



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

Summary of Discussion

**Tuesday, January 14, 2025**

**In Attendance:** Leila Ages, Joelle Assaraf, Kevin Barwin, Jeff Laks, Marina Milyavskaya, Karen Palayew, Gillian Presner, Alice Retik, Tal Scher, Ian Sherman, Marci Surkes, Samantha Sigler, Danya Vered, Adam Zaret, Gary Viner

**Special Guests:** Joanne Gorenstein and Jon Mitzmacher, OJCS and Dan Perla, Consultant, Prizmah

**Staff:** Pauline Colwin, Rena Garshowitz, Mark Gruner, Anne Read, Michel Reznick, Adam Silver

**I: Welcome – Karen Palayew**

Karen Palayew thanked everyone for attending and called the meeting to order at 5:50 pm.

**II: Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – Karen Palayew**

Karen asked if there were any questions from the October 15, 2024 board meeting minutes.

Karen called for a motion to approve the minutes from the October 15, 2024 Board of Directors meeting.

**Moved:** Gillian Presner

**Second:** Leila Ages

**Motion carried**

Karen advised that the December 17, 2024 board meeting minutes need to be revised to include an in-camera session with the meeting ending at 8:00 pm.

Karen called for a motion to approve the minutes from the December 17, 2024 Board of Directors meeting, with the above-noted amendments implemented.

**Moved:** Kevin Barwin

**Second:** Adam Zaret

**Motion carried**

**III: Jewish Journeys Funding Recommendations – Kevin Barwin**

Karen invited Kevin Barwin to present the Jewish Journeys funding recommendations. Kevin reviewed the written material provided to the board in advance of the meeting

All questions were answered to the Board's satisfaction.

Kevin Barwin called for a motion to approve the recommended Jewish Journeys Widening the Path Grant and the allocation of the remaining surplus to the microgrant FY25 budget.

**Moved:** Joelle Assaraf

**Second:** Gillian Presner

**Motion carried**

Karen thanked Kevin Barwin, Gillian Presner, Jeff Laks and Anne Read for their tremendous work.

**III: Report on OJCS Study – Karen Palayew, Ian Sherman, Adam Silver**

Karen discussed the purpose of the OJCS study and welcomed Dan Perla, Jon Mitzmacher and Joanne Gorenstein to the meeting.

Dan Perla presented the written material provided to the board in advance of the meeting.

A discussion ensued and all questions were answered to the Board's satisfaction.

Karen thanked Dan Perla, Joanne Gorenstein and Jon Mitzmacher.

Karen called for a motion to approve a flat minimum allocation from the Federation consistent with previous years of \$554k.

**Moved:** Adam Zaret

**Second:** Tal Scher

**Recused:** Samantha Sigler, Danya Vered, Marina Milyavskaya, Gillian Presner, and Ian Sherman

**Motion carried**

Karen called for a motion to approve that Federation will support Campus such that Campus will freeze OJCS occupancy for the first three years of the plan, followed by successive (up to) 5% increases for each of the next two years of the plan.

**Moved:** Joelle Assaraf

**Second:** Jeff Laks

**Recused:** Samantha Sigler, Danya Vered, Marina Milyavskaya, Gillian Presner, and Ian Sherman

**Motion carried**

Karen called for a motion to approve that there will be a "freeze" on repayment expectations connected with the high school amount for the duration of the plan.

**Moved:** Leila Ages

**Second:** Adam Zaret

**Recused:** Samantha Sigler, Danya Vered, Marina Milyavskaya, Gillian Presner, and Ian Sherman

**Motion carried**

**IV: Campaign Update – Leila Ages and Gary Viner**

Karen invited Leila and Gary to present the campaign update.

Leila advised that as of January 14<sup>th</sup>, the campaign has raised \$4.5M, with a total increase of 8%. There are still \$600k in open cards of which \$439k are from gifts of over \$10k.

Karen thanked Leila, Gary, and Michael for their efforts.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 pm.