



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

Summary of Discussion for
the community

Tuesday, February 11, 2025

In Attendance: Joelle Assaraf, Kevin Barwin, Marina Milyavskaya, Karen Palayew, Gillian Presner, Alice Retik, Tal Scher, Samantha Sigler, Danya Vered, Gary Viner, Adam Zaret

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

I: Welcome – Karen Palayew

Karen Palayew thanked everyone for attending and called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

Kaen extended condolences to Ian Sherman and family on the passing of Sol Shinder.

II: Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – Karen Palayew

Karen asked if there were any questions from the January 14, 2025 board meeting minutes.

It was requested that the minutes be revised to include thanking Jeff Laks for his assistance with the Jewish Journeys funding recommendations.

Karen called for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 14, 2025 Board of Directors meeting.

Moved: Danya Vered

Second: Joelle Assaraf

Motion carried

III: Generations Trust Funding to OJCS and Torah Day School – Adam Silver

Karen invited Adam Silver to discuss the Generations Trust funding for the Ottawa Jewish Community School (OJCS) and Torah Day School of Ottawa (Torah Day).

Adam advised as follows:

- Generations Trust is committed to annual funding to the OJCS and Torah Day.
- The Federation has taken a portion, or in some years like this past year, the full amount out of their reserves to service this commitment.
- The Federation is now at a point where the allocated amount to OJCS and Torah Day should start flowing to these entities.

- Generations Trust's leadership has been consulted and advises that they trust Federation's leadership to do what is appropriate.
- Adam confirmed that annual pledge payments are being received

The floor was opened to the board for discussion and all questions were satisfactorily answered.

It is moved that the board approve servicing Generations Trust allocations of up to the agreed-upon amount to OJCS and Torah Day, provided that:

- a) Splits are discussed with Generations Trust leadership;
- b) a repayment strategy regarding all outstanding amounts is discussed and established before the end of the fiscal year; and
- c) Generations Trust leadership succession is discussed and understood by the board.

Moved: Adam Zaret

Second: Gillian Presner

Motion carried

Karen thanked Adam Silver.

IV: Community and Campus Security Update – Rena Garshowitz

Karen invited Rena to present the Community and Campus Security update.

Rena provided a slide presentation and provided an update to the Board on the current status of Campus security (both personnel and infrastructure), upcoming improvements, and the plans for a community-wide security initiative.

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

It was moved that the Board approve funding to support Hillel Lodge's payments for an overnight security position until the end of the fiscal year.

Moved: Adam Zaret

Second: Tal Scher

Motion carried

Karen thanked Rena for all of her tremendous work.

V: Campaign Update & J-Fellows Report, Dorot Event – Michael Reznick

Karen invited Michael to provide an update to the board.

Michael gave a presentation with the following items of note:

- The annual campaign currently has just under \$4.6M, with total donors of 1,285 and 180 in open cards.

- J-Fellows currently has 17 participants with 13 newcomers. Sessions will be held from February to May, including 1:1 meetings with mentors and a final project presentation as part of the Dorot Legacy Cocktail.
- The Federation will be holding a Dorot Legacy Cocktail in May to connect top donors and leaders with young adult donors to foster meaningful relationships and ensure continuity in community engagement.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 pm.