

UVJC Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
July 1, 2014
7:00 pm – Roth Center for Jewish Life

Present: Felixa Eskey, Devora Gronauer, Lori Hirshfield, Susan Israel, Robyn Jacobs, Deb Kaplan, Dan Rockmore, Rusty Sachs, Robert Shumsky,

Absent: Richard Abel Gloria Finkelstein, Rachel Kleinbaum, Michael Zegans

Guests: Rabbi Boraz

1. Call to order and welcome by Deb Kaplan at 7:00 PM
2. President's Remarks:
 - a. Community gift presentation for B'nai Mitzvah
 - i. Board Members had previously signed up to present gifts to the B'nai Mitzvah but this has fallen out of practice over the previous years. Deb would like to reinstate this practice to assure a BOT member is available to present the community gift to each B'nai Mitzvah.
 - ii. **Action:** A schedule for the upcoming year will be requested from Carole and will be circulated to the BOT for assignment.
3. Approval of Minutes
 - a. The minutes from the 6/11/2014 BOT meeting were reviewed
 - b. Deb Kaplan asked that the specific names of potential board members be struck from the record.
 - c. Rusty Sachs moved that the minutes be accepted with the above modification and Robert Shumsky seconded the motion
 - d. The minutes were passed unanimously with the above noted modification
4. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Gifts to unrestricted funds are noted to be falling short of projections as we approach the end of the year
 - i. Had projected \$18,000, actual receipts has been closer to \$12,000
 - ii. Projections for FY 5775 had been lowered on the passed budget
5. Upper Valley Interfaith Project: Micah Award
 - a. This award is offered to someone who contributes to the broader community.
 - b. The process for nomination will be similar to last year
 - i. Nominating committee (Carolyn Gordon, Lori Hirshfeld, Susan Israel) will solicit and review nominations and bring recommendation to the BOT
 1. **Action:** Send out request for nominations in *The Connection*
 - ii. The nomination deadline is 12 September 2014
6. Membership Committee
 - a. This committee needs to be reformed and revitalized

- b. Opportunities for outreach to expand membership include:
 - i. Eastman
 - ii. Kendall
 - c. Two distinct but related functions were identified:
 - i. Outreach – reaching out to non-members in the community and inviting them to join the UVJC community
 - ii. Welcoming – assuring new members are appropriately welcomed and made aware of the offerings within the community
- 7. High Holiday Appeal
 - a. Lori Hirshfeld outlined the process to date that has led to the identification of areas for improvement in the High Holiday Appeal process
 - b. Postcards –
 - i. Two distinct postcards have been created with targeted messages for members and non-members.
 - 1. Cards will be distributed by ushers who will be present at ALL services
 - 2. Ushers will be trained prior to the High Holidays so that a uniform message is sent to all who attend high holiday services
 - 3. The cards were reviewed and it was suggested that the wording of “every facet” be modified, otherwise the BOT expressed approval of the cards
 - c. Concerns about the “Traditional Service” were raised as there was question about whether it was truly “traditional”. The Rabbi suggested that this be re-identified as an “Egalitarian Conservative Service” and he will assure that the service leader(s) is/are properly prepared to lead such a service.
- 8. Committee Update
 - a. Education Committee: Lori Hirshfeld
 - i. Inquiries for membership are being placed – current membership includes Rebecca Gottesman and Susan Israel.
 - ii. There was discussion about the role of faculty members on the committee and how to structure communication between the committee, the education director and the religious school. These lines of authority will need to be worked on but should be clear to assure open communication
 - iii. It was stressed that the religious school is only one facet of the education committee as it will also oversee adult education opportunities
 - b. Religious Affairs:
 - i. This committee currently consists of Deb Kaplan, Rabbi Boraz, Jeff Lubel, Jeff Salloway, and Bonnie Kimmelman. Some other individuals have expressed interest as well.
- 9. Rabbi Boraz: Project Preservation Opportunity
 - a. The Rabbi reports that he had been considering the option of a project preservation trip for the high school and/or greater UVJC community. A site in Lesko (Southeast Poland) has been identified as a possible worksite. The community no longer has a

Jewish population but the cemetery has approximately 2,000 headstones in need of restoration.

- b. The Rabbi discussed a proposed itinerary and approximate costs per person. He estimates a group of 14-17 students, or a combined student/community group to total no more than 35.
- c. The Board expressed enthusiasm about this opportunity and gave the Rabbi approval to continue the planning process
- d. **Action:** a special meeting of the UVJC will be called to inform members of the opportunity and request a preliminary sign-up to assess community interest

10. Adjourn: Rusty Sachs moved to Adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Robyn Jacobs
Secretary