Minutes
Jewish Federation of San Antonio (JFSA or Federation) Annual Meeting
June 20, 2023 7:00 p.m.
Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Campus, Auditoriums A, B, & C

Board Members in Attendance
Stanley Alterman, Amy Benedikt, Drew Glick, Ben Gurwitz, Mina Lopez, Barbara Lyons, Rabbi Mara Nathan, Rachelle Neuman, James Rosenblatt, Marc Schnall, Leslie Selig-Byrd, Varda Ratner, Linda Solis, Lauren Stanley

Board Members Absent
Sherry Braslau, Elizabeth Glazier, Rhonda Gurinsky, Mark Ingram, Jean Karren, Jason Miller-Goodman, Philip Moss, Joe Patrick, Kelly Petlin, Amy Saklad, Raphi Sonsino, Jonathan Starr, Josh Sutin, Michael Swanson

Staff in Attendance
Lisa Epstein, Tara Garner, Jessica Hanshaw, Nammie Ichilov, Beth Keough, Sherry Kozickwa, Sammi Mazuz, Leslie Met, Pamela Partridge, Anna Schragin, Mayte Robertson

Speakers/Presenters/Award Recipients
Hannah Cramer, Nammie Ichilov, Harry Levy, Mina Lopez, Sigal Kanotopsky, Rabbi Mara Nathan, Kelly Petlin, Lauren Stanley, Josh Sutin, Michael Swanson

Note: 93 people attended. A quorum for the annual meeting is 40 members who have contributed to JFSA. Of the participants, more than 40 contributors attended the meeting.

Invocation – Rabbi Mara Nathan
Rabbi gave a blessing over the individuals attending the meeting as well as JFSA and its operations.

Welcome & Chairs Report – Lauren Stanley
Lauren called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the 2023 JFSA Annual Meeting. Lauren then asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the 2022 JFSA Annual Meeting via acclimation. James Rosenblatt motioned to approve the minutes from the 2022 Annual Meeting, Rachelle Neuman seconded. All were in favor with no one opposed, the motion passed.

Lauren then recognized a few community leaders who were present, asking them to stand as their names were called. Next, she highlighted the departments of JFSA and a few accomplishments from the year.

HMMSA:

- 170 tours (in person, offsite and virtual) (up from 84 in FY22).
- 15,121 tour participants (up from 7,127 in FY22).
- 26,000 + students impacted during Texas Holocaust Remembrance Week.
- Increase in department revenue: For Hope For Humanity 2023, Grant Writing, Community Donations.

Philanthropy:

- JLEV enrollments have almost doubled from 5 to 9.
- Raised and distributed $607,000 for the Ukraine Crisis.
- Second Women's Philanthropy event, since Covid, with 125 guests.
- First Maimonides gathering, since COVID, with more planned in the future.

JCRC:

- Advocacy in this year's Texas Legislative Session, which included visiting Austin with Jewish volunteers and advocating for legislation that impacts our Jewish community. The passage of the Texas based Non-Profit Security Grant Program and the Holocaust Education Study are two of the successes from this work.
- Interfaith work included events sharing religious and cultural customs with Catholics, Latter-Day Saints, and Muslim communities in San Antonio, as well as a Shabbat program that shared the light of Shabbat with 150 non-Jews in San Antonio.
- Produced 4 issues of the Jewish Journal sent to over 2,300 homes, as well as a digital Jewish Journal, and maintained 10 social media pages and an email list reaching thousands of unique users each week.
- The Federation sponsored two Shinshinim, emissaries from Israel, this year to share their love of Israel, Hebrew language, and Jewish education with the Jewish preschools, religious schools, high school youth groups, Hillel, and the JCC summer camps.
- The Federation has built relationships with law enforcement at the local, regional, and federal level to help coordinate security efforts, share intelligence, and create best practices with the community.

PJ Library:

- PJ Library of San Antonio has 431 children, ages 6 months to 8-years-old, receiving Jewish books in the mail every month. The Federation sponsors programs to engage these young families with the Jewish community.

LIFE & LEGACY:

- Finished its 4th Year with 336 individuals and/or couples making commitments for 528 legacy gifts to benefit our local Jewish community organizations and synagogues. The anticipated endowment value that will impact our local Jewish community partners is almost $10 million.

Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies:

- Through April 2023, has distributed over $1 million to JFSA programs, overseas and Israel.
- The Grants Distribution Committee awarded over $40,000 in financial assistance for children to attend Jewish overnight camp, Jewish sleep-away high school, and college.

Lauren then thanked JFSA staff for their work in our community and recalled the accomplishments over the past year. Lauren is particularly proud of the partnerships that have been formed with community agencies.



Awards – James Rosenblatt
Lauren began by introducing a video for the Joel A. Toubin Award. James then invited Lisa Epstein up to the stage to introduce and award the Toubin award to Mina Lopez. Next, James invited Jasmin Bonder to award the Sylvia F. and Harry Sugarman Young Leadership Award to Hannah Crammer.

Young Leaders Recognition
Nammie Ichilov highlighted the importance of investing in the Jewish community through engagement of the next generation. He then congratulated the nine young adult leaders who completed the J-LEV program and invited them to stand and be recognized. They were Noah Barshop, Dr. Jasmine Bonder, Hannah Cramer, Melissa McLeaird (not present), Emily Petrescu (not present), Sam Planto, Sarah Ram, Molly Rosenblatt and Alan Yancelson (not present).

Election of Officers – Harry Levy
Harry Levy, filling in for Michael Swanson, Governance Committee Chair, began by de-installing the outgoing board members: Sherry Braslau (not present), Mark Ingram (not present), Barbara Lyons, Philip Moss (not present) and Rabbi Mara Nathan. He then presented the proposed slate of officers for the 2023-2024 Executive Committee:

Board Chair: Lauren Stanley
Immediate Past Board Chair (Voting, Ex-Officio): Michael Swanson
Chair-Elect & Vice Chair, Philanthropy: James Rosenblatt
Vice Chair, Community Planning and Allocation: Marc Schnall
Treasurer: Stanley Alterman
Secretary: Josh Sutin
Chairs Choice (Voting, Ex-Officio): Amy Benedikt

The slate came as a recommendation from the Governance Committee and did not need a second motion. Harry asked if there was any objection to voting by acclimation of which there was none and therefore, all were elected.

Harry then drew attention to the program where the proposed slate was printed and again asked if there were any objections to voting by acclimation. There were none and therefor, all were elected. Below is the slate.

3rd Term, 2nd Year, Expires June 30, 2024 (No Vote Needed)
Jean Karren
Joseph Patrick
Amy Saklad

3rd Term, 1st Year, Expires June 30, 2025
None

2nd Term, 2nd Year, Expires June 30, 2024 (No Vote Needed)
Rhonda Gurinsky
Leslie Selig-Byrd

2nd Term, 1st Year, Expires June 30, 2025 (Vote Needed)
Jason Miller-Goodman
Rachelle Neuman
Varda Ratner

1st Term, 2nd Year, Expires June 30, 2024 (No Vote Needed)
Elizabeth Glazier
Kelly Petlin
Raphael Sonsino

New Board Members: Completing the 2nd Year of an Open Term, Expires June 30, 2024
None

New Board Members: 1st Term, 1st Year, Expires June 30, 2025 (Vote Needed)
Noah Barshop
Drew Glick*
Mina Lopez
Barbie Scharf-Zeldes
Jonathan Starr*
*Began serving in completion of an open 2-year term

Continue Ex-Officio Voting Positions (of Subsidiary Programs)
Ben Gurwitz, Investment Committee
Linda Solis, HMMSA Subsidiary Programs
Josh Sutin, Endowment & Trust

Joining as Ex-Officio Voting Positions (of Subsidiary Programs)
Barbara Powell, JCRC Subsidiary Programs
Open, Israel & Overseas

Joining as Ex-Officio Non-Voting (Clergy Representative)
Rabbi Avraham Scheinberg, Clergy Representative

Staff
Nammie Ichilov, President and CEO
Janet Irwine, CFO

CEO Remarks – Nammie Ichilov
Nammie began by thanking Lauren for her leadership and the JFSA staff for all they did. She then highlighted the activity of the past year and the direction for the future.

Partnership 2Gether Update – Harry Levy, IV
Harry shared his experiences as the national chair of the P2G program.

Guest Speaker – Sigal Kanotopsky
The theme of her talk was “The San Antonio Jewish community’s support of Ethiopian and

Eastern European Jewish resettlement in Israel."

Adjournment – Nammie Ichilov
Nammie thanked everyone for joining and adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Jill Jacobs, Chief of Staff on behalf of Josh Sutin, JFSA Board Secretary.