rob Jacobs would prefer that we not commit until we review the RFP and then raise the required funds. Also, the CEOs of both federations would be required to sign the contract.
- St. Paul Federation wants to approach this jointly with Minneapolis, but with a firm understanding of costs and a written explanation of St. Paul's financial expectations.

Mark Adelman filed a motion to continue with the RFP process with the joint committee, work to raise the required funding, and commit to proceed when we have the money. **Approved unanimously.**

**JEWISH EDUCATION PANEL FINAL REPORT:** Mary Ann Wark provided background information on the process the panel used to come to its recommendations. Panel 4 opted to focus on grade 8-12 education, and its proposal to form a communal Jewish supplementary high school was not approved by the participants. Mark Adelman filed a motion to accept the Education Panel report - **Approved unanimously.** Mary Ann explained that there is more work to be done for local Jewish education, and the existing Education Task Force will continue to review needs and set priorities.

**FINANCE/AUDIT:** Three board resolutions were presented, but none were approved with existing language. Rob Jacobs will resend the resolutions with suggested changes (by noon on Friday), and Board members will be asked to vote electronically.

**AUDIT STATUS:**

- Rob Jacobs announced the JFNA agreed to write off all outstanding debt for the St. Paul Jewish Federation, with the stipulation that we commit at least 10% of our annual campaign to JFNA.
- The Finance/Audit Committee has narrowed its search to two audit firms. The committee plans to make its selection and have the audit completed in November 2018.

**CAMPAIGN UPDATE:**

- Linda Perry reported that the 2018 campaign is at \$1,714,896, compared to \$1.8 million at this time last year. Our goal for 2018 is \$1.95 million. Our "dream team" of solicitors is aware of this and is reaching out to our remaining 272 donors.
- We will begin planning our 2019 Annual Campaign next month.
- We received a new donor advised fund from Dr. Irwin Weisman. It is called the Marjorie P. Weisman Memorial Fund.

**2018 FALL GALA UPDATE:** Rob Jacobs reported that the Fall Gala, which now serves as a closing event for the campaign, needs to be evaluated and better defined. The Gala raised \$13,100, while the total cost was nearly \$25,000.

**GIVING CIRCLE:** Erin Baldinger explained that the concept of giving circles to inspire young people to become philanthropists grew from recommendations from the Inspire Giving and Engage the Next Generation panels. Each member pledges \$100, which is matched 2:1 by the Federation. They currently are deciding how to donate \$3,600.

**PHILANTHROPIC FUNDS:** Phil funds (\$59,750 with write-ins) were approved unanimously.

**FOLLOW-UP FROM PREVIOUS BOARD MEETING**

- Discussion of the shared database will be moved to the next Board meeting
- The final board retreat packet will be emailed to the board.
- Budgets are nearly complete and will be presented to the Executive Committee (per Rob).

**NEWS ARTICLE:** Jon Parritz raised the issue of Minnesota Congresswoman Betty McCollum's recent anti-Israel rhetoric recently published in a JNS article. Jon urged the Board to be aware of the sensitive relationship the Jewish community has with the congresswoman.

**GOOD & WELFARE/MISC.:**

- Condolences to Charley Smith, our Twin Cities Young Adult Engagement Manager, whose father-in-law recently passed away in Israel.
- Condolences to Ellie Byers, Federation's assistant comptroller, whose father passed away on Oct. 20.
- Board members are encouraged to attend our next Mitzvah Crawl on Saturday, Nov. 10, at the Minnesota Jewish Theatre.

**CLOSING:** The meeting was dismissed at 9:26 p.m.