

UVJC Board of Trustees  
Meeting Minutes  
6 September 2017  
7:00 pm – Roth Center for Jewish Life

**Present:** Sue Berg, Debbe Callaghan, Thomas Cochran, Gloria Finkelstein, Deb Kaplan, Robyn Jacobs, Rachel Kleinbaum, Jeff Lubell, Laura Rosenthal, Rusty Sachs, Lynn Schwartz, Robert Shumsky

**Regrets:** Bill Brown, Felixa Eskey, Matthew Henken, Stephen Woloshin

**Guest:** Paul Etkind, Carolyn Gordon representing the Social Action Committee **Ex-Officio:** Rabbi Boraz

1. **Call to Order & Welcome (Rusty):** Paul Etkind was introduced; he joins the BOT in November.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** BOT meeting 2 August 2017 minutes approved as written.
3. **Reports:**
  - a. **Meeting with representatives from NH Jewish Federation (Laura):** Successful meeting with Melanie McDonald, ED, Bob from Laconia and Shaliach, Noam. The Federation has many resources we can utilize including recent \$1,500.00/year contribution for our school, grants for social services, camp scholarships and other programs. There are no dues. They solicit donations from our members during their annual fundraising campaign. NH only has 13 synagogues. Participating in the Federation joins us with these other communities. Vermont does not have a Federation.
  - b. **High Holidays (Rusty):** Planning is going well. Chris is doing a great job.
    - Honors, Alyiot and other duties and logistics (thank you to Tom Jacobs) are assigned or in process.
    - The fundraising envelope is in production.
    - Security is set (same as last year).
    - Contemplative section planned for erev RH and morning traditional RH services.
  - c. **New Logo:** Matt working with graphic designer to come up with new choices. Discussion on how to present both the Hebrew and English names. Decision made to either join with a dash or appear on 2 separate lines. Rabbi Boraz will check on transliteration spelling. Awaiting next version from Matt.
  - d. **Fundraising Project (Debbe):** Group is looking at sustainability over the long term. Will have more to share at our next meeting.
  - e. **Ruach (Jeff):**
    - Service after the Charlottesville event was very moving.
    - 50 people signed up for the school retreat
    - Learning, contemplative, and Tot Shabbat services are being planned. Calendar will be available during the high holidays.
  - f. **Classicopia (Rob):**
    - October 7: Jewish Jazz. Rob will send announcement for distribution.
  - g. **Rabbi Report:**
    - Interfaith service re: Charlottesville and the DACA decision. Looking into participating with Aquinas house, St. Thomas and other area churches.
    - School: First day is September 17. Current enrollment ~ 42 students. The retreat will be a great way to kick off the year.
    - Rabbi Boraz has an article about a Torah portion accepted for publication by the Journal of Reform Judaism.
    - There was not a BOT member available at the last Bar Mitzvah to present the gift from the community. It was suggested that Melissa as education director should ensure that this is in place in the future.

**h. Social Action (Carolyn Gordon):**

- Aging with Dignity course developed by the UVIP will be offered to our community. Roseanne Kramer and Alice Berliner, members of our Social Action Committee, have been trained by the UVIP to lead the course.
- The SAC has chosen Bruce Pacht to be this year's Micah Hero. Each UVIP participating congregation chooses a hero.
- The NH Immigrant Solidarity Network is asking faith communities to sign on to a statement endorsing their objectives, strategies, and tactics related to deportation policies. Although those present agreed with the sentiments of the document it was decided that we cannot sign due to the following reasons:
  1. Although Carolyn indicated signing does not obligate the community to any specific actions, the final paragraph reads as a commitment not only to advocacy but also to civil disobedience.
  2. As a community we have not taken on political issues. We need to be sensitive to the fact that there are likely differences of opinion within our community.
  3. As a non-profit we cannot be involved in lobbying efforts.
- An announcement for the Connection has been drafted that will alert members to ways they can participate in the above network including monetary donations, attending vigils, providing food, supporting sanctuary, etc.

**i. Memorial Scroll (Thomas):**

- Kol Ha'Emek celebration will be separate from the Hillel celebration (which is scheduled during public school spring break). Planned for March 23-25.
- Date overlaps the film festival which goes through March 25<sup>th</sup>. Discussion as to whether this will cause a conflict, reducing attendance at the films. Can we market the 2 events together, i.e. the film festival can be part of the overall celebration?
- Consider inviting Jeffrey Ornstein from London to the celebration, as he was instrumental in making it possible for us to keep the scroll.
- A budget will show the total anticipated cost for the celebration event.
- As trustees of the scroll we pay annual dues of \$360 (half paid by Dartmouth College). We have a dedicated fund for the memorial scroll.

*Motion: Approve annual payment of \$180.00 for Kol Ha'Emek's share of dues to the Memorial Scrolls Trust. (Passed unanimously)*

- We must also insure the scroll for \$25,000. All of our Torahs are insured. This will require a specific rider. Rabbi Boraz will check with Dartmouth College whom he thinks supplies the insurance.

**j. Antidefamation League**

- A congregant has offered to sponsor someone to come speak on issues facing Jews in New England.

**4. Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 3 at 7pm. Adjourned 8:40 pm**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Susan Berg, Secretary