

UPPER VALLEY JEWISH COMMUNITY ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday June 2, 2013
Roth Center for Jewish Life
6:00 pm

Call to order: Richard Abel, President

A quorum being present (>25 members) the annual meeting of the Upper Valley Jewish Community (UVJC) was called to order by Richard Abel, President of the UVJC, at 6:00 pm.

Conduct of the annual meeting: Richard Abel

Rich paraphrased the conduct of the annual meeting articulating the parameters around which the meeting is conducted. We have received 23 absentee ballots in addition to the number of members who are present meeting the criteria for holding and conducting the meeting.

Remarks by President: Richard Abel:

Rich welcomed the group. The purpose of the meeting is to conduct 2 vital pieces of work for our Community: the election of the Board of Trustees and Officers and the approval of the budget for the year 5774. Rich talked about the honor of serving the Community "I am very happy that I agreed to serve as President" It has been interesting for me to note that this year seemed to be a continuation of last year, building community. Community has been the goal since the UVJC was founded...it is part of the name. Rich recounted notable achievements for this year 5773:

Once again forgot to defrost the hamburger patties for tonight's barbeque...

A synopsis of where we are on 6/2/13:

Stable membership 206 member units (207 last year at this time)

Financially we are in the black again this year

Vibrant religious school with 79 students including 17 b'nai mitzvah students for this year (B'nai mitzvah class near record)

Started religious school with klezmer and ended with a Jewish folk singer

Very positive feedback with regard to school, Rich thanked Rabbi and Maggie

Life cycle events

Cemetery

Connected with broader community both Jewish and other

Federation grants/film festival inspiring our own Jewish humor film festival organized by Rusty Sachs (thank you Rusty)

Record 130 people at Community Seder

Rebecca Gottesman led a Seder at Kendall

Tot Shabbat has

Shabbat services at Eastman

We honored 2 outstanding members at the annual dinner

The annual dinner fundraiser brought in a record number of dollars

With regard to Social Action:

Rabbi on board of the Haven

First Jewish organization to become part of the Upper Valley Interfaith Project (UVIP)

Rich concluded his remarks with his hope that we are becoming a more welcoming community. One of the goals of the BOT to make the community more welcoming. He is hopeful that we are headed towards building a Sacred Community.

Rich asked previous President and BOT members to stand resulting in a majority of those in attendance standing

Report of the nominating committee and voting on members of the UVJC Board of Trustees: Susan Israel Past President and Chair of the Nominating Committee

Slate of officers has been presented and voted on by 23 absentee ballots. Susan reviewed the slate.

Slate of Board of Trustees and Officers for 5774:

President	Deb Kaplan
Vice President	Mitch Stotland
Vice President	Lori Hirschfield
Vice President	Rachel Kleinbaum
Secretary	Robyn Jacobs
Treasurer.	Rusty Sachs

Rich Abel, Past President
Felixa Eskey
Gloria Finkelstein
Devora Gronauer
Susan Israel
Dan Rockmore
Rob Shumsky
Michael Zegans

Susan thanked Michael Taxman and Karen Manning who are leaving the BOT

Rob Shumsky moved to accept slate second Bill Brown. The decision to accept slate was unanimous.

Remarks: Rabbi Edward Boraz

I always tell people who come to the UVJC that I have the best Rabbinate in the country. That is because of working with the members of the community. I am always amazed by their commitment and their willingness to volunteer. The Community is also committed to Jewish Education. When we look at what Dartmouth is struggling with right now and Dartmouth is not alone in this struggle. You cannot take your children's moral and ethical education for granted. Part of what we do here (as a community) is give the foundation that children need. We help their moral, ethical and emotional development. I applaud parents for making the commitment and enrolling their children in the religious school. Rabbi spoke of the dedication of the teachers and thanked Lori Hirshfield for her 12 years of service in the religious school. When Maggie and I began to talk about the religious school 2 years ago we set as our motto "A place here for everyone". Everyone who walks through the door will find a place. On a continuing basis, I see Gimilut Hasid, acts of loving-kindness. Whether that be a request for kaddish minyon on a Tuesday night or today when we had a Jewish folk singer. In either instance, individuals/families walked away with a great feeling of support and being part of something. The collaborative efforts with Hillel has enriched both communities and provides a very unique situation. Hillel/UVJC choir wonderful collaborative creative community within the Community. For me, this feels like a golden age here at the UVJC. I think I can speak for both Maggie and I when I say we feel blessed to be serving this community.

Presentation and Voting on the budget: Rusty Sachs, Treasurer

Rusty thanked Rich and the group for being here. Rusty thanked Rob Shumsky for helping him prepare the budget. Changes in the budget this year focus primarily Maggie as the Director becoming a full-time employee. Maggie will be taking on re-creating/updating and managing the website. The website is an issue the board has discussed and debated for the past year. We are to the point where it does not make sense for this to be done by a volunteer. For many potential members, the website may be the first impression of the Community. As a result of Maggie becoming full time, dues will increase 2% to accommodate the changes. Rusty reminded the group that we have not had a dues increase for the past 3 years. A question was asked about the fluctuation in donations and the ability to predict. This led to a discussion regarding the issue of large donations and how those may impact fluctuations. Rachel Kleinbaum moved to accept the budget as presented. Rob Gurwitt seconds the motion. No further discussion. The budget passed unanimously.

Adoption of the minutes from the Annual Meeting June 6, 2012

Bill Brown made a motion to accept the minutes of the last annual meeting June 6, 2012. Mike Zegans second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Rich was thanked

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Kaplan
Secretary