

UVJC Board of Trustees  
Meeting Minutes  
November 4, 2014  
7:00 pm – Roth Center for Jewish Life

**Present:** Sue Berg, Gloria Finkelstein, Robyn Jacobs, Deb Kaplan, Rachel Kleinbaum, Jeff Lubell, Laura Rosenthal, Rusty Sachs

**Absent:** Richard Abel , Felixa Eskey, Devora Gronauer, Lori Hirshfield,

**Guests: Rabbi Boraz**

1. Call to order and welcome by Deb Kaplan at 7:00
2. President's Remarks:
  - a. Laura Rosenthal will be stepping up to the vacant vice president position and will be joining the executive board
  - b. 2015 meeting schedule:
    - i. Meetings will be held the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM Executive meetings will continue alternating with full board meetings every other month.
    - ii. It was noted that the executive Board used to meet monthly. This schedule may be readopted if the need arises.
3. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Rusty Sachs moved to approve the minutes of September 3, 2014. Rachel Kleinbaum 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion was approved
  - b. Abstaining: Sue Berg (not present for 9/3/14 meeting) , Jeff Lubell (not present for 9/3/14 meeting)
4. Rabbi's report
  - a. Religious school:
    - i. Board members have been helpful in running the school while the education director has been out with medical issues.
    - ii. All seems to be functioning smoothly at this point.
    - iii. We are expecting the education director back to work in early January, 2015.
  - b. Interfaith Thanksgiving services
    - i. Interfaith Thanksgiving services are being run in Lebanon and Norwich, the UVJC has been invited to send a representative. Rabbi will be out of town for one service and asks if anyone else would like to represent the UV JC.
    - ii. Jeff Lubell and Laura Rosenthal volunteered to participate as UV JC representatives.
    - iii. Motion: the UV JC will plan to participate in both interfaith services (Laura Rosenthal, 2<sup>nd</sup>-Jeff Lubell) motion approved.
  - c. Gathering in Thetford

- i. A community group gathered for Jewish prayer in Thetford and requested the loan of some old prayer books from the UV JC. These were loan to the group, and the group is now asking to hold the books for 2<sup>nd</sup> gathering. The following questions were raised:
      - 1. What is the role of the UV JC and supporting outside groups?
      - 2. Does the board need to approve the loaning out of equipment
      - 3. Should we loan out equipment to groups without some level of connection to the UV JC
    - ii. Identified as an Opportunity for outreach
      - 1. approve this request to use the prayer books
      - 2. **Have a UV JC representative (?Jeff Lubell) meet with a group to assess their needs.**
- 5. Treasurer's Report
  - a. we're early in the current fiscal year and finances are running as anticipated with no unexpected expenses.
  - b. Donations from the high holiday appeal noted to be down by \$500 compared to last year.
- 6. High Holiday feedback
  - a. the 2 card system was noted to be somewhat awkward
  - b. for next year will consider single card list 2 sections "if you remember" and "if you are not a member"
  - c. goal setting for the annual appeal was also briefly discussed it was suggested that a goal based on participation rather than dollar amount may be most effective.
  - d. **It was noted that the UV JC should formally acknowledge the efforts of Nathan Margolis and Gary Schwartz in planning and execution of the high holiday services**
  - e. it was noted that more Mahzorim are needed for the reform service
    - i. a new high holiday Mahzor is due for publication in our inventory will therefore not be increased until these are available
  - f. was also noted that we ran out of tallit at both services
  - g. it was recommended that the space and Rollins be cordoned off to create more of a sense of intimacy in this large venue
  - h. Musician payment
    - i. the musicians have previously been given an honorarium from the Rabbi's discretionary fund
    - ii. This has become a standard part of the high holiday – is it appropriate for reimbursement to continue coming from the Rabbi's discretionary fund or should the expense be transitioned to a combined UV JC/Hillel expense.
    - iii. Consensus was that these costs should be put in the budget and should be paid by the UV JC/Hillel.
- 7. Membership
  - a. President led discussion about UV JC membership.
    - i. Attracting new members

- ii. retaining current members
  - b. The UV JC numbers are noted to be stable at approximately 200 family units. Each year we lose approximately 8 to 10 family units and gained an additional 8 to 10 units
  - c. Tthe president places a call to members who leave the UVJC . The most common reasons for leaving are relocation outside of the upper Valley and having needs that the UV JC is not filling.
  - d. The board discussed doing a member survey to assess the needs and desires our community.
    - i. Laura Rosenthal will work with the board to create a survey for membership and nonmembers who have inquired about membership not yet joined.
    - ii. Rachel Kleinbaum identify the challenges in locating our target group, i.e. Jewish community members who are not get involved with the UV JC.
- 8. Old business
  - a. personnel policies
    - i. Rusty Sachs brought to the board’s attention the personnel policies which were developed last year and have yet to be reviewed and approved. A copy of these policies will be identified and sent to the Board of Trustees. Laura Rosenthal and Rusty Sachs will review and modify them as needed. Rusty will then have the president circulate them to the Board of Trustees with plans for approval at a future meeting.
  - b. Staff bonuses were discussed
- 9. Adjourn
  - a. motion to adjourn at 8:58 PM(Rusty Sachs, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jeff Lubell) - approved

Respectfully Submitted,  
Robyn Jacobs  
Secretary