

United Jewish Federation
April 9, 2025, 7:30PM
Via Zoom
Board Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Beverly Stein, Michael Schlessinger, Diane Sloyer- CEO, Edith Samers, Linda Hurwitz, , David Gordon, Chris Maroc, Alan Barr, Leslie Heyison, Greg Waldstreicher, Adam Rafalowicz, Marguerite Felsenfeld, Robin Fischel, Jessie Brand, Amanda Sherman, Stella Cohen, Ellen Weber, Tara Shapiro, Eric Ross- Deputy Director

Absent: Jeremy Weisser, Joshua Esses, Lee Soffer, Bob Abrams, Wendy Siegel, Susan Kostin, Marty Donner, Robert Hoff, Stacy Ferber,

Guests: Dean Piterski and Amber Tucker from FML Auditors

Beverly called the meeting to order at 7:30PM

Auditor Report – Dean Piterski and Amber Tucker

Diane introduced the FML Auditors, Dean and Amber. The UJF Audit was conducted for the year concluding December 31st, 2024.

Board members can review the details of the audit in their handouts. Amber discussed the independent process and how the audit was conducted. The information on the process was described in the methods section of the information sent to the board. It is an unmodified, clean opinion statement of financial position. Our financial position is strong.

Questions regarding designated campaigns and investments were asked and answered.

The 990 document was reviewed and discussed. The board should focus on pages 1-12 for a good understanding of the results of the audit.

Eric mentioned that our name changed in 2024 and the change should be reflected in the audit and on the 990. Dean and Amber noted that change.

Beverly thanked Dean and Amber for thorough and timely process for our audit.

Consent Agenda – Beverly Stein

Beverly noted two changes in the minutes/ reports. The first is in the minutes of March 5, It should read that Chapter Two is really taking off and has become part of the Women's Philanthropy. The other change is in the JCRC report. It says that The Yom HaShoah program is scheduled for April 23 at 7:00pm at Temple Israel. The location is actually Temple Sinai.

Consent agenda

- Minutes of the March 5 board meeting
- Lily Reiser Scholarship fund
- JCRC report

- FDR report
- Israel committee report
- UJF financial Statements
- Women's Philanthropy

With those changes, Edith moved the consent agenda be approved. It was seconded by Marguerite. The motion was passed unanimously.

CEO Report- Diane Sloyer

- Diane thanked Tara and everyone for a great Women's Philanthropy Dinner held on March 27th. It was a beautiful event and was very well attended.
- On April 2nd the Interfaith Seder was held. It was also very well attended and many people worked on it to make it such a success. Diane thanked Leslie for her hard work and leadership on this event.
- The Big Ideas committee met last Thursday with many organizations in town. Meaningful conversations were had.
- The mission to Greece meeting was held and the trip is sounding exciting. More to come.
- May is Jewish Heritage month.
- We are planning to show the movie October 8th in May. There will be 2 showings with speaker.
- Other events coming up include:
 - 4/23 Community Yom HaShoah, 7pm, Temple Sinai www.ujf.org/YomHaShoah25
 - 4/26 UJF NextGen Yom HaAtzmout Party, 9pm, Serendipity Labs, 700 Canal Street Register at www.ujf.org/nextgenYH
 - April 27th is Jewish Festival and is open to community. Israel Festival www.jewishfestivaloffairfieldcounty.com
 - 4/30 Yom HaZikaron at CAS, Eden and 2 visiting soldiers will participate Visit CAS website for information.
 - 5/1 Israel Flag raising, Government Center, 10am
 - 5/12 Women's Philanthropy Reboot meeting, 7:30pm, UJF offices
 - 5/14 UJF Board Meeting
 - 5/27 UJF Year 5 community Life and Legacy Celebration

President's report – Beverly Stein

Beverly thanked Tara, David, Leslie, etc. for all the work they have done on recent events. She reminded everyone that volunteers are needed to make Passover calls. If you know of anyone who would like to serve on the JCRC please get their names to David.

May 14th is our next Board Meeting.

Eden will be celebrating Moroccan Jewry on May 21st at Harbor Point Party Room. Registration should be opening shortly.

Banking Change-Vote/Approval requires – Diane Sloyer

Diane gave a background on our banking arrangements. TD Bank has not been pleasant to work with so we are going to change. We got help from Merrell Lynch. Diane's proposal is to move to Bank of America. Diane will be signature for checks up to \$2500. Above \$2500 the check would need a board member approval. Eric will be able to write checks up to \$1000. Anything over \$1000 would require an approval. Second signatures or approvals can be Beverly, Michael, or Adam. In terms of liquidity money goes back and forth between Bank of America and Merrill Lynch. Amanda explained that the secondary signature or person who approved the additional amount can be through an email as this is an internal UJF compliance policy and not required by the bank.

Tara moved to move our account to Bank of America. This motion was duly seconded and approved unanimously.

As clarification for current policy, David moved and Alan seconded that checks and ACH transfers can be made by Diane up to \$2500 and by Eric up to \$1000. Amounts greater than that would require a board member (Beverly, Michael, or Adam) to approve. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

None

Beverly adjourned the meeting at 8:40PM

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Hurwitz, Secretary

Board meeting dates for 2025

Wednesday, May 14

Wednesday, June 18

Wednesday, July 23 (social evening at the Stein's home)

Wednesday, September 10

Wednesday, Oct 22

Wednesday, Nov 12

Wednesday, December 17, Annual Meeting