



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

Summary of Discussion

Tuesday, September 12, 2023

Board Meeting

In Attendance: Leila Ages, Kevin Barwin, Jeff Laks, Karen Palayew, Michael Polowin, Gillian Presner, Alice Retik, Ian Sherman, Evelyn Silverman, Marci Surkes, and Gary Viner.

Staff: Sarah Beutel, Pauline Colwin, Andrea Freedman, Rena Garshowitz, Micah Garten, and Mark Gruner.

Recorder: Sabrina Vitoriano.

I: Welcome – Karen Palayew

Karen welcomed board members to the first meeting of the board year and called the meeting to order at 5:50 pm. She made a few opening remarks as the new chair of the board and invited board members and staff to introduce themselves.

II: Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – Ian Sherman

Ian called for a motion to approve the minutes from the June 7th, 2023 Board of Directors meeting.

Moved: Gillian Presner

Second: Michael Polowin

Motion carried

III: Year 4 Evaluation & Year 5 Business Plan – Andrea Freedman

Karen invited Andrea to present the Year 4 Evaluation and the Year 5 Business Plan. Andrea highlighted some of the key points noted in the reports circulated ahead of the meeting. All questions posed by the board were answered to their satisfaction.

Karen thanked Andrea and called for a motion to approve the Year 5 Business Plan.

Moved: Michael Polowin

Second: Gillian Presner

Motion carried

IV: 90th Anniversary Proposal – Andrea Freedman

Andrea presented the proposal related to celebrating Federation's 90th Anniversary. She summarized the content of the document, circulated ahead of the meeting, and answered questions. The board had a healthy discussion regarding publishing a commemorative book and agreed to reevaluate it.

Karen thanked Andrea and asked for a motion to approve the 90th Anniversary Proposal with an augmented budget and with the commemorative book under review.

Moved: Michael Polowin

Second: Kevin Barwin

Motion carried

V: President's Israel Initiative – Andrea Freedman

Karen invited Andrea to present on the President's Israel Initiative. Andrea highlighted some of the key points noted in the document circulated ahead of the meeting. There were no questions from the board.

Karen thanked Andrea and called for a motion to approve the President's Israel Initiative.

Moved: Gillian Presner

Second: Leila Ages

Motion carried

VI: Approval of Members at Large – Rena Garshowitz

Karen invited Rena to present on the Approval of Members at Large. Rena explained the role of Members at Large. All questions were answered to the board's satisfaction.

Karen thanked Rena and called for a motion to approve the Members at Large.

Moved: Danya Vered

Second: Kevin Barwin

Motion carried

VII: Finance Report – Mark Gruner

Karen invited Mark to present on the Finance Report. As the report was circulated to the board in advance of the meeting, Mark highlighted some of the key points of the document. No questions were raised.

Karen thanked Mark and his team for their hard work.

VIII: President's Report – Andrea Freedman

Karen invited Andrea to present the President's Report, who provided the following updates to the report previously circulated to the board:

- The planned changeover of Federation's CRM hosting was Thursday. We had no control over the timing and unfortunately, it has not gone as expected, challenging us to run the annual campaign. If the challenges persist, the Board will be notified;
- We are now at 68 Ottawans registered for CIJA's Antisemitism Conference "Face It, Fight It" and urged board members to register themselves and help recruit more people to attend;
- Yesterday we had a positive meeting with His Worship Mayor Mark Sutcliffe and Councillor Rawlson King. In addition to Andrea, Karen, Ian, Marci, Danya and David Sachs participated.
- All questions were answered to the board's satisfaction.

Karen thanked Andrea for her report.

IX: Annual Campaign Report – Gary Viner

No new updates to what had previously been circulated were provided due to the impossibility to access the database.

The meeting then moved in camera.

VIII: In Camera

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.