

UVJC Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
3/4/2016
7:00 pm – Roth Center for Jewish Life

Present: Sue Berg, Bill Brown, Felixa Eskey, Lori Hirshfield, Robyn Jacobs, Deb Kaplan, Rachel Kleinbaum, Laura Rosenthal, Rusty Sachs, Robert Shumsky

Regrets: Richard Abel, Gloria Finkelstein, Jeff Lubell, Lynn Schwartz, Stephen Woloshin

Ex-Officio: Rabbi

1. **Call to order and Welcome** by Deb Kaplan at 7:00 PM

2. **President's Remarks**

- a. Second night seder – Sat. April 23. A Kosher caterer from Burlington, VT will prepare and deliver food on Friday. Volunteers are needed to help set-up and serve; notice to go in weekly Update.
- b. Annual Dinner & Fundraiser – Sunday May 15. Need volunteers to organize; notice to go in weekly Update.

3. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the BOT meetings 1/5/16 and 2/3/16 – Approved.

4. **Rabbi's Report**

- a. Thanks to Felixa, Deb and the rest of the board for keeping the Hebrew school running smoothly in the absence of the education director. Melissa Herman has taken over as the interim director of the school. Teachers are set for the spring term. Will need substitutes for Sunday March 20.
- b. The all-school Shabbat and Maggie's send-off Kiddush went well and was appreciated.
- c. Tot Shabbat has new leaders and is being re-invigorated.
- d. For Purim, the Hebrew school students are working on skits and readings. Dinner will be held first with the Megillah reading to follow.
- e. Lunch and Learn lecture was postponed by the speaker.

5. **Treasurer's Report**

- a. Financial statements were circulated in advance of the meeting. Income is unchanged from last year and expenses are down by \$15,000. This is largely due to the vacancy in the education director position.
- b. Bill met with Michael Taxman and John Schiffman to explore options to invest some of the UVJC cash reserves and circulated a proposal to the BOT ahead of the meeting. The proposal was discussed.

Motion: \$75,000 (approx. 3 months operating expenses) will remain in an FDIC-insured cash account and the remaining balance will be invested conservatively in a Vanguard funds—30% stocks; 70% bonds.

In favor: 9; Opposed: 1 – Motion Approved

6. Education Director Position

- a. Discussion regarding qualifications for our next education director:
 - i. Strong classroom management skills
 - ii. Teacher training and development experience
 - iii. Experience with children and enjoys working with children
 - iv. Knowledge of the Liturgy
- b. Discussion regarding reporting structure: Education director will report to the Rabbi for issues relating to curriculum and day-to-day operations and will report to Education Committee for employment and administrative issues.
- c. Search Committee: 2 members have confirmed (Lori Hirschfield, Ellen Rockmore) awaiting confirmation on a third.
- d. Urgency was expressed in moving forward with posting the position. Rabbi will try to locate the job ad from 5 years ago and the vacancy will be posted ASAP. Goal is 2 weeks max.

7. Membership

- a. One potential new member will be moving to the area this summer has been in contact with Sue Berg and one long term UVJC participant has requested membership information.

8. Social Action

- a. The social action committee helped prepare a meal at the Haven and plans to continue this community service.

9. Education Committee

- a. 2 new members: Jamielynn Garland and John Galton.
- b. The next meeting will include Melissa Herman after she has some more experience with the school. One of her stated goals is to improve Hebrew exposure through song.

10. Dartmouth MOU

- a. Meeting with Dartmouth College: Jeff, Rusty and Deb met with Bob Donin and Ellen Arnold (Dartmouth council and real estate) regarding modification of the MOU between Dartmouth College and the UVJC. Dartmouth offered to redraft the documents. These will be forwarded to the BOT for review.

11. Library

- a. Letter from Fred Lerner was circulated ahead of the meeting inquiring about available funds and how to access them. He will be notified of the balance in the library fund and will be asked to send proposals to the BOT for desired purchases. Appreciation to Fred.

12. New Business

- a. Issues have been raised about low lighting in the main hall and sanctuary. This is a Dartmouth College issue and will be raised with the appropriate personnel.

13. Adjourn at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robyn Jacobs
Secretary