

Jewish Federation & Foundation of Rockland County

Board of Directors

September 6, 2018 7:30 PM

Silverman Suite Jewish Community Campus Rockland NY

Attendance: Steve Cohn, Lisa Green, Co-Chairs, Roberta Aaronson, Carol Blau, Scott Coopersmith, Bert Distelburger, Andrew Eisen, Lance Gilden, Steve Gold, Phil Gruber, Greg Karzhevsky, Doug Katz, Melinda Levin, Jonathan Meister, Marcy Pressman, Michael Satran, Rabbi Ben Sharff, Robert Silverman, Harriet Spevack, Nat Wasserstein, Alfred Weiner, Bonnie Werk and Alden Wolfe

Gary Siepser, CEO Rebecca Bannerman, Director of Community Engagement

New Year: Rabbi Ben Sharff of Reform Temple of Rockland led the Board in celebrating the New Year 5779 and Shehehiyanu.

Approval of Minutes: Upon motion and second, the minutes of the meeting of May 24, 2018 were approved as distributed.

Finance: Greg Karzhevsky reviewed the finance report through the end of July noting that since only the first month of the fiscal year had taken place there were no highlights to bring to the Board's attention. Greg noted that the cash balance was at a low point as is typical at this time of the year.

Greg raised the matter of Federation's lack of a gift acceptance policy which will take on increased importance as the Life & Legacy program grows. Such a policy will be important for Federation and can serve as a model for the other organizations in the Life & Legacy initiative.

A motion was made and seconded: Resolved that Jewish Federation's Finance Committee (with discussion with the Life and Legacy team) develop a gift acceptance policy based on models found at other Federations and not-for-profits. The motion was approved.

Capital Campaigns: Gary Siepser reported solely for the Board's information that there are 3 capital campaigns underway in the community: the Jewish Community Campus, The Holocaust Museum and Hillel. Gary was asked to arrange timely presentations about these projects by representatives of each agency.

Community Relations Council: Steve Gold reported on recent activities by the CRC. There has been a steady stream of hate speech and social media through the summer. Individual members of the CRC monitor a number of Facebook sites and regularly respond to posts and comments. In discussion, some Board members questioned the strategy of not directly responding to posts in the Federation's name. Steve noted that the CRC has debated this and will bring it back to the board for further discussion.

Life and Legacy Initiative: Lisa Green reported that Federation has been accepted into the 7th cohort of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation's Life and Legacy program and noted that this is a significant achievement in the community's development. Federation's L&L team is Roberta Aaronson, Chair, Bert Distelburger, Doug Katz, Jeff Koenig, Melinda Levin, Dawn Portney and Alden Wolfe.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:45.